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

JUNE 2023

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Mount St. Mary's bids farewell to Class of 2023

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#### Claire Doll MSMU Class of 2024

n Saturday, May 13th, Mount St. Mary's Class of 2023 graduated from the University and said goodbye to their fellow peers, while preparing for the next phases of their lives. Among these graduates is our beloved Managing Editor, McKenna Snow, who has not only achieved her college degree, but has done so in three years! The News-Journal is endlessly proud of McKenna and her accomplishments at the Mount. Before she leaves, however, she deserves a world of recognition for her impressive contributions.

McKenna arrived at the Mount in 2020, amidst the global pandemic raging around the world. Although she started college taking hybrid in-person and virtual classes, McKenna thrived at the Mount and found so many opportunities to be involved. As a theology major and philosophy minor, McKenna took rigorous courses in the Honors program and found a passion in the liberal arts.

One of the most impactful experiences of McKenna's time has been working as a Resident Assistant for two years. "This year I was an RA in a freshman dorm," she says, reflecting on her senior year, "and I really felt like I was able to connect with the girls...I'm going to miss them so much." McKenna has always radiated with kindness, but as an RA, she grew especially in her generosity towards others. "It taught me the importance of service," she says, reflecting on the significance of community-living and being there for the person in front of her, no matter what she

had on her to-do list. Along with being an RA, McKenna was also part of the Praise and Worship group at the Mount, leading music with the seminarians during adoration. Every Wednesday, she would gather with friends and join the seminarians in worship during a Holy Hour. McKenna found solace and peacefulness in the many beautiful spiritual opportunities at the Mount, including attending Mass almost every day at the Grotto and growing in her faith with friends.



Usually we take the graduating senior's photos in front of the Mount sign, but McKenna's smile was never wider than when she was around horses so we know she will like this photo of her.

After college, McKenna plans to return home and hopes to use her knowledge in theology to give back to others through her writing and service. McKenna has already published a piece in "Front Porch Republic," an American blog that emphasizes the importance of community, place, and conservation, as well as the Mount's own philosophy and theology journal, Tolle Lege. Her accomplishments will serve as an asset to her future goals and distinguish her as the talented, driven individual she is.

Over the summer, McKenna is looking forward to celebrating her engagement with a fellow Mount alumnus, as well as planning her future alongside him. As she reflects on her time at Mount St. Mary's, McKenna looks back at how much she's learned and how joyful it was. "It's as fun and enjoyable as you make it," she says.

On behalf of the News-Journal, thanks to our parting writers—we wish you and all the Mount graduates the best of luck as you enter the future ahead of you.

### Primary election leads to contested school board race

Eight candidates will seek five Copen slots on the Fairfield Area School Board in November's General Election. The large pool is the result of Republican voters supporting three write-in candidates over incumbents during May's Primary Election.

Pennsylvania law permits school board candidates to crossfile. Incumbents Kelly Christiano, Lauren Kaye Clark, Jennifer Holz, Lashay Kalathas, and Lisa Sturges ran unopposed in May on both the Republican and Democratic ballots. All five succeeded in winning over Democrats but Republicans chose write-in candidates Erica Bollinger, James Fisher, and Melissa Kearchner over Christiano, Clark, and Kalathas. Sturges and Holz earned both parties' nominations. The Fairfield write-in victory may have been the biggest surprise in May's Primary Election, which consisted mostly of uncontested races. However, Liberty Township residents had a reason to show up at the polls beyond the call of civic duty. Johnny Gereny and Adams Sanders attempted to win the Republican nomination for supervisor over current Supervisor Walter "Mickey" Barlow. The incumbent ended up being the people's choice, garnering 126 votes compared to Gereny's 24 and Sanders' 47. Democrats also supported Barlow with 14 writing in his name and securing him their party's nomination.

A write-in candidate will add some competition to two Carroll Valley Borough Council races. Democrat Sarah Laird won her party's nomination for both a twoyear and four-year seat on the council. If Laird wins both, she



Home gardening essentials – Eco landscaping. **Page 18** 

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#### **Complementary Corner**

Being part of oneness – an introduction to Traditional Chinese Medicine. **Page 42**  will be required to reject one of the positions. Council will then be required to name her replacement. However, that scenario is not certain since Laird will have competition in both races. Republican Catherine Schubring is also seeking the two-year seat. Republicans John Schubring, Bruce Carr, L. Michael Wight, and Cody Gilbert will join Laird in seeking four open four-year slots.

In Fairfield Borough, Republican Phyllis Gilbert and Democrats Sarah C. Thomas and Patricia Smith won their party's nomination for four open seats on borough council. Since there are more seats than candidates, interested residents can request their party's nomination.

Ryan Picarelli and Edward Spence are likely locked-in to win



#### Rob Smith will be seeking one of three County Commissioner seats this fall.

two seats on the Hamiltonban Township Board of Supervisors in November. No Democrats sought the chairs in May's primary. A similar scenario exists in Freedom Township, where Democrat Paul Kellett is the only claimed candidate for a six-year seat on the board of supervisors.

At the county level, the only contested race to date in November's General Election is for county commissioner. Republicans Jim Martin and Randy Phiel and Democrats Rob Smith and Marty Qually are vying for three open seats on the board.

According to unofficial county results, 26.03 percent of the county's 18,809 registered Democrats voted in May's Primary Election. Of the county's 40,680 Republicans, 22.73 percent came to the polls.

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### **EMMITSBURG NEWS**

### FY-24 town budget proposed

At the May 15 town meeting, the Town Council reviewed the FY-24 General and Water & Sewer Fund budgets, which collectively amount to \$3,938,196, an increase of \$261,829 over last year.

The General Fund budget calls for revenues of \$2,181,496, an increase of \$128,279 over last year. Real estate taxes account for approximately \$750,000 of the town's revenue, an increase of \$15,000 over last year. The increase in property tax revenue is a result of the effects of inflation and the Council's decision not to reduce the property tax rate this year.

\$315,000 in town revenue is coming from the town's 'piggy back' tax on residents' state income tax payments; \$434,028 comes from the County as 'rebates' for the town expenses related to the town providing services such as police coverage & parks, which the county is required to provide; and \$175,761 comes from 'highway taxes,' i.e. state motor fuel and vehicle taxes distributed to local governments for their own road and bridge maintenance.

Other sources of income include Interest on town's bank accounts, rental and amusement income and Pool memberships and admissions.

The General Fund budget anticipates \$2,181,496 in expenditures, with total recurring expenses making up the \$2,092,267. This is an increase of 6% over last year.

General Fund expenses include approximately \$640,000 for staff salaries; \$297,000 for parks; \$157,000 for trash and yard waste collection; \$286,000 for planning and zoning related expenses; and \$147,000 for building & street maintenance.

Other recurring expenses included Employee health benefits, street light maintenance, and \$6,000 in contributions to the Vigilante Hose Company. The budget for the Sherriff Office, which provides two deputies to the town, is also paid out of the General Fund, will increase from \$276,180 to \$290,030.

A notable increase for FY 2024 is in legal fees. They jump from \$9,500 last year to \$30,500 this year in the legislative department and from \$30,000 to \$64,000 in the Planning and Zoning Department. "Historically our legal fees have been increasing year by year and that's predominantly due to interest in the town from developers, updating code and charter, and dealing with code enforcement issues," said Town Manager Cathy Willets,

Capital expenditures will include rollover for several projects, such as new parking meters and trail maintenance. New projects include new curbs, gutters, sidewalks and roads as well as streetlights for the town.

The 2024 Water & Sewer Fund's revenue is \$1,756,700 coming primarily from residents and business payments for water and sewer use. Expenses total \$1,698,956 with salaries and benefits hitting the hardest.

For more information, residents can view the introduced budgets on the town website.



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As it is drafted now, the 'Flex Zone' can be placed on any tract of land zoned B1 Business Commercial, B2 Business Commercial (difference from B1 is the buffer from residential houses is required to be larger), IP (industrial parks), ORI (office, research industrial), or CR (conservation recreation).

As proposed, the 'Flex Zone' designation would only apply to properties over 50 acres, but the town planner, Chris Jakubiak, recommended changing that number to something smaller such as 25 acres so more properties will qualify. As of right now only two prop-

One of the most challenging aspects of the 'Flex Zoning' is that it places elected officials in a role they aren't used to: involvement in the planning process. Typically, the Planning Commission is the main body in the review and approval of the site plan. However, because a 'Flex Zone' designation allows a change of land's originally-designated use, which was approved by the Town Council when it approved the Town's Comprehensive Plan, it is also a legislative change, thus placing the Town Council in the planning role also.

erties in Emmitsburg are over 50 acres.

### 'Flex Zoning' under consideration

t the April Planning Commission **M**meeting a proposal was made to create a new category of zoning in the Town's zoning code called Economic Development Flex District, a.k.a. 'Flex Zone'. The change was made at the request of Steve Trout, who owns approximately 180 acres east of Rt. 15. The goal of the request is to create a new zoning category that will allow more 'flexibility' for future development of the property.

In traditional zoning, zones are defined on a zoning map, i.e., Residential, Commercial, Industrial, &c. Each designation has pre-existing standards attached to them for future development or use. In contrast, a 'Flex Zone" designation will not appear on a zoning map; instead it will retain its current zoning designation until such time as the owner petitions the Town to have it changed to 'Flex Zoning', which the Town Council will need to approve.

As stated in the draft ordinance, the purpose and intent of the proposed 'flex district' zoning i.e. is "to create opportunities for master planned commercial, retail, industrial, service and other business activities, to generate employment and economic development in settings that most optimally foster economic development for the benefit of the Emmitsburg community."

Critics of 'Flex Zoning' argue that floating zones undermine the ability of citizens to rely on the predictability of the zoning map when they make their

decision to by a home, and instead, favors private development over the public interest. To obtain approval for flex district

designation, the developer submits a Master Plan that will serve as the guide for how the land is to be developed. This allows them to establish land use, setbacks, buffers and planning for open space.

Due to the flexibility of a 'Flex Zone' designation, the Planning Commission along with the Town Council will have the flexibility to approve or deny the proposal based on how it matches up with the comprehensive plan. It also gives the developer/owner the ability to create a flexible approach to design to prevent cookie cutter development.

> missioners have been on board with the idea since Shields proposed it two years ago. When asked recently about the banners, O'Donnell said, "The program to honor community veterans with individual banners is very successful. Participation has increased each year since Dale Shields proposed the idea."

Several service members honored on the banners were killed in action. One of those was a 2000 Catoctin High graduate, First Lieutenant Rob Seidel, who was killed in 2006 during the Iraq War. Rob's mother, Sandy Seidel, explained the process, saying, "It was easy. We just had to send a picture, along with information like branch, dates of service, and

conflict to Dale Shields."

One banner honoring Francis X Elder, who served in the Army, and was killed in France in 1918, can be found at the American Legion Post, which was later named after him. Elder was killed one month before World War 1 ended. Elder was "the first Emmitsburg boy to enlist and the first to be killed in action." Another service member who was killed in action and honored by a banner is Joseph E. Hemler. He served in World War II in the Asiatic-Pacific theatre. He was wounded during the invasion of Luzon in the Philippines and later succumbed to his injuries.

### Town looks to expand veteran banners

aniel Webster once said: "Let their remembrance be as lasting as the land they honored." That is exactly what Dale Shields wanted in 2021, when he went in front of the Town Council and suggested honoring those who had served with the banners.

The banners can be seen on West and East Main Street, as well as South Seton Avenue. According to Town Manager Cathy Willets, the Town is trying to expand the banners to North Seton. They are waiting for permission from Potomac Edison to put banners on the

telephone poles. "As of right now, all available spaces have been filled with deserving veterans," she said, "but we are sure that more will be interested in honoring the veterans in their families."

Town Council President Tim O'Donnell explained that the Com-



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### FAIRFIELD/CARROLL VALLEY NEWS

### Sump pump dumps costing Carroll Valley taxpayers

Carroll Valley leaders suspect residents are improperly draining sump pumps into the borough's sewer system.

In his monthly report to council, Sewer Treatment Plant Operator Jed Fetter stated "Due to the timing of the flow coming into the plant with the rainfall, it is my speculation that there is a problem with residents having sump pumps tied into the system."

Borough Manager David Hazlett concurred with Fetter's assessment.

"I think he was kind to say it was speculation," Hazlett said. "We have a significant issue with homes having their sump pumps tied into our sewer system."

Hazlett noted inspecting homes for the violation would be an unpopular endeavor, but the violations are costing taxpayers money.

"We have to treat every drop of water that comes into our system, whether it came from your home with feces and urine or it was pristine rainwater that was probably clean to begin with," he said.

Hazlett said the borough has unsuccessfully attempted to inform residents of their wrongdoings, but noted a stronger educational campaign is probably necessary.

"The really big thing is to get sump pumps to discharge the way they were intended, which is onto the ground outside the house," he said.

The borough council could, Hazlett said, mandate inspections for all homes with a sump pump to ensure the water is being properly discharged. Similar rules exist for homes with septic tanks. Those inspections could be completed by the borough or an approved list of plumbers.

Hazlett said most homeowners could properly reroute their sump pump without hiring a contractor. At the suggestion of Councilman L. Michael Wight, Hazlett said he will research grants that could cover the costs for low-income households unable to complete the project themselves. "Anyone who is in a tough spot with anything in the borough, we do our darnedest to find a way to help them out," Hazlett said.

The borough also experiences problems with residents flushing items down toilets that are not human waste or toilet paper.

Hazlett said if residents do not stop misdirecting their sump pumps or flushing inappropriate items, the borough will be forced to increase sewer rates.

### Carroll Valley still stuck on trailer ordinance

Discussion over how many trailers should be permitted on a Carroll Valley property continues.

Borough administration, with the blessing of the planning commission, presented a proposed ordinance to borough council during its May meeting that allows three trailers on a lot less than two acres. Residents who own lots larger than two acres could have four trailers under the proposed ordinance.

The proposed ordinance classifies trailers differently than recreation vehicles. That did not sit well with most council members. Current laws state all motor vehicles, which includes recreational vehicles, must be parked on hard surfaces. The law does not state how many motor vehicles a homeowner can have on his or her property.

"It is our responsibility as council members to protect every homeowner in this borough to the best that we can for their property values," Council President Richard Mathews said.

The president's remarks drew strong rebuke from Councilman Bruce Carr.

"That is a matter of opinion," Carr said. "I think it is a false pretense that just because people have vehicles on the property that it lowers the value of the neighboring property."

Mathews also disliked the proposed regulation that states trailers must be five feet from the property lines. Sheds, Mathews said, must be 10 feet away from the property line.

"The reason they put them so far away from the house is because they do not want to look at them," Councilman David Lillard suggested.

Again, Carr objected.

"If I had a 27-foot boat on a 29-foot trailer, it would sit right in

front of my yard," Carr said.

Carroll Valley residents have expressed many opinions on the proposed trailer ordinance this year. Borough Manager Dave Hazlett said he doesn't recall hearing more thoughts on a subject throughout his 18 years working for the borough.

Mathews suggested three borough council members revise the proposed ordinance and present it again next month instead of asking the planning commission to review council's suggestions. Hazlett encouraged council members to discuss the ordinance in public so citizens can share thoughts. Council agreed to send it back to the planning commission, with Mathews and Carr objecting. Mathews disliked the review process and Carr was against limiting the number of items allowed on a property.

"I am sorry but any inconvenience caused for people who want multiple RVs, trailers, or whatever is usurping the rights of their neighbors. I feel very strongly about that," Mathews said. "I am very adamant that those people who want more than two can take the extra ones to a rental facility and put them there. No one is denying them the right to have these objects."

### Water issues plague Liberty Township community

Water consistently floods Liberty Township's Bullfrog Road. The township blames nearby residents, but the residents believe the township should help them control the flow.

Several Strausbaugh Trail residents attended May's board of supervisors meeting after receiving citations from the township's code enforcement officer, who is employed by Pennsylvania Municipal Code Alliance. Strausbaugh Trail is a private road and water flows onto Bullfrog Road, a public thoroughfare.

"You legally cannot run water from your property onto your neighbor's property, period," Supervisor Chair Walter "Mickey" Barlow said.

Barlow agreed "It is not an easy situation to fix," but noted the code enforcement officer was doing his job. The neighbors said the issue has existed since the homes were built in the 1970s. The township responded that just because a violation has occurred for many years, that does not mean it should continue to be ignored.

A resident suggested the township install a larger pipe under Bullfrog Road. Barlow, who is also the township roadmaster, said engineers determined Bullfrog's piping system is adequate. Township Solicitor John Lisko reiterated the owners of the private roads are responsible for ensuring water does not flow onto township roads.

"They are not public roads, it is really not a township matter," Lisko said.

Barlow suggested the residents explore installing retention ponds in their neighborhood to capture the water before it flows onto Bullfrog Road.

Barlow also reported his department is working to control water runoff on township-owned roads. Road department employees are improving the ditch system on Wenschoff, Boyle, Bullfrog, and McGlaughlin roads.

The township is accepting bids to improve Wenschoff Road, Old Waynesboro Pike, Pecher Road, Boyle Road, and Sanders Road. Barlow said the township allocated \$288,000 to improve roads this year. If bids exceed that amount, the township will determine which roads to prioritize this year.

In other news, Liberty Township Police Chief Sherri Hansen reported her officers worked 225 hours in April. In Liberty Township, the officers answered 19 calls from 911, filed two misdemeanor and one felony charge, and 20 traffic citations. The township also provides 25 hours of coverage per month to Freedom and Highland townships. In Freedom Township, officers issued 17 traffic tickets and 15 warnings. In Highland, they issued seven traffic tickets and two warnings.

Hansen is also seeking funds from the Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership to pay for half of a new vest for an officer, which costs about \$900-\$1200. Hansen said she successfully received a grant from the organization in 2019 and is confident in this year's application.

### Hamiltonban recognizes fire departments

The township recognized Fairfield Fire & EMS and Cashtown Fire Companies for their 100 years of service to the community.

The Fairfield Fire Company was founded in 1921 and is marking its 103rd year of volunteer service to the community. "People need to realize that if the volunteer system were to leave, they'd have a tremendous cost to bear," Chief Bill Jacobs wrote in a history of the department. The department's volunteer efforts extend beyond fighting fires. People give up their time to handle the company's administration and fundraising efforts. The department also serves as a community gathering place by hosting regular bingo nights. This summer, the weekly bingo games will be reduced to monthly games on the first Friday of each month. Weekly Thursday games will resume in September. The Cashtown Fire Department formed in 1923. Like Fairfield, fundraising efforts are an important part

of the company's volunteer efforts. The department will host a guns and money drawing on June 17 at 6 p.m.. Tickets are \$25 and include dinner. The departments are encouraging citizens to stay safe this summer, especially as they fire up grills for backyard barbecues. The Fairfield Fire Department recently posted a notice encouraging citizens to keep children and pets at least three feet away from a grill, never leave a grill unattended, check the hose for leaks, clean grills regularly, and inspect for rust and worn parts. Anyone who would like to volunteer for their local fire departments can contact Fairfield at 717-642-8842 or Cashtown at 717-338-3838. board follows municipal planning code and the Hamiltonban Township zoning ordinance. The vacancy is due to the resignation of Cynthia McNulty, who moved from the township. Interested residents should call the township at 717-642-8509.

In other news, the Township's Zoning Hearing Board needs an alternate member. The board is a quasijudicial body that determines the outcome of variance, special exception and conditional use requests. The board meets as needed aims to "assure fair and equitable application and administration of the zoning ordinance," according to the township website. The

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### THURMONT NEWS

### Thurmont to explore legal options over PFAS contamination

Following recommendations from the City's attorney Leslie Powel Thurmont has retained the law firm of Baron & Budd and Poole Law Group for the purpose of investigating legal options and remedies available to it due to the presence of "aqueous film forming foam" or "AFFF" and/ or other products containing perfluoroalkyl substances ("PFAS") (including perfluorooctanoic acid ("PFOA" or "C8"), perfluorooctane sulfonate ("PFOS"), and other related compounds in the Town's water system.

In taking this action, Thurmont joins Taneytown who in March of 2022 joined a Class Action lawsuit involving the chemicals after they were discovered to be leaching into Taneytown's groundwater.

Perfluoroalkyl substances (PFA) is found in many manufactured products, such as firefighting foam. According to Taneytown's City Attorney Jay Gullo, "these substances were placed in these materials by the manufacturers, and they knew at the time they were forever chemicals."

According to a press release issued by Powell, "such investigation may include the initiation of a Complaint in the Multi-District Litigation (MDL) currently pending in Charleston, South Carolina, related to this chemical.

"This action," the press release said, "is a prudent effort to proactively determine whether third parties have legal responsibility for the cost of treatment for its water system; the taxpayers and ratepayers should not bear this financial burden. The Town will continue to exhaust all efforts to protect its citizens and exercise financial prudence in the process."

Unlike Class Action lawsuits, which are filed by one or a few individuals on behalf of everyone who has suffered the same exact injury, MDL cases are filed by individuals, or towns, who have suffered similar injuries from the same product (or same type of product), the severity or expense of which may differ from person to person.

As in Class Action law suites, a settlement is reached when representatives for both plaintiffs and defendants work together to create a master settlement agreement. The MDL judge will review the agreement and then assign a settlement master, who is a neutral third-party that oversees details of the settlement and resolves points of contention between the parties. Individual plaintiffs can then choose to accept the settlement agreement or pursue their case at trial.

Taneytown has in the past been successful in recovering expenses involved in removing contaminates in ground water. Most recently Taneytown was awarded \$400,000 from a class action lawsuit regarding MTBE chemicals in gasoline products that leached into and affected groundwater nationwide. As the Environmental Protection Agency gets its hands around the issue, they will define standards of acceptable quantities of PFAs in drinking water, at which time the Thurmont may or may not have to take action.

Thurmont is likely facing unknown costs down the road, said Chief Administrative Officer Jim Humerick, because we don't know what the final costs of new filtration systems may be. Although trace elements have been found in Thurmont's water, there is no need for residents to boil water. Humerick stressed that "Thurmont has and will continue to meet all federal and state guidelines for safe drinking water."

### Council debates FY-24 town budget

Thurmont presented the Town Budget for fiscal year 2024, starting July 1, throughout their meetings in May including a public hearing on May 23. The council will be voting to adopt the budget on May 30.

Chief Financial Officer Linda Joyce presented the draft on May 2 for review by the Town Council before being formally introduced on May 16.

Revenue within the general fund budget is increasing to \$5,016,075, an increase of about a quarter of a million dollars. This budget includes grants, fees and fines in addition to taxes.

The tax rate included in the draft budget was debated by the commissioners throughout the meetings. The draft budget expects to use the current tax rate, which is also the current constant yield tax rate, at 0.3206 per 100 dollars of assessed value. The new constant yield tax rate, however will be 0.3113 per 100 dollars. With keeping the tax rate, the Town will yield \$58,125 in expected revenue.

"we do have families who are struggling. Even though this is negligible as far as costs go, it's not for some people." "I think, this year, we should at least consider taking that \$58,000 from our reserves. We can't continue with the constant yield"

The commissioners also discussed the raising prices because of inflation in addition to the rise in Frederick County taxes and its impact on residents' budgets. It'll

public comment at an open house

and on their website until May

31. The next steps of the pro-

cess include review by the Parks

be nice for us to go down a little bit," Commissioner Bill Blakeslee said, referring to potentially lowering the tax rate to the new constant yield rate.

Chief Administrative Officer Jim Humerick mentioned that when they collect information for the budget, they request that the department heads submit their needs not wants. Joyce also pointed out that the tax rate in the budget is similar to that of surrounding municipalities. "We provide a lot more services than several of those municipalities," Mayor John Kinnaird said.

These services include those through parks and recreation, public safety, streets, planning and zoning, etc. In the new fiscal year, the Town plans to spend on several projects and improvements including state mandated body worn cameras for the public safety department, engineering and design for Community Park Tennis Courts and various streets and a skid loader hammer.

On the other hand, revenue for the water fund is expected to decrease slightly. For the 2023 fiscal year, the budget for water fund revenue is 1,060,300, a decrease from \$1,062,150 the previous year. After operating expenditures, there's expected to be an excess in the water fund budget of \$184,800. Revenue includes fees for service, charges for building, contract work, etc.

Water Fund Capital includes a new wireless radio control system to replace

the aging system in place, engineering and design for water main replacements in town, new meters, etc.

The wastewater fund budget includes similar revenue as the water fund, though the former is expected to yield \$1,752,800 in revenue. Like the water fund, the wastewater fund's expenses largely are made up of employee salaries and materials/supplies for maintaining the structures and testing for bacteria. The wastewater fund budget is expected to have an excess of \$204,771 after expenditures.

Within the wastewater fund capital, the budget includes money for a new electric box, roof replacements and a new control panel. A new generator for Well 7 Pump Station is budgeted under both the water and wastewater funds, using \$80,000 apiece from the budget.

staff on-site during the day to man-

age the facilities. The park will also include outdoor classrooms for agriculture education. There will also be a pond with opportunities for environmental science study. Anyone who visits the farm park will also be able to use the picnic areas.

Of the 183 acres donated, 175 acres are in a MALPF easement, restricting the land use to agriculture and equestrian purposes. Part of the land is also currently held by an agricultural lease.

Richard Kanode bequeathed the over 180 acres of farmland to Frederick County upon his death on January 1, 2020. A long-time resident of Thurmont, Kanode wanted to give back to his community, according to Hicks.

Kanode Farm Park master plan presented

A t the May 16 meeting, Frederick County Parks and Recreation Deputy Director Bob Hicks presented the master plan for the Richard W. Kanode Farm Park. The land was donated by the park's namesake upon his death in 2020.

The master plan is in prelim-



inary stages, with the Frederick County Parks and Rec department still gathering the necessary approvals. The County welcomed "We get some input from people,

"We get some input from people, usually stakeholders or people who are interested in the property, and give some feedback," Hicks said. "And then that's put into a master plan."

After approval, design of Phase 1 will begin in the fall. Funding for construction is expected to be included in the FY-25 Capital Improvement Program.

The entrance to the park will be on Stevens Road in Thurmont. While they will provide separation from the next door neighbor for privacy, the County does not plan to alter the entrance from what it is now. "Yea, it's going to be dusty; that's what farms are all about, so we're okay with that. We don't need any more paving." Hicks said.

The new park is expected to have equestrian facilities as well as areas for agricultural study. The plan also includes funding to improve existing buildings on the farm.

The equestrian facilities will allow for riders to bring their horses to the parks for lessons or fun with their horses. The park will include three arenas, one enclosed, plus an equestrian obstacle course. It will also have riding trails and open areas for riding. According to Hicks, there will be no overnight boarding because of liability to the County. There will be



### TANEYTOWN NEWS

### Chris Miller handily wins Mayoral election

Bradley Wantz in a heated 3-way race for Mayor. There are 5,321 registered active voters in the City; only 796 participated in the election, for a turnout of 14.95%.

Miller received the lion's share of votes, taking home 426. Incumbent Mayor Bradley Wantz received 188 votes; and Daniel Haines, a first term City Council member, received 178 votes.

Miller will be sworn in as Mayor on May 8.

Miller said that as Mayor he will focus on "bringing the City back to the County and State stage. I want

Thristopher Miller defeated to work with citizens to have a town where the tax dollars work in their favor. Bringing in businesses that enhance the lives of those here, and a general refocus to our residents here in Taneytown."

> Miller will also focus on: "rebuilding the Police Department, election reform, making sure residents are getting the best value out of our water resources, and creating a Citizen Outreach Committee to help reach citizens more effectively." He has a dream of "creating a community/recreation facility to help find productive avenues for our youth, as well as provide a place for our residents to

find county services that can benefit them." Ultimately, he hopes to, "work collaboratively with local businesses and agencies."

Also on the ballot were two City Council seats, with only two candidates offered, Christopher Tillman received 644 votes and James McCarron earned 602 votes.

McCarron will now add to his prior 22 years of serving the City. McCarron was first elected to the City Council in 1985, where he served 10 years. In 2007 he was elected as Mayor, and held that role until 2019 when he lost to Wantz.

McCarron said that he's "happy" to return to city government as a councilman. McCarron hopes that his years of experience with City affairs will be put to good use. "I've got a deep institutional memory, dating back to 1985, which I hope could be put to good use to avoid pitfalls or miss-steps." McCarron also admitted that he missed the day-to-day interaction with residents on City affairs, and that, coupled with the fact that he loved the City and wanted to help in any way he could, motivated him to seek a seat on the Council.

Tillman, the owner of Georges on York, said he's ready for his new job on the Council. Tillman stated he ran for City Council because he wanted to make a difference for the business community, especially the downtown businesses. "I came to Taneytown because I saw a market opportunity, and we were looking to be part of a town on the upswing. What I have found, is a city government that doesn't understand the needs of small businesses, and is too mired in its old ways and bureaucracy to figure out what actually helps instead of burdening small business."

"I'm excited," he said. "There's much to do. I really want to change the attitude in town and bring Taneytown forward." Both McCarron & Tillman said they were looking forward to working with Miller.

### FY-24 City budget adopted

The Town Council approved L the 2024 fiscal year General & Water Fund budgets, which collectively amount to \$16,153,844, a decrease of \$19,184 over last year.

The General Fund budget calls for revenues of \$9,165,631, an increase of \$158,132 over last year. Real estate taxes account for approximately \$3,110,443 of the town's revenue; an increase of \$182,568 due to the decision of the town to keep the tax rate the same as last year. \$140,000 comes from business property taxes; \$805,000 is coming from the town's 'piggy back' tax on residents' state income tax payments; \$494,807 comes from the County as 'rebates' for the town

expenses related to the town providing services such as police coverage & parks, which the county is required to provide.

Other sources of income include interest on the city's bank accounts (the town's bank accounts have gone from .05% to 2.66%-which will result in an increase of \$65,000/year); Project Open Space grants, rental and amusement income. The City will also receive \$800,000 in state income tax sharing.

The General Fund budget anticipates \$9,165,631 in expenditures. Recurring expenses include approx \$3,800,000 for staff salaries, including police; \$444,266 for parks and \$625,000 for solid waste and recycling. The police budget, which is also paid out of the general fund, will increase from \$2,078,316 to \$2,195,512.

Salary and pension increases are driving an increase on the expense side of the ledger, Treasurer Barri Avallone explained. The new budget has allocated a 3% salary increase for all employees, as well as a 3% cost of living increase for all employees. "Mandatory State retirement contributions have increased from 9.82% to 10.21% of employee salaries, resulting in an increase of \$14,170 in payments. Police pension payments increased from 36.2% to 36.9%, resulting in an increase of \$47,803 in pensions payments," said Avallone.

Debt service on the City's outstanding loans has decreased, as the City is paying down the principle on the debt faster than planned and police costs will decrease next year, as the City will only be buying 2 police cars as opposed to the four they bought this year.

The budget for Capital Projects is \$3,735,004 with the largest cost being the Memorial Park expansion, costing the town \$1.4 million.

Avallone said that while the City will see a drop in income from the Parks Department due to a drop in grants from the State, City utilities (the water and sewer departments) are pulling in enough money to cover all their operational costs. "The town only

needs to tap into the general fund for these Departments," Avalione said, "to cover capital projects."

The 2024 Water Fund budget is set at \$1,241,000 and sewer \$1,950,000 totaling \$3,192,000. That is an increase of \$378,420 from last year.

Former Mayor Bradley Wantz, who oversaw the crafting of the budget, noted that the budget was balanced without the need to raise the property tax rate or the water and sewer rates. "It's been over 17 years since the town last had to raise the property tax rate, which goes to show how well the staff focus on spending the tax payers' money wisely."

For more information, residents can view the introduced budgets on the town website.

### Bollinger Nature Park a sore spot for its neighbors

Neighbors of the future Bollinger Nat not happy at the April Planning and Zoning meeting. The discontent was focused on the changes to the entrance of the planned parking lot and the overall impact on their privacy.

The 120-acre park will have a walking/jogging/biking trail, a pollinator garden with an apiary, and a meditation garden. Even though the final plan for the park was approved in June of 2022, it was contingent on county approval, which has only recently been received. The parking lot will sit between two properties and will have 11 spaces. At the direction of the County, the park's entrance was shifted to the north from its location in the original plan by 24 feet to meet the requirements for drivers to have a line of sight of 445 feet in both directions. The owners of both of the adjacent properties voiced concerns about the adjusted location of the entrance being too close to their property lines. Wayne Ruby, one of the property owners, said "I bought the property for privacy, and now all of these people will trespass on my property thinking my stuff is public." He asked the City to consider putting up a fence to

prevent trespassers. Ruby also expressed concern about the lighting from the parking lot shining into his home.

In reply to Ruby's concerns, Lorena Vaccare, the Director of Parks and Recreation, said the City would be adding a rail fence for the initial boundary and Leland cypress trees, which are fast-growing evergreens. She also said there will be minimal lighting installed, just enough for the 4 security cameras.

said Jenny Ruby. Ruby asked why putting the parking lot further back isn't an option.

City Manager James Wieprecht explained that by having the parking lot closer to the road there's less paving to install, which reduces cost as well as environmental impact on the storm water system. "It's also more natural and keeps the parking lot from becoming an 'attractive nuisance' where people would go to party and do things unseen." Both neighbors expressed concerns about people partying, lighting fires and being a nuisance on the property as it stands now. In reply James Wieprecht concurred with their concerns, saying there is evidence "people are already out there doing this stuff."

with appropriate planning members and City staff to discuss privacy fencing details, as well as

what the City can, and will do, to address the concerns related to after-hours nuisance use.



This is a nature park," Vaccare said, "it won't have a high traffic count. It's better than a housing development or a sports complex or a concert venue. This will be a dawn to dusk park and will only have 11 parking spaces as well as a gate in the future".

"I'm not opposed to the park, I just want a little more privacy,"

Despite a tense start to the meeting, all parties agreed to meet

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### **GOVERNMENT—SOUTH OF THE BORDER** Congressman David Trone

 $S_{\text{last month that he will not run}}^{\text{enator Ben Cardin announced}}$ for re-election and will retire when his current term ends in January 2025. First and foremost, this gives us a moment to reflect on Senator Cardin's outstanding career of public service and — most importantly - to show our appreciation for the legacy he leaves behind.

From the Maryland General Assembly to the U.S. House of Representatives to the U.S. Senate, Ben Cardin has served with intelligence and integrity. He has been a champion for working people, bringing jobs and opportunity to Maryland, especially underserved communities whose voices don't often reach the halls of power.

His unwavering support for

small businesses — the backbone

of Main Streets across our state - demonstrates his deep dedica-

tion to the principles that make our country great. His passionate work on healthcare, including his fight for the Patients' Bill of Rights and dental care access for children, has improved the lives of millions. And as a leading advocate for clean air, clean water, and the Chesapeake Bay, Senator Cardin has been instrumental in protecting our environment for future generations.

He leaves big shoes to fill. I see this is an opportunity for us to build on his legacy and continue tackling the issues that matter most in our communities.

That's why I'm running for the U.S. Senate.

I'm not running for the fame or glamor of elected office. I'm running to get things done. I'm running to raise the issues that matter in people's lives — the same issues I've worked on since I came to Congress: improving mental health services and making sure those services are available to anyone and everyone who needs them; getting a handle and stopping the insidious problem of opioid addiction, especially fentanyl and other deadly drugs; reforming our criminal justice system; and dramatically increasing our investment in life-saving and life-changing medical research.

I'll continue to be a full-time representative of the Sixth Congressional District. The people I've met, the challenges they've asked us to address, and the advice we've been given have helped us provide the constituent service every person should receive. It is this same approach I would like to provide in service to everyone in the state we love.

The truth is, I've never been in this for me - and that certainly won't change in this campaign. I won't bow to the special interests, lobbyists, and corporations - and I certainly won't take their money. I never have and I never will. Instead, I'll dedicate all of my efforts to further understanding the challenges we face in our communities, continuing to listen and learn to those who are on the front lines. With your help, we can continue to make a difference where it matters most.

Since coming to Congress, I've seen the impact that the addiction and mental health crises have on families. I've seen the inequities of our criminal justice system. I've seen the shortcomings of our education system. And I've seen how far behind we've fallen in medical research. But I've also seen just how resilient we are. And I've seen that when we work together, we can make incredible progress.

But none of this is possible without your help. I don't have all of the answers. No one person does. But working together, we can create an agenda from the ground up to continue making a real difference in the lives of real people.

I've spent my career — both in business and in government ---focused on getting things done. And that's exactly what I'll continue to do as your next U.S. Senator. The issues I'm fighting for aren't partisan issues. They're American issues. And that's why my work in the months and years to come won't be focused on partisanship. It will be focused on bringing people together to continue our progress and make a difference. I hope you'll join me.

### County Councilwoman-At-Large Renee Knapp

#### **Board of Health**

On April 18th, the Frederick County Council voted to establish a new structure for the Board of Health. Previously, as we learned during the pandemic, state law established that the governing body for the county, the County Council and the County Executive, comprised the Board of Health. Under the new structure, the Board of Health will be comprised of the County Council, the County

Executive, and the Frederick County Health Officer. Each person will be a voting member when considering future regulations.

Before this bill passed, the County Health Officer acted as the Executive Officer and secretary for the Board of Health but was not a voting member. Moving forward, the County Health Officer will retain current responsibilities and functions while becoming a voting member. Because I believe those who are elected to enact regulations should be as directly accountable to the voters as possible through the election process, I opposed this legislation. The Health Officer is nominated by Frederick County and approved by the state.

Other changes to the Board of Health include the addition of six liaisons who will be non-voting members. They will aid the board by providing additional information and expertise in several relevant areas. The board will appoint an epidemiologist, a nurse, a mental health professional, a veterinarian, a member of the Frederick County Chamber of Commerce, and one person with a science related background. If you are interested in serving in one of these positions, I can provide you with application information. This membership expansion should help the board make informed public health decisions, identify areas of possible concern, and offer recommendations for improvement.

#### Sustainability Commission

The Frederick County Sustainability Commission is accepting nominations for the annual Sustainably Awards. These awards recognize leadership in environmental stewardship. They are given Child Care Needs Survey to individuals, students, non-profit I hear from many constituents organizations, small businesses,

and industrial organizations. Past award recipients have demonstrated leadership in the promotion of renewable energy, the adoption of recycling and composting, resource conservation, the promotion of water and air quality improvement, and other efforts.

Completed nomination forms are due by June 30, 2023. Award winners will be recognized at the Green Homes Program Recognition Event in October. For more information, you can send an email expressing your interest to LHumphrey@FrederickCountyMD.gov.

#### Scrap Tire Recycling Program

To help the agricultural community with agricultural scrap tire disposal, the Maryland Department of the Environment, the Maryland Environmental Service, and the Maryland Farm Bureau are hosting Scrap Tire Drop-Off events around the state. These events allow farmers to deliver scrap tires for disposal free of charge. In Frederick County, this year's event will be held from June 3rd-June 10th. Agricultural tires can be dropped off at the Division of Solid Waste & Recycling located at 9031 Reichs Ford Rd. The center is open 7:00am-4:40pm and it's closed on Sundays.

of access to affordable childcare. Many home-based childcare businesses closed during the pandemic and options remain limited. Childcare arrangements for doing shiftwork are very limited. This leads to limited career advancement and earning ability. To obtain information for data driven solutions, the Frederick County Office for Children and Families is conducting a survey for residents whose children are too young to attend kindergarten (ages 0-5 years). This Child Care Market Study will help the county understand the current local childcare supply and the demand that we need to help meet for working families. You can access the survey at https://www.research.net/r/FrederickCoFamilySurvey.

The Frederick County 275th Jubilee Celebration will be held June 10th at Utica District Park. The grand finale will include a synchronized drone show with over 150 flying drones! The show begins at 9:20pm and will last about 15 minutes. The show viewing area will be located by the main stage. More information about Frederick County's 275th Jubilee can be found at frederickcountymd.gov/ 275 jubilee.

Many events are happening again in Frederick County this summer! I hope you get a chance to attend some. You can always reach me with your thoughts and concerns at rknapp@frederickcountymd.gov.



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### **GOVERNMENT—SOUTH OF THE BORDER**

### **County Executive Jessica Fitzwater**

Summertime is here! As I write the sky over the park to create a 15-minute spectacular show. This the unofficial start of the season - the Woodsboro American Legion's Memorial Day parade and wreath-laying ceremony. The annual tradition is one of the longest-running Memorial Day observations in the nation. We must always remember the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom.

#### Jubilee at Utica Park

This year Frederick County celebrates 275 years since its founding. Festivities are taking place throughout the year, with the main event happening this month at Utica District Park. Frederick County's 275th Anniversary Jubilee takes place from 3 to 10 p.m. on Saturday, June 10. Bring your family to the park for this free event. There will be activities for all ages.

For the grand finale, 150 synchronized drones will light up event is a first of its kind in Frederick County. The drone show begins at 9:20 p.m. and will run for approximately 15 minutes. The best spot to view the show is near the main stage.

You can find a schedule of events and more information about the 275th Jubilee at FrederickCountyMD.gov/275Jubilee.

Another way we are celebrating is through special video profiles of some of the many people who make our community special. Each month, the "Voices of Frederick County" video series from FCG TV features a different person or couple. The most recent video focuses on Julie and Sam Castleman, the people behind ThorpeWood. It's people like the Julie and Sam who make our community special. You can hear their story and enjoy the gorgeous scenery at the Old Mink Road retreat near Thurmont by visiting the County's YouTube channel (FrederickCountyMD.gov/Youtube).

#### **New Website**

I am excited to share that we've made big changes to Frederick County Government's website! Visitors will find a new layout with easy-to-read pages - even when you use your cell phone and we have improved the search function.

One of the new features is a calendar section on the home page. You can find meeting information for the County Council and dozens of our volunteer boards and commissions, and regular programming for FCG TV. Quick links take you to the most popular pages, and large photos feature sights and sounds from around the county. A pop-up chat option can provide answers to frequently asked questions. Every page has a Google Translate button built in so the nearly 40,000 county residents who speak a language other

than English can change the text on the page into their native language with just a click. Let us know how we're doing with FCG FixIt, the County's constituent services app that can be accessed from the new home page.

Thousands of people use our site every day to find bus routes, file permit applications, search for jobs, and more. This redesign should make it easier for everyone to find the information they need. My Administration's Transition Team recommended an overhaul of the website to be more constituent-focused, and that is exactly what we've done with the new and improved FrederickCountyMD.gov.

#### **New Faces**

At the end of May, we said farewell to one of the trailblazers in Frederick County Government. Chief Financial Officer Lori Depies has retired after 20 years of remarkable service. Lori was the first woman to serve as County Manager, and she led our Finance Division for many years. Lori's incredible knowledge and skills were integral to the County's upgraded bond ratings over the past decade. Earning AAA ratings from all three bond rating agencies saves taxpayers millions of dollars and allows us to build more schools, roads, parks, and libraries. Clearly Lori has made a huge impact on the quality of life in Frederick County.

Taking over the reins from Lori as CFO is Walkersville native Dan Lewis. Dan first came to Frederick County Government 22 years ago when he was a student intern from Walkersville High School. Over the years, he has worked in a number of positions, including serving as manager of the Treasury Department, and more recently leading the committee that evaluated grant requests from Frederick County's \$50.4 million in American Rescue Plan funding.

Dan is a dynamic leader and he thoroughly understands the County's finances. It's exciting to appoint one of our own employees, who rose to the top of a national search.

### Thurmont Mayor John Kinnaird

hope everyone had a great Memorial Day and had the opportunity to spend time with your family. The farmers market is now open on Saturday mornings from 9 a.m. until noon at the community park. I encourage everyone to visit the market and any other community events we are having. Watch for upcoming concerts in the park and others.

You may have heard that the Town Council has voted to join in a multi jurisdictional lawsuit against manufacturers of PFOAs and related chemical compounds. These chemicals are known as forever compounds because they resist breaking down naturally. They were used in many products including fire fighting foam, waterproof clothing and boots, non-stick cookware and even items like pizza boxes. These chemicals have managed to get into our drinking water sources and recent changes in allowable levels from the Environmental Protection Agency and Maryland Department of Environment will require that Thurmont and thousands of other communities across the USA take action to remove these chemical compounds from our water systems. We are currently working with our engineering firm to design the filtration systems needed to bring our levels down to a non-detectable level. This will require filtration units at each of our water treatment facilities. Not only will we need the filtration equipment we will also need to build additions to our treatment facilities to house the filters, and plumbing and electrical equipment to operate them. The initial costs will be high, but more troublesome is the as of yet unknown cost for the safe disposal and replacement of the filter elements or filtration materials.

Looking ahead the Town Council has decided to participate in the legal action in an effort to help cover the associated costs. The cost for upgrading the systems will fall on the consumers, so any relief we can get in a settlement will help off set the costs our residents will be paying. We are moving forward with the design, purchase, and installation of the required equipment. It is our hope that we get support from the MDE or EPA and a settlement from the legal action to help defray the costs. We do not expect to be made whole by a settlement but we hope that funds will be awarded to help defray the costs. While the design and installation process is moving forward I want to reassure everyone that we are following the guidelines set forth by the EPA and MDE.

Work continues on Frederick road leading up to milling and resurfacing later this summer. The Thurmont Water Department installed three new 8" gate valves at the Frederick Road and Thurmont Boulevard intersection. This will insure that a planned commercial improvement on Thurmont Blvd will not require cutting the new blacktop. They have also installed a new 8"gate valve on the Moser Road water main at Frederick Road. This new valve will allow the crew to isolate the water main if it needs to be shut down in an emergency.

A private contractor has been working to upgrade the Storm water collection basin on Fred-

erick Road. These are all over 40 years of age and have been having issues. The new basins will help improve the flow of storm water off of the road surface. They are also upgrading the sidewalk and entrance to Community Park in advance of milling and repaving. These projects have caused some delays and slowed traffic but in the end the new road surface will be well worth the inconvenience. The Town has just put out an invitation to bid on the milling and blacktopping. The contact should be awarded within a month and at that time we will have an approximate start date for the final phase of work.

The Town of Thurmont will also be starting a rebuild of North Church Street this fall. This project will include the complete rebuilding of the water and waste water infrastructure on the

roadway. The infrastructure has been in place for many years and sections are failing. We will be removing existing terracotta pipe waste water lines and waste water laterals. We will also be removing an abandoned water pump installation beneath the Church Street and Emmitsburg Road intersection. This work will provide much improved services for residents served by the lines we are replacing. During the work, one lane will be closed and flagmen will be onsite to keep traffic moving as smoothly as possible. Once our work is finished the State will blacktop the roadway.

As always, please wear sunscreen, hats, and long sleeves when outdoors. Make sure your kids, family and friends are also protected for their safety. I can be reached at jkinnaird@thurmont.com or by phone at 301-606-9458.

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### FROM THE DESK OF...

### **Carroll Valley Mayor Ron Harris**

ccording to the Farmer's Alma-Anac, we should expect a warmer-than-normal summer for most of the nation. "The forecast is pointing towards a long, hot summer with unrelenting heat, hanging on from June through September. We will see what happens. Primary elections are over. The Adams County unofficial results indicate that out of 59,489 registered voters, only 14,144 ballots were cast (including on election day, mail-in, and provisional votes). These numbers indicate that only 23.78% of the registered votes exercised their right to vote. The percentage will likely increase during the general election in November because the right to vote will include independent voters.

Please understand that while this is not a presidential election, consider that it is for your local leaders. Leaders that affect your local ordinances (law) and the election of school board officials that govern our future direction. If you haven't, please consider voting in November. In June, we celebrate National Flag Day on Monday, June 14th. Pennsylvania celebrates Flag Day as a state holiday. Remember, the flag is flown from sunrise to sunset. The flag should never fly at night without a light on it. Father's Day will be celebrated on Sunday, June 18th. It is a day to spend quality time with dad, grandfather, and great-grandfather or father figure. In 2023, the June solstice occurs on Wednesday, June 21st, marking the start of summer in the Northern Hemisphere. It is the longest day of the year – the longest period of sunlight hours.

The 2nd ANNUAL Fairfield Area K-12th Grade Art Exhibition was a success. Many locals visited the borough to view the artwork hanging on walls and displayed on tables. Thanks to Erica Werntz, Andrea Holmes, and the Fairfield Area students. If you missed the exhibition, go to ronspictures.net and see the artwork. Thanks to the donors for supporting the Carroll Valley 2023 Trout Derby. Specifically, thanks to the following individuals for their assistance in preparing and running the event: Cody Gilbert, Mike Yocum, Chad Hartzell, Dave Swope, Terry Weikert, Brad Sanders, and the Carroll Valley Maintenance Crew. To see the Derby pictures, go to ronspictures.net.

Residents in our regional area took advantage of discarding their

old electronic devices by dropping off their items at the Freedom Township Device Recycling event on May 13th. The following are the number of cars that stopped to make a deposit: Carroll Valley - 33, Fairfield – 18, Freedom – 2, Hamiltonban – 17, Highland - 8, and Liberty - 17. The total is 95. Thank you all. If you missed the May electronic recycling drop-off event, consider the Washington Township Transfer Station to turn in your electronic items. The station is located at 12721 Buchanan Trail, East Waynesboro. (right off PA 16 as you go to Waynesboro from Carroll Valley). Call ahead at 717-762-4413.

What about used automobile oil, batteries, and other things? Suggest you refer to the Adams County website (adamscounty.us). On the homepage, under the heading, Top Clicks (bottom of the list), click Recycling Brochure. You can download this 23-page pdf document or perform your online search to find what you are looking for on the Adams County website without downloading. The brochure contains a wealth of information broken down by categories of recyclables (e.g., Microwaves, Pesticides, Refrigerators, Sealants, etc.), the entity's name, and phone number. Advice – always call ahead

The Adams Regional Emergency Medical Services (AREMS) 2023-2024 Subscription Drive will begin towards the end of June. It is again that time of year to enroll in the Ambulance Subscription Program. While you still receive emergency ambulance service if you do not subscribe to the program, AREMS strongly encourages you to participate to avoid costs beyond what typical insurance will cover. You should be aware that you must have a minimum of a primary insurance plan to be eligible to join this ambulance membership. Two benefits of joining AREMS Ambulance Services are helping your local emergency medical services provide quality emergency services. Secondly, you are eliminating your out-of-pocket expenses under certain circumstances.

The cost of emergency services could cost over \$1,100. By becoming a "member," AREMS will waive any unpaid balances (excluding deductibles & copays) for emergency service after your insurance company processes your bill. Memberships offered are: Individual - \$50 (covers one adult age 18 or older), Family \$75 (covers two adults and all dependent children under the age of 18 residing in the household), Family Extended
\$ 125 (covers three or more adults and all dependent children under the age of 18 residing in the household). Read the Ambulance Flyer, and if you have questions, call 717.624.7456 or visit www. AREMS.net.

Carroll Valley Yard Sale is scheduled for Saturday, June 3rd, in the borough parking lot from 8 am to 1 pm. If you want to rent a space, contact Gayle Marthers, Assistant Borough Manager, at 717.642.8269. The Movie In Park for June 16th is "Minions Rise of Gru" at 7:30 p.m. In the film, an eleven-year-old a Gru plans to become a supervillain with the help of his Minions, which leads to a showdown with a malevolent team, the Vicious 6. The Fairfield Fire and EMS 3rd An nhbnual "Early Day Cruise-In." will be held on Sunday, June 25th, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The cars will be displayed in the parking lot adjacent to the Fire Hall at 106 Steelman Street, Fairfield. Remember, school is out, and watch your speed on the trails. If you have any questions, please call me at 301-606-2021 or email me at MayorRon-Harris@comcast.net.

### Liberty Township Supervisor Walter Barlow

t the May 2 monthly Board of ASupervisors meeting, Jim Holler stepped down as a full-time member of the Zoning Hearing Board but agreed to remain as an alternate member. The Board of Supervisors appointed Robert Mallette to the open full-time position. We appreciate him accepting the appointment. Mr. Mallette experienced a Zoning Hearing in 2022 when he had his own application for a variance before the Board, so he is very familiar with the processes involved with this position. The Zoning Hearing Board has been very active over the

past year and had a hearing on May 24th for an application requesting the grant of the necessary variances to then enable the Applicant to proceed with a proposed subdivision. The ruling from that hearing should be available soon.

We had a very successful joint ECycle event on May 13th. Carroll Valley Councilmember Richard Matthews spent the rainy Saturday morning with me as we filled two 20-yard dumpsters with items from residents. I want to thank our municipal neighbors for always stepping up to work together as a community. Another electronics recycling event is scheduled for October 14th. Our Pick-Up PA Event officially ended on May 31st, but we will continue to distribute free trash bags, work gloves, and safety vests until the supplies run out. Thank you to everyone who has participated in the event to help Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful.

Mowing season has begun and the road crew has already made three passes of cutting. Be mindful when mowing your property that you are not blowing grass onto the road. Grass on the roadways is a hazard to motorists, especially motorcyclists. We have started the process of cutting roads for pipe replacements and base repairs. This work is being performed on Wenschhof Road, Sanders Road, Boyle Road, and Pecher Road. Recently, we were able to purchase a used berm box from another municipality at a very good price. We look forward to adding the berm box to our road department to better serve the community. The road department has a busy schedule for this summer, so please be on the lookout for road crews at work when traveling through the township.

Please join us at our municipal building on June 20th at 7:30 p.m. for a presentation regarding the National Register of Historic Places in our community. The Adams County Office of Planning and Development will have a public discussion at the Planning Commission meeting on the have a 10% penalty added. If you did not receive your tax bill, please contact the tax collector for a copy.

We sometimes become frustrated with existing laws and ordinances, but at the township level we do not have much say in changing some of these laws. One of the more frustrating regulations is The National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program. This program is administered in conjunction with the PA Department of Environmental Protection Chapter 102, Pennsylvania's Erosion and Sediment Pollution Control Program and Act of October 4, 1978, P.L. 864 (Act 167), 32 P.S. § 680.1 et seq., as amended, the "Storm Water Management Act." We do what we can to serve the community with the best interests of everyone in mind while following the mandates set upon us at the Federal, State, and County level.

Thank you to the poll workers for their time and diligence and to all of the voters who came out across the county to vote in the municipal primary election on May 16th. And to my supporters, I appreciate your confidence and trust in me to allow me to move onto the general election in November.



Atlas Floors, Inc. Hardwood Refinishing, Install & Repair Luxury Vinyl Planks (Waterproof, Pet Proof) Hundreds of selections Family owned 1988-2023 - 35 years in business 301-948-9144 or 301-370-5068 620 Tract Rd., Fairfield atlasfloorsinc.com importance of historic buildings within Adams County.

Adams County and Municipal Real Estate Tax Deadlines are approaching and school tax bills are being sent out. Payments will be accepted at face value until June 30. Payments made after June 30 will



### **GOVERNMENT-NORTH OF THE BORDER**

### **County Commissioner candidate Robert Smith**

My name is Robert Albert Smith. Please call me Rob. I am 50 years old and reside in Biglerville with my wife and three growing children. I am currently employed by Abarta Coca-Cola Bottler as an Account Manager and I have served on the Biglerville Borough Council since 2011. I also serve on the Northern Adams Regional Emergency Management Agency as a representative for the Borough of Biglerville.

I have served as Chair of the Water Committee from the first day I was sworn in as a member of the Biglerville Borough Council. In that time I have work closely with both the Water/Wastewater Manager and the Sewer Operator of the borough to maintain the safety and quality of the public water Biglerville Borough provides for its citizen and the residents of the neighboring Butler Township, while at the same time adhering to federal and state regulations. There have been times when tough decisions had to be made and priorities put in a row. In every situation I have engaged with the borough employees and the six other members of Council to reach decisions which have been unanimous one-hundred percent of the time when it has come to the area of water.

a member of the Safety Committee. In that time the Committee has always kept the safety of our borough residents at the top of the agenda by listening the what both are code enforcer and police chief have to say. Also, the Committee and the entire Council have made sure our Police are fully funded and have the equipment, training, and support required for them to do there job safely and effectively.

I currently serve on the Ordinance Committee and have been involved with the Chair and one other member in the process of writing new ordinances and modifying existing ones to address new concerns which have arisen due to new developments in the area. This has included issues such as vacant buildings, burning ordinances, and noise concerns.

I am running for Adams County Commissioner because as a husband and a father I care about the people and the future of Adams County. In my current line of work I have met many hard working and caring people in Adams County over the last 16 Years. People who are just trying to make ends meet and keep food on the table. Single parents working for a low wage just trying to have enough money to put gas in their car to get to and from work. Many of these residents of Adams County work in jobs that were considered essential during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In my view, they were all essential before, during, and should still be considered essential today. Also during the pandemic I saw many of these individuals trying to help and care for one another. Regardless of their opinions on wearing a mask or their political views. I believe these people of Adams County I keep mentioning, should be on a Commissioners mind when decisions are made on the County Level, especially in the areas of child services, mental health, and fiscal responsibility.

The Department of Children and Youth Services in Adams County is essential to protect children from any form of abuse or neglect. Adequate funding is necessary to ensure no child goes to bed hungry and families receive the support the County can provide so families or temporary caregivers can give all children the nutritional and emotional support they need.

Mental Health has never been more urgent than it is now. Especially since the COVID-19 pandemic. The average working family in Adams County should never be left out of the equation when it comes to this issue. Whether it be in their work environment, home life, or ever day activities. Many acknowledge that mental health needs more funding. Especially since there has not been a state funding increase in the last ten years. With 67 counties in Pennsylvania current funding is not sufficient. The department of York/Adams Mental Health-Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities is managed by the Joint Board of Commissioners which is made up of both the Adams and York County Commissioners. This department should receive all the support required and more.

Fiscal Responsibility should always be maintained and a priority. While spending should always be controlled to keep taxes low, the money set aside for expenses every year, which is currently \$86,586,338 for Adams County in 2023, should always be monitored so it is spent efficiently and directed to the right areas of County Government, whether it is departments such as the Children and Youth Services, the Adult Correctional Complex, or the Courts.

If I am given the privilege by the people of Adams County to serve as County Commissioner I will use my experiences in the private sector and local government to serve the people of Adams County with Integrity, Trust, and Commitment. Most Importantly I will listen to the people of Adams County always taking into consideration their concerns and well being. Listening is very important. It is one thing to say you will listen, but who is one listening to? What are your actions and reactions to what you hear? I will always listen to what the individuals in Adams County have to say.

While I am running as a proud Democrat, I am happy to talk to anyone from any party affiliation, whether it be Republican, Democrat, Libertarian, or Independent. For over a decade on the Biglerville Borough Council and working in the private sector since age 15, I have worked with wide a diversity of people. As a matter of fact, enough from me, I would be happy to talk the people of Adams County right now. If we disagree, that is fine. If you agree with me on everything, then you should not trust me.

I would be happy to hear from you. I am interested in what you have to say. How do you feel about the job the Board of Commissioners is doing? What would be something you would like to see the Commissioners do or not do? How can the County Commissioners possibly help you. My name is Rob. Give me a call. My number is 717-339-6364

Since joining council I have also been

### **State Notes**

#### Free Motorcycle Safety Course Offered

With today's bright blue skies, warm temperatures and open roads, many motorcycle enthusiasts are preparing to 'hit the road.' Before you do, the Department of Transportation (Penn-DOT), the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP), and motorcycle safety advocates, are reminding riders to be safe. May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month.

PennDOT, PSP and safety advocates are reminding drivers and motorcyclists to drive sober, share the road, obey traffic laws and watch out for one another throughout the riding season. Through the Pennsylvania Motorcycle Safety Program, Pennsylvania residents with a motorcycle permit or license can take advantage of the opportunity their skills through training to help develop safe riding skills.

to earn a motorcycle license or refresh

Courses cover basic, intermediate and advanced rider levels, as well as a basic course for 3-wheelers. Successful completion of a basic or intermediate course waives the requirement to take a skills test at a PennDOT Driver License Center and automatically earns the permit holder their motorcycle license. PennDOT contracts several third-party motorcycle training providers to offer these safety training classes free of charge to residents with a motorcycle permit or license. To find a local training provider, visit www.dmv.pa.gov/Driver-Services/ Motorcyclists.

Last year, there were about 3,369 crashes involving motorcycles on Pennsylvania roadways, resulting in 217 fatalities. While crashes and fatalities are on

Business

<u>Service</u>

the decline, our numbers are still too high, and we must remain vigilant.

#### Chamber Receives Comprehensive Update on House Activity

I attended the Gettysburg-Adams Chamber of Commerce's monthly government affairs committee meeting at which I provided an update on legislation that could have a negative impact on businesses and taxpayers. This legislation includes House Bill 299, which would create a state-level agency that would mirror the federal Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) agency. In my opinion, we need fewer government agencies, not more. This bill would be a drain on businesses across the state. House Bill 1135, which would incrementally increase the state's minimum wage to \$21 by 2028; and the right to organize, House Bill 950. I also explained my "no" votes on four gun bills before the House. (House Bill 338, House Bill 714, House Bill 731 and House Bill 1018), and shared the response by some House members to a recent decision by Fairlife to build a new milk processing plant in New York instead of here in PA. Overregulation and over taxation is why Fairlife chose to go elsewhere.

I also told chamber members about my recent discussion with Shawn Eckenrode, director of Adams County Technical Institute, concerning the need for expansion, and a meeting with Dr. Andrew Hoffman, dean of the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine, regarding collaboration with Penn State University to create a veterinary assistant program. The program would help address the shortage of large animal veterinarians in Pennsylvania.



Tags & Titles

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***ACTIVE	LOTS***	***ACTIVE***
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### COMMENTARY

### Words From Winterbilt

Too dry, too wet, too hot, or too cold.

#### Shannon Bohrer

 $\mathrm{F}^{\mathrm{or}}_{\mathrm{seem}}$  to have experienced more severe weather-related disasters. We have hurricanes, extreme rain, or snow, and often followed by floods or droughts. The weather patterns seem extreme in both directions. Too dry, too wet, too hot, or too cold is becoming the norm. When discussing the weather, it is not uncommon for the experts to tell us that the extreme weather patterns we have been experiencing are related to global warming. Maybe more disturbing is that the experts tell us that we are only in the preliminary stages of changes.

Often, the reporting of extreme weather events characterizes them as abnormalities. While we take notice of recent weather disasters, it would be difficult to say that the extreme weather is something new, or even unexpected. Several years ago, Houston Texas experienced three "once in 500-year floods" in just three years. The floods also re-drew and expanded the FEMA flood maps. People that previously never lived in flood prone areas find themselves needing flood insurance. In 2016 Maryland experienced a "once in 1,000-year event", when Ellicott City flooded. Then in 2018, we had another similar event, and Ellicott City flooded - again. While two "once in 1,000-year events" in just two years might seem unprecedented, from 2010 to 2015 the state of South Carolina experienced six such events.

Whether acknowledged or not, extreme weather is not an abnormality. They have become the norm. In 2019, the world experienced extreme heat waves, with record temperatures around the globe. Close to home temperatures in Portland went to 115 degrees Fahrenheit. While 115 seems high, in British Columbia, the temperature went to 121 degrees. In the United States, thirty-three records were broken, for the hottest temperatures ever recorded. Global warming is real, the earth is getting hotter and the oceans are rising. Is the world paying attention?

A critical element affecting our weather is the ocean temperatures which have increased worldwide. "The year 2022 was the ocean's warmest recorded year and saw the highest global sea level." The oceans cover 70 percent of the earth, and the warming temperatures provide energy for hurricanes and simultaneously the melting of glaciers and sea ice. Adding to this, as the oceans warm, they expand which in turn raises sea levels. "The last 10 years were the ocean's warmest decade since at least the 1800s." The oceans have taken the place of the canary in the coal mine, confirming the dire predictions.

The extreme drought in the western United States actually started in 2000. By 2020, it became "the driest two decades in the region in at least 1,200 years." In 2022, extreme drought conditions were in the national news every day. The majority of the entire western United States was experiencing a lack of rain and a lack of snowfall, which was greatly needed for lakes and reservoirs. Lake Powell and Mead were at extremely low levels and together they supplied the drinking water for fifty million people. In October 2022 it was reported that the Mississippi river was so dry, that barge traffic was halted. At one-point over2,000 barges were either backed up, halted and some were even grounded. Drought conditions encompassed over half the country.

A reporter on the national news was covering a story about the Mississippi river drought. The reporter questioned a river expert on the drought, and parapghasing his response, he said, it's either drought or flood, and that is our new normal. His expertise and observation were confirmed earlier this year.

From December 2022 through March 2023, California experienced thirty-one "atmospheric river" events. I had never heard of an "atmospheric river," it sounded like a river in the sky, and appar-

ently, they behave in that manor. Extremely heavy rain would come in from the ocean and flood large areas. The phenomenon then repeated itself, over and over for months. The extreme weather of rain and snow, entered the west coast and then traveled across the county, affecting numerous states and millions of people. One such event, occurring on January 10, 2023, carried a warning that thirty-four million people were under a flood watch. Thirty-four million people is around 10 percent of the country's population.

The rain and snow fall this past winter and spring was so heavy that the drought-stricken Mississippi River was flooding. In less than six months the barges that could not move because of a lack of water were unable to move because of too much water. With the record floodings we have experienced this year, you might think the droughts are over. In some areas the droughts are over, but not all. Lake Mead has risen a little since its low point. Accordingly, "the Bureau Reclamation anticipates that the water levels will start to decline this spring." It is possible to experience two extremes simultaneously.

While the weather has changed, there are some unexpected consequences of the changing weather, that are not often reported. Last year the weather-related natural disasters we experienced displaced an estimated 3.3 million adults. That equates to about one percent of the population. Estimates are that one third returned to their home in about a week, while about a half million – never returned home. If one percent of the adult population is displaced and one third of those cannot return home, and extreme weather events are predicted to increase, what does that portend for the future?

Even homeowners that have not been directly affected by fires, hurricanes and flooding, will otherwise be affected financially. Insurance premiums are influenced by claims that have been increasing as fast as extreme weather events occur. It does not matter if you reside in an affected area, everyone's home and property insurance premiums will increase. Additionally, as housing becomes uninhabitable or lost, because of weather events, there is a greater demand, and the cost of housing will continue to rise.

Too dry, too wet, too hot, or too cold defines the future. How will we grow food under drought and/or flooding conditions? Can we replace the housing that will be lost? What happens when 3, 4 or even 5 percent of our population is displaced because of weather, and half of them cannot return? While we are obsessed with migration from our southern border, a greater internal migration could occur from west to east, and south to north. The weather has changed and will continue to change.

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

### Pragmatic Conservatism

The adult in the room Colt Black

As a Republican, I will always call out my own party for hypocrisy. Because if we cannot call it out within our own party, we are charlatans of the highest degree to dare call out the left, and not clean out our own house.

Most right leaning politicians and their supporters will state they believe in the Constitution as the supreme law of the land and those lice lefty but that is the farthest from reality. As a Constitutional minded Republican, I believe in the entire document that is the Constitution. So many of our friends so vehemently defend and speak on our 1st and 2nd amendment rights as the pillars of our freedoms. But what happens when law enforcement treats you as a second-class citizen for the exercise thereof?

How can Republicans find it acceptable that law enforcement harasses, threaten, intimidate, and arrest those who dare insult or question their authority when a redress of grievance with government, free speech, and a free press is guaranteed by the 1st amendment? are a party of freedom when we allow and continue to allow court decisions and police policy which violate our 4th amendment rights against unreasonable search and seizure?

How can Republicans say we support the Constitution when we allow police to think the worst of the citizens who exercise their 5th amendment right to remain silent and punish them for doing so?

How has Republicans come to accept violations of our fellow

that our military has rules of engagement, but the legislatures both federal and state cannot put simple guardrails in place for law enforcement to follow which would protect both law enforcement and citizen alike.

How is it our law enforcement officers swear an oath to support and defend our Constitution, yet so many overtly and willingly violate our rights?

It is a lack of training? Perhaps a systematic attitude? Lack of judgement and morals by some officers? How about lazy politicians? The reality it's all the above. Republican law makers have repeatedly kicked the can down the road, allowing the courts to legislate from the bench. Protecting the interest of the government and the police they employ. Allowing police unions and interest groups to sway opinion, stating that the "citizens don't understand police work" and to "trust in their judgement and experience" all the while in making legislative decisions whose consequence is on the citizen and not the police. Police are supposed to be directly accountable to the citizens they serve as government is instituted among men deriving their power from the consent of the governed, yet somewhere this script has been flipped. It's time we make a change.

There are many good rank and file police officers who see the issues, want to see changes but cannot speak out as they will be ostracized by their department and colleagues. It's a hell of a position to be in knowing that due to your true desire to defend citizens' rights as a police officer you may not be getting back up on a dangerous call or lose out on promotion. It's time we come together to protect our officers who want to do the right thing, they need our help. Good police officers need protection from those in law enforcement

who'd dare violate the rights of citizens should be punished to the fullest extent of the law.

I concur with this simple premise; however, it should shock every freedom loving American to their core that an overwhelming majority of politicians and Republican base are seemingly against this principal.

In the last few years, I've noticed a disturbing trend within Republican circles which is the attitude of politicians and the Republican voting block believing that law enforcement (police, sheriffs, state troopers, and federal agents) are without reproach, and must be supported at all costs because they are heroes and keep our communities safe.

Now I know what many are thinking that I'm some anti-po-

How can Republicans say we support the individual freedom to keep and bear arms when law enforcement will treat those who are legally exercising that right as dangerous? Including killing citizens participating in these constitutionally protected activities. While at the same time accepting as common place police officers violating the basic tenants of firearm safety in performance of their duties such as knowing your target and what's beyond it and pointing firearms at something you don't intend to destroy.

How can Republicans say we

citizens 8th amendment rights against cruel and unusual punishment not by the hand of the state upon conviction but on the street by police officers?

Governmental accountability is a cornerstone of Republican ideals yet ending qualified immunity for law enforcement is taboo in most Republican circles. Meaning Republicans are willing to put government above the citizen by not allowing governmental actors to be held accountable when they do wrong.

How can Republicans hold their heads up as Constitutional supporters when they continue to allow civil asset forfeiture, which is the taking of citizens property including money without warrant, writ, or court order?

Why have we come to accept

who wish to maintain the status quo.

It's time Republicans everywhere stand up to demand respect for all our Constitutional rights, create law that protects our citizens from overzealous law enforcement while protecting police officers who act within the scope of practice, and ensure that our Constitutional freedoms are intact for future generations.

Because in the famous words of Ronald Regan the top 9 most terrifying words a citizen can ever hear is "I'm from the government and I'm here to help". If this is help, citizens don't need it. Freedom is scary, deal with it.

To read past editions of Pragmatic Conservatism, visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.



### The Liberal Patriot

Politics worth watching John Halpin

"How citizens, the news media, and philanthropists could develop political discourse worthy of sustained public attention."

A mericans can build a more majestic politics—if they put their minds and resources together to create a different civic model.

Americans broadly dislike both leading candidates for president in 2024 and would prefer to see other nominees. Congressional leadership and the two parties are viewed unfavorably by large proportions of voters. Nearly half of Americans now identify as political independents with partisan identification at record lows. The news media covering the show is roundly disliked and distrusted by people across the spectrum.

The evidence is crystal clear: America's storied democracy is failing to engage its citizens in any meaningful and sustained manner. Lots of Americans simply don't care about politics or respect the people who run it. Unfortunately, this opens the door for extremists of all types who want to shift the entire system in one direction or the other to fill the void.

We need to create a political system worthy of normal Americans' attention—and interest. What would this look like?

No party tribalism. The crux of the problem lies in the distorted politics created by a dying two-party system. Where ideological diversity once roamed the land among both Republicans and Democrats—allowing for liberal Republicans, conservative Democrats, and moderates of all kinds to forge agreements on core national problems—ideologically aligned parties of today promote and reward rigid political conformity, with a few renegades allowed here and there. Little gets accomplished outside of crisis moments and short periods of unified party control. Campaigns and supporting media coverage in turn are unending parades of partisan negativity ("Who do you hate more—us or them?") masquerading as high-minded debate about an "existential" crisis that requires voting one way or the other.

A future politics worthy of public attention must be developed both outside and inside of the confines of the two parties. We can't easily replace or transcend the two-party system given current electoral laws (although ideas like fusion voting at least offer additional choices within the two-party system). But we can as citizens demand and fund increased ideological diversity among candidates and institutions within the respective parties, and reward news media organizations that cover political debates fairly and impartially as opposed to being on one side or the other.

Substance-first news media. The drawbacks of party tribalism get amplified by legacy commercial media and now social media platforms forced on people by tech companies. Turn on any cable radio or news show, and you'll hear nonstop yammering about the evils of the other party and its supporters. Scroll through social media or video platforms, and you'll get uninformed partisan invective, false or inflammatory information, and increasingly entirely fabricated propaganda from combatants in the partisan culture wars.

Paying attention to politics as practiced today often makes you dumber and less informed than if you just ignored politics altogether.

A future politics worthy of public attention must create and support its own media and information networkentirely separate from the current most popular platforms—dedicated to "substance-first" news and reporting on major issues of national importance: What happened? Why does it matter? What solutions are being proposed? How should we evaluate these ideas?

Funding mechanisms dedicated to the common good. Billions of dollars get burned every year developing, promoting, and elevating tribal political conflicts in elections and in the media. America's insane campaign finance system—and its companion philanthropic infrastructure focused on obscure partisan demands and culture war politics allows virtually unchecked money to fuel ideologically distorted politics with few standards, boundaries, or accountability measures.

A future politics worthy of public attention must develop its own funding mechanisms—from small donors to big charitable arms—committed to nation-first public policy, fair and impartial news gathering and reporting, and robust political debate across the ideological spectrum that focuses on practical and innovative ideas for fixing America's problems.

Rather than embark on quixotic third-party runs, or get distracted by social media vanity projects by rich eccentrics, patriotic Americans should commit themselves this presidential cycle to developing a parallel political universe—a political universe actually tethered to reality and good governance that is separate from the tumult of daily partisan combat; one that is focused on supporting multiple voices and platforms that feature accurate reporting and measured debate about major national issues.

TLP is planning to do its small part in this venture (starting this June) by tracking public attitudes about how the two parties are doing across 10 separate aspects of domestic and international policy, in what we're calling the



"Patriot Index". The index will explore which party is better addressing a range of national concerns—or if neither one is up to the task according to Americans. The components include:

- Building up America's manufacturing capacity
- Ensuring American energy independence
- Protecting American interests around the world
- Maintaining a strong military and defense
- Being culturally moderate and not extreme
- Being patriotic
- Fighting crime and ensuring public safety
- Taking on China in a smart manner
- Protecting people's individual rights
- Standing up for free speech and freedom of religion

People with a different perspective than TLP's liberal nationalism should likewise set-up their own political networks to examine our nation's core challenges and propose ideas to ensure that everyone in America is able to live well and succeed. Together, perhaps these new cross-ideological ventures can start to develop an alternative civic model aimed at engaging the millions of Americans who care little for contemporary politics.

The 2024 election need not be an expensive drag that everyone tunes out. We can create a politics that is genuinely worthy of public attention—if we put our minds to the project and dedicate more substantial resources to help it succeed.

To subscribe to The Liberal Patriot newsletter visit www.liberalpatriot.com

To read past editions of The Liberal Patriot, visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.

### Good Day, Neighbor

Democracy

Dorothea Mordan

#### Part 1: Representation

The United States of America is celebrating its birthday soon, a worthy time to reflect on points in history that bring big changes.

Much recorded history exists about the American Revolution and the cre-

#### was anxious to use his connections at home in America, and he was in London to be a liaison between fed up colonists and an immovable monarch. About a year earlier, a member of Parliament had given Franklin letters written by the Crown-appointed governor of Massachusetts, Thomas Hutchinson. Hutchinson's letters outlined in detail how the King could subjugate

and fomenting rebellion (he wasn't, yet). While Franklin stood absolutely still, one major player, solicitor general Alexander Wedderburn, spent an hour ridiculing Franklin and his character. There was no discussion of the complaints regarding the intensions of the governor. There was, again, no room for representation.

You can look at this from multiple points of view-taxation without representation, royal overreach. It was also a good old fashioned shunning. A cancellation, one of the oldest and simplest ways to thin the herd with which one has to engage. It took the rest of 1774 for Franklin to organize his return to America. He arrived ready to articulate the concept of representation, and inspire revolution. The American revolution happened because the colonies lacked representation in the British parliament. Not because their representation "sucked". The leadership of the colonies made compromises with each other to form a covenant, our Constitution.

to tell their own story. In Frederick County, at least one Board of Education committee has been formed to literally read through books to determine whether to ban them.

Banning books is the dissemination of information without representation. Rebellion against book bans is a worthy endeavor. Banning books breaks our covenant with each other to give everyone a voice—to be represented.

Our country is today a place once again where factions want to control the

We keep coming back to the middle ground, our melting pot. We live in the middle because that's where a real life happens. Where you're able to have a conversation with your neighbor, go to the store, go to school, go to work. You give room to everybody else to go to work, go to school, raise their kids. The world wants, needs, and, in the United States of America, actually has a place that cares about the rights of everyone to live in the middle.

We embrace it because it includes

ation of our Constitution, a covenant between the Colonies to form a Union of States. It is all available to read via any public library, or the internet. The Colonists and the King experienced many years of disputes and insults, small and large, building to an irreconcilable situation—taxation without representation.

In this history there are a few well documented big moments that sealed the decision for individual Founding Fathers to rebel against the King. One such was Benjamin Franklin's appearance before the Privy Council in London 1774.

By this time he was known as Dr. Franklin because of honorary doctorates for his scientific accomplishments from the University of St. Andrews and the University of Oxford. He was a prolific writer of commentary, had the job of American Postmaster, appointed by the British Crown, and the colonies with taxes and other penalties. Franklin sent the letters to an associate in Massachusetts, hoping to show that the King was being advised by Hutchinson, and maybe calm the revolutionary fever. And, he added, please don't publish them. You can guess how that turned out. Almost instantly, there was a petition from the colonists to have Hutchinson replaced.

Government officials in England were furious that a governor's letter had been made public. When it came out that Franklin was the one who leaked the letters, there was a call for him to come to the hearing for the petition to remove Hutchinson. The British officials running the hearing had a different purpose. There was no hearing on the merits of the petition or complaints about the Governor. The entire event focused on accusations of Franklin misusing personal letters (they weren't)

One of the freedoms won for us is the First Amendment. Freedom of Speech is the freedom to tell our individual stories. Big or little. Famous or not.

There have always been people who want to control who gets to tell their own story. Right now there are people who would ban books, based on their personal opinion of who gets rest of the population, or split the country. Whether it is telling people what they can read or another issue, this is more than shunning. It is breaking our covenant to give every citizen a voice.

The Founding Fathers did envision where we are now. We are exactly in one of the scenarios they envisioned. One faction wanting another to disappear. The Founding Fathers came from England and had direct family experience with two factions in their own country-Catholics and Church of England Protestants-who were killing each other since the reign of Henry XIII in the 16th century. Our founding fathers understood how to create a government flexible enough that we can save it. It has taken two over hundred years to approach the promise of the Constitution for all Americans. That is how we save itcontinue to be inclusive.

us, because in a melting pot no one gets shunned completely. You might make and lose friends. But with our melting pot of ideas, and regional and local cultures, there is always possibility for renewal.

We embrace the middle because when the rhythm life is flowing well, we have time to read books, lots and lots of books.

There are effective ways to work within the community to celebrate the 4<sup>th</sup> of July birthday of our Constitutional Covenant, support its principles, and our neighbors—participate. Show up for your community, get comprehensive history and civics classes prioritized in middle and high school, and don't forget to vote.

To learn more about Woodsboro's own Dorothea, visit her site at chandlerdesignslimited.com.

### THE PASTOR'S DESK

### The "What Ifs" are coming

Pastor Jay Petrellia Graceham Moravian Church

ften this column is written by a local pastor such as myself and typically contains something thoughtful, educational, inspirational and/or uplifting. I'll attempt to get there myself in a moment, but before I do, allow me to try and scare you. I should be able to do it with just two words. I recommend you make sure your shoes are strapped on tight so you don't jump out of them, and that you read this during the daytime when there are fewer shadows casting about and not so many mysterious noises. Are you ready? Here are the two scariest words. "What if?"

There. It's over. Are you still with me? Great, we made it through that together. Take a breath and let's continue. That was a joke obviously but sort of not really. The words, the phrase "what if," can paralyze us in fear. Even the biggest, meanest, most rugged among us cower when it comes to mind. Don't believe me? Take a few moments and think about the "what ifs" currently on your heart and mind.

What if I get sick? What if my loved one doesn't get better? What if I lose my job? What if I fail? What if I'm not good enough? What if an enemy attacks? What if I'm robbed? What if I'm wrong? What if I'm right but everyone believes I'm wrong? What if reality isn't what I perceive it to be? What if disaster, natural or otherwise, strikes? What if I've gone too far, did too many bad things to have any hope at a better life now? What if I bomb this job interview? What if my investment tanks and I

lose all our money? &c. &c.

Are you scared yet? I think the fearsome "what ifs" lurk deep within all of us from time to time and they will haunt us to the point of destroying our lives if we let them.

I wonder if there are any fans of the show Doctor Who reading this article? Doctor Who is a long running, British, science fiction television show. It first aired in 1963. I personally only watched the show during Matt Smith's tenure as the Doctor, but what I did see out of all those decades of episodes I really enjoyed.

Anyway, I mention the good Doctor because the "what ifs" remind me of a particularly terrifying villain on that show called the Weeping Angels. The Weeping Angels appear often, though not always, as human-like, stone statues. Picture a human sized winged angel in flowing robes, carved out of stone. They look like ordinary stone statues, but they can move very quickly to attack their victims. The trouble is, you never see them move. They only move when you aren't looking at them, say when you turn to try and run away. Like a cat stalking you from around a corner. Every time you look at them you notice they have gained ground on you despite your best efforts to run away, until they're upon you, touch you and drain your life out of you. Creepy.

The "what ifs" manner of stalking and capturing its prey is like that of the Weeping Angels, but opposite. The creepy statues run you down when you're not looking. However, the "what ifs" seem to stalk us and pose a threat when we look at them. When we



pay attention to them. When our back is to them, they seem to have less power over us.

What do I mean? Well, for instance, study after study has shown that the more one is exposed to 24 hour news networks, the more anxious, fear-filled, paranoid, angry and depressed one gets. The reason is simple. For the sake of ratings, to keep people watching, they parade an seemingly endless supply of bad news in front of us, and our attention gobbles it up. The "what ifs" grab us and consume us. "What if politician X does Y?!" "Did you see what that criminal did over there? What if there are people in my community like them?" "What if that person or people are coming to ruin my life?!"

Similarly, study after study has shown people who consume a large amount of social media, often end up fearful, anxious and/or depressed. Over on Facetubegram, people can see an endless stream of people on private yachts, tropical beaches, mucking about in nicer homes, driving super expensive cars and so forth. Even if you're watching friends and family on those sites it can give you a skewed sense of reality, because no one is posting the boring day in day out mundane moments of their lives. I've heard it said it's like comparing your day to day life with someone else's highlight reel. This is easy pickin's for the "what ifs". As we watch this endless supply of media some start to wonder, "What if I'm a failure as I don't, and will never, have all those nice things?" "What if my life is meaningless, empty, over before it began?" "Look at all those fun, beautiful people traveling the world and having the times of their lives while I have to stay home and deal with a broken water heater. What if I missed the best times of my life?"

Well, one of the best things to do if the "what if" monsters are barreling down on you is to turn your back on them. Obviously we shouldn't ignore blatantly dangerous situations, or cruel injustices. Don't take my illustration too far. But most of the "what ifs" we encounter only pose a threat to our mental and spiritual health, and even then, only if we allow them to take up residence in our minds.

Which brings me to my point. All of our imagined fears, anxieties and worries only hurt us by robbing us of our peace. When we are not at peace, we are not able to make the best decisions, or speak the wisest words, or forgive our enemies, love our neighbors, or even rest in God's presence. Our alarms are going off. Our defenses are up. We're paranoid about attacks from unseen enemies, so we see evil intentions in everyone, even doubting ourselves. As followers of Christ, we are to be sheep resting before cool streams of water having been led there by our Great Shepherd. If we're not careful the "what ifs" will lead us away from those peaceful waters and have us dressed in camo, hiding in the bushes, eating caffeine pills like tic-tacs and chewing our fingernails while watching out for an imagined enemy that we think will attack at any moment.

In life we can experience joys so profound we can't put them into words, and pains greater than we ever thought were possible to feel. Yet, through those times and all the times in between we'll find God, our Creator, Savior and Sustainer right by our side. So there is no reason to get ahead of ourselves and pay the "what if"s any mind. Whatever the future holds, wherever life takes us we can be at peace knowing God will be there too to see us through. Turn off the news. Log off Instatokbook and let Jesus lead you to still waters, restoring your soul. Be at peace friends.





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### THE BOOK OF DAYS

### Henry Hudson, The Navigator



This ill-fated mariner was one of the most remarkable of our great English navigators of Elizabethan age, yet his history previous to the year 1607, when he sailed on his first recorded voyage, is entirely unknown. The Dutch appear to have invented, in order to support their claim to New Netherlands, a history of his previous life, according to which he had passed a part of it in the service of Holland; but this is not believed by the best modern writers on the subject.

We first find Henry Hudson, in the year just mentioned, a captain in the service of the Muscovy Company, whose trade was carried on principally with the North, and who did not yet despair of increasing it by the discovery of a passage to China by the northeast or by the north-west. Hudson laboured with a rare energy to prove the truth or fallacy of their hopes, and he was at least successful in showing that some of them were delusive: and he would no doubt have done much more, had he not been cut off in the midst of his career. He acted first on a plan which had been proposed by an English navigator, named Robert Thorne, as early as the year 1527that of sailing right across the north pole: and he left London for this voyage on the 23rd of April 1607.

Among his companions was his son, John Hudson, who is described in the log-book as 'a boy,' and who seems to have accompanied his father in all his expeditions. He sailed by way of Greenland towards Spitzbergen,

After his return from this voyage, Hudson was invited to Holland by the Dutch East India Company, and it was in their service that he made his third voyage. Sailing from Amsterdam on the 6th of April 1609, with two ships, manned partly by Dutch and partly by English sailors, he on the 5th of May reached the North Cape. It was originally intended to renew the search for a north-east passage, but in consequence of a mutiny amongst his crew when near Nova Zembla, he abandoned this plan, and sailed west-ward to seek a passage through America in lat. 40°. He had received vague information of the existence of the great inland lakes, and imagined that they might indicate a passage by sea through the mainland of America. It was on this voyage that he discovered the great river, which has since borne his name: but his hopes were again disappointed, and he returned to England, and arrived at Dartmouth, in Devonshire, on the 7th of November.

Hudson was detained in England by orders of the government, on what grounds is not known, while the ship returned to Holland. The indefatigable navigator had now formed a design of seeking a passage by what has been named after him, Hudson's Straits: and on the 17th of April 1610 he started from London with this object, in a ship named the Discovery. During the period between the middle of July and the first days of August he passed through Hudson's Straits, and on the 4th of the latter month he entered the great bay which, from the name of its discoverer, has ever since been called Hudson's Bay. The months of August, September, and October were spent in exploring the southern coast of this bay, until, at the beginning of November, Hudson took up his winter quarters in what is supposed to have been the south-east corner of James's Bay, and the ship was soon frozen in. Hudson did not leave these winter quarters until the 18th of June following, and his departure was followed by the melancholy events which we have now to relate.

We have no reason for believing that Hudson was a harsh-tempered man: but his crew appears to have been composed partly of men of wild and desperate characters, who could only be kept in order by very severe discipline. Before leaving the Thames, he had felt it necessary to send away a man named Colburne, who appears to have been appointed as his second in command, probably because this man had shewn an inclination to dispute his plans and to disobey his orders: and while wandering about the southern coasts of Hudson's Bay, signs of insubordination had manifested themselves on more than one occasion, and had required all Hudson's energy to suppress them.

But, as we learn from the rather full account left by Abacuk Prickett, one of the survivors of this voyage, the principal leader of the discontented was an individual who had experienced great personal kindnesses from Henry Hudson. This was a young man named Henry Green, of a respectable family of Kent, but who had been abandoned by his relatives for his extravagance and ill-conduct; during Hudson's last residence in London, Green seems to have been literally living on his charity. Finding that this Green could write well, and believing that he would be otherwise useful, Hudson took him out with him on his voyage as a sort of supernumerary, for he was not entered on the books of the company who sent out the ship, and had therefore no wages: but Hudson gave him provisions and lodgings in the ship as his personal attendant.

In the beginning of the voyage

Green quarreled with several of the crew, and made himself otherwise disagreeable: but the favour of the captain (or master) saved him from the consequences, and he seems to have gradually gained the respect of the sailors for his reckless bravery. While the ship was locked up in the ice for the winter, the carpenter greatly provoked Hudson by refusing to obey his orders to build a timber hut on shore: and next day, when the carpenter chose to go on shore to shoot wild fowl, as it had been ordered that nobody should go away from the ship alone, Green, who had been industriously exciting the men against their captain, went with him.

Hudson, who had perhaps received some intimation of his treacherous behaviour, was angry at his acting in this contemptuous manner, and shewed his displeasure in a way which embittered Green's resentment. Under these circumstances, it was not difficult to excite discontent among the men, for it seems to have been the first time that any of them had passed a winter in the ice, and they were not very patient under its rigour, for some of them were entirely disabled by the frost. One day, at the close of the winter, when the greater part of the crew were to go out a-fishing in the shallop (a large two-masted boat), Green plotted with others to seize the shallop, sail away with it, and leave the captain and a few disabled men in the ship: but this plot was defeated by a different arrangement made accidentally by Hudson.

The conspiracy against the latter was now ripe, and Prickett, who was evidently more consenting to it than he is willing to acknowledge, tells us that when night approached, on the eve of the 21st of June, Green and Wilson, the new boat-swain, came to him where he lay lame in his cabin, and told him 'that they and the rest and their associates would shift the company and turne the master and all the sicke men into the shallop, and let them shift for themselves.'

This was the last that was ever seen or heard of Henry Hudson and his companions in misfortune. Most of them cripples, in consequence of the severity of the winter, without provisions, or means of procuring them, they must soon have perished in this inhospitable climate.

The fate of the mutineers was not

much better. For some time they wandered among coasts with which they were unacquainted, ran short of provisions, and failed in their attempts to gain a sufficient supply by fishing or shooting; and for some time seem to have lived upon little more than 'cockle-grass.'

On the 28th of July the mutineers came to the mouth of Hudson's Straits, and landed at the promontory which he had named Digges's Cape, in search of fowl. They there met with some of the natives, who showed so friendly a disposition, that Greencontrary, it seems, to the opinion of his companions-landed next day without arms to hold further intercourse with them. But the Indians, perceiving that they were unarmed, suddenly attacked them, and in the first onset Green was killed, and the others with great difficulty got off their boat and reached the ship, where Green's three companions, who were all distinguished by their activity in the mutiny, died of their wounds. Prickett, sorely wounded, and another man, alone escaped.

Next year a captain named Batton was sent out in search of Hudson and his companions, and passed the winter of 1612 in Hudson's Bay, but returned without having obtained any intelligence of them. Thus perished this great but ill-fated navigator. Yet the name of the apparently obscure Englishman, of whose personal history we know so little, has survived not only in one of the most important rivers of the new continent, in the Strait through which he passed, and in the bay in which he wintered and perished, but in the vast extent of territory which lies between this bay and the Pacific Ocean, and which has so long been under the influence of the Hudson's Bay Company; and the results of his voyages have been still more remarkable, for, as it has been well observed, he not only bequeathed to his native country the fur-trade of the territory last mentioned, and the whale-fisheries of Spitzbergen, but he gave to the Dutch that North American colony which, having afterwards fallen into the hands of England, developed itself into the United States.

To read other selections from the Book of Days visit www.thebookofdays.com.

and in his progress met with the now well-known ice-barrier between those localities, and he was the first modern navigator who sailed along it. He eventually reached the coast of Spitzbergen, but after many efforts to overcome the difficulties which presented themselves in his way, he was obliged to abandon the hope of reaching the pole; and, after convincing himself that that route was impracticable, he returned home, and on the 15th of September arrived at Tilbury, in the Thames. On the 22nd of April in the following year (1608) Hudson, still in the employment of the Muscovy Company, sailed from London with the design of ascertaining the possibility of reaching China by the northeast, and, as we may now suppose, was again unsuccessful: he reached Gravesend on his return on the 26th of August.



### ECOLOGY

### Mild winter = ticks and biting insects

#### Anne Gageby

#### **Environmental Education Manager** Strawberry Hill

The last hard frost is finally behind us despite this year's vacillating slide into spring. It's been an interesting year, weather-wise. The deep freeze of December melted into a fairly mild winter overall. The lack of steady freezing temps creates a perfect opportunity for insect populations to endure and come back with a vengeance in spring.

Biting insects are already riding in on the tide of warmer weather. This is an unwelcome shift for anyone who enjoys the outdoors. Ticks, mosquitoes, midges, and other biting insects have come into their season after a winter spent buried beneath leaf litter and occasional snow. And what a season it will be. By all accounts, we're looking at a record year for ticks and biting insects. I found a tick on me back in the middle of March, far earlier than I would normally expect. And the mosquitoes have long since made their spring debut. These vector species can carry a wide array of diseases that affect human and animal populations alike. Not every disease is zoonotic though, meaning some diseases are not transmissible between animals and humans. Even still, plenty of animal-specific diseases are worrisome for other reasons.

Two viruses of concern within the deer population specifically

are Bluetongue Virus and Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease. Both are most common during the late summer and early fall and are spread via midges, also known as no-see-ums. Bluetongue Virus and Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease are known to cause general Hemorrhagic Disease (HD) which brings a wide variety of symptoms and can have a mortality rate of up to 70 percent depending on the location and specific animal population. Fortunately, neither Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease nor Bluetongue Virus are known to infect humans.

Back in September, the Game Commission put out information for hunters after an outbreak of Hemorraghic Disease in Lebanon and Lancaster counties. As we head toward summer, landowners and outdoor enthusiasts should be aware of both viruses that cause Hemorraghic Disease and keep an eye out for signs of them as the weather gets warmer. Signs of infection include fever, small hemorrhages or bruising in the nose and mouth as well as swelling of the head, tongue, neck, and lips. Deer may appear emaciated and have sloughing hooves. Deer infected with EHD may also appear dehydrated and will often seek out water sources. Multiple dead deer in one location, especially by water, should be reported to the Game Commission as this could be a sign of an outbreak.

Because of the mild winter, we can expect the midge population

to explode this year, potentially bringing about higher cases of Hemorrhagic Disease. Naïve deer populations could be impacted due to their lack of prior infection. From a wildlife management perspective, vector control could be possible but would be a significant challenge. Climate change is adding additional pressure to wildlife management practices, making controlling vector populations that much more difficult. For these reasons, monitoring and tracking are critical to management.

If Hemorrhagic Disease is no threat to humans, then why should people keep an eye out for suspicious deer? Unfortunately, the answer to this question involves a much larger discussion about the state of deer populations in our area. Deer already face habitat loss, predation, and a number of other threats. When we calculate environmental stressors and add in deadly diseases such as Hemorrhagic Disease, the final result could be catastrophic for local herds. Here on the East Coast, Hemorrhagic Disease is one of the most common diseases in whitetailed populations. An outbreak can cause a significant number of deaths. And as we've seen numerous times over the last two centuries, when one species declines, others are significantly impacted. Our ecosystem is a delicate set of dominos in which every animal is important.

So what can average citizens





Deer ticks (also called black-legged ticks) can carry the bacteria that causes Lyme disease. Thanks to this year's warm winter, this could be the worst tick season ever.

do? It starts with monitoring. The public plays a vital role in the surveillance of wildlife. When incidents of sick, injured, or dead animals are reported, it provides the Game Commission an opportunity to collect and test samples for any number of wildlife diseases. Hemorrhagic Disease occurs with some regularity within Pennsylvania specifically and the Game Commission tracks it closely, both when and where exactly it's occurring. Tracking also allows the Game Commission to identify which strains are predominant.

Hemorrhagic Disease has been found in most states except for areas in the Southwest and extreme Northeast. While there are a number of common animal hosts whitetailed deer are the most susceptible. Other host species include pronghorn antelope and bighorn sheep. While elk can be infected with Hemorrhagic Disease, they are not as susceptible as white-tailed deer. Of the two main viruses which cause Hemorrhagic Disease, Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease is not common in domestic animals while Bluetongue Virus is well-known in cattle, sheep, and goats. Neither BTV nor EHD are transmissible to

humans but BTV can be transmissible to some animals such as dogs.

Farmers and those who raise these animals would be right to be concerned about either virus infecting their animals. There is a limited risk if farm animals share the same space as infected deer. Domestic animal owners should keep this and many other wildlife diseases on their radar. When disease is spread by an insect vector, control is a challenge. Being smart and keeping wildlife away from domestic animals (and vice versa) reduces disease transmission risk.

Looking toward summer, the public should keep in mind that peak vector (midge) season is late summer into early fall. Outbreaks are more common during that time of year. However, as mild as the winter was, it's a good idea to keep a careful eye on animals under your care or that you may encounter in the wild. Wildlife health incidents such as suspected cases of Hemorrhagic Disease should be reported to the Game Commission by calling 833-PGC-WILD (742-9453) or online through the Wildlife Health Survey tool.

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### IN THE COUNTRY

### Preventing raptor road-kill

#### Tim Iverson Cunningham Falls State Park Seasonal Naturalist

 $\mathbf{B}^{ ext{elieve}}_{ ext{a}}$  it or not it had been a rather pleasant afternoon commute up 270-N. I had been following the same sedan for some miles now. As any good driver does my eyes made the circuit from looking ahead through the windshield, up to the rearview mirror, over to the side view mirrors, and every now and again to check the time and speed I was going. After one of these rounds I make it back to staring forward, and I catch a glimpse of a hand fling something out of the driver's side window. The yellow and slender skin with arms flailing in the wind made it abundantly clear what they had tossed aside. It couldn't have been anything other than a banana peel. Big deal you might be asking yourself. Well, I am here to tell you that it IS a big deal.

At seven state parks across Maryland there are aviaries housing injured wildlife that will never be able to return to the wild because they can no longer care for themselves as the result of human caused injuries. The closest to our area is located at Cunningham Falls State Park. Within this aviary are animals, most of who have been hit by cars. These accidents could largely be avoidable. Most think of roadside litter as trash bags, empty fast food bags, cups and containers, and other kinds of junk. When presented with the idea of banana peels or apple cores or other natural and biodegradable things they think it's perfectly natural and fine to toss them aside as they please. However, this is not the case. The raptors living in Maryland Park Service aviaries can provide ample evidence as to why.

Let's meet a Red Tailed Hawk for just a minute. This beautiful bird of prey is the largest hawk that lives in Maryland. This bird prefers wide open spaces, primarily fields. In fact, if we're being honest this is probably one species that has benefited from deforestation and development. They feast on small mammals like mice, rabbits, squirrels, and smaller birds in their territory. You can often see them sitting on the sides of roadways. They're usually perched upon telephone poles, over head lights, or signs. They are naturally drawn to these areas because of high perch places, and the abundance of prey.

You see rodents are naturally attracted to any type of food trash. It doesn't matter if that fast food bag is empty or not, because it still smells like French fries and burgers. Empty wrappers still retain the scent of whatever food they packaged as well. Banana peels, apple cores, or other food waste will still attract prey like mice to the sides of roadways in search of a quick meal. Red-tailed Hawks, and other birds of prey, know this and will wait for prey to arrive. Then when the moment is right they'll strike. They swoop down from on high to claim their catch. Often times though it's not that simple. They are competing with the tumult of traffic which can be chaos to process for wildlife. Raptors frequently are struck by cars in the process of hunting. In most cases these birds are killed on impact. A lucky few who do survive and make it to medical assistance in time may be able to fully recover and be rereleased to the wild. However, the majority of those who are hit and survive will not be able to go back. These reasons can vary: wing amputations, which makes flight impossible; brain damage, which makes hunting and survival impossible; or loss of vision in one or both eyes, which makes hunting, flying, and surviving difficult to impossible.

For those birds that are fortunate enough to survive, but cannot survive on their own will be placed in zoos and aviaries throughout the county. The Maryland Park Service has a program called Scales & Tales which cares for and houses wildlife like this. Scales & Tales is an environmental education program that provides people the opportunity to see these wild animals up close. By relating the "tale" or story of the animals the Maryland Park Service can reach out to the public and educate them on environmental issues of concern. These issues range from environmental pollution, climate change, habitat and resource loss, invasive species, and more. There are a few ways people can help these animals as well as wildlife.

The first way is by visiting these aviaries, parks, and wild spaces in general. By raising your awareness you are likely to make lasting lifestyle changes and be able to spread the message to others. Scales & Tales also has an adoption program that allows you to symbolically "adopt" these animals, and the money goes towards their care and well being. The best way to help them is to help prevent unnecessary injuries from happening in the first place. Practicing Leave No Trace is a great way to start.

Leave No Trace is a non-profit organization and a set of principles or ethics regarding how we use and treat the great outdoors. These seven ideas are easy to follow and very reasonable. They are:

Plan Ahead & Prepare – Make sure you pack all necessary food, gear, etc. Know you're way so you don't get lost. Most importantly, plan for how to pack your waste and bring it back with you



Red Tailed Hawks are often killed while hunting for rodents attracted to litter thrown from cars.

Travel/Camp on Durable Surfaces – When you hike or camp off of specific or regulated areas you destroy vegetation that prevents rain runoff and destroy habitat by expanding human impact

Dispose of Waste Properly – If you brought it there, then make sure you bring it back.

Leave What You Find – This way another passerby can experience what you did

Minimize Campfire Impacts – If there are existing fire rings then use them! Otherwise the woods will be pockmarked with blackened scorched earth

Respect Wildlife – Respect all wildlife, but remember some wildlife can be venomous or dangerous so if you don't respect them they will not respect you.

Be Considerate of Other Visitors – You'd hate it if you were soaking up the beauty of the outdoors and someone was being loud, rude, and disruptive. Don't do it to someone else.

Leave No Trace can usually be summed up by the adage, "Take

only pictures, leave only footprints." By practicing these principles in all of our outdoor affairs we can assure that every one of us can always enjoy what the wild lands have to offer. Just like you try to take care of your personal stuff, we need to take care of our collective stuff. Throwing the banana peel out instead of waiting to find a trash can is reckless. It endangers wildlife by setting them up for disaster. When this happens often enough the scavengers eating it become accustomed to the food source, and may starve when or if it is no longer available. The simple act of just waiting a few more minutes is well worth the investment to preserve the independent and natural order of things. I once saw a road sign while working for the National Park Service in Big Bend Texas that I think I'd like to leave you with -Litterin' is unlAWFUL! Make sure the impact you leave behind is a positive one.

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



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# S55 REGISTRATION FEE

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> Week 1: June 26-30 Week 2: July 10-14 Week 3: August 7-11

For questions, please email Amie McDaniels at amiemcdaniels@gmail.com

C

### **REAL SCIENCE**

### Diet supplements

#### Michael Rosenthal

've written before about food L supplements. Some are useless, some are harmless, and some are dangerous. Consumer Reports published an article recently on food supplements that is a good update on what supplements are not only of no value but are risky to health. These findings are the result of consultation with a panel of experienced doctors and researchers, and written by Lisa L. Gill. One generality that arose was the finding that risk increases with a larger dosage and the longer the supplement is taken. Unapproved or illegal ingredients should be watched or, such as tianeptine, methylsynephrine and phenibut. I am going to summarize the findings here as stated in Consumer Reports by Lisa Gill.

Chaparral, also called creosote bush, greasewood, Larrea divaricate, Larea tridentata, or larreastat. It is claims to benefit weight loss, ease inflammation, and treat colds, infections, rashes, and even cancers. It has been found to cause kidney problems and liver damage.

Coltsfoot, also called coughwort, Farfarae folium leaf, foalswort, or Tussilageo farfara claims to relieve cough, sore throat, laryngitis, bronchitis, and asthma. It has been found to be a possible carcinogen and may cause liver damage.

Comfrey, also known as blackwort, bruisewort, slippery root,

or Symphytum officinale claims to relieve cough, heavy menstrual period, stomach problems, chest pain, and has been a cancer treatment. It has been found to be potential carcinogen itself and can cause liver damage.

Germander, also called Teucrium chanaedrys or Teucrium viscidum, claims to benefit weight loss, alleviate fever, arthritis, gout, and stomach problems. It is found to cause liver damage or hepatitis in some cases.

Greater celandine, also called celandine or Chelidonium majus, claims to alleviate stomach ache but may cause liver damage.

Kava, also known as ava pepper, kava kava, or Piper methysticum, claims to ease anxiety and help achieve sleep. Potential harm includes liver damage, exacerbation of Parkinson's Disease, and impairs vehicle driving.

Lobelia, also called asthma weed, Lobelia inflata, vomit wort, or wild tobacco, claims to help respiratory problems, and support smoking cessation. Potential harms include nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, tremors, rapid heartbeat, confusion, seizures, hypothermia, and coma.

Pennyroyal oil, also called Hedeoma pulegioides, and Mentha pulegium. Pennyroyal oil, also called Hedeoma pulegioides or Mentha pulegium, claims to improve breathing problems and digestive disorders. Potential harms include liver and kidney failure, nerve damage, and convulsions.

Usnic acid, also called beard moss, tree moss, or usnea claims to benefit weight loss, and offer pain relief. Potential harm is liver iniurv.

Yohimbe, also called Johimbi, Pausinytalia yohimbe, yohimbine, or Corynanthe johimbi, claims to benefit low libido and erectile dysfunction, depression and obesity. Potential harms include raising of blood pressure, rapid heart rate, headaches, seizures, liver and kidney problems, heart problems, and panic attacks.

I like to report on the energy sources used to generate electricity for our region as reported periodically by Potomac Edison. In the report for 2022, gas provided 40.08 percent of our energy. Nuclear sources produced 32.69 % of our energy, and coal provided 20.16 % of our energy. The total renewable energy provided was only 6.76%. Smaller amounts of energy were provided by non-renewable fuel cells, oil and renewable energy such as captured methane gas (.21%), hydroelectric (.99%), solar energy (1.11%), energy from solid waste (.48%), wind (3.79%) and energy from wood and other biomass (.19%).

Also reported are air emissions, in units of pounds per megawatt-hour of electricity generated. Not surprisingly the major emitter is carbon dioxide at 810.84 pounds per megawatt hour of electricity generated followed by 0.44 pounds per megawatt-hour of sulfur dioxide and 0.33 pounds per megawatt-hour of electricity generated of nitrogen oxides.



Carbon dioxide is a greenhouse gas which may contribute to global climate changes. Sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides react in the atmosphere to form acid rain. Nitrogen oxides also react to form ground level ozone, a component of smog.

California has once again taken the lead in seeking carbon neutrality by moving to eliminate gas-burning power plants. This matter was reported in the Washington Post on November 17, 2022. The state is moving toward finding ways to discourage power plants that burn gas. It is not clear to me whether the ban is still in the works or has been instituted, but there is definitely the strong others not confident it was strong enough. One of the things that slows down such advances is a fear of blackouts.

Proposals have been made to build new battery systems that can store energy during the day to use at night if blackouts occur, especially on hot summer nights. There seems to be agreement that the old plants will remain in operation, but a ban would be introduced for construction of any new natural gas plants, even those with a more modern technology that would reduce emission. There has also been a ban on new sales of natural gas heaters. There is not any proposal to close down all gas burning operations, as it would be too much of an impact on day-to-day life. The plan would prevent new applications utilizing natural gas to be implemented. In principle I certainly agree with a plan to eliminate gas-burning as a source of energy. Implementation the plan will however require patience and cooperation and tech-

To read past editions of Science Matters, visit the Authors section of Emmits-

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### THE VILLAGE IDIOT

### Water, water, waterrr!

#### Jack Deatherage

Itry to sit in on every public meeting held at the town office since the COVID restrictions ended. If pressed, I can't explain why. Most of what I hear goes over my head. What I manage to grasp leaves me wondering how anyone can work in government. Still, attending the meetings gets me out of the house and occasionally provides me with something to contemplate besides the next nap, which can catch up with me during a heavily "government speak" filled meeting. Unless the topic is water.

In the mid 1960s we were living closer to Fairfield, though Dad would haul the lot of us into Emmitsburg on Sundays for Mass. Half my siblings had been baptized in Saint Joseph's church and much of Mom's family gathered there, above and below the ground. I knew a good deal more about Emmitsburg than I did Fairfield. One of the things I knew was Emmitsburg had a serious water problem. More than once a priest would ask the congregation to pray for rain because Rainbow Lake was low and the farmers were facing a crop failure.

Sometime during the 1970s when we lived along the Taneytown pike, Middle Creek all but dried up. During the late 1970s/early1980s, when I was floating the Monocacy River, mostly north of MD 550, it was not unusual to find stretches of the river where we had to either drag or carry our canoes to navigable water. During the reign of Parris Glendening - 1995 to 2003 - we suffered a drought so severe that farms bordering the Monocacy River were denied access to the water for their crops. Word swept through the gardening population that all water; under, on, flowing through, passing over the state of Maryland belonged to the state. One market gardener told me he had mown his entire garden because he couldn't take watching it slowly die. Others ignored the statewide water ban and paid fines if they were caught using water in ways the state deemed inappropriate.

In 2002/3, COPE (Citizens Organized to Protect Emmitsburg) decided to stop the development of the Silver Fancy Farm along North influx of cash from sewer and water tap fees to upgrade the aged waterlines in the "old town". Yes, the town government was aware of the deteriorating waterlines at least twenty freaking years ago!

From the Frederick newspaper – "Mr. Hoover, the mayor, said he wished the group would alter its style. He said COPE members don't attend some committee meetings, where background information is discussed, so they often don't know all the facts. He also said that if asked, he'd meet with COPE members to discuss issues. "The way they (COPE) deal with it is more on an attack rather than a can-we-talkabout-this type thing."

I've witnessed people at town meetings speaking from an emotional, ill-informed perspective and not hearing what is being said back to them. Couple that with the somewhat confusing reporting on the recently enacted water rate increases, and what seems to be a general lack of basic mathematical skills, and I'm surprised another version of COPE hasn't arisen to kick the water can twenty more years down the road.

Not that COPE is the only reason for the town's current dilemma. Past mayors and commissioners listened to the cries of hardship and poverty every time the issue of increasing service fees arose. Today's commissioners no longer have a road to kick the can down. The waterlines are failing and the usual sources of loans and grants are refusing to help a town that has consistently put off the inevitable - increasing the rates to infrastructure sustaining levels.

Because the citizenry cried poormouth at every attempt to bring in enough revenue to maintain the water system, and organized to stop a major development, the sewer/water system has been eating itself. Moneys held in reserve for serious emergencies have been usurped to keep the water flowing, even if some of the water has occasionally been brown. The lenders/granters see a town failing to attempt to break even, let alone to raise income from its utilities to upgrade. No "in the black" cash flow, no loans/grants.

Welcome to Emmitsburg 2023. Thank you citizens of pre-2004 annexation and development of the Silver Fancy Farm would have left the town in a better position today, but it is not debatable that small increases in the sewer and water rates would have shown the town's lenders we would be able to pay back the loans needed to repair and upgrade our utilities.

Cursing COPE and the commissioners of 20 plus years ago is a waste of time better spent figuring out how to meet the challenges before us. As much as it hurts to look at the water rate chart and see what's coming at us like a runaway train, I thank the current commissioners for doing the right thing and finally increasing the rates while continuing to seek moneys elsewhere.

Will the DW and I still be living in town five years from now?

Probably. Though we might have sold our house, bought a tent and set up camp in the town park bordering Toms Creek as Mom told me the hobos used to do during The Great Depression. When I mentioned that possibility to a town staff member as we walked the park path recently, she allowed we'd likely have lots of company. Yeah, the town staff knows the water and sewer rate increases, coupled with the current inflation, are going to be a hardship for many of the residents. She, along with the commissioners, are searching for solutions they are currently unaware of to help alleviate this burden.

Suggestions that the town staff and commissioners are solely responsible for this mess are ridiculous and continue to foment the distrust and outright hostility between the citizenry and the local government. If the goal



The failure to take action in prior years on the degrading town water system will now hurt many on fixed incomes for years to come.

is to have the county take over the town's utilities, leaving residents with even less control over our fate, I guess we're well on the way to that end.

Our house has two taps, one for each apartment. We currently occupy the entire house and pay both bills. Fortunately, we rarely pay more than the minimum water rate. Unfortunately, reducing our water consumption won't affect the future increases.

There being nothing I can do about the overall situation I'll keep

collecting clean waste water and rain water for the new community garden. Maybe I can reduce the grocery bill if I'm successful with the garden?

The DW snorts, "You think we can recoup what you've spent on the community garden?"

Can "idiot" be used as a term of endearment?

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



Seton Avenue. From today's vantage this seems like a seriously bad move.

As I understand it now, and I'm sure much of what I think I know is inaccurate- at least from the points of view of many involved in that battle - the Town (mayor, commissioners and planner) were counting on the Emmitsburg. Instead of small increases in sewer and water bills that may have strained a few household budgets we're now stuck with drastic rate increases at the same time inflation is increasing our property taxes and devastating our grocery and electric bills. It's debatable if allowing the



### THE MASTER GARDENER

### Home gardening essentials – Eco landscaping

#### Mary Ann Ryan Adams County Master Gardener

We all know trends come and go. Some good, some not so good. The late 80's fashion with neon colors and big hair is something I was hoping to never see again.... but stores are showing up with those neon colors again! – hopefully the big hair isn't revisited.

Gardening is no different. When following gardening trends, we see types of flowers and plants coming and going. Design styles, such as focal points, geometric shapes, informal, and random plantings are all different styles that come and go into and out of fashion.

It wasn't that long ago when coneflowers were all the rage. So many new crosses were being introduced: new colors, new flower petal formation, new sizes...all exciting – and still today new coneflowers are being introduced. We just aren't seeing quite the excitement we did a few years ago. Trends come and go.

Eco Landscaping is a relatively new word to many. Although it's been around for awhile in the landscape industry, the public is just beginning to pick up on the word and wondering what, exactly, it means and how is "it" accomplished.

Eco Landscaping is a general term that just indicates a style of landscaping that takes the environment and the ecology into consid-

eration when making design and plant choices. We know, from much research by many universities, that there is a direct correlation between insects, plants, and our food supply. With less native plants, there are less insects that have evolved with those native plants. With less insects, the less pollination that happens from plant to plant (whether native or introduced). With less pollination, the less diverse food supply we have for our bellies. The less food supply, the higher the prices, and so on.

This means that we must do what we can as consumers, gardeners, landowners, apartment dwellers, to provide plants that the insects will visit so pollination occurs. Diversity in plants and insects had a direct impact on our ecology, our environment, and our food sources.

So how do we incorporate this wild and crazy concept into our landscapes? Eco Landscaping, of course! When we make good planting decisions we are considering what that plant will provide, not just if it is pretty. Does it act as a food source for caterpillars? Does it produce the nectar that attracts the bees? Does it provide shade for a diverse group of plants that can grow under it?

When we start considering landscaping as plant choices for our critters, and not just for us, we begin to think about the interactions of plants, insects and mammals. How can we make those



Native Wisteria's fragrant flowers come in a variety of colors, which makes it a sure eye catcher for anyone visiting your garden-especially bees!

choices a better place for everyone and everything?

Consider plant communities. What grows together naturally. When walking though the forest, what types of plants at every level – trees, shrubs and the ground – are growing together? If it's an oak forest, what types of plants are you seeing? If it's a full sun area with no trees, what is growing in the herbaceous layer on the ground? What flowers are mixed in with what grasses?

This is when we can really start to create spaces and diversity in our own yards. We can create those full sun areas with a diverse planting of perennial flowers – some may call this a meadow. We can create those pockets of shade by planting a few native trees. We can have a background or understory of larger shrubs like sweetshrub, or spicebush. And as a groundcover, maybe introduce plants like woodland phlox, Virginia bluebells, and ragwort.

Although we may consider this type of landscaping as a "fad", it really needs to be a way of life that continues into our future if we want to have diversity of plant life, insects, mammals, and food. We have the power to change the insect population decline. We have the power to make choices that positively affect our critters around us.

On June 17, The Master Gardeners are providing a program specifically addressing this topic. By attending the class and trips on that day, you will hear and see how each of us can make changes, even small ones, that will positively affect our environment. From creating a grouping of containers with plants for the bees on the balcony of your apartment, to planting a riparian buffer along the stream that flows through your property, we ALL can make a difference.

We will start our morning at the Agricultural and Natural Resources Center, 670 Old Harrisburg Road, with a chat about Eco Landscaping and Forest Gardening. You will learn more about the concepts of this type of design and how you can incorporate them into your property, big or small. We will also chat about forest gardening, which integrates these concepts into a vegetable garden.

Then we will travel to three different properties – all very different, so you can see and learn how the homeowners are incorporating these concepts. The first property is in a typical development that is overseen by a Homeowners Association. Often those of us that live ecological landscaping may see this as a roadblock for our natural world, but this home owner has worked within the parameters of the regulations and developed







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\*Product Price – Actual retail prices are set by dealer and may vary. Taxes, freight, setup and handling charges may be additional and may vary. Models subject to limited availability. Specifications and programs are subject to change without notice. Images may not reflect dealer inventory and/or unit specifications.1\* As rated by Kohlex, all power levels are stated in gross horsepower at 3600 RPM per SAE J1540 as rated by engine manufacturer. \*\*Limited warranty – normal ware parts 30 days. For full warranty details, visit cubcadet.com or see your local dealer. © 2023 Cub Cadet1PV\_2X7 a wonderful space for her family and the critters that need native plants to survive.

Our second stop will be a larger property in the county. Here we will have lunch and an opportunity to see what can be done with rules only enforced by the township. You will see meadows and riparian buffers and get some ideas how you can incorporate some of these concepts, even in little ways, on your property.

We will finish up at a property that is incorporating concepts of forest gardening. Forest gardening is a way of vegetable gardening that links plants for pollinating insects to vegetable crops. By attending this program, you will learn more about forest gardening and see how these homeowners are incorporating and combining

### THE MASTER GARDENER



When in full bloom, the editor's Native Wisteria will be covered with bees from sunup to sundown.

plants in a vegetable garden.

To register, go to: https://extension.psu.edu/home-gardening-essentials-ecological-landscaping Registrant numbers are limited. Lunch is included in the registration fee, selection of lunch preference at time of registration. Transportation to gardens is not provided, carpooling is suggested. Rain or Shine. Fee is \$30. June 17, 9 a.m. -3 p.m. We start at the Agricultural and Natural Resources Center, 670 Old Harrisburg Road, Gettysburg, and will visit three gardens that have integrated these ideas into their properties. Look forward to seeing you there!

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

### Small Town Gardener

Five ways to unlock your garden code

#### Marianne Willburn

When we fall hard for a plant, we focus all of our desire on it. We vow to give it all it ever needs, even if we know it's unsuited to our soil, our exposure, or our climate in general. We act unreasonably, but reason isn't a part of the falling in love process.

We get the plant and we coddle it. We try to acidify a few square feet of soil around it, we water every day into pure sand, we mix amendments in secret recipes and think we have the answer. And, for a while it may do okay; but when we happen to see the same plant in its favored habitat it's a bit of a shock to realize how poorly our little specimen is really doing. A plant that is surviving is not necessarily thriving.

So, what if we simply planted for the conditions we have?

Heresy! Well at least to the rabid plant hounds out there who have confused love with acquisition. But I'll say what other reasonable visitors to your garden might not be saying until they leave your garden and start to really dish the dirt in the comfort of air conditioning and privacy: Your plant doesn't look it's best.

Moreover, the subset of people who care that you just got a rare sedum to make it through another winter in deep shade is probably about 27. Nationwide. You most likely know 14 of them.

Figuring out what our conditions are and matching them carefully to the wealth of flora available to that climate not only increases our chances of success with the plants upon which we spent precious time and money, but it gives us a better understanding and appreciation of our gardens – allowing us to spend less time maintaining them and more time enjoying them.

This doesn't mean that we shouldn't help our plants to do well with better soil or slight environmental changes – it just means that we start with plants that match our overall conditions of soil, moisture, and exposure. Here are five ways to move towards that goal.

Look for the obvious - Your existing garden is already giving you hints. It's time to pay attention. For instance, if you notice that the Rodgersia in one part of your shade garden has gone bonkers, but it's struggling in another area, and you're not favoring the first with a hose, you may have an underlying wet area that you should capitalize on with more moisture lovers like Ligularia. Meanwhile it's time to replace the struggling Rodgersia with dry shade tolerant plant like Rohdea instead. No one needs to water all summer long.

Change your perspective - Let go of what you think you have to have and embrace new possibilities. If "garden" means a cool English spring and gentle summer to you, but you are gardening in what I like to term 'MidAtlantic Jumanji,' it's time to start looking at good regional gardens to see how they cope with a fast, hot spring and a muggier summer. There are incredible plant combinations for every environment. Who needs Melianthus when you can have 12-foot hardy bananas?

Go native - Growing native plants has become extremely popular in recent years for good reason - plants native to your area are not only specifically adapted to your climate, but are intricately connected with the life cycles of native fauna.

A caveat however. Well, two. Just because it's a North American native doesn't mean that it's right for your particular micro-environment. Research the plant's preferred habitat as carefully as you would research exotic plants.

Caveat Number Two: In a changing dimate, some of our regional natives aren't keeping up. You can wring your hands and treat your plants like a museum curator, or you can be flexible in your definition of native.

Research native habitats - Understanding the native habitat of a plant can help you unlock its perfect growing 'code.' For instance: Calla lilies originate in the late winter/spring wetlands of South Africa. They love that moisture. But in the late summer and fall, those wetlands often dry up. Consequently, some will respond with a period of dormancy. Keeping them drier at that time might extend the life of the hardiest species in your garden.

Remedy construction destruction - New construction brings with it the challenge of reestablishing everything from soil structure to a general sense of place, but other factors such as moisture levels and exposure are easy to figure out from the beginning. Work toward creating a new topsoil layer as you match new plantings to existing site conditions in soils that have been abused to breaking point. If you're not quite sure what those are, observe the remaining natural areas within your housing community to give you clues as to what was there before the bulldozers came.

Some factors in a garden are easily changed, but for others, you may be hitting your head (and your plants) against a brick wall. It's so much easier, attractive, and friendlier to the planet if you capitalize on the strengths of your natural environment.

Marianne is the author of Tropical Plants and How to Love Them, and Big Dreams Small Garden, and gardens from her home in Northern Virginia. Follow her on Instagram at @marianne.willburn.









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### PETS

### Let's talk about laughter

#### Jennifer Vanderau Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter

It's one of my favorite expressions of which humans are capable.

Studies have shown that laughter is good for the body and I happen to believe that includes the soul as well.

My dad is a firm believer in laughing and has instilled in his kids the ability to joke and laugh and "carry on," as he puts it (although if he's irritated with us at the time, that little two-word phrase can carry a bit of a negative connotation). The longer I live, the more I believe that giving the understanding of and aptitude for laughter is one of his greatest gifts to us.

In fact, if you google "laughter is the best medicine," it's amazing the different research out there that just about proves that. Medical journals and scientific studies abound that say laughter has a physical effect on the body that helps reduce pain and allows us to better tolerate discomfort, as well as lowers blood sugar levels and helps blood vessels.

That's a heck of a list of benefits.

It's fortunate that I tend to surround myself with sources of laughter on a daily basis. For instance, six cats in my house and a host of shelter animals. My felines are pretty much an endless comedy routine. Well, sometimes the comedy gives way to my "what on earth are you thinking?" moments, but still. They're pretty funny.

Loki, who was so appropriately named after the God of Mischief himself, is probably one of the biggest characters in the house. I'm convinced if he had opposable thumbs, I would be held hostage in a human slave colony run by Loki. That boy is just too smart for his own good.

He's gotten to the point where he likes to drink water from the faucet in the bathroom. It's pretty cute, but the longer it's gone on, he has started to demand it. Any time I go to the bathroom, there he is hopping up on the sink and giving me his standard "stink eye." He will stay there and meow at me until I turn the water on just a little bit so he can drink.

The problem becomes if I forget to turn it off. Oi.

Well the other morning after providing his majesty with his morning liquid refreshment, I move back into the room to start my own daily rituals. The evening had been a bit chilly, so I had closed the windows over the screen. After Loki had gotten his fill of water, he jumped up on the window and began – I'm not joking – to paw at the glass until I walked over and opened it for him. He then laid down across the window sill, took a few breaths and promptly fell asleep. It was as though he was saying, "That will be all. I must take my repose now."

I ended up laughing and wondering what on earth my life has become that I apparently do the bidding of a feline.

He's something else.

A few years ago at an offsite adoption event for the shelter, we had a Saint Bernard mix, named Travie, and a Chihuahua, named Chilupa. I'll give you a minute to capture the mental image of the two of them together. It very much resembled that old Warner Brothers cartoon with the bulldog and the little pup who kept jumping over him.

So at one point, Travie's stretched out on the ground, just chillin', greeting people, having some pizza, and Chilupa walks up to him and starts pawing at his back, like she's either trying to make a nest in his fur or scratch that unreachable itch for him.

The digging went on until Travie heaved a huge sigh, looked up to me and my volunteers with an expression that said, "Would you all mind taking care of my light work?"

Too much.

They got along so well and provided the humans with a whole lot of entertainment.

Animals, man. They bring so much to the world. Not the least of which is the laughter and joy of their antics and silliness.

So I think I've got the key to good health. Get yourself a four-legged friend, set them up in your house and watch 'em go.

The endorphins released from the resulting laughter just might help lower your blood pressure, decrease blood sugar levels, help you deal with pain and strengthen your blood vessels.

I say that's a prescription for a pretty happy life for everyone involved.

Jennifer Vanderau is the Publication 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.

etco

oundation



Ziva is a 2-year-old Bulldog mix who absolutely loves attention. She attended a job fair recently where she got to meet a lot of people and was a really good girl. Ziva must be the only dog in the home. If you think you have the right spot for this sweetheart, fill out an application today!



Klingon and his siblings were surrendered to the shelter when his owners could no longer care for them. Klingon is 6-months-old and a "velcro" cat, which means he loves to be wherever you are! Could you be Klingon's new best friend?



Amy came into the shelter as a stray and she's a bit shy, but really nice. She loves being around people and getting all kinds of love. She's a 2-year-old terrier mix and loves to go outside to play. She does pretty well on a leash, but doesn't seem to understand the concept of toys. Because we have no past history with children, an age restriction for children in the home may apply. Please discuss this with shelter staff. Amy would love to find out what a loving forever home is all about!





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

Little Sloane came into the shelter as a stray and we think she's about 7 years old. Due to her shy demeanor and no history with children an age restriction for children in the home may apply, so please discuss this with shelter staff. During her intake exam it was noted that Sloane had a small pea-sized lump along her one mammary chain, this was removed when she was spayed and sent out to see what type of mass it was. It came back as a low grade (Grade 1) Intraductal mammary carcinoma. Potential adopters will have to work with their Veterinarian to have regular exams and watch for any masses that may arise. Currently no other masses have been found and there are no signs of metastasis.

For more information about Ziva, Klingon, Amy, and Sloane 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.

### PETS

### Ursus americanus

#### Linda Shea **Frederick County Animal Control** & Pet Adoption Center

recent sighting of a Black Bear in downtown Frederick spurred calls to local law enforcement and, of course, the Frederick County Division of Animal Control and Pet Adoption Center. Depending on one's experience and knowledge of wildlife, reactions upon seeing a Black Bear range from joyous and excited to worried and fearful. All of those reactions are understandable. However, a healthy respect of wild animals and taking reasonable, humane steps to deter them may help reduce unnecessary anxiety.

According to the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR), "Maryland has a breeding population of black bears in the four westernmost counties (Garrett, Allegany, Washington, and Frederick)." Like most wildlife, bears will leave when they see a human--provided they have an escape route. If cornered or too distracted to recognize a viable exit, they may become protective or scared and exhibit body language (like woofing or slapping the ground) that serves as a warning. Leaving the area, giving the bear space, and removing distractions (like pets) may prompt the bear to be on its way.

To avoid unwanted and uncomfortable interaction with a black bear, make sure you take preventative measures to make your home less intriguing. Like many species of wildlife, bears are opportunistic and will return to favorite feeding spots that have easy access to cuisine of any type. Don't leave out food and make sure trash cans are secured properly and as tipproof as possible by using bungee cords or other means. Bears can even be attracted to used grills and food in bird feeders. DNR recommends removing bird feeders in the spring or, "during summer, remove seed, suet and hummingbird feeders at night." If you weren't already aware, it is illegal in Maryland to feed bears.

Bears are part of Frederick County's wildlife population and the best thing we can do as a community is to learn how to coexist safely and take measures to prevent avoidable problems. For more comprehensive information on Black Bears, visit DNR's website Black Bear Fact Sheet (maryland.gov) and be sure to navigate through their information on Black Bear Management and Living with Black Bears. For nuisance wildlife, call DNR at 877-463-6497. To report a Bear-related emergency call 1-410-260-8888.



Couch potatoes need not apply, Lainey is ready to go, go, go. She would make a great walking, hiking or running companion. Lainey arrived at the shelter in early December and was adopted quickly. Unfortunately, she was returned because the resident dog did not prefer her company. Lainey has a good foundation of training and seeks an active home that can include her in their adventures. Do you have what it takes?



Saul is a familiar face at the shelter, he has been at FCAC for over 182 days. Recently, volunteers took Saul on an outing to Baker Park. Here is what they had to say "We enjoyed a great outing with Saul. He is a fantastic dog! He was great in the car - sitting on the back seat on the way there and lying on the ground on the way back (we tired him out!) He is a mellow and sweet guy that would make a great family companion."



Miss Grey is as cute as a button and just as sweet. If you allow her, she will hop in your lap and snuggle in. Miss Grey shared her last home with another dog and she is recommended for families with kids of any age. Unfortunately, her last owner could not keep her because she became homeless. Miss Grey's adoption fee is \$150 and includes spaying, microchipping, routine vaccines/preventives, a veterinarian wellness visit and Frederick County dog license.



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What a face! Like the famous artist, Banksy the cat is unique in his own right. His sweet disposition and markings make it easy to spot him on our adoption floor. Banksy was found in early April on Baugher Road in Thurmont. Loud noises and quick movement tend to startle him; therefore, he will do best in in a quiet home that will allow him time to adjust.



Barry is sweet, friendly guy. He has lots of love to give and can hold up his end of a conversation. Barry was neutered at the shelter but has the unmistakable large jowls of a tom cat. He has Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV), which poses no risk to humans. FIV has the potential to weaken a cat's immune system, so Barry will need a family that is willing to ensure he stays as healthy as possible.

For more information about Lainey, Miss Grey, Saul, Banksy, and Barry call the Frederick County Animal Shelter at 301-600-1319 or visit them online at www.frederickcountymd.gov/fcac.

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45<sup>th</sup> Annual Antique

Gas Engine,

**Tractor & Truck Show** 

Saturday June 10

10 a.m.

Antique Tractor Pull

\*Double Tree Classes\*

5 p.m.

\*Farm Stock Classes\*

1 p.m.

Kiddie Pedal Pull

Daily Events

Wagon Rides,

Barrel Train Rides,

Gas Engine Displays,

Flea & Crafts,

Tractor & Truck Displays,

Food Available

ractor Club

Friday June 9

5:30 p.m.

Antique Collectable

Auction

More Details

www.auctionzip.com

#25558

7 p.m.

Memorial Bake

Auction

Flea Market &

Craft Vendors

Contact Carla Brown

301-748-4193

Central Margland June 9, 10 & 11

### **COMMUNITY NOTES**

#### 45th Annual Gas Engine, Tractor and Truck Show profit organization founded on

Central Maryland Antique Tractor Club will host their 45th Annual Gas Engine, Tractor and Truck Show at Gladhill Tractor, located at 5509 Mt. Zion Road, Frederick.

Admission is free. Food will be available for breakfast, lunch, and

n June 9, 10, and 11 The dinner. Plenty of family friendly activities for all ages including Wagon Rides, Barrel Train Rides, a Combine Slide, Shingle Mill, Gas Engine Displays, Tractor and Truck Displays, Flea Markets, Crafts and more. Vendors are welcome.

Central The Maryland Antique Tractor Club is a non-

**Gladhill Tractor** 

5509 Mt Zion Rd.

Sunday June 11

11 a.m.

Lawn & Garden Pull

Noon

Parade of Equipment

1 p.m.

Kiddie Pedal Pull

2 p.m.

Slow Tractor Race

Show Chairman

Jeremiah Herbst

443-286-7843

www.cmatc.org

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Frederick

September 1st, 1977. The club is defined in the by-laws as a corporation that shall be composed of members having the desire to promote the restoration, preservation, and use of antique tractors and machinery in activities which are educational in nature and the sport of tractor pulling, and improving the standard of community through providing education, interest, and general participation in these activities.

#### This year's family friendly events include:

Friday, June 9th at 5:30 p.m. - Antique and Collectibles Auction. Consignments accepted until Thursday. For more info contact Jeremiah at 443-286-7843. AT 7 p.m. - Dave Boyer, Clayton Lenhart and Yarnell Wastler Scholarship Fund Memorial Cake Auction.

Saturday, June 10th at 10 a.m. - Antique Tractor Pull with Double Tree Classes (2 tractors are hooked to the sled side by side and try to pull it) 1p.m. - Children's Pedal Tractor Pull (ages 5-10) and Free Watermelon after the Pedal Pull.

Sunday, June 11th at 11 a.m. - Lawn and Garden Tractor Pull, noon - Parade of Tractors, 1 p.m. -Children's Pedal Tractor Pull (ages 5-10), 2 p.m. - Slow Tractor Race.

For more info contact Jeremiah Herbst @ 443-286-7843 or email cmatc@comcast.net



It's never too early for a kid to fall in love with tractors - and when Hudson can finally reach the peddles, there is a ten-acre field awaiting mowing for him!



................



Located 7 miles south of Gettysburg on Rt. 134 (Taneytown Rd.)

### Thurmont's sewer collection systems

drainage pipes in your home join to

#### Randy Eyler Wastewater Plant Superintendent

Editor's Note: This is part two of a four part series on the nature and operations of Thurmont's utility infrastructure. Next month, part two of an inside look at Thurmont sewer and wastewater systems

#### Thurmont Wastewater Plant Superintendent

The Town of Thurmont is nestled at the foot of the Catoctin Mountains. Many know the Town as the "Gateway to the Mountains" and Thurmont was named one of the 10 most beautiful places in Maryland to visit. Every October, thousands make the trip to Thurmont to view the colorful foliage and attend the Town's annual Colorfest celebration. However, out of site from the beautiful sights and historical buildings, situated beneath the streets is a complex network of wastewater (sanitary) sewer mains that serve the visitors and residents of Thurmont.

Thurmont's sanitary sewer network consists of 31.5 miles of sanitary sewer mains that serve a population of approximately 6,450 residents through 3,600 customer connections. Thurmont's Wastewater Department operates and maintains the network of sewer pipe and ensures wastewater safety travels to the Town's Wastewater Treatment Plant where treatment of the sewage occurs. This article will discuss overall wastewater operations and how everything works, while the article in the next issue will specifically highlight and discuss the type of treatment process the Town of Thurmont utilizes to treat sewage, beginning at the headworks of the plant and concluding at the plant's outfall.

#### Types of Sewer Collection Systems

There are three types of sewer systems: (1) sanitary sewers; (2) storm sewers; and, (3) combined sanitary and storm sewers. Sanitary sewers transport human generated wastes from homes or industrial buildings. Storm sewers transport rain water runoff from gutters or roadways. Combined sanitary and storm sewer systems transport both waste from buildings and stormwater. Historically, sewer systems have largely been combined, conveying human wastes collectively with stormwater, through the streets, downgradient to wastewater treatment plants or bodies of water. Due to the fact that waste and rain water are merged in combined sewer systems, the volume of sewage significantly increases during rain events in combined systems.

your house sewer line. These would be drains from appliances such as your sink, toilet, shower, washer, dishwasher, etc. It flows through the house connection to the lateral or branch lines. Lateral and Branch Sewers usually flow under the street outside your house; they are the upper ends of the municipal sewer system. Lateral sewers flow into branch sewers which then flow into sub-main sewers. Sub-main sewers collect sewage from an area of several hundred acres, usually a single housing development or neighborhood. Sub-main Sewers then combine into main sewers also called trunk sewers.

Trunk or Main Sewers serve as the main highways of the wastewater collection system; they collect the wastewater and convey it to a waste water treatment plant or to an interceptor sewer. Interceptor sewers receive wastewater from numerous trunk/main sewers and convey it to a wastewater treatment plant; they are the largest diameter pipes in the sewer system. Collection mains generally get larger in diameter as more and more waste pipes are consolidated into the main because of the need for increased flow capacity. House sewer connections can be as small as 4-6 inches in diameter, where sewer mains in larger cities can be 3 to 5 feet in diameter.

Sewer systems convey sewage either through gravity, pumps, or vacuums. The ideal method of conveyance is gravity since it does not require electricity. Not having to use pumps is beneficial because it saves money on electricity, it ensures continued use during power outages, and it is safer than pressurizing pipes. Gravity systems are built so that the wastewater treatment plant is downgradient of the drainage area and sewer lines are at a consistent slope to allow gravity to do all the work in moving sewage downslope.

Most systems are designed to allow sewage to travel downhill at a rate of 2 feet per second. Often topography of a collection area is not perfect or consistent enough to be entirely gravity powered. In instances where topography makes maintaining the downslope trajectory impossible, lift stations are used. A lift station is a small pumphouse located along the sewer collection line which uses a pump to pressurize the sewage flow enough to lift it and keep it moving down the pipe regardless of slope (Figure 1). The portion of the sewer line pressurized by a lift station can be referred to as a force main. In a pressurized sewer system, also called a force main, sewage needs to be "forced" through the pipe because gravity alone cannot move it. Force mains use pump stations or vacuum pumps to move the sewage. Pressurizing sewage, however, can be dangerous. Sewer designs must consider the effect of force mains, which can create anaerobic conditions within the sewers. These conditions contribute to the formation of hydrogen sulfide and sulfuric acid in certain instances, which can lead to



Thurmont's waste water treatment facility

odors and are safety hazards as well as they are flammable and can cause explosions. The potentially corrosive substances created by pressurizing sewage should also affect the selection of sewer pipe material.

#### Sewer Pipe Materials

Sewer mains can be made of a few different materials depending on design capacity and material availability. The most common pipe materials are cast iron or steel, and concrete; however, bricks, vitrified clay or stoneware, and PVC pipes are also used. The type of material used also depends on the pipe diameter. Smaller diameter pipes (12-24 inches) are usually made of PVC or iron/steel, whereas larger pipes are likely made of concrete or bricks. Type of waste or soil conditions where pipe is to be laid can also be a factor in determining pipe material. For instance, vitrified clay pipe is very resistant to acid erosion and can convey high acidity wastes; however, cement piping is vulnerable to acid weathering and will not perform as well in acidic conditions.

Cast iron pipes are best to use in systems that will be pressurized or pipes that will be laid with significant overburden. PVC pipes are relatively uncommon; however, they are used in situations where anticipated wastes will be the least reactive to this pipe material, making it the most durable option. While pipeline projects may vary widely in size, many of the design and construction issues encountered are similar. Experience with these issues and constraints which can shape a sewer design, such as whether to serve basements or not, material selection, special crossings (railroad, river, highway), utility relocations, soil conditions, traffic considerations, presence of corrosive soils, bedding and installation, deep trenches, and similar items is necessary to design effective sewer systems. Historical or environmental features including wetlands may also impact design and installation of a sewer system. Special situations, such as construction in or near streams will also affect the type of material used. For example, metal pipes handle vibrations better than concrete pipes, so they may be better used beneath rivers or roadways.

#### Inflow and Infiltration

Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) can become an issue in sewer systems when pipes degrade over time or are compromised by an event such as an earthquake. Inflow and infiltration refers to groundwater which gets into a sewer main through cracks in the sewer system's piping or joints. When extra water gets into the conveyance system, it too is transported to the wastewater treatment plant. The excess water can become an issue if it overburdens the wastewater treatment plant with higher than anticipated volumes of wastewater that needs to be treated. When performing infiltration/inflow analyses and sewer evaluation surveys things to be considered include; the flow characteristics of the system, the physical make-up and condition of the sewers and manholes, as well as water use trends by industrial and commercial users. If inflow and infiltration is sufficient to present a burden either physically or monetarily on a wastewater treatment facility, then rehabilitation may be warranted. The cost of rehabilitation is compared with the cost of transportation and treatment of the identified infiltration/ inflow. If rehabilitation is chosen a program should be prepared to eliminate the excessive infiltration/ inflow in a manner the Owner's budget can sustain.

#### What Can Go Down a Sewer System

Things that should not be disposed of in the sewer system include: wet wipes, paper towels, paper (other than toilet paper), diapers, feminine hygiene products, facial tissues, cotton swabs, bandages, dental floss, animal waste (cat litter), cigarette butts, and needles. The only things that are safe to flush are human wastes and toilet paper. Even wipes that claim to be "flushable" can cause clogs in the sewer system. Clogs can cause sewage backups which are very unpleasant, dangerous to human health, and costly to clean up. Other things that should never be disposed of down the drain are grease, motor oil, hazardous chemicals, or medications. These materials cause issues because they are difficult or impossible for the wastewater treatment plant to treat, so they eventually pollute our rivers and potentially our drinking water supply.

#### Sewer Cleanouts

Sewer cleanouts are vertical access pipes that workers can use to get rid of clogs. There are cleanouts located periodically along the sewer line, on large sewer mains these are manholes. Most houses have their own cleanout access just outside of the home on the house sewer line. These are typically 8 inches or less in diameter and either metal or PVC. If you want to know where your cleanout is, look around the outside of your house near areas of your house with the most drains (bathrooms or kitchens). It will be a vertical pipe sticking up out of the ground, capped with a pipe cap. If there is no cap, you might want to notify your local municipality.

#### Transport and Conveyance

So how does sewage get from your house to a wastewater treatment plant? Sewer collection systems consist of a network of pipes starting at homes or buildings, joining with other sewer pipelines into collection mains. The flow path starts at your house when you flush a toilet or wash something down the drain. All

#### **Implications of Low Flow Toilets** Low flow toilets, also known as

high-efficiency toilets, use about 1.3 gallons or less per flush, or 0.8 gallons for a reduced flush. The US law maximum volume of water allowed per flush is 1.6 gallons. Sewer systems convey solid wastes combined with water, if the ratio of solids to water becomes too solid due to low flow toilets, it can cause clogs in the sewer system. Clogs can also be caused by materials not meant to be disposed of through the sewer.

#### **Questions?**

Sewer collection systems are usually owned, maintained and operated by local municipalities. If you have any questions regarding your sewer or your community's sewer system, please contact your local government office.

### HEALTH

### Frederick Health celebrates cancer survivors

#### Joshua Faust Frederick Health

As the largest healthcare provider in the county, Frederick Health is more than just a hospital. The system has invested significant resources in expanding cancer treatment options for the community over the past ten years. The most visible of these investments is the free-standing James M Stockman Cancer Institute, completed in 2016 and located just off US 15 and Opossumtown Pike.

The healthcare system also has several other locations and service lines that can treat individuals diagnosed with cancer. One of the ways they've improved cancer treatments and the patient experience is through state-of-the-art technology.

This June, Frederick Health is celebrating those individuals that

have successfully completed cancer treatment, providing a place for them to gather and discuss their shared experiences, and learn more about what the healthcare system is doing to improve cancer treatment in the community.

"Frederick Health is leading the way," said Dr. Maurice Smith, Medical Director of Chest Surgery with the Frederick Health Medical Group.

"We are the first community health organization in Maryland to offer robotic lung biopsies for patients, and this equipment allows us to biopsy smaller nodules. It also allows us to provide an earlier diagnosis and peace of mind."

Medical experts agree that the patient experience is often the most essential factor in determining how an individual access their healthcare. Ensuring they feel heard and that their care is unique is often a primary factor in an individual's decision to pursue one healthcare provider over another. By making the biopsy procedure a more comfortable patient experience, Dr. Smith hopes to boost the community's earlier detection and treatment rates.

"This technology puts the patient experience first, without incisions or needles," added Dr. Smith. "As with most cancers, detecting lung cancer early is the key to an increased survival rate."

Frederick Health has also developed several multidisciplinary clinics. At these clinical visits, patients can see all their providers and specialists on the same day, at the same location - no need to schedule multiple appointments or travel out of the area. This kind of service can be life changing, says Dr. Heather Chalfin, a fellowship-trained Urologic Oncologist Surgeon with the Frederick Health Medical Group.

"This new multidisciplinary clinic will improve the coordination and treatment for the patients and the overall patient experience. Putting patients at the forefront of their treatment plans, working for and with the patients, is pivotal," said Dr. Chalfin, who supervises this new clinic.

A cancer diagnosis is one of the most frightening health experiences an individual can go through in their lifetime. Cancer knows no boundaries and impacts people of every age, gender, race, and location. Cancer is also a diagnosis that affects the entire family. Statistics show that the overall number of cancer deaths in America has significantly declined in recent decades - down 27% since 2001, according to the Centers for Disease Control. However, cancer is still the second leading cause of death in the nation, behind only heart disease.

To recognize those who have survived a cancer diagnosis and their support structure, whether family or friends, Frederick Health is proud to partner with the National Cancer Survivors Day organization. Together, these two groups are working to honor those in the community diagnosed with and beaten with cancer.

This year, the week-long National Cancer Survivors event will be held from June 5 – June 9, 2023, and includes numerous in-person events like discussion groups, learning opportunities, and provider presentations. Virtual events like support groups, educational classes, meditation, and yoga will also take place.

Anyone newly diagnosed, currently in treatment, or with a cancer history is encouraged to participate. Family members and those that have supported cancer patients are also invited to attend.

"Our patients come first and Frederick Health offers award-winning cancer treatment to our community," said Janet Rhoderick, Manager of Oncology Services with Frederick Health.

This event is an opportunity to recognize members of the cancer survivor community in and around Frederick. Frederick Health invites those interested in joining the fellowship to share their stories, connect with other cancer survivors, celebrate personal milestones, raise awareness of ongoing challenges, and recognize those who have supported their healing along the way.

"From diagnosis to treatment, individuals on a cancer journey hold many hands. It is a journey that is multi-faceted and often life changing. Support is necessary," added Rhoderick.

Each day of the week has a particular theme and focuses on the patient's journey. Monday, June 5, for example, is all about lung cancer. Tuesday, June 6, covers colorectal cancers. Wednesday, June 7, highlights Precision Medicine & Genetics' elevated role in cancer treatment and diagnosis. Thursday, June 8, will be dedicated to discussing Prostate Cancer and CyberKnife Radiosurgery, while Friday, June 9, will cover Breast Cancer and Gynecological Cancers. Experts in these fields, including Dr. Smith and Dr. Chalfin, will present on these topics and lead discussions. "By bringing our cancer survivors, their families, and our care team together in fellowship, we honor this journey and the shared energy and efforts of all involved." Rhoderick continued. While Frederick Health has held similar events, these were paused during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## We treat cancer with care.

### Because being valued feels better.

Frederick Health brings leading-edge treatment, complete support services, and a team of experts together—all under one roof—to develop a care plan customized for you. Because when it's cancer, connected care makes all the difference.

Learn more frederickhealth.org/ cancer



"We are excited to start hosting these events again in our community," she added.

For more information, including a complete list of scheduled events and discussions, please visit www.freder-ickhealth.org/SurvivorsWeek.

# Emmitsburg NEWS-JOURNAL SECTION 2

### Emmitsburg looks back at Community Heritage Days

#### Dianne Walbrecker

It's coming soon! Emmitsburg Community Heritage Day will be celebrated on the last Saturday of June, as it has been for the last 40 years.

June 24th will begin, as always, with the all-you-can-eat breakfast hosted by the Vigilant Hose Company at the Activities Building on Creamery Way. From there, events roll on all day, from family games to vendors / crafters, horseshoe and cornhole tournaments, chalk art contests, bike races, a car show, Chicken BBQ and food trucks, the parade down Main Street, music and the grand finale – the fireworks!

As the committee finalizes plans, we asked community members to reflect on their favorite Community Heritage Day memories.

Kerry Shorb, owner of My Father's Footsteps, paused and looked at the ceiling as he thought back. "Ah, I know. My daughter could not get enough of the Barrel Ride," he laughed. "She rode around and around on that ride all day. I got dizzy watching her."

A woman in line at Jubilee recalled, "I remember sitting on the lawn across the street from the town office to watch the fireworks. There were so many people crowded onto the lawn in front of the Town Office and the school that we had to spread our blanket over there. We came for the parade, went down to the park for the music and the speakers, and then went back to our spot for the fireworks. It was quite a show."

Willis Johnson, long-time resident, said he loved the family games. "I remember the looks on the kids' faces as they attempted to catch the raw eggs. It was always scary when they caught one safely but then had to take a big step back for the next time. I've squashed a lot of eggs myself," he chuckled. "I also loved watching the mess when they tried to eat the pies with their hands behind their backs. That was always fun."

Families line the streets to watch the parade. It has its fair share of pleasant memories, both from those watching and those riding in the floats. Anne Kulceski remembers riding in the Lion's Club float and throwing candy to those on both sides of Main Street. "We used to have to freeze the chocolate, because everyone likes that the best. We also had to be careful about throwing the candy so we didn't run out by the time we hit the corner of Main Street and Seton Avenue. We had to remember that South Seton also had a lot of folks lined up too. It's so much fun to see the kids running out into the street and squealing with delight when they would get a big handful."

Frank Davis, Town Commissioner and EMS Captain, recalls the first Community Day 40 years ago. "I remember Marshall Sharrer from the Lions Club working very hard to raise money for the first celebration, especially the fireworks. That was a huge deal back then because Emmitsburg had never had fireworks of any type. We lived at the house next to the old Ford Garage, at 122 South Seton Avenue. I must have been in my early 20s and I remember crawling out on the roof to watch the fireworks. What a show!" Frank, who works with the town's Parks & Recreation Committee, is also excited about the Car Show the committee is planning for this year's event. He noted that Carolyn Miller, with the committee, is leading the effort.

"Community Day was an amazing experience for us. We had just moved into Emmitsburg and really didn't know much about the town. The Lions Club family games was the first time my kids had ever done or even seen anything like a sack race or pie-eating



How times have changed - this photo was taken at the same spot as the photo of the Memorial Day Parade of 1916 on the next page.

contest. They were little then, and it was wonderful for them. Patrick and I loved the celebration. It made the town feel warm and welcoming, a real small-town atmosphere," said Jennifer Joy. In fact, she and her husband appreciated Community Day so much that she has been involved, with many others, in putting it on over the last decade.

So come join us and create some memories of your own. Follow us on emmitsburgevents.com or on Facebook at Emmitsburg Community Heritage Day.



### **HISTORY**

### Remembering Emmitsburg's Firemen's Carnival

#### Donna Wetzel-Needy Sterner

When I sit back and watch my 25-year-old son play touch football with his buddies, it reminds me of recess during my days at Mother Seton Elementary. Being chubby I wasn't particularly athletic outside of the occasional game of kick ball. It was kinda hard to miss those big red rubber gym balls. I tried to steer away from dodge ball because I was too much of an easy target and those same red rubber gym ball stung like heck...especially on a nippy fall day!!!

Phyllis Ott, Kathy Hartdagen, Sue Siske, Carol Phelan... they were all much better at sports than I was. I was the typical last to get picked sort of a kind. But that doesn't mean I still didn't have fun. Although I must admit, I preferred a board game with my cousin Harry Welch on indoor recess days to the endless running and jumping during outdoor days. I can remember the games of hopscotch with Mary Morningstar or Sherry Topper. Funny how I can turn the pages of my mind and see all of them gathered about in little clumps around the asphalt recess area.

We always had plenty to do. Being from a multi-religious family, I was involved in the Mother Seton School Bazaar and then I'd put my artistic and crafting talents to work for the Elias Lutheran Church Christmas Bazaar. I'd make posters for both and help to distribute them at places like Boyle's Store, Carter's Drug Store, Reeves Electric and the like. No one ever turned me down. My friends and would have individual contest on selling Heath Candy as a fundraiser. It never really mattered who won the school prize. We all just had a friendly competition amongst ourselves.

I went to Brownies with Mary Morningstar, and Ann Williams and Patricia Marshall. Anna Bushman went to Elias Lutheran Church and she served as our den mother. I remember one year we made little sleighs for the older folks who got Christmas baskets. The sleigh consisted of a bar of Ivory Soap

It's hard to believe that at one time Main Street was quiet enough to hold a horse drawn parade! And look at those trees on Main Street!

wrapped in aluminum foil, two construction paper runners and a rolled up washcloth for the seat. The runners and the cloth were carefully secured with straight pins and they topped off the basket. We were all so proud of ourselves.

I never got to make use of the bowling alley. It burned before I was old enough. And there wasn't a movie theater in town during my childhood years. But you know something? I don't think I missed any of that. We were kids of a different age. We were involved in church and school activities. I learned to play guitar from an older lady who lived close to Janie Lowe down by Flat Run. I visited older folks who didn't get out much. I'd get on my bike and ride out to my adopted Aunt Margaret Motter Wilkinson's house on the Old Frederick Road, fishing pole and worms in hand and go fishing with my adopted cousins, Denny McCusker and Mark Wilkinson.

Since my adopted mom, Mary Needy took care of her mother, I spent a lot of my free time at 219 East Main Street. My adopted grandmother was Mary Eyler Motter. She walked with the aid of two wooden crutches but she was pretty independent. She taught me how to make sourdough bread from scratch one fall. It was a lot of work but the effort was well rewarded when that bread came out of the oven and was slathered with sweet cream butter. YUMMM!

My grandmother lived next door to Barbara and Ernie Rosensteel. Right after our house burned, Barbara gave me a set of cap guns from the old Paladin TV show, complete with little business cards that said "Have Gun Will Travel." Claudia and Mike Rosensteel were older than me but they would let me join in there games. I remember on summer Mike Rosensteel and Steve Myers helped me build a little go cart out of scrap wood. They always treated me like one of the boys because I was such tomboy. I spent many afternoons at the Rosensteel's building forts in their living room out of big foam Lego type blocks or up in Claudia's bedroom, when I was older, listening to the latest 45's on her phonograph. On summer nights I'd get my dad to drive me to the little league games to watch my adopted cousin, Johnny Wantz play ball.

I think all of the kids looked forward to the Emmitsburg Firemen's Carnival every June. Sometimes I'd go by myself. Since it was held on the parking lot of H.O. Tours Shoe Factory, I could walk there and back without my parents worrying. I remember one year my dad drove Laurel Hewitt and I into town. My adopted mom went to school with Hilda Hardman Hewitt, and Laurel and were friends just the same. I'd save my allowance for weeks for that one week in June every year. The Ferris wheel positively glowed and I was and still am afraid of heights. But it's lure would never be denied.

The summer of '67 we were living in a trailer down by Flat Run and someone had given us some metal chairs and a table for our new house that wasn't ready yet. Mom had stacked the chairs and I was a sleepwalker. After a night of riding the Ferris wheel, I sleepwalked to the back of the trailer and climbed into those intertwined chairs. Mom was awakened by me screaming that I was stuck on the top of the Ferris wheel!

I still remember the smells of the food served up by the firemen like Dick Sprankle and the Boyle Brothers. Oh, the French fries! Sometimes I'd have them with ketchup and then there were times when I just had to have salt and vinegar! I'd happily take my mountain of fries to the bingo tent and try my luck there. Gene Myers was one of my favorite number callers. He was so funny. Gene always had a smile and some good natured sarcasm for a person just to keep you on your toes. I remember it was something like a nickel a card and the markers were real corn.

For weeks after the carnival, the empty parking lot was a feasting spot for birds of all kinds. There was the penny pitch. Guess it's be a dollar by today's inflation rates. I'd always brink home a glass or two and some ashtrays for Mom. But Bingo gave me a chance to rest my feet and eat my fries. One year I gathered enough bingo tokens for a flashlight and this wonderful blue glass bottle with a glass bubble stopper that I called my genie bottle. I don't know whatever happened to that bottle but, for years, it was proudly displayed in the bay window of our house on the Waynesboro Pike amongst Mom's ivy, mother-in-law tongue and coleas. The trinkets may be long gone now, but those memories will stay with me forever.

#### Gettysburg National Cemetery to Commemorate the 79th Anniversary of D-Day

On June 6, 1944, General Dwight D. Eisenhower and the Allied Expeditionary Force embarked upon "the great crusade" as thousands of Allied troops landed in Normandy, France, beginning the liberation of Europe. Staff from Eisenhower National Historic Site will commemorate the 79th anniversary of the D-Day invasion with a special walking tour of Gettysburg National Cemetery on Tuesday, June 6 at 5:30 pm.

Gettysburg National Cemetery is the final resting place for over 6,000 men and women who served the United States in conflicts from the Civil War through the Vietnam War. In the years following World War II, over 500 fallen soldiers, sailors, marines, and airmen were brought back to Gettysburg for their final burial. This ranger program will explore the stories of those buried in Gettysburg who were killed in action during the D-Day invasion 79 years ago.

This free ranger program will meet at the Taneytown Road entrance to Gettysburg National Cemetery and will last approximately 60 minutes. Following the program's conclusion, visitors are invited to stay for the evening 100 Nights of Taps program at 7 pm at the Soldiers National Monument in Gettysburg National Cemetery.

For more information about Eisenhower National Historic Site, the only home that Dwight and Mamie Eisenhower ever owned, please visit our website at www.nps.gov/eise.





To read other articles related to Emmitsburg's history, visit the History section of Emmitsburg.net.

### HISTORY

### Presentation and dedication of soldiers memorial site

Editor's note: this article was originally printed in May, 1927

There are some things a beauty, I which besides being a joy forever, or a source of inspiration to lofty thought and noble action. Just such an object is the artistic monument directed to the memory of those Emmitsburgians and who served in the World's War, which was unveiled and dedicated on West Main street last Saturday, before one of the large crowds that ever congregated in our quant and classic burg.

The monument consisting of a granite base, surmounted by the bronze figure of an American doughboy was made possible by the efforts of the Emmitsburg Memorial Association, Mrs. Andrew A. Annan, president, and we do not feel that our praise is tinged in the least with flattery when we say that it would be a credit to any county town of our state.

Emmitsburgians need not be ashamed of the record of the 135 service man who represented them on the battlefields of France, neither need they hang down their heads when they show to strangers to beautiful effigy which they have dedicated to their memory. Nor could the Community have selected a more fitting place, just far enough from the heart of traffic, and amidst surroundings that put the observer in the proper mood to meditate on unselfish patriotism, which in the following nine cases resulted in the supreme sacrifice:

- Arthur H. Bentzel, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. David Bentzel.
- Francis X. Elder, son of Mrs. James Elder and the late Mr. James Elder.
- Charles F Gelwicks, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Gelwicks.
- Martin Luther Hahn, son of Mr. James Hahn and the late Mrs. Hahn.
- Herman Robert Ohler, son of Mr. and Mrs. Beecher Ohler.
- Robert B. Reifsnider, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kester Reifsnider.

- Francis Edward Rowe, son of Mrs. Edward Rowe and the late Mr. Edward Rowe.
- Lieutenant John Reading Schley, brother of Miss Lillian Schley. Lieutenant Henry D. Spalding, aviator, nephew of Rev. Pennolds, Chapel of the Navy.

The exercise began with a selection by the Emmit Coronet Band, Mr. Walter Simpson, leader, followed by and invocation by the Reverend Higbee and the singing of America by the school children, led by Mr. Higbee and Mrs. Cyril Rotering. Mr. Higbee then, in a few introductory remarks, thanked the local subscribers for their subscriptions, Mrs. A. L. Kalbach, of Lancaster Pa., for the circular plot of land on which the memorial stands, which she so generously donated to the Association, Mr. A. J. Klinkert, architect, of Hagerstown for valuable assistance in selecting a suitable design, and Mr. Charles Hoke who waved all profit in negotiating the purchase of the monument and directed the placement of the same.

He also paid a well-deserved tribute to Mrs. Andrew A. Annon, whose untiring laborers and extraordinary executive ability have done so much for our community in general, and for the direction of this beautiful memorial in particular.

After the singing of the Star-Spangled Banner, the monument was unveiled by Mrs. E H. Rowe, mother a Private Francis Rowe, first soldier from the Emmitsburg district to die before leaving for overseas, and Mrs. Keister Reifsnider, mother or Private Robert Reifsnider first soldier from the Emmetsburg District to die overseas.

After which, Mrs. James B. Elder, mother of Private Francis X Elder, first soldier from the Emmitsburg district to be killed in action, With all the dignity of her years and charm of her enduring personality, and Miss Lillian Schley, sister of the Lieutenant John Reading Schley, killed in the air service overseas, placed handsome

wreaths at the base of the monument. School children also placed flowers at the monument's base.

Following another selection by the band and benediction by the Reverend P. J. Conroy, C. M., taps were sounding by Roy and Francis Gelwicks.

Emmitsburg was represented by its town officials, Messer. J. H. Stokes, Burgess, Eugene Zimmerman, Francis Matthews, and Charles Keilholtz, Commissioners, and a vast majority of its citizens. From out of town we noted Secretary of State, D. C Winebrenner, States Attorney William M. Storm, State Senator LeRoy McCardell, Mr. A. C. McCardell, President of the Frederick County National Bank, and Mr. Edward S. Delaplaine.

The dedicatory prayer it was offered by the Reverend Phillip Bower, followed by the Honorable Emery L. Coblentz's address, the "piece de resistance" of the program. Mr. Coblentz said in part:

"The memorial will be a sign unto the present as well as the future generations in this community of that spirit and loyalty which characterizes the citizens of every community in this whole land where clear thought and proper ideals are the inspiration and guide of the people. War is a horrible thing, and we are hoping that the day may come when I will be no more, when as a truth the swords shall be beaten into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks; when money, material and sacrifices that are freely given in times of conflict could be use for constructive rather than destructive purposes,"

In his peroration, referencing to the American soldier, he said:

"At the close of the war in 1918 it had involved 93% of the world's population. The countries classified neutral having a combined population of only 130 million, where is the countries which were participating in



In less than 13 years, horses were replaced by cars in the town's Memorial Day parades.

the war how to combine population of over 1,700,000,000.

To such a task these brave soldiers gave themselves. We honor them today, and this community has honored itself in thus placing in your miss this beautiful testimonial of your love for them and of your appreciation of the service they have rendered; and, as a lasting testimonial, have consecrated this community shrine in honor of those brave men, living and dead, who went from your community to fight the battles of freedom."

#### **David Glass**



David Wilson Glass, age 79, beloved husband, father, grandfather and brother, passed away on Monday, May 22, after being very ill for several months. Born December 1, 1943, in Gettysburg, he was the son of the late Wilson Meles Glass and Mary Elizabeth (Glass) Troxell.

Dave is survived by his loving wife of over 40 years, Sandra K. Glass; daughter

Elizabeth Ann Zastoupil and husband Steve and grandson Johnny Zastoupil; son, David Wesley "Wes" Glass and wife Leesa and grandson Ryan; brother, Carroll Richard Glass, and wife Nancy; sister-in-law Linda Malcolm and brother-inlaw Billy Malcolm.

Dave worked at Nurad in Baltimore and Penn Fuel Propane retiring after many years. Penny, his pet loved to ride in the car with him and hang out the window. He had many good friends, neighbors and family that will surely miss him. He gave love and received love.

Services where held at the Myers-Durboraw Funeral Home in Emmitsburg with Father Glen Lang officiating.

#### **Clive Rowley**



Nive R. Rowley, a beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, and friend, passed final moments. Born on February 4th, 1941 vived by his wife Peggy Rowley, daughters, Becky Thompson passion for living life to the fullest.

Clive was a Union Glazier retiring after thirty-seven years. He took immense pride in his work and always went above and beyond for all those he worked with. It was at one such job that Clive first met the love of his life Peggy Rowley; while installing glass and mirrors at the Montgomery County Courthouse Peggy was constructing the ele-



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away on May 10th in Frederick at the age of 82. He was surrounded by his loving family during his in Washington DC the year of the JEEP to his parents and surand husband, Paul, Ginny Rinehart and husband Tom, Robby Rowley and husband, Dorian, sister Valerie Remson, grandchildren, Abby Pepper, Jack Anspach, Greyson Pepper and Ella Rinehart and cousin Robert Rowley and wife Susan. Clive grew up to be an exceptional person with a great

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vator at the courthouse. They were married in the finished building in 1982.

Clive will be remembered for his love of people -- making friends anywhere he went -- especially during his time as a member of the MVPA (Military Vehicle Preservation Association) and WAC B&G (Washington Area Collectors/Blue and Gray Military Vehicle).

Clive loved life's simple pleasures; laughing with family or spending time with family. His family meant everything to him. Clive's proudest accomplishment came not from his career but from his family.

Clive will always be remembered for his kind heart and enthusiasm for life. He will be dearly missed by all who knew him.

### **100 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH**

#### June 7

#### Mountains Again Afire

Between 300 and 400 acres of timberland in the Catoctin Mountains, west of Thurmont, were burned over from Sunday to Tuesday night. The fire swept a section of the mountain known as Rattlesnake Hill, and drove hundreds of the reptiles from their dens. The snakes became so numerous that the District Forrester had difficulty in keeping the firefighters on the job.

The fire was discovered early Sunday morning and the Fire Warden notified, but by the time he reached the fire zone the flames were advancing along the side of the mountain. He summoned about 15 men to help fight the fire, and Joseph Trope, owner of Catoctin Furnace, sent a dozen.

The flames spread rapidly and by Monday the fire had reached Rattlesnake Hill, a dense piece of young timber and underbrush, and as the flame swept over the hill hundreds of the reptiles sought a place of safety from the advancing fire. One of the firefighters killed three large rattlers, one after another, and a half dozen men then turn their attention to dispatching the snakes. Besides snakes, dozens of pheasants were frightened from their haunts.

From the State Road about a half-mile south of Thurmont the fire presented a spectacular appearance. By Tuesday night the firefighters had control of it, with but a few patches of flames in sight.

The Forrester said he was unable to say until investigation has been made, whether or not the fire was incendiary in origin.

#### **Escapes Lighting Bolt**

James Baker, met with a narrow escape from being struck by lightning last Sunday evening in Taneytown. He had taken refuge under a tree and had just untied his horse and moved away when

a bolt of lightning, almost out of a clear sky, struck the tree, completely shattering it. There was no storm of any consequence in the neighborhood.

#### Harney Man Shot

Lloyd Rothaupt, of Harney, was shot twice in the leg last Friday night. Details of how the shooting took place and who did it are lacking, but it said that it occurred in an argument with another resident of Harney over the attention Lloyd had been showing the other man's wife. Apparently Rothaupt had been a tad bit too 'sweet' on the other man's wife.

#### **No Shooting**

The Commissioners of Thurmont have posted signs throughout the town calling attention to the penalty for firing explosives within the corporate limits. The fine ranges from \$5 to \$20 for each offense. The celebration of the Fourth is somewhat premature in Thurmont, having been underway for three or four days now, with many of the 'shooters,' loaded with hooch, firing in all directions and at all times of the day and night. This has occasioned the no shooting notice and also call forth a protest from a number of citizens.

#### June 14

#### Fairfield Bank To Get New Home

As a result of actions by the Directors at their weekly meeting, the First National Bank of Fairfield, will get a new home. Between \$15,000 and \$20,000 will be spent on the new bank building.

Plans for the new bank, which is to be located on Main Street, about one block from the present location specify a two-story brick building, a feature of which would be a fireproof and burglarproof vault. The building will be 30 x 45 feet in dimensions.

As soon as the building on the

site for the proposed new bank can be sold and removed, work on the new home for the bank will be started. The Directors hope to move into the new building next fall.

Growth of business is given by the Directors as the reason for building the proposed structure. The bank was established 13 years ago, and since then has been occupying rooms in a property on the corner of Washington and Main Street. There is no room in the present bank for which Directors can hold meetings, and because of this fact, the second story of the new bank is to be fitted up for that purpose.

#### Aged Rope Jumpers

Two-aged woman indulged in a novel contest. Lavana Vinson, 81, and Priscilla Webb, 87, watched some children jumping rope. They recalled their younger days and Vivian recalled how she out jumped Priscilla. "Can't do it now" said the latter, and they made a wager. Three oranges were the stakes. Vivian jumped 11 times and sat down panting. Priscilla jumped 12 times and not content with a mirror victory added one more jump, claiming the championship in her class.

#### Keep Thyself Civil

Excitement ran rather high at the baseball game on Wednesday - much too high. Enthusiast are warned - both locals and visitors - that baseball is a sport; patronized in large measure by those who want it continued on its merits, as a clean entertaining sport. The game can be easily killed as such by those who play too much with their voice and actions. We hope for clear sailing, here after, and this means that the routers and players for the various teams must help by properly controlling themselves, even when things do not go as they would like to see them go.



#### School Budget Approved

Adoption of the school board budget of \$332,000 for the ensuing year, and all of its major particulars, was urge by a committee of the Frederick County Parent-Teachers Association in a visit before the County Commissioners. In recommending the adoption of the budget, the importance of maintaining the present high standard in the county school system was pointed out. Attention was called to the good condition of the school properties and the high standards that have been reached, and the commissioners were urged not to impede this progress. It was also pointed out that the school system is an investment, and not an expense, and that upon it's continued support depends the future of the county.

#### June 21

#### Auto Mishap At Bridgeport

Two men running a handsome Packard car had an upset on the curb just beyond the bridge at Bridgeport, Monday evening, with a result that the car was considerably injured, as well as the occupants. The car was towed back to the Taneytown garage for repairs. After getting fixed up, the man hired a car to take them to Buena Vista, just outside of Emmitsburg. Both of them had evidently been drinking and were in an unfit condition to operate a car.

The car is reported to have been liberally stocked with liquor. A state policeman happen to come along at the time of the accident and secured 2 pints as evidence, and 2 quarts for his own use. He then came to town to notify the garage to come and get the car, but when he returned to the scene the rest of the stock had mysteriously disappeared, much to the annoyance of many who had descended upon the scene to acquire samples.

#### Death

Lawrence Dielman died at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Rhody, near Thurmont, on Saturday afternoon, age 75 years, 10 months and 14 days. The funeral took place on Tuesday morning at our Lady of Mount Carmel church. Interment was made at St. Mary's.

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

#### 

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### **100 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH**

#### Fire In Keymar

Tuesday night around 11 o'clock, the house on the farm of John Harman was destroyed by fire. Mr. Harman's little child became restless and his wife got up to see about it. She told her husband she smelled smoke and Mr. Harman got up and going downstairs found a whole one side of the house a blaze. The rest of the family barely escaped. Mr. Harman's lost all their furniture and clothing, and have no insurance. It is hoped that Mr. Harman and family will be helped with furniture, money, clothing. Anything in the eating line will be appreciated by them. How the house caught on fire is unknown, but it originated in the kitchen.

#### **Trolleys** Crash

Two trolley cars of the Thurmont & Frederick Railroad crash together in a rear end collision at Wilson's Place west of the Frederick city limits. And while no one was badly injured, the motorman on one of the cars was severely shaken up.

Since the change up of the schedule of the railway company went into affect on Sunday, a car has been dispatched to Lewistown early in the morning to relieve some of the congestion and passenger traffic that is brought to Frederick from that location on the early morning car from Thurmont. The car left Lewistown a few minutes before the car coming through from Thurmont. The Lewistown car picked up all the passengers at the way station and while passengers were moving aboard at Wilson's Place, the Thurmont car came around the bed and as the rails were slippery, the motorman was unable to stop the car.

The Thurmont car crashed into the rear of the Lewistown trolley and damage the rear end. The Thurmont car was smashed in front and the motorman was thrown back from the controls. No passengers on either car were injured.

#### To Inspect Highway

The State Road Commission will inspect the Taneytown Road

between Emmitsburg and Taneytown, where the use of shale used in the road building has been found a failure. The road is in such bad condition, it is said, that repaving will be necessary very soon. Officials will make a complete inspection of the highway and well then determine just want to recommend as a fix.

#### **Two Women Hurt**

Two women were injured, neither seriously, in two mishaps on the Emmitsburg State Road.

In the first, Mrs. Caroline Barnett, who was driving south lost control of her car when some children ran out in front of her machine at the Catoctin Furnace and collided with another machine traveling towards Thurmont. Both machines were damage and Mrs. Barnett sustained bruises and cuts.

In the second accident, Mrs. Roy Miller sustained some injuries about to head in the body when she accidentally fell out of her machine. It is rumored that she had been sampling some of her husband's homemade hooch for a significant portion of the day of the accident.

#### June 28

#### Storm Wrecks Havoc

Saturday afternoon occurred the most severe rain and windstorm that has visited this section for some time. Rain fell in torrents and the wind uprooted trees and tour large branches from trees throughout the countryside. Lightning was sharp and incessant. The storm was of short duration, passing over in about 20 minutes.

It partook of the nature of a cyclone in the vicinity of LeGore & New Midway. In those sections trees were twisted, telephone poles snapped off and blown for a distance of up to 30 to 40 feet. Wires were strewn along the highway from Woodsboro to New Midway.

It is reported that lightning struck the towers on the Lutheran and Reformed Churches in Creagerstown - little damage was done. Two houses in town were also struck.

During the storm lightning

struck the shed of Isaac Hackley's farm in Creagerstown, in which were stored about 25 tons of hay, a hay press and other machinery. The building went up in flames and contents were destroyed.

A large hayshed on the farm of William Shorb, between Creagerstown and Rocky Ridge was also destroyed, as well as 30 tons of bailed hay and practically all of Mr. Shorb's farming implements. It required the efforts of a number of men who formed a bucket brigade to save the barn, which stands almost 30 feet from the hey shed.

Four trolley cars on the Thurmont trolley line were burned out by lightning. No one was hurt, and damage was limited to the meters.

The Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Co. reported that 700 telephone sets were out of service in the county as a whole.

Fairfield was compelled to stand by helplessly and watch the storms all around miss the town and vicinity, proving not a drop of rain there to lay the dust.

#### 17-Year Locust

The 17-year locust has been reported as numerous in the mountains of Frederick County. The brood is known to etymologist as Brood XVI and insects this year will be the descendants of the 17th generation of those which vexed the Pilgrims. State authorities look for the brood to be a large one, although in recent years, because of the disappearance of forests, Locust have not been so numerous. The Locust lays its eggs in the tender twigs of trees and owing to cutting down of timber in many of the mountain counties, there may not be as great a visitation as in 1898, the year of the Spanish War when there were considerable damage done by the insects.

#### Sandy Hole

Thurmont's beautiful little retreat in the mountains, where small parties from town are accustomed to spending an afternoon, bathing, having lunch and an all-around good time, is beginning to look more like it used too. The trees which stood on the South bank and enclosed the rocks and stream with shadows, which afforded relief from the heat and lent beauty to the spot were destroyed to make way for a high-tension wire. The wire required the sacrifice of an 80-foot belt of timber through the mountains and Sandy Hole paid the penalty of being in the line of progress. Now the young timber is growing to become again valuable as a beautifier and Sandy Hole is likely to become more popular than ever.

Sandy however has its thorn broken glass litters the entire rock, the particles, in a number of spots, show that they have been deliberately put in depressions and pulverize, while other pieces range in size from a half inch down to the particularly invisible are scattered everywhere.

We are unable to guess at what might be in the bed of the stream and therefore feel that there is quite a risk in waiting or bathing without a solid protection to the soles of the feet. Just why should anyone wish to make use of a place like that for his own pleasure and when through, deliberately ruin it that others may not enjoy it? What goes wrong in some people's heads that turned them towards senseless destruction and vandalism?

#### **Thieves Visit Clubhouse**

The clubhouse of the Forest and Stream Club, located on the Monocracy River near Detour, was broken into last Saturday Night by a window shutter being forced and a lock broken. At this time it is impossible to state the value of the property damage and stolen. The club owns 4 acres of land and has been used by the public for some time for camping and picnic, and games. On account of the public abusing their privileges, the club has decided not to allow trespassing, and the public or asked to please keep off those grounds. The property is now in charge of competent men who will see that only club members will use the property in the future

#### Catoctin Furnace Land Sold

The Catoctin Furnace track in the northern section of the County located along the Emmitsburg State Road has change owners. The new owners are Lancelot Jacques of Smithsburg, and Stanley Hauver of Foxville, who acquired it from Joseph Throop.

It is a tract of 10,174 acres, embracing a village of 44 houses, an Episcopalian church, a store, and an old mansion built by Thomas Johnson, first Governor of Maryland. The village will be preserved in its present condition, according to an announcement made by the new owners. Most of the houses are largely stone buildings of great antiquity. The Johnson mansion is typical of the colonial period.

The track is almost 7 miles long and extends along the Catoctin Mountain for about 3 miles along the Emmitsburg State Road. The track was patented by Leonard Calvert and Thomas Johnson in 1770. The furnace was erected by Johnson prior to the outbreak of the Revolutionary War and was used to cast cannons and shells for Washington's army. The cannons were used during the siege of Yorktown. The plates of the famous Monitor were also cast here, as well as parts of James Rumsey's steamboat which was floated in the Potomac in 1785, this being the first steamboat ever floated in America. At the beginning of the 19th century the furnace was used to cast stoves known as Catoctin Stoves.

#### The Work Of Death

Michael Hoke of Emmitsburg, died at the home of his son, Joseph Hoke, Monday morning. Mr. Hoch had been ill for six weeks and two to his advanced age – being in his 81st year - was unable to withstand the attack of dropsy, which resulted in his death.

Mr. Hoke was born in York, PA. and came to Emmitsburg when not quite two years old and resided in that community to the time of his death. He was wildly and very favorably known in the vicinity of Emmitsburg, where he had conducted business, being very active up into within a few years ago. Outside of the Grand Army, Mr. Hoke was not associated with any organizations.

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





### **ALL OUR YESTERDAYS - FREDERICK COUNTY HISTORY**

#### June 7

Benjamin Tasker made a profit on the land patent he received which he called "Tasker's Chance." But it pales when compared to the fortune the man to whom he sold the land in 1744.

Tasker surveyed what is today Frederick in 1725. Two years later, on June 7, 1727, he received his patent for the land. His tract began near the junction of the Monocacy with Beaver Creek, now Carroll Creek. Fourteen years later Tasker sold the 7,000 acres to Daniel Dulany for what amounted to about \$8,400.

People thought Dulany the fool when he sold large portions of this tract to farmers for far less than he paid. His profits came when he laid out Fredericktown in 1745.

The 340 lots, 60 feet wide and from 350 to 400 feet deep, were sold to individuals on a novel and innovative plan. The purchasers paid four or five pounds for their lots depending on the desirability of the location.

The innovation was ground rent. This required the buyers to pay Dulany, or his heirs, one shilling per year for the first 21 years, and two shillings a year thereafter – forever. Some ground rents were higher, as much as 3 shillings a year for 21 years, and six shillings a year perpetually.

The Dulanys profited handsomely for generations. The practice of ground rents still exists, although most land in the state is free of this fee today

#### June 14

Francis Scott Key could not have foreseen the monuments that would be erected to his patriotism. The last such memorial was dedicated on Flag Day, June 14, 1922, at Fort McHenry in Baltimore Harbor near the spot where he had witnessed the huge flag still waving after a furious bombardment of the fort by the British in September 1814.

President Warren Harding was the main speaker at the 4 p.m. ceremonies, which were broadcast live to all parts of Maryland over the facilities of the Baltimore American.

At the base of the memorial is inscribed: "To Francis Scott Key, author of `The Star-Spangled Banner,' and to the soldiers and sailors who took part in the Battle of North Point and the Defense of Fort McHenry in the War of 1812."

In citing Key's patriotism, President Harding said: "No concern for self narrowed his thought. No glorification of the individual marred his vision. No pursuit of fame set his soul ablaze. No personal advantage hindered his pen. His country and his concern for its safety were combined in his all-consuming thought; the Nation was the great uplifting and exalting love. In this impassioned, anxious, self-sacrificing, exalting, and exulting love of country, transcending all else, Key reached the sublime heights, and wrote the poetic revelation of an American soul aflame."

It wasn't until nearly nine years later that Congress passed the law making Key's words our national anthem.

#### June 21

At its regular meeting on June 21, 1922, the Frederick County Board of Education employed W. K. Klingaman as the new principal of Frederick High School. He was the first principal of the combined Boys and Girls high schools as a co-educational institution.

Klingaman was born April 6, 1891, in Jacksonville, PA, was a graduate of Franklin and Marshall College, in Lancaster, and took post-graduate courses at Columbia University in New York.

He taught school in Bel Air, which was already co-educational, in the 1921-1922 school year.

Charles Remsburg, who had been principal of the Girls High School, was selected as the vice principal of Frederick High. G. Nevia Rebert, who had been principal of Boys High School, resigned from the county teaching staff to take a position as head of the Department of Education at Hood College.

Klingaman served as principal of Frederick High School for three years at which time he resigned to become Western Maryland Supervisor of High Schools for the State Board of Education. Though he was only in Frederick a short time he made a lasting impact.

During the 1924-25 school year he coached the Cadets to their first ever state basketball championship. He returned frequently for alumni banquets, and often stopped to visit friends on trips to and from his Hagerstown home.

On February 19, 1934, while a patient at Phipps Clinic in Baltimore, he was killed when he deliberately



Elm Street School

walked into the path of a Pennsylvania Railroad train at a street crossing. He was survived by his wife and one son, William Klingaman.

Six months after the appointment of Klingaman, the school board authorized Hahn & Betson Contractors to build a new high school for "colored students" at a cost of \$23,000. This was the Lincoln School.

In 1938, the Board of Education awarded a contract to Calvin Owens of Bethesda, to build a new Frederick High School for a price of \$369,500.

[A new Frederick High School, at a cost of \$15 million, has replaced the 1939 structure. And The Lincoln School is now Lincoln Elementary.]

#### June 28

The war was not going well for the Union in early 1863. Moral was low. And Confederate forces were marching north through Maryland headed for Pennsylvania and the fateful Battle of Gettysburg.

General Joseph Hooker had taken his post as commander of Union forces from General Ambrose Burnside on January 26, 1863. An overconfident Hooker was badly defeated by General Robert E. Lee's Confederate Army of Northern Virginia at Chancellorsville in early May. His disagreements with another general over war strategy led eventually to Hooker's request of Lincoln to be relieved of command.

Gen. George G. Meade relieved Hooker, who was encamped near Prospect Hall on the outskirts of Frederick, on June 28, 1863.

In General Order #65, Hooker said: "In conforming with the orders of The War Department, dated June 27, 1863, I relinquished command of the Army of The Potomac. It is transferred to Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, a brave and accomplished officer, who has earned the confidence and esteem of this army on many a well-fought field. Impressed with the belief that my usefulness as the commander of the Army of The Potomac is impaired, I part from it, yet not without deepest emotion."

Hooker remained in the army and commanded Union forces at the Battle of Lookout Mountain. He died in 1879 and was buried in Cincinnati.

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### Nurturing the roots of agricultural heritage

#### David Bule

It was a pleasant surprise to see that the Taneytown History Museum is showcasing the "Agri-culture" of the town in its latest exhibit, "Taneytown Agri-Culture: Then and Now," which can be viewed from April 16 through November 19.

With its rich soil, favorable climate, and enterprising spirit, Taneytown has long been a haven for farmers and a cradle for agricultural innovation. From its early settlement to today, this charming town has cultivated a legacy deeply rooted in the land. So let us journey through time and explore the captivating agricultural history of Taneytown.

Taneytown's agricultural heritage dates to the mid 18th century when German and Irish settlers arrived. These brave pioneers recognized the fertile landscape and wasted no time establishing farms and homesteads. The rolling hills, fertile valleys, and the meandering Monocacy River provided the perfect backdrop for a rural lifestyle.

The town's early agricultural practices revolved around staple crops such as wheat, corn, and tobacco. The settlers toiled tirelessly, clearing forests, tilling the soil, and establishing sustainable farming practices that would shape the future of Taneytown. By the mid-19th century, the town had gained recognition as a prominent agricultural center, with a bustling market square and a growing network of farms.

With the advent of the 20th century, Taneytown witnessed a shift toward dairy farming and livestock production. Dairy farmers used the region's favorable climate and lush pastures to raise high-quality cattle and produce rich, creamy milk. Local creameries sprouted throughout the town, supporting the growing demand for dairy products.

One notable establishment was the Taneytown Creamery, founded in 1894. The creamery became a hub for local farmers, offering them a platform to effectively process and market their dairy products. In addition, it stimulated economic growth and fostered a sense of community among farmers, who shared knowledge and resources to improve their operations.

The creamery's success paved the way for Taneytown to become a significant dairy production center in the mid-20th century. The town's milk production peaked during this period, with dairy farms dotting the landscape, ensuring a steady supply of fresh milk to local consumers and beyond.

Local farmers also recognized the need to preserve their agricultural produce for longer periods. Canning provided a means to extend the shelf life of fruits and vegetables, enabling farmers to sell their products beyond the harvest season. This industry benefited the farmers and created employment opportunities for the local community.

Canning factories started to emerge in Taneytown, processing various agricultural products such as tomatoes, corn, beans, peaches, and apples. These factories employed many workers involved in different stages of the canning process, including sorting, cleaning, peeling, blanching, packing, and sealing the produce. The canned goods were then distributed to local markets or transported to other regions, contributing to the town's economy, and supporting the livelihoods of many residents.

One of Taneytown's most notable canning companies was owned by E.J. Nusbaum. Local entrepreneurs established the company and became significant in the canning industry, processing various fruits and vegetables. At its peak, the canning company employed hundreds of workers and produced substantial canned goods.

The canning industry in Taneytown experienced both successes and challenges over the years. Changes in consumer preferences, advancements in food preservation technologies, and economic fluctuations influenced the industry's growth and decline. As the demand for fresh produce increased and alternative preservation methods, such as freezing and refrigeration, gained popularity, the canning industry in Taneytown faced competition and gradually declined.

Today, while the canning industry in Taneytown may not be as prominent as it once was, its legacy and impact on the local community remain. The canning industry in Taneytown stands as a reminder of the region's agricultural heritage and the entrepreneurial spirit of its residents.

As the world entered the era of modern agriculture, Taneytown farmers embraced technological advancements and sustainable practices to stay ahead. Precision farming techniques, such as soil testing, improved irrigation systems, and the use of machinery, revolutionized the way crops were grown. Farmers adopted these innovations, enhancing productivity and reducing environmental impact.

Taneytown also became a pioneer in organic farming practices, with several farms transitioning to organic certification in recent years. This shift towards sustainable agriculture reflects the town's commitment to preserving its natural resources while meeting the demands of a changing world. The dedication to responsible farming has benefited the environment and captivated consumers seeking locally sourced, environmentally conscious products.

Beyond its agricultural production, Taneytown has also recognized the potential of agritourism to diversify its rural economy. The town's picturesque landscapes, charming farmsteads, and proximity to urban areas have attracted visitors eager to experience rural life and reconnect with the land. As a result, numerous farms now offer agritourism activities such as hayrides, corn mazes,



Hubert and Anna Null work on the Jacob Null farm in Taneytown in 1916

pumpkin patches, and farm-to-table experiences.

A prime example of Taneytown's agritourism success is the weekly Taneytown Farmers' Market, which draws locals and tourists alike. The market showcases the region's bountiful harvest, featuring fresh produce, artisanal goods, and a vibrant community atmosphere. Such initiatives bolster the local economy and foster a sense of pride and unity within the community.

Taneytown's commitment to preserving its agricultural legacy is evident in the efforts to protect farmland from urban encroachment. Along with dedicated organizations and conservation easements, the town has successfully held substantial tracts of fertile land, ensuring future generations can continue the farming traditions that have shaped the community.

Additionally, educational programs, workshops, and partnerships with agricultural institutions provide valuable resources to aspiring farmers, equipping them with the knowledge and skills needed to thrive in the modern agricultural landscape. These initiatives encourage sustainable farming practices and contribute to the local economy's resilience.

Taneytown is a testament to the enduring bond between a community and its land. From its humble beginnings as a pioneer settlement to its status as an agricultural hub, Taneytown's agricultural history embodies the spirit of perseverance, innovation, and sustainability. As the town embraces the future, it continues cultivating its agricultural heritage, ensuring that Taneytown remains firmly rooted in its agrarian traditions for generations.

To read past editions of Taneytown History, visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.





### COOKING

### The Big Apple Sonya Verlaque

Tlived in New York City for about five Land a half years, and as they say, it is the city that never sleeps. You can get anything at any time, especially food. Restaurants are open very late, which was fortunate for me when I worked very late, but some of my favorite food came from food carts. For breakfast I often grabbed a Portuguese buttered roll and coffee from a cart going into work, and the halal carts were the best for lunch or dinner. Shawarma and falafel are always great for a snack or sandwich, but my favorite was always the halal chicken with white sauce. Everyone has their favorite cart (ahem: north east corner of 58th and 9th) and this recipe is adapted from The Golden Balance's recipe for halal chicken. It comes pretty close to eating it right out of a white styrofoam container on the street.

#### Halal Cart Chicken

Chicken thighs tend to stay more moist when cooking in a pain, however if you prefer chicken breasts its perfectly fine. Sazon is the more

traditional seasoning, also used in many latin dishes, but can be hard to find and is just a blend of coriander, cumin, achiote, gallic powder, oregano, salt and pepper. Some recipes call for Sazon, in this one paprika is essentially used as the substitute for achiote.

Ingredients: Chicken Marinade 2 lb chicken thighs, boneless, skinless (or skinless, boneless chicken breast) 1 table spoon plain yogurt 1/2 lemon juiced 1 clove minced garlic 1tsp garlic powder 1 tsp paprika 1/2 tsp turmeric 1/2 tsp oregano 1/2 tsp cumin 1/2 tsp chili flakes Salt and pepper Rice: 2 cups basmati rice 2 Tbsp butter 1 tsp turmeric 1/2 tsp cardamom 1/2 tsp cumin

2 tsp salt 3 cups veggie broth

#### Red Sauce:

20-30 Chile de arbol 2 cups boiling water 1/4 cup chili water 5 cloves garlic cloves 2 Tbsp vegetable oil 1 tsp chili powder 1 tsp paprika 1 tsp coriander 1 tsp salt 1/2 cumin

White sauce: 1/2 cup mayo 1/2 cup sour cream 1/2 cup full fat plain yogurt 1/4 cup white vinegar Juice of 1 lemon 1 Tbsp sazon or seasoning salt 1 Tbsp dried parsley (I prefer over fresh)

Optional: 2 tsp honey or sugar Finishing: Shredded lettuce and tomato

Preparations: Butterfly chicken thighs, then drizzle olive oil and massage, then add your spices, lemon juice and yogurt and place in the refrigerator to marinate. You can do this just before and continue to prep the rest of the dish, or do it ahead of time to let the flavor develop more.

To make the red sauce, place the chile de arbol on a cutting board (careful not to touch your eyes in the process), and cut off the stems from each chili pepper. Then, remove and discard the seeds. Next, soak them in boiling water. They should soak for about 20-30 minutes. This will soften them up considerably. Once chilis are hydrated, finish making the red sauce by placing the hydrated chilis into a blender with chili water, garlic cloves, vinegar vegetable oil, chili powder, paprika, coriander, cumin and salt. Fully blend and then strain into a condiment squeeze bottle using a small mesh strainer or colander, or just into another bowl. (Chef tip: while the

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chilis are hydrating, you can make the

To make the white sauce, place

mayonnaise, sour cream yogurt, vin-

egar, lemon juice, and parsley into a

bowl and whisk until smooth. Give it

a taste, and if you'd like to make it a bit

sweet, and cut out a little acidity, pour

in honey or salt, whisk again. Carefully

pour sauce into a condiment squeeze

bottle using a funnel, this makes it very

Cook chicken in a pan on medium

high heat. Chicken thighs cook

quickly, so it should only take 8-10

minutes on both sides. Internal tem-

perature of thighs should read 165

degrees. After they're done, let rest 5-10

minutes, then cut chicken in small

cubes. Do not rinse the pan, use it

again for making the rice to keep all the

To make the rice, first rinse with

cold water. Then, in a large, deep non-

stick pan (hopefully the original pan

you cooked the chicken in) melt but-

ter and scrape the chicken renderings.

Add turmeric, cardamom and cumin.

Allow to toast for about 1-2 minutes.

It should become fragrant and then

you can add the rinsed rice to toast as

well for about a minute. Then add salt

and vegetable broth and bring to a boil.

Once boiling, cover with lid, and bring

heat down to low. Allow to simmer for

10-15 minutes. Do not stir it.

chicken flavor.

authentic. Or just use a spoon later.

white sauce!)



#### Magnolia Bakery Banana Pudding CopyCat

I lived in walking distance to Magnolia Bakery, luckily it was a decent walk to earn a treat. Bananas are not my favorite, but for some reason the Magnolia bakery banana pudding elevates this mundane fruit into a luxurious desert. This is a copycat recipe using instant pudding for time saving and still ends up great.

#### Ingredients:

- 1 14-oz can sweetened condensed milk
- 1 cup very cold milk
- 1/2 cup very cold water
- 1 3.4 oz box instant vanilla pudding
- 1 11 12 oz box of Nilla
- Wafers reserve 5-6 wafers and crumbs from box
- 3 cups heavy whipping cream
- $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon clear vanilla flavoring
- 5 bananas just barely ripe sliced

Preparations: Using either a hand held mixer or a stand mixer, combine the sweetened condensed milk, cold water and cold milk. Mix on low-medium for 1-2 minutes. Add the vanilla pudding mix and beat on medium for 2 minutes. The pudding mixture should just start to thicken. Cover and refrigerate for 4 hours or overnight to ensure the pudding completely sets. Using either a hand held mixer or a stand mixer, combine the heavy cream and vanilla flavoring and beat until the cream is stiff. Gently fold the whipped cream into the fully set pudding. Fold until the cream and pudding is completely combined and uniform in color, with no visible streaks. For presentation, use either a large serving bowl, trifle dish or a compote dish. (you can also use mini trifle dishes for individual servings) Line the bottom of the bowl with 1/3 of the vanilla wafers (about 30 wafers). Evenly layer 1 1/2 cups of the sliced bananas on top of the wafers.Top banana slices with  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the pudding mixture. Repeat until there are 3 layers



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the reserved 5-6 wafers. To finish, sprinkle the top of the pudding with crushed wafers. You may also use any leftover crumbs from the wafer box. Cover and keep refrigerated until serving.

of wafers, bananas and pudding. Crush

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

### MOMS' TIME OUT

### Summer break!

Mary Angel

Can you believe summer break is right around the corner? For some of you it is already here. The kids have been chomping at the bit for over a month now, and parents have been scrambling to figure out what to do with summer break. After all, when kids are home all summer, they can get extremely bored and then there is no telling what might happen.

My youngest has been chomping at the bit waiting for summer break. At least twice a day for the last month and a half I have gotten a countdown of the number of school days left until summer arrives. She is in high school, so the concerns are a bit different than when she was in elementary school. When my kids were in elementary school, I was a stay-at-home mom and I homeschooled some of them. The younger they are the more supervision they need during the summer.

When my kids were elementary school age, I would try to find camps for them during the summer. I wasn't always the best planner and often the camps they wanted were full by the time I realized it was camp registration season. I never could wrap my head around the idea of registering for summer camps when there was snow on the ground. In their defense, most camps need a head count to begin the hiring process for camp counselors and aides. This lack of planning on my part didn't always mean that there were no camps to be had, but more often my kids would be trying something they had no interest in. This was both a blessing and a curse.

In the process of playing camp roulette, my youngest discovered that she liked to cook, but not bake. As much as she loves science, she couldn't stand the precision involved in the science of baking. She much preferred the creative outlet of adding new herbs and spices to an old recipe and tasting the outcome. I will say, as much as she didn't care for baking, her family loved to taste test the experiment of the day. My other daughter discovered a lifelong love of baking. Because of her baking camp she still bakes whenever she is stressed or wants to bless a friend or family member. Her chocolate crinkle cookies are the best this family has ever had. My youngest son was forced to take a construction camp, or nothing, so he chose the only camp available. I still have the table he built in my dining room. It could have used a little more TLC, but he had a blast and I love having things my children made fill my house. It doesn't hurt that I am a Mickey Mouse fanatic, and it is red! My oldest son was always interested in theater and books, and those camps were usually available. We sat through a many a play in our day and they were all very well done, especially considering most camps are one to two weeks at most.

I always felt like I had to have activities for the summer. Although one week out of every summer was always our family staycation, I always wanted there to be more. This is where day trips, Groupon, and rides in the car would come in handy. I am a big fan of the day trip. No hotel expense and everyone gets to sleep in their own bed. Many of my earlier day trips were purchased through Groupon, although they are few and far between lately. The Turkey Hill Experience, Pride of the Susquehanna riverboat cruise, and Frederick Keys games were some of our favorites. Several trips were made to the Army Heritage Center, as the kids could run off some of that summer energy and it didn't hurt that it was free (although we always made a donation).

What about the other fifty days of the summer? For many years we had an above-ground pool. We loved to have friends over and spend the day in the pool. Indoor play dates on a rainy day were a blast for the kids and moms as well. I am not sure the kids would agree with this, but I always had my kids do at least one math workbook over the summer. If it had been a year with any struggle, I might throw in a grammar or reading workbook as well. I just felt it kept their little minds current on the topics they would need the following year.

When the kids were all in elementary school, my parents lived in Delaware, so we would always schedule two or more weeks throughout the summer to go visit them. Apparently sitting in Meme's living room watching television was way more magical than sitting in their own living room. It didn't hurt that my parents' internet was amazing compared to ours, so the kids could all



Ah... the good old days of summer when one had nothing to do and not a care in the world...

be on their Nintendo DS handhelds at the same time. Even my husband would sneak away from work for a long weekend and bring his Playstation to get in some serious Black Ops game time. All kidding aside, they were memories my kids still talk about and will have for a lifetime.

There are a ton of parks, waterfalls, and hiking trails in our area, so there is no lack of outdoor activities to take the kids to. Even if it was raining, we would still jump in the van, and drive to local waterfalls just to enjoy the sound. One or two rainy days during the summer, I would pull out my dollar store purchases and make a ginormous plastic wrap ball full of fun for the kids. Although I learned about this at a birthday party, it was an all-occasion invention for our family. If you have never seen this game the prep is easy and can be as inexpensive or

as expensive as you want. You start with something small and possibly odd shaped, and you start wrapping the plastic wrap around it. As you keep wrapping you add other things. This can be small candies, bags of gummies, stickers, small paperback books, matchbox cars, gum, anything that can be molded around an ever-growing ball of plastic wrap. If you want you can periodically cut the plastic wrap and restart it in a different spot, just to keep things interesting. When you have it as large as you want it, it is time to start the game. The first person starts to unwrap the ball (NO TEARING ALLOWED) and at the same time the next person is

rolling two dice. When the person rolling gets doubles the dice and the ball shift positions. The game keeps going until all of the prizes are found. At this point the trading begins. This whole process can take up to one or two hours and then if you have crafts built in as prizes there is more entertainment.

I hope some of these ideas will help to give your family a memorable summer break. I know summer break can be both exciting and exhausting, so make sure to take a little time for your own mom's time out!

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





Because I was a stay-at-home mom for most of their young lives,



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### FOUR YEARS AT THE MOUNT

#### This month, we asked our students to "just ramble" about their semester, moving forward, or really, whatever they felt the need to write about. with an aviation concentration.

### Sophomore

Goodbye!

#### Sarah Miller MSMU Class of 2026

First off, I just wanted to thank you for reading my articles. I applied for this position on a whim, and in the end, I am very glad I had the opportunity to do so. Mount Saint Mary's has served me very well, and although I am leaving, I would first like to reminisce on "the good old days."

During my time at the Mount, I have been involved in very few things, but things that have been very impactful in my adult life's early stages. I came in as an English secondary education major, and took some English classes because they were my strong suit. I enjoyed them and loved my professors, but I did not feel like I was becoming a better student. It may sound very cheesy, but I felt a hole in my education. I found out very quickly that this was not what I was meant to do and not what I was cut out for. Teachers have a hard job, and I was most definitely not made to yet fortunately, I was not passionate about English anymore, and I just thought of it as another skill that I had. So I kept English on the back burner, wrote my article once a month, and kept soul searching.

do what they do. Unfortunately,

I conversed with my friends and advisor to try and think about other options in my education, and I went through many phases that surrounded the idea of being a pilot and flying. If you have read previous articles by me in the past, you know that I have my pilot's license, and it is one of my greatest passions. I found throughout this year of my soul searching, I realized that this is what I wanted to do full-time all along. I was missing it, and I wanted it back.

The end of the fall semester rolled around this year, and I researched my options. When I initially applied to college, I fully committed to Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, Florida. It is practically the star school for aviation and the school that is the most renowned in the field. I was not very keen on moving all of the way to Daytona, as I have never

really moved around that much in my life. Besides, living in York, Pennsylvania, I am not very much a part of the hyped-up Daytona Beach culture. I am not a partier, I am not a hot-weather gal. One would say I am quite the opposite of Florida, and I was very anxious about the move. I thought that I would get over this fear of moving from my hometown, my family, and everything that is familiar to me. Nevertheless, it was \$500 in college deposits later, and I found myself astronomically scared to go to Embry-Riddle, so I changed my mind and chose the Mount instead, which was a very great decision that I made, although a financially taxing decision. So, after me not waiting to go far for school, I realized that my options were limited for flight school. Living in Central, PA makes my options very minimal, because there are not many flight schools around that weren't crazy expensive.

Throughout search, my though, I found a small college in Lancaster named Eastern Mennonite University, where I am going to go for the next four years to get my bachelor's in leadership and organizational management

With this degree, I will have the availability to get a job in the business field, or a job within the aviation realm. In the aviation industry, this is a stellar degree to get because, with my prospective job with being in the airlines, they like to know that you are a safe pilot, that you are organized, and can manage the cockpit efficiently.

At Eastern Mennonite University, my days will be different than one's average day at the Mount, since I will not be a regular college student. The school is actually a school where I would be commuting, and I would also only have class one day a week. This class day makes me have availability open for my days where I have to fly, because flying is required three days separate from your class day. Since I have not flown consistently in about two years, my workload will be about double than the average student. This is because at this point in my training, I am not sure where I am rusty and where I am proficient, so finding that happy medium where I am able to safely re-enter the field will be a little more complicated because of the sheer amount of information that is thrown at you in the private pilot course.

It will be a stressful time for me, but I couldn't be more thankful that I found where my heart truly lies. I needed much guidance in my college decision path and I finally feel comfortable where I am at, and I would like to thank you, who is reading this, because you were one of my motivators in this strenuous process; to you, I thank you.

So, I would like to tell my fellow college kids out there reading this, or parents/friends of them, to really support your children in their endeavors, even if it may seem like something which is foreign to you. Don't ever be afraid to try and deviate from the norm of everyday life. If you miss it, do it again. I hope that my story has made you really think about that thing that you were itching to do or start; I challenge you to do it. Life is short, so do what you love; for me, what I love means changing my future and hopping on a plane. The sky is literally your limit, and you should explore it.

Best of luck, and I hope for you to read from me again soon.

To read other articles by Sarah Miller, visit the Author's section of Emmitsburg.net.

### Junior

#### Libraries

#### Joseph Carlson MSMU Class of 2025

Tt was just before my last week of school at about midnight, and I found myself laying on the floor of the library in between bookcases. The day had probably been the worst day of the semester, but at the end of it all, I still had pages to write, some inhumane amount. I realized, looking up at all the books, that the world of academia was large, and I realized too, that, for the most part, these books would help very few people

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even though they were the product of so much sweat and heartache. If I desired to continue on, I would become like the hoards of academics who waste their work on issues unrelated to their first loves, subjects in their discipline so far removed from the soul of their discipline that they become unintelligible to themselves.

I go back and forth on this; right now, I am not in a library surrounded by foreign books, but in my personal library, the fledgling efforts of my mind to grow up, surrounded by many books which I love and have begun to understand. Some of these books sit simply as an inheritance of some kind, and they attest at the very least to the kind-

ness of loved ones and mentors who tried their best to treat my young mind. In the beginning, this was all I had in my library.

Some of these books are the product of my avarice, because before college, I imagined all books to be good, books one has read to be better, and I had very few other categories. So, I collected them at the expense of quality; I have since realized that the mark of a good library is simply quality. If a person's library consisted of a single bookcase, but every book in this one bookcase was a true and holy classic (in the least restrictive sense), such a person could be very healthy and happy.

Of these precipitating categories I have begun to separate the wheat from the chaff, and there in fact was far more chaff than wheat.

My library has more books that

I have defeated; for the mind is a difficult thing, and a good book defeated however many years ago stands novel once again in the present. The books I have defeated are almost always truly adversaries, and they are so because they are the least useful, and are the least deserving of further reading.

Some books are not classics but are dear to me anyways, sometimes for no good reason; as a brief example, I have a book by a certain E.O. Wilson, which I read early in high school, knowing nothing of the author (I now know enough about him to know that I disagree with him over vast areas of knowledge, above all on the metaphysical level), which captivated my young mind in a very innocent way. Many who know much about the diabolical nature of some authors might be tempted to withhold such books from young people, and frankly I find this argument appealing; but a young person truthfully is not easily lured into materialism when he trusts a holy alternative. I now know that I read so many books in public school whose whole purpose for existing was malevolent, and I, as a young Christian, not understanding the cosmic metaphysical battles waging around me, took from them what was true, and simply set the rest aside. E.O. Wilson's book is not worth reading in the slightest, for it contains false ideas, and even the science is outdated, but it contained information I might have found elsewhere that was so interesting, and such things were enough for me. The mind craves truth, and it will take it from whatever body it can, whether it happens upon a little pond or a great ocean. We are made for this ocean, certainly, and the ponds would dry up without it, but the ponds are still good all the same. The truth can never really be integrated with lies; it always stands separate, and young people will easily ignore the lies without even giving them a second thought, unless they have been otherwise taught to believe them.

Last of all, there are those books which, in a strange sense, share a part of my soul. These may be old or young; they are always old and young to me. Whether I am currently reading them or not, they sit most adjacent to my bed and to my desk, as a reminder of who I am. You will inevitably become like the books that you read (this is in fact the argument against my words about E.O Wilson), and you should always keep your dearest books close enough to affect you deeply, but far enough away to really have something new and separate to offer you. This little library offers something of an answer to my questions about the purpose of academia. In the same way that a single, good conversation with a single, good person is imminently useful, so authoring a single, good book, even if it were read by a single person, would in fact be useful. What that says about the expansive academic shelves, I do not know; it does, however, tell me that there is room for a small author in such a large world.

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I have not read than I have. For a young mind, this is crucial; so long as one avoids the chaff, he can gain a great deal from looking at unread books. They remind him that he is in fact small, and that the body of human knowledge is very large, that far larger than this is reality, and that God stands separate from it all as indiscernibly great and magnificent. The young mind will kill itself intellectually with egoism if it does not know that it is small. When a man grows old, there is less time left to learn, and ideally, time has already proven to him over and over again that he is small; so there may be a decreased need to own unread books (though this last point may be false, since all minds need to learn, the old as well as the young). Few books sit as trophies which

To read other articles by Joseph Carlson, visit the Author's section of

### JUST RAMBLING

### Senior

Choosing your difficulty

#### Claire Doll MSMU Class of 2024

Junior year is always the hardest. Of high school, of college. You're one step closer to the next phase of life, and everyone's always asking: "So what are you doing after college? How do you feel with one year left?"

When I reflect on the 2022-2023 school year, I think back to where I was in August, moving into my first college apartment. I think about the friends I had then, and the friends I have now. I think about the personal and social changes as well as the academic ones. I think about the early mornings that gave way to late nights with a whole bunch of blurriness and exhaustion in between.

This year, I began my first student teaching internship at a high school just down Route 15. I expected to fall in love with it, as one does with any new journey. "Teaching is a fulfilling passion," they say, but they also say, "You'll never get paid enough, it's extremely hard." I think both sides are right. While I would struggle to wake up every Tuesday and Thursday morning at 5:30 to teach and interacting with such joyful, hilarious teenagers. There were some great days, like when I taught the lesson about blackout poetry and when I received positive observations from my supervisor; and there were some not-so-great days, where I would drive home crying simply because it was hard. Student teaching is *hard*.

(unpaid, of course), I would also find

great joy in being called "Ms. Doll"

But that wasn't all. This year, while also beginning my career, I worked as Editor-in-Chief of the Mount's literary magazine, *Lighted Corners*. Over the course of nine months, I built a team of excited staff members, organized and reviewed submissions, led meetings, edited like *crazy*, and designed an entire layout. Even with the help of my staff, the project still seemed impossible. That was hard, too. I'm entirely proud of the creation and happy to see it in print, but it was a challenge.

And then add the classes. Three English classes that, at the end of the teaching day, I had to do homework for and read chapters and write papers that I would not do so well at. It was discouraging. All of it was.

You might be thinking: *This is a super negative article. What has gotten into you?* 

And you may be right. I'm com-

plaining. Junior year was hard, and I have since been spending my days reading in bed because of the sheer exhaustion, and don't even get me started on my *second* teaching internship in the fall, and—

Life is hard. Everything about it is hard. I think that's what I learned in my junior year of college.

But I also believe that life is *choosing* which difficulty you want to endure. While it is hard to student teach, it is also hard to sit around all day and do nothing. It is hard to not have passion. I can't imagine a life without passion—without waking up in the morning and pursuing something you love.

In my junior year of college, I found my passions. I can honestly say that I love standing up in front of a class full of students and teaching them about my favorite things: poetry, grammar, reading novels. I love designing lessons and doing not-so-well and receiving feedback and doing it all over again in a better, more creative way.

I also love writing and giving others the opportunity to write. I love mornings and nights spent curled in bed, journaling or editing a poem or simply reading. I love publishing literary magazines and being published in literary magazines and seeing others see their work in print for the first time.

I love spending time outside and prioritizing my mental health. I struggled with anxiety this year, but I soon learned that to live, you must accept everything—the good, the bad, the beautiful, the mediocre. Life is not the highlight reels on Instagram, but rather the little moments that hide in our days.

And I love my people. My family, my friends, the people who helped me through terrible times, who gave me flowers on my first day of student teaching and wrote me notes every single Tuesday and Thursday for my "school lunch."

Without the difficult, I wouldn't experience the beautiful. And I know this is cliché, and everyone says this, but it's true. An easy life is one void of meaning.

My advice for incoming juniors is to savor the challenging moments, because you see immense growth in this. You will lose friends and gain friends and make great strides in your career and also fail, a lot. This semester, I'm losing my 4.0 GPA. And I also realized that it doesn't matter, because grades do not determine or create experiences. This was a tough pill to swallow for me. I have spent my entire school career working terribly just to see A's lined up on my report card, and let me give you a tip: it's not worth it. Life is better.

You are entering the back half of your time at college. Although you may *think* this means you're only halfway there, you're really not, because the time flies. Pursue your passions—wake up every single morning with something to care about, someone to have your back through the challenges. That is what carries you through life—grades sadly don't.

As for me, I look forward to my senior year of college. I hope to find even more beauty in the hardships of my teaching journey, and I hope to paint my final semesters with colorful experiences and meaningful people. At the end of the day, and in sixty-something years, we are not going to remember how hard life was. I doubt anyone ever thinks that at the end of something. You remember the good-you always do. You remember the people that loved you, the passions you cared about, the little moments that made you smile at the end of the day.

So choose which difficulty you will endure and live.

To read other articles by Claire Doll, visit the Author's section of Emmitsburg.net.

### The Graduate

Leisure is fundamental for those who work

#### McKenna Snow MSMU Class of 2023

This semester, I think more than any other, I learned the importance of leisure. Overall, I don't think our culture really knows how to rest. But, I think our culture is aware of this, and we are beginning to gravitate towards solutions. I think this interest in true leisure, at least for my generation, is reflected in various trends I've seen on social media: the slow-living trends, thrifting to combat fast-fashion, and tons of baking and DIY trends.

But I think we still don't truly know how to rest yet, because even though we are leaning towards these good things, we fall too far in the opposite direction of the workaholic world, and land somewhere in a field of idleness and laziness. This is evident from the self-deprecating jokes about how we scroll on Instagram and Tik Tok for hours, accomplishing nothing, how we reward ourselves with snacks after writing the title of our essay that hasn't been started beyond that, and how we can nap at any given hour of the day because we never get adequate or consistent sleep. Real rest is crucial. Not fake rest. Not scrolling for hours. Not napping, most of the time. Even that doesn't count. In my last semester at college, it became clear to me that real rest is a fruit from a well-balanced and well-ordered life, not a haphazard attempt to ignore my work when I absolutely could not afford it. I had to make resting as much of a priority as making time to get my work done. Thus, not letting my work rule my life made me more free to put it down when a friend wanted to hang out, go for a coffee run, or go for a walk. It made me more free to be with the person in front of me, so I wasn't always in a rush to get to the next assignment or thing. I took things one day at a time, and enjoyed and loved that day for what it was. Some days, that meant more work than others.

And some days, that meant more "wasted time" just listening to my friends who were having a hard time, or getting to know my freshmen residents who I was the RA for. But it was never really wasted time. These people were the most important part of my day, and because I was willing to participate in leisure, I was free to love them to the best of my small ability. I got to know so many amazing people because of this. I didn't want to brush people off because I had so much work to do, since there never was a day I didn't have work. But I was free to occasionally put it on the back burner of my life's stove on a low simmer, making the home of my day smell quite good because the work was now infused with a true sense of where it sat on my list of priorities. People, friends, God came first. On days when I was extra busy or had more work than normal coming up, I tried to make time to pray even more, because it was only through grace that I was able to get it all done. I would pray for the grace to be a good student, and go from there. I knew God would carry me through my studies and the many essays I had to write. And I knew that if I was generous in giving my time to the moment or person who God put in my path, He would be generous in return with the graces to help me catch up on all that work I let simmer.

Ultimately, it was God Who taught me true leisure. He showed me that it consists in many things, such as resting with Him in prayer; going to Mass daily became one of my breaks from all the work. Hiking up to the grotto in between classes was tiring physically, but spiritually it was refreshing and uplifting. Participating in the Praise and Worship Holy Hour in the evening on Wednesdays-my busiest day of the week-was also a place of great rest and joy. Wednesdays started early and there were virtually no free hours of the day by virtue of where all of my weekly meetings ended up, but I still chose to go to the Holy Hour at the end of it to replenish my soul.

And I found that true leisure also consisted in prioritizing favorite hobbies of mine such as horse riding. Through a wonderful story for another time, I was able to take horse riding lessons with Mike this semester, and it was a wonderful break from the constant classwork and Mount responsibilities I had. I was free to delight in the task at hand-trotting the wonderful thoroughbred horse Wesley around a gravel arena-and to leave my homework simmering again. I'd come back to it later, ready to pick it back up with, hopefully, as much enthusiasm as I brought to my leisurely activities. I learned this semester that it is crucial to put time into taking breaks; and that, taking breaks actually still looks like participating in activities. True leisure is not idleness, but a partaking in the creative gifts that God has given me. He has given me the capacity to delight in the many wonderful things in life, and so I choose to do so. I choose to delight in attending Mass, in playing guitar, in going for walks, and in riding horses. I choose to delight in putting my work down to get coffee with a friend, and to hear the story of the person in front of me. This is where true rest is found, and it is where I am filled up, so that I may more fully give to those around me, and to the work that is always at hand. The truth is, there will always be work at hand; the secret is that sometimes, the work can—and should—wait. Delight in the world and people around you, and do creative things. Let the aroma of healthy work-life balance simmer, and the home of your life will smell all the better for it.

To read other articles by McKenna Snow, visit the Author's section of Emmitsburg.net.



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### SUMMER CAMPS

### Summer programs at Strawberry Hill

S trawberry Hill is offering excit-ing opportunities for kids this summer starting June 14th! Strawberry Hill is going to be running a new summer program called Wild Strawberries, designed to immerse kids in nature, and to provide play-based learning opportunities about the world around them. It is a drop-off program that parents can register for their child to attend as many or as few of the week-long programs as they want; each week there will be a different focus and theme. By using a model referred to as STREAM, each week will highlight and incorporate elements of science, technology, recreation, engineering, arts, and math.

The age brackets for the program are broken up into two groups: ages 5-8 will have one group, and the other group is for ages 9-12. That way, the days and activities that the children participate in are age-appropriate and continue to be engaging for all learners.

The goal is to make the learning fun and memorable, by spending as little time indoors as possible. Dan Brannen, Strawberry Hill's Executive Director, explained that Strawberry Hill's 35-acre campus helps put the focus on the environmental education experience for kids, so that Strawberry Hill can cultivate an environment that is hands-on, play-based, and helps children to create an emotional relationship with nature around them.

Several of the weeks were highlighted by Anne Gageby, Strawberry Hill's Environmental Education Manager, to illustrate the goals and features of the program. Week one will focus on 'eco-engineers,' looking at different naturalistic engineers. The 5-8 age bracket will be learning about birds and bird nests, exploring questions like, "what does it take to keep a bird's nest together? They don't use glue, so what does hold it together?" The 9-12 age bracket will be studying beavers and beaver dams, using hands-on playbased learning about why beaver dams are amazing structures. They will also be learning how they aren't just incredible architects, but their homes are ecologically important, as beavers play a big role in building ecosystems. As Anne explained, beavers "are environmental engineers, [since] they recreate the environment around them." This week, children have the chance to learn about environmental impact of various species such as birds and beavers, by being outside, listening to informational lectures outdoors, and by participating in crafts to help learn how the animals accomplish their tasks.

Another one of the weeks, week four, will be themed around creatures who have a reputation of being 'the bad guys', such as sharks, snakes, and spiders. The goal of this week will be to show how important each of these 'bad creatures' actually are for the environments they inhabit. This week's theme is based on the book series 'The Bad Guys' by Aaron Blabey, which is a series about various animals seeking to change their societies' assumptions about them by trying to do good deeds. This week will strive to show how important each animal, in the real world, is to the ecosystem, "despite their bad rap," Anne explained. Breaking these lessons down based on the book series, this week will



What would a Strawberry Hill Summer camp be without a talk about turtles!

explore the question of what kind of roles sharks, snakes and spiders actually play.

Week seven was also highlighted, and it will be based on the series "Frog and Toad" by Arnold Lobel. Ages 5-8 will be learning about toads and their habitats, enjoying the theme of "toad abodes." Ages 9-12 will be learning about frogs, and at the end of each day, both groups will join together to compare frogs and toads. Anne summarized that "Wild Strawberries will be held weekly on Wednesdays from June 14th to August 9th from 12:30pm-4:30pm. There will be no Wild Strawberries the week of July 4th. This is a drop-off event and will include snack time. Cost is \$40/session or save 10% by registering for all 8 weeks. Families can register for any week individually, for multiple weeks, or for all 8 weeks."

### Way Off Broadway Summer Theatre Camp

#### Justin Kiska

Registration has begun at The Way Off Broadway Dinner Theatre for its 2023 Summer Theatre Camp, which will begin on July 17th.

For over 20 years, Way Off Broadway has been offering budding young actors and actresses the opportunity to hone their craft during the theatre's annual summer camp. These camps focus on all aspects of musical theatre through vocal music, acting exercises, and basic choreography as students rehearse for a full musical production at the end of the session.

This year's camp will be held July 17th – 27st from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Monday – Thursday. Camp is open to students ages 9 and older. Registration is \$490 per student. Instructors for Way Off Broadway's 2023 Summer Theatre camp will once again be Bill Kiska, the theatre's Executive Producer, and Megan Elizabeth West, one of Way Off Broadway's performers and music directors.

For it's theatrical production this summer, the camp will be presenting the new Junior version of the smash-hit musical Mean Girls. Adapted from Tina Fey's 2004 blockbuster film and the Broadway smash hit, Mean Girls JR. is a fearless musical about chasing popularity and being true to yourself. In the show, Cady Heron may have grown up on the African savanna, but nothing prepared her for the wild and vicious ways of her strange new home: suburban Illinois.

How will this naïve newbie rise to the top of the popularity pecking order? By taking on The Plastics, a trio of lionized frenemies led by the charming but ruthless Regina George. Cady and her friends devise a "Revenge Party" to end Regina's reign with Cady going undercover as an aspiring Plastic. When the lines between the real Cady and her Plastic self get blurred, she must find her way back to herself and her true friends.

Registration is limited and being done on a first-come, first-serve basis. For complete details about this year's camp, including registration information, visit the theatre's website at www.wayoffbroadway. com, or call 301-662-6600.







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### SCHOOL NEWS

### Fairfield Area School District considers tax hike

airfield Area School District increase by about \$72. The 4 per-Fresidents may incur a 4 percent tax increase.

During May's workshop, Business Manager Tim Stanton told the board of directors that a tax increase is necessary to keep pace with rising costs. Stanton referred to himself as a "fiscal conservative and taxpayer advocate" and acknowledged tax increases are rarely popular. If the board does not increase taxes, Stanton said, the district will struggle. The board is allowed to increase taxes 4.8 percent without seeking voter approval, Stanton said.

If the board approves Stanton's

proposal as presented, the aver-

age property owner's tax bill will

cent tax increase will generate \$385,000, Stanton said. Stanton said he believes incre-

mental tax increases are necessary every year to avoid a large increase after years of flat revenue. Stanton said he recommended no tax increase last year because he was new to the district and did not have a strong understanding of its budgetary needs.

Stanton said Fairfield Area School District has the lowest property tax millage rate in Adams County. The district will soon enter into negotiations with the teachers' union and he suspects wage increases will be necessary to maintain high-quality educators.

"If you do not increase it something, how do you keep up with the wages?" Stanton asked.

Stanton also defended his proposal by explaining the need for a strong savings account. The district currently pays for three bonds that were opened prior to Stanton's arrival and interest rates are an added cost that Stanton believes can be avoided in the future.

Some Fairfield Area School Board members expressed support for Stanton's proposal while others noted public sentiment may not favor a tax increase.

"Pitch forks, man," a board member said when Board Vice President Jack Liller said he supported Stanton's proposal.

"We want to keep putting stuff away so we don't have to take another loan out," Liller said.

Stanton said he will present a budget at the next board meeting that shows no tax increase so board members can choose which proposal to approve.

"You can get yourself in a hole," Stanton warned.

He reiterated that Pennsylvania law prevents school boards from raising taxes above the Act 1 index, which varies from year to year.

"If you don't keep up with Act 1 index, you cannot pay competitive wages," he said. "What are you going to tell teachers

at negotiations? Four percent is not a significant amount per taxpayer."

He also noted the district budget relies on Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funds that were distributed during the COVID-19 pandemic. Those funds will not be available next year so the district will be required to fund necessary programs such as Special Education through the general fund.

"There is no way the following year, you will be able to fund the budget," he said.

The board will continue discussing the budget at future meetings. Final approval is required by June 30.

### **Frederick County Public Schools**

#### Karen Yoho

#### Frederick County School Board

Ongratulations to the 2023 →FCPS graduates. Each graduation is unique and wonderful. One board member pointed out that while he had attended multiple graduations each day, for each high school it's their one and only for that group of students, so the energy is always electric.

Mount St. Mary's arena is a fun place to be during graduation week. And then there are four smaller programs that take place mostly at the schools.

For the remainder of the student population, June 2 is the final day for the 2022-23 school year. It will be a two-hour early dismissal for students. The 2023-24 school year begins on Wednesday, August 23 for students, with staff reporting on August 17.

Student enrollment for pre-K, kindergarten, and students new to FCPS is ongoing. You may use the secure PowerSchool online enrollment portal. After you register,

someone from FCPS will be in contact. This is a new centralized system. For more information, please visit the FCPS website or contact the central office. We also have Ombuds Sabrina Naill who is at the ready to help with navigating the system. Ms. Nail can be reached at 301-696-6852 or by email at Ombuds@fcps.org.

FCPS will be holding a Job Fair at Catoctin High School in June from 3 to 7 p.m. The school system is known for its generous benefits package.

All applicants are encouraged to complete their application in advance. You may apply online here: www.applitrack.com/fcps/ OnlineApp/.

Applicants are also encouraged to pre-register for the Job Fair at the Registration Link here:www.forms. gle/pQFPHYUpiyAF1eEJ8.

FCPS has been named an innovative district by the International Center for Leadership in Education (ICLE). The school system is one of seven districts nationwide to earn this honor for "its focus on instructional and organizational structures to increase

student learning and to develop a vision focused on student needs".

FCPS will be presenting at the Model Schools Conference in Orlando from June 25-28. The presentation will focus on the system's journey to build a culture informed by the best evidence about how the student brain learns, according the FCPS website.

The Board of Education hopes everyone has a safe and enjoyable summer. Best wishes to the entire graduation class of 2023 as you move on to your next adventures.



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### ARTS

### Majestic Theater's 2023 Summer classic movies

The Majestic Theater will cele- Matt Moon's delicious popcorn!" L brate film favorites old and new when the annual Summer Classic Movie series kicks off June 7 at 7:30 p.m. in the historic 1925 auditorium. Enjoy classic movies in the beautifully restored historic theater every Wednesday night through August 23. Tickets for each film are just \$8 and are on sale now. Advanced ticket purchase is strongly recommended.

"It's hard to believe we launched this film series in 2008, and attendance just keeps growing year after year," reflected Founding Executive Director Jeffrey Gabel. "Patrons tell me they love the series because it's so much fun to watch Hollywood classic films in our beautifully restored 1925 movie palace, up on our giant screen, and in the company of their friends and neighbors. They also love

Hijinks ensue June 7 when Billy Wilder's hilarious gender bender farce, Some Like It Hot (1959) kicks off the summer series. Enjoy seeing Tony Curtis, Jack Lemmon and Marilyn Monroe at their most hilarious; attend dressed as Marilyn for a free small popcorn. On June 14, Cary Grant and Ingrid Bergman sizzle in Alfred Hitchcock's Nazi espionage thriller, Notorious (1946). Bring the entire family on June 21 for 1995's Babe, starring a brave little pig who learns how to herd sheep. On June 28 is Jimmy Cagney's flag-waving, singing and dancing salute to George M. Cohen, Yankee Doodle Dandy (1942).

Join Will Smith and a cast of beloved 1990s stars to defeat aliens on July 5 with summer blockbuster,

Independence Day (1996). On July 12, Dan Aykroyd and John Belushi are "on a mission from God" in 1980's The Blues Brothers. Alan Ladd stars in Shane (1953), a scenic sagebrush classic, on July 19. Then, comedian Don Knotts is a timid typesetter embroiled in a murder mystery on July 26 in The Ghost and Mr. Chicken (1966).

August 2 reunites Paul Newman and Robert Redford in 1973's comedy crime caper, The Sting. Marty McFly and Doc Brown jet off in the DeLorean once again to save their pasts and futures in Back to the Future II (1989) on August 9. All time travelers are welcome to dress the part for a free small popcorn during the show. Jimmy Stewart and Marlene Dietrich team up on August 16 in 1939's Destry Rides Again.



And finally the summer series concludes with Dirty Dancing (1987) on August 23. Try out your dance moves in a contest prior to the show. Tickets for all Summer Classics showings are \$8 each and are available at the Majestic Theater Box Office, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg, by calling 717-337-8200 or online at www.gettysburgmajestic.org.

### How to succeed in business without really trying

ollowing the box office successes of Camelot and Church Basement Ladies, The Way Off Broadway Dinner Theatre will continue its 2023 Season this summer with the Broadway classic How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying. The toe-tapping musical comedy will open June 23rd and run through August 12th.

How to Succeed . . . began as a book, How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying: The Dastard's Guide to Fame and Fortune, by Shepherd Meade, first published in 1952. It was a satiric instruction manual on how to navigate office life and get ahead. The book became a best seller.

How to Succeed . . . opened at the 46th Street Theatre on Broadway in October 1961. The show was a hit, with theater critic Walter Kerr saying, "Not a sincere line is spoken in the new Abe Burrows-Frank Loesser musical, and what a relief that is... How to Succeed is crafty, conniving, sneaky, cynical, irreverent, impertinent, sly, malicious, and lovely, just lovely."

The original Broadway production ran for over 1,400 performances, taking home seven Tony Awards - including Best Musical, Best Leading Actor, Best Featured Actor, and Best Direction, the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award, the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, and the Grammy Award for Best Musical Theatre Album.

How to Succeed . . . would not be revived on Broadway until 1995 when Matthew Broderick took on the role of Finch with a yet unknown Megan Mullally playing Rosemary. At the Tony Awards that season, the revival saw Broderick win for Best Leading Actor in a Musical. A second revival took to the stage in 2011,

301-898-3245



starring Daniel Radcliff as Finch and featuring John Larroquette as J.B. Biggley.



www.kramerspianoshop.com

A favorite among theatre-goers, this production marks the first time the show has ever been presented at Way Off Broadway!

Making his WOB debut is Tyler Crean, leading the cast as J. Pierrepont Finch. Joining him on stage will be Emily Signor as Rosemary, Rory Dunn as J.B. Biggley, Paul M. Cabell as Bud Frump, Merissa Joyce Dean as Smitty, and Sarah Melinda as Hedy LaRue.

How to Succeed . . . has a book by Abe Burrows, Jack Weinstock, and Willie Gilbert, with a score by Frank Loesser. Way Off Broadway's production is directed by Jessica Billones, with choreography by Dee Buchanan and music direction by Jordan Stocksdale. The show will run June 23rd through August 12th, with performances every Friday and Saturday evening and Sunday matinees on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday of each month. Tickets for dinner and the show on a Friday or Sunday are \$55 per person and \$59 on a Saturday. To purchase tickets, one should contact the Box Office at 301-662-6600. To learn more about How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying, or any of Way Off Broadway's productions, visit the theatre's website at www.wayoffbroadway.com.



### **MOUNT ARTS**

### The importance of old books

#### **Devin Owen** MSMU Class of 2026

he room was warm, and the L lights were dimmed, giving just the right amount of a glow into the store. The warm atmosphere and full shelves invited those passing by to stop in and view the collections, even those passing by on their way to the speakeasy felt the pull to step inside.

Given its recent publication, a fresh off the press copy of The Great Gatsby sat on one of the front row shelves of the store, practically begging to be chosen. The book sat there on display for days, just waiting and waiting to be picked up and read. Yet, days turned into weeks, weeks turned into months, and still the book hadn't been bought. Until one day, when a young girl passing by chose to stop in at the candlelit store and browse the selections. It was as if the book was calling to her, because as soon as she felt the cover and skimmed through the pages, she knew this was the book for her. Scrounging up the two dollars she had made in allowance, the girl spent her hardearned money on the first edition of The Great Gatsby.

The book was read continuously over the years, until it began collecting dust on another shelf; again, waiting to be chosen. The book sat on this shelf until it was

moved to a box, where it stayed for years until the girl-who is now a woman-gave it away to someone who might need it more.

The book ended up in the hands of an older man, who read it; first for himself and then to his children and grandchildren. The book acted as a bonding moment between the family, allowing for a way to stay close during the times of trouble and tribulation that the Great Depression brought. It served as a reminder for the 'good times' (which were had just a few years prior) and a hope for future good to come again.

Passed down generation to generation, the book had made its way from the old man to his son, and the son to his daughter, and then the daughter to her son. The final son was not interested in the novel, or books in general, leaving him with the choice between keeping the family heirloom or giving it away. He chose the latter, as he didn't understand the value held by the item.

Choosing to sell the book, for a hefty price-due to the book now being considered 'vintage'-the final son rid himself of the book and was on his way.

The vintage copy of the novel ended up in the hands of an older woman, as she was given the book as a gift for her 93rd birthday. Her nurse read her a chapter a week, just to spread the reading out some and provide something to look forward to during the home



Old books should be read and re-read, lest we forget what they can teach us.

visits. Again, the book served as a reminder of a time of partying and wildness, giving the sweet, dying lady a piece of joy to refer back to.

Upon the death of the old woman, her daughter was left to go through her things and among said items was the worn yet loved copy of The Great Gatsby, passed from hand-to-hand; person-to-person; and heart-to-heart.

Given her mother's love for the novel, the young woman chose to donate the book to her local library for their 'Vintage Book Sale' coming up, allowing her to share the love and joy brought by the book to others in her community.

On rainy and cold March 25th, 2023, at 10 o'clock in the morning, the sale started, and community members gathered round to see what options were available. The book was set in the section for 'fan favorites' and was set to sell for \$85. And that it did.

A young girl, aged 13 years, came in with her mother to check out the sale and immediately picked out the book. Her budget was only \$25 and that left her heartbroken at the fact that she could buy the written edition of her favorite movie. However, given her intense desire for the

book, her mother bought the book for the girl anyways. The way the child's eyes lit up, the smile that littered her face from ear to ear, and the slight 'happy tap jumps' coming from the girl let everyone know that this was the right choice to be made.

Who knew books had such an effect on people? Who knew how much joy and love could be shared to the world from just a few words on paper? The life of a book never ends, for it lives on in the heart and soul of all those who have read it.

To read past Mount Arts articles, visit the Author's section of Emmitsburg.net.





### **CATOCTIN SPORTS**

### Spring sports on the homestretch

Meghan Gray, were featured on The

Gina Lin CHS Class of 2024

Catoctin's athletic program has performed very well this season in various sports especially, baseball and softball, lacrosse, and track. The success of Catoctin's sports teams counter some of the bittersweetness experienced from the senior class's departure.

Cougars softball is heading to state championships this year. Playoffs began on May 8th with both Catoctin softball and baseball earning top seeds. The contentious CMC championship took place on May 15th at Hood College against Urbana High School. Urbana won the CMC's with a score of 2-1.

The region quarter finals began on May 11th, the Cougars advanced to region semifinals on a bye. The Cougars blew away the opponent in the region semifinals on May 15th. Catoctin won 16-0 against Clear Spring High School. The Cougars faced Williamsport High School (whom they fell to last year) in the region finals on May 17th and pulled away with a 3-0 victory. State quarterfinals took place on May 19th, the Cougars played Allegany High School. The Cougars gave their best and prevailed 1-0 against Allegany. Smith led the team by striking out 19 of the 22 batters with her signature riseballs. The state semifinals competition will be held on May 23rd at the Bachman Sports Complex against Mardela High School from Wicomico County.

Catoctin's star softball players, sophomore Taylor Smith, and junior

Final Score podcast. Many of Smith's and Gray's achievements were highlighted. For example, Taylor Smith increased her strikeouts from 200 to 300 in just a month. They also discussed their teams performance during regular season games. Gray acknowledged that the team wasn't to their fullest capabilities during regular season games, given that many players were injured including Gray herself. This affected Smith's pitching, as the two would practice pitching and catching. But, freshman Kassidy Kreitz stepped up to assume Gray's role and performed well. But, Gray noted that the team is in good shape heading into state competitions.

Smith commented, "Having someone behind the plate and having a hitter to count on is reassuring," Smith commented about Gray. Gray reciprocated positive comments of her teammate by describing Smith as, "always putting in 110% when she's at work, there's never an off day for her." Smith, also a star basketball player, described her struggles to balance multiple sports. "Sometimes there is softball practice right after basketball." The players seemed pretty confident about the team this year as they learned their previous mistakes. The loss to Williamsport last year dring state quarterfinals was unexpected. Gray said, " [We need to] focus on one game at a time."

Smith likes the pressure being put on her because the success of the game is determined by her pitching. "I'll make sure that I can pitch to the best of my ability." But, Gray highlighted that they can only prevail in states if they have a strong team. She gave credit to unsung players like Carli Mazaleski, for hitting second, and Kassidy Kreitz. Gray exclaimed, "That girl hits the ball so hard." Additionally, Madison Ohler is center fielder and leads the outfield which is relatively weak. The softball team sure is poised to take on competition at states.

The baseball team did pretty well this season also. On May 9th, the Cougars headed to the Central Maryland Conference championship against Urbana High School, the top seed in the 4A region. The game ended on an unprecedented note, as the Cougars and Hawks were crowned as co-champions. The game was called off due to darkness at the beginning of the eighth inning. By that time, seven innings were played in two and a half hours. During the duration of the game, each team took turns making advances but ultimately ended in a tie 3-3. The teams don't play against each other during the regular season; they were waiting to see how it would unfold.

The Cougars automatically qualified for the region semifinals, on a bye from region quarterfinals. Catoctin dominated the field during the region semifinals on May 13th against Williamsport High School with a win of 6-0. The Cougars fell short of qualifying for states. The region finals were held on May 16th against Clear Spring High School. Clear Spring advanced to states with a 3-0 victory against the Cougarsit's almost like deja vu from last year's regional finals. The Cougars performed well overall and met their coaches expectations, considering the relative youth of the team.

Cougars boys lacrosse has noticed some significant improvement since the previous season. The team was ranked second in the Gambrill divi-



Catoctin's star softball player, Meghan Gray, anchors the team in catching and pitching.

sion with four wins and one loss; and nine wins and three losses overall. Some exceptional players include senior Jameson Doll, juniors Vince Reaver and Charles Dougherty. Doll has a total of 37 goals and 20 assists this season, as of May 11th. The team qualified for the Central Maryland Conference Gambrill Division championship, on May 4th, against Smithsburg High School. Smithsburg made headway in the first half, leading by five.

The Cougars pulled themselves together and earned a few points in the second half. In the end the team couldn't squeeze past Smithsburg. But, Cat lax (the informal nickname for the team) did make progress in 1A regional competitions. The Cougars beat the Brunswick High Railroaders in the regional semifinals and advanced to finals. The regional finals took place on May 15th against Smithsburg High Leopards. The Cougars weren't able to push past the Leopards and in the end the latter won 10-9.

The track team continues to make headlines across the nations and stun spectators with the incredible speed and agility of their runners. Junior Furious Trammel was named Athlete of the Week by the Frederick News-Post after his performance at the Frederick County Championships. Trammel set a new record in the 400 meter dash with a time of 48.75, the previous record was held by another Catoctin runner with 48.86. Brody Buffington also broke records in both the 100 meter and 200 meter dash at championships. The 1A West Region Championships were held on May 18-19 at Boonsboro High. Buffington and Trammel took first and second respectively in the preliminaries. In the 200 meter dash, Buffington placed first and Asher Clingerman ran a personal best of 22.62 which earned him second. The Cougars also conquered the 4 x 200 relay with a time of 1:31.31 minutes. The team consisted of Dennis Lease, Shaymus Stull, Asher Clingerman, and Brody Buffington. The finals took place the following day. The Cougars were narrowly defeated by Mountain Ridge High for first place, as Catoctin was only 10 points shy.

Catoctin High School sure has had an eventful sports year. The community has much to be proud of, from girls' basketball to unified bocce. The end of the regular spring season serves as an appropriate conclusion to this school year; and is a great reflection of the Cougars capabilities.

To read past Catoctin Sports articles, visit the Current Events section of Emmitsburg.net.





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### MOUNT SPORTS

# Lynne Robinson retires from role as Athletic Director

#### **Steve Morano** MSMU Class of 2024

For the first time in sixteen years, Mount Saint Mary's University will have a new person in the Athletic Director's office. This comes as long-time athletic director, Lynne Robinson, announced her retirement from the Mount earlier this year. She took the job in 2007, ascending from many different roles within the athletic department to overseeing it all. In exiting from her tenure as director, she ends a very illustrious career not only at the Mount, but within the whole ecosystem of college athletics that has changed so much since her graduation from the Mount in 1979.

Robinson, who is an Emmitsburg native, grew up around the Mount. This was due obviously to her proximity to the institution but also because of her father, legendary Mount basketball coach and member of the College Basketball Hall of Fame, Jim Phelan. Phelan was head coach of the men's basketball team at the Mount from 1953 to 2003 and logged 830 career wins as coach. With her parents' involvement in both the Emmitsburg community and the Mount community, it was a no-brainer where Robinson was to attend college. Before attending the Mount, Robinson joined the Fairfield Striders, a girls' track team in nearby Fairfield, Pennsylvania that toured across the country. This was at a time when women's and girls' sports were still very undervalued, even at the Mount, which at the time, was still a male-only institution. This experience with the Striders eventually led her to play sports at St. Joseph's High School in Emmitsburg, which only closed its doors in 1982.

In 1975, Robinson attended the Mount for her first year of college and immediately became involved in athletics. The Mount had only been co-ed for three years at that point, so the population of the school was still very uneven. But Robinson and the rest of the female athletes at the

university, with Robinson being a part of one of the first women's basketball teams at the school, coached by Mount legend and former NBA player, Fred Carter. "There was a group of us that played two or three sports," Robinson explained, "we would be at field hockey practice, we would also have our sneakers with us, we would leave practice at 6:00, go eat dinner and then go over to the gym to have basketball practice!" However, in the fall of her senior year, Robinson tore her ACL and due to a lack of athletic trainers in the department, they did not diagnose it. As a result, Robinson did not play out the rest of her senior year at the Mount.

From that point of her injury, Robinson started to see athletics differently, from a new angle. After graduation, she went back to her high school to coach and teach. Eventually, the Mount added a track and field program. At that point in the Mount's athletic history, they were a AIAW affiliated school for women's sports looking to move to the NCAA; to do that, they had to have women administrators within their athletic program to meet the requirements of Title IX, which was passed in 1972. Along with coaching women's track and field, Robinson became the Coordinator of Women's Athletics in 1982.

Robinson was also involved with the jump from Division 2 to Division 1 in 1989. With that, the University needed to hire a coordinator for athletics to make sure they were in accords with all the NCAA rules. This led to Robinson getting her first full time job in the Athletic Department as a whole, being hired as the Compliance Coordinator in 1997. She stopped being the coach of the women's track and field team but kept the role of Coordinator of Women's Athletics, just under a different name to the position. This was the role that finally cemented her status as an athletic administrator at the Mount. At this point, the Mount kept adding sports, especially new women's sports, and Robinson oversaw all of this, being named Assistant Athletic Director in the early 2000's. The adding and further progression of women's sports at the Mount under the supervision of Robinson eventually led to her being named to the role of Athletic Director in 2007 after the retirement of Harold "Chappy" Menninger.

Throughout her time as athletic director, Robinson has experienced many highs and lows within the department. "Around 2012 or 2013, there were some cuts that the university made, and unfortunately, some of the sports had to be cut, both men's and women's golf along with men's soccer," she said. "Putting away those three sports was the most challenging time professionally because of the impact it had on the student-athletes in the programs including all the alumni associated with the programs as well." It was a great achievement for both Robinson, the athletic department and the great alumni network that Mount sports fosters to end up bringing all three of the programs back and to greater success. "For me, the blessing has been all the really great colleagues that I've met through the years at the



Lynne Robinson began her sixteen-year tenure as Mount Athletic Director in 2007.

Mount; it has really been the student-athletes-that has been the true blessing and the memories that will keep on," Robinson said. Robinson has been part of the Mount community in many different ways her whole life. From growing up in the Mount community because of her parents, to her role in the early days of women's sports at the university. This legacy that she has built for herself ultimately culminated in her work within the administration of the athletic department itself, leading her to become the first female Athletic Director in the university's 215-year history. In

her tenure as Athletic Director, Robinson has seen the growth in many different aspects of all of the athletic programs. From the unbridled success of many of the teams in NCAA competitions, to the further promotion and success of women's sports, to the future updates to the athletic facilities coming in the next few years set in motion by Robinson, she has left her impact on the athletic program and the history of the university in a massive way.

To read past Mount Sports articles, visit the Current Events section of Emmitsburg.net.





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# **COMPLEMENTARY CORNER**

# Being part of the oneness

#### Renee Lehman

bday, modern quantum physics tells us everything is energy (or Qi). Quantum physics also presents the theory of a unified field; that, at the deepest level of reality, in the energy field, everything in creation is connected. Separation is an illusion. Who we are, is pure consciousness or Oneness, expressing itself in different forms at different times in our evolution. In fact, David Bohm, PhD, American-born quantum physicist, philosopher, and neuropsychologist (one of the most significant theoretical physicists of the 20th century and born in Wilkes-Barre, PA!), said: "In some sense man is a microcosm of the universe; therefore, what man is, is a clue to the universe. We are enfolded in the universe." He also said, "Deep down, the consciousness of mankind is one."

An example in Nature of the Oneness expressing itself in different forms could be the following: Imagine your favorite flower (mine is a Zinnia, so

I'll use it). Basically, a Zinnia plant has roots, a stem, leaves, and blossoms. Each part of the Zinnia has a role to play for the WHOLE Zinnia to be healthy and for bees to want to come for the pollen. The roots, stem, leaves, and blossoms must reach their own individual ultimate potential to do their individual job for the WHOLE Zinnia to be beautiful. And guess what? The Zinnia roots never want to be the leaves, and the leaves never get jealous that they are not the blossoms! Diverse parts of the plant come together and are a part of the Oneness of the Zinnia! This cooperation results in beautiful expression of Qi (energy).

Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM), the oldest continuously practiced form of healthcare, is also based on a profound understanding of energy (or Qi). Simply put, without Qi (defined as Universal Life Force) there is no life. Qi is the intelligent Universal Life Force of wisdom, consciousness, and purpose. As Qigong Grand Master Nan Lu, OMD says, "Everything is Qi. All Qi has consciousness. All consciousness has a purpose."

TCM is based in Taoism (pronounced Dowism) which is a naturebased philosophy. Taoism and TCM start and end with observation of nature. The Tao Te Ching (pronounced Dow Deh Jing), translated as The Book of the Way, was written by Lao Tzu (570-490 BCE). Below is an excerpt from of the Tao Te Ching, translated by Stephen Mitchell:

In the beginning was the Tao. All things issue from it; all things return to it. To find the origin, trace back to the manifestations. When you recognize the children and find the mother, you will be free of sorrow. If you close your mind in judgements and traffic with desires, your heart will be troubled. If you keep your mind from judging and aren't led by the senses, your heart will find peace. Seeing into darkness is clarity. Knowing how to yield is strength. Use your own light and return to the



source of light. This is called practicing eternity. (Chapter 52)

A modern perspective on Chapter 52 will require you to ask the following question: "Where do you come from?" You come from the Oneness. The Oneness that has no beginning or end. It is the potential of all things; manifests all things; disintegrates all things; is at one with all things. Change is Oneness's constant. Oneness is the essence of peace and harmony. Therefore, flow in peace and harmony by remembering the Oneness of all things.

So, thousands of years after the beginnings of TCM, scientists like Albert Einstein and quantum physicists like David Bohm arrived at a similar conclusion through scientific research: Everything is energy, and in the energy field, everything is connected.

This may be challenging to understand. As David Bohm said, "We often find that we cannot easily give up the tendency to hold rigidly to patterns of thought built up over a long time. We are then caught up in what may be called absolute necessity. This kind of thought leaves no room at all intellectually for any other possibility, while emotionally and physically, it means we take a stance in our feelings, in our bodies, and indeed, in our whole culture, of holding back or resisting. This stance implies that under no circumstances whatsoever can we allow ourselves to give up certain things or change them.' So, let me use a real-life business illustration of how we are all a part of the Oneness. Imagine your dentist's office. There is probably a receptionist, a person in the billing department, a dental hygienist, a dental assistant, and of course, a dentist. The Entire Office represents the Oneness. Each person plays a different role; however, no matter how diverse they are, they are all a part of the Oneness of the Office. Each person plays a significant role in the office coming together as Oneness. It is important for each person to be accountable for themselves, and to reach their ultimate potential so that the WHOLE Office will function at its ultimate potential (operates smoothly and efficiently and provides positive outcomes for each patient). Diverse individuals come together, using their individually recognized gifts as a part of the Oneness of the dental Office.

So, energy being, how can you begin to 'see' and experience how you are part of the Oneness? First, I challenge you to take some time for reflection and introspection on what your unique gifts are. Once you recognize these gifts, appreciate them. Acknowledge how your gift fits into the Oneness, and then be accountable for sharing/using these gifts.

Secondly, look at yourself in the mirror. Every part of your physical body is part of the Oneness of YOU. Your ears, eyes, shoulders, etc. each play an important role in you reaching your ultimate potential. How are you taking care of each part of your body to achieve health and wellbeing? There are many ways to achieve health and wellbeing. I would encourage you to consider beginning a Qigong practice. As Grand Master Nan Lu, OMD says, "Qigong is the paththe energy exercise that allows you to become part of the Universe. Qigong is much more than just energy work. Qi is Universal power and Universal life. Qigong movements help you build your connection to this Universal life. Through Qigong, you become the mirror of the Universe-the wisdom of the Universe."

"A human being is a part of the whole called by us universe, a part limited in time and space. He experiences himself, his thoughts and feeling as something separated from the rest, a kind of optical delusion of his consciousness. This delusion is a kind of prison for us, restricting us to our personal desires and to affection for a few persons nearest to us. Our task must be to free ourselves from this prison by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature in its beauty." -Albert Einstein



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To read past Complementary Corner articles, visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.

### **FITNESS & HEALTH**

### Incontinence and water retention are helped by exercise

#### Linda Stultz Certified Fitness Trainer

Many changes occur in our bodies because our life and health change over the years. I was thinking about what to write for the next article and ask a friend if she had any ideas. She is a Continence Nurse and she suggested writing about Incontinence and Leg Swelling, both of which exercise may help. She was kind enough to give me some information. I will attempt to share a little information about how exercise may help improve the symptoms of these conditions.

As always recommended, see your doctor or health professional to make sure what is causing your concern and if you may need further medical care. It has been discovered that women wait about 6 years before going to their doctor to address the problem and men wait even longer before having it checked. Many times there can be a simple, non-invasive solution to the condition so going sooner rather than later is important. If you are having either of these issues do a little research, talk to a friend or family member you know is having the same problem, or make an appointment with your health provider. Waiting may make it harder to correct and early detection of anything is always helpful.

tinence. Many people find that as they age their bladder muscles weaken and leaks occur when they lift something, exercise or even just do daily activities. You don't have to be older to experience this, it can happen with anyone. Incontinence can cause infections, rash, embarrassing mishaps just to mention a few things. You can find exercises that may strengthen your muscles and lessen leaks. I am always telling people to walk for exercise but I was surprised to learn that walking is a great way to strengthen your pelvic floor muscles.

Walking 20 to 60 minuets a day will not only help with flexibility, weight control and cardio health but it may also help with bladder issues. Pelvic floor exercises can also help with bladder control issues. These are not Kegel exercises which we hear so much about. Kegel exercises are often recommended for leakage problems and are important. One exercise I learned about was standing with feet pointing outward, hip width apart. Bend and roll your knees out. Straighten and roll your knees in. Small knee bends not deep bends. Repeat 5-10 times. Another exercise is sitting and holding a soft ball or pillow between your knees. Pivot your heals and rotate your toes towards each other. These are just

First, let us start with inconnence. Many people find that they age their bladder muscles eaken and leaks occur when they

> The second condition that may be helped with regular exercise is Leg Swelling. You know how tired and painful being on your feet all day can be. The first thing we think of is getting home and putting our feet up on the recliner. Sometimes that's the best thing to do. Before we get to the fatigued leg condition it may be helpful to plan a regular walk in our daily routine. This can strengthen our leg muscles so that they don't get so exhausted and sore in the first place. Walking is a great exercise to start with if you want to begin an exercise routine. I know I say that a lot, but it really is the place to start.

> Any exercise program has to start somewhere and most people need to work up to a more challenging exercise routine. Starting too much, too heavy and too hard is just setting yourself up for injury or burnout. Listen to your body and you will know when and how much to increase. Another important part of any exercise is being sure to keep your body hydrated. I know I am talking about leg swelling and that may sound opposite because leg swelling often comes from water retention but your body needs proper hydration to function to it's full capacity. Walking and leg stretches and exercises strengthen the muscles and helps circulation through your legs. Good circulation not only helps blood flow but also helps prevent water retention and inflammation all through your body.

I know you have heard some of these statements before but it never hurts to refresh it again. I am grateful to the very knowledgeable nurse who gave me the idea for this article and the information she shared with me. I hope something in this

article will help you and encourage you to see your health provider if you are experiencing any of these issues. Also, if you have been thinking about starting an exercise program, now is a great time to begin. Remember to keep moving!



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### ASTRONOMY

## The night sky of June

**Professor Wayne Wooten** 

or June, the "Honeymoon", June's Full Moon, is on June 3rd. The last quarter moon passed below Saturn on June 10th, rising after midnight. The waning crescent sits just to the lower left of Jupiter in the dawn on June 14th. It will be just above Mercury about 40 minutes before sunrise on June 16th. It is new on June 18th.

Back in the evening sky, the waning crescent makes a fine triangle in the west with brilliant Venus to the lower left of it, and much fainter Mars to upper left of both of them. Summer begins with the Summer Solstice at 10:58 on June 21st, the longest day of the year. We get about 14 hours of daylight now. The first quarter moon is June 24.

While the naked eye, dark adapted by several minutes away from any bright lights, is a wonderful instrument to stare up into deep space, far bed our own Milky Way, binoculars are better for spotting specific deep sky objects. For a detailed map of northern hemisphere skies, visit the www. skymaps.com website and download the map for the northern hemisphere skies in June; it will have a more extensive calendar, and list of best objects for the naked eyes, binoculars, and scopes on the back of the map.

There is also a video exploring the June sky from the Hubble Space Telescope website at:



#### The summer solstice results for the tilt of the Earth's rotational axis. The Earth's axis or rotation is 23.5 degrees. During the northern hemisphere's summer, the top half for the Earth is tilted towards the sun, making the days longer than in the southern hemisphere's. The longest day of the year is called the Summer Solstice.

www.hubblesite.org/explore\_ astronomy/tonights\_sky. Sky & Telescope has highlights at www. skyandtelescope.com/observing/ astronomy-podcasts/ for observing the sky each week of the month.

This June Mercury lies between us and the sun until midmonth, when it moves into the dawn sky just to below the crescent moon on June 16th. Brilliant Venus dominates the dusk for a few more weeks, to pass between us and the Sun in July. It is a greatest eastern elongation, appearing half lit in telescopes, on June 3rd. It seems to be chasing Mars to its upper left, never quite catches up. They are closest, 3.6 degrees apart, at month's end, but by then, Venus is retrograding back toward the Sun, and now appears

only 32% lit crescent. It is now 33" of arc across, and this crescent will be easily observable in hand held binoculars well into July. It is easiest to see this phase in bright twilight, before the planet, now at its brightest, overwhelms the eye's view.

With our smartphone telescopes scopes we can easily adjust the exposure down to 1/10,000" and catch the phase, and perhaps cloud details, with the new filters and technology. Mars is getting closer to the Sun each evening, and like Venus, will disappear behind the Sun by July. Jupiter and Saturn are both in the dawn sky now, and will not get back for evening observing until this fall.

The Big Dipper is almost overhead as twilight falls, and its pointers take you north to the Pole Star. If you drop south from the bowl of the Big Dipper, Leo the Lion is in the SW. Note the Egyptian Sphinx is based on the shape of this Lion in the sky. Taking the arc in the Dipper's handle, we "arc" SE to bright orange Arcturus, the brightest star of Spring. Cooler than our yellow Sun, and much poorer in heavy elements, some believe its strange motion reveals it to be an invading star from another smaller galaxy, now colliding with the Milky Way in Sagittarius in the summer sky. Moving almost perpendicular to the plane of our Milky Way, Arcturus was the first star in the sky where its proper motion across the historic sky was noted, by Edmund Halley.

Spike south to Spica, the hot blue star in Virgo, then curve to Corvus the Crow, a four sided grouping. Jupiter lies just east of Spica this July. North of Corvus, in the arms of Virgo, is where our large scopes will show members of the Virgo Supercluster, a swarm of over a thousand galaxies about 50 million light years distant.

To the east, Hercules is well up, with the nice globular cluster M-13 marked on your sky map and visible in binocs. The brightest star of the northern hemisphere, Vega (from Carl Sagan's novel and movie, "Contact"), rises in the NE as twilight deepens. Twice as hot as our Sun, it appears blue-white, like most bright stars. At the opposite end of the parallelogram of Lyra is M-57, the Ring Nebula. It is visible with large binoculars, but does not show its fine colors and faint central white dwarf until you get to time exposure with a telescope.

Northeast of Lyra is Cygnus, the Swan, flying down the Milky Way. Its bright star Deneb, at the top of the "northern cross" is one of the luminaries of the Galaxy,

about 50,000 times more luminous than our Sun and around 3,000 light years distant. Under dark skies, note the "Great Rift", a dark nebula in front of our solar system as we revolve around the core of the Milky Way in the Galactic Year of 250 million of our own years.

To the east, Altair is the third bright star of the summer triangle. It lies in Aquila the Eagle, and is much closer than Deneb; it lies within about 13 light years of our Sun. Use your binocs to pick up many clusters in this rich region of our own Cygnus spiral arm rising now in the east. The nearest spiral arms of our Milky Way are now on the eastern horizon, and may be mistaken for a cloud rising if you are not used to the transparency of rural skies! They arc overhead in the morning hours for restless campers.

To the south, Antares is well up at sunset in Scorpius. It appears reddish (its Greek name means rival of Ares or Mars to the Latins) 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! Scorpius is the brightest constellation in the sky, with 13 stars brighter than the pole star Polaris! Note the fine naked eye clusters M-6 and M-7, just to the left of the Scorpion's tail.

Just a little east of the Scorpion's tail is the teapot shape of Sagittarius, which lies toward the center of the Milky Way. From a dark sky site, you can pick out the fine stellar nursery, M-8, the Lagoon Nebula, like a cloud of steam coming out of the teapot's spout.



#### Farmers' Almanac

"By the time a man realizes that maybe his father was right, he usually has a son who thinks he's wrong". -Charles Wadsworth

Mid-Atlantic Weather Watch: Dry and comfortable (1, 2, 3, 4, 5); 6-10 turning very warm and humid, then scattered PM thunderstorms (6, 7, 8, 9, 10); 11-15 fair, cooler at first, then becoming hot and humid with isolated p.m. showers (11, 12, 13, 14, 15); warm and humid, then turning stormy with PM showers and thunderstorms (16, 17, 18, 19, 20); dry and warm (21); late-day thunderstorms, best chance east; still warm and humid (22, 23, 24, 25); 26-30 dry at first, then isolated PM showers and thunderstorms west; hot and humid (26, 27, 28, 29, 30).

Strawberry Moon because the first strawberries of the season become ripe for the picking in June! It has also been known as Rose Moon because roses start to show their gorgeous blooms at the beginning of the month.

required in June of fast-growing plants, such as juniper, privet and yew. This will help promote new growth and also maintain a desirable shape during the growing season. Transplant when the rainy season starts but remember that working in the garden when plant leaves are wet can spread many diseases.

Special Notes: The Summer Sol- The Farm: Best for planting root stice that will occur on Wednesday, crops (14, 15); weeding and stirring the soil (16, 17); planting above-ground crops (1, 2, 18, 19, 20); harvesting all crops (3, 4); the best days for setting hens and incubators (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30); the slaughtering and butchering of meat (17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25); transplanting (17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25); the weaning of all small animals and livestock (3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11); the harvesting and storing grains (10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16).

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Severe Weather Watch: The Almanac sees excessive heat (14, 15), severe thunderstorms (22, with more excessive heat (29, 30).

Full Moon: The Full Moon in June will occur on Saturday, June 3rd. It has often been referred to as June 21st, signaling the officially start of summer (it's finally here!).

Holidays: Proudly display 'Old Glory' on Wednesday, June 14th! Be sure to display it properly. Father's Day is Sunday, June 19th. Do something really nice for the guy who a) taught you how to ride a two-wheeler b) videotaped every sporting event or recital you ever were in, c) helped you finance that new (fill in the blank), or d) all of the above!

The Garden: Cut back perennials like Shasta daisy, black-eyed Susan, coneflower, and lavender after first bloom to encourage a second round of flowers in the Fall. Cut back fuchsia, geranium, and margarita to encourage branching. Additional pruning may be

#### J. Gruber's Thought For Today's Living

"Send your son into the world with good principles, a good temper, a good business education, and habits of industry, then he will work his way."

### **COMPUTER Q&A**

### Cookies: What are they and how do they work?

#### Aysë Stenabaugh Jester's Computer

Simmer down Cookie Monster, we're not talking about the edible kind, we're talking about the cookies that live inside your computer. We receive a lot of questions surrounding cookies and we've found that there's a lot of misinformation surrounding them. In simple terms, a cookie is a small text file stored on your computer when you visit websites, this file contains a unique id for your computer system. This information can later be recalled by websites to accomplish varying tasks.

Cookies are used for varying purposes and they aren't all bad. If you've ever visited a shopping website and put products in your cart only to leave the website and return later and see that the products you chose are still in your cart, you've encountered a cookie! The data that was stored inside that cookie, identified your machine as the one that had those products in the cart, when you returned to the website, the text file on your computers hard drive was recalled by the website which resulted in the products appearing still in your cart. When you visit a website and choose to save your login information, cookies are where that data is stored so that it can be recalled the next time you visit a website.

This is not the same as when you save your password to your device, only a string of letters and numbers along with the website associated with that content is stored within the cookie on your machine. While on some websites, especially high-security websites like banking or healthcare sites, you may have noticed that you will be logged out after so much time of inactivity, or asked if you want to remain logged in after you have been on the website for some time. The type of cookie that you're encountering in these instances are session cookies, they are only active for a specified amount of time.

Cookies are a common concern for many users as internet privacy continues to be a hot topic. One thing that many users dislike about tracking cookies is that they are often used for advertisement and cookies can sometimes be annoying or seem invasive, they are typically used to achieve some benefit.

Cookies can be malicious which is why you should always have good internet security software installed on your machine. Most free products will only offer basic protection and are never recommended for those that do online banking or shopping. It's important that you also keep your web browsers up to date so that the built-in security features are functioning properly and provide maximum protection.

Cookies can be deleted from your computer. Most of the time you can clear your browsing data by accessing the tools or options screen can be accessed when your web browser is open, either in the top left corner or

along the right-hand side towards the top, if no menu appears in the top left you can locate the menu on the right side by clicking on the grouping of 3 horizontal or verticle lines or dots (depending on the web browser and version). Before you delete your cookies ensure that you know any usernames that you automatically sign-in with. If you aren't saving your password within the browser, depending on your settings, any automatically filled in username or email address may need to be entered in manually upon your next visit to a website that requires logging in.

If you're seeking quality computer repair or technology services consider contacting us at Jester's Computer Service. For over 20 years our family-owned and operated business has provided our customers with personable affordable services. Among other things we offer paid Antivirus you can trust, remote sup-

port services, and one-on-one technology training. Visit us on the web at www.jesterscomputers.com or contact us at 717-642-6611 to schedule an appointment at our contactless drop-off table.





targeting purposes. A good example of a tracking cookie is when you visit a shopping website or search for a specific product and then later see an advertisement related to the product or search that you completed.

Website owners rely on tracking cookies to determine information about website visitors such as how many times they have visited the same website, where the visitor is located, and which web browser is being used to access their website. This information can be priceless for webmasters or website owners so that they can improve their content and website functionality. Social media is another platform that requires cookies, when you visit a website that has a share button or a comment section, tracking cookies are being used to make that feature available. As you can see, although

### **COMMUNITY NOTES**

## American Legion to host golf tournament benefiting Platoon 22

American Legion, Post 168 is holding our 2nd Annual Golf Tournament on June 23. The tournament is a 4-person scramble, registration and putting contest will begin at 7:30 a.m. with a Shotgun start at 9 a.m.

We are accepting 20 teams so make

nce again, the Thurmont sure to register as soon as possible. The registration fee is \$300 prior to June 1st and \$340 after. Due to this article being late, mention the Emmitsburg News-Journal on your registration and you will still receive the early registration fee. Each player will receive 2 beer tickets to use at the beer cart that will be cruising the golf course.

We would like to recognize our top tier sponsors from our tournament in 2022: Woodsboro Bank, Beckley's Camping Center, Right at Home, Mason Acacia Lodge No. 155, Mountain View Lawn Service and State Line Plumbing and Heating.

Thanks to our Hole Sponsors and

Prize Sponsors for their generous donation.

The tournament will benefit a wonderful organization in Frederick, Platoon 22, Veteran Focused Transitional Services. They recently opened a new Veteran Service Center on Monocacy Blvd., Frederick.

If you would like to help (even if





you are not a golfer) there are three levels of Sponsorship

- \$375 your Business Name and Logo will be displayed at one of the holes on the golf course, included in all advertising and listed on a banner at the event.
- \$100 your Business name and Logo will be displayed at one of the holes on the golf course.
- On-the-Course competition and raffle sponsors: merchandise, gift cards, gift baskets, &c, are some of the items needed to reward the winners for and for the after-dinner raffle drawing.

Following the golf tournament, you will be served a delicious meal, at the Thurmont Legion, 8 Park Lane. Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places, as well as 'closest to the pin' on all Par 3's and for all you hammers, Longest drive for men, seniors and ladies. The raffle drawing will be held during or after the meal.

For Registration forms contact Rick Hall at 240-626-4660 or email Rick at foundconfused@yahoo.com.

The American Legion is always trying to assist our fellow Veterans the best way we can. How about you? Come play golf or donate to a great cause to help our Veterans who traveled all over the world in conflicts or in peace, leaving spouses and families behind, to keep us safe here at home in the greatest of all countries, the United States of America!

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FIND NEW ROADS

### **COMMUNITY NOTES**

#### Frederick County Recognized for Success of Reforestation Work

The Division of Energy and Environment (DEE) has received Maryland's People Loving and Nurturing Trees (PLANT) Award. The award is issued by The Maryland Association of District Forestry Boards in partnership with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. Their PLANT Award program annually recognizes communities that prioritize and actively care for their trees and are committed to improving their forested areas' overall health and sustainability. Frederick County has achieved "Green" status, the program's highest award level, which acknowledges the County's sustained commitment to forest conservation.

The DEE's Department of Stormwater implements multiple projects and programs to increase forested land in Frederick County. Since 2018, they have planted over 161,000 trees and reforested more than 584 acres. Trees planted include species such as Northern Red Oak, Persimmon, Sugar Maple, Redbud, American Plum, Bald Cypress, Black Walnut, Sycamore, and River Birch, among other native plants that will benefit the local environment and create or improve wildlife habitat.

Increasing the number of trees in our community provides many tangible benefits and is part of Frederick County's work to combat climate change and protect the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem. Trees absorb carbon dioxide and pollutants from the atmosphere, prevent soil erosion, help moderate extreme temperature fluctuations, increase biodiversity, reduce stormwater runoff, and improve water quality. Trees and forests also provide a range of economic benefits, from timber products to local tourism.

"We are honored to receive this recognition from the State of Maryland," said Project Manager Linda Williamson. "The Creek ReLeaf program has a tremendous positive impact on our watershed today, and its benefits will last for future generations. It is wonderful to have that success acknowledged, and we are excited to continue to grow our work- and our forests!"

National Arbor Day is celebrated each year on the last Friday in April. It is an event that recognizes the importance of trees and the value of planting them to maintain healthy communities. Residents are encouraged to visit the DEE website at www.frederickcountymd.gov/ SustainableFCMD to learn more about Creek ReLeaf reforestation and see lists of upcoming community tree planting events, litter cleanups, and other opportunities to participate in environmental programs. Those interested in these projects can also follow the DEE Facebook page and join the community conversation at www.Facebook.com/SustainableFCMD.

#### County Calls For Applications For Critical Farms Program

The Frederick Agricultural Land Preservation Program has opened up an application cycle for the Frederick County Critical Farms program. The Critical Farms program assists full-time farmers in purchasing farmland and also works to preserve the land.

Since the Critical Farms program began in 1994, it has assisted 60 farmers in acquiring farms and preserved more than 8,400 acres of farmland.

The program was created to help farmers compete with non-farmer buyers who oftentimes have resources not available to farmers and therefore are in a more competitive position to buy farmland. Through the program, the County pays the farm buyers for an option to acquire an easement. The option agreement requires the new farm owner to apply to either the state easement program and/ or other governmental land preservation programs for a period of five years.

In order to apply, applicants must have a ratified contract of sale on a farm that meets the program's minimum criteria. Interested applicants should contract Land Preservation Planner II Shannon O'Neil at 301-600-1411 or via email at SONeil@FrederickCountyMD.gov by Thursday, June 1.

Critical Farms is one of several agricultural preservation programs managed by the Frederick County Division of Planning and Permitting. Together, the programs have preserved over 75,000 acres of farmland, of which 71,315 acres have been permanently preserved.

#### County Unveils New Website Design

Visitors to Frederick County Government's website will see a new design and improved ease of use. The site, FrederickCountyMD.gov, began rolling out a new look mid-day Tuesday. The entire site should reflect the change by the end of the day. The new design features larger images, a high-contrast background, and quick links that reflect the most commonly visited pages. New calendars on the home page will help residents find upcoming meetings and broadcasts.

"I am excited to launch the new website," County Executive Jessica Fitzwater said. "Thousands of people use the site each day, and this redesign should make it easier for them to find the information they need. The Transition Team recommended an overhaul of the site to be more constituent-focused, and that is exactly what we've done."

Frederick County Government's website is responsively designed so people viewing on mobile devices can easily find content. There is a pop-up chat option that answers common questions, as well as links to FCG FixIt, the County's constituent services app for reporting issues, asking questions, or submitting compliments. Three new Government Happenings calendars feature meeting information for County Council sessions, boards and commission meetings, and FCG TV programming. A Google Translate button can be found on each page of the site. CivicPlus hosts Frederick County's site. The company worked with Frederick County's Interagency Information Technology Division, the Office of Communications and Public Engagement, and representatives from each division to overhaul the website.

#### Frederick County Announces Drone Show for 275th Jubilee

The Frederick County 275th Planning Committee announced that they will have an official grand finale to include Frederick County's first-ever synchronized drone show at their upcoming jubilee on June 10th.

Sky Elements, of Dallas, Texas, will illuminate the night's sky over Utica District Park. The show will feature 150 drones, customized from 10 key categories: Agriculture, Business and Economy, Changing Communities, Education, Foundations (History), Government, Great Outdoors, Looking Forward (Today & Tomorrow), Tourism, and Transportation.

The drone show will begin at 9:20 p.m. and will run for approximately 15 minutes. The show viewing area will be located by the main stage. In the event of severe weather, only the drone portion of the event will be rescheduled to the following day, June 11, at the same time.

Frederick County's 275th Anniversary Jubilee is being held June 10, from 3 to 10 p.m. at Utica District Park, rain or shine. The free event includes something for everyone-families, history enthusiasts, and anyone looking for a fun way to spend a Saturday.

Additional event details including the schedule of events, an event map, and more information about Frederick County's 275th Jubilee will be updated to frederickcountymd.gov/275jubilee.

#### Application Period For Annual Sustainability Awards Now Open

The Frederick County Sustainability Commission is now accepting nominations for its annual Sustainability Awards program, which recognizes individuals and organizations who have demonstrated a commitment to environmental stewardship. The application period is open through June 30.

The volunteer members of the Sustainability Commission provide a community-based perspective to Frederick County Government on sustainability-related issues. The Commission works to ensure that the natural environment's importance and relevance are recognized so that Frederick County will continue to prosper as a healthy, abundant, affordable, and inspiring place to live and work. To that end, their Sustainability Awards recognize the efforts of those who have demonstrated leadership and a commitment to environmentally-sound practices.

Applicants include individuals, students, businesses, and non-profit organizations that have significantly contributed to Frederick County's sustainability initiatives. Examples of outstanding efforts include but are not limited to, implementing energy efficiency programs, encouraging the use of renewable energy, improving air and water quality, conserving resources and recycling, enhancing natural habitats, and other actions that help the community "go green." The Commission reviews all applications; winners will be announced later this year and acknowledged in a special event.

Those interested in the awards program can find more information and online applications on the Frederick County Government website: www. frederickcountymd.gov. More information can also be obtained by contacting Lindsey Humphrey at 240-772-0390 or by email at LHumphrey@Frederick-CountyMD.gov.





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# CONGRESSMAN DAVID TRONE



#### Honoring Senator Ben Cardin's Service to Maryland

Senator Ben Cardin announced last month that he will not run for reelection. First and foremost, this gives us a moment to reflect on Senator Cardin's outstanding career of public service and show our appreciation for the legacy he leaves behind. Ben has served with intelligence and integrity.

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I work for you - not special interests. That's why **I've never taken** a penny from PACs, lobbyists, or corporations - and I never will. Too many people in Maryland are still struggling with the high cost of living and paying their health care bills - that's what I'll work on with both sides to get things done for you, just like I've done as your Congressman.



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