

Emmitsburg NEWS-JOURNAL

VOLUME 2, NO. 7 • WWW.EMMITSBURG.NET • JULY 2010

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Community Day a success!

On Saturday, June 26, the Lions Club held its 28th annual Community Day event, paying tribute to Emmitsburg's Founding Families featuring old-time games that were, today, as they would have been at home 225 years ago, such as horseshoes, tug-of-war, three-legged races, and watermelon and pie eating contests.

Neither the cancellation of the annual Community Day Parade due to the closure of North Seton Ave., nor the sweltering heat dented the enthusiasm of the crowds. People frequented the community pools to cool off between events.

One of the primary features of the annual event was the Lions Club barbecued chicken dinners, that were served all day long. "Many volunteers helped to make the day a success," said Lion president Denise Etris.

"Today, members, board members, friends and families of members, have worked on the event. My best friend has been here since 9 a.m. working in the raffle tent all day, so

we have a lot of volunteers helping with the event," Etris said after the evening program. "And tonight we have fireworks!"

The evening program consisted of a wonderful concert by the Yellow Sprigs Band, which entertained the crowds much as the Old Emmitsburg Coronet Band did 100 years ago.

Joan Boyle was recognized for her years of community service, and college scholarships were awarded during the program by the Lions Club to Maria Smaldone (Dr. Harry Prongas Scholarship), Carolyn Shields (Robert F. Gauff Scholarship), and Samantha Crabtree (Dr. George Morning Scholarship).

In the evening, keynote speaker, Michael Hillman, president of the Emmitsburg Historical Society and Editor of the News-Journal, re-counted the events leading up to founding of the town 225 years ago, and the histories of families that have played sentential roles in the development of the town over the years.

The day's festivities were topped



Long time Horseshoes competitor Richard Valentine tossed a few shoes just to show his winning form.

off by a spectacular firework display that dropped the jaws of kids of all ages. We at the Emmitsburg News-Journal tip our hat to the members of the Emmitsburg Lions Club for what clearly was an exhaustive effort undertaken on behalf of the town.

The Emmitsburg Lions Club reflects the very best in our community and all who live here should tip their hat to them for all they do to make Emmitsburg such a great place to live. Bravo Zulu Lions Club - Bravo Zulu.

Navy Middies take to the air

When you think of pilot training, the first place that comes to mind isn't the United States Naval Academy, but about 40 percent of the officers they graduate each year are aviators. To give these pilots their first taste of flying, the Naval Academy has begun to look for help from the Mid-Atlantic Soaring Association in Fairfield, PA.

"We didn't have a program that gave them (midshipman) any aviation experience before they needed to make a commitment or not to be an aviator," said Commander Brian Randall, the officer supervising the program at the Mid-Atlantic Soaring Association.

So the midshipman themselves came up with the idea of taking midshipmen up on sailplanes to experience flying. It is a less-expensive way to get flying time and some of the midshipmen were already flying sailplanes as a member of the association.

A two-week-long summer program was developed where the midshipmen would get to pilot a glider twice and spend the rest of the time in FAA ground school learning other aspects of flying.

"We like to give the middies at least a 30 minute flight," Randall said.

Last year, 150 midshipmen signed up for the program. This year, more than 400 are tak-

ing the training and are expected to fly around 900 sorties. The program is running in two-week blocks from June 2 to August 18 with six groups of about 65 midshipmen each.

Though the midshipmen from last year haven't decided what path in the Navy they will take until the upcoming academic year, Randall said he is confident that a majority will choose aviation. He only had five midshipmen definitely decide against it out of last year's group.

"This course is very popular back at the academy," Randall said. "It's the most-grassroots way to explore aviation."

He said that many of the midshipman reported that the course was the most relevant training they had received at the Naval Academy.

"None of this would be possible without M-ASA volunteers, their facilities and their support," Randall said.

The club members only charge for the fuel that is used for the tow plane to get the sailplanes aloft. The instructors, who are U.S. Armed Services veterans themselves, donate their time to help out the midshipmen.

"The flying here happens slower than with engine aircraft," said Glen Collins, an association instructor for the program. "It's more precise and



you have to think more about what you're doing."

He said the midshipmen are loving the experience, but he is surprised that more of them don't have flying experience.

The Mid-Atlantic Soaring Association is a private club founded in 1952. It has an airfield in Fairfield and a hangar at Frederick's municipal airport. You can

find members at the Fairfield airfield on just about any weekend and on some weekdays. The club offers members instruction, towing service and a good thermal ridge that helps the sailplanes stay aloft longer.

Randall said his goal is to continue growing the program and with M-ASA's help he should be able to do just that.

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NEWS

Around the Town

Emmitsburg was awarded \$45,000 of the \$88,000 in Program Open Space funds that the State of Maryland set aside for Frederick County.

This amount will not fund both the construction of the new splash park at the town pool and the Community Park exercise trail. The commissioners are considering funding the splash park construction and pushing back the Community Park trail project, although the trail project is a bit further along in the process.

The catch is that the town will have to forward fund the splash park project, most likely using its rainy day fund, and then be reimbursed by the state.

For new projects, the state won't be approving any until 2012 and then they will be funded on a first-come, first-served basis.

New playing field possible

During the June 21 meeting of

the Emmitsburg Town Council, the commissioners decided they would like to learn whether creating a rectangular playing field for town sports is feasible.

Commissioner Tim O'Donnell asked his fellow commissioners to consider taking down the outfield fence around the softball field next to the town office in order to create a rectangular playing field that can be used for soccer, football and other sports.

Though the town maintains the field, the Frederick County Board of Education owns the field. O'Donnell read a letter from Ray Barnes, executive director of facilities services for Frederick County Public Schools, which granted permission for the town to remove all fencing around the field except for the backstop.

Town Manager Dave Haller said that the project would likely cost around \$7,300. Mayor James Hoover suggested that O'Donnell

work with town staff to develop a plan for undertaking the project and soliciting bids.

O'Donnell apologizes for the town

Commissioner Tim O'Donnell apologized for "misserving the community" during the June 7 town commissioner's meeting because of the way the town handled notifying property owners during closures of the alleys where the town water line is being refurbished.

"I think we could have done better," O'Donnell said.

Mayor James Hoover pointed out that the road needed to be torn up to the work on the water line, but O'Donnell pointed out that the town could have done a better job of notifying affected property owners and planning better for the closures. For instance, the road behind the PNC Bank on East Main Street was closed on a Friday, which closed the bank's drive-thru lane on the busiest day of the week for the bank.

Emmitsburg NEWS-JOURNAL

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News, events, history, humor and culture for the Historic Toms Creek Hundred geographical area: Emmitsburg, Zora, Carroll Valley, Fairfield, Harney, and Rocky Ridge, Detour. The Emmitsburg News-Journal is published the first day of every month by Toms Creek Hundred LLC.

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Around the Borough

Carroll Valley Borough will hold its annual July 4th celebration on Sunday, July 4 at the Carroll Valley Commons. The festivities will run from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. and features games, rides, food and competitions for everyone to enjoy. The 55th Virginia Company F Civil War encampment will also be there to demonstrate army life 150 years ago. The fireworks show begins at 9:45 p.m.

Black bear sightings

Black bears have been sighted twice in the borough; once by Trout Run and once by Ski Run. The bear is believed to be a 1.5 year old male trying to find his

own territory. According to Police Chief Richard Hileman, officials of the Department of Natural Resources say the bear will most likely make its way back into the mountains. Until that time, residents should leave the bear alone and keep anything that the bear might eat indoors. Hileman warned residents that it is illegal to kill a bear in Pennsylvania except in self defense.

Clarification on Carroll Lake

The Carroll Valley Borough Council has asked its attorney for input on any increased liability that property owners along Carroll Lake might face.

The borough asked the town

crews to remove the sign prohibiting boating on the lake in May to clarify confusion over what constitutes public boating or not. The property owners around the lake own the lake, which makes it a private lake that can be used for recreational purposes by the landowners. However, the borough owns about 20 percent of the land.

The question then becomes are residents of Carroll Valley considered landowners and allowed the use. Residents already pay for the maintenance and liability insurance on the lake. If residents are not allowed to use the lake, should they have to pay for those items? Also, do landowners around the lake face an

increased liability if residents are allowed to use the lake?

Mailbox numbering

Mayor Ron Harris reminded residents that the borough has an ordinance regarding numbers on mailboxes. The numbers must be at least three inches high and of a contrasting color to the mailbox. It should also be luminous for night-time visibility and affixed to both sides of the mailbox.

Councilman Neal Abrahms, who volunteers with Fairfield EMS Company, said, "This is a big, big problem for us. ... We can't find you if the house isn't marked."

The borough will also provide number signs that can be affixed

to the mailbox or staked at the end of the driveway at the borough's cost to purchase the sign.

Reimbursement for blizzard expense

The borough will receive about \$32,000 as a federal government grant to cover some of the expenses the borough incurred during the February blizzards. The borough has submitted \$47,000 in expenses. Of that, \$42,000 were deemed eligible and the government pays 75 percent of the amount with the expectation that the state will pay the other 25 percent. The borough council is not expecting any money from the state, but the \$32,000 is well received.

News and Briefs

The Emmitsburg Public Library will cut-back on its hours beginning July 1. The cuts are part of system-wide cutbacks the Board of Trustees of Frederick County Public Libraries voted to adopt in order to deal with budget cuts and a staffing hiring freeze. The library system tried to use volunteer hours to fill in funding gaps, but it was not enough to maintain the current hours for the county libraries.

The new hours are: Monday and Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday and Sunday, closed; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For information about the new hours for other county public libraries, visit the library's website at www.fcpl.org.

Enjoy summer jazz at the Mount

Enjoy live jazz music at Mount St.

Mary's University each Wednesday night this summer. The performances will be held at the fountain in front of the McGowan Center each Wednesday from 8:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. If it rains, performances will move indoors to the Mount Café.

Upcoming performers will be: **The Darryl Brenzel Quartet (July 7), Jason Newman Quartet (July 14), The Howard Burns Quartet (July 21)** and Maryland Summer Jazz Jam Session (August 4).

The performances are free and open to the public. Though some seating is available, it is recommended that you bring a folding chair.

For more information, contact Tim Wolfe at 301-447-5373 or visit www.msmary.edu/summerjazz.

Mount dedicates veterans walkway

Mount St. Mary's University dedicated its veterans walkway on June

5, during a ceremony that honored the connections between the university and the armed forces.

The walk is more than 200-feet long and made of bricks that are engraved with the names of current and former students in the military. The path is lined with benches, flag poles and service plaques. Flags representing all branches of the armed forces and POW MIAs hang from the roof of Patriot Hall.

More than 300 people attended the ceremony. Among the guests were Cardinal William Keeler, Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, Maryland Secretary of Veterans Affairs Edward Chow and former U.S. Representative Beverly Byron.

The special guests were the veterans, though. These guests included Brendan Marrocco who lost both arms and legs during an explosion of a roadside bomb in 2009 and J. Anthony Studts, a retired Marine Corps major general and Mount alumni.

EMMITSBURG MEMORIAL CEMETERY ENTRANCE LANDSCAPE PROJECT

Many friends and families of loved ones visit the cemetery. Visitors approach our town from the west. We, the Board Members of the Emmitsburg Cemetery have a project underway to make the entrance to the cemetery more attractive and easier to maintain. To do this job properly we must replace materials and add plantings to both sides of the entrance. We have drawn up plans and hired a landscaping company, which has the proper equipment to complete this project in the fall of this year.

Since our treasury is not substantial we are soliciting donations from our community to help defray some of the cost. Any amount will be appreciated. If you would like to share in this project to enhance the appearance of our cemetery and our community, we ask that you make a contribution. Checks are acceptable and may be mailed to:

The Emmitsburg Memorial Cemetery Landscape Fund
c/o Mary Catherine Shields
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Thank your very much for your consideration and support.

The Board Members of
The Emmitsburg Memorial Cemetery
Eric Glass, Robert Gilletan, Bernard Wivell, Karla Escheliman,
James Kitinger, Mary Catherine Shields, Karla Escheliman,
Susan Sanders and Rebecca (Hayes) Jones

Emmitsburg Farmer's Market opens with fresh food

On the afternoon before the Emmitsburg Farmer's Market opened on June 18, Robert Kline picked more vegetables from his garden to sell at his 'Bob's in the Garden' booth at the market. You can't get much fresher than that.

Kline and his wife, Regina, were among the six vendors at the opening of the Emmitsburg Farmer's Market. The market will be open on every Friday through Sept. 26 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. It is located on South Seton Avenue next to the former ambulance company building.

"This is our seventh year and we've been growing and expanding," said Amy Naill who coordinates the market for the town of Emmitsburg.

Bonnie Sharrer of Sharrer's Delight Farm in Fairfield, PA, experienced her first farmer's market. She was pleased with what she had seen so far and happy to see customers buying her baked goods.

Tricia Sheppard of Emmitsburg said she shops at the farmer's market because she loves the fresh food and she likes to support local

farmers. "I like that you get different vegetables throughout the year because I like to try different things," Sheppard said.

Though there were only six vendors for the opening day, 10 have signed up to participate in this year's farmer's market:

- Windy Hollow Growers, Keymar MD (produce)
- Sharrer's Delight Farm, Fairfield, PA (baked goods, produce)
- Pete's & Ann's Produce, Thurmont, MD (produce)
- Bob's in the Garden, Thur-

mont, MD (produce)

Stoneyridge Farm, Emmitsburg, MD (bakery items, produce)

Tom & Linda M, Keymar, MD (cut flowers, produce)

Bob S, Gettysburg, PA (produce, birdhouses)

Home Gardener, Emmitsburg, MD (produce, herbs)

Stone Hearth Bakery, Frederick, MD (baked goods)

Rights of Man Farm, Ijamsville, MD (organic beef and eggs, produce)

"Food is fresher and in most

cases you can find exactly where it came from," Naill said.

The opening day had good weather, but the closure of South Seton at Main Street made a visible difference on how heavy the commuter traffic past the farmer's market was.

"I think the road being closed is hurting us some," Regina Kline said.

However, the road is expected to reopen this month, which should increase traffic for the vendors at the farmer's market.

Frederick County property tax rate remains the same

Frederick County Board of Commissioners adopted a \$438.3-million operating budget, which went into effect July 1.

The budget was balanced as required by law, but it was not without challenges like a \$40 million deficit, declining revenues and employee layoffs. The new budget will

be funded in part by a 93.6 cents per \$100 of assessed value property tax, which is the same as last year.

During the budgets discussions, the commissioners voted to eliminate 103 county positions. Though most of the positions were not filled at the time, 22 employees were laid off.

The commissioners voted 3-2 to approve the operating budget. Commissioners Jan Gardner, Kai Hagen and David Gray voted for it and Commissioners John Thompson and Blaine Young voted in opposition.

Young and Thompson both wanted to see more cuts made to

the budget. Young's primary concern was that the approved budget does not address large deficits that are expected to continue next year and beyond. Thompson's primary concern is that the county continues to underfund its retiree health insurance plan.

Fiscal year 2011 will be the

fourth consecutive year that the county's property tax rate has remained constant. Thompson and Young also voted against keeping the rate the same. They had wanted to see it lowered so the county would collect no more in property taxes in fiscal year 2011 than it did in fiscal year 2010.

Fitzgeralds is now selling ATVs and go-karts

James Rada, Jr.

Pete Fitzgerald bought his first go-kart when he bought his daughter a Christmas gift last year. Now he has a dozen or so go-karts and ATVs ready for sale at Fitzgerald's Auto and Cycle Service on North Seton Street in Emmitsburg.

"When I found out the quality was so good, I thought other people would be interested in owning one either for fun or to use for work purposes," Fitzgerald said.

He has sold scooters at his shop for a number of years, but now the ATVs, go-karts and even used Harley-Davidson motorcycles have joined the line-up along North Seton Avenue.

The ATVs range in size from a child's 50-cc ATV to a powerful adult 1000-cc ATV. The go-karts range from a 100-cc engine to a 250-cc engine. Fitzgerald carries the most-popular sizes in stock, but he can order other size vehicles with a deposit. A 100-cc ATV costs \$898. A 200-cc ATV with a water-cooled engine costs \$2,198. A 150-cc Honda go-kart costs \$1998.

"We're willing to negotiate on price, but people will find that we're already half of the suggested retail price," Fitzgerald said.

He said that his shop can service any of the vehicles he sells and even getting the parts is not a problem because they are Honda parts.

"In a rural area with a lot of

open farm land like here, people have lots of opportunities to ride within a short distance of Emmitsburg," Fitzgerald said.

He added that one of the options for the vehicles is to add a trailer on the back of them into UTV or utility terrain vehicles that can haul things around a farm.

Fitzgerald is also offering a limited selection of used Harley-Davidson motorcycles. His newest bike is a 1984 FLT with a sidecar selling for \$10,500. The inventory for the motorcycles will vary depending on how well they sell and which ones he can obtain.

For more information, call Fitzgerald's Auto and Cycle Service at 301-447-6274.



Emmitsburg approves it's 2011 budget

The Emmitsburg Town Council unanimously approved a budget for fiscal year 2011 that will be 3.9 percent smaller than fiscal year 2010, which ended on June 30.

"We've cut costs where we could," said Mayor James

Hoover. "We cut CIP (capital improvement program) funds substantially once again."

The approved budget of \$1,558,721 was approved June 7. The town's real estate tax rate will remain unchanged at 36 cents per \$100 of assessed value,

though the town expects to collect slightly less than it did last year.

The largest decreases in revenues come from state highway user tax, state aid for police and personal property tax revenues. The budget does not include any cost-of-living increases for town staff. It will also use \$83,500 from the town's rainy day fund to balance.

Though the budget passed

unanimously, Commissioner Tim O'Donnell sought to have a list of all town positions and their respective salaries included with the budget.

"I want to know who is making what in our town," O'Donnell said.

It was pointed out to him that salaries were included by department in the budget, which allowed the salaries to be viewed separately from benefits. Since

the salaries are public record, anyone can request the salary of a specific employee.

O'Donnell made a motion to include the salaries, but he was the only "yes" vote for the motion.

The cost of employee pensions is beginning to weigh on the budget as it grows much faster than other items in the budget. For the current year, the town's contribution to the pension fund grew by 50 percent, an amount determined by the state.

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NEWS

Daughters of Charity consolidating

The Daughters of Charity have been in Emmitsburg for more than two centuries and they will continue to remain here. However, just as their role in town has evolved over that time so it will continue to do so.

Currently, the Daughters of Charity are undergoing to transformations; one affects the American Daughters of Charity as a whole and the second affects just the Emmitsburg Daughters of Charity.

"It looks like these things are happening together, but they really are two separate processes," said Lori Stewart, director of development and public relations for the Daughters of Charity.

As reported earlier this year in the *Emmitsburg News Journal*, the Daughters of Charity are consolidating their provincial houses in order to streamline their operations and free up more sisters to work in the mission field. After months of meetings, planning and discussions, the Daughters of Charity are consolidating their provincial houses into a single provincial house in St. Louis, MO. This means that next year St. Joseph's Provincial House will no longer be a provincial house. The same is true for the provincial houses in Evansville, IN and Albany, NY.

The shift means that seven sisters who serve in an administrative

capacity for the St. Joseph's Provincial House will be transferred to St. Louis and then possibly out into the mission field.

The Daughters of Charity archive will also benefit from the consolidation. The archives from Evansville and Albany will be transferred to the archives in Emmitsburg, increasing the size of the collection.

Since the function of St. Joseph's Provincial House will be changing, the Daughters of Charity in Emmitsburg decided to look at how to utilize the vacant space in the building. This is led to a proposal to convert some of the empty space into senior housing. This will require

a zoning change that is currently working its way through Emmitsburg's government.

"Although we are going through so much transition, the Daughters of Charity will always live and work in Emmitsburg," said Sister Claire Debes, visitatrix of the Emmitsburg provincial house. "At least 50 sisters will remain in the area and many will reside in a renovated wing of the building."

The expected completion time for this project hasn't been determined yet, but it is much further off than the completion time for the Daughters of Charity consolidation. When all is said and done, however, the Daughters will still be in Emmitsburg. The Eliza-

beth Ann Seton Shrine will still be open. The Seton Center will still be helping the disadvantaged in the region. Mother Seton School will still be educating students. St. Catherine's Nursing Center will still be caring for the aged. St. Vincent's Care Center and Villa St. Michael will still be caring for elderly Daughters of Charity.

"Because we are in a planning phase, there are so many unknowns and rumors can easily start," Stewart said. "If you hear something and are uncertain, please ask us what is going on. We want to share our journey of transformation because it affects you just as much as it affects us."

Emmitsburg All-Stars takes 1st place



Coaches, back row: Justin Caballero, Brian Barth, Jimmy Click, and Russell Rice. Front row: Tristan Rice, Jason Baust, Bryson Caballero, Logan Rock, Corday Williams, Riley Barth, Johnathan Glass, Bryant Palmer, Eli Frei, Dylan Click, Colby Regler, and Camden Lopez

A roster made-up of a collection of kids from the Nationals, Tigers, and Cubs collectively pulled their talents to form a great baseball team that competed very well throughout the week long Fairfield baseball tournament.

The Fairfield tournament began June 21st with games starting Monday with the remainder of the tournament being played out Wednesday, Friday, and concluding with a double header on Saturday.

Wednesday's game against a tough Gettysburg squad went into extra innings. In the bottom of the

Eight inning, Emmitsburg had a runner on 1st and third with two outs. Colby was up to bat. He had two strikes and was determined to drive in the winning run. As soon as the coach threw the third pitch the ball screamed over his right ear and Tristin came racing across the plate to end the game. The team jumped for joy. At that moment you could see the determination on the kids' faces. They were not going to be denied the Championship.

The 7-8 year old Emmitsburg All-Stars went undefeated all 5

games. With temperatures reaching 95 degrees much of the tournament and Emmitsburg taking the number one seed the all-stars played their championship game Saturday afternoon. They faced a great New Oxford, PA. team. New Oxford jumped out to an early 2-0 lead in the first inning. Emmitsburg a bit flat and tired from exerting so much energy in their early morning game eventually found their groove in the second inning and never game up the their lead.

With a strong offensive on-

slaught the team took command of the game early and continued to pound the ball for the remaining four and a half innings.

A special thanks to April Regler for her tireless efforts keeping the boys in the dugout alert and ready for play. Congrats All-Stars.



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HISTORY

One hundred years ago this month

July 1

The Fourth of July In Emmitsburg

The press of late has laid great stress on the Fourth of July. Editorials galore have teamed with advice as to how the date should be spent, cautions aplenty have been disseminated in regard to the use of explosives and the danger attending the discharge of toy pistols and with one accord the newspapers of the country have suggested a "safe in saying Fourth"

The large cities and also many towns, both large and small, have wisely determined to do away with a senseless and barbarous diversions that used to be deemed indispensable on this date in to devote the day to observations in accordance with the spirit of this essentially American anniversary, giving over a part of the time to outdoor diversions in which all can join in which all can enjoy.

In Emmitsburg the preparations have been completed for the great Fireman's Picnic on Monday and included in these preparations are several innovations that will add greatly to the convenience and pleasure of the guest

To the country people and those who would drive to the picnic, the various stables of town will afford ample accommodation for their horses and vehicles. Nothing that can be done to add to the pleasure of the occasion has been forgotten. All ages of people had been thought of, and the assurance of absolute order, should lead our people to make this a big family gathering. Everyone is invited and everyone invited is expected to attend.

At night the grounds would be brilliantly lighted with powerful lamps. The dancing floor will be in excellent condition and the musicians have promised to never get tired. For those who come to spend the day, and all are expected to do so, you'll not need to make any preparation for meals. A bountifully supplied lunch counter in competent hands will

minister to the inner man, woman or child.

July 8

Banner Firemen's Picnic Day

Monday was a glorious Fourth indeed. Light rain on Sunday and pleasant breezes the day after made the day ideal for picnic. Such a combination is often hope for but rarely realized. Everywhere on the streets the flags and bunting, evidences of the patriotism of our citizens, invited people to take part in the Fireman's entertainment, and they did.

Shortly after the parade the first game of ball was called. It was between the "Ashbarrels" and the "Sebolders." The "Ashbarrels" were minus the ashes this time, the Captain, Mr. Herbert Ashbaugh, being engaged with the Emmitt Cornet Band. This was a battle of former heroes of the diamond, the old-time giants of local baseball history. Time has left its mark on these players, and some of those whose memory carries back many years, shed tears when error after error was credited to those erstwhile faultless players.

In the evening the grounds were crowded especially at the dancing floor and the various stands did a tremendous business. The music for the occasion was furnished by the Emmitt Cornet Band, which acquitted itself with credit and their music was one of the very enjoyable features of the day.

Electric Service is Coming
The coming of an electric service for Emmitsburg seems to be an assured fact. Now that the time has come when the proposition of a locally owned and controlled electric company is before the public, it is of general interest to review what has been done. A franchise has been obtained which gives the exclusive right for selling electricity in Emmitsburg, but grants the town the right to buy the plant and business anytime after three years. A canvass for lighting customers has been made which has



already more than 50 names and covers over 350 lights connected.

What remains to be done - construct a powerhouse and distribution lines; install the wiring in private houses; complete the plant and turn on the current. The time required to build a plant should not be more than from 60 to 90 days. In other words by the first of November an electric service should be in place in Emmitsburg.

July 15

Celebrated 90th Birthday

On Saturday a congenial party of friends gathered at the home of Mrs. Rebecca Grimes, in Fairfield to celebrate her 90th birthday. Although the day was intensely warm, the time pass rapidly. Mrs. Grimes was enabled to converse easily with her friends by means of the speaking tube, and this fact added much to her pleasure for she has long been extremely hard of hearing. She could hear and enjoy the voices of her little grandniece, who would put her lips to the mouthpiece and jabber away to the dear old lady.

Ordinance Number 120 and 121

Be it enacted and ordained by the Burgess and commissioners of

Emmitsburg that it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to dig up or across any of the public streets within the corporate limits of said town, without first having obtained a permit from the Burgess, who will grant same upon payment of one dollar. All persons digging into or across said streets to replace same in as good condition as previously found. Any person violating this ordinance shall be fine not less than two dollars and cost.

July 22

Ghost Party at Rose Hill

The grounds of Rose Hill, the beautiful home of the Mrs. Beam was tastefully decorated on Friday night, the occasion being a ghost party given in honor of their many friends. In all about fifty persons were delightfully entertained in a very unique and pleasing manner. All the guests were grabbed as ghosts. After a grand march masks were withdrawn, and the remainder of the evening spent dancing together.

July 31

Local Airship Built

Prof. Jake Turner and Dr. Dan Shorb are at work on an air ship

which is destined to revolutionize aerial navigation. The apparatus is 130 feet long and 16 feet wide and carries two auto-magnetobi-sparking generators, a cogless centripetal concussion plane and three wireless rudders. The engines built at the Friends Creek Foundary, are 87 horsepower and the fuel used is horse mint oil. The first flight of the machine will take place next week at two O'clock from Carrick's Knob, Count Caughupski, Professor of Aeronautics in Moscow University, and Major John Glass, of Emmitsburg, will accompany the inventors on this, the initial, and most likely, the final trip.

Automobile Collides with Team

Mrs. H. G. Beam of "Rose Hill," near Emmitsburg, and two children were in a serious accident on Thursday. They were on their way to Pen Mar in a surrey driven by Martin Keller. At a sharp turn in the road an automobile rushed headlong into the team, breaking the leg of "Old Ike," on of the horses drawing the vehicle, and so injuring him that it was necessary to put him down.

To read past editions of 100 years ago this month visit the Historical Society section of Emmitsburg.net.

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GOVERNMENT—NORTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

From the desk of County Commissioner Moreno

Well, I can't believe that July is here already. I thought that I would give an update of county projects, and share with everyone what we have been doing in the Commissioners' Office the first half of 2010.

County Manager: The County is currently working on creating and approving a job description for a new position to be located in the Commissioners' Office called a County Manager. At one time, the Commissioners' Office had three positions located in the front office, but as time has passed, we have slimmed down to just our Chief Clerk, of course WAY too much work for just one person to handle. It is time that we took the County to another level, and brought on a person that can start projects that we need to get started and to go in a direction that we have never gone before.

The County is growing, and those numbers will be shown later this year when the census figures are released. What comes with a growing County is a change of class. Currently Adams County is a 6th Class county, but is projected to change to a 5th class county. With the change

in class brings about a change in elected officials. We will be welcoming the position of an elected Controller to the County, resulting in the elimination of three elected Auditor positions.

North Gettysburg Trail: The North Gettysburg Trail project has been a long time in the making. The County is finally making progress, and pushing forward to have this project bid out this year. The trail is located along Old Harrisburg Road in Gettysburg. Once the trail is completed, it will run from the edge of Gettysburg to the Gettysburg High School. This will allow those attending school, or those who just want to get out and ride, be able to walk or bike along the road safely.

Belmont Road Bridge: The Belmont Road Bridge is another project that has been a long time in the making. Finally, the right-of-ways have been acquired, and the meetings are occurring to make sure that the project can be put out on bid with in the near future, so much further than it has ever been. The bridge has been closed for about nine months.

Countywide Reassessment: Of

course I do need to mention the Re-assessment that has been ongoing in our County for quite some time now. Well, notices with the new assessments will be mailed July 1st to all property owners. The County did hold evening meetings at each of the six school districts in the County. Hopefully you had the opportunity to attend one, but if you didn't, you will still be able to view the meeting via the County website at www.adamscounty.us in the very near future. Please take this opportunity to view the video, to help you understand the process. If you still have questions about your notice, schedule an informal hearing to have someone go over the notice with you by calling the 1-800 # on the back of the notice.

Green Acres: By this writing, the Board of Commissioners would have had the Public Meeting that was scheduled for Tuesday, June 29th to discuss with the public the state of Green Acres Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. The Board scheduled this meeting to discuss the past, present, and future of the county nursing home and where

we feel the industry is heading.

County Budget: Our County's budget process will begin this month. We will have a new tool called MuniCast that we will be able to utilize. This tool came from the GFOA study, a financial study that was recommended by the County's auditing firm. I am really excited about this process, and hopefully we will be able to accomplish the goals that we want to with the MuniCast program.

GFOA: As I mentioned above, the County is still working on the GFOA study, and implementing some policies that were recommended by one of the groups formed through the study. The Commissioners just recently adopted a "Fund Balance Policy" and a "Capital Improvement Plan Policy". We are moving in the right direction by getting these policies on the books, and making sure that future Boards of Commissioners has some guidance, as to the standards.

Another group formed by the GFOA study is working on putting together a pamphlet of all the services that are provided by the Coun-

ty/Courts to the residents of Adams County. This will be a valuable tool for any new Commissioner coming on board. We need to make sure that all the tools are available for any new member that may walk through that door.

State Budget: As I write this, House and Senate leaders continue to work cooperatively towards completion of a commonwealth budget, but concerns about devastating cuts, even to core government services, are building. It is unfortunate that we have to come to this point, once again.

I would like to mention that we live in a wonderful County. A county that has people that care about one another and as a result of the budget impasse in 2009, a group has formed consisting of non-profits coming together to support one another, and to make a difference in their community. I really am not aware of any other area that can work together the way people in our community work together for a common goal. We are certainly unique and special, and I am proud to be apart of something so great!

From the desk of Carroll Valley Mayor Ron

Summer is the time to relax and enjoy what Carroll Valley offers - peace and quiet within the beautiful countryside. Living in the country brings us closer to our local animal friends. Because of these "close encounters" with our local bear population, I wish to share with you the information I have received from Adams County WCO Dave Grove and Chief Richard Hileman of our Carroll Valley Police Department. They tell me that the black bear population emanating from around the Michaux State Forest region is undoubtedly growing and expanding.

When a bear sighting occurs outside of that area, it will usually be a 1.5 year old male cut loose by its mother, and venturing out to find a new territory. When this occurs, it will normally and eventually find its way back to the mountains. In the meantime, it may hang around a specific area for a couple/few days, especially, if there's an easy food source. An important thing to keep in mind is that bears, although capable of being very dangerous, are very rarely aggressive towards humans, especially if left alone or with an escape route.

As such, it is unlawful for anyone to kill or attempt to kill a bear unless it can be clearly articulated that it is indeed a case of self defense. Simply being afraid of a bear that won't immediately leave an area does not constitute justification.

Advice for people who have a bear hanging around, aside from the common sense act of not trying to get too close to one, centers around food sources. Keep garbage secured properly, take down bird feeders,

don't leave domestic animal food in a bowl outside, and essentially take away or secure any other food items for a bear, which includes just about anything edible to man or beast (bears are opportunistic omnivores, and will eat just about anything). If you have any questions about bears or any other wildlife/hunting matter, please don't ever hesitate to contact WCO Grove or Chief Hileman.

Be sure to mark Tuesday August 3rd on your calendar to attend the Borough of Carroll Valley Police Department's National Night Out (NNO). NNO will be held from 5 to 8 pm at Carroll Commons on Fairfield Road. NNO is celebrated each year across the United States to increase awareness for safety within

the community, and to educate residents on how to protect their families and familiarize them with available services. All events are FREE.

New this year will be two seminars; "DUI Highway Safety Education" and "Sexual Abuse Awareness" conducted by Adams County Adult Probation and Parole Department. Child Identification kits will be available which will include child fingerprinting and videotaping. Residents may also bring their home fire extinguishers to be checked. If available, a landing will be made by STAT/MedEVAC. MEDIC 28 from Gettysburg Hospital. A "Seat Belt Convincer" machine will be available from the Maryland State Police

Barrack G in Westminster. "Motorcycle Awareness and Education" will be on hand from Battlefield Harley Owners Group (HOG).

Also new this year will be the Mobile Spay and Neuter 4-Life Mobile Hospital sponsored by the Adams County SPCA. Other participants include Fairfield Regional Emergency Management Area; Carroll Valley, Hamiltonban and Liberty Township Police Departments; Adams County 911 Center; Fairfield FIRE & EMS; Fountaindale Fire Dept; American Red Cross; Adams County Handgunners Association; Adams County Constables Association; Alleghany Power; Healthy Adams County; information on Lyme Disease; Excaliber Towing; Carroll Valley Citizens'

Association; Adams County Locksmith; Collaborating for Youth; Tobacco Prevention Task Force; Survivors, Inc; Domestic Violence Task Force; Adams County Coalition to Prevent Teen Pregnancy; Adams County Teen Connection Mentoring Program; It Takes A Village, Inc; and Adams County Sheriff James Muller and his K-9 "Pokeet".

Many costumed characters including Smokey the Bear will be greeting everyone. Children's games will be conducted by the Girl Scouts in the Heart of PA. Hot dogs, chips and a drink for children 12 years and younger will be FREE. Other food vendors include Antietam Dairy, Feed Bag Catering, Cub Scout Pack # 76, and Boy Scout Troop # 76. Come on out and enjoy an evening of information, food and fun.

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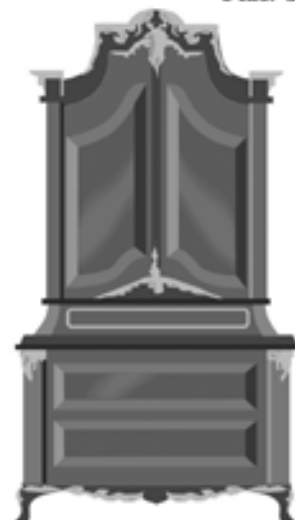
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GOVERNMENT—SOUTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

From the desk of County Commissioner Gray

It has been my privilege to serve the citizens of Frederick County for four terms as their county commissioner and today I am asking them for the opportunity to serve them once again.

I will not be soliciting contributions or holding fundraisers. Spending large amounts of money on a campaign in today's financial environment is not responsible behavior in my opinion. Instead I will be seeking opportunities to talk with people from all walks of life, especially seniors and youth, who often do not feel that they can get access to people in public service. I am asking those who know and support me to share their reasons for doing so with others. I would appreciate opportunities to meet at peoples' houses, in the park, at civic clubs etc. As I walk through neighborhoods - if you see me - feel free to say hello and chat for a while.

I feel the primary issues in this election will be:

The Economy - Frederick County is going to be facing several years of continued financial stress. It will need commissioners that are decisive and are familiar with managing an organization

(people and budgets) under tight and rapidly changing financial conditions. I have the knowledge of 16 years of budgets that included good and bad times, as well as the current severe financial downturn. As part of the current board I devoted large amounts of time deciding on organizational restructuring and budget reductions that exceeded \$50 million dollars in the past two years. I have enjoyed working with the various boards and departments and as a team we achieved our goals with the least possible impact to the citizens and employees.

The Comprehensive Plan - The newly adopted Comprehensive Plan for Frederick County is a remarkable and inspiring document. It is a plan dedicated to - Agricultural Preservation - Eliminating Sprawl Development - Environmental protection of streams, woodlands, natural habitat, and our fertile farmland. There have been some candidates that already have announced that they want to dismantle these changes and go back to the days of unrestrained growth, school overcrowding, choking traffic and lack of concern for environmental prog-

ress. Read the new comprehensive plan. Come to your own conclusions

Waste to Energy -One of the toughest jobs as a commissioner is researching an issue, learning the facts and coming to what you feel is the best solution for the entire county in the long run. This is what I had to do in my decision about WTE. The WTE facility being designed for Frederick County will have the most stringent emission controls in the country. It will also be able to handle Frederick County's waste for years to come at a cost that we can calculate. From the emails I have received I think this will be a very controversial campaign issue with much misinformation and half truths playing on emotion and fear rather than fact. Check out and verify what you hear and see.

Recycling - Many would like to state it such that if you are for the WTE facility you are against recycling and environmental progress. This is not so. I have been a supporter of recycling efforts that have resulted in single stream recycling for every house and every school in Frederick County. I have supported composting and recycling

of dozens of additional items (from scrap metal to textiles) at the Landfill Recycling Center. If you want to verify my long term commitment to recycling, research the 90's environmental debates over our present day landfill and the near impossibility of siting another landfill in the county. To me, one of the most exciting steps forward for recycling was the institution of recycling in every one of our schools last year. In the first six months of the program 328 tons of recyclables were diverted from the waste stream. Our children are learning it is their responsibility to reduce waste and leave the earth a better place.

Other accomplishments that I am proud of during my 4 terms as county commissioner are:

1. Creating a policy that gives opportunity for citizens to speak on any subject at any public meeting.
2. Opening government to total access by the public through open meetings, TV coverage of virtually all meetings, and internet access to all videoed meetings archived a year back.

2 Passage of Ethics Reform and a new Lobbying Ordinance. These laws require reporting of contacts with lobbyists on land use issues and registration of lobbyists. This has already changed county government to dramatically greater transparency.

3 Initiating inquiry by the National Academy of Sciences to provide publicly accountable safeguards and procedures the Fort Detrick Biodefense Labs.

4 Creation of a new Sustainability Commission with members from the public to advocate and move environmental and sustainability initiatives forward for Frederick County.

No job I have ever held has provided more satisfaction to me than serving the citizens as County Commissioner. I would encourage others concerned about the same issues to join me in this race.

If you wish to help in any way, please let me hear from you.

My e-mail is: friendsofdavegray@gmail.com.

From the desk of Town Council President Chris Staiger

Well, summer is certainly here - too soon as usual and seemingly without a spring! I hope you had a chance to enjoy Community Day sponsored by the Emmitsburg Lions' Club on June 26. I know the parade and fireworks are the two biggest events of the day and certainly it's disappointing that the parade couldn't be held due to the closure of the square. (My hope is that the square is back open before you read this...) Community Day is often associated with Independence Day because of the fireworks perhaps, but the celebration is meant to honor our town, our neighbors, and our achievements - not just our nation's birthday. Recent years have highlighted the fiftieth anniversary of locally organized baseball and the 200th anniversaries of Mount Saint Mary's University and the Daughters of Charity.

Although it seems strange not to hold the celebration of the Fourth of July weekend, we recognize that many people have personal commitments at that time - and from a practical standpoint, the club has come to realize over the years that we just can't compete for the quality fireworks displays we've come to

expect on the actual holiday weekend. Please be aware that these fireworks displays are contracted by the Emmitsburg Lions Club and funded by the club and the generous donations of the local business community, the town government, and individuals. Increasing costs make every year a challenge! I believe the cost of this year's show was over eight thousand dollars!!!

Your local club is a branch of an international organization primarily dedicated to serving the vision impaired. Lions Clubs are common in towns and cities throughout the region, but in addition to providing vision services to the local community or raising funds for the training of guide dogs for the blind, the Emmitsburg Lions also organize a highly successful Health Fair for those with limited access to health services and an annual holiday food drive assisting over eighty local families every year during the Christmas season! If you are interested in learning more about the club, please consider coming to a meeting - they are held at the Carriage House Inn at 6:30pm on the second and fourth Thursday's of the month (and include a fantastic

meal for just \$10!).

June 26 also saw over one hundred bike riders come to town on their way to raising money to cure Multiple Sclerosis through the Ride for a Cure. Riders' are each required to obtain a minimum \$150 in pledges, so this is a great fundraiser towards a worthy goal. We all know that many bike riders cycle through and around Emmitsburg every year at this time to explore country roads and the beautiful scenery. It's great that the Riders for a Cure have accepted the opportunity to use our facilities as a way-point on their circuit. Although cyclists may not have had an extended stay during the actual event, it's fair to hope they will have liked what they've seen and want to come back on their own time.

In recent town business, the Town Council has approved a Comprehensive Rezoning of the Town meant to better reflect the limited realities of our water and

sewer resources and focus development within the existing community with an eye towards expanding our commercial base while protecting the look and feel of the community that we all appreciate. The upcoming fiscal year's budget was also approved. Tax rates and water and sewer charges remain the same but the general fund budget has declined for the second year in a row due to substantial reductions in other funding sources typically shared by the state or county governments. The latest target date for re-opening the Square is July 2. The Lincoln Avenue sewer and water line rehabilitation project is winding down so disruption should continue to abate. Final paving of Lincoln Avenue will not take place until after the Square reopens - in an effort not to shoot ourselves in the foot again.

Lastly, I would like to compliment Commissioner Tim O'Donnell for his efforts to pro-

vide for a rectangular multiuse field for the community. This effort has been attempted in previous years but has always faltered in the face of, shall we say, "institutional headwinds" (or maybe a lack of effective political will...). Tim really took the bull by the horns, continually working to rebut arguments, build a coalition, and move this concept to the point where it can be driven home. Certainly, there are no guarantees yet, but it appears we are now finally on our way to having a site suitable for soccer, football, or lacrosse that may yield local opportunities and remove the need to always commute to Thurmont or Fairfield. This may not seem like it will change the world - but I'll tell you honestly that having been a commissioner for five years or so, it really is an accomplishment to be able to break the existing town office / administration paradigm! Best wishes for a fabulous July - Chris Staiger

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COMMENTARY

Words from Winterbilt

Shannon Bohrer

Those of you who read my article last month remember the topic was a lack of trust for government and big business. This month's article is a continuation along the same topic with a focus on the news and the big oil spill in the gulf. When I started writing this the spill was 40 days old and I thought - it will be capped before this goes to print. Then again, maybe not.

According to the news the large oil leak in the gulf is threatening our environment. If you recall, when the leak started it was 4,200 gallons of oil a day. Gradually it grew to over 200,000 gallons a day. I am not a math wizard, but 4,200 gallons is not close to 200,000. Did the first person at the news conference write down the wrong number? Maybe they were taking notes and their pen ran out of ink and they had to rely on memory for the numbers. I know that my memory is not as sharp as it once was. Of course there is always the possibility that the oil company was giving out

the wrong information... After all, if your company might be responsible for the largest environmental disaster known to man, you may wish to minimize the impact.

While discussing the oil spill with a few of my curmudgeon club friends over coffee, we developed some ideas that could solve the problem. Our best idea - to create a machine that can separate water and oil. I know this sounds pretty complicated, but we think it could be done. If we had such a machine you could just pump in the oil and water together on board a ship, separate the oil and pump out the water. If you are thinking this may take a while to invent, you may be right; at least that is what we thought. However, a little google-ing reveals that a lot of companies say they can already do this. Apparently oil and water do not mix - who knew.

Since so many companies say they already have the equipment, or at least claim they have the equipment, the responsible oil company, (did I just put word responsible and Oil Company in the same

sentence?) should purchase the machines and then give them to the unemployed fisherman. The fishermen could go out every day and skim the oil and water together, separate the oil and store it in tanks on the boats. And when they return to the docks, the oil company should buy the oil. At \$80 a barrel a fishing boat could make a lot of money. Small fishing businesses that are hurting, and will be for some time, would be transformed and they could hire more people. So many businesses could be created that would help the region out of the recession.

If this worked the oil company's executives would be given bonuses and congress would hold hearings. The norm today is that whenever large corporations give big bonuses to executives, congress hold hearings. The hearings would determine that private enterprise, the fishing boats collecting oil, worked with very little government involvement.

One side would argue that putting congress in charge means they

would develop a regulatory agency for conversion of fishing boats to oil skimmer boats and oil would have never been skimmed -at least until the regulations were completed. Conversely, the hearing would also make clear that because of a lack of government involvement, in regulating the drilling industry, we have an ecological disaster from which we may never recover. The end result is that all sides could claim they were right and nothing would change.

Since the oil leak started there has been controversy about who is in charge and who is responsible. One side wants the government to be the leader, to which the government responded that only the oil companies have the expertise to stop the leak. However the government also said that they are in charge and are telling the oil company what to do. This tends to confuse me... It sounds as if everyone wants to be in charge but nobody wants the responsibility.....

If you recall congress already had hearings with the three involved parties - the platform owner, the

oil company, and the company that concretes the pipe. All parties pointed fingers at each other... And these are our 'experts?' We seem to have a lot of EXPERTS working on this problem: experts in the oil industry, experts in the government and experts in major colleges and universities. Maybe, just maybe, we have created a problem we can not fix, or at least fix it in what we consider a timely manner. We have not cleaned up this mess and they (the experts) are already arguing about continuing to drill in deep water. Remember - experts have often made predictions that never occurred.

"By 1980 we will be self-sufficient and will not need to rely on foreign enemies... uh, energy" President Richard Nixon, 1973 responding to the oil crises.

With the current problem it was the experts and engineers that said, "The platforms and drilling platforms are fail safe" (In 2009). Typical of big business - "We have the best people in the industry working on this" (reported after the leak started). Sound familiar? That is because they copied it from financial industry. If our government, big business and industry acquire any more expertise we could be in a lot of trouble.

Hardheaded Philosophy

Julia Mulqueen

I have been absolutely blessed with the wonderful opportunity of studying abroad in Salzburg, Austria for the past few weeks. Truly it is incredible visiting a foreign country, especially during the current global climate, and I now have my fair share of stories ranging from absolutely frightening to deliciously hilarious. Certainly, the most political buzz pops up in bars, and in particular, those that are Irish. Despite all of the tense history of strained relations between western European nations, there still exists a deep sense of unity between them.

Perhaps a European would not agree, but to a foreigner the taste of European unity is almost overwhelmingly pungent. It is in these pubs that this unity is quite evident. When our group of slightly rebellious former colonists walks in to a fine eating establishment, every head in the room turns and not just because we smell of deodorant. When we walk up to the bar to order a beer, it seems we first have to prove ourselves worthy.

Our American citizenship makes us at once strangely beloved, but also absolutely different from all others. Immediately, the jokes begin, and we are forced to hear the difference between yogurt and Americans, which by the way, is that yogurt forms its own culture. After the jokes comes a little political banter about oil and Obama, and then we are finally accepted and occasionally offered a round of shots. Our boisterousness seems to make us endearing, but also markedly different from Europeans, who

seem quite stoic to us rowdy Americans. We certainly come from two extremely different continents, and this is something no European is quick to forget.

All of these recent observations about Europe have led me to think about what America must be like for a European. Naturally, I found my mind wandering to Alexis de Tocqueville and his thoughts about America as written in his book *Democracy in America* in the 1830s upon his visit to the United States. De Tocqueville states quite boldly that he knows of no "country where, in general, less independence of mind and genuine freedom of discussion reign than in America." When I first read this, I recoiled in horror and remained paralyzed with anger for at least two full minutes. Was de Tocqueville joking? Or perhaps his observations about America could no longer be considered valid because they were made so long ago. As I continued to ponder de Tocqueville's striking words, however, I began to realize that there is indeed still some truth to them. As I wander around the ridiculously old streets of Austria, I am confronted with an experience of religion juxtaposed to openness about sexuality and alcohol. In the same day that I visited a 1,300 year old Cathedral, I saw women bare all at a family amusement park. In fact, going to the "bier garten" in Salzburg to grab a liter is a family affair, and the seating area underneath the chestnut trees is complete with a jungle gym. Seeing such a site in America would most likely offend our tender sensibilities and leave us emo-

tionally scarred. It seems we pretend to be a fairly liberal society, and yet we censor much of what is written as well as what appears in both television shows and movies.

So touché de Tocqueville, because it seems *Democracy in America* has retained its meaning even some 140 years after its inception. And indeed America is not nearly as liberal and free as I might have previously been inclined to think. What upsets me most about this revelation from de Tocqueville, however, is not that a Frenchman was right, but rather that once again it seems the government in the United States feels it has to play big brother to all of its loyal citizens. Are we not capable of making morally upright choices without the "right way" being forced down our esophagi? Is it not the role of parents and family to outline proper behavior for their children? As I inch closer to old age, I become ever more frustrated with unnecessary involvement of government organizations. Again, as with bike helmets, it seems to me that an incredibly large amount of money and time would be saved if disciplinary actions were left solely to the care of parents.

My frustration only mounted as I continued to read de Tocqueville's writing for he only grows bolder in his reflections about the United States. He details the "tyranny of the majority" in America and its tight grip on public opinion. De Tocqueville complains that despondency awaits the man who writes against the majority's opinion. Even almost 200 years later, it seems to me that we in the United States are still creatures that flock

together. We are uncomfortable being dissenters, and it is this aspect of our lives as Americans that de Tocqueville chronicled so well so many years ago.

With the Fourth of July fast approaching, I encourage each and every citizen of the United States to claim this country's history as their own. We must remember how boldly our colonial ancestors fought against the Empire in search of what was right. We must remember our Founding Fathers and their courage, and with this awareness we must allow ourselves to be infused with pride in our star-spangled heritage. It is time to stop

bleating after majority opinion just because it is the easier thing for us to do. Had our proud founders followed the mass opinion of Britain, we would still be shipping natural resources across the Atlantic under the name of the American colonies.

Despite, or perhaps because of, the somewhat anti-America jokes, inhabiting Austria for these past few weeks has instilled in me an even deeper sense of pride for the United States. I do not think it too bold of me to say that we have a pretty good thing going on in our country, even regardless of our mistakes. Sometimes all it takes to re-awaken patriotism in our hearts is a prod from a half-drunk Brit at an Irish pub in Austria. Happy Fourth!



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Pure Onsense

Challenges of leadership

Scott Zuke

As we celebrate this Fourth of July and reflect upon the origins of our nation, we should take advantage of the occasion to examine our political beliefs, not just in terms of our opinions on specific issues or more general political philosophies, but also in regard to our views on leadership. What are the qualities we value in our leaders and representatives?

It is a more complicated question than it appears at first glance, and lately it seems to be the underlying issue in all of the major stories of the summer. The most obvious place we see it is in the lead-up to the mid-term elections, for which the leading storyline thus far has been whether the tea party movement, with its focus on libertarian values and rhetoric that incessantly invokes the Founding Fathers, will spur an anti-incumbent revolt in November.

There is also the story of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, which began as an historic ecological disaster but, after the initial shock dissipated and the rush to find a quick solution failed, soon became a referendum on President Obama's leadership. So recently criticized for implementing Big Government solutions to health care and the recession,

he has now come under fire for being too slow to react to the spill. His leadership has been heavily scrutinized from the beginning: Is he too professorial? Is he too angry? Not angry enough? Progressives say he hasn't pushed strongly enough for their issues, and conservatives accuse him of creating a tyrannically overbearing federal government.

But let's put aside these stories for a few minutes and examine just the question at hand. What makes a great leader? A rich history of philosophical and political thought has gone into answering this question. In *The Republic*, Plato conceived of the ideal political leader, the Philosopher-King, as an absolute ruler with the unique ability and training needed to see the true good and serve the city-state by ensuring that it remains just and orderly. In his view, the only way to prevent tyranny and injustice was to give absolute authority to a perfectly good, wise, and incorruptible individual. Good luck with that, Plato.

More familiar and useful to us would be Aristotle's ethics based upon the virtues of temperance, courage, wisdom, and justice. Later, these would merge with Christian virtues such as modesty, charity, compassion, etc., but a general virtue ethic still seems

to be the most common way we evaluate our leaders. Do we trust them? Are they good role models? Do we generally find them to be likable and praiseworthy?

Falling short of these criteria is damaging to a politician, but not necessarily fatal to his or her career. This is due perhaps to Machiavelli's insights in his controversial treatise, *The Prince*. In it Machiavelli recommends that a ruler adopt principles of political expediency over traditional, deontological (duty-based) morality. "A man who strives after goodness in all his acts is sure to come to ruin, since there are so many men who are not good," he writes. Political leaders seem to have a unique set of moral principles requiring them to act sometimes in a way that would be impermissible for any other person. This puts them in a difficult position: while their actions are immediately judged according to how successfully they benefit the state, they will still ultimately have to answer to the people if those actions crossed accepted moral boundaries. Machiavelli's advice is that a leader need only appear virtuous, while quietly retaining moral flexibility. The very idea of an uncompromising politician is a contradiction, yet it is something voters will almost always demand.

Another complexity of republican systems of government arises from the second half of our question: do we elect leaders or representatives? Do we want our elect-

ed officials to passively convey our wishes, or do we want them to independently evaluate an issue, use their best judgement, and take the initiative to convince us to support their chosen course of action? Here again, elected officials have a near impossible task in straddling these contradicting roles.

The tea party movement mostly favors electing humble representatives who will follow the will of the people within constitutional limits. Interestingly, the Founding Fathers were nearly the complete opposite of this description. They were elites who developed their own new political views, quite unlike anything the rest of the populace imagined, much less asked for, and fought tirelessly to convince the people and Congress of their new plan's wisdom. They were leaders in the truest sense. And incidentally, they had trouble abiding by the very Constitutional limitations they themselves drafted (e.g. Madison's failed attempt to block the Jay Treaty).

So when the tea party says that we need more leaders like the Founding Fathers, what do they mean? If they believe that adhering to the principles of the Founders is the sole key to success, two problems arise. First, the Founders disputed their own principles and made significant compromises in order to pass the Constitution, even though their personal views had not changed. And second, even when they fol-

lowed the law, they still made significant errors both at the executive level (Jefferson's failed Embargo Act of 1807 and Madison's failure to avoid the War of 1812) and the legislative (Alien and Sedition Acts).

In short, there appears to be no single proven way to answer our question of what qualities we should value in our leaders and representatives. The best we have done has been to uncover an interesting law of political reality: the public's adoration of any individual ceases once that individual is granted power over them.

Since government necessarily requires that the governed are ceding some of their freedoms to an outside authority, distrust and dislike for that authority is inevitable, regardless of that authority's character, actions, or principles. Or, as Lyndon Johnson once summed up the challenge of leadership: "If one morning I walked on top of the water across the Potomac River, the headline that afternoon would read: 'President Can't Swim.'" This is why truly great leadership is rarely appreciated during its time, and why the clever leaders are more concerned with their legacy than their poll numbers. It is also why looking to history's great leaders offers little help in evaluating those of the present or choosing those for the future.

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

Down Under!

Who in the world is Ayn Rand?

Submitted By: Lindsay!
Melbourne Australia

Greed is all right Greed is healthy. You can be greedy and still feel good about yourself.

(Ivan F Boesky, commencement address, Berkeley, 1966)

Everyone that is greedy of gain; which taketh away the life of the owners thereof

—(Proverbs 1:19)

From some 10,000 miles away, American society appears to be schizoid. On one hand the continuing parade of Christian values seems to be saying we are a God fearing people who live in accordance with the teachings of Christ, while on the other hand there are daily revelations of sly, cunning business practices rampant in your world of mostly unregulated finance.

I am quite sure that the great majority of folk totally deplore this side of their great nation, yet it is also apparent that an enormous number believe that Ivan Boesky was right in his opening address to students at UCLA at Berkeley. Nothing wrong with greed, is there? Allow me to introduce Ayn Rand, who took this no-

tion to new heights or depths, depending on your values and gave Mr. Boesky his soapbox.

Born Alisa Rosenbaum in 1905, she was a Russian émigré to the United States, and died there in 1982. She wrote books, screenplays and poetry, achieving public recognition through *The Fountainhead* and *Atlas Shrugged*. These books and other articles set out the core of her beliefs, which she calls Objectivism, and which has at its heart the idea of Good Greed.

In her ideas on individual rights, laissez-fair capitalism, and constitutionally limited government, she opposed all forms of collectivism and stateism such as Fascism, Communism, and the Welfare State, instead believing in Ethical Egoism and The Ethics of Altruism. These are to be expressed in individual lives as the supremacy of reason, the virtue of selfishness, and that moral purpose is the pursuit of happiness. Human values are also objective, meaning don't get sentimental about what happens to others.

Such has been the impact of these ideas that a whole culture has grown up around them, causing citizens to put themselves first and others, including their neighbour, last. When it comes to finance, the

way in which the structuring and marketing of investments has developed would have made King Canute happy.

The idea of investment is, of course, one based on letting your money work for you so you do not have to do as much physical labour yourself, surely nothing wrong with that, is there? It is the basis of capitalism, after all, and has been around since the Medicis, who saw a way to make other people's money work for them. One small step for the powerful, another set of steps for the unaware. That stepladder has sprouted wings, to mix a metaphor, and the means by which investment sleight-of-hand has caught out many a trusting person, group and nation is more than an artform, it has become the Houdini of Hoodwink.

And the name of the most recent and brilliant Magician is Goldman Sachs. Whether they ever read Ayn Rand is doubtful, but her ideas have been so well learnt, possibly at the feet of Mr. Boesky, that they seem to be truly confused by the outrage around the world. Having built up a rarely disputed reputation for trustworthiness, they toiled and tinkered to construct a system so far removed from reality that it would make them rich beyond anyone's dreams, be incomprehensible, and they then set about selling it to the world.

Banks, nations, financial institutions, all manner of funds got into it because they were told it was Gold-plated Goldman Sachs,

and not that it was stuff that they had organised to turn to dross in the very near future. When that happened, of course, there was outrage, but no redress. You puts your money in, you takes your chances, and if it goes bad, baby, kaboom!

To quote Matt Trebbi, writing recently in the *Guardian*, There have been a lot of greedy financiers and banks in history, but what makes Goldman stand out is its truly bizarre cultist/religious belief in the rightness of what it does. The point was driven home in England last year, when Goldman's international adviser, sounding exactly like a character in *Atlas Shrugged*, said The injunction of Jesus to love ourselves is an endorsement of self-interest.

I doubt if the Greek government, or that of England, Portugal, Spain, Iceland and others would agree. The economy of the whole world is reeling, close to an abyss, and may yet plunge over the edge. The groundwork was done in America, when deregulation of parts of the financial area was extended because, it was assumed, greed on such a grand scale could not be possible - surely?

Ayn Rand made a statement about self interest, and neglected to inform her readers, (or herself, no doubt), that it was based upon half truths. There's nothing funny about Ayn Rand's writing. There is even less fun to be had from the results of her ideas. The really sad thing is that the groundwork was so fertile. A people who did



believe the dictum of doing unto others as they would be done unto would see that the result of being greedy on a grand scale was likely to be horribly visited upon themselves and their descendants.

Self reliance, Ethical Egoism are good, but not without restraint. Most of us have some self interest at heart, but are also aware that we need to care for others for life to have much meaning. And King Canute, if you recall, lost the thing he loved most because of his greed. His daughter, who was turned to gold.

It may be time to look again at the whole quote as used in England: Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. And, as a reminder of what one of your Great Presidents said in his inaugural address on March 4, 1933, In the field of world policy I would dedicate this nation to the policy of the good neighbour. FDR, of course.

To read past editions of Lindsay Cooker's *Down Under* columns visit the Authors' section of Emmitsburg.net.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Character: A quality of Christianity

Pastor Tim Robbins
Fairfield Fellowship Baptist Church

Character is defined as the pattern of behavior or personality found in an individual or group; or moral constitution. How Christians deal with the circumstances of their lives speaks of their character. Crisis doesn't necessarily shape a person's character, but it does reveal the true nature of their character. Adversity in our lives is a crossroads where a person chooses to walk on one of two paths - Character or Compromise. Jesus is the ultimate example of character for us to follow. Every time we choose character over compromise - every time we strive to be like Jesus Christ - we grow more and more into his image.

Character is who you are when no one is looking. Who you are when you're sitting alone with your feet propped up. That is exactly what your character is.

Romans 5:1-4 says, "Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope."

There are four things you must know about character. The first is that character is more than talk. Anyone can say they have integrity but action is the only true indicator of whether or not a person actually does have integrity. Your character determines who you are. I dare say that people who always seem to be at war with themselves have a problem in their character.

James 2:18 says, "But someone will say, 'You have faith, and I have works.' Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works." Proverbs 20:11 tells us that "the character of even a child can be known by the way he acts-- whether what he does is pure and right." Your walk talks and your talk talks but your walk talks louder than your talk talks.

The second thing is that talent is a gift, but character is a choice.

There are a lot of things that happen in our lives we have no control over - who our family is, our upbringing, our talents, our IQ or the weather - but we do choose our character. In fact, we create it - every time we make choices.

Deuteronomy 30:19 says, "I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live." Will you choose the easy way or the right way? If we are honest with ourselves, we can admit that a lot of us take the easy way; however, we need to be taking the right way. We need to choose character over compromise. Third on our list is character brings lasting success with people. Lifestyle evangelism is all about relationships. You do not need to be ordained to be a minister. How you live your life shows people who is in control of your life: you or Jesus. People do not trust those who have flawed characters, but know this: God can and will restore a person who has a flawed character. We see it all the time. The media will jump all over a public figure whose character flaws have been exposed and they would have you believe these people are of no use any more, but I am telling you that if someone repents, God can restore that person in spite of a flawed character many terrible mistakes. Nevertheless, it does take true repentance for him to do his work.

Good character will open up doors for lasting relationships with everyone around you. 1 Thessalonians 5:22 encourages us to "abstain from all appearance of evil." Luke 2:52 tells us that, "Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men." My Bible's note about this verse speaks of Jesus' willingness from a very early age to ask questions and listen to the answers. Before ministering to people or telling them about the Kingdom, he always took time to listen to them. Jesus knew that, to connect with a person's heart, he had to use his ears. We all could learn a lot from that. We could learn a lifetime of lessons from that one small passage. It all goes back to the old saying

that, "no one cares how much you know until they know how much you care."

Finally, we need to know that people cannot rise above the limitations of their character alone. Have you ever seen highly talented people fall apart when they reach a certain level of success? They cannot rise above their character and you and I cannot rise above what our character is. We need to work on our character and build it up even more. There are many circumstances in your life that you cannot change, but your character is something you do have control over. Success without a good foundation of character is bound for failure.

Biblical examples of character include Joseph resisting Potiphar's wife in Genesis 39:7-12 and Paul in Acts 20: 22-24 where he writes that, "now I go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem, not knowing the things that will happen to me there, except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that chains and tribulations await me. But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God." Paul was unwavering in his character. He would not deny who he was representing even though it cost him to live in chains and be uncertain of the future. He guarded his character.

So the question remains: How do we protect our good character when we are faced with the decisions we face every day? How do we fail? We fail by compromising.

To succeed, you need to look at every aspect of your life; your relationships with God, your spouse, your children, your friends and your employer. Identify shortcuts and shortcomings in those aspects of your life and write them down, then pray about them. Do it this week. Then, search for patterns. What patterns of weakness do you see? Examine your life and look for issues with your character. Ask God to deliver you from these patterns in your life that affect your character.

Don't be afraid to face the music. The beginning of character repair is when you face your flaws,

repent and deal with them. If you believe your character is perfect and you have nothing to change, you are fooling yourself but no one else. You need to repent of your character flaws head-on. Deal with them by praying about them.

The reason so many Christians never get delivered is because they can't admit to anything being wrong in their lives. Too many times we, as Christians, live in a fantasy world where we go to church on Sundays, study our Bibles and pray every day with the attitude that there isn't anything else to be done.

These are all important things and every one of us should be doing them daily but, if there is something in your life that is affecting your character such as a bad attitude, difficulty telling the truth or speaking harsh words, you need to realize it and repent. Repentance is a good thing, but many people are ashamed to repent. Jesus Christ died for these sins and we need to turn from them. To repent means simply to turn away from; if you have issues that are flawing your character, you need to turn away from them.

The next thing to do to protect our characters is rebuild. Don't confess your sins only to man, confess them to the only one who can help you. Confess them to Jesus Christ. We need to do this in order to start fresh and begin building a new future.

Keep praying against your weaknesses, search the Word about these areas and be accountable to someone. You need someone who is helping you be accountable to God. You need someone other than your spouse who will ask you difficult questions about how particular areas of your life are going. We don't all have flawed characters, but we



all have things that are keeping us from being perfect.

I heard a story once that illustrates my point. A man took his daughter to the carnival, and she immediately ran over to a booth and asked for cotton candy. As the attendant handed her a huge ball of it, the father asked, "Sweetheart, are you sure you can eat all of that?" "Don't worry, Dad," she answered, "I'm a lot bigger on the inside than on the outside." That's what real character is - being bigger on the inside.

Are you bigger on the inside than you are on the outside? I hope so. We are under attack these days from many angles. Whether we mean to or not, we fall and we fail. It's time to ask God to help us with the areas in which we struggle. We all struggle with something. We may not think it's a big thing, but if it's affecting your relationship with God, it's a big thing.

How's your character? How do people perceive you? Better yet, how are you when you get home from church after you've eaten and you're relaxing? Remember, your character is who you are when no one is looking. How do you like your character? Is there something you'd like to change about it? There is only one person who can help you with that and it's our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He's the one who died, was buried and defeated death so that we could have eternal life and victory over these flaws in our character.

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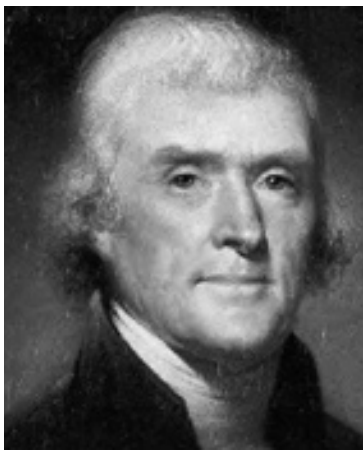
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LITERATURE

The Book of Days

Thomas Jefferson



The celebrated author of the American Declaration of Independence, entered life as a Virginian barrister, and, while still a young man, was elected a member of the House of Burgesses for his state. When the disputes between the colonies and mother-country began, he took an active part in the measures for the resistance of taxation, and for diffusing the same spirit through the other provinces.

Elected in 1775 to the Continental Congress, he zealously promoted the movement for a complete separation from England, and in the Declaration of Independence, which was adopted on the 4th of July 1776, he laid down the pro-positions, since so often quoted, that all men are created equal, with 'an inalienable right' to 'life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness,' and that 'governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed.' When the cause of independence became triumphant, Mr. Jefferson naturally took a high place in the administration of the new government. He successively filled the posts of governor of Virginia, secretary of state under the presidency of Washington, and vice-president under that of John Adams; finally, in 1801, attaining to the presidency, which he held for two terms or eight years.

While Washington and Adams aimed at a strong, an aristocratic, and a centralizing government, Jefferson stood up as the advocate of popular rights and measures. He headed the Liberal Republican, or, as it was afterwards called, the Democratic party. He laboured for civil and religious liberty and education. He secured the prohibition of the slave trade, and of slavery over a vast territory, and was in favour of universal emancipation.

In Virginia, he secured the abolition of a religious establishment, and of entails, and the equal rights of both sexes to inheritance. The most important measure of his administration was the acquisition of Louisiana, including the whole territory west of the Mississippi, which was purchased of France for 15,000,000 dollars. His administration was singularly free from political favouritism. It is remembered as one of his sayings, that 'he could always find better men for every place than his own connections.'

After retiring from the presidency, he founded the university of Vir-

ginia, carried on an extensive correspondence, entertained visitors from all parts of the world, and enjoyed his literary and philosophical pursuits. He was married early in life, and had one daughter, whose numerous children were the solace of his old age. At the age of eighty, he wrote to John Adams, with whom, in spite of political differences, he maintained a warm personal friendship:

I have ever dreaded a dotting age; and my health has been generally so good, and is now so good, that I dread it still. The rapid decline of my strength, during the last winter, has made me hope sometimes that I see land. During summer I enjoy its temperature; but I shudder at the approach of winter, and wish I could sleep through it with the dormouse, and only wake with him in the spring, if ever. They say that Stark could walk about his room. I am told you walk well and firmly. I can only reach my garden, and that with sensible fatigue. I ride, however, daily, but reading is my delight.—God bless you, and give you health, strength, good spirits, and as much life as you think worth having.'

The death of Jefferson, at the age of eighty-three, was remarkable. Both he and his friend John Adams, the one the author and the other the chief advocate of the Declaration of Independence—each having filled the highest offices in the Republic they founded—died on the 4th of July 1826, giving a singular solemnity to its fiftieth anniversary.

On the tomb of Jefferson, at Monticello, he is described as the author of the Declaration of Independence, the founder of religious freedom in Virginia, and of the university of Virginia; but there is a significant omission of the fact, that he was twice president of the United States.

The Fourth of July

Where a country or a government has been baffled in its efforts to attain or preserve a hated rule over another people, it must be content to see its failure made the subject of never-ending triumph and exultation.

The joy attached to the sense of escape or emancipation tends to perpetuate itself by periodical celebrations, in which it is not likely that the motives of the other party, or the general justice of the case, will be very carefully considered or allowed for. We may doubt if it be morally expedient thus to keep alive the memory of facts which as certainly infer mortification to one party as they do glorification to another: but we must all admit that it is only natural, and in a measure to be expected.

The anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776, has ever since been celebrated as a great national festival throughout the United States, and wher-

ever Americans are assembled over the world. From Maine to Oregon, from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico, in every town and village, this birthday of the Republic has always hitherto been ushered in with the ringing of bells, the firing of cannon, the display of the national flag, and other evidences of public rejoicing. A national salute is fired at sunrise, noon, and at sunset, from every fort and man-of-war. The army, militia, and volunteer troops parade, with bands of music, and join with the citizens in patriotic processions.

The famous Declaration is solemnly read, and orators, appointed for the occasion, deliver what are termed Fourth of July Orations, in which the history of the country is reviewed, and its past and coming glories pro-claimed. The virtues of the Pilgrim Fathers, the heroic exertions and sufferings of the soldiers of the Revolution, the growth and power of the Republic, and the great future which expands before her, are the staple ideas of these orations. Dinners, toasts, and speeches follow, and at night the whole country blazes with bonfires, rockets, Roman candles, and fireworks of every description. In a great city like New York, Boston, or Philadelphia, the day, and even the night previous, is insufferably noisy with the constant rattle of Chinese-crackers and firearms. In the evening, the displays of fireworks in the public squares, provided by the authorities, are often magnificent.

John Adams, second president of the United States, and one of the most distinguished signers of the Declaration of Independence, in a letter written at the time, predicted the manner in which it would be celebrated, and his prediction has doubtless done something to insure its own fulfilment. Adams and Jefferson, two of the signers, both in turn presidents, by a most remarkable coincidence died on the fiftieth anniversary of Independence, in the midst of the national celebration, which, being semi-centennial, was one of extraordinary splendour.

Superstitions about New-born Children

It is unlucky to weigh them. If you do, they will probably die, and, at any rate, will not thrive. I have caused great concern in the mind of a worthy old monthly nurse by insisting on weighing mine. They have, however, all done very well, with the exception of one, the weighing of whom was accidentally forgotten to be performed.

The nurses always protested against the weighing, though in a timorous sort of way; saying that, no doubt it was all nonsense, but still it had better not be done.

It is not good for children to sleep upon bones—that is, upon the lap. There seems to be some sense in this notion; it is doubtless better for a child to be supported throughout its whole length, instead of hanging down its head

or legs, as it might probably do if sleeping on the lap.

Hesiod, in his Works and Days, forbids children of twelve months, or twelve years old, to be placed in—upon things not to be moved—which some have understood to mean sepulchres: if this is right, perhaps there is some connection between his injunction, and that which condemns the sleeping upon bones, though the modern bones are those of the living, and not of the dead.

Cats suck the breath of infants, and so kill them. This extremely unphilosophical notion of cats preferring exhausted to pure air, is frequently a cause of great annoyance to poor pussy, when, after having established herself close to baby, in a snug warm cradle, she finds herself ignominiously hustled out under suspicion of compassing the death of her quiet new acquaintance, who is not yet big enough to pull her tail.

When children first leave their mother's room, they must go upstairs before they go downstairs, otherwise they will never rise in the world.

Of course it frequently happens that there is no upstairs, that the mother's room is the highest in the house. In this case the difficulty is met by the nurse setting a chair, and stepping upon that with the child in her arms as she leaves the room. I have seen this done.

A mother must not go outside her own house-door till she goes to be 'churched.' Of course the principle of this is a good one. It is right, under such circumstances, the first use a woman should make of her restored strength, should be to go to church, and thank God for her recovery; but in practice this principle sometimes degenerates into mere superstition.

If you rock an empty cradle, you will rock a new baby into it. This is a superstition in viridi observantia, and it is quite curious to see the face of alarm with which a poor woman, with her tenth baby in her arms, will dash across a room to prevent the 'baby-but-one' from engaging in such a dangerous amusement as rocking the empty cradle.

In connection with this subject, it maybe mentioned that there is a widely-spread notion among the poorer classes, that rice, as an article of food, prevents the increase of the population. How the populousness of India and China are accounted for on this theory, I cannot say; probably those who entertain it never fully realise the existence of 'foreign parts,' but it is certain that there was not long ago a great outcry against the giving of rice to poor people under the poor law, as it was said to be done with a purpose.

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THE (retired) ECOLOGIST

Of Raspberries and (family) history

Bill Meredith

It may not have seemed like it at the time, but the record snowfalls we had last winter were the start of something good... a wetter-than-usual spring. As I write this, on the eve of the Summer Solstice, we are more than four inches ahead of our normal rainfall. The garden is growing like weeds, and not just because it is, mostly; the English walnuts are bending the branches of the tree toward the ground, and for the first time in years our raspberries are worth picking.

Our raspberry patch is the remnant of an aborted attempt at entrepreneurship by our youngest son.



Sometime in the mid-70s, when he was 10 or 11 years old, he saw an ad in a magazine which promised great financial rewards from raising raspberries. He immediately concluded that his paper route was not lucrative enough, and decided to go into the raspberry business. Bankrolled by his grandmother, he ordered a couple hundred plants, which came complete with instructions for planting and cultivation. However, despite many visits to my parents' farm in West Virginia, his knowledge of agriculture was surprisingly limited. He studied the instructions intently, and finally came to me with a puzzled look on his face: "Dad, it says I should work Man Yoor into the soil when I plant the berry vines. Do you know what that means?" I did know, of course; when I was his age, it was one of my daily chores to clean the manure out of the barn, and periodically to spread it on the fields with the tractor. Apparently he had never heard the word, so I tried to keep a straight face while I explained. As it turned out, he was spared the experience of direct contact with it; local farmers had already done their spring plowing, and their manure supplies were exhausted, so he had to buy commercial fertilizer instead. Most of the plants survived the ensuing winter, but the next summer was dry and no berries were produced. Faced with the prospect of tending the plants another year without any return on his investment, his interest dwindled and that section of the garden drifted back toward its natu-

ral state. Twenty years later, when we built our present house where the old garden had been, I rescued a few of the surviving raspberry vines from the brush and undergrowth that had engulfed them, and they now reside peacefully in the corner of our yard.

Raspberries have played a role in our family's life for generations. Several years ago my aunt showed me a diary my grandmother had kept in 1903. It was a simple record which related each day's events in a few terse sentences. One entry particularly caught my attention: "We all went down to the woods and picked raspberries today. Susie got bit by a copperhead. Lloyd kilt it." The next

day's entry stated that "Susie died this morning. I canned raspberries and made 12 pts of jelly." I didn't remember anyone in the family named Susie, and I asked my aunt who she was and if life back then was really so unfeeling that they couldn't even take a day off for a funeral. She explained that Susie was the dog, and while everyone liked her, life had to go on. The family were subsistence farmers; there was no refrigeration then, and fruit had to be processed when it was ripe. It wasn't a luxury; it would be needed, come winter time.

We didn't have to raise berries when I was growing up; there were plenty of wild ones, which required no cultivation and bore abundant crops each year. My father always reminded us to watch out for snakes and made sure we wore heavy shoes or boots, but my brothers and I went picking unattended. Occa-

sionally we saw blacksnakes or garter snakes, but we knew they were harmless. I enjoyed picking the raspberries; most of them grew in shady places, and you could snack on them as you picked. The first picking was always the best; in the middle of each bunch on the vine, there was always that one big, juicy berry that ripened first and got bigger than the rest. We would get several gallons each summer, and they would be frozen, canned, or made into jam and pies. Occasionally we even had a few extra ones to sell.

When I began dating my future wife a few years later, my berry-picking skills made a favorable impression on her mother, who was glad to have free berries but disliked picking them herself

because she was concerned about snakes. She told us she had been out picking berries when she was a girl and came upon the family cow, which was lying down in a hypnotic state, with a snake sucking milk from her. The snake, apparently startled by her approach, turned itself into a hoop by putting its tail in its mouth and rolled off down the hill and out of sight. The cow, she said, was completely dry that night. A quick calculation told me the snake must have consumed over two gallons of milk, which meant it must have been the size of an anaconda. I had heard such tales from my grandfather when I was little; he had a formidable reputation as a storyteller and liked to entertain children with such yarns. I was inclined to be skeptical, but it didn't seem prudent to ques-



tion the accuracy of an eyewitness, especially when I hoped to become her son-in-law. So I nodded solemnly, promised to be vigilant, and started off toward the solitude of the berry patch with a pail in one hand and my fiancée-to-be in the other. It was an enjoyable afternoon. We made sure to pick some berries before we came home.

There are probably fewer than two dozen berry vines remaining in the little patch in the corner of our yard. Each day for the past week I have gone down to collect the harvest; usually I get about half a quart of berries. The area is full of weeds and somewhat unsightly, and my wife is sure there are snakes in it too, so she frequently urges me to clean it out and plant something use-

ful there. But I resist; the garden space we already have produces more vegetables than we need. So in another week, when they finish bearing, I will prune away the old vines, cut back the weeds, and try to persuade the new runners to take root in more or less orderly rows. I may even put some Man Yoor on them. Then I will forget about them until next year. As my son learned, we are at the mercy of the weather; next June may bring another berry crop, or it may not. But I know if I am still here I will be able to look at the berry patch and harvest another crop of memories. At this stage in life, that is enough.

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IN THE COUNTRY

Making the most of Mother Nature

Lynne King Holt

The corn, should be and will be, knee high by the 4th of July. Summer is now in full swing. Having lived exclusively in older homes, I have learned how to keep things cool. The wood provides shade and the air is cooler on the mountain.

Living between the mountains, east and west, makes for shorter days, lol. My windows are open every night. As the cooler air glides down the slope, through the trees, it breezes in my windows. With great reluctance, sigh, I close those windows when morning comes. Drawing curtains and letting down the blinds blocks the sun from entering the house. The cool icky cellar where darkness and moisture thrives feels as though the old house sits on a block of ice. The roof is reflective metal and the siding is light of light color. The combination

windows seal you in and with one temperature setting you are good for all seasons. But therein lies the problem. Just like being wrapped in plastic, once the heat enters the house, and it will, it remains. There is no escape since the house has been sealed to not let the weather in. I have a couple of ceiling fans.

I learned quickly that when Elsa my tiny, tawny tabby comes in for a quick bite to eat, the fans must be still. When she looked up and saw those wings a-whirling, her only thought was the pterodactyls have returned. My little Elsa comes from Iowa, where there are huge predators, the Bald Eagle, who could swoop her up. Her feral instincts have kept her alive.

The hummers are here. Yes, the ones with the sound of a revved engine; the Speedy Gonzales of the aviaries, the Ruby-Throated Hummingbird. There are many species of hummingbirds worldwide, but this is the only one we will see here. If you have not already rushed out to buy them a feeder, please do so now. They provide endless hours of fascination. They fiercely defend their feeder from other hummers. So, you might want to pick up two at the store.

The males are adorned with the ruby throat and iridescent green. The females are a delicate olive green and grey. They use their long beaks to sip from the feeder; and may sit on the perch or hover with wings that can take them up to 70mph. Every year, a hummer will fly onto the porch and hover about face level. He or she is telling me, we are back (from Mexico) and we want you to hang the feeder.

In July people head to the shore. It is a hot month, good for ocean breezes or making hay. I had my



first black raspberry just days ago. Both the red and black raspberry have a whitish stem with light green leaves.

The wineberry will be next and it promises an outstanding crop this year. This berry is red and has the appearance of a raspberry. But it grows in hairy looking clusters and is a sweeter, light in taste, berry. It grows in abundance along the tree lines and roadsides. I have had the local wine from this berry. It is a dessert wine, sweet and thick as a liquor. Rather strong stuff, best to keep it until the winter holds you hostage and you are in for the night!

Nature repeats itself with the arrival of each season. As I made my way down the misty mountain road early one morning, I saw a doe with her fawn. They took off, as a good mother the doe has taught her little spotted one to disappear into the wood. I saw him again when my walk took me through the same field. The doe had bedded him down, so she could continue to forage on her own. The little fawn will stay put, as long as he is not disturbed. I have cantered my horse down a grassy lane and right over a sleeping fawn. The horse will not step on this delicate creature. But to be sure, I dismounted and crept back to see if all was well. And it was.

Someone once told me that a fawn emits no scent. Unless some-

thing comes upon it, the wee one is safe until the doe returns. This system has been a huge success, just look at the deer population!

I would like to enlist your help with preserving our snakes. I know, I know, this can be creepy for some. But I am not asking you to interact or handle the snakes which feel like vinyl, not slimy or slithery. There are rattlesnakes up on the mountain and copperheads throughout. I do not seek them and I have not encountered one rattlesnake. I have seen a copperhead, but he did not last long. He was run over by a car. I noticed when I went past his resting spot. You may not wish to get close enough, but in order not to top confuse the venomous snake with the non-venomous, their eyes and flattened heads are distinct. The pupil is vertical "I" in the venomous snake, not rounded as the non-venomous. The Kingsnake or Blacksnake is very territorial. They are not only immune to the venom, but reportedly will drive the copperhead out.

Between these large black snakes and the pounding of the horses' hooves, I do not have any quarrel with snakes. Please, when you drive along the roads, do not run over the long blacksnake or any snake, turtle, or creature. They are slow to cross or a simply absorbing the hear from the macadam. You may be viewing a Ratsnake

or a Kingsnake. Either way, they are guardians; keeping the venous snakes at bay and the rodent population down.

I have seen quite a few snakes this year, all non-poisonous. I like to stop to identify them. Sadly, the roadkills make this task easier. I have yet to convince Elsa, the feral cat, to leave the baby Ratsnakes alone. She offed one and was after another when I scooped her up and took her in the house. This allowed the ten inches of spotted Ratsnake to make his escape. The adults are dark, black or grey and their bodies have a lumpy appearance. Not smooth and sleek as the King or Blacksnake.

Do not let a fear of snakes dictate your actions. Instead, be curious and observe them. Give the venomous ones plenty of room and do not threaten any snake. Their tongue flicks out testing the airwaves in a non-threatening manner.

So, with summer upon us, we are going to keep cool, pick berries, feed the hummingbirds and observe the creatures of the woodlands and fields. I hope you will enjoy what nature has to offer. You will feel the better for it.

To read more articles by Lynn Holt visit the Authors' section of emmitsburg.net.



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THE MASTER GARDENER

Keeping gardens healthy in the summer

Kay Hinkle
Adams County Master Gardener

Stephanie Kriess
Frederick County Master Gardener Program

Mike Hillman
Spouse of Master Gardener

How many growing seasons have been just perfect for planting these last few years? How often have you been able to accurately predict the last frost of the season, allowing you to plant immediately without worry of a freeze? And then there are the droughts - have they impacted the beauty (or survival) of your gardens these last few summers?

The good news is that these changing weather patterns have resulted in a more creative, adaptable group of gardeners. We have learned that we can keep our plants hydrated by catching water that might have formerly been wasted and that there are some pretty resilient, drought-tolerant plants. And we have seen how high winds and thunderstorms can flatten a beautifully blooming garden at its peak!

While our cool, wet May served to delay the growing season, after we all thought an early spring was coming from our early warm weather of April, our plantings finally began to grow when the sun began to shine for extended periods of time. In contrast, a growing season with too little rain will have a significant, negative impact on most plants.

In preparation for future drought conditions, it may make sense to plant a few plants that are adaptable to dry conditions. In our area, where drought conditions are cyclical in nature but inevitable, you may want to consider the following plants that will flourish in dry con-



When planting your garden it is always a good idea to group plants according to their watering needs and their sun/shade tolerance

ditions once they are established in your garden:

Perennials

- Asclepias tuberosa - Butterfly weed
- Artemisia spp. - Artemisia
- Aster spp. - Asters
- Baptisia australis - False blue indigo
- Centaurea montana - Perennial bachelor's button
- Coreopsis spp.- Coreopsis
- Dianthus spp. - Pinks
- Echinacea purpurea - Purple cone flower
- Echinops ritro - Globe thistle
- Erygium spp. - Sea holly
- Gaillardia spp. - Blanket flower
- Helleborus sp. - Hellebores
- Hemerocallis spp. - Daylily

Hibiscus

- moscheutos - Common mallow
- Hosta sp. - Hosta
- Iris sibirica - Siberian iris
- Lavandula angustifolia - Lavender
- Liatris spp. - Gay feather
- Nepeta spp. - Catmint
- Paeonia sp. - Peony
- Perovskia atriplicifolia - Russian sage
- Phlox spp.- Phlox
- Rudbeckia spp. - Black-eyed Susan
- Salvia spp. - Sage
- Sedum spp. - Sedum
- Sempervirens tectorum - Hens and chicks
- Stachys byzantina - Lambs ears
- Stokesia laevis - Stokes aster
- Thymus spp. - Thyme

- Yucca spp. - Yucca

Annuals

- Calendula officinalis - Pot marigold
- Canna x generalis - Canna
- Capsicum spp. - Ornamental peppers
- Celosia cristata - Cockscomb
- Cleome - Spider plant
- Cosmos - Cosmos
- Digitalis purpurea - Foxglove
- Eschscholzia californica - California poppy
- Gazania rigens - Gazania
- Helianthus sp. - Sunflowers
- Helichrysum bracteatum - Strawflower

Hopefully, our summer plantings will enjoy a steady flow of moisture as needed this year. However, when selecting plants for next

year's garden, you may want to be prepared for whatever the jet stream brings. If drought tolerance is a goal in your garden, try planting a few selections from the list above. You can have constant color regardless of what could turn out to be drought conditions.

However, even drought tolerant plants will not grow completely without water. Their needs are about 50 percent of the water needs of non-drought tolerant plants. What should you do to insure their survival? Water your plants infrequently as deeply as your soil drainage situation permits, rather than doing light, frequent waterings. Deep watering encourages deep root development, which will stand your plants in good stead when dry, hot summer conditions arrive.

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THE MASTER GARDENER

Other things you can do to ensure your plants' survival include mulching your beds about 2 inches deep. This helps the soil retain moisture and also reduces the temperature of the soil surface.

When planning your garden, it is good idea to try to group your plants according to their water needs, as well as taking into consideration their sun/shade tolerance. By planting your water and typically shade loving plants away from the drought tolerant ones, you will avoid over watering the latter in order to keep the former alive.

Use soaker hoses or drip irrigation. These products apply water to the soil surface only and can reduce water use by 65-70%.

Control weeds, they compete with the desirable plants for water.

If you do have containers, mulch them as you do your garden and keep them in a shady area on really hot days. If water restrictions become severe in your area, concentrate on keeping your trees and shrubs alive first, then your perennials. Let your annuals go if you must.

Consider using a water collection system. Since the beginning of recorded time, mankind has been using collection systems to gather and store rain water for future use, and while the appearance of the systems has changed, the basic elements that make them up have not. All you need is a wide surface and a piping system to direct the water to the storage device.

Roofs and down spouts fulfill the first two requirements and are at the disposal of every homeowner, it's getting a proper water storage device that trips up most would be water collectors.

Trash cans are almost everyone's first choice. Readily available, that can be put into use with a minimal amount of effort or cost. However, lacking a proper drain, they can only be emptied by having their owner's

bend over and scoop the water out - a task which loses its luster after a few days. Not to mention the fact that the few un-retrievable inches at the bottom of 'emptied' trash cans forms the perfect misquote bread-ing grounds

On the opposite end of the spectrum, there are many rain barrel systems on the market too chose from, ranging in price from \$85 to \$135 a barrel. Considering a single 55 gallon rain barrel hold only enough water to maintain a four by ten foot garden for, at most a week, manufactured systems are a bit pricey.

For gardeners willing to put in a little sweat equity, there is a third path that will allow you to capture and store as much rainwater as you want while leaving your wallet virtually unscathed.

The first thing you need to do is identify a source of food quality 55 gallon barrels. Manufacturers of fruit and soft drink products are an excellent source. And since in most cases the barrels are only allowed to be used once, manufacturers are happy to see you cart off as many barrels as you can for free, or at most, at a minimal cost of a few dollars. (Manufacturers have to dispose of barrels as hazardous waste as they are made of plastic, which is costly to them.)

Most 'do-it-yourself' rain barrel instructions recommend you get barrels with removable tops for two reasons: so you access the inside of the barrel to fasten your drain fittings; and, to allow you to clean out any leaves that enter the barrel.

I, however, recommend you look for sealed barrels for three reasons. First, they are more plentiful; second, a plumber's pipe tap will allow you to fit a drain fitting without having to get inside the barrel; and third, instead of worrying about cleaning out the barrel - a simple down spout gutter screen will be more than adequate to keep any leaves out of your barrel.

A word to the wise here ... don't



A homemade rain barrel water collection system is fairly easy to make and can significantly reduce water demands on wells or from town water supplies. For more information on how to build a water barrel system visit the gardening section of emmitsburg.net.

skimp on the number of barrels you bring home. I have more than 18 barrels scattered around my house holding 1900 gallons of water. Whether you have adequate locations for your barrels will affect how many barrels you need. In selecting barrel placement, make sure you take the time to look at the vegetation in the area.

In selecting barrel placement, make sure you take the time to look at the vegetation in the area. The chances are better than even that over the years the area has attracted water-loving plants that will not look kindly on having their water supply cut-off. If you

want to keep those plants, you might want to put in fewer barrels than planned, thereby assuring that they get some runoff. A three-hour light rain filled our 18 barrels to overflowing. How quick your barrels fill depends upon how large the collection surface is.

To help you want to keep an eye on the water level in the barrels, a water level indicator can easily be made using simple clear tygon tubing. Connect one end to a fitting taped into the bottom of one barrel. Secure the other end of the tube to the top of the barrel using tape. The water in the tygon tube will equalize with that in

the barrel giving you an accurate reading.

While this might seem like a lot of work, if you do everything in a production like fashion, and you get all your parts in advance at Zurgable Bothers, it only takes an hour to assemble everything and install a barrel.

As for your cost, excluding paint, each completely outfitted barrel will run you about 15 dollars - far cheaper than any manufactured system. Of course the difference is you do all the work in building it!

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PETS LARGE AND SMALL

Woodpeckers of the Mason-Dixon

Russell Ryan

In the Mason-Dixon Region (i.e. Adams, Carroll, Frederick and York Counties) one can find seven species of woodpeckers. Six of those species breed in this region and are considered residents. The resident woodpeckers of the region include northern flicker, pileated woodpecker, red-bellied woodpecker, red-headed woodpecker, hairy woodpecker and downy woodpecker. The yellow-bellied sapsucker (yes, there truly is a bird called a sapsucker) does not breed in the region but is considered a migrant (can be found fall through spring).

Woodpeckers drill into trees to uncover insect food, to create nesting shelters and to communicate with other woodpeckers. Several body adaptations make this drilling possible.

A woodpecker has a sharp, stout bill with a chisel-like tip for chipping and digging into tree trunks and branches. In pecking out wood, the bird aims blows from alternating directions - much like a woodchopper does. Bones between the beak and the unusually thick skull are not as rigidly joined as they are in other birds. Spongy, shock-absorbing tissues connect these flexible joints; strong neck muscles provide force for drilling; and bristly feathers shield the nostrils from dust and wood chips.

The tongue of most woodpecker species is round, horny and rich in tactile cells. The tip is pointed and barbed. After chopping exposes a woodborer's cavity, the long, flexible tongue feels out, impales and withdraws the larvae. The tongue is nearly twice as long as its owner's head and winds around the inside back of the skull when retracted.

To grip trees, a woodpecker has short, muscular legs and sharply clawed feet. On most species, two toes point forward and two backward. This opposed, "yoke-toed" arrangement lets a woodpecker climb with ease. Stiff, pointed tail feathers catch on the rough bark to brace the hammering body.

A woodpecker's flight is un-

dulating (such as with the Goldfinch). The bird usually launches off the side of a tree, pumps its wings four or five strokes, and folds them against its body. During this short pause, the bird loses a few feet of altitude. Then more wing beats to gain altitude, another pause, and so on. Goldfinches have the same flight pattern.

Woodpeckers are omnivorous. They feed mainly on wood-boring grubs, insects, insect eggs and pupae. They also consume sap, nuts, and the fruits of some trees and shrubs.

Most woodpeckers "drum" on resonant limbs hollow tree trunks, drainpipes, garbage can lids, tin roofs, etc. Drumming designates territory and can attract a mate. When drumming occurs on homes, this activity often leads to conflicts with humans.

All of these woodpeckers are cavity nesters. The Pileated is a primary cavity nester which means they will excavate their own cavity within a tree. Other woodpeckers are secondary cavity nesters. This means that they utilize abandoned cavities/do not excavate their own. * Note: The Eastern Bluebird is a secondary cavity nester.

Red-Headed Woodpecker (this author's favorite bird) Length, 8 -9 inches; wingspread, 18 inches. The head of an adult of this species is scarlet, and that of a juvenile, brown. This is the only woodpecker in this region in which the adult birds cannot be distinguished by sex. Body plumage is black and white, with a large white wing area visible when the bird flies. Like the flicker, the red-headed woodpecker does a lot of feeding on the ground. Redheads store acorns in tree cavities during winter and defend these food caches against squirrels and other birds. Habitat is open forestland, farm woodlots, towns, riparian corridors and parks. This bird often perches in the open and is known to "flycatch" or "hawk" for food. **Starling competition for nesting sites may be reducing this species' numbers.

Red-Bellied Woodpecker Length, 8 -9 inches; wingspread, 17 inches. This woodpecker has a "ladder back" (a pattern of black and white

bands like a ladder), red cap and back of neck, and a breast tinged a very light red. The female's crown is gray, the immature's entire head is brown, and the male's crown and neck are red. Red-bellied woodpeckers inhabit coniferous and deciduous forests, woodlots, orchards and yards. NOTE: The red on the belly is not that visible. This woodpecker is probably our most common of the medium sized woodpeckers.

Hairy Woodpecker Length, 8 -9 inches; wingspread, 15 inches. This woodpecker coloration is black and white however the male does have a red patch on the back of its head. Larger size, different call and a proportionately longer bill distinguish it from the downy woodpecker. Primary habitat is forestland and wooded swamps.

Downy Woodpecker - Our smallest and most common woodpecker. Length, 5 -6 inches; wingspread, 11½ inches. The Downy resembles a small hairy woodpecker, with a similar black and white markings. The male has a red patch on the back of his head, similar to that on the hairy. Bill length of the downy is less than the width of its head, while that of the hairy is equal to or greater than the width of its head. Habitat: open forests of mixed growth, orchards, suburbs and parks. Nests are usually dug in rotting wood, 3 -50 feet above the ground and often on the underside of an exposed limb. In winter, it can often be found in fields with dried corn stalks, or visiting suet feeders.

Northern (yellow-shafted) Flicker Length, 8 -10 inches; wingspread up to 20 inches (about the size of a blue jay). Flickers have brown backs, no white on the wings, a prominent black band high on the breast, and bright red on the nape of the neck. The male has a black "mustache" mark extending from the bill back onto the throat. In flight, the white rump patch and yellow underwings show up well. Flickers are often seen on the ground or on sidewalks eating ants, a preferred food. Their saliva neutralizes

the formic acid which ants contain. Favored habitat is woodland, orchards, woodlots and yards.

Pileated Woodpecker The largest of the seven woodpeckers. Length, 12 -17 inches; wingspread, up to 27 inches; crow-size but with a long, slender neck... Also called the Indian hen and log cock, a pileated woodpecker has a solid black back and tail and a conspicuous red crest. The female is similar to the male but does not have red cheek patches and has less red in the crest. Flight is strong, with irregular wing flapping accompanied by white flashing of wing undersurfaces. Pileated woodpeckers inhabit mature coniferous and deciduous forests, valley woodlots and remote mountain territory. Nest: a new hole excavated each year in the same nest area. The entrance hole is usually oval, and the cavity is 10 -24 inches deep. Pileateds cut large rectangular holes in dead trees, spars, live conifers and utility poles. These birds are uncommon residents in all seasons.

Yellow-Bellied Sapsucker Length, 7 - 8 inches; wingspread, 14 inches. Plumage varies within the species, but the narrow longitudinal wing stripes - visible when the bird is at rest - and the finely mottled back are good field marks. The belly is tinged yellow, and the head is red, black and white. A sure sign that sapsuckers have visited your property is the distinct pattern where holes are drilled in parallel rows in live



trees (up to 30 holes per day) and return later to drink sap and catch small insects attracted to the sweet liquid. The bushy tongue of a sapsucker effectively soaks up sap. Sapsuckers inhabit forests, orchards and woodlots. The sapsucker is the most migratory of our woodpeckers.

Woodpeckers and bird feeders - These woodpeckers can be attracted to feeders. Currently, I have the Downy, Red-bellied and Red-headed woodpeckers visiting my feeder which only has black-oil sunflower. Of course, woodpeckers will eat suet and peanut butter cakes when provided. Some of these woodpeckers will utilize artificial nest boxes. See links below.

Russell Ryan, Conservation Chairperson South Mountain Chapter of the National Audubon Society

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PETS LARGE AND SMALL

Be a responsible dog owner

Erica Green
Emmitsburg Veterinary Hospital

Among all companion animals, dogs are unmatched in their devotion, loyalty and friendship. Those of us who have owned and loved a dog can attest to the incredible devotion, undenyng love and understanding a dog gives its owner. Dogs truly live in the moment, and take every second of every day and live it to it's fullest we as humans should be so lucky.

Just watch your dog closely next time even the most minute things to us, mean the world to your dog. The crazy wagging of the tail when you get home after a horrible day at work, the spinning in excited circles when you reach for the leash, the lightning fast retrieve of the tennis ball to get it back to you as quick as possible just for you to throw it again, and of course the snuggling up to you for a most deserved pet. These are just some of the rewards that come with being a dog owner. To be the whole world to a creature with a life force such as a dog is an honor that should not be taken lightly, or easily forgotten.

These animals depend on us for everything. At the very least their food and shelter but they deserve so much more. What people have

to realize is that owning a dog is not only a privilege but a big responsibility.

If you are thinking about adding a dog to your household, you will not be disappointed, If you do your part to not only make your dog a productive and safe member of society but fill your dogs life with love, enrichment, and care.

Below you find a small list of things to not only make your life easier, but to help your dog live a full and happy life.

Play!

Dogs love to play!! Make sure you set aside time each day for playing. Aside from having fun together play will also provide your dog with an outlet to expend pent up energy.

Plan Activities with your Dog

There are always doggie fun days in the area, where you can take your dog and participate in fun games, visit vendors and shop for your dog, or just take him there for a walk amongst his canine kin!! It will be a fun day for both human and canine alike!

Give your Time

You may be tired after a long day at work. But remember you are the

center of your dogs world. They have waited for you all day and want to spend time with you. Reward you dog with a walk around the block, toss of the ball in the yard, or simply petting and talking to her. Let her know you appreciate her loyalty.

Train your Dog!

A trained dog is not only a easier dog to live with but a happier dog!! You must be the boss, and that doesn't mean you have to be mean but you have to have rules that are laid out to the dog in black and white so they completely understand what is expected of them.

A dog with rules tends to be a much calmer and easier to deal with dog. Look at it from a pack perspective. Dogs are pack animals and if in the wild would have a pecking order. Alpha (which is you) tells all the other dogs in the pack what to do and they must obey. Dogs like knowing where they fit in in the pack. So by letting your dog know you're the boss there is no conflict in your dogs mind questioning what his position is, and forcing him to make bad decisions on his own. When unsure he will look to you for guidance and be comfortable and compliant with your decision.

Socialize your Dog

Take your dog (most importantly when a puppy) EVERYWHERE. Expose them to every sight, sound, and being you can without being overwhelming. Take your dog around other people, and dogs. Praise your dog for accepting being petted by a stranger, and when calm around other animals. A well socialized dog will have the confidence to move about this world without fear. Thus also making your life easier.

Don't let your dog down

Don't forget your dog is always yours 24/7, forever! Not just when you "have time", or just on the holidays or weekends. Not just when

she's a puppy, when your kids live at home or being when she's being a good dog. When you bring a dog into your home you are given a creatures life, and along with that comes a commitment to fulfill it to the best of your abilities. If you can't keep that commitment, don't make it. And once you've made it, don't break it. Your dog's life depends on you!

Erica trains her two Dobermans in a variety of venues including, Schutzhund, Agility, and Rally. Her life has been enriched by these two dogs more than she can describe, and above all else more important than the titles, and awards they've won together, they share a bond of trust, love, respect and companionship. If anyone has questions or is looking for ways to enrich their dogs lives Erica is more than happy to help you find ways that are acceptable to both you and your dog!!

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VETERAN'S PROFILE

Master Sergeant James R. Sanders



James Houck

Born February 4, 1940 James R. Sanders "Jimmy" as his aunt called him went to live with her at the age of two on the Tract Road just west of Emmitsburg, Maryland. Jimmy attended Elementary School at St. Euphemia's in Emmitsburg Md. in 1945 at the age of five. His aunt thought he was ready for school and so she enrolled him although he was a year younger than his classmates. Jimmy graduated from elementary school and continued his education at St. Joseph's High School located in Emmitsburg Md. The schools he attended no longer exist there.

In 1956 he passed his drivers exam and received his license. Jimmy didn't have a car of his own until 1958. His first car was a 1954 ford. He, as most kids in the Emmitsburg area, picked cherries to make a little spending money or help buy school clothing, but Jimmy also had a job delivering two daily newspapers, The Gettysburg Times and the Hanover Evening Sun, to the people in the Emmitsburg area who didn't receive their paper via the U. S. Mail.

Jimmy graduated high school in 1957 and nine days after graduation his aunt signed for him to enlist in the U. S. Air Force. Jimmy was also very active as a Cub Scout leader. He joined the cub scouts in 1951 and in 1955 when he was fifteen years old he became a den chief until he enlisted in the U. S. Air Force. Jimmy did his basic training at Lackland Air Force Base at San Antonio Texas. He trained to be a Dental Technician and attended basic tech school at Montgomery Alabama. He did his four years and then separated from the Air Force in 1961.

The first thing Jimmy did upon arriving home was to register to attend classes at Mt. St. Mary's College and then he got a job at Houck's Clothing Store on the square of Emmitsburg working a cash register. He also worked at Boyd's Restaurant located at Charlie Harner's Bowling Center located on West main St., a place where most adults and kids hung out to eat or bowl.

Jimmy also worked at Harbinson and Walker in Baltimore Maryland making kiln bricks and he explained to me the kiln bricks are made differently because they are put in the kiln to bake regular bricks..

Jimmy said he found out he had to work as a civilian and so he re-enlisted in 1962. He also said he hopes his philosophy doesn't offend any service people.

In 1967 Jimmy attended NCO Academy in New Mexico. A year later he was an honor graduate at Tech School in Texas. Two years later, in 1970, Jimmy earned an associates degree in dental assisting. Master Sergeant James R. Sanders retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1979 after 21 years of service.

After returning home in 1979 Jimmy started work at Westinghouse Elevator Company (later to be known as Schindler Elevator Company) located at Gettysburg Pa. where in 2004 after twenty five years he retired..

Jimmy met Joyce Aughey in Saxton Pa. and they were married November 30, 1983 at a hunting camp two days after deer hunting season opened because the preacher was a hunter and didn't want to miss the first day of the season.

Since retirement Jimmy volunteers a lot of his time to helping veterans. He and his wife help with Veterans Day ceremonies at St. Catherine's Nursing Center where Jimmy's wife Joyce makes individual fresh fruit baskets and passes them out to all veterans and Jimmy presents a new US flag to fly at St. Catherine's Nursing Center. Jimmy also helps at Martinsburg West Virginia Veterans Hospital where bingo is sponsored by Post 121 American Legion Emmitsburg Md.

Jimmy is a member of The VFW, lifetime member of The American Legion, Am Vets, Blue ridge Sportsman club and Saxton Pa. Sportsman Club.

Jimmy, since retirement, is like Norm on the "Cheers" TV show because he tends to sit on the same bar stool at the same spot at the bar at The American Legion at almost the same time every day, unless he and his wife are on a gambling trip somewhere like Las Vegas Nevada or Atlantic City New Jersey. When he doesn't show up at his usual time everyone starts wondering where he is and then the guessing game begins.

I will now tell all of his friend that don't know his real name



Dedication of the Veterans Plaque in front of the Legion. Mayor Thornton Wm. Rodgers in on the Right

I am writing about our own "Fuzzy" Sanders. I think I should explain how Jimmy got his nickname of Fuzzy. Jimmy had just gotten a crew cut before he went to his cub scout meeting and his scout leader ran his hand over Jimmy's head and called him Fuzzy and the name stuck with him ever since.

I think we can all agree that Fuzzy has not only been an as-

set to the Emmitsburg community but a veteran that does not forget his fellow veterans.

To read stories of other veterans visit the People section of Emmitsburg.net. To learn about St. Euphemia's School, Houck's Clothing Store, the old Emmitsburg bowling alley the movie theater visit the Historical Society Section of Emmitsburg.net

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CIVIL WAR DIARY

The Confederate Army withdraws from the Battlefield at Gettysburg

John A. Miller,
War Correspondent

After Longstreet's assault had failed on July 3rd, General Robert E. Lee, commanding the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia was forced to retire from the battlefield at Gettysburg. At around 11 o'clock that night, General Lee issued the orders for a withdraw from the battlefield. The majority of the Confederate Army marched through a mountain pass located on South Mountain called Monterey, about seven miles west of here. General John Imboden was charged with the wagon train of wounded and crossed South Mountain at Cashtown Gap. General JEB Stuart was given the task of screening the area toward Emmitsburg and Mechanicstown and then reporting to Leitersburg.

Union Cavalry Occupies Emmitsburg

While the Confederate Army was in the initial phases of their withdraw, Union Colonel Pennock Huey received orders to move to Emmitsburg for the purpose of taking possession and holding the town on July 4th. Colonel Huey is commanding the Second Brigade Cavalry of General Gregg's Division along with the 2nd U.S. Battery M of the Horse Artillery.

Union General Judson Kilpatrick's Cavalry Division consisting of General George Custer's and Colonel Nathaniel Richmond's Brigades arrived here with orders to destroy a Confederate wagon train moving through Monterey Pass. Meeting up with Colonel Pennock Huey, Kilpatrick orders his cavalry westward toward South Mountain.

Midnight Battle Erupts Upon South Mountain

On the evening of July 4th, 1863, during the retreat from Gettysburg, one of the most confusing battles of the Civil War occurs at Monterey Pass. Captain George Emack had a small detail of the Confederate 1st Maryland Cavalry guarding the approach to Monterey Pass. He was re-enforced by one cannon from Captain William Tanner's Battery. At around 9:00 pm Union cavalry under the command of General Judson Kilpatrick came in contact with this portion of the Confederate Maryland Cavalry under Captain Emack and it was here that the battle began.

Darkness set in during a blinding rainstorm. The Confederate artillerymen, wearing gum blankets to protect them from the elements of the weather, had managed to disguise their identity from Kilpatrick's men. Realizing that their identity was withheld, they open fired on the head of Kilpatrick's advance. As the confusion subsides, the Confederate

cavalrymen charge, pushing Kilpatrick back until they reach the Federal artillery that is positioned near Fountain Dale.

For several hours, during the blinding thunderstorm in the middle of the night, the battle is carried out in between lightning strikes and muzzle flashes. After six hours of heavy fighting that had spilled over to Fairfield Gap and Leitersburg, General Kilpatrick gained the South Mountain summit of Monterey Pass. At Fairfield Gap, a portion of the 1st Michigan Cavalry is beaten back by Confederate cavalry while at the Monterey House; two guns of Pennington's battery began shelling the Confederate wagons.

By 3:30 am on July 5th, Kilpatrick successfully reaches the turnpike where Ewell's wagon train was located, capturing and destroying 9 miles worth of wagons, taking 1,360 prisoners and a large number of horses and mules as they moved on toward Ringgold, Maryland.

Our Town Briefly Occupied by Rebel Cavalry

On the morning of July 5th, 1863, General JEB Stuart makes his way from the horrors of the fields of Gettysburg to our beloved town. General Stuart marches a brigade and a half of cavalry to Emmitsburg during the dawn hours with the 34th Virginia Cavalry under Lt. Colonel Vincent Witcher leading the advance into town. Near the old Hoffman's Inn there is a sharp skirmish fought. Seventy Union men were taken prisoner in addition to numerous supplies such as medical items that would be used for the wounded Confederate soldiers who fought at Gettysburg.

It is reported to me that among the prisoners that were captured by the Confederates was a photographer from Mathew Brady's Photography Firm. Three photographers, Alexander Gardner, Timothy O'Sullivan, and James Gibson all were traveling to Gettysburg when they came here to Emmitsburg on the night of July 4th. Gardner, himself stayed at the Hoffman Inn. At the time of my dispatch, it is still unclear which one of the three photographers that Stuart has captured, however, evidence suggests that it could have been Gardner. Mr. Gardner's fifteen year old son Lawrence is attending a boarding school just outside of Emmitsburg and it



St. Joseph's Academy which served as both a staging area for the Union troops prior to the battle and as a hospital for wounded troops after the battle.

is believed that his father may have been assuring his son's safety while he was held in captivity.

Stuart's horsemen walked the streets, visiting the stores that were untouched by the fire on June 15th. These soldiers had no way of paying for the personal supplies that they received from our shopkeepers because Confederate money does not hold the value of green backs, and it is simply no good here in our northern region. Our poor store owners will be unable to recoup the money for what the Confederates took.

While the Confederates were watering their horses some of our residents struck up a conversation with them. Curious of the outcome of the battle of Gettysburg they asked Jenkins' men who won the battle of Gettysburg. The soldiers quickly replied that they had won, of course. It did not take long before these same soldiers who claimed victory on the fields of Gettysburg became suspicious of some of our town's people. On one occasion these trigger happy Rebels detected two gentlemen watching their every move, and suddenly the Rebels raised their pistols. They thought that these men were Union spies or were part of the Signal Corp. The two gentlemen quickly explained that they were villagers of our dear town and were curious as to what all the bedlam was about. Thankfully, the Rebels placed their guns back into their holsters, realizing that it was a false alarm.

Soon orders were given and Stuart's Cavalry rode out of Emmitsburg during the mid morning hours. After leaving, Stuart's Cavalry traveled toward Creagerstown on the direct road to Frederick or what is known as Old Frederick Road. At around noon, an hour and a half after departing Emmitsburg, Stuart came to an intersection. The roads of this intersection led to Rocky Ridge, Creagerstown and Graceham. Stuart sent a detachment to follow the rode to Graceham, while Stuart and the main body went to Creagerstown passing through Loy's Station. Later that day, Stuart's cavalry travels to Smithsburg where it clashes with Kilpatrick's cavalry that was resting after the hard midnight fight at Monterey Pass.


Rejoice for those in Blue

On July 6th, portions of the main

Union Army marched through our beloved town. Battle hardened men who fought gallantly for three days at the small town of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The men in blue were a site to see. Their uniforms wet from a rain that had begun to wash off the dirt and the smell of battle. One officer took a rest by a small stream and washed his feet and sunk his rank in the flowing water as if he was an enlisted man. Their spirits were high as they marched through town. The next day gave way to General George Meade, commander of the Army of the Potomac. Our citizens hailed him and thanked him for his dedication and service at Gettysburg.

John Miller is the Civil War Historian for the Emmitsburg Area Historical Society. To read past editions of John's Civil War Diary, visit the Historical Society section of Emmitsburg.net.

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HISTORY

At the End of the Emmitsburg Road

Fourth of July

Part 4

William E. Hays, et al.

By all odds, the Fourth was, next to Christmas the best and biggest day of the year. For one thing, it was one of the few days, other than Sunday, that Papa observed as a holiday, the others being Christmas and New Years. What made the Fourth so exciting was the Fireman's picnic and celebration, held on the baseball field near the center of town.

Every housewife was expected to contribute food of some kind, and early in the morning a truck was driven through the streets, with kids running from house to house, collecting whatever goodies were being contributed. I remember that Leonard Zimmerman drove his father's open truck, on one occasion. The food was taken to the field and put on tables to be sold.

Activities really began with a parade, made up of the town Band, Civil War veterans, the local Fire Company members, wearing white trousers and straw hats, the local Boy Scout troop and a few floats. By modern standards it was not very impressive, but it seemed great to us. I forgot to mention that there were men on horseback, as well as a visiting Band. There was one in particular that I recall, The Double Pipe Creek Cornet Band; quite a mouthful. This parade was one of the only two held during the year, the other being a part of the Memorial Day, called Decoration Day, celebration.

Down at the baseball field, meals were served at a small charge, but we Hays boys had other uses for the little money allotted to us. Sometimes there would be a balloon ascension, or perhaps a greased pig chase, and, on one Fourth, there was an exhibition boxing match, the first I had ever seen.

In the afternoon was the main event, a baseball game between the Emmitsburg team and some neighboring rival, usually Thurmont. No matter who was the opponent, feelings ran high. A big problem was to find an impartial

umpire who knew some, at least, of the rules. Actually it made little or no difference whether his calls were in accord with the rules. The losers always blamed him. We did, however, have a very capable official in the town, a man by the name of Mike Thompson, who usually was in demand elsewhere for some big game.

As I have said, there were fireworks of all kinds, for in those days, they could be bought in any size, with no restrictions. For us, it was no trouble to make our own, what with having carbide and water and an empty can. It's a wonder we were not decapitated.

All in all, it was a great day. Here were working men, whom we thought of as sober and quiet individuals, marching in uniforms, playing games, spending money recklessly and having fun. Flags were flying, the band was playing, mothers were looking for little ones who were lost, a few celebrators had made one too many trips to the nearby saloon and best of all, we might be beating Thurmont in baseball.

Entertainments

In the Emmitsburg of 1915-1920, there were no commercial entertainments other than bowling alleys and pool rooms, and these were not felt to be proper for youngsters, and certainly not for the Hays boys. But no matter. I could make a nickel by setting up the bowling pins. I well remember that Papa either learned or suspected that I was "down at that bowling place" so, totally to my embarrassment, he marched in, told me to stop, and home I went.

But to return to entertainments. Movies were new and exciting and wonderful, and every Friday night everyone was able to see Charlie Chaplin, Mary Pickford or William S. Hart at the local Catholic Community Hall. Admission was free, although as you left the hall, you were expected to put a coin in a basket. For several days before each showing, a notice would be displayed in the Post Office, giving the title of the movie and the name of the star. All of this created a weekly crisis for me and the other Hays kids. How could I get



While this photo is from the 1909 Old Home Week festivities, it gives the idea of how the town would have been turned out for a Fourth of July celebration.

there, have a nickel or a dime for the basket, and escape a scolding or even punishment from Papa.

Here is how it worked. Mother provided the cash and that was the first necessity. Then, just as soon as the movie ended, we would run for home as though a bull were chasing us. The distance was perhaps 500 yards. When we reached the front door, Mother rushed us upstairs to bed, where we were soon blissfully dreaming of that railroad engine bearing down on the beautiful girl, tied to the tracks by that dastardly villain. So much for the Friday night movies.

Once in a while the town really came alive with the arrival of the Redpath Chautauqua. Here was every variety of Culture, all at one time. For weeks preceding the big event, an advance agent had aroused great interest, with pictures of the famous performers and artists. There were Mexican dancers in native costumes, contraltos who had sung before all the crowned heads in Europe, tragedians who gave us Hamlet's Soliloquy and of course, a child prodigy at the piano.

All of this was to be seen and heard, right here in our own little Emmitsburg in big tents down at Fireman's Field. It was wonderful! I can see even now, the big banner stretched across Main Street, announcing the famous Redpath Chautauqua. We never had a circus performance in town, at least to

my knowledge. There was a building called the Opera House, on Frederick Street, near the school. But no opera.

Once in a while some performer would appear, such as a certain magician, who still owes me a reward or an apology. He had asked for some boy to come to the stage. When I volunteered, he said I should hold some eggs that he would produce from his silk hat, adding that I would receive a reward if I didn't drop any. Well of course he made sure I would drop one or more, much to the delight of the audience and much to my despair. Then he made the announcement that in spite of my failure, 'I' was to have a free ticket to his next show the following night. The trouble was that he left town the next morning.

There is one more story about these strolling performers. One day this fellow arrived with a big announcement that at a certain hour he would climb the full height of the Annan Horner Bank, from the street to the roof. He called himself "The Human Fly" and so aroused a lot of interest. I saw him do this stunt and thought that if he could do it, I would see what I could do on the Presbyterian Church steeple.

It was a hot and sultry day when I made my climb, unannounced and unseen, except by one of the Shuff boys. In the belfry were four windows. My idea was to start at one of them and go on higher, but when we got outside, I found nothing above me to which I might cling. I think it was Clay Shuff who saw this great exhibition taking place, so he ran to call Papa, who calmly told me what to do. Thus my big opportunity to become a second Human Fly came to an inglorious end.

Telephones

We had a telephone, although not in the house. It was in the shop. At the Exchange, the operator was Miss Nellie Felix, who lived some nine or ten houses down the street.

Her switchboard was in the front room of her home, with her chair near the window, so as to be able to report whether or not a particular person was in town. Papa never really came to terms with the phone. He didn't ask for a certain number; he simply asked "Miss Nellie" to get him the freight office, or the College or what have you.

I recall one man from out of town, I think his name was Dick Stull, who would come to the shop and, while there, would use our phone. But instead of trusting it to do its work, he thought he should shout loud enough to be heard without it. Apparently the person on the other end was so stunned by the shouting, that his attempt to answer never got through to Dick, and this resulted in him turning up the volume and ultimately to curse the damned thing 'to Hell and back'. It was a splendid performance.

Then there was Miss Georgia Moore, who lived near the college. Miss Georgia had all sorts of problems, mostly minor household ones and not necessarily limited to plumbing, but each of which led her to call the shop. If Papa answered, which he avoided if possible, dear Miss Georgia would tell him of some terrifying thing that had happened and would he come right away. Once she said that a strange man had just walked past her door, and what should she do and "please Mr. Hays, you must come right away, etc, etc, etc."

At this point, Papa would, if he could spot one of us, hand the telephone over saying it was Miss Georgia and to just keep listening. Much the same thing happened when he would stop at her house, perhaps to fix the "ram" that brought water from a spring to her house. Out Miss Georgia came and the show began, as she talked on and on about a noise she heard during the night and the mailman hadn't come, and on it went. Whenever I meet anyone who talks at length about nothing

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HISTORY

at all, I think of our dear friend, Miss Georgia, out by the college. I must add that in spite of the talk, Papa took good care of whatever was in need of repair.

Pattersons' Horse Sale

One of the big events of the year was the annual horse sale held in the Spring by Patterson Brothers, only about a hundred yards from our house. But no matter how close by it was, we kids had a problem, as the sale was always scheduled on a school day, and this was especially hard for Sam, who loved horses. What to do " couldn't go to school and the sale at the same time. Sam couldn't resist the call, so he played hooky and paid the price when Papa learned of it.

We would know that the sale was coming, for large signs would appear, advertising the event, complete with pictures of these big beautiful animals. Then, too, we lived near enough to see the arrival of the horses to be sold. Patterson Brothers were cattle and live stock dealers, who also ran a dairy and butcher shop, in addition to operating a large farm. Their practice, in preparation for the sale, was to go to Virginia, or other nearby States, and buy thirty or forty horses, to be brought to their stables, in Emmitsburg, a few days before the sale. There they would be combed and brushed, their tails to be plaited by a fellow named Jockey Mentzer.

I can recall seeing him, sitting on a stool, working away on the tails. If my memory is correct, this was his only employment during the year. When all the grooming had been done, each horse was given a number that was placed on his flank. To add some color, tails were tied with a bright red ribbon. I must mention that the

talk in the barn was rather heady, which of course added to the allurements.

On the day of the sale, farmers and dealers came from miles around. There were two auctioneers, one named Winton Crouse, but the name of the other escapes me. Each of them had his own lingo, with the talk being fast and loud and somewhat earthy. As soon as school let out at noon, for the lunch hour we ran at full speed so as to see and hear as much of the show as possible. This was repeated as soon as school closed for the day.

The sale took place on a side street, filled with potential buyers. A horse would be ridden out from the stable, usually by a black friend of ours, Albert Abey, and put on view in front of the auctioneer's block. One of the Pattersons, Meade by name, would be standing by, in a real fancy suit, and holding a long whip. "Meade, what can you tell us about this mare?" says Winton. "She's sound as a dollar and works anywhere hitched; watch her step "4 and with this flattering introduction, he would crack the big whip, the mare would jump, the crowd would move back, and Winton was ready for bids. This would go on until lunch time, when most of the audience adjourned to one or another of the five saloons in town. Normally the sale lasted two days. I believe that a good pair of horses would sell for five or six hundred dollars.

I forgot to mention that on the morning of the sale, and before the auction began, there would be a parade of the horses through the town. On the morning after, there was the chance for a boy to earn as much as a quar-



The old Annam-Horner bank on the northwest corner of the square.

ter, by riding a horse to the railroad station, for shipment to the purchaser. You can bet that Sam was there. This annual sale was, of course, an important event in a farming community, for a good team was, a necessity. You came to know who were the successful farmers by seeing who bought the best horses.

The Emmitsburg Railroad

The Emmitsburg Railroad was not very long in mileage, but it was big in size to a young boy growing up in the town in the years from 1910 to 1920. It ran for about 5 miles to Rocky Ridge, where it made connection with the Western Maryland Railroad line which ran from Baltimore to Blue Ridge Summit, Penna. and beyond, with a scheduled stop at Motter's Station. There were other stops, some by necessity and others for the convenience of passengers.

There was a train about 8 A. M. and another about 4 P. M. Motter's Station was not exactly a metropolis. In fact, if you stopped there and looked around, you would see a general store, three or four houses, and a milk receiving station. Rocky Ridge was somewhat larger, with perhaps forty or more houses.

I suppose my first awareness of the Railroad's existence was hearing the sound of the engine whistle, which was blown before each departure, giving warning that prospective passengers had better hurry.

On most runs, the train consisted of the engine and a combination baggage and passenger car. Sometimes a freight, cattle or coal car would be added, the addition of which, more often than

not, would be a little too much weight for the engine, resulting a slowdown or even a complete stop along the way. It was sometime when I was at Lafayette College that I went as a delegate to a meeting or conference in Washington, after which I decided to return to college by way of Emmitsburg. So I took the Western Maryland to Rocky Ridge and there I boarded the train for Emmitsburg.

Now along with me as passengers were some well dressed, professional looking men, who were on their way to St. Joseph's College. All went well for a short distance, then a stop of ten minutes or more, followed by a number of similar ones. Finally, one of the men spoke to the Conductor, Pius Felix, saying they were concerned about being late for an appointment, and could the Conductor do anything about it." Of course we can," he says. "You see, we have this carload of sand which is pretty heavy, we'll just cut it loose and come back for it later." And so he did we soon pulled up at what everyone called the depot.

It was a single track system, with a switch about 100 yards from the depot, at which point a freight car could be uncoupled and sent straight ahead, while the engine and baggage car, after the switch was thrown, would take the spur to the right. This worked fine, except that someone had to man the brakes on the freight car else it would topple into a ditch at the end of the line, the freight car having broken through a wooden barrier. I recall seeing this unhappy result several times.

As mentioned, the Conductor was Pius Felix, who also doubled

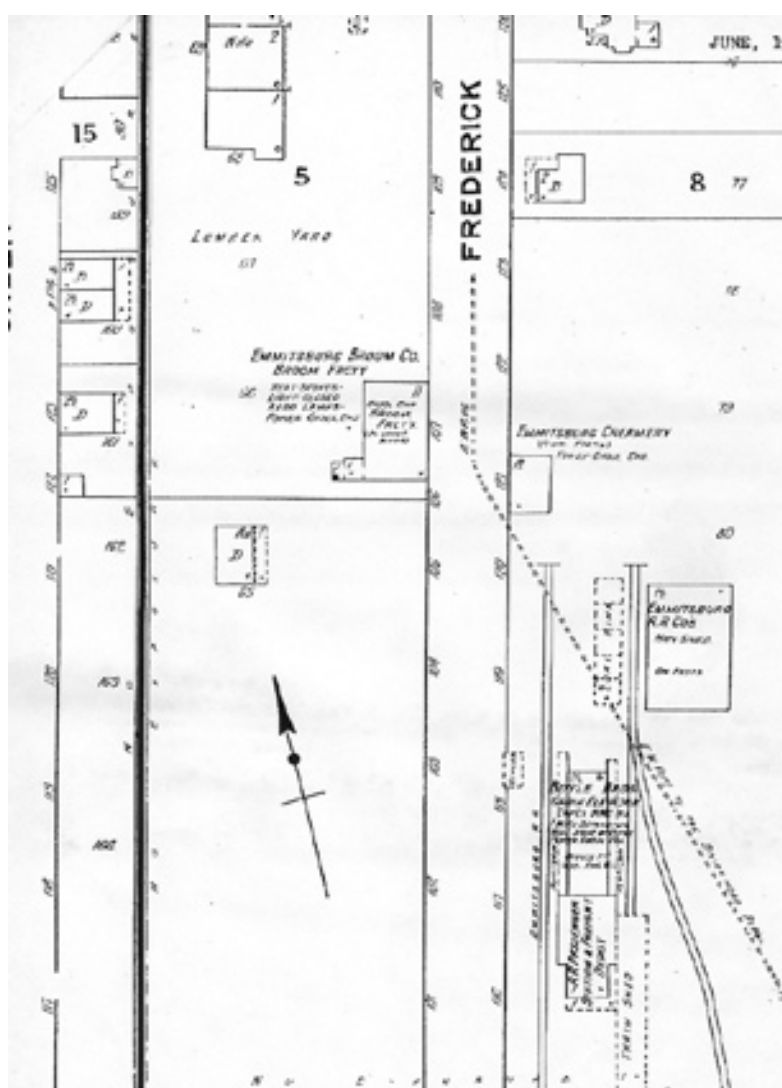
as Baggage Master. The engineer was Neil Gelwicks. When the time arrived for departure, Pius put on his official Conductor's hat and coat, and stood no farther from Neil than about ten or twelve feet. Neil meanwhile leaning out from his perch in the cab of the engine. "All right Neil" shouted by Pius, is followed by "All aboard" and off they go, headed for Rocky Ridge, by way of Motter's Station.

In reciting these incidents, I would not for a moment want to give a wrong impression. The Railroad, though only five miles long, served its purpose. It brought freight and coal and Ford cars and fertilizer, watermelons and newspapers from Baltimore. It brought students and faculty to the two colleges in Emmitsburg, Mt. St. Mary's and Mt. St. Joseph's, and it brought students to the local High Schools. And it made it possible, by making connection with the Western Maryland Railroad, for townspeople to go to Baltimore and to the outside world.

Occasionally it performed a humanitarian act. I recall being at the depot, waiting for my supply of Baltimore papers to arrive. When the baggage car came to a stop and the door was opened the floor of the car was even with the platform on which I was standing. My papers were there, of course, but there was also someone who, not yet sobered off, had been picked up along the tracks. Known to Pius he had been hoisted aboard and brought along to town, without charge.

To learn more about the rich history of the Greater Emmitsburg Area, visit the Historical Society section of Emmitsbug.net

Part 5 Next month.



The map depicts the location of the old Railroad station in Emmitsburg. The Broom Factory noted in the map is the present day Carriage House Inn.

MOUNT CREATIVE WRITERS

Dear John, “I’ve never been prouder”

Chelsea Baranoski

July 6, 1776

Dear John,
I just received word that you signed a document called the Declaration of Independence. This took me by surprise; I knew that you felt strongly about the fight against the British king, but I had no idea you longed for freedom so much. Please know that all of your family and friends in Massachusetts are worried about you. We have heard that the Declaration is a great thing, granting liberty to all colonists, but I fear for your safety. We have heard that you could be hanged as a result of the signing. The British surely believe you are a traitor and I cannot imagine how they will torture you if they find you on the side of the road or in a tavern somewhere. I am afraid that the British will torch our home, whether you are inside of it or not. I do not want to leave Massachusetts, for it is my home and I hold it close to my heart. I would rather die in this house than flee from possible attacks by the mercenary Hessians the King has employed to deny us our just rights as British citizens.

I have had nightmares and I wake up in a cold sweat every night since you left for Philadelphia. At first, I thought that I was sick, but the doctor tells me that it is just stress. “You are worrying too much about ol John boy,” he told me. I suppose he is right. You always called me a worrywart before the occupation of Boston and the Battle at Bunker Hill. I do not know what the future holds for us. As we both know, the signing of the Declaration will likely result in war. We have only begun to heal the scars of the bloody battles of the French and Indian War! Are we ready for war again? Was there no way to make the King see the error of his ways? I do not think it is possible for our local farmers to fight a standing army. Can you imagine the bloodshed? Wives will become widows and children will become orphans.

Not everyone in this town is a faithful patriot like you, John. There are so many loyalists among us that I can imagine a huge revolt between them and the patriots. Neighbors will fight against neighbors and brothers will fight against brothers. This will be England’s second civil war, and the first, as you know only too well, lasted for years and saw the slaughter of thousands of innocent lives.

How long do you think this war will last? Five years? Ten years? What will I do if the British come after you, John? I am not ready for the horrors that await us.

Though I have heard that you signed the Declaration, I still do



John Trumbull's 1817 depiction of the signing of the Declaration of Independence

not know what this document means for the thirteen colonies. Will the colonies become thirteen independent states or will they merge and form one country? Do you list out all of the offenses the tyrannical king has inflicted on us over the years? Will the king be deposed and can we finally be granted the rights all Englishmen are due? Do our countrymen in England know that we are not rebelling against them, but against a tyrannical king? They should know that this rebellion would not have been necessary had the King and Parliament granted us the same rights English citizens had enjoyed for generations. I hope that you can answer all of my questions in a letter or even better, in person.

Word is that the Declaration will be read in the town square tonight. I long for you to return so that you can read it to me yourself and send me to blissful sleep recounting all that went into choosing each and every word!

Though I am worried about you, know that I am also very proud of you. The wives of your fellow signers and Massachusetts countrymen, John Adams, Samuel Adams, Robert Paine, and Elbridge Gerry always say that I brag about you too much at our monthly quilting bees. They may be correct, but I cannot contain my pride in your many accomplishments. I am happy to be married to the President of the Continental Congress. Martha Washington may be married to the general of the Continental Army, but I am sure that she does not take as much pride in her husband as I do! And to think that some of my friends disapproved when I told them we

were getting married! You have definitely proved all of their hesitations wrong! You have stood up to the tyrannical king. You fought against the Intolerable Acts and fought for the rights of the colonists. You fought against taxation without representation and you fought against the Boston Port Act. You recognized that the Intolerable Acts were a violation of our constitutional and natural rights. I am proud of you for choosing not to accept the authority of Parliament over our government. You are a brave, courageous, inspiring man, John, and that is why I married you.

Someday I am sure that you will be recognized for your efforts to make this land free. Hopefully, all of the colonies will hold celebrations every July 4th in honor of the signing of the Declaration. I can picture celebrations with the finest breads, freshly picked vegetables, ripe fruits, lean cuts of meat, and your favorite dessert: apple pie. Families will gather together to remember the toils of the Revolutionary War and give thanks for their newfound liberties. Men should not be made to work every July 4th so they can take time to meditate on the values of wise men such as yourself who allowed them to be free, to exercise their right to choose their own religion, their own jobs, and their own way of life. I am sure that all of the taverns throughout the colonies will come alive every July 4th. There will surely be a lot of dancing and ale drinking once the sky turns dark. You probably think that I am going overboard and exaggerating, but I am serious. I really think that the signing of the Declaration will have a profound impact on everyone

from now to the end of time.

Your signing of this document has already made quite an impact in Massachusetts. You are as famous as George Washington and his wooden teeth. We have received word that your signature is the first and largest signature on the Declaration. I do not know why you chose to write so big, especially since you knew that there was going to be 55 other signers below you. Rumor has it that you signed your name so large and clear in order to ensure that King George could read it without his spectacles; is that true? I know you like to write big, but I still think that you should have given the other signers a little more space.

However, your large, flowery signature has gained popularity in the colonies. One of our neighbors told me that his landlord told him to write his John Hancock on his property deed. The neighbor thought he had to fetch you so that you could sign his property deed. When he asked the landlord what he meant, the landlord just smiled and said, “Your signature, sir. Everyone knows John Hancock scrawled his massive signature on the Declaration of Independence. I heard it took up half of the document! Please sign, but you needn’t make your mark so large. I’m not blind!” I hope this story does not sound like your neighbors are making fun of you, because they are not. They admire your signature and want to write just like you. Maybe if I sign an important document for this great land of ours, people would want to copy my signature! Then again, I will probably only be recognized as the wife of John Hancock, not that I mind

of course.

Please give my regards to the other signers of the Declaration. I admire their willingness to stand up for what they believe in: a country free from Royal tyranny. I have especially heard good things about John Adams and Thomas Jefferson. If the colonies should choose to merge into one country, either of these two men should be put forth to lead the united colonies.

I cannot wait until you come home, John. I am hopeful that the Declaration will result in a great uniting bond among the colonies. One day, the colonies will be peaceful and will no longer need to worry about the king’s tyrannical rule. I promise to make your favorite meal when you come home: roast chicken, fresh string beans, and apple pie with a dash of cinnamon. I already have a guest list in place for your homecoming dinner. I only invited those patriots who have praised your signing of the document, of course. I only hope that you do not mind that I invited Mrs. Henshaw; I know you do not approve of her because you say she talks too much, but she is my friend and a large supporter of your work, my dear. I think about you always and I cannot wait to see you again. I may worry about you, but I am proud to be the wife of the President of the Continental Congress and the first signer of the Declaration. I cannot wait to hear all about the contents of this document; be prepared to give me all of the details when you return home!

With all my love,

Dorothy

MOUNT SPORTS

Recap of the year with some notable finishes

Ananda Rochita

Over the course of the year numerous Mount St. Mary's teams have received distinctions for their determination and achievements on the course and field. However not only have many teams made their names in sports but they have also been awarded for their work in the classrooms as well.

The Mount's baseball, men's tennis and women's tennis squads each received distinctions from the National Collegiate Athletic Association and it has marked the fourth straight season where the women's tennis team has earned this award. The school had three of the 19 other Northeast Conference teams that were honored by the NCAA.

The lacrosse team also took notice within the NCAA when they had a record wins of 12-5 this year and played against Virginia in the NCAA Tournament on May 15 after winning the MAAC title. Mount St. Mary's seniors Russell Moncure and Matt Nealis were selected to play in the United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association Division 1/11 North-South Senior All-Star Game coached by Mount head coach Tom Gravano.

On the women's side, Senior Jackie Kearney not only graduated Summa Cum Laude and with the highest GPA in her major this May, but also was selected to play in the IWLCIA Division I North-South Senior All-Star Game on June 12. Kearney, a midfielder, helped pace the Mount with 46 ground balls and 34 caused turnovers which became the 10th most on the program's single-season chart. Kearney was also named All-NEC first-team and was honored as the NEC Defensive Player of the Week twice in 2010. She is also the seventh Mountaineer to participate in the annual senior contest joining the ranks of notable Mount alumni Jane Karger (2008) and Katelyn Catanese (2009).

A few notables from the baseball team were also acknowledged for their successes on the field. Seniors Mike Matta, Kent Worthington and junior Andrew Caron were named Second Team All-Northeast Conference on May 26. Matta was named the Second team All-NEC at the utility position as he appeared as both pitcher and an outfielder for the Mount this season. Worthington tossed the Mount's first no-hitter since 1989 when they played against Quinnipiac, 18-0, and finished the season with two shutouts. Caron earned his Second Team All-NEC honors as a designated hitter spot leading the Mount in home runs and slugging percentage (.547).

Although over the course of this year there has been numerous noted athletes in each sport acknowledged at the end of the year, the Mount St. Mary's track team is highlighted this month for the Emmitsburg News Journal. The track team has remained one of the largest teams on the Mount campus. About 60 students make up the team and with ten of those students being graduating seniors this year.

These students, like many other athletes at the Mount, work hard not only during their season but also off. Sophomore Dylan Bernard who is also on the Cross Country team uses the summer to build his endurance for the Fall season. On average he would run several miles in the morning and also in the afternoon with only one day of rest out of the week. He was also named this year's most valuable player on his team.

The track and field team is coached by Jim Stevenson with assistant coaches Jim Deegan, Larry O'Hara, and Jay Phillips. Stevenson was also an athlete at the Mount completing an undergraduate degree in 1995 and was a Division I All-American decathlete with several All-East honors. He also received a silver medal in the British National Decathlon Championships and was a member of the world junior championship relay team that garnered a silver medal in Bulgaria. Stevenson still holds the number one ranking for his javelin throw in 1992 for the University and also number seven and six for his 400m dash and 800m dash in 1994 and 1995 respectfully.

Phillips was also a graduate of the Mount in 2005 and was one of the Mount's distinguished sprinters who helped his team to their wins. Not only was he a leader on the field but he also received



honorable awards during his years as a student at the Mount. He received the most prestigious academic award his senior year. The Flannigan Prize is given to the graduating student who represents the mission of the Mount through their dedication to the school, their work in the classroom, and also their conduct.

This year the Mount hosted the 2010 Northeast Conference Track and Field Championships in Emmitsburg. The women's team finished third with 101 points behind Monmouth and Long Island while the men's team finished fourth with 78.5 points behind Monmouth, Long Island, and Central Connecticut.

There are numerous athletes that have been commended for their accomplishments this year as well on the team. Most recently junior Chad Brown was awarded the Most Outstanding Track Athlete of the Meet honors and helped lead the Mount's men's outdoor track and field team to a fourth place finish at the North-

east Conference Championships in May. He also sets the number one times for the 55m dash, 60m dash from his 2009 times.

Junior Tom Fitzsimons was named the Northeast Conference Co-Field Athlete of the Week of the week of April 28 and won the decathlon at the Penn Relays the week before with 7,036 points.

Selected few of the Mount St. Mary's team also participated at the IC4A Championships in Princeton University on May 15. Junior Tom Fitzsimons won the decathlon at the IC4A Championships. He had the fastest time in the final event and also had the top mark in javelin. In the women's ECAC Championships, Ashley DeCruise finished in ninth place in the 100m dash semifinals. During the last week of school on May 4, both DeCruise and Brown were named athletes of the week by Mount Athletics.

Over the course of the team's existence, the coaches and also some notable previous athletes have put their mark in the All-Time Top

10 lists in Indoor Track and Outdoor Track. Peter Rono is a former Kenyan athlete and also Mount alumni and former coach. Rono won the 1,500 meters at the 1988 Summer Olympics. He also won the gold medal at the Africa Cross Country Championships in Nairobi, Kenya in 1985 and 1986 at the World Junior Championships in Athens, Greece.

Although there are no games scheduled during the summer there are many summer camps open for children ranging from 5 to 18 in various sports. The Rob Ryerson Professional Soccer School has various dates ranging from the beginning of June to August for children between the ages of 10 and 18.

There is also the Elite 150 Lacrosse Camp for boys between the ages of 5 to 17 starting in middle to end July and also the Scott Thomson Baseball Camp with dates from mid July to the end of August for overnight and day camp children between the ages of 7 to 18.

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FOUR YEARS AT THE MOUNT

Senior Year

Just keep swimming and taking baby steps

Jackie Quillen

After my first phone interview I made a list of ways to improve for future interviews. #1 – Lock my bedroom door to avoid interruptions, like moms. In the middle of telling my interviewer about my school life, I said, “I’m sorry; I lost my train of thought because my mom was calling me for dinner.” I was so embarrassed to hear these words come out of my mouth during my very first phone interview, but my interviewer was very understanding. We live and we learn.

The job market is bipolar right now; some days my e-mail is flooded with different job opportunities and other days it is clogged with rejection letters. It’s in the news too: Monday’s breaking news says there is no hope for college grads, but by Thursday it doesn’t seem so hopeless after all, with the news of more and more opportunities. And the cycle continues like so. College grads jump into this job market as tiny fish in a big sea; but there is hope as long as we just keep swimming (like Nemo).

Unfortunately, the letters of opportunities and rejections tend to come in groups. So my daily mood ultimately depends on what lies in

my inbox each day. The rejection days are never pleasant. Most of the teaching opportunities I applied to resulted in rejection e-mails, which obviously came as a disappointment to my passion for teaching.

I am not giving up on pursuing a teaching career, but I am going to put it on hold for the time being. I am currently focusing my job-searching elsewhere, primarily in writing positions. The reality of the matter is I am a recent college grad with increasing debt. My number one priority is to become financially stable and independent from my parents. Pursuing a teaching career requires grad school, which means an even higher pile of debt.

I will use the wise advice from Dr. Leo Marvin (*What About Bob?* 1991), and take baby steps to accomplish my goal of financial stability and independence. I am confident that I will pursue my passion for teaching some time in my future, and in the meantime I get the chance to pursue my other passion for writing. I do not mean the word “passion” lightly, like it is an interest or a hobby. I am equally passionate about writing and teaching. I’m lucky to be passionate about two different career paths. When I compare the two, I see writing as a passion that I will

always have and teaching as a vocation that I am meant to fulfill.

I was especially disappointed to hear that I was not accepted to the Urban Teacher Center in D.C. It is a four-year program that places college grads in urban schools in D.C. and Baltimore while they earn a master’s degree and certification in elementary and special education. I asked the committee to tell me why I was not accepted so that I know for applying to other similar programs in the future. They responded, “Unfortunately due to the large number of applicants we are not able to provide that information.” Example 1 of “I am a tiny fish,” demonstrated by Number 139848593.

The difficult part of rejection is the constant wondering of what made me less qualified than the next person. The ACE (Alliance for Catholic Education) teacher program actually requires a profile picture of the applicant as part of the application. I guess it is nice for admissions committees to match a face to a resume, but imagine how people may feel after not being accepted into this program.

The GPA factor plays one of the most important roles in the application process for teaching programs and grad school. At the end of one of my rejection days in June, a representative from St. Joe’s University called me about their graduate education program. I was thrilled that he contacted me because it is usually the other way around. Unfortunately the result of the call ended like the other calls and e-mails received that

day. My GPA falls .03 points short of the program’s requirement, and the admissions committee strictly enforces their GPA requirement.

The representative was very nice and apologetic, and even offered me advice for pursuing my career elsewhere. He informed me of their strict policy, telling me they would not even accept a student with a GPA that was only .01 points lower than the requirement. It all sounds crazy to me because I do not understand how a GPA can weigh that much in a situation like this; of deciding whether a person is qualified to be a Special Education teacher. I was happy that I did not spend time applying to the program since I had no chance of acceptance in the first place.

I tend to go through life seeing everything as a sign. On the day I received the e-mail about the Urban Teacher Center I had just left Mother Seton and felt lost and frustrated thinking about grad school. Since I need certification along with my master’s degree I am having trouble finding the right program. When I opened the e-mail and read about the Urban Teacher Center I felt like that e-mail came to me for a reason – I was meant to apply to that program. Turns out I was wrong. Did I mention I also tend to misread the signs in my life?

The same thing happened when the St. Joe’s representative called me. After a day of disappointing e-mails, this nice man calls me to tell me about St. Joe’s program that offers the certification and degree – just what I need! When I heard him say

explaining their program, I thought, is this man an angel? He must have called me for a reason. He may be an angel but he is no miracle-worker when it comes to GPAs. Now I am seeing a sign in these obstacles that I keep encountering in trying to pursue teaching. The big man in the sky has different plans for me right now. When the time is right things will work out and I will be a teacher.

Rejection is a part of life, especially in this competitive job market, so we must learn how to accept it and move on. The good thing about this bipolar job market is that with rejection comes another round of opportunities. Some of these opportunities do not match up with my career goals, but that does not mean I ignore them.

Right now I am interviewing for a few different positions. One of them is my dream life as a writer: being an editor and sole creator of a local community online newspaper. Another opportunity is a Monday through Friday 9-5 job that will help me work my way out of debt while I call other people about their debt. If I am offered and take this job I do not see myself loving work every day, but as a tiny fish in a big sea I have to take what I can get. Plus I love talking to people, even if they are angry! I can also relate to them with their debt crises.

I am focused on my goal of financial stability and independence. I will write. I will teach. And I will make it. Just keep swimming. To all of those who read my articles, thank you! You are helping my employment and helping me reach my goal!

Sophomore Year

Home again

Samantha Strub

In college you change and grow up; it is a fact of life. Now that you make your own rules and you can do what you want, you start changing into the person you want to be. You can choose to be responsible or to float your way through life. You decide whether you want to take your studies seriously or just enjoy the fun part of college and not care about your grades. To me, the latter makes no sense. You go to college to get a degree. Thus you take your studies seriously working toward your final goal. I would save all the money that goes into tuition if I just wanted to have fun at college.

I choose to take life in stride and work towards my goals for the future; taking the small, irrelevant baby steps, in order to achieve those goals. My baby steps right now in my life are surrounded by the bigger picture—working hard, dreaming big, and having faith, and accepting that life is not always going to give you everything you want along the way. Life throws you wild curve balls that surprise, thrill and hurt. All you can do is take those wild curve balls for what they are worth and focus on what you know best. For some people it is running, sports like

soccer or basketball, music, etc. Everyone has a passion in life that helps you get through the roller coaster. For me it is writing and horses. Having these things in my life keeps me going; they set the reset button in my life and let me put the stepping stones of life into perspective and move forward with my life.

Making the transition between college and home is quite a challenge. Even though you have been living at school for only a year and you have lived at home for 18 years, it still feels like walking into a world that you do not belong in. Changes have been made in your house that you had no idea had taken place and yet your family still accepts you to notice them right away. Like walking into my kitchen—who knew I was going to walk into a totally different room when I came home. Somehow it felt enough like home that I did not notice, right away, that almost everything from the tile to the lights, and the handles on the cabinets were different.

It is sad, weird, and serial when you realize that life still goes on after you leave and move on. You are excited to move on yourself but you do not realize that the people you left behind still have lives to live. You come back

thinking that things will go right back to normal as if you have never left, but then you get back home again and you realize you were completely wrong. Everyone at home has moved on with their lives and now you are sitting outside watching everything take place. Deep down though you figured something like this would happen because during that year away, you came back a changed person. You are independent doing your own thing every day of your life then all of a sudden you return home and you have nothing to do. Jobs are hard to come by and your friends who you thought you were close with have drifted away. So you are left with the family that you love dearly but still drives you crazy after a week, few close friends, and for me, my horse. That is no way to live your summer; thinking about what could have been if you have kept in touch with people from high school or if you already had gotten a job before coming home. You need to get out there and job hunt and enjoy the moments with your family and the true friends that take your breath away.


While home, the people around you will see that you have changed. Some will find it positive and others will make comments saying that you have become too blunt, crude and falling away from your morals. They think your beliefs have changed and the sweet innocent girl went away. In a way that is true;

some of your beliefs, and your way of thinking may have changed. It is then when you have to decide when to accept the criticism and when to know that you are the same person as always and you are here to stay whether they like it or not.

The struggles in life are there to make you stronger. In the long run they will all make sense to you. Right now they are just a pain because they are huge mountains that

you have to climb. In reality they are just pebbles in the roller coaster ride called life. The changes make you stronger, tougher, wiser, and make you a fighter. They are there to test you and make your skin a little bit thicker so you can handle it when a mountain later falls on you. In the long run all the hardships that you are going through now will make you appreciate the joys in life that much more.

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A MOUNTAIN PERSPECTIVE

The dread pirate summer school

Jen Nicholson

The phone call home, the pink slip, suspension...ask any child what the worst punishment is, and chances are, they will say none of these. Instead they will likely say, in a voice filled with awe both quiet and terrified, "summer school". Yes my friends, the dread summer school. The institution rumored to rip the apathetic student from the wiles of summer and place them in dingy prison-like classrooms to make them learn. The horror is almost unimaginable.

Yet I have chosen the horror willingly. My confession is this: I am 21 years old, a senior in college, and I am in summer school.

Now, before you are totally and completely enraged at the fine editors of this paper for allowing one of Mount Saint Mary's obviously delinquent students to write any article, in any paper, ever, let me explain.

Once upon a time, many years ago, I was a high school senior. A fairly apathetic kind of person, I applied to only two colleges, the University of Maryland and Mount Saint Mary's. I had no idea why I applied to the latter seeing as I was only nominally Catholic and I knew nothing about it save for the fact that my friend's older brother went there and he seemed to like it. In the spring of my last year I received acceptance letters from both universities and decided that the next four years of my life would be determined by the amount of scholarship money they offered, and because the Mount was fairly generous, it was there that I would go.

Four months later I arrived and began to pursue a degree in Communications, marketing and public relations were about the only things I wasn't apathetic about. That is, until by some fluke I was put into a Theology course. A product of my public schooling, I was convinced that any course titled, Call and Response would be nothing more than an up-in-the-clouds old biddy jabbering on and on about how pretty heaven would be and how nice Jesus was. I had every intention of going down to the registrar to yell and scream about the waste of time and money this class was.

Thank God I was completely wrong. The course, taught by the fiery Sister Mary-Kate Birge ("Sister Doctor") was anything but flighty philosophy. With all the enthusiasm and humor every other teacher until that point had lacked, the little nun taught us about the roots of our faith through the Bible. Not in the "Let's talk about our feelings" kind of way, but in the, "Here, let me blow your minds with real academic thoughts" kind of way. Needless to say, Theology and I fell in love.

Unfortunately, sometimes love and the real world don't mix. Taking on a



double major and getting the credits necessary for a concentration tends to be kind of an issue at a school with a core curriculum. So, in the three months between my sophomore and Junior year I was doomed to summer school, not because of my own failure, but because, simply, I had to.

Now like I said before, summer school has a rep for crushing fun, and in order to stay here and afford the costs I had to get a job. The kind that required me to be in an office. All. Day. Long. It wasn't exactly the way I had planned on spending my sun-filled days. And the nights! The classes went Monday through Thursday from 6-9:30-the prospect was daunting at best. But, just as before, when I was sure the situation would suck all the life out of me, I was totally, totally wrong.

My job turned out to be the best on campus. With the Conferences and Special programs office, I had the opportunity to work with groups ranging from a 200 person

karate camp to a 300 nun church retreat. My job was about the equivalent of a hotel manager. I got them their keys, made sure they had everything they needed during their stay and checked in with them daily. I wasn't nearly as confined to the office as I thought I would be-instead I was in the dining hall, up in the Seminary and around campus running errands. My classes were equally incredible: I took one theology and two American history courses and learned more in one four week session than I had in an entire semester.

But the best part of all was the freedom-I only worked 25 hours a week to pay off my housing, and though the work-load for my classes was certainly heavier, there was still a lot of left-over time. So one day I decided to hop in my truck and go for a drive until I found a roadside stand that would sell me a box of blackberries. Another day I headed down to Cunningham to hike the first trail I could find. And on an-

other I mapped out the Monocacy and did some fishing. And on and on it went, until nearly every day I found time to do something I had never done before. It was, honestly, the most free and defining three months of my life.

And so, here I am, a 21 year-old girl spending her last summer before the real world in, of all places, Emmitsburg, Maryland. I'm not here as a part of some sick punishment, I'm

not on the brink of raging depression and it certainly don't consider it something that's pillaging and plundering all the fun away, I just happen to love the magic on Mary's Mountain, and that's right where I'll spend my summer vacation.

Jen Nicholson is a senior at Mount Saint Mary's University where she is majoring Theology and Communications.



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STAGES OF LIFE

I'm a Dad Again

Brian Barth

So, for my son's 9th birthday my wife thought it would be a great idea for us to get him a basketball hoop for his birthday.

It was 8 o'clock on a Friday the night before his party; I was sitting on the patio having an ice tea after working in the yard most of the afternoon. I thought to myself this was going to be a nice relaxing evening. The kids would go to bed and my wife and I would turn on some music and relax. As she walked out the words "When are you leaving?" Came slowly out of her mouth. Almost like being said in slow motion.

I dismissed the comment and took a sip of my tea. She sat next to me in a chair and expanded

upon her question. "When are you going to the store to get the basketball hoop?"

"What hoop?" I asked, trying to stall.

"The one we said our son could have for his birthday."

"He's already getting plenty of gifts, a bowling party, gifts, and a sleep over," I said, "do you really think he is going to miss the hoop?"

I can't really repeat what she said but will let you know that it wasn't meant for anyone to hear but me. But I got the message. I grabbed my keys, and headed out to the store. An hour and a half later I was back home to find my wife comfortably sitting on the couch, feet up, and drink in hand.

"Are you comfortable?" I asked. I got the look. Guys, you know

the look I'm talking about. Before she could speak, I said: "Do you have a big enough bow to put on the hoop?"

"You have it assembled already? Assembled?" She asked in disbelief.

I thought she was kidding. "No, I just got back from the store."

"Well, you need to assemble it and then leave it in the garage for the morning." She said.

Now it was my turn to mumble a few choice words...

I sat staring at the box for about 15 minutes deciding whether or not I was going to actually put this thing together. I must of had one too many beverages because the male genes in me said "Ah what the heck it can't take be that hard to assemble." Those famous words just about every guy has muttered one to many times in their lives.

Two hours later, 11 PM to be precise, my brother drove by, and seeing the garage door open,

stopped in and started to laugh.

"What the heck are you doing?" He asked grinning ear to ear.

"I'm trying to put this damn basketball hoop together." I said

"How long have you been at this?" He said.

"About Two hours." I said.

"Two Hours? You're kidding me right?" He picked up the directions. "Where did you leave off?"

I pointed to the 12th step. "We only have 4 more steps to go."

"This shouldn't take more than a half hour." He said.

I quietly laughed to myself. Almost two hours later my brother looked at me, drenched in sweat, and said he is done - "This is too complicated."

"Come on" I employed, "We were at the final stage of assembly. We only had to attach the backboard to the pole then I could finally call it a night."

Reluctantly he agreed. You

would have though we were starting from scratch. That last piece was assembled, disassembled, and reassembled - I kid you not - at least four times. We were both loosing our patience at this point. With nothing left to lose we finally broke down and looked at the way the manufacturer laid out how to assemble to backboard... now had we done that from the start...

Thankfully the next morning my son woke up, saw a present shaped as a basketball, ran past the wrapped gifts and headed straight for the garage.

He opened the door and started yelling, "No way! No way! No way!"

His joy made the 4 plus hours of assembling the thing worth it, and you can be sure my brother and I will spin this tale a thousand different ways by the time our sons have to assemble a hoop for their sons!

Mom's Time Out

Abigail Shiyer

Not that it's all about me, but... After being a working stiff for more than 20 years, I am now entering my third summer as a stay at home mom and I think I am finally getting back into the "lazy days of summer". It truly does take some time to adjust when you go from the fast pace of the office to the slower more meaningful life of just being a Mom.

Now that my daughter is a little older (she will be five at the end of August), we are able to do a little more with her and she is really having the time of her life. When I was getting ready to write my article this month - I asked her, "What does summertime mean to you?" She said, "the Beach, the Cabin, Grandma and Grandpa, swimming, picnics, ice cream, popsicles and riding my bike". Wow - some things never change. Who doesn't love summer? As a parent, I love summer just as

much as I did when I was a kid - but, it is very different. I think you love it for your kids because there really isn't such a thing as a lazy summer day when you have a 2 year old and a 4 year old. You can't swim all morning, nap all afternoon, have someone serve you dinner, go outside and play, head up to bed and then get up the next day and do it all over again. But, you can enjoy watching your kids do all the same things you did as a child and it brings back that great summertime feeling.

Today we went to Cunningham Falls and boy did it bring back lots of memories for me. My sister is visiting from Austin. I haven't seen her in almost 3 years. I have never been to Austin, but I hear it is beautiful. I wanted to show her and her 2 kids (ages 11 and 8) a good time while they are here. It was a hot day and the lake just seemed like the perfect thing to do. For me and my sister - It wasn't the relaxing no worries time that I remembered it being from

when we were kids. Having said that - the kids had a wonderful time - all kids love water! Within 15 minutes of us being there - her kids broke just about every rule that they have... The life guard had to come on the loud speaker and remind the crowd (translate to my niece and nephew) of the rules: No throwing stones at each other in the water. No throwing sand. No hanging on the ropes. No swimming outside the ropes. No jumping or diving off of another person. And - No chicken fighting. Aha - they didn't break that last rule, but they would have if they had known what chicken fighting was.

For me (with a 2 year old and a 4 year old) it was a different kind of

stress. I had to stay within an arms length of my 2 year old - he had a bathing suit with built in floatation, but if he got knocked off his feet, he couldn't get them back down again and then he had trouble keeping his face out of the water. My 4 year old has just started swimming on her own without a 'bubble'. She wanted to test her endurance under water, which made me nervous because I couldn't stay right with her and being an adult - I knew there were snakes in the water and she didn't. Which was all fine and good until my nephew yelled "snake" and sure enough there was a snake right next to us. The life-guards blew the whistle and had us all get out of the water until the snake was out of the roped in area.

After that - no one would get back in the water with me - so we had lunch and headed home so my son could get his nap in. While he was napping, my daughter and I went swimming, picked cherries, rode her bike (we are almost ready to take the training wheels off) and made a list for the grocery store. Then we all went grocery shopping, went to the feed store, had dinner, fed the horses and went for another swim. All and all it was a tremendously busy, hot, active, fun-filled, LAZY summer day. And at the end of the day, my daughter came to me and said.... I'm bored. Yep - Like I said - Some things never change.

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STAGES OF LIFE

Lizzy Bizzy

July, a busy time of year!

Liz Ryan

This week is Ag Camp, and a week long day camp that takes place at the Ag Center in Gettysburg. This year I am a counselor for third graders. I have been a participant in the past. That has been fun. In the years I was a participant we have gone to Hershey gardens, Washington Zoo, and a lot of different types of farms like pig and alpaca farms.

This year we are going to an Amish Farm, the Washington D.C. Natural History Museum, and the Hershey zoo as well as a Whitmore Farm, a sustainable farm just outside of in Emmitsburg run by Will Morrow and Kent Ozkum.

Whitmore Farm is a Certified Organic farm in Maryland specializing in heritage, primarily American breed livestock raised on pasture. What I liked about Whitmore farm is the provide a healthy, pasture-based environment for their animals and to treat them humanely and with respect throughout their lives and practice agricultural practices that respect the land and don't harm the environment unnecessarily. All their animals were happy, from the pigs and goats to rabbits and chickens.

In this camp we are not just going on field trips but we are also staying at the Ag center and doing crafts like making dream catchers, stepping stones, T-shirts, and more. We are going to different classes like dairy history, a class on reptiles, and a class on plants. I think this camp has a lot to offer to the participants; lots of fun learning about agriculture, gardening and the environment. This camp happens every year the last week of June.

Other things I am excited for is that I just joined something in 4-H called livestock judging. This is where we go to different competitions and judge animals such as steers, goats, sheep and pigs. Then we have to give reasons for why that animal is "good" or "bad".

My Lionhead rabbit is going to the South Mountain Fair to be a show rabbit. The only problem is that my rabbit, Nutmeg, isn't a registered breed so she will just have to entered in the pet section



which is where my we just get just on how I handle my rabbit and her cleanliness.

July not only brings camps, but it also brings picnics! Every year our family has the 4th of July at our house where we invite our entire family like cousins, grandparents, and aunts and uncles. But first we have to figure out which day of the holiday most everyone is available.

Every Wednesday night, we gather for dinner at my grandmother's and grandfather's house. This has become a tradition ever since I can remember. Anyone that happens to be in Hanover that evening come for dinner. It's a good time to see many of the family. Anyway, at that time is usually when we come up with a date for our annual 4th of July weekend picnic.

All day my mom gets ready by cleaning and cooking. Then finally people start to come. For awhile people just start talking then we eat our dinner, which is usually hamburgers and hot dogs, the normal summer meal. After we are done eating we light a big fire and roast marshmallows for s'mores. We then light our sparklers and run around and draw pictures with all of the smoke. We all do this, even my cousins who are now in college.

The last thing everyone does is gather on our driveway and we shoot off small firecrackers. We get to watch the lightning bugs after dark and just sit around the fire and talk and laugh.

July is a fun month, even if it's hot.

To read other articles by Liz Ryan, visit the authors' section of Emmitsburg.net

Simply Maya

It's what's on the inside that counts

Maya Hand

When we think of the Fourth of July, we usually think of fireworks, cookouts, and ballgames. On the Fourth of July, we celebrate when the Declaration of Independence was signed and we became the United States of America, our own country. We celebrate, united with each other. The United States of America was made for all people. The founders of the United States said that all people in our country should be treated equally. We were made to let friendships and wonderful relationships grow like plants, not to make the leaves shrivel up and die. We should treat everyone equally. We should treat them as we would like to be treated. So whatever color, kind, size, shape, or face, we are all united together as one.

You know how I was just talking about how we are all united as one and we should all be treated equally? Well, when we are united we see each other using our hearts because that is how we would like to be treated. Have you ever read the book or seen the movie *Because of Winn-Dixie*? I have. The story is awesome! In the story, there is a character named Gloria Dump who is blind. She says to the main character, a young girl named Opal, "I can't see you with my eyes, so you tell me about yourself so I can see you with my heart."

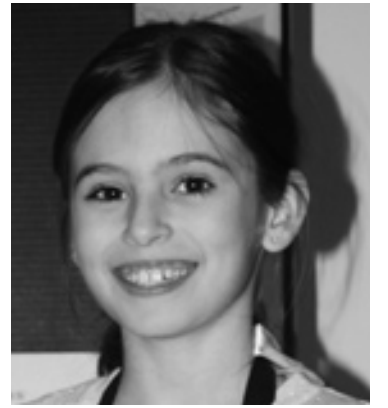
Opal is scared of Gloria at first. She thinks Gloria is a witch, but Gloria's words and actions inspire Opal to think of Gloria in a new way. Opal and Gloria become friends and Opal learns to see Gloria using her heart. (Oh, and if you're wondering who WinnDixie is, he's a stray

dog that Opal adopts. She finds him in a grocery store with the same name.) Seeing people with your heart... that is a magnificent moral. It matters what's on the inside, not on the outside. If everyone in the world used their heart to see everyone else, the world would be a lot better place to live, wouldn't it?

Right now I want you to think to yourself for a moment. Have you ever judged someone using your eyes instead of your heart? I have. Everyone makes mistakes, and I think that I've learned my lesson. In fact, I know I have. You can miss out on wonderful friendships you could have made if you'd looked at people using your heart. If you judge people wrongly, based on the wrong things, you could really hurt yourself and them too.

To see people with your heart means to look closely at their personality... how they treat others, how they treat you, how thoughtful and giving they are, how much they care about others and how much they care about you. When you're seeing them for what's really important, you should be using your heart to look into their heart. I've seen some wonderful things in other people's hearts.

For example, I have seen thoughtfulness. I have a very close friend from school. This past year at the end of the day,



she would often go get my backpack for me, while I would be hurrying to finish my work to leave. She would get all my things for me and, with her coat on one arm and my coat on the other arm with a great big smile she would say, "Look, I'm half you and half me!" Then she would hand me my things. She was so thoughtful to help me get my stuff ready on time.

Some of those small things she says and does really make my day. They show me the thoughtfulness and caring in her heart, make me feel happy and like I want to give something back. Seeing people with your heart, you see lots of wonderful things. We should look at all people this way, American and non-American.

We should all try to make this world a better place by seeing each other with our hearts. As Americans especially, we are all united as one and should treat others as we would like to be treated. Look at how people treat you and others, how they care, and how thoughtful they are. Follow your heart and see people inside out because it's what's on the inside that matters.

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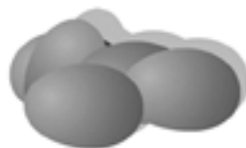
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A TEEN'S VIEW

Summer plans

Robin Wivell

As I lie here two days before my deadline in the almost cool evening grass, shaded by an old Ash tree, surrounded by the sounds of birds singing, and the light of the sun starting its descent, I am faced with a dilemma: What should I write about? My recently concluded freshman year of high school? Or maybe my thoughts on summer would be more interesting... Something about the World Cup might be nice; after all it only happens once every four years. Should I give my take on the BP oil spill? Well, I suppose can do a little bit of everything.

Maybe sitting outside was not such a good idea. A spider just crawled under my spacebar.

My first year of high school

I came to Catocin High School from Mother Seton School, so you can imagine how overwhelmed I felt by the number of students on the first day of school. As the year went on I got used to the hustle and bustle between classes. I met lots of wonderful new teachers: Mrs. Hutchinson, who has a great passion for photography, and Mrs. Forman who knows very well how to teach geometry, and how to keep control of her class. I met Mrs. Jarman who knows French like the back of her hand and Latin nearly as well. Mr. Lerp is a kind man who knows nearly everything there is to know about our government, and of course Mrs. Stitely who can bring out the actor in everyone while faithfully guiding the Catocin Drama Dept. - even through play-cancel-

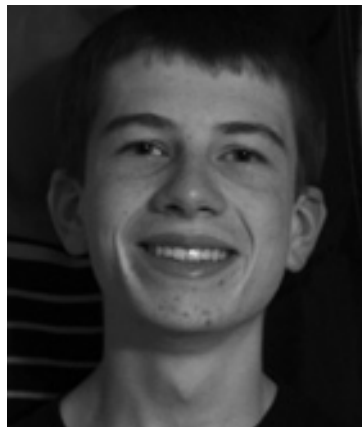
ing snow storms. Throughout every class I met many new friends. Needless to say, my first year of high school was absolutely amazing and I can not wait for three more!

In the heat of summer

By now schools have been out for nearly a month. Since then the smell of charcoal grills fill the afternoon air while lightning bugs light up the night sky. To me summer is all about being outside - swimming in the pool, reading a book on the porch, combing the beach for shells, or writing a column for the local paper under a tree! After all, it is only during the summer that you can go outside without putting on five layers of clothing first. Summer is also the season when the grass is green (for the most part anyway) and the days are long. With the Fourth of July fast approaching, summer is nearing its peak, the highpoint of every summer. We are halfway through, now we just have another half to go. That means cookouts yet to attend, trees yet to climb, and s'mores yet to be made.

FIFA fever

Another four years have gone by and so we meet another World Cup. Soccer matches have taken the ESPN airwaves by storm. Coming from a European country (Germany) it is nice to be able to watch a soccer game everyday. By now we are in the homestretch, with the start of quarterfinals only a day away. The big question for many may be, "How did it even get here?" So here are some World Cup Basics:



There are eight groups of four countries making for 32 total teams. Each team plays the other three teams in their group once. At the end of this round of group matches, the top two teams from each group progress to the round of sixteen. From then on it is simply a single elimination tournament through to the final. Of course you can throw aside all these technical details, because the real fun comes from watching a good game with fellow fans, family, and friends.

At my house of soccer fans you can expect the TV to be on for most every World Cup match. Sometimes only one or two of us is watching, but when it comes to major games you can expect my dad, my mom, my sister and I to take our place on the couch, choose our favored team, and get ready for an exciting match. Those who have come to our house during the World Cup are sure to have noted the numerous red, white, blue, and black, red, gold decorations; they are, after all, the colors of our home teams USA and Germany!

BP oil spill

I can honestly say, in regards to the spill crisis in the Gulf I have but one comment: It really should not take this long to do something. The least we can do is accept the help offered by others.

Well, as the shadows lengthen before me, the sun sets behind me, and an ant decides whether to join the spider in my keyboard, I realize I need to wrap things up. I leave you with this thought: Tonight, instead of watching the sunset, face east. As today disappears behind you, you'll already be anticipating the arrival of tomorrow before you.

Freedom

Kat Dart

The fourth of July is Independence Day; the day America gained its freedom. I'm sure mostly everyone knows the story - thirteen colonies were founded in America and were ruled as the private fiefdom of the King of England. At the urging of the King, the English parliament, which did not include representatives of the colonies, began passing laws like the Stamp Act, The Declaratory Act which attempting to regulate the behavior of the colonies, and the Tea Act, the later of which led directly to the Boston Tea Party, where colonists threw out crates of tea into the harbor.

In response to the Boston Tea Party, parliament passed what the colonist called the The Intolerable Acts or the Coercive Acts which triggered outrage and resistance in the Thirteen Colonies that later became the United States, and were important developments in the growth of the American Revolution. The goal of these acts were to make an example of Massachusetts, reverse the trend of colonial resistance to parliamentary authority that had begun with the 1765 Stamp Act.

Many colonists viewed the acts as an arbitrary violation of their rights, and in 1774 they organized the First Continental Congress to coordinate a protest. As tensions escalated, the American Revolutionary War broke out the following year, eventually leading to the creation of an independent United States of America.

The Declaration of Independence was signed by fifty six men even though they knew the punishment would be death if they were caught, these men signed our Declaration of Independence, thereby declaring America free from a tyrannical king.

The freedom the men who wrote and signed the Declaration gave us is amazing. But, there is more than one way to be free. The Declaration freed us from the control of a tyrannical king, while the Constitution allows us freedom to chose who we want to be.

We can choose to be who we want, and we can choose to change ourselves. We are capable of living the



way we want. We can practice whatever religion we want. Our clothes and styles cannot be taken away - it shows who we are. I can dress how I want. My friends can dress up in gothic clothes, or dye their hair bright pink. They can do that because we are free to express ourselves.

Did you know that because the Supreme Court ruled that students do not have the say the Pledge of Allegiance? That's because of the phrase, 'under God'. It's seen as forcing a religion onto someone. So why do we say the Pledge? Why would students still say it? I'm going to quote my Mom here: 'Don't forget to honor the flag - not the fabric but the freedoms and blood shed to gain those freedom which it stands for.' What she means is that the flag is more than a piece of colorful fabric. The Pledge is more than a recitation said at school. It is a reminder of what we have lost, and what we have gained.

Our opinions can be heard and accepted and we can choose to criticize the government without repercussions. In some countries, criticizing the government would have severe penalties. But not ours - we are free to say what we feel we need to say.

I probably value my freedom above everything else. One thing I've always noticed is how many teenagers feel somewhat trapped and unable to go somewhere. Everyone has dreamed of being someone special, someone famous. We are all more than what one or even two people think. I know I always have dreamed of being known as someone more than 'Liz Dart's younger sister' or 'the hyper, snarky kid'. I'm free to chase that dream, and I'm free to do what I need to do to get there.

To read other articles by Kat Dart visit the Authors' section of Emmitsburg.net.



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A TEEN'S VIEW

Changes come

Olivia Sielaff

For ages people have fantasized about having the power to stop or reverse time. We've seen it on television where people can travel through time. We've read in books like T.H. White's *The Once and Future King* where Merlin the magician actually lives backwards through time. And we've all imagined about one day being able to go "back to the future" to a special memory in our lives or to fix something that didn't turn out the way we had hoped. Nevertheless, there has always been something in human instinct that wants to hold on to the present as much as possible. We don't want to forget someone. We don't want to forget something. We like things to stay the way they are. At the bottom of it all, we don't want things to change.

Moving from one house to another is a big change that most people experience. Luckily I've only moved once, so far. But that impacted my life in such a positive way that I'm certain I would be living a completely different life than I am now. I remember when our family moved here about eight years ago, I kept thinking it was all a dream and that I'd wake up in my old bedroom. But of course that never happened. It took me awhile to realize that I had to make new friends and get used to a different house. If I kept wishing I were back at our old house, I would have missed new opportunities to adjust in our new neighborhood. Consequently, moving can be a big adjustment for people. However, after the move, we almost always find the need to make new friends.

Like most people, I didn't want to leave my friends and family behind when we moved. I thought I would never see my friends again. Of course, I was being a little dra-

matic, even though I was only six or seven years old. These were the first people I had ever known, and I would have to start all over again to make new friends. It was hard at first, because I kept wishing I were back with my old friends and I would write them letters all the time. But eventually the letters between my friends and I became fewer and fewer, and so I needed to search for new friends in my new neighborhood. I would still have my old friends, and I would visit my family often, but it was time to change.

The first friends I made here in Emmitsburg turned out to be my neighbors and my best friends. My other neighbor introduced me to the two sisters. I was pretty shy at the time, but they wanted to know me right away. Quickly we became best friends and we would play everyday for hours in their backyard and in their room just goofing around and using our wild imaginations. They would invite my family and I to their huge family events, and I became like their cousin. To this day we do spontaneous, crazy things and enjoy each other's company. I'm so glad that I decided to make that change and meet new friends!

A further change that impacted me so greatly was joining another homeschool group after we moved. Where we used to live, we were involved with a homeschool co-op, and I had a few friends there. But when we moved to Emmitsburg, we needed to find another group. As I was entering eighth grade, my family heard about a homeschool group that met twice a week and offered classes based on a classical education. I had never heard of something like this before, but I was willing to give it a try. That was probably one of the best changes I have made so far. I have learned to love learning, I have learned how to teach myself,



and most of all I have learned the value of friendship.

Lastly, this past year has seen me through many changes as well. They are not so much physical changes as they are 'growing up' changes I suppose you could say. One of the hardest changes I've had to deal with this year is seeing my highschool senior friends prepare to leave for college. Some of them aren't going very far, and I'll be seeing them throughout the summer, but just knowing that they won't be at school with me next year is, quite frankly, hard to accept. I've grown up with these friends all through highschool, and we're so close-knit that to not see them twice a week at school is going to be difficult. Towards the end of this past school year, I came to realize how different it is going to feel at our homeschool group without the seniors there. My class will soon be in their place and we'll have to set the standard for the rest of the highschoolers.

That leads me to becoming a senior this fall! Just the changes that come with that are overwhelming. Back in ninth or tenth grade, the idea of college was in the back of my head, and I thought, "I have plenty of time until I have to start thinking about it." But my highschool years have gone by so quickly that sometimes it seems I don't

have enough time to adjust to the change. I've realized that this summer will have to be filled with college applications, scholarship searches, preparing for the SATs again, and figuring out what I want to major in. By far, this has been a change that is hard to think about, but I'm ready for it.

These changes throughout my life might not seem too significant to some people, but they've shaped me into a young adult and taught me to accept unavoidable change since I can't have control over it most of the time. Moving into a new house taught me that a change of scenery is good sometimes, and no one should stay in the same place for very long. Making new friends, instead of longing to see my old friends, made me more outgoing and taught me to be open to meeting new people.

Joining another homeschool group changed the way I learn, gave me a unique education, and opened the door to so many other friends who are like a second family to me. Watching my senior friends prepare for college showed me that it takes maturity and re-

sponsibility to make the leap from highschool to college, and that I have to accept that people do grow up and move on. And finally, becoming a senior has taught me to take on more responsibility for my education, my future, and myself.

Everyone has experienced change in his or her life. Sometimes it's for the better and sometimes it's for the worse. We know there will be change, but usually we don't want to face it. Humans can become so complacent at times and never want things to be different. That's why we've all dreamed of being able to stop time. In many instances I've felt the same way. However, looking back from when we moved here to the present time, I can see how much I've changed for the better. At times I might not have thought a certain change was good or beneficial to me, but everything that had changed has prepared me for more evolutions in my future. Because I can't stop time and keep things the way they are, the way I like them, I've learned to change with time. And that's all part of this life. We aren't meant to never grow up and stay the same. We must adapt, change, and mature to face whatever else time may bring us. And I believe I'm ready for that.

To read other articles by Olivia Sielaff visit the Authors' section of Emmitsburg.net



Wedding Vows

May 8, 2010

Eric Hewitt & Tara Youngblood

On May 8, 2010 Eric Hewitt and Tara Youngblood shared their wedding vows with family and friends at the Blue Ridge Sportsmen Club, PA. Joining them in the wedding were Harry Hewitt, Jr. and daughter Haven, Davie Cool, Danny Youngblood, Patrick Dinges, Andrea Youngblood, Kaci Korrell, Megan Bradshaw and Sarah Davis. Pastor Tim Robbins performed the ceremony.
Eric is the son of Tammy and Harry Hewitt.
Tara is the daughter of Renee Elswick and Danny Youngblood.



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COLD WAR WARRIORS

The Cuban Missile Crisis—Part 2

Captain John Murphy, USN, Ret.

I stood on the quarterdeck of the USS Canberra (CA-70) in the early evening of 22 October, 1962 as President John F. Kennedy was informing the nation of a major crisis that was in progress in Cuba. That the Soviet Union had introduced Medium Range Ballistic Missiles into Cuba that were a threat to the United States. That missile and bomber bases had been set up in Cuba. He called for Khrushchev to withdraw these missiles and their use against any Western Hemisphere nation would lead to an attack against the USSR.

USS Canberra was to serve as the flagship for the Blockade Force commander. All day ships had been streaming out of naval bases up and down the U.S. East coast. An unprecedented show of military resolve. An intentionally showy act. We wanted Premier Nikita Khrushchev and his underlings in Moscow, to see us preparing for a major confrontation. Preparing for a war that THEY were creating. We knew that Soviet spies ("port watchers") in such naval bases as New London, New York, Norfolk, Charleston, and Mayport, Florida were seeing and reporting on our every move.

I reported to the Atlantic Command Headquarters (CINCLANT, CINCLANTFLT) in March 1962. To me, the headquarters was like a country club compared to the life I had just left at a Black Sea strategic warning site a short 100 miles from the Soviet Union. We knew about the Bay of Pigs fiasco that had occurred in Cuba the previous year, but this seemed like minor league stuff when compared to what was at stake over in Europe and Asia in the Cold War. The real Cold War was there. Cuba? A nuisance, but not a major challenge to the U.S.

Or so it seemed in March 1962 when I joined the CINCLANT Intelligence Interpretive Unit. A small group of eight officers who were watching every move the Soviets made in our geographic area of concern (i.e. Atlantic, Caribbean, Central and South America ... including

Cuba). Piece of cake! A chance to relax a bit ... play some golf and tennis... take the family to the beach at Little Creek and Virginia Beach. Then, just when life was looking pretty good - compared to Istanbul - things started going downhill.

We started seeing subtle indicators that the Soviets were up to something. By July and August, Cuba no longer looked like a small, banana republic, but rather a nearby component of the Cold War. While Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev was playing a power game that made some of his closest advisers nervous, in Norfolk we were preparing for any and all contingencies - from the invasion of Cuba to nuclear war - World War III.

By mid summer we were spending quite a bit of time on operations plans related to Cuba - OP Plan 312 (air strike against specific Cuban targets), and OP Plans 314 and 316 (airborne and amphibious assault of Cuba). The planning activity became more intense as we moved from Summer into the Fall of 1962.

I remember that our initial planning was for massive, coordinated Air Force and Navy air strikes over Cuba simultaneously. Then, sometime in September, we were told to start developing plans for a naval blockade. We were not prepared for this, but were told to get prepared and to do it fast because it was beginning to look like this might be the approach preferred by President Kennedy and his staff.

By August, we had all-source intelligence that the Soviets were shipping Soviet MRBMs (Medium Range Ballistic Missiles) into Cuba aboard Soviet and Bloc cargo ships and tankers.

By September our new Project BULLSEYE HFDF system (radio direction finding) was in full operations and doing a great job of reporting on the increased flow of Soviet and Warsaw pact ships heading towards Cuba - loaded with military supplies. The Soviets upped the "pucker factor" for us when, on 11 September, Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko said, in a speech at the United Nations that an Amer-

ican attack on Cuba would lead to a war with the Soviet Union. Thanks Andrey. So Another Bay of Pigs = WW III. Got it! At least it was a statement that was on the mind of every person on watch in Norfolk throughout the October Missile Crisis.

Then came October 1962 - a month I will never forget. On 3 October we were directed to increase surveillance of Cuba and get ready to set up a Naval Blockade - if and when ordered by the President. All was to be done with the greatest of secrecy. No "leaks" that would alert the Soviets that we were onto their dangerous game. The scene was about set. Then on 14 October a U2 reconnaissance aircraft discovered MRBM missile sites in western Cuba.

The evening of Monday, 22 October, President Kennedy was telling the nation of the major crisis that was facing the nation - the Norfolk Naval Base looked like a wasteland. One ship was left at the major piers at Norfolk. It was USS Canberra. I was delivering some final classified material as she was about to sail out the Hampton Roads into the Atlantic to assume command of the Naval Blockade. DEFCON 3 was set throughout the Atlantic Command. An increased state of Readiness from normal peacetime operations (DEFCON 4.) We viewed this massive deployment of all Atlantic Fleet ships as a clear signal to the Soviets that we were getting very serious about the crisis they had created in Cuba.

The next day we nervously watched from the Atlantic Command Center as our Blockade forces took their positions along a large arc about 800 miles from Cuba. We were particularly interested in the dozen of more Soviet Northern Fleet diesel and nuclear submarines that were in or near Cuba. Our Intelligence Interpretive Unit was in a large 40 by 40 foot room with high ceilings. We had gigantic, sliding map boards that were used to display all available information on the movement of Soviet forces - worldwide. Late that evening the Secre-



tary of Defense announced that our "Quarantine" forces (i.e. Blockade) were in place and the quarantine would go into effect 9 AM the following day.

On Wednesday, the Strategic Air Command goes to DEFCON 2 - Maximum Readiness. The only time it was declared during the Cold War. A clear signal to Khrushchev and the USSR that we really meant business. None who served at sea or at major U.S. commands worldwide will ever forget that morning as the clock ticked down to 10 AM - and the Soviet ships and submarines continued to proceed towards the Blockade line. And I will never forget what happened next. Around 10 or 11 AM our BULLSEYE HFDF (radio direction finding) net began noticing a large surge in communications by Soviet and Bloc ships that were approaching the line. When the location of these ships was plotted on our large, map boards over a one to two hour period (10 - 11 AM local) - they showed that the ships we could see ... all seemed to be making a large, right turn AWAY from the Blockade line. It was as if the Soviets were using our very own surveillance system to tell us "Stay cool. I am backing off." This - when coupled with a surge in reporting from air and seaborne units in the Blockade area - seemed to confirm that the Soviets were not about to challenge our Naval Blockade.

A clear sense of elation filled the Command Center. "They blinked!" The crisis was far from over, but at least - on this day - sanity seemed to have prevailed in the Kremlin. Something we were not used to seeing from Nikita Khrushchev and his war machine. In Washington President Kennedy gave orders that there should be no public commentary about the initial course changes we had noticed by Soviet ships.

Many years later I had the opportunity to talk to a former Soviet cargo ship Captain who was in command of one of those ships that was approaching our Blockade line on 24 October. He said that the previous night he received an encoded message from his Black Sea Headquarters. The first time he had to open up a special safe and break out a special code pad to "break" his urgent message from his superiors. The message instructed him to not cross the Blockade Line the following morning. That he was to proceed up to it and then make a large turn to the right and return home. He was to do this at about 1800 Moscow Time (1400 GMT).

John Murphy is a retired Naval Security Group Officer who was assigned to Atlantic Command Headquarters' Intelligence Interpretive Unit during the peak of the Cuban Missile Crisis.

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THE VILLAGE IDIOT

Vladimir Lenin's useful idiots

Jack Deatherage, Jr.

I sat listening to a man speak of the need for workers to unite against their Capitalist suppressors. The fellow fascinated me. His balding head fringed with long, graying, unwashed hair, wire rimmed eye-glasses perched on his bulbous nose; his clean, but paint dotted work over-alls gave him an air of having just sat down after hours of manual labor. He was one of us, the people gathered about a small fire, sharing the gifts of Nature as we leisured in the security of a Pagan retreat. I watched the pontificator's hands, gnarled by time, dripping the sweat of a cold beer bottle he sipped from at the end of each point he wanted us to consider. His hands were without scars, calluses, imbedded soil or grime, or any sign of having ever been used in common labor. It was then I knew I'd finally met a "fellow traveler", the mythical Communist mountebank.

When his soft hand plucked a third beer from someone else's cooler, I had to smile. Not only was this Communist a skilled actor playing to the marks, he was equally skilled at sucking up their property. I glanced at the landowner who was watching me as carefully as I'd been watching the Commie. The landowner smiled at me and winked. I nodded my head and looked to the others gathered about the fire. No surprise that these Socialists, I'd chosen to sit among, were agog with the visitor's performance.

I had joined the gathering hoping to snag a clue as to what drove the varied Pagans who had opened their hearts to my family. I simply couldn't endure the expressions of admiration I saw on too many of their faces as the ideological con-man worked his magic, and drank their beer. (I'm sure they passed a hat before he moved on to the next gathering of seekers.) I've not been back to that particular place. A phrase kept running through my mind, "Vladimir Lenin's useful idiots".

Other "useful idiots" come to mind now. Others besides myself. By the bye, I mean nothing derogatory by the term "useful idiot". To quote Answers.com "The term is used as a pejorative to describe a naive person manipulated to produce propoganda for a malign cause." I think of such people as willfully ignorant. Having been such a person most of my life, I can't bring myself to heap scorn on those still in that state.

During a heated argument about ideologies (I was holding a conservative position and the other a liberal one) it occurred to me to stop stating and start asking. Have you read Karl Marx's "Communist Manifesto", or any part of it? Have you read George Orwell's "Animal Farm" or "1984"? How about David Horowitz's "Radical Son"? Saul Lewinsky's "Rules For Radicals"? Have you even heard of these works? Do you know anything about Liberation Theology? Do you listen to "talk radio", or do you only get your news from traditional television news organs and the traditional print media? Have you read any of the websites maintained by the International Socialist Movement, or whatever they are calling themselves these days? Do you know what a "useful idiot" is?

The answer to all of my questions was "no". I was dumbfounded. Then I realized there was nothing I could say that could possibly faze this person. I asked what they thought of the weather. To my surprise that angered them! It turned out they thought their Liberal (read Progressive) position was rooted in fact and a solid un-

derstanding of their beliefs. They demanded to know why I would simply abandon their arguments as if they were nothing.

I asked who they had voted for in the last election. (I already knew as I had helped them cast the vote.)

"Obama."

So I asked why.

"Because he's bringing hope and change."

Could they be more specific?

"He's going to pay for my health care and make the rich pay their fair share. Besides, NO one needs more than \$100,000 a year to live on!"

I asked who would employ us if the "rich" were reduced to that level of income, which seems to be the objective of all the Liberals I've spoken too. (In my dreams, I have \$100,000 annual income! Hell, our household would be living large with half of that!) Sadly, the "useful idiot" had no answer so I returned to the weather. It was sunny and mild. We both agreed.

Robert (B1 Bob) Dornan, former California congressman remarked on Rush Limbaugh's radio program that Socialists are different from Communists. He claimed he had friends in Congress who were Socialists, decent people, but misguided. (I'm not quoting the man, just telling it as I recall it after too many years.) A Socialist will pitch their argument to you as a need to help those who cannot help themselves. They will guilt trip you into giving them your, or someone else's money, to help them care for the less fortunate. A Communist will simply put a gun to your head and demand everything you've got.

"Not so!" Shout my East European friends. "There is no difference between Socialists and Communists. They are the same! You need to stop thinking of one as evil and the other as merely an annoyance. They are both destroyers of the human spirit."

The Europeans were born and raised under Communism. That they see this country slipping into what their countries have recently escaped frightens them. The fact their parents survived Communism gives me hope that my family will survive it here. They tell me I don't want to survive it. I should be stopping it!

Still, I tell them that ours will be a different type of Communism. Our governing elite have had decades to study what Europe and Asia have done wrong in implementing and operating their versions of Communism. We will have a more perfect Communism; the fellow travelers all say so.

"What the hell are you talking about?" One European demanded. "In my country, under the Communist, there were no welfare families. Everyone had a job! If you refused to work you either became a successful criminal or you went to prison. I don't know what kind of socialism you have here. I never heard of families living generation after generation after generation off the workers!"

In my country, everyone had a place to live, food to eat, clothing



to wear and they worked for all of it! A woman deciding to have a child was given three years leave from her job to nurture the child until the state determined it was ready for indoctrination in the state school system."

Other than the indoctrination by the State, the system appeals to me. So what was wrong with it?

"The State controls your life. If you are deemed a bricklayer, but desire to be a sculptor, a brick-laying job is what the State offers you. If you refuse, the State turns you loose to live off the charity of family and friends, or starve. There is no way to improve your life if you do not accept what the State dictates.

Stop being a useful idiot!"

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

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IN MY OWN WORDS

Freedom is not necessarily free

Katharine Au

“When in the Course of human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the Political Bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the Earth, the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God entitle them, a decent Respect to the Opinions of Mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the Separation.”

That is the beginning of our Declaration of Independence - Action of the Second Continental Congress, July 4, 1776. It goes on to say, “We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness - That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.”

The Declaration of Independence goes on for a bit citing certain doctrines that established our declaration of freedom from the British monarchy and ends by saying, “We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the World for the Rectitude of our Intentions, do, in the name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly Publish and Declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be, Free and Independent States; that they are absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political Connection between them and the State of Great-Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. - And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm Reliance on the Protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our Sacred Honor.” So ends our Declaration of Independence. It was a document that altered American history and helped establish us as a free nation. We are, and have been from this early inception document, a nation that prides itself on being a little bit of a ‘rebel,’ free from constraints, able to change and alter ourselves and our government where and when needed.



We, as a nation, were established by a few brave souls who saw a vision greater than the doctrines given to them as the established norm of conduct and being governed as a colony of Great Britain. Instead, our founding fathers said, “no, thank you,” to what was prescribed to them as a way of governing; instead, they established their own form of government. I guess it’s fair to say that started the trend of what many see as “being an American.” We, as a nation, often do what is determined impossible because we don’t accept the word impossible. We flew when it was believed impossible to fly like a bird. We even made it to the moon when it was deemed impossible to get to outer space.

Let’s face it; America was established a bit like Australia. Sure, we weren’t completely established as a nation that was created by sending convicts to an island in order to deplete prison systems. America was more of a nation established by those fleeing from religious persecution and those wanting to find a better life for themselves than their homeland could provide. Through it all, those that inhabit America came here to be free and those of us here today value our freedoms. But, freedom does not come without a cost.

Freedom - a simple word that has no simple meaning. We celebrate our freedom annually on July 4th. What I’m reminded of when I think of the 4th of July is all the men and women who are out right now all over the world protecting our freedoms from those who might try to eliminate them. On this 4th of July in 2010, thousands have given their lives in Afghanistan and Iraq alone to protect our freedom.

Our military sacrifices are obvious indicators of the cost of remaining free; however, there are other examples which suggest the price of freedom. Take into consideration the current oil disaster in the Gulf. We have, and value, the freedom of individual transportation, but that freedom is based on our consump-

tion of crude oil that is turned into gasoline. We each can drive our cars here and there with no constraint to timetables of train travel or public transportation if we wish to travel privately. However, each of us has been witness to news for the last 60 plus days where we witness the cost of our freedom of movement. I’m not saying we shouldn’t be able to drive where we want when we want. I’m saying it’s a good time to look at our own personal contribution to the need for offshore drilling. Maybe if we each drove one less trip a week or streamlined our errand running we might make a huge impact on how much oil our country consumes.

Enough individuals who chose to limit their own freedom of movement without restraint could make a difference in the nation’s fossil fuel dependence. However, the real difference in our nation’s fossil fuel dependence will come with changes in national policy, with an awareness that, as a nation, we no longer have the unbridled freedom to assert our individual dominance no matter what the cost.

To live in freedom as we do does not come without a cost. No one knew this fact better than our founding fathers who wrote the document asserting our independence as a nation. Those founding fathers concluded the document affirming our freedom: “--And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm Reliance on the Protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our Sacred Honor.”

That sentence is a powerful concluding affirmation. The sentence first asserts the necessity of “the Protection of divine Providence.” The message is clear; the work of building a nation is not lightly undertaken. It cannot be done alone; it relies on divine providence. The end of the sentence is even more profound. Those men who took upon themselves the dissolution of the ties with Great Britain and the establishment of a new nation did so with a mutual pledge to each other

which involved not only their lives and all that they possessed, but also their “sacred honor.”

In the modern world, we may have lost touch somewhat with what “sacred honor” really means. We often, I suspect, think of “honor” as what one is due, a reward which one receives. An honor, of course, can be that kind of honor. But to the founding fathers, the sacred honor which they pledged in the Declaration of Independence was their own personal integrity, their own moral commitment. It was a pledge they made to each other; in other words, they were committed to the freedom of the whole, not just the freedom of the individual. They were committed to the concept of the nation as a whole--and to that concept they tied their sacred honor.

To see our freedom as a nation as our founding fathers saw it is to understand just how important freedom really is and how much we should value it. It is also to understand that our individual freedom is inextricably linked

to the larger nation of which we are a part. It is to understand that every soldier who has ever died to protect our freedom has been a part of the fabric of our nation.

It is to understand that we all have a commitment to understand that freedom is not free--it is bought and paid for by the lives of those who die for it, by the resources of those who value it and invest resources to further it, and most of all by those who commit their “sacred honor” to defend the principle that all people are created equal, that each person has a right to life, to freedom, and to the opportunity to pursue happiness.

The 4th of July should remind us of what we owe to those brave men in 1776. It should also remind us of the cost of freedom--a cost worth the payment--but a cost we, as the inheritors of that freedom, have an obligation to pay.

To Read other articles by Katharine Au visit the Authors’ section of Emmitsburg.net

PET PORTRAITS.

by *Rebecca Pearl*





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ARTISTS OF THE MONTH

Art in the country

The critics just grunted at the paintings being created by the Rebecca Pearl's students. Of course, the critics were pigs...literally.

The artists had taken refuge in the shade to paint scenes at Whitmore Farm, a certified Organic farm specializing in pasture-raised livestock. About a dozen students under Pearl's tutelage were painting in a style called "pleinair," which means "open air."

"You have to deal with changing light conditions when you paint outdoors," Pearl said. "It's a lot easier to be in an air-conditioned studio where you can control the light."

The three-day workshop traveled to three different areas in northern Frederick County to paint the scenery. Besides the Whitmore Farm, the group paint-

ed at Toms Creek Church and another farm in Creagerstown called Pantera. Some of the students use watercolors while others painted with pastels or oil paints.

"We got a lot more people to come to this workshop because we opened up the media they could use," Pearl explained.

Laura Davis of New Market had studied watercolor and pastels for four years. She chose to paint during the workshop using pastels.

"The locations are something new for me to paint," Davis said. "I love them."

Davis has taken other classes with Pearl and enjoys it.

"She's a wonderful woman to learn from," Davis said. "She's a talented, giving person and makes it a personal effort to work with the students."

Bernice Cimbalista works with oil paints and has been painting most of her life.

"I haven't painted outdoors in a long while though," she said.

Pearl instructs her students that when painting outdoors, they need to form an "o" with their hand and look through it as they scan the landscape.

"When they see something they like, they should stop and concentrate on painting that," Pearl that.

Pearl teaches three workshops a year that travel and paint plein-air. She has even taken students to Bermuda and Wyoming to paint.

Rebecca Hollandsworth of Gaithersburg was one of the students who traveled to Wyoming with Pearl. She said she enjoys painting in Frederick because the area is beautiful. Though she usu-



ally paints portraits, she enjoys painting outdoors to try and expand her talents.

Pearl agrees. "There's so much here," she said. "You don't really have to travel very far to see some things to paint."

Pearl's studio is on West Main

Street in Emmitsburg. The gallery hours are Thursday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. or by appointment at other times. For more information on the new gallery, call Pearl at (301) 271-2348 or visit her web site at www.rebecapearl.com.

Tony Messano

Christine Brandt Little
Adams County Arts Council

Biglerville, Pennsylvania resident has woven his love of fine art, music, and teaching into an eclectic life that enables him to pursue all three disciplines in many ways.

A New Jersey native, Messano is an accomplished jazz pianist with three albums to his credit. Recognized widely for his drawings and paintings, he is also an experienced cartoonist and mural painter.

Messano spent his early adulthood in the New York City area taking classes at the School of Visual Arts as well as studying jazz and performing with a number of jazz-fusion, rock, and reggae bands. In 1993 he sought a slower pace of life in Adams County. "I was drawn here by the Civil War," Messano says. "I came out here and fell in love with the people, the landscapes, and the folk art of Adams County. All the beautiful barns, it was like stepping back in time. Coming from New Jersey and New York, it was a whole different world."

Despite his devotion to the fine arts, Messano has always taken a pragmatic approach toward his career. "I never looked at my music or my art as really paying the bills," he says. "I went to college for graphic design, even though I really had a passion for fine art. After I moved here, I got into contracting, which was great because the method is learning how everything is put together and where there's balance and structure."

His building skills ultimately led him into creating, restoring, and selling hand-made rustic furniture, which he offers through his website. "I found that aging and distressing wood for furniture takes the craft into the realm of art," says Messano. "By using my skills as a painter I can produce the illusion that these pieces actually existed somewhere in the

nineteenth century. I've even had antique dealers tell me they were convinced by my reproductions."

Messano says that his desire to help others realize their talents is driven by his five-year-old son Ian. "Since Ian was born, I've gotten a true perspective on the value of young minds and the pure hearts children hold," he says. "My son's outlook on life is delicate and untainted, and I return back to that pureness of life when I share in his instruction."

In light of his desire to help people discover their talents and enhance their abilities, Messano will be leading a summer art camp at the Adams County Arts Council's arts-learning center, the Imagination Station. "Time in the Rainbow" will use the face of the clock to help children learn about fractions, colors, and how to tell time. "The camp is going to dovetail a lot of different subjects into one subject," explains Messano. "It's

going to cover science, mathematics, and of course, learning how to tell time. We're also going to learn about shapes. We're going to learn about mixing colors. The whole idea is for the children to be able to have fun and learn all these different subjects and how they all tie together." The camp, which is for children ages 4 and 5, will meet July 12 through 16, 9:00 to 11:00 A.M. at the Imagination Station, 18 Carlisle Street, Gettysburg.

Messano will also lead a cartooning class at the Imagination Station in the fall. "Comic Creations" will teach participants how to design and illustrate a comic strip or storyboard. "This is something I thought of way back in one of my college graphic design classes," says Messano. "If you're going to tell a story, whether it be in the medium of movies or commercials or whatever, you have to create a storyboard so people know how one action leads to another. In this class we're going to look at how we communicate a story through images and words."

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We'll be artists and story tellers."

It's clear that Messano leads a rich and varied life, in the art studio, in the woodshop, at the keyboard, and in the classroom. In addition to his camps and classes at the Imagination Station, Messano teaches choir and music lessons for a local home-school network, gives private lessons in both art and music, and teaches art classes at the Washington County Museum of Fine Art

in Hagerstown. He also leads a campground ministry at Gettysburg Battlefield Resort on Sunday mornings at 10:30 A.M.

For more information about Messano's upcoming class and camp at the Imagination Station, visit adamarts.org or call (717) 334-5006. For more information about Messano's art, music, lessons, furniture, murals, and other many pursuits, visit gallerymessano.com.

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COMPLEMENTARY CORNER—WELL BEING

Chinese Medicine the Fire Element

part 2

Renee Lehman

In the first part of last month's article on the Fire Element, the associations of the season of Summer, and the two Yin and Yang Organs (Heart, Pericardium, Small Intestine, and Triple Heater, respectively) were discussed (see www.emmitsburg.net for the June 2010 article).

Remember that each Element describes a particular movement and the particular qualities which belong to a specific state of the changing energy seen in the universe. Together, the Five Elements help us to understand the process of dynamic harmony and balance in the whole system of energy. Therefore, when it comes to our health, if all Five Elements are in balance within us, then we are at a state of optimal health/wellness.

So, as you read this article on the **Fire Element, Part 2**, keep in mind that you are reading *only about one part* of a much bigger picture!

Summer is nature's season for **maturation** and **fulfillment**. It is a time of long daylight hours. Hopefully you have been enjoying the warm days, outdoor festivals and picnics, Sunday afternoon drives in the car, ice cream with friends, and walks with a loved one as the sun is setting, all examples of the many gifts of Summer.

Along with being associated with the season of Summer, the Fire Element is also defined as having other associations. In this article the following associations will be discussed: a body tissue (Blood Vessels), an external manifestation (Complexion), a sound in the voice (Laughing), an emotion (Joy), a color (Red), a taste (Bitter), a direction (South), and a climate (Hot).

Body Tissue and External Manifestation Correspondences

The **body tissues** associated with the Fire element are your blood vessels. In the ancient text, *Su Wen*, it is written that "The Heart rules the Blood and Blood Vessels". Just visualize how all of your blood travels through the heart and then through the blood vessels to reach every cell in your body. In this blood are nutrients keeping you vital! A healthy heart determines your circulation (think about your heart as a pump), and hardening of the coronary arteries can lead to a heart attack.

The **external manifestation** of the Fire element is your complexion. Someone with anemia may have a pale complexion, someone who gets overheated may develop a "blotchy" complexion,

and someone who is "stressed out" by relationship problems may develop some acne. All of these changes in complexion are related to the Fire element.

A well balanced Fire Element will show as: a strong, regular pulse; a healthy heart, healthy blood vessels allowing for good circulation throughout the body (good nail bed color and warm hands/feet), and a brilliant complexion.

Below is a list of questions that I would like you to ask yourself. Think about what shows up for you when you answer each question. You may need to "nourish" your Fire Element to bring it into better balance.

- Do you have any heart disease or hardening of the arteries?
- Do you have an irregular heart beat or heart palpitations?
- Do you have problems with your hands/feet being too cold?
- Do you have problems with fainting?
- How would you describe your complexion?

Sound and Emotion Correspondences

What sounds do you hear from children playing outside in the Summer? Joyful, playful sounds. The **sound** and the **emotion** that correspond with the Fire element are **laughing** and **joy**, respectively. If you had to draw what the sound of someone's voice looked like when they were excited or when laughing it would probably look like flames of a fire (up and down in a jagged manner).

Think about the fire of the sun. We have the same "fire" within us. This "inner warmth" creates a sense of joy. Joy is seen when one cultivates and appropriately expresses this inner warmth. And where on the body is joy

easily seen? On the face and especially the eyes! Just think of the famous proverb, "The eyes are the window to the soul."

A well balanced Fire Element will show as: appropriate laughter and joy, having the capacity for quality relationships and intimacy, charisma, friendliness, and passion for things in your life.

Ask yourself the following questions. Think about what shows up for you when you answer each question. You may need to "nourish" your Fire Element to bring it into better balance.

- Do you often "blow hot or cold?"
- How would you describe the quality of your relationships?
- How would you describe your ability to feel emotions?
- How often do you experience dread or anxiety?
- How much fun do you have each day and how often do you laugh?

Color, Taste, Direction, and Climate Correspondences

The **color** correspondence of the Fire element is **red**. Redness is associated with warmth and heat. What color is your skin when burnt? How red does your face get when you are overheated? Think about how you blush when embarrassed or being modest (this is the red blood flushing the face), and on the other hand, think about how someone's face may look ashen or grey when they are not feeling vivacious.

The **taste** associated with the Fire element is **bitter**. Foods that tend to be bitter tasting are: asparagus, coffee, hops, kohlrabi, some lettuces, vinegar, wine, and don't forget about dark chocolate (good for your heart). The bitter foods can de-

crease body heat and dry up excess body fluids. Doesn't this sound like a great way to cool yourself in the heat of summer? With coffee you say? Yes, in fact in the Middle East, coffee is drunk even during the hottest times of the year to cause them to sweat and then result in cooling.

The **direction** of the Fire element is **south**, and the **climate** of the Fire element is **hot**. Think about how the south side of your home gets more sun, how it is warmer in the southern portion of the states all year round, and how summer is the hottest time of the year. This warmth is directly related to the Fire element.

Nourishing your Fire Element

So, if you are interested in nourishing and keeping your Fire Element in balance, try some of the following things:

On a physical level, try aerobic exercise that keeps your cardiovascular system healthy (once you have had a physical by your doctor).

Connect with people who are important to you.

Cultivate relationships with yourself and others.

Eat foods that are bitter tasting (dark chocolate), warming (black pepper), strengthening of your blood (red meat), and are red in color (tomatoes, cherries, red peppers). Avoid too much salt, fat, and stimulants.

Be joyful when eating! Enjoy food with friends.

SING!



Take time to meditate – this will calm the distracting chatter of your mind. Celebrate life!

To do this, you may need a professional to work with you (a physician, nutritionist, acupuncturist, personal trainer, massage therapist, counselor, spiritual director, or other wellness professionals).

Until then, keep observing your movement through Summer, and how well your Fire Element is balanced. And remember: It is tempting to say that the 'Fire is this or that', or declare 'I am only Fire, but this is **NOT** how the Elements are meant to be described. There are aspects of the Fire Element that resonate for each individual, and it should! The Fire Element is an integral piece of describing the ONENESS of the universe (including our own body/mind/spirit) that is constantly changing and transforming!

Renee Lehman is a licensed acupuncturist, physical therapist, and Reiki Master with over 20 years of health care experience. Her office is located at 249B York Street in Gettysburg, PA. She can be reached at 717-752-5728.

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Sleep, the final frontier

Dr. Bonita Portier

For all who are walking around in a bit of a brain fog because of sleep deprivation, it seems that sleep is more a concept than a reality. One in three it is suggested have less sleep than is considered “normal” and “healthy.” One in eight is in serious sleep deprived mode. Amazingly, the physical body—muscle, bones still go on without the sleep. This might be part of the design for survival. The ol’ fight or flight system kicks in no matter what. But the brain, the great seat of understanding, wisdom, patience, judgment, decision making, and accuracy is very affected by our sleep or lack thereof.

The causes of poor sleep are many. Having birthdays and getting older, being a girl, having stress, having sleep apnea, not eating right, not drinking enough water to stay well hydrated, having aches and pains, not exercising enough, depression, medications, and being overweight can all cause or worsen insomnia. While we docs may forget to ask or address your insomnia, please do be persistent so we can help improve your sleep situation.

Talk to you doctor about you medications, sometimes just chang-

ing the timing of the medications to an earlier time of the day can let you sleep better at night. ADD and ADHD medications, Wellbutrin, Effexor, beta-blockers, SSRI and MAOI antidepressants to mention a few, can keep a person awake. Zocor, a cholesterol medicine has been known to interfere with sleep. Sometimes the medication(s) will need to be changed. Sometimes we self medicate. Lots of other non-prescription items keep us awake: Caffeinated beverages, alcohol, street drugs as heroin and cocaine (JUST SAY NO!).

If your thyroid function is too high or too low, insomnia could result. A simple test could find this out.

Look also at how much water and real hydration you provide your body each day. Coffee, non-herbal tea, soda and beer are all diuretics and do not provide hydration. How do you know you are well hydrated? Check your tongue. If your tongue is glistening pink you are probably well hydrated. Check you urine. If your urine is a pale yellow, you are probably well hydrated.

How are you doing on your fruit and vegetable consumption? If these are very low profile in your diet and very little vitamins and minerals are

slipping through to your dietary support, insomnia can be exacerbated. Junk food overdose will not just ruin your teeth and your cholesterol and coronary arteries, it can also keep you up at night.

Too many of us are vitamin D and Vitamin C deficient. All that arm and leg bruising and achiness might be a sign that your vitamin C is low. One of my patients let me know that when we gave him Vitamin D replacement his arthritis got much better. Having enough calcium and magnesium in our diet with calm our being and help with rest.

It is important to have a rhythm to life going to bed and getting up at the same time each day with hopefully at least 8 hours of rest logged in each night. The “nuns” have shown us the way on this. Amazingly, on their 8 hours and scheduled life they have built and run schools, hospitals and orphanages to log a few accomplishments. Many do not retire until well into their 80’s. We could learn from them.

Some of us just want a quick fix. There are a few, but most of them are DANGEROUS. One in eight to one in twenty will have a bad outcome on (eg delirium, sleepwalking, fractured hip after a fall, under the influence) on the new sleep

aids as Zolpidem and the benzodiazepines. Benadryl is a bit safer an actually works in mild to moderate insomnia. Melatonin does seem to help in some instances and so far has been found to be very safe. There are other agents, not necessarily better agents as such, that your doctor may try when other options have failed. Alcohol is NOT a sleep aid.

To get some sleep or at least some rest:

Look at you in the mirror and learn to like yourself better, start the day with giving yourself permission to have a better day.

Give the day your best effort. Enjoy and do some physical work each day, even if you have a desk job.

Eat healthy!

Go for a walk or do SOME exercise for 30 minutes every day.

Forgive your world for being a mess and try to make it better.

Face off with your stressors and demons, name them and address them.

Let go of one grudge – really let go-- each week.

Enjoy your friends and family. If you cannot, work toward improving your situation to where you can have some enjoyment.

Do not take alcohol or caffeine within four hours of bed time.

Do not have a TV in your bedroom. The positive ionization from this will keep you up.

Do have your computer in your bedroom. The positive ionization from this will keep you up.

Keep your sleep area dark, light is the strongest waking stimulant there is, even stronger than loud noise.

Keep your room temperature between 65 and 68 degrees, the best for sleep.

Keep your sheets fresh and clean and have a sheet, at least, for covering, it gives a sense of security.

Find a mattress that you like and that likes you in feel, width and length.

If you sleep on a couch or cot—many homes I have visited have this arrangement, work toward a set up that gives more of a feeling of a real bed.

When your head hits the pillow, give yourself permission to have a wonderful night, or at least a good night’s rest, and trust that the “world can spin without you tonight.”

Some of you are caretakers, you often go without sleep. Try to get some time during the day for catch up sleep. Get others to volunteer to give you time off for rest and restoration. Find community help.



Did you know about St. Joseph’s Provincial House changes?

Did you know the Sisters are not leaving and the building is not being torn down?

It’s important to learn about the facts straight from the source rather than hearing bits and pieces from others.

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Spirit of the Living God, guide us in our planning.

ASTRONOMY

The night sky of July

Professor Wayne Wooten

For July, the Moon will be waning gibbous as the month begins. The Full Moon on June 26th will actually produce a partial lunar eclipse, the beginning of which will be visible just before sunrise in the SE US. At 5:30 AM, the moon starts to enter our dark umbral shadow, but it sets at 5:50, with only a slight bite taken out of its edge.

The first two weeks of July will thus find the Moon at waning in the morning sky. The last quarter moon passes about six degrees north of Jupiter on July 4th. The new moon is on July 11th, and produces a total solar eclipse, visible from Easter Island in the South Pacific, but nothing observable here. The next total solar eclipse for us in the US is August 21, 2017. The waxing crescent moon on July 14 passes 4 degrees south of Venus; she passed Regulus in Leo on the 10th, so this makes a nice triangle in the west. The moon passes five degrees south of red Mars on the 16th, and just below Saturn a few hours later. Mars overtakes Saturn at month's end in Virgo. This full moon is the Hay or Thunder moon, depending on the culture, and takes place on July 26th.

Venus dominates the western sky, and moves higher in Leo throughout this month. She is 71% sunlit as July begins, and 16 arc seconds in diameter, but as she overtakes us, is grown to 19 arc seconds, but 60% lit as July ends. Mars is faint and distant, with only a tiny five arc second disk noted in telescopes, but it moves rapidly through Leo and into Virgo by month's end, passing Saturn on the 31st. Saturn is named for the god of time (Chronos in Greek) because he moves so slowly. Saturn's rings now opened about four degrees, so appear very thin, almost edge-on. It disappears into the Sun's glare by August, so observe it early in July right after sunset, before it gets too low.

Overhead, the Big Dipper rides high at sunset, but falls lower in NW each evening. Good scouts know to take its leading pointers north to Polaris, the famed Pole Star. For us, it sits 30 degrees (our latitude) high in the north, while the rotating earth beneath makes all the other celestial bodies spin around it from east to west.

If you drop south from the bowl of the Big Dipper, Leo the Lion is in the SW. Saturn lies just below the right triangle that marks the lion's hindquarters. 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 re-

veals 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. It is above Corvus, in the arms of Virgo, where our large scopes will show members of the Virgo Supercluster, a swarm of over a thousand galaxies about 50 million light years away from us.

To the east, Hercules is well up, with the nice globular cluster M-13 marked on your sky map and visible in binocs. It closely approximates that amateurs will see through the eyepiece with a 6" telescope on a dark clear night. It too looked very fine at our Sky Interpretation session on June 11th. Several other good globular clusters are also shown and listed on the best binoc objects on the map back page.

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 bottom of the parallelogram of Lyra is the famed Ring Nebula, M - 57. This planetary nebula is easy to find in small scopes midway between the two bottom stars of Lyra, and is marked on your star charts.

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; like Vega, it lies within about 25 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.

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. Both are spectacular with binocs.

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. The fine globular cluster M-22 sits just NE of the star in the lid with binocs, and resolves well with any scope 4" aperture or larger.

Later in the July evenings, giant Jupiter dominates the SE sky. It rises about 10 PM by the end of July in Aquarius, and is at opposition in mid September, rising at sunset. Any small scope will reveal what Galileo marveled at in 1609; four large moons, all bigger or similar to ours in size, orbit it



The Milky Way's closest globular cluster, Omega Centauri

in a line along Jupiter's equator. So get out the old scope, and focus on Jupiter for a constantly changing dance of the moons around the giant world.

We plan to come back out the Ft. Pickens gate again this summer, with gazes set for August 6th, and September 10th. We take astronomy to the sidewalks at the Gulfside Performance Pavilion in Pensacola Beach on July

16-17, August 13-14, September 17-18, and October 15-16 for the first quarter moon; these feature the waxing moon in the evening sky as well. We hope you can join! Bring along your digital cameras to capture the rings of Saturn, Jupiter and moons, dozens of satellites gliding overhead, galaxies, clusters, and other cool stuff off our live video feed from the large telescopes we use there.

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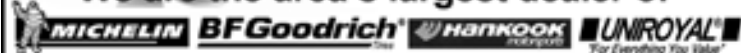
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HISTORY

Fourth of July facts

What happened to the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence?

Five signers were captured by the British as traitors, and tortured before they died. Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned. Two lost their sons serving in the Revolutionary Army; another had two sons captured. Nine of the 56 fought and died from wounds or hardships of the Revolutionary War. They signed and they pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.

What kind of men were they?

Twenty-four were lawyers and jurists. Eleven were merchants, nine were farmers and large plantation owners; men of means, well educated. But they signed the Declaration of Independence knowing full well that the penalty would be death if they were captured.

Carter Braxton of Virginia, a wealthy planter and trader, saw his ships swept from the seas by the British Navy. He sold his home and properties to pay his debts, and died in rags.

Thomas McKean was so hounded by the British that he was forced to move his family almost constantly. He served in the Congress without pay, and his family was kept in hiding. His possessions were taken from him, and poverty was his reward.

Vandals or soldiers looted the properties of Dillery, Hall, Clymer, Walton, Gwinnett, Heyward, Rutledge, and Middleton.

At the battle of Yorktown, Thomas Nelson Jr., noted that the British General Cornwallis had taken over the Nelson home for his headquarters. He quietly urged General George Washington to open fire. The home was destroyed, and Nelson died bankrupt.

Francis Lewis had his home and properties destroyed. The enemy jailed his wife, and she died within a few months.

John Hart was driven from his wife's bedside as she was dying. Their 13 children fled for their lives. His fields and his gristmill were laid to waste. For more than a year he lived in forests and caves, returning home to find his wife dead and his children vanished. A few weeks later he died from exhaustion and a broken heart.

Norris and Livingston suffered similar fates.

Such were the stories and sacrifices of the American Revolution. These were not wild-eyed, rabble-rousing ruffians. They were soft-spoken men of means and education.

They had security, but they valued liberty more. Standing tall, straight, and unwavering, they pledged: "For the support of this declaration, with firm reliance on the protection of divine providence, we mutually pledge to each other, our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."

They gave you and me a free and independent America. The history books never told you a lot about what happened in the Revolutionary War. We didn't fight just the British. We were British subjects at that time and we fought our own government!

Some of us take these liberties so much for granted, but we shouldn't. So, take a few minutes this year while enjoying your 4th of July holiday and silently thank these patriots.

It's not much to ask for the price they paid.

Remember: freedom is never free, and the Fourth of July has more to it than parades, beer, picnics, and baseball games.

THE MEANING OF THE SYMBOLS ON THE DOLLAR BILL

Take out a one dollar bill and look at it. The one dollar bill you're looking at first came off the presses in 1957 in its present design. This so-called paper money is in fact a cotton and linen blend, with red and blue minute silk fibers running through it. It's not paper money at all...its fabric mon-

ey. We've all washed it without it falling apart. A special blend of ink is used, the contents we will never know. It is overprinted with symbols and then it is starched to make it water resistant and pressed to give it that nice crisp look.

If you look on the front of the bill, you will see the United States Treasury Seal. On the top you will see the scales for the balance-a balanced budget. In the center you have a carpenter's T-square, a tool used for an even cut. Underneath is the Key to the United States Treasury.

That's all pretty easy to figure out, but what is on the back of that dollar bill is something we should all know. If you turn the bill over, you will see two circles. Both circles, together, comprise the Great Seal of the United States. The First Continental Congress requested that Benjamin Franklin and a group of men come up with a Seal. It took them four years to accomplish this task and another two years to get it approved.

If you look at the left hand circle, you will see a Pyramid. Notice the face is lighted and the western side is dark. This country was just beginning. We had not begun to explore the West or decided what we could do for Western Civiliza-

tion. The Pyramid is uncapped, again signifying that we were not even close to being finished.

Inside the capstone you have the all-seeing eye, and ancient symbol for divinity. It was Franklin's belief that one man couldn't do it alone, but a group of men, with the help of God could do anything. "IN GOD WE TRUST" is on this currency. The Latin above the pyramid, ANNUIT COEPTIS, means "God has favored our undertaking." The Latin below the pyramid, NOVUS ORDO SECLORUM, means "a new order has begun." At the base of the pyramid is the Roman Numeral for 1776.

If you look at the right-hand circle, and check it carefully, you will learn that it is on every National Cemetery in the United States. It is also on the Parade of Flags Walkway at the Bushnell, Florida National Cemetery and is the centerpiece of most hero's monuments. Slightly modified, it is the seal of the President of the United States and it is always visible whenever he speaks, yet no one knows what the symbols mean.

The Bald Eagle was selected as a symbol for victory for two reasons first, he is not afraid of a storm; he is strong and he is smart enough to soar above it. Secondly, he wears no material crown. We had just broken from the King of England. Also, notice the shield is unsupported. This

country can now stand on its own. At the top of that shield you have a white bar signifying congress, a unifying factor. We were coming together as one nation.

In the Eagle's beak you will read, "E PLURIBUS UNUM", meaning "one nation from many people." Above the Eagle you have thirteen stars representing the thirteen original colonies, and any clouds of misunderstanding rolling away. Again, we were coming together as one. Notice what the Eagle holds in his talons. He holds an olive branch and arrows. This country wants peace, but we will never be afraid to fight to preserve peace. The Eagle always wants to face the olive branch, but in time of war, his gaze turns toward the arrows.

They say that the number 13 is an unlucky number. This is almost a worldwide belief. You will usually never see a room numbered 13, or any hotels or motels with a 13th floor. But think about this: 13 original colonies, 13 signers of the Declaration of Independence, 13 stripes on our flag, 13 steps on the Pyramid, 13 letters in the Latin above, 13 letters in "E Pluribus Unum", 13 stars above the Eagle, 13 plumes of feathers on each span of the Eagle's wing, 13 bars on that shield, 13 leaves on the olive branch, 13 fruits, and if you look closely, 13 arrows. And for minorities: the 13th Amendment.

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LIBRARY NOTES & SENIOR NEWS

Summer among the stacks

Caroline Rock

No, the news was not good. Yes, for many who have not been following the Frederick County budget crisis closely, it came as a shock. Yes, the Emmitsburg Library's hours have been shaved rather dramatically. We are now closed on Fridays, and we are no longer open until nine on weeknights.

Whose citadel should we storm?

Here is the thing: Our doors have not been closed! Despite our reduced hours, the Emmitsburg Library remains an active part of the Emmitsburg Community, a part that can only be sustained by the participation of the citizens of the town.

So if you are looking for a place on which to march, march to the library!

We are preparing for several programs this month, and we are very excited about them. Your attendance at these programs will help demonstrate how important such programs are to the Emmitsburg Community, and that is all we need in order to continue offering them.

Get out your calendar now, and mark these dates!

For the kids, Miss Jenni will take storytime children on a celebration of America on July 20. Miss Jenni's monthly shows include singing, dancing, puppet shows, and lots of fun. And this show, "I Love the Red, White, and Blue," will stir the patriotic hearts of all who attend.

On July 7 at 1 PM, the Silver Fancy Garden Club will teach basic flower arranging techniques to ages 8-12. Those who register for this program will go home with a small arrangement of fresh flowers. There are limited spaces for this event, so register your child soon.

Also be sure to register your children for Miss Cheryl's "Something's Fishy" program on July 7 at 4 PM. Kids ages preschool and up, with an adult, will learn some fishy facts,



create a fish craft, and enjoy a fishy snack. This program coincides with our Summer Reading Club theme of "Make a Splash!"

Also connected with our Summer Reading Club, on Saturday, July 24, kids with an adult can learn "How to Become a Pirate!" This party will include pirate games, crafts, and other fun activities. Argh!

For the teens, Miss Stephanie will be hosting a Mystery in the Library program on July 22. New "secret agents" are needed to follow the clues and solve the case. Mystery events in the library are always popular and entertaining. (We have even had some adults asking when we are going to host a murder mystery for them! Hm.)

Miss Stephanie is also offering a program called "Unique Picture Frames." Teens will create some amazing frames from some very unassuming materials! Both of these teen programs require registration at the fcpl.org website so that we can be sure to have enough supplies for each attendant.

Speaking of using unique materials, kids ages 6 through 13 are en-

couraged to participate in our first annual "Found Object Sculpture Contest." Young artists can construct original sculptures from clean recycled materials, and drop off their creations at the library on July 12. Winners will receive a gift card to a local arts and crafts store. Before they begin their masterpiece, bring your child by the library to pick up a copy of the complete rules and guidelines for the contest.

And for the whole family, we are pleased to welcome Tracey Eldridge, whose CD "Never Mind the Rain" was listed among the "Best Music" choices in Parents Magazine. Tracey will be coming to the Emmitsburg Library on Saturday morning, July 10 to present "TROPICAL SPLASH: Exploring the Music of Island Cultures."

Tracey is an energetic and delightful performer who has been entertaining children for decades. She is a musician, songwriter, teacher, and clown! Not many people can be all of these things at once! Tracey has formal musical training, as well as experience in theater. She got her start per-

sical and rhythmical instruments when Tracey introduces musical styles some children may have never heard before.

"As always," says Tracey, "my objectives beyond the entertaining are to educate, to spark imaginations, to promote self-esteem and environmental awareness, to celebrate creativity and diversity, and to create a sense of community through song, rhythm and movement to music."

It is this philosophy, and her contagious enthusiasm, that has made Tracey one of the most loved and sought after performers of the mid-Atlantic region.

So you can see that, despite the reduction in hours, the Emmitsburg Library still has many vibrant offerings. We are always on the lookout for new and exciting performers and program ideas. Show your support for your community library by attending the programs we plan.

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SENIOR NEWS

EMMITSBURG

Celebrate our nation's birthday with three cheers for the red, white and blue! Lots of fireworks on the holiday weekend, summer concerts all around the county this month, and some cool jazz on Wednesday evenings at the Mount.

Special Programs: We have a series of talks on Smart Choices with Nancy Lewis this month. Every Thursday, 11:00 a.m. There's an Evening Card Party on the 28th @ 7 p.m. Wii bowling Fridays at 9:00 a.m.

Bowling: Mondays at Taneytown bowling center. Carpool; meet at center at 12:30 p.m.

Strength Training & Conditioning: Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. Dress comfortably, wear athletic shoes. Participants will use small weights. Free.

Bingo: July 14 & 28.

Cards, 500, and Bridge Group: July 7 & 24.

Men's Pool: Wednesdays at 1 p.m.

Pinochle & 13: Thursdays at 12:30 p.m.

Canasta: Fridays at 12:30 p.m.

FAIRFIELD

Regular Activities

Monday thru Friday - Exercise 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Tuesdays & Friday - Cards & Games 10:00 - Lunch 12:00

Mondays 10:30 a.m. Knitting

Wednesday & Thursday - Wii Bowling and Games

Thursday July 8th - Lunch at the Gettysburg Moose \$2.00

Monday July 5th Closed for the Holiday

Friday July 23rd - Fun Friday / Game Day!!!!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Recurring Events

Wednesday - North Frederick Farmer's market run by Emmitsburg's own Will Morrow! Located on Market St. just before 4th St.

Friday - Emmitsburg Farmer's Market - 3 - 6 pm

Saturday - Adams County Farmer's markets on Lincoln Square

July 2 -5

Gettysburg 147th National Civil War Battle Reenactment. The gates open at 8:30 a.m., each day will include two exciting battles, field demonstrations, live mortar fire demonstrations, two activities tents with continuous living history programs, and a living history village with all-day activities. Table Rock Road. For more information call 717-338-1525.

July 7, 14, 21, 28

Mount St. Mary's presents 'Wednesdays on the Fountain' featuring s live jazz performers. New performers every week Free! McGowan Patio, Mount St. Mary's University, Emmitsburg. For more information visit www.msmary.edu/summerjazz or call 301-447-8329.

July 9

Eliza Lutheran Church's 'The Basement Coffee House.'

July 10

St Joseph's Parish Hall - Yard, Bake, and Food Sale - DePaul St, Emmitsburg, Md.

Adams County Winery Free Summer Concert Series - featuring the Willys! Enjoy free music, relax, dance, eat, and of course, drink your favorite Adams County Winery wine! 251 Peach Tree Road, Orrtanna. For more information call 717-334-4631

July 14

Master Gardeners Present Adams County Garden Tours - Ever wonder how to tackle that problem area in your garden? Ever wonder what to plant in that wet or that dry area? Come and join the Adams County Penn State Master Gardeners as they tour seven Carroll Valley gardens and get ideas and maybe the solutions to some of your garden problems while touring area private gardens. For more information and to order tickets, call the Ag Center at 717-334-6271 or Denise Dornbush at 717-646-9978.

July 17

Mt. Tabor Church of Rocky Ridge will hold a festival at Mt. Tabor Park, home of the BIG SLIDE. Music by "Blue Grass Chapel Band" from 6 - 9 p.m. Come join us in Christian Fellowship - surely a good time for everyone of all ages.

July 17

Hauser Estate Winery - Summer Concert Series. For more information call 717- 334-4888.

July 17-18

The Gettysburg 19th Century Base Ball Tournament Come see what a 19th Century base ball - See vintage base ball clubs battle, using the same rules, customs, uniforms and equipment that players did in 1860's. Hickory Hollow Farm, Gettysburg, Pa. For more information call 717-334-0349

11th Annual Adams County Irish Festival - Enjoy local, regional and internationally-known Irish bands, Irish dancers, bagpipers, music workshops, Irish food, living history exhibits, and art & gift vendors. Gettysburg Moose Lodge Park, 100 Moose Road, Gettysburg. For more information call 717-337-3500.

July 19 & 20

St. John's Lutheran Church of Creagerstown's Harp Concert in the Union Church Building.

July 25

Historic Round Barn's 7th Annual Old-Fashioned CornFest Great food and entertainment for the entire family!!! - Enjoy Corn Roasted in the husk over an apple-wood fire, BBQ Chicken, Pulled Pork, Peach Sundaes, Apple Dumplings,

and MORE!!! Historic Round Barn, 298 Cashtown Road, Biglerville, PA

July 26

Blood Drive Our Lady of Mt. Carmel's Parish Center

July 31

Old Fashioned Country Festival - At the Promised Land Fea-

turing: Barbeque Chicken Dinners and Carry-outs, Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Fries, Corn on the Cob & Ice Cream. Activities Include: Antique Car Show, Ball Games, Sheep Herding Exhibition, Puppet Show, Hay Rides, Moon Bounce, Horseshoe Tournament, Musical Bands, Trike Tractor Pull, Clowns, Cow Milking, Face Painting.

**2nd Annual
SHRINERS' FUN DAY
At Double Rock Farm**



July 11th
1:00 pm
to
3:00 pm

**Donation:
\$10.00 Per Car
All Proceeds Go
Directly To
Tim Wilkins
Memorial Fund For
Shriners' Hospital
For Children.**

***Pony Rides *Face Painting
*Tour A Fire Truck *Moon Bounce
*Spray A Fire Hose *Juggler
*Magician *Games
*Rescue Demos from Rocky Ridge,
Thurmont and Emmitsburg
Fire Departments
*Horsemanship Skills Demos
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35 - 16.9 Oz.
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\$1.88

Campbell's Pork & Beans
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Where campus spirit is infectious— from the athletic fields to the classroom.

See for yourself at our Summer Open House, July 24

This program gives students a chance to learn about the Mount's admissions criteria, academics, and various campus and social activities. A campus tour, led by one of our Mount ambassadors, will also be offered. Registration begins at 10 am and the program will conclude at 2 pm.

www.msmary.edu/visit



Emmitsburg, Maryland
(An hour's drive from Baltimore, Harrisburg, and Washington, DC)
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Lazy days of summer? NOT AT THE MOUNT!

NATIONAL SHRINE GROTTO OF LOURDES

AUGUST 5, DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE THROUGH CONVERSION

10:30 a.m. Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Prayer of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart
11 a.m. Holy Mass; 1:30 pm Confessions ; 2:45 p.m. Holy Hour of Exposition, Homily, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Consecration to the Sacred Heart

AUGUST 7 & 8, 14 & 15

Noon Mass followed by Assumption Novena Prayer

AUGUST 9-13

12:30 p.m. followed by Assumption Novena Prayer

SEPTEMBER 4 , 27TH ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE OF THE VIETNAMESE CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION OF THE MID-ATLANTIC STATES
An entire day of prayer, talks and Mass in Vietnamese

SEPTEMBER 25, HEALING MASS

2:30 p.m. Procession, Talk on Lourdes and Mass outdoors, North American Lourdes Volunteers/Knights of Malta



summer jazz series



FRIDAY NIGHT MOVIE UNDER THE STARS

How To Train Your Dragon

Friday, July 9, 9 p.m.,

Academic Quad

Rain date: July 23

Set in the mythical world of burly Vikings and wild dragons, this action comedy tells the story of Hiccup, a Viking teenager who doesn't exactly fit in with his tribe's longstanding traditions of heroic dragon

slayers. Hiccup's world is turned upside down when he encounters a dragon. Rated PG; USCCB Rating A-I. Bring a blanket or chair. Free popcorn. Sponsored by Mount Summer.

We've lined up some of the region's best jazz musicians to perform on Wednesday nights this summer. Each Wednesday night from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m., weather permitting, at the fountain in front of the McGowan Center. In the event of inclement weather, the performances will be held indoors at the Mount Café. Free and open to the public. BYOC (bring your own chair).

JULY 7, THE DARRYL BRENZEL QUARTET

Saxophonist Darryl Brenzel will be bringing his quartet playing a mix of standards, classic jazz tunes and original compositions.

JULY 14, JASON NEWMAN QUARTET

Jason Newman, a 2000 graduate of Lebanon Valley College, is a talented composer and musician. Joined in this performance by the talented and versatile Wolfe brothers (Tim on bass, Matt on guitar), the group is sure to entertain you.

JULY 21, THE HOWARD BURNS QUARTET

The Howard Burns Quartet has been performing in the Baltimore-Washington area for many years and includes Howard Burns (saxophone), Jon Ozment (piano), Jeff Hiner (bass), and Jay Moody (drums)

AUGUST 4, MD SUMMER JAZZ JAM SESSION with Jeff Antoniuk and Jazz Update as the house band.

WWW.MSMARY.EDU/SUMMERJAZZ