

# Emmitsburg NEWS-JOURNAL

EXULTING THE IMPORTANCE OF IDEAS AND INFORMATION —EDWARD R. MURROW

VOLUME 12, NO. 3 • WWW.MYFAIRFIELD.NET • WWW.EMMITSBURG.NET • MYTHURMONT.NET • MARCH 2020

## Emmitsburg Considers Land Annexation

Annexations intended to help town meet State Chesapeake Bay restoration mandates. **Page 2**

## Borough's website issues

The inability to successfully update or maintain websites has hampered resident's ability to obtain information online. **Page 3**

## Thurmont considers municipal internet

The town sponsored effort would bring high speed fiber optic network to everyone in town. **Page 4**

## Fire & Ambulance Company Award Banquets

Fountaindale and Harney Volunteer Fire Fighters award banquet. **Page 22 & 23**

## COMMENTARY

### Common Cents

Farming is not just in trouble in Frederick County. It is struggling everywhere. **Page 10**

### The American Mind

Reflections on the rise of Bernie Sanders and Socialism. **Page 11**

## ARTICLES

### The Book Of Days

The legendary history of Saint Patrick. **Page 13**

### Ecology

A look at the nature and habits of the owls of the Catoclin Region. **Page 14**

### In the Country

Big Bend – one of the largest, yet least visited National Parks. **Page 15**

### Real Science

Global warming and its environmental impact **Page 16**

### Pets

"Grace appeared in our tack room this morning..." **Page 21**

### The Twins

The ability to get right back on after a fall. **Page 29**

### Cooking

Putting on the 'green' – St. Patrick's Day treats. **Page 31**

### Four Years At The Mount

This month, we asked our writers to think about the importance of literacy. **Page 34**

### Complementary Corner

A look into this year's Dragon's Way Qigong program in Gettysburg. **Page 42**

## Brown water repair costs to top \$3 million

Emmitsburg Town Manager Cathy Willets stated at Feb. 3 town meeting that the long-term fix to cure the town's brown water blight could cost more than \$3 million, \$1.3 million more than last month's estimate.

The \$3 million figure would address replacing three major problematic pipeline areas, including portions of Waynesboro Pike at Tract Road, North Seton Ave. and DePaul St.. The cost of replacing the North Seton Ave. section is now estimated at more than \$1,131,689, while replacing similar pipes along Waynesboro Pike is estimated at more than \$1,125,112, and DePaul St. is estimated at more than \$749,497.

At the Jan. 6 town meeting meeting, Willets estimated that the cost of replacing the three sections would amount to more than \$1.75 million, but stated Feb. 3rd that a further review resulted in the increase in estimated costs, none of which include engineering costs which would be in addition.

The town manager previously stated, given the pace of pursuing

and applying for grant money, the Waynesboro Pike, N. Seton Ave. and DePaul St. projects could take up to two years to fully implement.

However, in the interim, town staff and the commissioners continue to seek short-term fixes that can be more reasonably implemented to ease the brown water problem.

Some of the short-term fixes have already been completed, including ordering a new pilot regulator for the Frailey Road pressure reducing valve, and a new diaphragm for the Brookfield pressure reducing valve, both of which could have been contributing factors in the brown water issue, according to Willets. Two imminent, planned improvements include installing a new six-inch line under Waynesboro Pike at a cost of \$23,000, and a new line installed at Tract Road at a cost of \$6,800.

In addition, the town manager reported, the state Department of the Environment (MDE) has taken samples from various locations in-town and the town staff is awaiting the analysis results. MDE will



Crud and corrosion build-up in 70 year old pipes is the cause of Emmitsburg's brown water problem.

be testing for iron, manganese, lead, copper, and bacteria, and for turbidity, pH and chlorine levels.

Previous testing reportedly affirmed that the water is safe to drink in that contaminants are not above federal and state limits. Willets further stated, "MDE stated (the brown water) is not a health concern (and) that is why there hasn't been any immediate action from outside agencies."

Given the magnitude of the repairs necessary to address the brown water event, the town will

have to rely predominantly on grants and loans, and has been in communication with MDE, the federal Department of Agriculture, and the state Department of Housing & Community Development regarding funding aid.

Willets previously stated it could take up to two years to address the Waynesboro Pike, North Seton Ave. and DePaul St. problems. Town staff continues to work to develop short- and long-term plans to remediate the drinking water discoloration issue.

## Borough seeks solutions to retain police officers

The Carroll Valley Police Department is losing yet another officer, leading the department chief and members of the borough Council to find ways to retain officers, rather than lose them to positions elsewhere.

The two officers who have left the department were identified as officers Courtney Herring and Jonathan Harvey. Herring left to become a member of the McSherrystown Borough Police Department, while Harvey has joined the Northern York County Regional Police Department (NYCRPD).

When asked by Councilwoman Jessica Kraft at the Council's February 11 meeting about the status of replacing officers leaving the police force, Police Chief Richard Hileman replied, "Civil Service (State Civil Service Commission) was told to begin their process, so they've started that process. Applications are due... February 19, and then shortly thereafter, we'll have the written test, (and) we'll schedule the oral (interviews). "After that," he said, "background investigations will go on. At the end of that process, Civil Service will provide you with a list from which you can choose a hire (applicant)."

Kraft then asked how the police coverage in the community would

be, in the interim. Hileman responded, "We're going to be hurting."

The police chief stated that state police have offered to assist as needed, and in addition, former Carroll Valley officers Nathan Groft (now with Conewago Township Police) and Jonathan Harvey (now with NYCRPD), have offered to assist with coverage. "These guys have stepped-up to help us out," he said, further noting, the county Constable also occasionally provides backup.

As the conversation turned to finding new police officers, Borough Manager David Hazlett, said, "When you're hiring an entry-level position in any field, there's a lot of turnover. Unfortunately for us, especially when you're talking about the police department with four people, and two of them are entry-level position, you're going to see a lot of turnover, and it's almost completely unavoidable. It's just part of doing the business."

Hazlett suggested that the council consider hiring individuals with more experience, over hiring entry-level ones. "I don't think there is any value in trying to make some changes."

"I don't know that we could have been competitive with anybody else. I don't know that



The draw of higher pay elsewhere is causing Carroll Valley to scramble to retrain current police officers.

there's things that we could have changed in term of pay or benefits or really anything," Hazlett said.

The borough manager noted that potential job candidates just out of college or academies "tend to bounce a little bit" before they settle down into a longer-term position, further stating the borough should consider prospective hires with more experience, "which might be ultimately costing you more money in terms of salary upfront, but then you might not be replacing people as frequently."

"It takes months for us to

replace somebody, the way we're doing it now," Hazlett stated. "The cost-benefit to the community is that we're going to be understaffed for several months: Would it have been a better benefit to the community to spend a little bit more on police officers, or can we find a way to do the process so that when there is turnover, we can minimize how long it takes to make that replacement?"

The board took no formal action on the issue, aside from approving the monthly police report.

Postal Customer

PRE-SORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Gettysburg, PA  
Permit No. 53

# EMMITSBURG NEWS

## Town considers land annexation

The Town Council will likely be asked this year, possibly in June, to consider annexing land owned by the Daughters of Charity, located adjacent to Route 15 immediately southwest of, and contiguous with, the wastewater treatment plant property.

In addition, the town council will be asked to consider annexation of the town-owned property on which the wastewater treatment plant is located.

Town Planner Zachary Gulden told the Town Council that the proposed annexations serve a two-fold purpose.

First, the annexation of the town's wastewater treatment plant property was proposed more recently in the municipality's 2015 Comprehensive Plan. While the town owns the property, it has never actually been incorporated within the town's boundaries. The property is approximately 85 acres in size.

Second, the proposition to annex the Daughters' land is directly connected to the federally mandated and

state adopted MS4 regulations. These regulations require municipalities to implement certain actions, intended to aid in the restoration of the Chesapeake Bay through increased stormwater runoff management.

Gulden told the News-Journal, "In order to help meet the restoration requirements... the town is seeking to plant approximately 30 acres of trees. Tree plantings is a lower cost restoration option," but because there is not enough open land presently contained within the town borders to meet the MS4 mandates, the community must find additional land upon which to implement measures that will bring the town into compliance.

The Daughters of Charity's property being considered for annexation is 70.71 acres in size. The town will not be purchasing the land but acquiring a conservation easement to use the land. Gulden said, "We have been in discussions with the Daughters of Charity and they are willing to donate a 15 to

20-acre conservation easement to help (the town meet MS4 requirements)."

As per the MS4 mandate for the period of 2018-2023, the town must implement stormwater runoff control measures on 20 percent of the total of certain land within the town boundary (the 20 percent was based on a percentage of the total impervious surfaces contained within the town, which works out to approximately 20 acres).

The Daughters' easement will account for 11.4 acres of the 20-acre total the town must address as per MS4 and will be used solely for tree plantings. The remaining acreage which must be addressed will be covered by the Silo Hill basin retrofit, and street sweepings, Gulden stated.

Regarding the Daughters' property, the town planner said, "There may or may not be additional stipulations. A timeline for that easement has not yet been decided but will be a minimum of 25 years. The Daughters have not yet proposed a zoning district for the parcel."

## Retail developments move forward

Emmitsburg Commissioner Joe Ritz submitted the Planning Commission's 2019 report to the Town Councils at their February 3 meeting, including the status of Dunkin' Donuts and Rutter's stores. According to the report, the planners approved the site plan for the future doughnut shop, to be located at 103 Silo Hill Parkway.

The project consists of converting the Silo Hill Car Wash into a 1,860 square-foot fast food restaurant with drive-through service. The conversion will entail eliminating two of the eastern self-service washing bays and ren-

ovating the remaining automatic and two self-service washing bays.

Town Planner Zach Gulden subsequently told the News-Journal Dunkin' picked up their zoning permit February 4, and that, "They're going to be getting the (county) building permit as soon as possible, then submit bids for construction. As soon as that happens, they could start (building). They have all our approvals."

The Planning Commission also approved a forest conservation plan, a site plan, and an improvement plan for a proposed Rutter's convenience store.

The proposal entails the construction of an 8,380 square-foot store which will include seven gasoline fuel islands and five diesel fuel bays, as well as a truck scale.

The developers will also construct a sewer pump station intended to serve up to 500 single-family homes, and the project will include 50 acres of commercial development (retail and restaurants), in addition to the convenience store.

Gulden subsequently stated, "We are waiting for their zoning permit application. They are still going through the county review process. We have not

## News-briefs...

### Waysides held up again for edits

The Town Council voted to hold off approving four proposed wayside markers to allow additional edits to be made to the Chronicle Press signage. Approval of the Chronicle Press wayside, along with three other proposed wayside markers, was tabled at the board's Jan. 6 meeting to allow for changes to be made in reference to the history of the newspapers produced over time in the Chronicle Press building.

However, at the Feb. 3 meeting, the Council voted to make additional changes to the sign, incorporating reference to the importance of newspapers,

especially before the age of the radio.

Four new historical wayside signs are pending the Council's approval, including signage denoting the histories of the "Great Fire of 1863," the Vigilant Hose Company, the Carriage House Inn building, and the Chronicle Press building.

### Silo Hill basin work approved

The Town Council voted unanimously to approve the awarding of a contract to commence work on restoring the Silo Hill storm water management basin. Barton & Loguidance, Camp Hill, Penna., was awarded the contract for

the proposed work for a maximum of \$250,000 to \$300,000.

Commissioner Joe Ritz said, "Just for the record though, I did vote 'aye'... I don't like excessive regulation. I think we are going down that path." "Yes, it'll beautify the town. Yes, it will help us in the long run, but I'm thinking of all the other concerns we have right now too... money that we need to be spending on the future as well, which is our water system," Ritz stated.

Town Planner Zach Gulden said the project would entail landscaping, and a mix of plant types, trees, and a rain garden mix. The basin project is to be completed by October 30, 2022. The \$250,000 to \$300,000 price tag does



P.O. Box 543  
Emmitsburg, Maryland 21727  
301-471-3306  
www.emmitsburg.com

emmitsburg.net, taneytown.net, woodsboro.net  
mythurmont.net, myfairfield.net, & mygettysburg.net

---

News, events, history; and culture for the Historic Toms Creek Hundred geographical area; Emmitsburg, Zora, Carroll Valley, Fairfield, Greenmont, Harney, Rocky Ridge, Detour, St. Anthony's, Zentz Mill, and Thurmont. The *Emmitsburg News Journal* is published the first day of every month by Toms Creek Hundred LLC.

Senior Advisors:  
Eric Glass, Taney Corporation  
Dan Reaver, Emmitsburg Glass  
Shea Rowell, MSMU Class of 2019

Executive Editor: Michael Hillman, editor@emmitsburg.com  
Managing Editor: Morgan Rooney, MSMU Class of 2020  
Assistant Editor: Angela Guiao, MSMU Class of 2021  
News Editor: Richard Fulton  
Sports Editor: Grace Kovalcik, Catocin Highschool, Class of 2021

Graphic Design and layout: Brian Barth, timebombstudios.com  
Advertising: Sharon Graham, advertising@emmitsburg.com

Letters to the Editor, notice of upcoming events, news stories, and interesting and creative articles are welcome and may be submitted via regular U.S. Mail to P.O. box 543, Emmitsburg, MD 21727, or by email to editor@emmitsburg.com.

heard back (at this point)."

There is a proposal to construct an 80-room hotel near the existing Sleep Inn. Gulden said he has not heard from the hotel's developer, Pradeep Saini, since December 16.

The town planner stated the unnamed hotel would be sited on a two-acre tract of land on Silo Hill Parkway and would be a higher-end hotel (according to Saini) than the Sleep Inn. He said he doubted the two

hotels would mutually suffer as a result of their relative locations because they would be marketing to two differing economic brackets.

To entice commercial development, the town recently approved the offering of discounted tap fees as an incentive. A project entailing the use of more than 30 taps can be entitled to a five-year payment plan for the amount they would owe and receive a ten-percent discount on what would have been their total taps bill.

not include any project-applicable grant funding the town might garner.

A memorandum of understanding (MOU) would also be entered into with the Silo Hill homeowners' association regarding which party will be responsible for their portions of site maintenance.

### Town may need to up water staff pay

Town Manager Cathy Willets told the commissioners that the pay of the sewer and water staff may need to increase to attract new hires. "It's very hard to attract (applicants). It's a very competitive market out there," she said.

Willets stated, "What we're finding is, we are not competitive as far as our water and sewer operators are concerned. Especially when they hold the licenses, they are being coveted by other municipalities."

"I think going forward," she said,

"when we advertised for Jacob (Jacob Fisher's replacement), we only had three interviews. Right now, we're reaching out to MML (Maryland Municipal League) to get what other municipalities are paying their operators. But we need to become competitive so we can get qualified people."

The town manager said, "As we are making the improvements to our water and sewer infrastructure, we want to hire qualified people who are going to stay."

Commissioner Frank Davis suggested that town staff "do a study across the board and compare all of our employees to the other municipalities... To make sure we have good people and we want to keep them. Just to make sure that we are."

"There is more jobs than people who want to work," Willets concluded.

**EAST PARK AUTOMOTIVE, INC.**  
1 Creamery Way, Emmitsburg • 301-447-3560

**FULL SERVICE AUTO REPAIR - PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE SPECIALISTS**

- Major & Minor Vehicle Service and Repairs • A/C Repairs and Maintenance
- New Tire Sales - All Brands & Sizes - Mounting & Balancing
- BG Products and Service - Vital Fluids Flush & Refill
- Coolant - Transmission - Brakes - Power Steering
- Hydraulic Hoses & Fittings • Custom Battery Cables



**We Now Offer**  
**Maryland State Inspections!**  
*Schedule Your Inspection With Us!*

**FREE PICKUP & DELIVERY**  
**LIGHT DUTY DIESEL REPAIRS**  
**ALL MECHANICS ARE ASE MASTER CERTIFIED**

Hours: Monday - Friday - 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
www.eastparkautomotive.com • Check us out on Facebook 



**EMMITSBURG GLASS COMPANY**

A reflection of quality  
Emmitsburg Glass

**Residential Service Center**

Located At:  
100 Creamery Court,  
Emmitsburg



**We offer service in:**

Residential & Commercial	Custom Mirrors
Replacement Glass	Custom Furniture Tops
Storm Doors & Windows	Insulated Glass Units
Shower & Tub Enclosures	Heavy Equipment Glass
Wood Stove Glass	Tempered, Laminated & Flexiglass
Repair/Replacement screens	

Contact Ken Simmers at: **301-447-2245**

Proud Sponsor Of The Emmitsburg News-Journal

# FAIRFIELD/CARROLL VALLEY NEWS

## Borough Chairman bemoans 'cat-astrophy'

A Carroll Valley council member 'let the cat-out-of-the-bag' regarding his feelings on feral and domestic outdoor felines at the board's February 12 meeting.

The discussions regarding outdoor cats stemmed from a line item in the treasurer's report regarding the expenditure of \$35 per cat processed under the trap, neuter, and return (TNR) program in Carroll Valley.

"Studies have been done to show that, since 1970, we've lost nearly three billion birds from the bird pop-

ulation in the United States," Council President Richard Mathews said. "There are an estimated 110 million cats running free and wild."

"The number one cause of the loss of the birds is loss of habitats. Anyone want to guess what the number two cause is? Feral cats."

The council president further stated, "All of the environmental groups are recommending that people house the cats and not let them run free. There's other wildlife that are being destroyed by these cats."

"I think it's time that the State of Pennsylvania change these laws so we can remove these cats, which are really domestic cats that are running wild," Mathews said. "We have a parks, recreation, and environment committee, and the environment committee portion is contributing to the loss of wildlife."

Councilman David Lillard said, "If you don't spay and release cats, then we are making more cats. More cats - more dead birds," adding, "Not dealing with this program (spay and

release), we're just making the other problem bigger that you're talking about."

"I'm saying that you find homes for them," Mathews said. "Let people take them in. There's one (cat colony) on Helen Trail that keeps breeding and eating birds, because I've seen them do it. It's an environmental issue."

"Dogs can't run free," he said, "but we're allowing cats to run free."

Sarah Skoczen, who manages the TNR program in the bor-

ough, noted that some feral cats are not adoptable. "The ones that are tame... we take them in and find them homes. Every year we decrease the number that goes through (the system) because it (TNR) is working. TNR is the only humane way to decrease the population."

"If you quickly remove a large population of cats from an area, you're going to get cats from outside the area coming in because there are now available resources" abandoned by the removed population, Skoczen said.

The council took no formal action on the issue of cat control.

## Boroughs experience website issues

Carroll Valley and Fairfield boroughs have been working their way through various issues relating to their respective municipal websites.

Of the two boroughs that have recently experienced website issues, Carroll Valley Borough's website (carrollvalley.org) issues were a bit more fatal than that of Fairfield's.

Borough Town Manager David Hazlett said, "Our old website is hosted by Carroll Valley Computers, which is phasing websites out of their business and no longer offer support for the website. We have been paying \$425 annually for this service."

Although the site is still viewable, borough staff is unable to make changes to it. "We have access to the

website framework, but each time we try to update the site, it gives us an error. We noticed these issues last fall, at which time we were notified by the company that support was no longer available," Hazlett stated.

Hazlett said, "A new website is under development, and should go live within the next several months. Until that time, we are trying to communicate through the borough's Facebook page."

"We are attempting to utilize as many new technologies as possible to keep our citizens informed. We hope with our soon-to-be launched website, and our increased usage of social media and video, that residents will be more actively involved

in their government," Hazlett said.

Fairfield staff reported glitches with their website (fairfieldborough.com) in early February.

Borough secretary Susan Wagle said, on February 9, "Something funky is going on. None of the updates I made last week are there, and there's a bunch of safety and security warnings."

Wagle said that by February 12, things appeared to be normal again. "When I went back to our site yesterday (February 12) it was working just fine, and most of the updates I made last week are there," she stated.

The borough secretary speculated that some of the glitches may have been related to something she was

doing or not doing correctly. "Could be that the updates that didn't appear are a user (me) issue since we're working with a new platform and I'm in the very early learning stage of how to update," she said.

In related news, Liberty Township Board of Supervisors' Chairman Walter Barlow stated at the board's February 4 meeting that staff is looking into seeking a video service to record township meetings.

Barlow said, "Wendy (Secretary/Treasurer Wendy Peck) got us some prices to get our own camera, and it would be set up here in the room, and stream the videos through the township instead of through a private recorder - Wendy can set that

up - and live-stream it, put it on our township Facebook page, and on our website too."

The chairman stated, "Everybody who's got access to the township website will be able to see it."

"We're looking at \$1,000. That would be for the camera, microphone and stuff like that." Barlow said there would be a re-occurring charge of \$99 a month (according to one proposal) to stream it... We don't have to stream it," he said.

Barlow stated, "As an alternative, it could simply be posted on the township's Facebook page, as well as on the existing township website."

"I don't think that is a bad expenditure at all for the township to get the information out to the public," Barlow said.

## News-briefs . . .

### Liberty Township considers police hiring

The Township Board of Supervisors voted at their February 4 meeting to schedule an executive session to meet with a potential new police officer for the municipality.

Police Chief Sherri Hansen told the Board of Supervisors that the police department needs additional help. "We do need another part-time officer right now."

"I only have one, and Cory (Officer Cory Ammerman) won't be back for a little while yet until he gets acclimated to his new position in Conewago Township," she stated.

Hansen recommended hiring Christopher (last name unconfirmed), whom she said, "I do actually know him personally... he did work in York (City Police Department), which is how I know him. He does have over 13 years of police experience, I believe, between two different departments, and he does have several different certifications," relating to police duties, such as running speed-timing devices, and (required) training.

"He would be available for all the hours that we can use him for right now," she said. "So, it would be my recommendation to go ahead and offer him a job as a part-time police officer at the salary we are paying our part-timers right now."

The supervisors requested Hansen schedule a time to meet with the police applicant in executive session.

Township officials did not return repeated requests made by the News-Journal for additional information regarding the police applicant.

### Tree planting event to be held

The public is invited to participate in a tree-planting event towards the end of this month.

The Hamiltonban Community Park, 4020 Bullfrog Road, will be holding a tree planting of 30 trees on Saturday, March 28, beginning at 8:30 a.m., in partnership with Gettysburg Green Gathering, and public and private donors. Individuals and groups are invited to join in with the planting, and a picnic lunch and drinks will be provided for the volunteers.

Anyone interested in participating is asked to contact the Hamilton-

ban Township Office at 717-642-8509 so that staff will have an approximate number to work with for supplying the lunches and scheduling the planning of duties. In the event of foul weather, a rain date has been set for April 4, at 8:30 a.m.

### Tax bureau sends check to wrong party

The Adams County Tax Services Department sent a \$300 check to the wrong entity, resulting in the actual recipient having to reimburse the intended recipient for the incorrectly allotted money.

The Hamiltonban Township Board of Supervisors noted at their February 18 meeting that the error was discovered

during "an audit exercise," during which it was determined that Hamiltonban Township was sent a small \$300 check for delinquent taxes that was intended for Hamilton Township."

Supervisor Coleen Reamer noted, "We are cutting a check to Tax Services to reimburse Hamilton Township for the error."

In other business, the township supervisors approved a motion to proceed with the proposed Gum Springs Road repairs by preparing bid documents relating to paving the roadway

with two inches of basecoat and one and one-half inches of topcoat. Bids will be awarded at the April 7 meeting.

The board also noted there are several areas in Orrtanna Village where the township would like to have more streetlights installed and staff will be contacting Met Ed to discuss proposed locations.

Also approved was the purchase of a supply of traffic cones and oil dry for our maintenance facility. The township also agreed to supply 20 bags of oil dry for the Fountindale Fire Company.



**Dreaming Up the Ideal Retirement Is Your Job. Helping You Get There Is Ours.**

To learn more about why Edward Jones makes sense for you, call or visit a financial advisor today.

**Frank C Pizzuto, AAMS®**  
Financial Advisor  
249 York Street  
Gettysburg, PA 17325  
717-337-2556

www.edwardjones.com  
Member SIPC

**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



**Village Book & Table Restaurant**

- BREAKFAST
- LUNCH

(Including Platters)

29 W. Main St., Fairfield, PA

**717-642-5650**

Open 7 Days A Week!



**CRUISE PLANNERS®**

YOUR LAND AND CRUISE EXPERTS

*America's National Parks!*

**September 2021**

**OLD FAITHFUL GEYSER**  
Mount Rushmore

Yellowstone ~ Mt. Rushmore  
Rapid City ~ Deadwood  
Crazy Horse ~ Black Hills  
Cody ~ Sheridan ~ Jackson  
Big Horn & Little Big Horn  
Salt Lake City

\*Early Booking Savings!  
\*Low Monthly Payments!

**Best 2019 Best Winner**

**Barb Cline, ECC**  
Your Personal Travel Professional  
866-397-3201 ■ 240-575-5966  
BarbClineTravel.com  
CruisePlannersFrederick.com

# THURMONT NEWS

## Sewer line inspection regulations adopted

The Town Council adopted an ordinance at their February 18 meeting that empowers town staff to enter private property and inspect privately owned portions (lateral connection lines) of the wastewater collection system.

If such private lines are found faulty or malfunctioning with regard to the conveyance of wastewater, such as a cracked or damaged pipeline, the ordinance further provides the town with the power to compel the property owner or owners to repair or

replace the offending section of pipeline.

Mayor Kinnaird, previously stated at the board's January 28 meeting, as the consideration of the adoption of the ordinance got publicly underway, that the evolving ordinance was part of an effort to find a means to address "ongoing I&I (infiltration and inflow) project to resolve issues... (and) try and eliminate wild water coming in through residential laterals (pipes on private lands which connect to the public system)."

I&I generally refers to storm-water runoff, or snowfall-melt water, getting into the wastewater collection system, thus contributing to an excessive amount of water.

As per the adopted ordinance, property owners would be given 180 days to repair or replace any faulty sections of wastewater collection piping on their land. The property owner would be permitted to have the work done, or to have the town do it, using whatever contractor the town would opt to engage.

Mayor Kinnaird asked Jim

Humerick, chief administrative officer, at the February 18 meeting, "If we do the work and it goes on the water bill, should we, or should we not automatically put a lien on the property?"

Humerick said, "I spoke to our attorney, and her comment was that (a lien) is our only real guarantee that we would be able to get reimbursed for what we put up-front for this program. She said that would be the best course of action."

The board decided if the town performs the work, the costs

would be added to the property owner's water bill.

If a property owner declines to make the repair, or can't afford it, and the town makes the repair or replacement, the property owner will not be charged any interest on the amount due, if paid off in a year. If there is a balance going forward from the first year that balance would be levied a three-percent interest.

After 365 days, the board would initiate a seven-year lien against the property. If the property owner failed to pay when the term of the lien ends, the town could initiate foreclosure on the property.

## Planners to consider allowing cottage homes

Town Commissioner Marty Burns told the Town Council, at their Jan. 28 meeting, that the Planning & Zoning Commission may soon be considering "cottage-style homes" being permitted in the town.

Commissioner Burns stated, "They're (Planning & Zoning Commission) considering looking at cottage-style homes, or cottage-sized homes... It's not the DIY network (do-it-yourself construction), or the mini-homes on a trailer, but they are considerably

smaller homes in size, which makes them more affordable."

He said, "I at least want to give you an awareness because I'd hate to see them go through a lot of work on something just to find out that you wouldn't even consider it."

"You can condense the amount of (these types of) homes you can get on an acre," he said, noting that a developer could potentially get as many as 16 of these types of homes on a single acre of land. "Sometimes they're fac-

ing each other and maximize the open space areas."

Burns said some cities on the West Coast (for example, San Francisco) have looked into this "because they need some more affordable housing... It's a heck of an idea."

However, the commissioner stated, "It's not just (about) affordable housing." Parents, whose children have moved out, he said, may seek a smaller home in order to remain in their community without having to maintain a larger home to do so.

He also noted allowing "cottage-style homes" could allow property owners, who have land that would barely allow one or two homes, to construct several of the smaller ones.

Commissioner Bill Buehrer was the only member of the board to speak out for or against such a proposal, stating, "You don't have to go to the West Coast (to find this type of concept being imple-

mented). There are tons of them right now in South and North Carolinas. Very, very successful. It meets the needs of society today."

Burns concluded, "I had a lot of concerns myself... But I do want to let you know what that (cottage concept) is so that if you have any major heartburns or concerns, like I raised some concerns about that, I'll get you any data you ask of through the Planning & Zoning Commission."

## Town considers municipal internet

The Thurmont Town Council appointed resident Elliot Jones as the chair of a newly-created municipal Internet Committee at their February 11 meeting, to investigate the feasibility and costs of establishing a municipally-owned internet provider.

Commissioner Marty Burns stated that Jones had originally suggested the idea when he was running for a seat on the Town Council. "Man, I thought. That's a pretty neat idea," he said.

Burns said that the town was unlikely to see a commercial, high-speed fiber network within a decade, and that a municipally-owned internet provider is worth investigating. "We're not

trying to make money off this. We're trying to provide a service when we're not being served well by the other entities," he stated.

The commissioner said Jones had conducted some preliminary research of municipally-owned internet services and found "a bunch of different municipalities across the United States who had already done this."

For example, Burns stated, Fairlawn, Ohio, started building its fiber, to-the-premise network (FairlawnGig) in 2015. "The first businesses were connected the next year, 2016, and by 2017, residents could also subscribe to the network," he said, noting that 50 percent of the Fairlawn residents are now connected to the municipal service.

The commissioner stated that, since Fairlawn established its service, "it has already led to new business growth and increased property values in the city," according to information provided by Fairlawn.

Burns suggested, if the commissioners ultimately elected to implement the concept, it could be done in phases, starting with establishing the service in the town office (for municipal use). "If it works and it proves beneficial, we can expand it," he said.

Mayor Kinnaird stated that Jones, as the chair of the committee, could first seek additional volunteer members, and set up meetings of the committee.

**COMING SOON**

**BREEDEN  
AUTOMOTIVE  
SALES**

**NEW** We Offer...  
**Nationwide  
Warranty,  
Roadside  
Assistance,  
and Road Hazard  
(Tires) through**

**TECHNET  
AUTO  
SERVICE**



**LAWYER'S  
Automotive  
INC**

Servicing All Vehicle Brands & Sizes!  
Mark Breeden, Owner

**301-271-2736**

13910-B Jimtown Road, Thurmont

10% Discount to Military, Rescue Personnel & Police

 <p><b>BUD LIGHT NATURAL SELTZER</b> 24 OZ. SINGLES 12 PAK 12 OZ. CANS STRAWBERRY &amp; BLACK CHERRY</p>	 <p><b>SHEEP DOG, SCREWBALL &amp; PB&amp;W PEANUT BUTTER FLAVORED WHISKEY</b> 750 ML</p>	 <p><b>JIM BEAM PEACH</b> All Sizes Available</p>	 <p><b>NEW AMSTERDAM. PINK WHITNEY VODKA</b> 750 ML - Limited Edition</p>
 <p><b>Captain Morgan® GINGERBREAD SPICED RUM</b> 750 ML</p>	 <p><b>Maker's Mark</b> 1.75 ML \$51.99</p>	 <p><b>NOB CREEK®</b> 750 ML \$54.99</p>	<p><b>ALL SEASONAL CRAFT BEERS AVAILABLE!</b></p>
 <p><b>BAREFOOT WINE</b> 750 ML</p>	<p><i>Paul's Pit Stop</i> DISCOUNT BEER, WINE &amp; LIQUOR Website: <a href="http://m.paulspitstop.net">m.paulspitstop.net</a> 150 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg <b>301-447-6262</b></p>		 <p><b>DORDA SEA SALT CARAMEL LIQUER</b> 750 ML</p>

# 100 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

## March 5

### Marsh Creek Ice Gorge Dynamited

An ice gorge on Marsh Creek along the Fairfield Road near the bridge at the old Black Horse Tavern was dynamited by the State Highway Department on Thursday. Traffic on that thoroughfare came to a virtual halt on account of the ice being gorged around the bridge, making it impossible for travelers to cross. The blast hurled fragments of ice into the air, cutting telephone lines near the bridge, putting both the Cumberland Valley and Bell phones out of service.

### Sleeping Sickness in Fairfield

Miss Margaret Cool, 17 years old, of Liberty Township, has been in a stupor for four days. Several weeks ago Miss Cool was stricken with influenza from which it was thought she was recovering. Without warning however, she recently became drowsy and drifted into a stupor from which it requires some effort to rouse her when it is necessary to give her food and medicine. The so-called sleeping sickness was first notice in this country in 1918 following the serious outbreak of the Spanish influenza. The death rate runs from 30 to 40% and the sickness often last from 3 to 4 months.

### Emmitsburg Drafts Bill for New High School

The state has agreed to a proposal for a \$200,000 bond issue for school improvement work in Frederick County, which includes \$75,000 for a new high school building in Emmitsburg. However the School Board has indicated that the building currently serving as a high school in Emmitsburg could be improved and taken care of for a lower figure. Knowing the stand of the School Board, residents of Emmitsburg jumped into action and had a bill introduced in the State Senate whereby they would be guaranteed the \$75,000 for the new school.

and hail, this being accompanied by a heavy wind. About 4 o'clock Friday, the full force of the blizzard was being felt, and it was with difficulty that persons were able to keep to their feet on the streets or see any distance because of the heavy snow. The heavy fall of rain together with the melting of the snow and ice on previous days caused all streams in this area to rise rapidly and in some places stop traffic on the public roads. The snow stopped falling soon after dark, but the wind raged all night until noon on Saturday.

The Jitney Bus between Thurmont and Emmitsburg got stuck in a snowdrift Friday afternoon. After getting out of a snowdrift, the driver turned around and headed for Emmitsburg leaving four passengers at the home of Mr. Charles Eyer near Franklinville for the night. The wind and snow about equaled that of March 1, 1914 at which time many barns were wrecked in this vicinity.

### Tribulations at Thurmont High School

During the past several weeks numerous things have occurred at the Thurmont High School, which has caused troubles. To begin with, a new lot of coal was received which was entirely different from that which they have been using. Formally three furnaces kept the building warm, but then five failed to produce the required heat. Trouble in keeping the rooms warm has since been frequent, the latest being Monday of this week when most of the pupils were sent home. During the past week Mr. Crawford contracted a severe cold, which so affected his throat that he lost his voice and was unable to be at school for several days. Miss Linnie McGuigan, teacher of the primary school, contracted a severe cold, and has been off duty since March 4. Many children have severe colds, and are at home, all of which tends to disturb the regular routine work demanded from teachers and pupils.

over Tom's Creek on the South side of Emmitsburg. The intent was to place it in barrels on the accumulate ice and lightening it. Given the potency on the hooch, many gathered for what was hoped would be a spectacular fireworks display. But efforts quickly got waylaid the committee in charge of selecting the hooch to be used, decided to select the hooch by sampling all submitted entries.

The cries of 'foul' from prohibitionist were brushed away by town officials, who declared that the testing of the hooch was for emergency purposes and did not violate the prohibition law. Upon hearing this, Boozers quickly complained that the committee was too small, and soon all the Boozers were being allowed to sample entries. By sunset, four hours after the intended 'explosion,' all booze had been consumed and none remained for the explosion. The assembled abundance dispersed in disappointment, with the exception of course, for the Boozers.

### Run Down By Autocar

On Friday evening of last week as Claggett Dorsey was going from Emmitsburg to his home near that place, he heard an autocar coming behind him and stop to see how near him the car was, and who was driving it. The machine was hitting up a good speed, and ran directly into the 70-year old man, knocking him down and to the side of the road. The driver of the car did not stop to give him any assistance. After lying on the ground for some time, his cries for help were heard by Mr. Bishop who went to see what the trouble could be. He found Dorsey in a helpless condition, one leg being broken and his body considerably bruised. Dr. Stone was summoned and Dorsey was taken to the home of Harry Munshour. The accident happened on the Taneytown Road at the outskirts of Emmitsburg. Thus far the name of the driver of the car has not been learned.

### Bridge Collapses

The iron Bridge over Double Pipe Creek, at Detour, collapsed last Friday morning, the structure dropping into the water. The stone abutment in the middle of the stream had been damaged by ice sometime previous. The high water completed the destruction of the pier. As the bridge is on the dividing line between Carroll and Frederick Counties it will be rebuilt by the two counties. The Detour Bridge



Fortunately, the old covered bridge over Toms Creek averted sure damage from the Former-Former Boozers' attempt to dislodge an ice gorge with high-powered hooch.

is in an important point and much travel. It is said that the bridge has not been considered safe for heavy traffic for some years.

Plans for repairing the iron bridge over the Monocracy River at Shoemaker's Ford, about 4 miles from Taneytown, which was also damaged by high water, will also be undertaken by the two counties. The Shoemaker Bridge was built two years ago at a cost of around \$20,000. The central post, in the middle of the channel of the stream, had its pier eroded away by the current of the swift water and heavy pieces of floating ice. The plan is to repair the pier as soon as the high water recedes.

## March 26

### Moving Van Hits Buggy

A large moving van, on the state road from Catocin Furnace to Thurmont, struck a buggy in which Messrs. Penrose Schildt and Walter Dorsey, cattle dealers, were riding in on Tuesday of this week. The accident occurred in the vicinity of the Catocin Ore Mines about 11 o'clock. Both vehicles were going to Thurmont.

According to Mr. Schildt, he was driving to the side of the road, his inside wheel barely touching the good roadbed. The bumper of the moving van struck his rear wheel. He says he tried to get off the road entirely but seeing the truck was going to hit him he unloaded and let the horse go. Mr. Dorsey also rolled out of the buggy and was scarcely a foot from the machine when it finally stopped in the mud. A calf the men were hauling escaped from injury. Mr. Dorsey was bruised and cut and the buggy demolished. The horse came to town in quick time, the men

and calf following in an automobile. The van evidently had trouble getting on the road again, as they did not pass through town until after 1 p.m.

### Death of Dr. Trout

Dr. Nicholas Trout, a prominent physician of Fairfield, died at his home on Tuesday evening in his 54th year. Several years ago he was told that his diabetes had developed to such an extent that his days were numbered. This knowledge simply stiffened his courage, working on, un-complaining; doing all the good he could; attending to patients over a wide circle of territory, going through several epidemics, including the recent one, of the influenza. His life as a physician had been an arduous one, going day and night, driving all over the mountain roads to the relief of the sick and the suffering. His people were devoted to him. His work continued until within a week of the end.

### Fire at Creager's Garage

On Saturday, at 7 p.m. I am going to have a large fire in the rear of my garage for the purpose of demonstrating the anti-Pyro's fire extinguisher. Be sure to see the test of the worlds greatest fire killer and you will be convinced that it will pay you to protect your home, store, automobile or garage against your worst enemy - fire, with this absolute fire protection. You have locks on your doors and windows to protect your possessions against robbery. Have you protection against fire? Remember there are more than three fires to every one burglary and fires take more than 2,000 lives yearly.

To read past editions of 100 Year Ago this Month, visit the History section of [Emmitsburg.net](http://Emmitsburg.net).

## March 12

### Blizzard Hits

A big blizzard struck the area last Friday. On Thursday the weather was threatening and rain began falling during the night, continuing steadily until Friday noon, at which time a sudden drop in temperature turned rain into snow

## March 19

### Boozers Fail to Blow Up Ice Gorge

Ceasing upon the success of last week's destruction of the Marsh Creek ice gorge. Members of the Former-Former Boozers Association answered the call to bring their most potent 'hooch' to the covered wooden bridge

**THE BEST PARTS... LOW PRICES... FAST SERVICE.**



Save on the parts you need for your car, truck, van, suv or tractor. If you can't find what you need for your foreign or domestic vehicle, we'll get it.

**PREMIUM BRAND NAME PARTS**  
BATTERIES • SHOCKS  
SPARK PLUGS • WIPER BLADES  
AIR & OIL FILTERS • MOTOR OIL  
MUFFLERS AND MORE!

**We Rebuild Starters, Alternators & Generators Full Service Machine Shop**

**TANEYTOWN AUTO PARTS**  
11 FRANKLIN STREET, TANEYTOWN  
**410-756-2611**  
Daily 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m. • Sat. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. • Closed Sun.

**Tony Little & Jane Moore**  
"Don't Settle For Less... Get A Little-Moore!"  
Call: (301) 662-2468  
Email: [Littlemoore@Littlemoore.com](mailto:Littlemoore@Littlemoore.com) or [www.littlemoore.com](http://www.littlemoore.com)

**Real Estate Teams** LLC Broker: (301) 695-3020

<p><b>Waynesboro Pk., Emmitsburg</b></p>  <p>Mostly level .33 ac. lot with approximately 120 ft. of road frontage. Lot includes parcels 17 &amp; 18 selling as one parcel. MDR257044 <b>\$39,900</b></p>	<p><b>305 W. Main St., Emmitsburg</b></p>  <p>Spacious 3 BR home in the heart of Emmitsburg! Laminate flooring throughout. Entertainers delight backyard w/large deck, picnic gazebo &amp; fish pond. Large walk in shower. Roof, furnace, and windows have been replaced over the last few years. This home is sure to please! MDR259748 <b>\$263,000</b></p>
--	---

**JUST LISTED & UNDER CONTRACT!**

*Don't Settle For Less Get A Little-Moore* info on buying and selling your next home.

## FROM THE DESK OF...

## County Councilman Phil Dacey

The Frederick County Council had some lengthy and important discussions in February. There was the issue of establishing an emergency climate change task force, the issue of increasing the property recordation tax, the issue of binding arbitration for firefighters as required by the charter amendment Question D, as well as some interesting opportunities in transportation and senior housing.

First, the Council heard a lot of testimony on a proposed resolution that would declare a climate emergency in Frederick County and a work group that would make recommendations based on that emergency. I heard the urgency of the pleas by multiple residents who fear for the future of the climate and I do not deny their passion. I do think that we have an obligation to look at things rationally and from a

Frederick County perspective and do not believe that it is in the best interest of the county to view every action that is taken through the lens of a climate emergency. I do not claim to have expertise in climate science, but I do know that Frederick County is a small player in this global effort. Meaningful change on this front will not come from Frederick County alone, and we should not move in the short term to hamper our citizens or our economic competitiveness as a county. Ultimately, the resolution did not pass but will likely be back in some form.

The County Executive and several members of the County Council have proposed a bill that would raise the recordation tax from \$6 to \$7 per \$500 of assessed value. Personally, I am opposed to fee and tax increases at all levels. If the average home value is \$300,000, then

the average person will pay an additional \$600 at the time of recordation. Much of this increased revenue will be proposed to be dedicated to agricultural preservation which is a valuable goal. However, it has been noted that because of state and local law changes, development pressures have eased on farmland, making it difficult or impossible to develop agricultural land. Additionally, this is another tax / fee that runs counter to the goal of housing affordability. We keep adding fees and taxes on housing and then wondering why housing costs and rents continue to rise. This bill and discussion will continue into March, so if you have thoughts please share them with the County Council.

We heard testimony and voted to pass a binding arbitration bill that would allow firefighters to submit

their budgetary demands to binding arbitration. This bill will allow the firefighters a seat at the table to negotiate on important issues such as working conditions and pay. If an agreement cannot be reached, both parties can submit to binding arbitration and the decision of the arbitrator would then be automatically included in the County Executive's budget. There is a taxpayer protection built in; in the event that the arbitrator's decision would wreak havoc on the county budget, the County Council still retains its power to trim the Executive's budget.

Finally, two other items of note include the Transportation Priorities letter and affordable housing efforts. The Transportation Priorities letter to the Maryland Department of Transportation sets forth important goals including expansion of Route 15 through Frederick, widening 194 to Walkersville

High School, and even sidewalks through Libertytown. We voted unanimously to forward the letter to the state with our prioritized list. These projects would still have to be funded by the state, but we set the goals and continue to work with our state Delegation on funding.

Additionally, the Board of Education is surplusing some property that was given to them through the development process in Frederick City near Dearbought and Tuscarora Elementary School. By law the Board of Education must offer the property to the County first to see if it can be made use of. The County Council voted unanimously to take possession of these two properties with the broad goal of offering additional affordable senior housing. These will be infill projects in Frederick City and will have to be fleshed out in the future.

## County news-briefs...

## County Announces Initiative to Increase Agriculture Preservation

Frederick County announced an initiative to accelerate agriculture preservation efforts. She proposed legislation that would increase the county's investment to save valuable farmland in an effort to achieve the long-standing goal of preserving 100,000 acres of agricultural land. Preserving large blocks of land is key to ensuring the long-term economic viability of agriculture.

"The time is now to preserve Frederick County's rich agricultural land before our cherished fields are lost to development," said Executive Gardner. "Securing preservation easements for

agriculture will ensure we leave a legacy of agriculture for future generations."

Frederick County is home to 1,300 farms and more than 180,000 acres of farmland. Applications to participate in the county's agricultural preservation programs far exceed available dollars. For example, the county recently received 46 applications for the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation program and can fund only five or six. The legislation has broad support from the agriculture community, including from the Agriculture Preservation Board, the Agriculture Business Council, and the Farm Bureau.

To enable this increased investment, the proposed legislation adds \$1 to the

county's recordation tax. The recordation tax is a one-time charge paid on certain real estate transactions. Most Maryland counties charge both a recordation tax and a transfer tax on these transactions. Frederick County does not collect a transfer tax. The proposed \$1 brings revenues from real estate transactions in line with similar counties that have both a recordation fee and transfer tax, including Charles, Harford and Howard. With an average mortgage in Frederick County of \$270,000, this modest increase would add approximately \$270 to the cost for a buyer and a seller.

The proposal would generate an estimated \$6.8 million. The first \$500,000 would be set aside annually for three related purposes: economic development grants to support agriculture diversification; grants for rural historic preservation; and first-time homebuyer assistance. The remaining funds would support the County's agriculture preservation programs.

County Council Vice President Michael Blue and Council Member Jerry Donald have agreed to introduce the bill on behalf of Executive Gardner. The draft legislation can be viewed online at [www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/executive](http://www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/executive).

## Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Program Applications

The Frederick Agricultural Land Preservation Program has opened up an

application cycle for the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF) Easement program. The MALPF program purchases agricultural preservation easements that forever restrict development on prime farmland and woodland. Since the MALPF program began in 1977, it has preserved more than 22,000 acres of farmland in Frederick County. The Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation was established by the Maryland General Assembly in 1977 and is part of the Maryland Department of Agriculture. MALPF is one of the most successful programs of its kind in the country. The State of Maryland, with the work of the foundation and its state and local partners, has preserved in perpetuity more agricultural land than any other state in the country.

Applications will be accepted in the office of the Division of Planning & Permitting, 30 N. Market Street, until 4 p.m. on Wednesday, April 1. For more details, contact Land Preservation Planner Shannon O'Neil at 301-600-1411 or via e-mail at [soncil@frederick-countymd.gov](mailto:soncil@frederick-countymd.gov).

## Election Judges Needed For 2020 Elections

Frederick County's Board of Elections is seeking individuals to serve as election judges at polling places on Primary Election Day, April 28, and General Election Day, November 3.

In accordance with the Election

Code, judges must be registered voters and at least 16 years of age (16 and 17 year olds also require parental permission). They must be able to speak, read and write the English language, and while acting as a judge must not hold or be a candidate for public or party office.

The Board is currently seeking more than 300 election judges. Training will be provided, and all judges are compensated at least \$25 for the three-hour training, and a minimum of \$175 for Election Day work. A small number of Chief Judges, who make additional money for both training and Election Day, are also needed. The Board needs judges throughout the county.

To apply, or for more information, visit the Board's website at [www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/elections](http://www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/elections), and click on the box at the top of the page for 'Be an Election Worker'.

## Livable Frederick Kicks Off With Sugarloaf Treasured Landscape Plan

Citing the environmental, historical and scenic beauty of Sugarloaf Mountain and its surroundings, Frederick County Executive Jan Gardner kicked off an effort to protect and preserve Sugarloaf's treasured landscape for the future. The Sugarloaf Treasured Landscape Area Plan is the first small area plan to be developed under the award-winning Livable Frederick implementation plan. Livable Frederick implements a new approach to planning for the county's future. It is aspirational and

FOR ALL MAKES/MODELS  
hybrids domestic imports

**HIS PLACE**  
INC. Est. 1969  
complete automotive repair & restoration

Your Community's Trusted Auto Repair Since 1969

**March into April  
prepared for Spring!**

**Total Car  
Inspection**  
Top to Bottom.  
Battery to Brakes.  
**\$79.99**  
Coupon good thru 03/31/20

M-F 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
[www.hisplaceautorepair.com](http://www.hisplaceautorepair.com)  
301-447-2800 • 1-800-529-5835

**Thurmont Business Showcase**  
Saturday, April 25th  
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Thurmont Event Complex  
13716 Stafford Drive, Thurmont

**FREE!**

**OUR 2020 GOLD SPONSORS**  
Alex Uphold State Farm  
Baker Tree Services, Inc.  
Black's Funeral Home  
Rebecca LaChance Artistic Portraits  
Stauffer Funeral Home

**OUR 202 SILVER SPONSORS**  
Emmitsburg News-Journal  
Hawkings Landscaping, Inc.  
J & B Real Estate, Inc.  
Mountain Memories at Thorpewood  
YMCA Camp West Mar/YMCA of Fred. Co.

The Thurmont Business Showcase is an event featuring Thurmont Business Community products, services, and innovations offered by local businesses. Invite your friends, family, and neighbors to the Thurmont Business Showcase! Come out and meet local businesses and non-profits to see what valuable services and resources they offer in Thurmont all under one roof!

The Thurmont Business Showcase has  
*Something for Everyone!*

Thurmont Ambulance Company will be selling their delicious food during the Business Showcase!

# GOVERNMENT—SOUTH OF THE BORDER

## County Executive Jan Gardner

Spring is only a few weeks away! Some brave flowers have already bloomed, reminding us that warmer weather is right around the corner. March brings us the start of spring, and a month-long celebration of Women's History Month. This year's celebration is special because 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of women's right to vote in the United States of America. Before 1920, women were denied many basic rights. Women who were married could not own property and had no legal claim to any money they earned. In the last hundred years, we have seen incredible change in our country. On today's date in 1920, there weren't any women registered to vote. Today, women outnumber men in voter registration in Frederick County and across the nation, and the people who hold public office in our community look more like those they represent.

If you want to learn more about the women's suffrage movement, Frederick County Public Libraries are hosting several educational events throughout March. At the Thurmont Regional Library, hear about when women in Frederick County won the vote,

planned for Thursday, March 12th, at 7 p.m. The League of Women Voters will be at the Thurmont library on Thursday, March 19th, at 6:30 p.m. to talk about why we vote. Students up through fifth grade can join in a Women in History Celebration at the Emmitsburg Branch Library on Saturday, March 28th at 1 p.m.

### Rural and Scenic Roads

Our rural roads offer outstanding views of rolling farmland and natural features, and they provide access to our historic resources. That's why I kicked off an effort to refresh the County's Rural Roads Program. The goal is to enhance the appeal of these hidden gems while ensuring safe travel for local residents and visitors alike. Since the Rural Roads Program began almost 20 years ago, over 80 miles of roadway have been incorporated into the plan. More than half of those roads, 46 miles, are gravel roads, and 30 miles are tar-and-chip covered. There are another six miles of asphalt roads in the program.

I hosted a public roundtable on February 24th to discuss the best way

to reshape the Rural Roads Program. The group talked about possible new criteria for rural roads and for scenic roads, the process to consider adding new roads or taking roads out of the program, how and whether to promote these roads for tourism, and the priorities that should be considered when maintaining these special roadways. Participants included representatives of the Farm Bureau, the Friends of Rural Roads, Visit Frederick, and several county committees and commissions, including the Roads Board, the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, the Parks and Recreation Commission, and the Historic Preservation Commission. Other groups focused on preservation, forestry, landmarks and heritage attended, as well.

### Forests and Historic Assets

Residents value Frederick County's rich history and its environment. We need to take action now to prevent the loss of forest cover and protect our historic and cultural amenities now into the future. That's why I proposed two pieces of legislation last month to pro-

tect our forests and our environmental resources and historic assets.

The first bill strengthens the County's Forest Resource Ordinance. The goal is to protect existing forest cover and ensure we do not lose forest as the result of new development. Under my proposal, the Forest Resource Ordinance would require that an acre of forest be planted for every acre of forest cleared for new development. Trees can be planted within a new development, or there are options for planting off-site. The ordinance focuses on new developments, not individual homeowners. Agricultural operations are exempt from the Forest Resource Ordinance. Also exempt is the transfer of land to children, known as child lots, if less than 20,000 square feet of forest are cleared.

Frederick County previously required a 1:1 ratio for forest replacement. During the four years the requirement was in place, the county gained an additional 10 acres of forest cover. Then in 2011, the requirement was lowered to the minimum allowed by state law. The weaker law led to large areas of forest being cut down for development with little to no replacement. Between 2012 and

2019, Frederick County saw a net loss of about 480 acres of forest, which averages nearly 70 acres of forest lost every year. This bill restores past practice that delivered results and no net loss of forest.

The second piece of legislation I have proposed updates the county zoning ordinance so that forests, environmentally sensitive areas, and historic assets must be considered prior to a property being rezoned. These resources would have to be identified, along with ways to avoid or minimize any impact on these resources, before rezoning the properties. The bill also adds criteria to better define what constitutes an adequate transportation network. Protecting our history and environment puts the community's values first.

These bills are designed to protect Frederick County's forests and farmland for future generations to enjoy. My proposal will protect what our community values, our forest cover, our environmental resources and our rich history, before any new development is approved, so we can ensure a bright future for Frederick County. I want to preserve what we cherish about our community.

continued from previous page

based on a vision of a vibrant, unique community where people can live, work and locally thrive while enjoying a strong sense of place and belonging.

"Frederick County values the rich history and unique resources of Sugarloaf," said Executive Gardner. "The land faces development pressure in recent years. That's why I chose to implement Livable Frederick by focusing on the treasured landscape surrounding Sugarloaf Mountain. The

time to protect this area is now."

Sugarloaf Mountain is a registered national landmark. It was first mapped by a Swiss explorer more than 300 years ago. Soldiers from the French and Indian War and the Civil War marched across its trails. Today the mountain and its trails are privately owned by a non-profit corporation, Stronghold Inc., which is dedicated to preserving the mountain's resources.

To guide the development of the Sugarloaf Treasured Landscape Area

Plan, a Stakeholders Advisory Group has been formed. The group includes representatives from Stronghold, nearby landowners, the Frederick County Sustainability Commission, Preservation Maryland, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, and the Sugarloaf Citizens' Association. Members have been provided with a briefing book as a starting point for discussion. The briefing book provides historical context, a description of current conditions, and

a list of challenges and opportunities facing the area. A copy of the book is available online at [www.LivableFrederick.org](http://www.LivableFrederick.org).

Community outreach will be an important element of each small area plan under Livable Frederick. Every plan will be guided by its own advisory group, which will include residents and key stakeholders. The next plan to launch will be the South Frederick Corridors Plan, which focuses on the county's primary business cor-

ridor along Maryland Routes 85 and 355 near Ballenger Creek.

To keep residents informed of plans near their communities, Frederick County Government has launched an account on the Nextdoor social media platform. This neighborhood-specific network allows people to find out what is happening around them. Nextdoor is free for users and there is no cost to the county for making the service available. Visit [www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com) to register.

April 17-25

# Restaurant WEEK

**Coming April 17 - 25**  
*Eat, Eat, Repeat!*

Your 2020 Taste of the Town  
 Participating Restaurants:

- Bollinger's Family Restaurant
- Celebrations Catering
- Fratelli's NY Pizza
- Mountain Gate Family Restaurant
- Rocky's NY Pizza & Italian Restaurant
- Roy Rogers
- Simply Asia
- Thurmont Bar & Grill
- Thurmont Kountry Kitchen

## Thurmont Community Ambulance Service

Proudly Serving Northern Frederick Co. for Over Half a Century

### Great Food! New Pay Outs!

Under 80 Players	Over 81 Players
Bonanza - \$ 60.00	\$ 75.00
Early Birds - \$ 50.00	\$ 75.00
Regular - \$ 75.00	\$ 100.00
Specialty - \$ 100.00	\$ 120.00
JackPot - \$ 710.00	Guarantee Pay Out: \$ 1,000.00

**Bring Your Friends & Family**  
**Doors Open @ 5 p.m.**  
**Bingo Starts @ 7 p.m.**  
 Tip Jars - Bingo Balls

**BINGO Friday Nights**

*Spring Egg-stravaganza Craft & Vendor Event!*  
**Saturday, March 14**  
**9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

For Vendor information contact Jennifer at [jensgems2018@yahoo.com](mailto:jensgems2018@yahoo.com) or call 301-800-3336

**THE AMISH OUTLAWS**  
**Saturday, March 21**  
**9 p.m.**

### Wine & Money BINGO

Doors Open 11 a.m. - Bingo at 1 p.m.

**Sunday, March 29**  
**\$25 Per Person**

**THURMONT EVENT COMPLEX**  
 13716 Strafford Drive, Thurmont  
**301-271-7550 • [thurmonteventcomplex.com](http://thurmonteventcomplex.com)**

## FROM THE DESK OF...

## Carroll Valley Mayor Ron Harris

What are some of the dates to remember in March? Employee Appreciation Day is celebrated on March 6th. This secular holiday was set aside so bosses could thank their employees for their hard work and effort throughout the year. Have you ever heard “Beware the Ides of March” which falls on Sunday, March 15. It marks an inauspicious anniversary associated with treachery and ill fortune. For that was the day, Julius Caesar was murdered by the Roman Senate. The NCAA March Madness 82nd annual edition of the Tournament is scheduled to begin on March 17 and will conclude with the championship game on April 6 at the Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta. Also, on March 17 we celebrate St. Patrick’s Day! If you get a green glow about you, do not drive. The first day of Spring is Thursday, March 19. And, don’t forget the clocks will be put forward by an hour at 2 am on Sunday March 29. This means the sun will rise an

hour earlier too. It will be great to see the sun again leaving and coming back home from work.

Congratulations to the Carroll Valley Recreation Committee, Council members Jessia Phillips Kraft and David Lillard, Commissioner Marty Qually, Jeni and Jim Jarrell, Gayle Marthers, Amanda Bell, JoAnn Myers and the Carroll Valley Maintenance Staff for preparing and hosting such a wonderful and successful community event – The Carroll Valley Borough 6 Annual Daddy Daughter Luau Topical Celebration! The Polynesian entertainment was provided by Pacific Rhythm dancers. Everyone’s hips were swaying. Many thanks are also extended to all the volunteers who participated to ensure everyone had a memorable evening. Unfortunately, at the time of this column submission, I did not have all of their names. But, know I am so grateful for everyone’s willingness to devote their time on such a special evening. To appreciate how

special, go to [www.ronspictures.net](http://www.ronspictures.net) to see the pictures.

The Adams County Carroll Valley Library Branch offerings are: “Teen Shamrock String Art Night” scheduled on Monday, March 9 at 6:30 p.m. Learn how to make a shamrock string art project for St. Patrick’s Day. “Civil War Lecture – Part II” scheduled on Thursday, March 12 at 6:30 p.m. What happened on 2nd Day at the Gettysburg Battle. “Pete the Cat Dance” to be held on Wednesday 18 at 1 pm. Read a Pete the Cat story and dance the afternoon away! This is opened to preschoolers up to the age of 6. “STEAM Stations” planned for Monday, March 23 at 6:30 p.m. Visit different stations to learn and explore STEAM activities. Open to elementary and middle school age children. And finally, “Fairfield Kindergarten, Here I Come” slated on Monday March 30 at 6:30 pm. This event is for children going into kindergarten at Fairfield Elementary

in the Fall of 2020. There will be a story time for children, kindergarten readiness activities, and children will have the opportunity to meet teachers from the Fairfield Elementary School.

As a reminder, do you have proper house number lettering on your mailboxes, so the fire company, ambulance, and/or the police department can find you. In an emergency, seconds count. It is so important that it is addressed in the Borough of Carroll Valley Ordinance §27-706. The ordinance states all improved property within the borough is required to post the official street address in three (3) inch numbers, which are luminous (reflective). The number shall be easily read from 20 feet day or night. If there is no mailbox at a residence or if it does not clearly identify the house, the reflective street address numbers shall be placed on the front of the house. If the residence sits back off the road or is not visible due to trees or bushes, a sign shall be erected displaying the proper address. Does your

house meet code? If not, you can buy a reflective mailbox sign for just \$8.00 from the Police Department. These signs are 6” x 18” aluminum and covered in green reflective vinyl with white reflective vinyl numbers attached on both sides. They have the same highly visible qualities of PennDot directional signs. If you are interested in one of these signs, visit the Borough Police Department and ask about ordering one. You can also contact the Police Department Administrative Assistant at [pdadmin@carrollvalley.org](mailto:pdadmin@carrollvalley.org).

The Borough will be holding the following meetings in March: Planning Commission (Monday – Mar 2), Tree Board (Thursday – Mar 5), Borough Council (Tuesday – Mar 10), Sewer/Water Authority (Mar 23), Parks/Recreation Committee (Wednesday – Mar 25) and Finance Committee (Monday – Mar 30). If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by email at [MayorRonHarris@comcast.net](mailto:MayorRonHarris@comcast.net) or by cell at 301-606-2021. Watch your speed on the trails.

## State Representative Dan Moul

Annual budget hearings kicked off this week at the state Capitol. This is the part of the state budget process when members of the House Appropriations Committee question leaders of state government agencies about their funding needs for the 2020-21 fiscal year.

Earlier this month, Gov. Tom Wolf proposed a \$36 billion spending plan, which represents a spending increase of more than \$2 billion over the current year’s enacted budget. Nearly \$1 billion of that increase is to cover the administration’s overspending in the current year’s budget.

As I have for the past several years, I will be working through the budget document with other members of the Commonsense Caucus to determine where costs savings may be achieved. I believe the proposed budget over spends substantially, but you can be the judge. To stay up to date on the state budget process, check the “resources” page on my website [www.RepMoul.com](http://www.RepMoul.com).

Locally, the Adams County Office for Aging is conducting a survey to identify community needs and priorities and to help ensure that the office is using its resources

effectively. Residents are asked to complete the survey and return it to the Adams County Office for Aging by March 15. Respondents remain anonymous. To obtain a copy of the survey, contact the Adams County Office for Aging at 717-334-9296 or visit [www.acofa.org](http://www.acofa.org).

Two measures that were part of the House’s Healthier PA Initiative are now law. Act 6 of 2020 will improve cancer treatment options for patients with Stage IV metastatic cancer by requiring insurance companies to cover the medication and treatments prescribed by the patient’s doctor, regardless of what their insurance plan typically covers. The law recognizes time is of the essence for patients fighting cancer, and they should not have to get sicker before being allowed to try a doctor recommended treatment that could extend the length and quality of their lives.

Act 7 of 2020 will help protect infants who receive donated breast milk through milk banks – entities that gather, process and distribute breast milk for medically fragile newborns. Banked donor milk is used in neonatal intensive care units (NICUs) and by outpatients with medical issues. When a mother’s own milk is unavailable in the NICU, the use of

banked donor milk has been shown to decrease mortality rates and serious complications. The new law requires the state Department of Health to regulate milk banks, medically screen donors and contact the health care provider of the donor’s baby to verify adequate growth. The donor milk must be processed to inactivate pathogens (pasteurized), and post-processing bacterial cultures must be performed. The law does not regulate breast milk donors or affect informal milk sharing that may occur.

In another health-related matter, the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board (PLCB) is now accepting applications for grants to fund programs that discourage and reduce underage and dangerous drinking and promote a message of responsible alcohol consumption by those of legal drinking age. Eligible grant applicants include Pennsylvania school districts and institutions of higher education (including technical, trade and post-secondary establishments), community organizations, municipal police departments, municipal officials/representatives, and nonprofit and for-profit organizations.

The grant cycle is for two years, from July through June 2022. Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis with a maximum award of \$20,000 per year and cumulative award of no more than \$40,000

per two-year grant cycle, per eligible applicant. Applications will be evaluated by the PLCB’s Bureau of Alcohol Education, with awards subject to availability of funds. The deadline to apply is noon Friday, March 20. For the grant application link and guidelines for submission, visit [www.lcb.pa.gov](http://www.lcb.pa.gov). The PLCB has awarded nearly \$15 million in alcohol education grants since inception of the grants program in 1999.

Finally, one of several human trafficking bills championed in the House last month has been signed into law. Act 1 of 2020 is designed to better protect victims of human trafficking, regarded as modern slavery, and ensure justice is served by imposing stricter penalties on the perpetrators of this heinous crime.

The new law raises the grading of the offense to a first-degree felony and increases the fines and jail time. Specifically, the law will raise the additional fine amount to at least \$1,000 for a first offense and as high as \$50,000 for a third or subsequent offense or where the victim of sexual servitude was a minor at the time of the offense. Jail time could be as much as 20-40 years.

To learn more about additional legislation approved by the House to combat human trafficking, visit [www.pahouse.gov.com/humantrafficking](http://www.pahouse.gov.com/humantrafficking).

### 5 Ways to Help Secure Retirement

1. Alleviate stress on portfolio by eliminating principal/interest payments\*  
Replace mortgage with HECM
2. Provide buffer asset to mitigate adverse sequence of returns  
Establish standby HECM Line of Credit
3. Purchase retirement home without monthly mortgage payments/portfolio invasion\*  
Finance with HECM for Purchase
4. Reduce portfolio draws without sacrificing spending  
Create “annuity” from housing wealth via HECM Tenure plan
5. Hedge against inflation, property deflation & unexpected expenses  
Secure a growing HECM Line of Credit at the qualifying age of 62

\*By Financial Professional only, not intended for Consumer use. HECM uses reverse mortgage funds to pay down mortgage and other secured property debt, including second mortgages and HELOCs.



**Mutual of Omaha MORTGAGE**

Call Today For More Information



**James McCarron**  
NMLS: #134401  
Home Equity Conversion Mortgage Specialist

Cell (410) 804-4898  
Office (877) 756-5006  
4 York St  
Taneytown, MD, 21787  
[jmccarron@mutualmortgage.com](mailto:jmccarron@mutualmortgage.com) | [www.mutualreverse.com/james-mccarron](http://www.mutualreverse.com/james-mccarron)



Reverse mortgage loans are subject to credit review and may require a property appraisal. The use of reverse mortgage funds is subject to the terms and conditions of the loan agreement. See your lender for more information. © 2020 Mutual of Omaha Mortgage. All rights reserved. NMLS #134401

*Locally owned, local decisions, independent, and fee-only. Our goal is to be partners in your financial journey. We coordinate your financial planning needs using a variety of methods.*

**HUSTON-FOX FINANCIAL ADVISORY SERVICES, LLC**  
113 Carlisle St., Gettysburg, PA 17325  
[Ryan@HustonFox.com](mailto:Ryan@HustonFox.com)  
[www.HustonFox.com](http://www.HustonFox.com)  
717-398-2040

*Contact me for a complimentary, no-pressure introductory meeting to analyze your existing portfolio needs, your goals, and, most importantly, your questions.*

*We accept no commissions.*

**We put your interests first and foremost by offering transparent, honest, local advice and investment management services. We are professional investment advisors.**



**Ryan Fox, MBA, Financial Advisor/Partner**



# GOVERNMENT—NORTH OF THE BORDER

## County Commissioner Randy Phiel

On behalf of the Adams County Board of Commissioners, I would like to welcome our new Adams County Manager Steve Nevada. Steve was most recently the Assistant County Administrator in neighboring Franklin County. He has a background in county administration and behavioral health. Steve is a native of Adams County and lives in the Buchanan Valley with his family. He is very active in the community and is a valuable addition to the county team. Steve may be contacted at [snevada@adamscounty.us](mailto:snevada@adamscounty.us) or at 717-680-3126.

It has been a goal of the Board to maximize investment income as part of maintaining Adams County's strong financial position. To that end, we have formed a Financial Team approach that puts Finance, Treasurer, Controller and the Commissioner's office at the table with regular meetings to discuss financial operations, practices and strategies. Treasurer Crissy Redding is reporting that last year investment interest income totaled \$538,478. In 2018 it was \$492,300 and in 2017 \$268,200. An improving economy plus seeking and leveraging better interest rates have resulted in this upward trend. A shout out to our Financial Team for their collaboration and contributions to our strong financial position - which directly

correlates to the scope and volume of service we can provide to Adams County residents.

The goal of providing a substance recovery center in Adams County will soon become a reality. The ceremonial groundbreaking was held on January 21 with a large number of families, public officials and health care advocates in attendance. The center will provide seven residential rooms for males upstairs and a walk-in center for the community on the ground level. At the February 12 Commissioner Meeting, the final approvals for the Mercy House contractors was approved and the proceed with construction directive was also approved. The asbestos remediation is completed. Residents will soon see contractors' vehicles parked in front of Mercy House with a completion date hopefully by September. The Board would like to express our gratitude to our York/Adams Health Joinder, Adams County staff, Crabtree & Rohrbaugh Architects, and the many community organizations and individual donors that made this project a reality. The Board has begun very preliminary discussions regarding a similar residential recovery center for our female population.

After beginning fundraising three years ago, the long-awaited Adams County Law Enforcement Firearms Train-

ing Range, that sits beside the Adams County 911 Center, has become a reality with the finishing touches now being applied. Although the range has been in use for nine months, recently the lanes have been leveled, a pavilion erected, and the memorable flag plaza and donor wall is being completed. The lighted American Flag will majestically fly over the range 24/7. A special thank you to Maintenance staff member Brad Weaver for his expertise in making the memorial flag plaza a special part of the range. Community organizations, businesses and individuals donated approximately \$200,000 to support our Adams County Law Enforcement community to enhance their safety and the safety of our community. Thank you and job well done!

As most everyone is aware by now, there was an attack on the Adams County Courthouse during the night of December 22, when a Molotov cocktail was tossed through the Clerk of Courts window from Legion Alley. Fortunately, the device did not ignite or make entry into the interior of the building. The building alarm resulted in quick response by Gettysburg & Cumberland Twp. PD. After extensive investigation, as reported in local media, the individual was identified and taken into custody in Gettysburg. A num-

ber of related charges including attempted arson have been filed. The case and the subject have recently been turned over to Federal authorities for prosecution due to the nature of the acts. Thank you to Gettysburg and Cumberland Township Police Departments for their quick response to the incident and Gettysburg PD and Adams County Detectives for their investigative follow-up.

Preserving our local history, agrarian heritage and beautiful vistas is an important part of who we are in Adams County. Last month the commissioners had the privilege of recognizing two individuals who have been part of that process for many years. Tom Clowney and Tim Brown were founding members of the Adams County Agricultural Land Preservation Board and have served on the Board for all 30 years. Besides being iconic Adams County farmers, they have committed a large chunk of their adult life to promoting and facilitating agriculture and agricultural preservation in Adams County. At the Annual Re-organization meeting of the Ag Land Preservation Board, hosted by Rural Resources Manager Ellen Dayhoff, Commissioners Randy Phiel & Jim Martin presented 30-year recognition plaques from the Board to Tom Clowney & Tim Brown. Tim was not able

to attend to accept his plaque, which will be presented at later date. Both Tom Clowney and Tim Brown are gentleman and community servants who exemplify some of the best attributes of our community!

Remember those long lines during the last Presidential election when 73% of the Adams electorate showed up at the polls? Although several of the larger polls like Cumberland, Conewago and Reading have been re-balanced or split, planning in Adams County has already begun to plan for the expected large turn-out in the upcoming April Presidential Primary. New PA legislation takes effect for the April 2020 primary that creates a new option to "Vote By Mail." Voters must request a ballot at least 50 days before an election. It can be done on-line or at the county elections office. Voters can then be placed on a list to permanently receive a ballot application by mail. Voting was previously limited to absentee applications with certain restrictions. Now anyone can vote early by mail. Avoid the lines. For more information on Early Mail In Voting call the Adams County Elections Office at 717-334-6781.

No matter what you do, get out there and enjoy and experience all the historical, recreational, agricultural, natural and cultural opportunities that beautiful Adams County has to offer!

## State Senator Doug Mastriano

### Taxes, Taxes and Taxes

Pennsylvania ranks in the top 10 in tax burden among all states, according to the Commonwealth Foundation, and there have been five tax hikes in the past 11 years. This is unacceptable, and that's why I am in Harrisburg, fighting on your behalf.

As the Governor unveils his proposed budget, I will be paying close attention to see if the administration's priorities align with those of the 33rd Senate District.

Don't be fooled by the rhetoric you hear on television that Pennsylvania is the "only state that does not tax the natural gas industry." This is a fallacy. The fact of the matter is that this industry is already subject to an "impact fee," on top of every other applicable state tax. Imposing additional taxation on the natural gas industry would make Pennsylvania among the highest, if not number one, in applicable taxes and put PA out of line with neighboring states.

We have also heard that the Governor would like to levy a tax on boroughs and townships that lack a municipal police force. This taxation would supposedly underwrite the cost of providing State Police service to

those municipalities. In reality, the "police impact fee" wouldn't come anywhere close to covering that cost and would nearly bankrupt many small municipalities, who simply cannot afford this ill-thought proposal.

The Governor's latest attempt at raising our taxes comes in the form of the multi-state Transportation & Climate Initiative. While the vision has merit, raising the gas tax by 17 cents - which is part of this plan - is an absurd solution.

I am not convinced that the modeling and data that have been presented as part of this plan are factually supported by science. Our gas tax is already high - - - this appetite in Harrisburg to continuously tax us needs to stop.

Everyone remembers Act 89 of 2013, which was sold to taxpayers as the panacea that would fix our state's crumbling roads and bridges. Seven years later, our infrastructure is still in deplorable condition and our state's gas tax remains one of the nation's highest.

I plan to keep a keen eye on the budget deliberations, which begin later this month and continue through March. I will not support any budget that raises your taxes on our hard-working families.

Pennsylvania's stature as a top ten state in tax burden is an embarrassment. It is time to get

the Harrisburg bureaucracy off our backs and out of our wallets.

Senator Mastriano represents the

33rd District in the Pennsylvania Senate. The District includes Adams County and parts of Franklin, Cumberland and York counties.



5580 Fairfield Rd., Fairfield, PA 17320  
**717-642-5844**  
[mountainviewrealtypa@gmail.com](mailto:mountainviewrealtypa@gmail.com)  
[www.mountainviewrealtypa.com](http://www.mountainviewrealtypa.com)

**Jale Dalton**  
Broker  
Licensed in PA & MD  
717-420-0743

**Charles Dalton**  
Realtor  
Licensed in PA  
717-420-0744

**Alexandra Welty**  
Realtor  
Licensed in PA  
717-420-0728

**Cheryl Freeman**  
Realtor  
Licensed in PA  
717-496-3013

**Karin Miller**  
Associate Broker  
Licensed in PA  
717-334-8148

**Doris Normanc**  
Office Administrator  
717-642-5854

**THIS IS A GREAT TIME TO BUY AND SELL REAL ESTATE!**  
 Put our 35 years of excellent service to work for you.  
 Broker is licensed in Pennsylvania and Maryland.

 <p><b>20 Pine Hill Tr., Fairfield, PA</b> 2 BR, 2 BA, with possible 3rd BR w/ full BA on lower level, new appliances. <b>\$183,900</b></p>	<p><b>LOTS FOR SALE ** ACTIVE **</b></p> <p><b>56 Fairfield Rd., Fairfield, PA - 1.78 ac., commercial property, 487 foot road frontage. Many possibilities.....\$350,000</b></p> <p><b>1 Spring Tr., Fairfield, PA - 3.4 ac., perc test in progress by owner, 15 min. from Gettysburg. Lovely location. \$89,900</b></p> <p><b>15904 Manahan Rd., Sabillasville, MD - Great location for a home site. Perc approved, includes well.....\$64,900</b></p> <p><b>15 Brown Tr., Fairfield, PA 0.54 ac., level lot with a few trees, low perc rate, near skiing &amp; golf courses....\$16,900</b></p> <p><b>Lot A Cold Springs Rd., Gettysburg, PA - 1.48 ac., perc approved, level lot, great building site.....\$64,900</b></p>	<p><b>UNDER CONTRACT</b></p> <p><b>17 Lakeview Tr., Fairfield, PA</b> Does living in a round house appeal to you? 5 BR, 4 BA, 2 stories, full walk-out basement. Near park, creek, library, skiing &amp; golf. <b>\$219,900</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>**** SOLD ****</b></p> <p><b>1989 Taneytown Rd., Gettysburg, PA</b> Peaceful rural property. 1 BR, 1 BA mobile home, close to Gettysburg. Sold as is. <b>\$55,000</b></p>
<p><b>365 D Boy Scout Rd., New Oxford, PA</b> 5 BR, 1 BA getaway on 1.85 acres. Elevated creek front. <b>\$88,900</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>**** SOLD ****</b></p> <p><b>0 Waynesboro Pk., Fairfield, PA</b> Wonderful Opportunity. 15 ac. parcel, zoned for business too.....<b>\$175,000</b></p> <p><b>46 Snowbird Tr., Fairfield, PA</b> Ready to build? 0.52 acre lot is prepared to go! Public sewer.....<b>\$27,500</b></p>	<p><b>UNDER CONTRACT</b></p> <p><b>5 Spur Tr., Fairfield, PA - Peaceful setting, cul-de-sac, public sewer, 15 minutes from Gettysburg.....\$39,900</b></p> <p><b>64 Meadowlark Tr., Fairfield, PA</b> Lovely double lot, perc approved, near skiing and golf.....<b>\$21,900</b></p>	<p><b>UNDER CONTRACT</b></p> <p><b>76 &amp; 78 Eagles Tr., Fairfield, PA - 1 acre corner lot, perc approved, cleared, septic area marked. Perfect lot build on!.....\$35,000</b></p>

# COMMENTARY

## Words From Winterbilt

### March, farming & the weather

Shannon Bohrer

Spring is just around the corner. This is the time of year to think about our summer gardens while farmers are planning for spring crops. We think of spring as the season of rejuvenation, the awaking from our long winter. At least that was the normal progression, but things have changed, and some of the changes have not been good for farmers.

My wife and I built our farm 43 years ago, in 1977. The road we live on was gravel back then and there were six dairy farms within a mile of our farm. The dairy farms slowly went out of business and today there is only one left. A few of the farms are still in operation, making hay and other crops, as well as raising beef. But the future of farming, the traditional practices and general viability of farming, which we think of, are in question.

Several years ago I had brief conversations with two local dairy farmers. One farmer had reduced his herd and was only milking 30 cows, and when I asked why, he responded that he was losing too much money. The price he was getting for his milk was less than the cost of producing it. I responded with “why not just sell all of the cows?” He answered that if he sold the cows, he would actually lose more money. He had run all of the numbers and he would lose less money if he continued to milk, so he continued.

*“The farmer has to be an optimist or he wouldn’t still be a farmer.”*

—Will Rogers

I was visiting another farm for an agricultural event, when I ran into the other farmer who was still milking. After exchanging pleasantries, I asked how much longer he planned to milk cows. He responded that he would continue until, he ran out of savings. Since he was already of retirement age, I remember thinking; I hope he has significant savings. He is the only farmer still milking in our area.

Farming is just not in trouble in Frederick County, it is struggling everywhere. In 2019, the state of Wisconsin, the dairy state, lost 818 dairy farms, many of them being bankruptcies. While Wisconsin is a large state, the loss represents 10 percent of the dairy herd. When the price of milk is lower than the cost it takes to produce it, it’s difficult to stay in business. Milk prices have risen lately, but too late for many farmers. Dairy farmers have a twofold problem. First, the farmers that still exist are extremely efficient; producing more milk with fewer cows while the demand for milk has decreased. The second issue is related to the lack of demand. More consumers are drinking milk like products, like almond, coconut, rice, soy and whatever else sounds exotic.

With low milk prices, farming bankruptcies are at record numbers. Related to the bankruptcies there has

been an increase in farmer suicides. Farmers currently have the highest suicide rate of any occupation. The rate is “Five times that of the rest of the U.S. Population.” Traditionally we are told that if one works hard you can make a good living. Imagine working 70, 80 or 90 hours a week and being very productive, but then having to declare bankruptcy.

The enormity of the problem is evident when very large milk sellers, like Borden Dairy Co., home of “Elsie the Cow” filed for Bankruptcy. Borden had been the second largest milk producer in the country. The largest, Dean Foods, filed for bankruptcy in November, just last year. The company said that they have been negatively affected by the dairy alternatives (milk not from cows) and also retailers investing in their own dairy products.

South Mountain Creamery, a successful Frederick County dairy, is an example of a farm investing in its own product. Apparently, if you can produce, process, market and sell your own product, you can profit. However, another issue related to the bankruptcy of Dean Foods, was that Walmart opened its own milk processing facilities in 2017, causing Dean Foods to cancel over 100 dairy farmer contracts in eight states. So, what happens when small farms that produce, market and sell their own product, have to compete with the “Marts” in our world?

As dairy farmers stop milking, many have changed from producing milk to raising livestock and growing

other products, like corn and hay. The prices for these other products have also taken a tumble. In 1981 we were selling our corn for \$3.50 a bushel and the breakeven price was \$2.25 a bushel, so we were making some money. Currently the price is around \$3.80 a bushel, so it has gone up 30 cents in 39 years. The price has been higher, but it has also been lower. The current estimated breakeven price for corn is currently \$4.00 per bushel. Obviously the total cost and yield per acre is important, but the weather is an addition element that the farmer cannot control. The spring rains that flooded western and southern states last year are becoming normal weather patterns, not unlike the fires in California and Australia. Switching from milking to row crops has been difficult for many small farmers and the changing weather patterns are just another obstacle.

The beef industry has also had problems. Two transnational corporations butcher and pack over 80 percent of all the beef raised in the U. S. In 1970, beef ranchers received about 70 percent of what consumers paid for their product. Today, the rancher receives about 40 percent. Since 2016, “the small rancher profit margins have fallen nearly 30 percent... while packers’ profits have jumped 68 percent.”

Falling revenues with milk, row crops and livestock prices have partially contributed to the farmers’ problems. I say partially, because our U.S. agricultural trades deals, which have been almost, none-existent, along with our new weather patterns; i.e. floods and droughts, have

significantly contributed to the farmers problems. Because of the lack of trade deals, the U.S. world market share for agricultural products has declined. The Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade deal that was cancelled, was supposed to boost our agriculture products. Of course, the cancelled deal was good for China. Experts have predicted and believe that much of the lost market share - will never return.

Not all of the farming and agriculture news is bad. Some farmers, usually very large ones, are selling their farms to Saudi Arabia, and other foreign countries. Saudi Arabia grows alfalfa hay in California and Arizona for shipment back to its domestic dairy herds. “In another real-life example of the world’s interconnected economy, the Saudis increasingly look to produce animal feed overseas in order to save water in their own territory, most of which is desert.”

Recently, a Saudi company, Almari, purchased 10,000 acres for \$32 million. The land is just 50 miles from Vicksburg Arizona, along the Colorado River. So, if you have a small family farm, of 10,000 acres, you can sell your farm and retire in comfort.

*“Farming looks mighty easy when your plow is a pencil and you’re a thousand miles from the corn field”*

—Dwight D. Eisenhower

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

## Common Cents

### The divided states of Trumpistan?

Wim Laven

With the end of the Impeachment Trial of Donald Trump the partisan divide is deepened and acquittal a mere formality. Mitch McConnell promised to quickly acquit Trump of the charges, he did so with no witnesses or evidence provided. It leaves me wondering what this leaves of American democracy, the Constitution, and where is the justice?

Senators took oaths—twice—to swear to defend the Constitution and also to act as unbiased jurors, but there is no evidence that Republicans took this seriously. After all, there are many questions that are unanswered, pieces of evidence to examine, and witnesses to hear from. This is the type of acquittal that one might expect in a country like Pakistan, which routinely scores low in indices of corruption and judicial integrity. It is not reflective of blind justice or transparent democracy. With this wholesale corrupt partisan divide and the apparent establishment of a Trump Loyalist Party I worry about the future, what do the Divided States of Trumpistan look like?

Trump has been accused of violating the US Constitution in serving his own political interests

through efforts to extort political interference from Ukraine and for abusing his office in covering his crimes up. He wants to launch investigations against his political opponents, and his legal counsel suggests that anything he does to get reelected is an act of public interest. If the Trump loyalists put their loyalty pledges ahead of their oaths to defend the Constitution and serve unbiased justice, then it seems he can get away with anything. Trump and his lawyers have argued that “legally, he really could [shoot someone on Fifth Avenue and get away with it]—and no one could do a thing about it.” Is that what Trumpistan looks like?

I fear Trumpistan because its emperor wears no clothes. Rather than heed the advice of experts, dissent is pushed out and alienated. Blunder after blunder the failures are persistent. There was never a doubt about the futility of Trump’s border wall project, but it could not be more laughable than to see the discovery of another highly sophisticated tunnel system in the same week that winds blew the wall over and openings to allow for gully-washing floods were carved out. The great beacon of freedom—the Statue of Liberty—stand with the inscription: “give me your tired, your poor...” But the offer was

invalidated on January 27 when the Supreme Court decided the next iteration of Trump’s class war—denying green cards to people who might, at some point, need federal assistance—was Constitutional. Forget E pluribus unum (Latin for “Out of many, one”) if Trump knew Latin he would declare: Absque argento omnia vana— Without money all is in vain! Perhaps, in relief, he will opt for the Wu Tang Clan version: Cash Rules Everything Around Me!

Trumpistan is the devolution of global efforts towards peace and justice. Land mines have been banned by most of the world, because they are a threat to civilians long after wars end, but Trump will expand the use of land mines. Anti-corruption laws are seen as an obstacle to competitive business practices, Trump calls The Foreign Corrupt Practices Act “horrible.” No doubt, we will make bribery great again. So much for his gaslighting claim about wanting to help clean up corruption in Ukraine.

Trumpistan is broadly dystopic. The corruption he promotes appears to have served him well, he famously bankrupts businesses and brags about it in showcasing how “brilliant” he is. He takes advantage of legal loopholes to grift and leave contractors unpaid. But it gets so much worse, in Trump’s world teachers (like me) should have to pay bribes in order to teach, in turn we should receive good favors

for the grades we administer. Police officers could handle crimes out of court with fines paid directly to them. He is a businessman—they say—so why shouldn’t everything be for sale?

Nepotism has reared its ugly head. Lifetimes of service and expertise are not something to be valued in Trumpistan. King Trump’s princess Ivanka makes a great Senior Advisor, forget her qualifications for “on the education and economic empowerment of women and their families as well as job creation and economic growth through workforce development, skills training and entrepreneurship” according to the White House website she “founded an eponymous lifestyle brand.” Her husband Jared Kushner did not need to go to school to declare: “Palestinians have never done anything right in their sad, pathetic lives” before warning “do not screw up this opportunity” when speaking about his “solution” to the intractable conflict in the Middle East.

I am sure Trump will tell us about the “peace plan,” “they said it could not be done...” and I’ll give you the spoiler: it wasn’t. The Trump administration’s plan for apartheid will not create peace, it is obscene, and it would be comedy if not for the real-world horror it is. It is no wonder that he has desperately wanted to create a state-run media source to tell the stories the ways he wants them told. There

is no room for an unofficial fourth branch (the media) providing oversight on the checks and balances of the three branches of government in Trump’s world.

Maybe it is hyperbole. We are three years and 16,000 lies into Trump’s presidency. We are at the end of a trial to remove him from office where the conclusion was foretold; his jurors have told us: he did it, it was wrong for him to do it, and so what? They want us to leave it to the voters with no care that his charge was for trying to cheat in the upcoming election.

Maybe Republicans will find a backbone and will push Trump’s loyalists out. Maybe citizens will unite in mass action; Existentially threatened—our air and water are even for sale! (along with 95 other environmental roll backs), nonviolent force may be the only chance for citizens to remove this dangerous administration and its un-American loyalists.

Or maybe the “perfect” crime has earned us the King we never wanted. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said “The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.” These are challenging times indeed. Where do we stand?

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

# The American Mind

## Reflections on the rise of Socialism

William Hillman

Last week an article from the Federalist Society about Greta Thunberg popped up on my computer. It was by David Harsanyi and titled, "The Tragedy of Greta Thunberg".

The following is the first two paragraphs of his article:

"Sixteen-year-old Swedish climate change activist Greta Thunberg lives in the healthiest, wealthiest, safest, and most peaceful era humans have ever known. She is one of the luckiest people ever to have lived.

In a just world, Thunberg would be at the United Nations thanking capitalist countries for bequeathing her this remarkable inheritance. Instead, she, like millions of other indoctrinated kids her age, act as if they live in a uniquely broken world on the precipice of disaster. This is a tragedy."

"You have stolen my dreams and my childhood with your empty words," Thunberg lectured the world. And maybe she's right. We've failed her by raising a generation of pagans who've filled the vacuum left by the absence of faith, not with rationality, but with a cultish worship of Mother Earth and the state."

Greta is one face of this generational push to the far left and its rejection of the existing culture. In a Gallop poll from November, fifty percent of Generation Zers and Millennials have a positive view of Socialism. This is the generation of cancel culture, ripping down statues,

rewriting history, victimhood and self-hate. They attack professors and anyone who does not share their orthodoxy. (Or some large percent of these generation groups)

I read and hear over and over again how wonderful these kids are and how they need to be empowered. There is even a movement to lower the voting age. They are kids, innocent, ignorant, inexperienced, and easily led. It was interesting timing that this article came to me as I'm in the middle of reading a history of Mao.

In China from 1966 until 1967, Mao launched the great purge in china. It was referred to as the cultural revolution. The official government name was the "Cultural Revolution Small Group", headed by Madam Mao. Mao wanted to transform the nation by destroying all vestiges of the old culture. Statues, historic buildings, books, anything reminiscent of the past was a target. He started his purge at schools and universities. Any teacher and professor who had not bowed to the cult of Mao was targeted. Students were told to condemn these teachers for poisoning their heads with bourgeoisie ideas and persecuting them with exams. To please the students and win their loyalty, Mao outlawed exams. Teachers and administrators were picked as the first victims because they spread culture, but also more importantly they were easy prey to offer up to the youthful mobs. The youth was told they were protecting Mao. The young generation who had been indoctrinated in state schools to the religion of the socialist, knew what to do and were eager for their chance. With Mao's lit-

tle red book in hand, they attacked the old order. Young people were encouraged to form political groups. One of the first groups was called the Red Guard. The Red Guards writing were filled with hatred for the old culture and anyone who could be associated with it. Statements like, "We will be brutal. We will strike you and trample you to the ground" filled their posts.

On the 18th of June 1966 at Peking University, teachers who had not yet fallen in line, were attacked, dragged into the streets, dunce caps placed on their heads, their faces blackened and then beaten. Women were sexually assaulted. Many were killed, others committed suicide. Similar events happened all over China.

On August 1st of 1966, Mao ordered the children of state officials to form more Red Guard groups. These group vowed to be brutal in support of Mao. On August 15th the first killing took place when a Red Guard group composed of girls in a boarding school kicked and beat their head mistress to death then poured boiling water on her. When the event was reported to the authorities, no action was taken. The message to the Red Guard was clear, carry on. And they did. The young generation who had been indoctrinated in state schools to the religion of the socialist knew what to do and were eager for their chance. With Mao's little red book in hand, they attacked the old order. Police were ordered to stand down as the purge spread across the country. Hundreds of thousands were killed in brutal fashion.

Mao instructed the youth to attack "Old Culture". They responded by tearing down statues, burning stores, ripping out old street signs and renaming the roads.

tion to be fruitful and multiply. For a couple of thousand years we took pains to do this with unstoppable relish, and it was not until the industrial revolution and the rise of modern medicine that the rest of the commandment started to be fulfilled. You know, subdue the earth and so on.

Part of that was due to the Protestant ethic of endeavour, sternly adhering to the promise, 'Thou rewardest every man according to his work.' Work is good, work is profit, a man must provide, and abracadabra capitalism is born. Mankind is also very clever and artful, with a brain that, once stimulated this way, goes searching for the new, the exciting, the discovery. A the new world of technology is suddenly born - with unbelievable results.

Mankind is also very caring and loving, because we could not populate without it. We seek to preserve the race, to nurture it and cure its illnesses, to adopt social reform, which, together with technology has succeeded in making people long-lived beyond anyone's wildest dreams.

So, from a few thousand proto-humanoids and their offshoots, we are now a greenish wet world with some 8 billion people living, breathing, eating and inhabiting it. Who take in oxygen and breathe out carbon dioxide while expelling methane.



Soon the puritans turned against the soft. Anyone with long hair, shirts or high heels were attacked. Short hair and flat shoes with gray coats and slacks was the new uniform.

Socialism and its brother, communism have been recruiting and indoctrinating youth for generations. Turning them against their families, history, country and their own best interests.

The actions of the Chinese youth in the Red Guard are not unique. This story repeats in Cambodia, Russia, North Korea, and in Hitler's Germany with the brown shirts and Hitler Youth.

When I was in my early twenties blabbering on about some idealistic utopian theory, an older wise mentor listened patiently and when I was finished he said, "Bill, your problem is you see the world as you want to see it, not as it is. You have yet to be mugged by reality."

One day the Millennials and Generation Zers will govern this nation. But before that they need to see the world for what it is and gain the hard experience and knowledge that only comes with time.

And the planet heats up, disrupting ecosystems, causing the weather patterns and ocean currents to go crazy. Some leaders, yours and ours especially, deny that anything is wrong, to just sleep easy, we know what we're doing. That's a lie we woke to years ago, and hatred for it is growing. Will our leaders succeed? I have no idea - I sure hope not, but that problem is just the tip of the iceberg.

We have succeeded in forgetting something that only the ancients, including your Indians and our aborigines, recognised - that the earth is not a dead unreactive thing. It has a life, which we know as Gaia, embodying everything the earth has to give, and which we ignore at our peril.

Which is what we have done for the past two or three thousand years. It didn't matter when we trod carefully, only taking what we needed and being part of the whole. But our brains have decreed otherwise, and we are now having to deal with a very angry mother. Her world is being attacked, and she is doing the only thing she knows - get rid of the attackers.

Gentle warnings went unheeded because we had lost the ability to hear, sterner stuff was ignored - we were too aware of our ability and ruled by ego - until today we are experiencing her full fury.

Youth can bring new ideas, perspectives, and energy to institutions, but youth exuberance needs to be tempered by age and wisdom. When untempered and misdirected, it can be a destructive force.

David Harsanyi wraps up his article with these two paragraphs and I think they are important.

"Thunberg's dream for the future means technocratic regimes will have to displace capitalistic societies. We can see this future in the radical environmentalist plans of Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's Green New Deal, one supported by leading Democratic Party candidates. It's authoritarianism. There is no other way to describe a regulatory regime that dictates exactly what Americans can consume, sell, drive, eat, and work on.

One imagines that most Americans, through their actions, will continue to reject these regressive ideas. One reason they should is so that Greta Thunberg's generation won't have to suffer needlessly."

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

# Down Under

## Beware of angry mothers

Submitted by Lindsay Melbourne, Australia!

*Beneath the clouds lives the Earth-Mother from whom is derived the water of life, who at her bosom feeds plants, animals and human.*

-Algonquin legend

Nearly sixty years ago the world faced the unthinkable: Nuclear war. It was at the height of American - Russian one-up-man-ship, Russia trying anything to gain the upper hand in power and renown, America, by far the stronger nation, determined that Russia would not succeed in extending its pernicious beliefs any further...

Cuba, under Fidel Castro, had adopted Communism, which made America angry - right under their noses, a challenge that was difficult to deal with. But a small and powerless nation could be no real threat - until it was discovered that Russia had been invited to place Ballistic missiles there, in response to the Bay of Pigs attempted invasion and the deployment of American Jupiter ballistic missiles in Italy and Turkey. America was suddenly threatened with nuclear war, which should

have been no surprise because the CIA had been known had known about it for some time, but the 1962 elections were on and the intelligence, proved by clear photographic evidence, was ignored - elections are (still) strangely more important than safety.

A naval blockade was established on October 22 to prevent more missiles being landed, and demands were made that the ones already there would be decommissioned and returned to the Soviets. This was finally agreed, but the threat remained active for twenty days, during which time the alarm spread around the world and the first real possibility of all out nuclear war sent fear into the hearts of everyone who could read and hear.

That terror has remained a threatening shadow in the minds of everyone who was alive at the time, a kind of angst that has since been overlaid by diversions, progress in technology and trade, as well as the fall of the soviet union. But those who experienced it have never forgotten, and now it's appalling shadow is resurfacing.

Surprisingly, the new threats have very little to do with politics or leaders, having been brought up because of the biblical injunc-

Storms, fires, floods? Small stuff. Changing currents, warming waters and melting ice? Far more serious. Very little fresh water? That is the most serious thing we have to face, although she has other tricks if we still don't get the message: Lower oxygen levels. That is under way, ignored because, like all the other things, no one knows what to do about them. Science is trying, but working from the old script of new things to the rescue.

The cost to humanity will be far more than lives lost and living standards falling rapidly, because no government has the resources to keep their citizens safe, (except the top one percent who still care only for themselves), employed, healthy and fed.

And in case we still haven't got the message, Corona has appeared because forests were cleared, new food from wild animals used, and their viral loads given wonderful new hosts. Yes, we will find a vaccine, yes, it will die out, but the numbers will continue to increase, and the population culled.

Gaia doesn't care who, she just wants her earth put to rights

So, to all you God-fearing people, Armageddon is nigh. To everyone who still thinks there's nothing wrong, lay in more booze. And to prophets of doom, high fives.

To read past editions of *Down Under*, visit the Authors section of [Emmitsburg.net](http://Emmitsburg.net).

# THE PASTOR'S DESK

## Reflections on Lent

Sue Koenig  
Graceham Moravian Church

In our part of the world, the Church's season of Lent comes in spring when farmers are beginning the work needed in their fields before the first planting. The rows will be plowed, and the soil turned over to be exposed to the light of the sun. The vegetation remaining from last year's crops, and green shoots of new growth, will be used to enrich the soil into which this year's seeds and seedlings will be planted. God has entrusted us with the care of the earth; and the earth, well-cared for, sustains creation. "We are to keep God's good creation, as a shepherd keeps sheep, gently and attentively; and like the shepherd, who in extreme cases, lays down his life for the sheep, we imagine the gardener is to give his life for the sake of the garden." [Gen. 2:15-17; 3:1-7]

Lent opens for us fields of grace in which to turn over our earthen hearts that they may be exposed to the sun and prepared for the growth that God will bring, including growth in faithfulness to our role as the "keepers of God's creation."

In many congregations, Lent comes in with a trumpet blast, with the cry of the prophet Joel on Ash Wednesday, and the imposition of ashes on the foreheads of those gathered for worship, over whom are spoken the words, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Blow the trumpet in Zion, sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming, it is near—a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness spread upon the mountains a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come. (Joel 2:1,2)

Yet even now says the Lord, return to me with all your heart,

with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. (Joel 2:12, 13)

Joel calls God's people to repent in order that they may avoid further disaster and live on fertile lands forever. They are facing devastating swarms of locusts, an invasion by a "great and powerful army" of insects, brought about by their unfaithfulness. If they return to God, their lives and land will be spared.

As Joel announces the coming of the day of the Lord, the Lenten season takes on a solemn and penitential tone. Yet even so, the call to return to a gracious, merciful, and loving God invites us to see Lent as a season of grace, and one in which we are invited to join God in the healing of the world.

Lent is not the time of "bad news" before the "good news" of Easter. It is a time of grace when people of Christ reflect on their mortality and sin, as well as on the creative and recreative power of God.

Reflecting on our mortality in light of God's creative power grounds us in resurrection hope, and even makes it possible for us to appreciate a bit of humor as we consider dying. The late Donald Hall was the national poet laureate from 2006 to 2007, and a recipient of the National Medal of Honors. In *Death*, from his book, *Essays After Eighty*, he writes, "It is sensible of me to be aware that I will die one of these days. I will not pass away. Everyday millions of people pass away—in obituaries, death notices, cards of consolation...but people don't die. Sometimes they rest in peace, quit this world, go the way of all flesh, depart, give up the ghost, breathe a last breath, join their dear ones in heaven, meet their Maker ... Some expressions are less common in print: push up daisies, kick

the bucket, croak, buy the farm, cash out." (My father's friends, "went away from here," and were "planted" at their internment.) Hall died in 2018 at the age of 90. Every day he waited for the words to come—words that would "balance frankness about losses with humor and gratitude."

Reflecting on our mortality deepens both our gratitude to God and our dependence on God for the gift of life and creation. It is sensible for each of us to be aware of our finitude. This life will end, and yet, from God's creativity, grace, mercy and love, life springs forth from death. In Christ's death and resurrection, our dying is a dying to new life in and as a new creation.

Reflecting on our mortality and sin gives us opportunities to examine our lives and ask critical questions about how we will use the time we have; repent from past and present actions that separate us from God, one another, and God's good creation; to seek forgiveness and reconciliation; and participate in God's healing, restorative, and recreative work in the world.

Rabbi Simcha Bunim (1765-1827) is credited with the "Two Pockets" saying I first heard in seminary, and of which I am reminded every Lent. "Everyone must have two pockets, with a note in each pocket, so that he or she can reach into one or the other, depending on the need. When feeling lowly and depressed, discouraged or disconsolate, one should reach into the right pocket, and, there, find the words, "The world was created for me..." But when feeling high and mighty one should reach into the left pocket, and find the words: "...I am but dust and ashes."

Lent summons us to turn away from thinking too highly of ourselves, and to reject, "the temptation to sin against the intrinsic value of God's good creation" by reducing creation's value to its worth to human beings. It is a time, as the prophet Joel makes clear, for the people of God to



collectively turn from sin, repent and lament, and return to God. At the sound of an alarm God's people respond in faith, not panicking or despairing, but turning back to and joining God in bringing healing and renewal in the earth. It is time for a faithful response to the alarm that is being sounded in this day of the Lord by the U.N. and World Vision and many other voices, as billions of locusts in swarms of 80 million invade Kenya, Somalia, Ethiopia, and Tanzania, destroying crops and threatening the food security of 13 million people; our own day's invasion by a "great and powerful army" of locusts. One such swarm can eat in one day the food that would sustain 35,000 people. Recognizing the role of human sin in the degradation of the earth and the consequences of our unfaithfulness as "keepers" of creation, we return to God, joining God's work to heal and restore the earth.

The Moravian Church adopted a resolution in 2009 that affirms that "Christian mission includes caring for God's earth and all creation;" and acknowledges that "human activity has contributed to the degradation of the earth in its land, seas and atmosphere, and that this is contrary to the will of God." It goes on to say, "We believe that this degradation limits the attainment of the fullness of life that God wills for all creation,

and is a sin for which we should seek forgiveness. We recognize that urgent response is now required in the face of the catastrophic consequences of climate change caused by this environmental damage and the disproportionate suffering this brings to the poorest in the world..." With the sounding of an alarm and the call to repentance, the church also offered ways in which congregations and members could join God's recreative and restorative work in the world, "...by following sustainable practice in their lifestyles..." including "...conservation and careful consideration of how we use resources in church life and at home; active involvement in community initiatives aimed at sustaining and renewing the environment; and taking action on global environmental issues."

This Lent, may the cry of the prophets and the sound of the alarm move God's people to repentance, and enable us to balance frankness about the suffering of the earth with gratitude for its goodness, and rejoice that we serve a gracious, merciful, and loving God who summons us to give up panic and despair, and join God in the healing of the world.

To learn more about Graceham Moravian Church, visit them on Sundays for worship at 8 and 10:30 a.m.; and Sunday School for all ages at 9:15 a.m.



## CHRIST'S COMMUNITY CHURCH

Connecting God & Community

**Please Join Us!**  
Contemporary Worship  
Relevant Biblical Teaching  
Dynamic Kids' Ministry

**Celebrating Sundays at 10:30 am  
& Wednesdays at 7:00 pm**

**www.cccaog.org**  
**301-447-4224**

303 West Lincoln Avenue  
Emmitsburg  
(Next to the town pool)



**John Talcott**  
Senior Pastor  
**Dana Talcott**  
Children's Ministry



## GRACE BIBLE CHURCH



**2430 Tract Rd. Fairfield Pa.**  
**Sunday Services 10 a.m.**

"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."  
Matthew 18:20

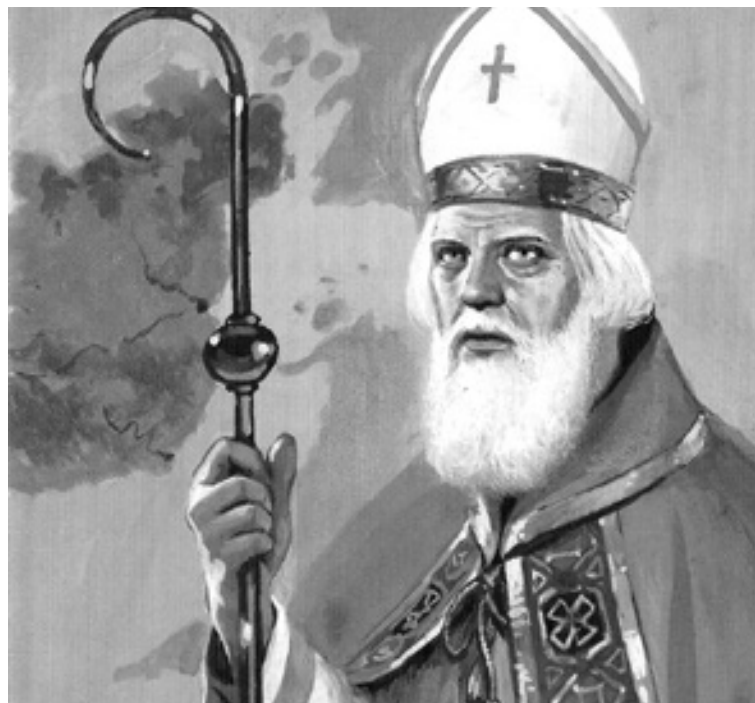
*Join us in praising God's word  
All are welcome in the house  
of the Lord!*



Pastor: Walter (Mickey) Barlow

## THE BOOK OF DAYS

## The Legendary History of Saint Patrick



Almost as many countries arrogate the honour of having been the natal soil of St. Patrick. Scotland, England, France, and Wales, each furnish their respective pretensions: but, whatever doubts may obscure his birthplace, all agree in stating that, as his name implies, he was of a patrician family.

He was born about the year 372, and when only sixteen years of age, was carried off by pirates, who sold him into slavery in Ireland; where his master employed him as a swineherd on the well-known mountain of Sleamish, in the county of Antrim. Here he passed seven years, during which time he acquired a knowledge of the Irish language, and made himself acquainted with the manners, habits, and customs of the people.

Escaping from captivity, and, after many adventures, reaching the continent, he was successively ordained deacon, priest, and bishop: and then once more, with the authority of Pope Celestine, he returned to Ireland to preach the Gospel to its then heathen inhabitants.

The principal enemies that St. Patrick found to the introduction of Christianity into Ireland, were the Druidical priests of the more ancient faith, who, as might naturally be supposed, were exceedingly adverse to any innovation. These Druids, being great magicians, would have been formidable antagonists to any one of less miraculous and saintly powers than Patrick.

Their obstinate antagonism was so great, that, in spite of his benevolent disposition, he was compelled to curse their fertile lands, so that they became dreary bogs; to curse their rivers, so that they produced no fish; to curse their very kettles, so that with no amount of fire and patience could they ever be made to boil; and, as a last resort, to curse the Druids themselves, so that the earth opened and swallowed them up.

A popular legend relates that the saint and his followers found themselves, one cold morning, on a mountain, without a fire to cook their breakfast, or warm their frozen limbs. Unheeding their complaints, Patrick desired them to collect a pile of ice and snow-balls: which having been done, he breathed upon it, and it instantaneously became a pleasant fire—a fire that long after served to point a poet's conceit in these lines:

*Saint Patrick, as in legends told,  
The morning being very cold,  
In order to assuage the weather,  
Collected bits of ice together;  
Then gently breathed upon  
the pyre,  
When every fragment blazed  
on tire.  
Oh! if the saint had been so kind,  
As to have left the gift behind  
To such a lovelorn wretch as me,  
Who daily struggles to be free:  
I'd be content—content with part,  
I'd only ask to thaw the heart,  
The frozen heart, of Polly Roe.'*

The greatest of St. Patrick's miracles was that of driving the venomous reptiles out of Ireland, and rendering the Irish soil, for ever after, so obnoxious to the serpent race, that they instantaneously die on touching it. Colgan seriously relates that St. Patrick accomplished this feat by beating a drum, which he struck with such fervour that he knocked a hole in it, thereby endangering the success of the miracle. But an angel appearing mended the drum: and the patched instrument was long exhibited as a holy relic.

In 1831, Mr. James Cleland, an Irish gentleman, being curious to ascertain whether the climate or soil of Ireland was naturally destructive to the serpent tribe, purchased half-a-dozen of

the common harmless English snakes and brought them to Ireland, where he turned them out in his garden. A week afterwards, one of them was killed at Milecross, about three miles distant.

The persons into whose hands this strange monster fell, had not the slightest suspicion that it was a snake, but, considering it a curious kind of eel, they took it to a celebrated Irish naturalist, who at once pronounced the animal to be a reptile and not a fish.

The idea of a 'rale living sarpint' having been killed within a short distance of the very burial-place of St. Patrick, caused an extraordinary sensation of alarm among the country people.

The most absurd rumours were freely circulated, and credited. One far-seeing clergyman preached a sermon, in which he cited this unfortunate snake as a token of the immediate commencement of the millennium: while another saw in it a type of the approach of the cholera morbus. Old prophecies were raked up, and all parties and sects, for once, united in believing that the snake fore-shadowed 'the beginning of the end,' though they very widely differed as to what that end was to be.

Some more practically minded persons, however, subscribed a considerable sum of money, which they offered in rewards for the destruction of any other snakes that might be found in the district. And three more of the snakes were not long afterwards killed, within a few miles of the garden where they were liberated. The remaining two snakes were never very clearly accounted for; but no doubt they also fell victims to the reward.

A more natural story than the extirpation of the serpents, has afforded material for the pencil of the painter, as well as the pen of the poet. When baptizing an Irish chieftain, the venerable saint leaned heavily on his crozier, the steel-spiked point of which he had unwittingly placed on the great toe of the converted heathen. The pious chief, in his ignorance of Christian rites, believing this to be an essential part of the ceremony, bore the pain without flinching or murmur; though the blood flowed so freely from the wound,

that the Irish named the place St. fhuil (stream of blood).

And here we are reminded of a very remarkable fact in connection with geographical appellations, that the footsteps of St. Patrick can be traced, almost from his cradle to his grave, by the names of places called after him.

Thus, assuming his Scottish origin, he was born at Kilpatrick (the cell or church of Patrick), in Dumbartonshire. He resided for some time at Dalpatrick (the district or division of Patrick), in Lanarkshire; and visited Crag-phadrig (the rock of Patrick), near Inverness. He founded two churches, Kirkpatrick at Irongray, and Kirkpatrick at Fleming; and ultimately sailed from Portpatrick, leaving behind him such an odor of sanctity, that among the most distinguished families of the Scottish aristocracy, Patrick has been a favourite name down to the present day.

Arriving in England, he preached in Patterdale (Patrick's dale): and founded the church of Kirkpatrick. Visiting Wales, he walked over Sam-badrig (Patrick's causeway): and departing for the Continent, sailed from Llan-badrig (the church of Patrick).

Undertaking his mission to convert the Irish, he first landed at Innispatrick (the island of Patrick), and next at Holmpatrick, on the opposite shore of the mainland, in the county of Dublin. Sailing northwards, he touched at the Isle of Man, sometimes since, also, called. Innis-patrick, where he founded another church of Kirkpatrick.

Again landing on the coast of Ireland, he founded an abbey in East Meath, called Domnach-Padraig (the house of Patrick), and built a church in Dublin on the spot where St. Patrick's Cathedral now stands. In an island of Lough Deng, in the county of Donegal, there is St. Patrick's Purgatory: in Leinster, St. Patrick's Wood; at Cashel, St. Patrick's Rock; the St. Patrick's Wells, at which the holy man is said to have quenched his thirst, may be counted by dozens. He is commonly stated to have died at Saul on the 17th of March 493, in the one hundred and twenty-first year of his age.

Poteen, a favorite beverage in Ireland,

is also said to have derived its name from St. Patrick: he, according to legend, being the first who instructed the Irish in the art of distillation. This, however, is, to say the least, doubtful: the most authentic historians representing the saint as a very strict promoter of temperance, if not exactly a teetotaler.

We read that in 445 he commanded his disciples to abstain from drink in the daytime, until the bell rang for vespers in the evening. One Colman, though busily engaged in the severe labours of the field, exhausted with heat, fatigue, and intolerable thirst, obeyed so literally the injunction of his revered preceptor, that he refrained from indulging himself with one drop of water during a long sultry harvest day.

But human endurance has its limits: when the vesper bell at last rang for evensong, Colman dropped down dead—a martyr to thirst. Irishmen can well appreciate such a martyrdom; and the name of Colman, to this day, is frequently cited, with the added epithet of Shadhack—the Thirsty.

The shamrock, or small white clover (*trifolium repens* of botanists), is almost universally worn in the hat over all Ireland, on St. Patrick's day. The popular notion is, that when St. Patrick was preaching the doctrine of the Trinity to the pagan Irish, he used this plant, bearing three leaves upon one stem, as a symbol or illustration of the great mystery.

To suppose, as some absurdly hold, that he used it as an argument, would be derogatory to the saint's high reputation for orthodoxy and good sense: but it is certainly a curious coincidence, if nothing more, that the trefoil in Arabic is called skamrakh, and was held sacred in Iran as emblematical of the Persian Triads.

Considering St. Patrick's connexion with snakes, is really remarkable, and we may reasonably imagine that, previous to his arrival, the Irish had ascribed mystical virtues to the trefoil or shamrock, and on hearing of the Trinity for the first time, they fancied some peculiar fitness in their already sacred plant to shadow forth the newly revealed and mysterious doctrine.

To read other selections for Robert Chambers' *Book of Days* visit [emmitsburg.net](http://emmitsburg.net)



**Give your home the protection it deserves.**

**Jim Hatcher, Agent**  
101 Silo Hill Road, Suite 2  
Emmitsburg, MD 21727  
Bus: 301-447-6524  
[jim.hatcher.bv6t@statefarm.com](mailto:jim.hatcher.bv6t@statefarm.com)

Your home is where you make some of your best memories, and that's worth protecting. I'm here to help. LET'S TALK TODAY.



**State Farm**

State Farm Fire and Casualty Company, State Farm General Insurance Company, Bloomington, IL  
State Farm Florida Insurance Company, Winter Haven, FL  
State Farm Lloyds, Richardson, TX

1708136

## Good Soil Farm LLC

9736 Keysville Road, Emmitsburg

**A Catholic regenerative agriculture vegetable CSA farm**


[www.GoodSoilFarmLLC.wordpress.com](http://www.GoodSoilFarmLLC.wordpress.com)

Check out our website and consider becoming a Community Supported Agriculture member for the 2020 Season!

Members receive a share of vegetables for 15 to 22 weeks throughout the spring and summer!

We strive to build up community - from the soil to the people by being attentive to the nature of Creation with our farming practices and events.

Contact us for more information:  
Stephen & Casey-Mae McGinley  
[goodsoilfarmllc@gmail.com](mailto:goodsoilfarmllc@gmail.com) 443-536-1830



## ECOLOGY

# Owls of the Catoctin

Danny Stoner  
Strawberry Hill  
Nature Preserve

As winter gracefully comes to an end, many animals wake from their deep slumber to search for food and shed their winter fur. The changing seasons signal a time of high activity for owls. They are finding their breeding territories and getting ready to produce offspring.

Did you know? We have eight owls that can be seen in Pennsylvania. These owls include the Northern Saw-whet Owl, Eastern Screech Owl, Short Eared Owl, Long Eared Owl, Barn Owl, Barred Owl, Great Horned Owl, and the Snowy Owl. All but two of these species typically breed in Pennsylvania, and those are Snowy Owls and Short Eared Owls.

The first owl to start its breeding season is the Great Horned Owl. It determines its breeding territory and makes a nest in January. The Great Horned Owl starts so early because the young take from spring to fall to fledge and leave the nest. During this time, the parents will incubate their eggs, feed their young, and teach them to fly and hunt properly.

Most of our owl species are cavity nesters or nest in old nests made

by hawks or other large birds. To raise their young, they must spend most of their time hunting. If they cannot supply enough food for the young, they will not survive, and the pair may not produce another clutch. Therefore, owls must excel at hunting. But what makes owls such great hunters?

There are many physical attributes that contribute to the success of an owl. The position of their ears is one of them. Their ears are asymmetric, meaning that they are not even with each other like ours. This allows them to triangulate where their prey is in the darkness of night. One ear is a bit higher on the head and the other is lower. With this feature, they can sense the height or distance of their prey. Then, combining that with the ability to hear what side of the body the prey is on, they can determine an exact location.

Hearing and finding the prey is only half of the hunt. Once they find their prey, they must catch it. This means they cannot allow prey to hear them and escape. They do this with specialized feathers on their wings. On the leading edge of the feathers, which is the edge facing towards the head, there is a comb-like structure that creates less turbulence when they flap, which allows it to make less

noise. Once they are close to their prey, they dive feet first with wings pointed up. They become a missile launching into their prey, without the prey knowing what hit them. Owls are great at keeping the rodent population down.

Most of your backyard owls will be Great Horned Owls and Barred Owls. These species are both edge species, meaning they can be found along tree lines. If you are in a development with surrounding woods, or live near a farm with forest around it, you are likely to have one of these owls near you. Both owls like to roost in coniferous trees during the day to hide from the bright sun or weather as they sleep.

If you are hoping to catch a glimpse of one of these common owls, try going out at night to determine the direction their calls are coming from. Then, during the day, you may notice a group of birds "mobbing" the owl. Chickadees, Blue Jays, and Crows are known to mob an owl, meaning they dive at them and call at a higher rate, in an attempt to remove the owl from their territory.

Our uncommon owls (or the ones that are hard to find) would be the Short-eared Owl, Snowy Owl, Northern Saw-whet Owl, and Long Eared Owl. The first three owls noticeably decrease and increase in a cyclic fashion for sightings in Pennsylvania. This means that their numbers increase



In May, Strawberry Hill will be hosting an Owl Prowl with the hopes of getting you close to an owl in its natural habitat. Of course, you can always come any day to visit Strawberry Hill's resident Barred Owl, Strix!

when there is an increase in prey because they can have more offspring and the offspring have a higher survival rate.

When this happens the next year or in the winter, we have an eruption. This is best known with the Snowy Owl. When the number of offspring is high because of an increase in food, or lemming, the Snowy Owl has to travel farther to find food in the winter since most of the prey was used up during the breeding season. Saw-whet Owls depend on the voles and other small rodents in the boreal forest for their increase in numbers, and the rodents depend on the cones that fall from the evergreen trees, such as spruce and pine. The more cones that fall means the more offspring for the rodent.

Rare Owls that come to Pennsylvania, such as the Snowy Owl and Short-eared Owl listed above, are here only to forage. These are amazing birds to see as they only arrive in winter. However, to see these owls we must treat them with respect, just like any other bird. Bird ethics around owls is not as forgiving as other species, especially for the Snowy Owl. When one appears in Pennsylvania, there is a lot of commotion and people going to see them. Some get a bit too excited and get too close to the bird.

We must remember that they are here in an eruption year as I mentioned above. There was not enough food up north, so they came down here in search of food. If people get too close to it one after another and chase it away from its hunting territory for the winter, the owl must search for a new territory. Searching for new territory will take time, costing it energy and fat that it needs to survive both the winter and the flight back up north. Remember to keep your distance so you do not disturb the owl.

If you are still reading and wish to learn more, I encourage you to join Strawberry Hill for a variety of upcoming bird-themed programs. Beginning in April, Strawberry Hill will be hosting a 3-part birding series called Birding 101. This series will help participants develop the skills needed to grow from a novice birder into the pro you want to be!

We will start at the basics and conclude by testing your new birding skills in the field. Develop skills ranging from understanding what weather conditions are best for birding, to identifying birds by their movement. You will also get to meet Strawberry Hill's resident barred owl, Strix! This three-part intensive series will run Saturday mornings from 9 -10:30 a.m. on April 18, April 25, and May 2. No prior experience is necessary. The series is designed for birders ages 16+.

This class is filling quickly and limited to the first twenty bird-nerds. Please visit our website, StrawberryHill.org, or contact the office at 717-642-5840 to learn more and reserve your spot.

On Saturday, May 23 at 7:30 p.m., Strawberry Hill will be hosting an Owl Prowl with the hopes of getting you close to an owl in its natural habitat. Strawberry Hill has Barred Owls on both sides of the road that will talk to each other during the day and at night. We will highlight the other noises you may be hearing during the night hike. Before the hike starts, there will be an informational section where you will learn about the owls you may hear or see, and ethics when looking for owls at night.

Danny Stoner is a seasonal education assistant for the Strawberry Hill Foundation in Fairfield.

For more information about Strawberry Hill visit [www.strawberryhill.org](http://www.strawberryhill.org).



# PEAK

## BENEFITS GROUP

PEAKBENEFITSGROUP.COM | (301) 304.3249

### PLANNING WITH PURPOSE

Help make someone else's future better while planning for a better future yourself!

### March through May



**Review**  
family  
plans for  
LTC  
funding &  
care.



**We Donate**  
to Thurmont  
Safe & Sane  
Program  
or the  
American Red  
Cross.



**G-I-V-E**  
family &  
community  
protection  
and  
prosperity  
through  
planning.

FOR FULL PROGRAM DETAILS INQUIRE WITHIN

# IN THE COUNTRY

## B is for Big Bend

Tim Iverson, Naturalist

Every national park has a story to tell. Each is unique in their own right and emblematic of what sets them apart. Tucked away deep in the heart of southwest Texas lay Big Bend National Park. Big Bend is comprised of three distinct habitats, each rich with cultural history dating back well over 10,000 years, and surprisingly, each is flush with life considering it has mostly an arid desert climate. The diversity of plants, animals, geology, and history make it one of the most unique parks in the system. However, receiving only a little over 400,000 visitors a year, it is one of the least visited parks creating additional peace and refuge for the resource and visitors alike.

Big Bend National Park rounds out the top 15 largest parks, measuring in at 801,163 acres. It seems as vast as it is remote. It quite literally sits at the end of the road. Bordering Mexico, Big Bend National Park maintains over 100 miles of the US-Mexican border and is one of only two National Parks with an international border crossing, the other being Glacier National Park in Montana. With a passport, visitors may legally cross into Mexico, spending a day in the quiet town of Boquillas. Despite the reputation of other border areas, Big Bend is incredibly safe. Miles of dry arid climate, rugged mountain terrain, vast wilderness, and lethal summer temperatures are a barrier unto themselves. This uncompromising territory and its distance to anywhere means the only danger visitors face is entirely environmental.

The park itself is a world of contrasts set side by side. Much of the park is comprised of scrubby Chihuahan desert habitat. Carving through this lies the lower riparian wetland zone of the Rio Grande River. Suddenly from these river and desert lowlands rises the towering Chisos Mountain range. Up in these towering

heights, the mountains hold onto lush green forests trapped within this high mountain climate zone from glacial advances and retreats during the last major ice age.

Within the United States there are four major and distinct types of desert - the Sonoran, Mojave, Great Basin, and Chihuahuan. The Chihuahuan Desert is mostly located within Mexico, but still covers significant land masses in the Trans-pecos Texas area and beyond. This desert looks significantly different than the other three found in the United States. Here the habitat is filled with scrubby vegetation and cactus. The mesquite trees and creosote bushes are scattered across the rocky desert floor. You'll find road runners darting and weaving through the plants, which all come with courtesy warnings bearing thorns, spines, and barbs brusquely asking not to be eaten or bothered. Javelinas, or collared peccaries, roam the desert floors in herds from just a few to hundreds. Javelinas resembling wild boars, have a few distinct differences from pigs, the most noticeable being the tusks. However, most of the mammals and wildlife in the area prefer to remain hidden.

A journey closer to the water can indicate wildlife that remain generally unseen. Tracks left in the muddy banks leave clues to the vast array of animals that come to this life sustaining resource. The Rio Grande River separates the United States and Mexico, but brings together so much more. The wetland zones along the river give way to massive limestone cliffs. Suddenly the Santa Elena canyon uplifts from the desert floor 1,500 feet into the air indicating the slow persistent power that water has had on the land. Millions of years ago this area was covered by a vast inland sea separating North America in two land masses. As the waters receded rivers began eroding the continent. Today this work still continues, but fossils from the

past can be found exposed all along this area. Aquatic plants, birds, fish, reptiles, and mammals all come together to share this precious resource. At times, tall river canes line the shoreline giving the appearance of a tropical wetland instead of an arid desert.

All across this desert landscape you can find individual peaks dotting the landscape. In the very heart of the park lies the Chisos mountain range. This range is actually a giant circle, or an extinct volcanic caldera to be more precise. Big Bend National Park is the only park to protect an entire mountain range. The tallest point in the park is found here, Emory Peak (7,825ft) towering nearly 6,000 feet above the river lowlands below. These mountains were formed during a large volcanic event causing the land to uplift and blow, leaving behind a giant bowl. During the last ice age glaciers scoured their way across the continent. Ice age plants and trees were forced up into this bowl like caldera. As the glaciers retreated, the climate below was too warm, too dry, and was no longer suitable for them. Stepping into these mountains is like stepping back in time to the last ice age as these are the plants forced here and left behind once everything had changed.

Big Bend is a paradise for a geologist due to the variety of geological formations found here. It's a wonderland for a biologist as there are over 1,200 species of plants, 11 species of amphibians, 56 species of reptiles, 40 species of fish, more than 400 species of birds, and over 3,600 species of insects. However, where Big Bend really shines is at night.

Because it's so remote Big Bend is the darkest place inside the continental United States and recognized as an international dark sky park. As a result half the park is after dark, one of it's biggest selling points. On a moonless night the sky dances with the twinkling of innumerable stars above. The Milky Way spans the sky humbly reminding the observer



With little over 400,000 visitors a year, Big Bend is one of the least visited parks, creating peace and refuge for the resources and visitors alike.

that far away worlds as incredible as the one we find ourselves are reflecting back. This magical night sky is streaked with shooting stars nightly.

They say everything is bigger in Texas, and this park is no exception. Big Bend National Park is bigger than the state of Rhode Island. Packed in this amazing place is everything national parks are made of with only about 1% of the total visitation of all its national park brethren. A land of extremes and contrasts, Big Bend National Park's website succinctly self describes the

park, "There is a place in Far West Texas where night skies are dark as coal and rivers carve temple-like canyons in ancient limestone. Here, at the end of the road, hundreds of bird species take refuge in a solitary mountain range surrounded by weather-beaten desert. Tenacious cactus bloom in sublime southwestern sun, and diversity of species is the best in the country. This magical place is Big Bend."

To read past In the Country articles, visit [Emmitsburg.net](http://Emmitsburg.net).

**Lock in a great auto rate with Erie insurance**



**Barnes Drager Insurance**  
464 E. Baltimore Street  
Taneytown  
[www.barnesdrager.com](http://www.barnesdrager.com)



**Erie Insurance® 410-751-0001**



**Casual Dining  
Weekend  
Entertainment**  
**301-447-2625**  
5 WEST MAIN STREET  
EMMITSBURG, MD

**MONDAY**  
Wings & Yeungs Night

**TUESDAY**  
1 Med. 1 Topping Pizza - \$5.00

**WEDNESDAY**  
Trivia Night - 7:30 p.m.  
Lunch Specials ~ Nightly Drink Specials  
Prime Rib Special Every Weekend

**Happy  
St. Patrick's Day!  
March 17th!**



**We Have An Extensive  
Menu To Choose From!  
Great Food...  
Great Beer...  
& lots of room for groups!**



**Mount Hope  
Maple  
Madness**

**Saturday  
Mar 7  
At Camp Eder**

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST  
TREE TO TABLE TOUR  
"SWEET DEAL"**  
**\$14 Adult / \$7 Child (under 3 free)**  
Tickets at the door  
Visit [StrawberryHill.org](http://StrawberryHill.org)



# REAL SCIENCE

## Global Warming and its environmental impact

Michael Rosenthal

Hardly a day goes by that one does not see discussion and controversy over the issue of global warming. There are those who are convinced that global warming is a menace to life on Earth as we know it, and there are others who consider it nonsense. As I've tried to make clear many times in Real Science articles, scientifically-based conclusions need to be made with facts, not on hearsay or what someone wishes was reality.

The past decade was the hottest ever recorded on Earth. The temperatures of the last five years have defined this fact. These findings were presented jointly by NASA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The hottest year was 2016, followed by 2019, and the past five years were the hottest since record-keeping began. Nineteen of the hottest 20 years have occurred during the last two decades. To me, this is definitive. Global warming is a real thing.

The human activity that leads us to these numbers is the emission of tens of billions of tons of carbon dioxide, CO<sub>2</sub>, into the atmosphere. Go back to your high-school chemistry: when carbon-containing fuels are burned, the products of the process, known as combustion, are carbon dioxide and water vapor. Global

warming has sped up over the last 40 years as the burning of more fossil fuels has occurred. The annual global average surface temperature is now increasing at a rate of about 0.32 degrees Fahrenheit per decade. This fact is supported by independent organizations from around the world. Some 36 countries recorded their hottest year since record-keeping began. There are many effects of this phenomenon, some particularly dangerous to life. Wildfires have resulted from Australia to California. Permafrost has melted from Alaska to Siberia, and intense storms and flooding have resulted worldwide. The effect on marine ecosystems has been intense, endangering wildlife. Melting of Arctic sea ice is occurring. Melting of glaciers in Alaska and the Greenland Ice Sheet has been noted.

Alaska had its hottest day on record in 2019, as the temperature at the airport in Anchorage hit 90 degrees F. in the summer for the highest ever noted. Hurricanes are believed to be linked to global warming as well. The impact of these and other related phenomena threatens food and water supplies, and increases the threats of droughts and floods.

There has been little movement toward action by world leaders to counter this activity. The Paris Climate Accord was designed to reverse this trend, but little action has been taken

by the countries of the world. Approximately 100 countries have made commitments to design and implement plans by the end of this year, but they represent only about 15 percent of global emissions. The United States government has announced plans to withdraw from the international climate accord later this year.

In other science news ... Vitamin D is an important item to maintain good health. Vitamin D deficiency is more likely in winter, because Vitamin D is made in our skin following sunlight exposure. Vitamin D is thus called the sunshine vitamin. It is also found in oily fish, such as mackerel, tuna, and sardines, and in mushrooms. It may be taken as a supplement. Thus vitamin D deficiency is more common in winter when there is less sun. We have written before about supplements, and described some of them as useless, but in this case, Vitamin D supplements are a good idea, especially in winter. My physician recommends for me 2000 IU daily of Vitamin D3. Too much Vitamin D3 can result in undesirable side effects, so it is good to take advice on the quantity from a physician.

Progress is being made in developing and utilizing renewable energy. Renewables generated more electricity than coal in April 2019, when wind, solar, hydropower, geothermal, and biomass combined for



23% of electricity generation, compared to 20% for coal. An important contributor to this trend is the significant falling cost of renewables, particularly wind and solar over the last decade - 70% for wind and 90% for solar. Coal plants are closing due to regulatory and economic factors. Coal still generates more electricity, however, than renewables on an annual basis: 28% for coal and 17% for renewables. Natural gas is 35%.

Amazon is building an East Coast headquarters in the Arlington neighborhood of Crystal City, and the Arlington County Board and Amazon have pledged to cooperate on a variety of issues. One of the most important of these issues is that Amazon and Arlington County have agreed to buy all the electricity generated from a new Dominion Energy solar power farm. The farm will be on a 1500-acre site named as the Amazon Arlington Solar Farm Virginia, and will be capable of generating 250 million kilowatt-hours annually. Amazon plans to purchase about 68 percent of the energy generated, and Arlington will buy the remaining 32 percent, which will represent over 80 percent of the electricity used by the Arlington County government. Their mutual goal is cooperation on a variety of issues, including support and protection of the environment.

Amazon already has agreements in place with Dominion Energy to buy solar energy on Virginia's Eastern Shore in Accomack and in nine

other locations in Virginia. It has 84 renewable energy projects that are projected to deliver more than 5.5 million megawatt hours of renewable energy annually globally. Amazon is shooting to become net-zero in carbon emissions by 2040!

The county's goal is to use 100% renewable energy for government functions by 2025, and to have county residents and businesses achieve that goal by 2035. The county is also looking toward what is known as carbon neutrality, where the county would not release more carbon into the atmosphere than it replaces with carbon-consuming products, such as trees. This is the kind of activity we need from our business and industrial partners, to move us to minimizing negative impact on the environment!

Virginia is taking an impressive lead in environmentally-friendly activity. Through a recent deal state agencies will receive 30 percent of their electricity from renewable sources by 2022. Fairfax County is also making some environmentally sound decisions. They are planning to buy energy from contractors that would install solar panels on more than 100 county buildings. As I've said before, I believe the building of any new house should routinely include solar panels.

To read past articles by Michael Rosenthal visit the Authors Section of [Emmitsburg.net](http://Emmitsburg.net).



## Complete Auto Diagnostic

**Highly Experienced ASE Certified Mechanic • Full Service Repairs**  
**Oil Changes • Fluid Flushes • Mount, Balance & Rotate Tires**  
**Alignments • Brakes & More!**

**FREE VEHICLE DIAGNOSTIC**

With the purchase of any service!

**\$59.99**

**TIRE ALIGNMENT**

Valid until 03/31/20. Must have ad at time of purchase to take advantage of this great deal!

**20% OFF Complete Brake Job**

Includes: Pads & Rotors  
MUST PRESENT COUPON  
EXPIRES 3/31/20

**We Service DEISEL TRUCKS**

**We Carry A Full Line Of WINTER TIRES**

Come in for a **WINTER INSPECTION**

Make sure everything is in tip top shape!

**WE WILL CHECK ALL FLUIDS, BRAKES, TIRES, BELTS, FILTERS & MORE!**

**\$39.95** MUST PRESENT COUPON

**EXPIRES 3/31/20**

Open Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.

**7702 Roddy Creek Rd., Thurmont**  
 (Across from Gateway Market off Rt. 15)

**240-288-8320**

[completeautodiagnostic.com](http://completeautodiagnostic.com) **WALK-INS WELCOME!**



## Mick's Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning

*Installation, Service & Repair*

Oil & Gas Furnaces ~ Heat Pumps ~ Well Pumps  
 Water Heaters ~ Drains ~ Leaky Faucets ~ Bathroom Remodels

**No Job Too Small - 24 Hour Service**

**Winter Inspection for Heat Pumps**

**\$89.95**

**Duct & Dryer Vent Cleaning**

1 Year Interest Free Financing Available  
We Offer HVAC Service Agreements  
Call For Details!

**27 Howard Street, Thurmont**  
**301-271-2488**



## THE VILLAGE IDIOT

## March, the gods are howling

Jack Deatherage

I can't say hearing the gods howl with laughter as I wrote about finally having a fixed date with a tattooer was unexpected. Given my gods' odd sense of humor (not unlike my own) I knew as I composed the plan for public consumption circumstances would change almost instantly. And poof! The laughter began.

Two Octobers ago I had a small patch of some rash break out above an ankle where one of the dogs had licked me. (Yes, the DW had told me not to let the dog do that. And yes, I ignored her. So doom on me.) At first I thought I'd gotten ringworm and treated it as such with over-the-counter (OTC) meds. Eventually, I used the Internet to learn it was eczema and treated it with some generic lotion, though warming weather probably had more to do with the rash going away than anything I did.

Come last October, the eczema reappeared in the same place, but also cropped up on the backs of both hands, the back of my neck and partly across the tops of both shoulders. By the time I was entering panic mode I'd already done a number of things to make matters worse! The biggest mistake was clawing at the tiny blisters in vain attempts to relieve the insane itching!

Driven to search Google for some clue as to what was happening to me (my doctor's office was closed, not that I'd have gone there anyhow for something non-life threatening) I learned that dog slobber (the article used the word "saliva") is a trigger for the allergic reaction that can afflict those who dealt with hay fever and asthma in their childhoods. That would be me.

I also learned that the medical profession is fairly useless when it comes to treating the various types of eczema. Yes there are at least five types, each having different appearances and blah blah blah. One website explained how the body reacts to an allergen- dog slobber -and produces some irritant I've long since forgotten the name of. Scratching releases the irritant back into the skin causing the body to react with more blisters and itching. Basically, eczema becomes self-perpetuating!

Gods! The irritants I had released with the mad clawing of my hide! And the dogs were still getting in an occasional lick. Then I found that my favorite shower soap had

also become a trigger- causing the red and swollen skin to feel as if hot pins were being pricked into it. And chocolate! Well, I can live without chocolate.

As I dove deeper into eczema support groups and medical websites I realized there was little the medical profession was going to do to help me so I went OTC and home remedies, which is my usual path when something ails me anyhow. My only real concern was the chance of infection, which cropped up almost immediately after reading about the possibility. (The laughing gods never seem to grow weary.)

To avoid scratching the blisters, one severely afflicted sufferer had found running the hottest water he could stand over his skin helped. I took to doing that and nearly collapsed from the painful relief of the godawful itch as hands and legs trembled until I switched off to cold water. Swollen and bright red, the skin would get a slathering of whatever ointment or lotion I was experimenting with that week. Then on went the white cotton gloves and over them nitrile gloves Tattoo Don- pillar of the community had given me so I could cook, build bread and wash dishes without worrying about the infected blisters.

Having identified several triggers, I avoided them where possible and where I couldn't I got ahead of the reaction to the point that by December the worst of the original outbreak was under control and even retreating. By Xmas I was just keeping the skin from drying out with regular skincare lotions. Come mid-January I hadn't had a new blister in weeks and rarely felt the need to scratch, though the original rash on my leg was turning a new phase that had me considering a steroid ointment.

Two things had kept that ointment out of my sight throughout the adventure to that point. (Yes, I consider all this an adventure. Hell, I'm 65 years old and generally napping to stave off boredom. Ain't nothing boring about a fresh outbreak of eczema!) So, first, the ointment is prescription. I don't do prescriptions short of saving my life and not often then. Second, the advice I was following- that was actually working for me- highly recommended not using steroids because over time they stop working and the rashes come back with a vengeance, and they will come back! They are then so much harder to deal with without the steroid!

Wimp that I am, I'd rather deal with the devil I know than chance dealing with a bigger demon!

Then Journeyman Tattooer Rae presents me with the design she wants to work into my aging hide. Cool. I'm down with the image, and finally able to discharge my promise to let her practice on me. And then I get to playing with the Rott and eczema breaks out close to where Rae wants to place the tattoo. Of course the skin had been clear there through all the adventure.

I informed Don of the new outbreak and that I'd go to the steroid ointment to see if that works as well as I've heard it could. And it does! Scary how quickly the rash subsided and the itching went away. (Now I'm worrying about the blow-back, but at least I can sit for Rae's pricking!) But Don says I'm not getting tattooed until warmer weather and the rashes are gone.

With a sigh, I go back to the Google and do some more researching. What I find does not please me. The pricking of tattoo pins can trigger an outbreak, though it's unlikely if the rash isn't active. However, the inks are another story. They might be triggers for my particular eczema, or they might not. If I were tattooed when scheduled, I'd not worry about being triggered as I've been down that road so many times this



In spite of Jack's pleas, Emmitsburg Tattoo refused Jack's request to tattoo him as a crazy clown - fearing it would cause irreparable harm to children in the town from nightmares.

winter I barely think about it now. A new outbreak is just a "meh" and life goes on. But to get clean skin and be months away from the insane desire to scratch?

'Twas an honest offer of practice hide, but Rae is way beyond needing me to practice on. Once I've gotten clean skin, I don't know that I'll deliberately put myself at risk again. Unless Rae can convince me my sitting for her would be of actual benefit to her, I'll have to figure out some other way of supporting her along the path to

whatever arete in tattooing she might be seeking.

In the meantime, I've the Emmitsburg Youth Garden to organize and an Emmitsburg Community Garden project to prepare for. Oh, and a March bread lecture at the library to work out before the presentation date - March 28th, from 10:30 a.m. to noonish. The warm season approaches! As usual, I'm far behind.

To read past articles by Jack Deatherage visit, the Authors section of [Emmitsburg.net](http://Emmitsburg.net).

**GETTYSBURG TRADING POST.COM**

**717-334-3979**

Firearms ~ Ammo ~ Jewelry ~ Tools  
Electronics & More!

[www.gettysburgtradingpost.com](http://www.gettysburgtradingpost.com)

Monday - Friday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. ~ Saturday 12 - 6 p.m.

**2222 York Rd. Gettysburg**

**EMMITSBURG Tattoo COMPANY**

2 West Main Street  
Hours: Tues. - Fri. 12-9 p.m., Sat. 12-8 p.m.

**301-447-6837**

[EmmitsburgTattooCompany@gmail.com](mailto:EmmitsburgTattooCompany@gmail.com) Walk-Ins Welcome!

# THE MASTER GARDENER

## Rain gardens and meadows

Mary Ann Ryan,  
Adams County Master  
Gardener Coordinator

If you are concerned about water quality and the decline in beneficial insects and birds, there are things you can do in your own yard that can positively impact this issue.

A rain garden is nothing more than a depression in your yard planted with native plants that collects water run-off from your roof, driveway or other hard surfaces. It acts as an infiltration system that keeps our rainwater out of the storm water system and on our properties, re-charging the ground water. Rain gardens reduce the amount of storm water that ends up in our streams and lakes and helps to improve water quality by filtering through plants and the soil. Developing a rain garden gives us the opportunity to keep our water clean and percolate through the soils.

What's wrong with stormwater? Stormwater is simply water that starts as rain that runs off roofs and other hard surfaces like sidewalks and streets, picking up nutrients from the fertilizers we pump into our lawns, pet waste from our yards, salts from the roads, oil from our cars, and other pollutants. These pollutants, carried

by this once clean rainwater, end up in our creeks and rivers, polluting our waterways, reducing the water life and health of our streams.

Developing a rain garden is an easy enough task. Choose the location carefully so you get the most benefit of a rain garden. Look for a low depression or low-lying area that already exists in your yard. Be sure the rain garden is located at least 10 feet and down slope from your home or building, so basement leakage doesn't become a problem. If you don't have a low spot, you can create one by digging a depression in your yard where water would naturally collect or run the downspouts directly into the rain garden area.

Mix some compost into the existing soil. Remember the purpose is to filter water, so you want your soil to be good for plants so filtering can occur. A heavy clay soil will hold too much water, not allowing it to percolate into the soil, so be sure to research the soil type you have and add necessary amendments.

When creating the depression, it is recommended to have about a six inch drop from grade. The depression should be flat on the bottom, thus allowing the water to be evenly distributed in the depressed area.

The sides should have a slight slope. Remember, you are preparing the soil for plants. Having loose, workable soil will not only benefit the plants, but will also allow for water to drain.

Choosing plants for your rain garden is lots of fun. A rain garden has three zones: wet, dry, and in-between. Know how quickly your garden is going to drain so you can appropriately plan on the types of plants to select. Typically, these gardens consist of native plants, although non-native, non-invasive plants could be used as well.

The advantage of using native plants is that they are accustomed to growing in a given area, making them easy to adapt and thrive. Be sure you choose the right plant for the right place. On the bottom of your depression, you should consider plants that can survive wet feet, as well as adapt to dryer conditions as water drains in the garden, such as lobelia or ironweed. Also, if the rain garden is located in sun or shade, choose plants accordingly.

The sloped sides of the garden are your transition zone, thus a plant that can take conditions that may be wet for a short period of time is in order. Such plants may be clethra, chokeberry, or a perennial such as wood's aster.

The upper most part of the garden is the location that you will need to plan for plants that like it on the dry side. Such choices may be switch grass, coneflowers, or rudbeckia. Also remember when designing to consider the height of your plants and where the garden will be viewed from, so the taller plants are to the rear and shorter to the foreground, or that the height of any of the plants does not conflict with visibility of parking or traffic.

Treat the rain garden as any other garden. Weeding and mulching will be a necessity when getting the garden established. Expect to have lots of critters: from birds, butterflies and insects to chipmunks and rabbits, visiting your rain garden. Enjoy the garden and what life it brings while knowing that you are doing your part in keeping our ground water recharged and our streams clean!

We also know that water moves more quickly across turf than it does on established plantings, like perennials and native grasses.



Grassy meadows are wonderful winter protection and a food source for beneficial insects and winter birds.

So why not consider an alternative to lawn? Not only will it help with water run-off and provide better filtration for rain water, it will provide food and shelter for birds, beneficial insects and other wildlife. Due to the continual suburban development, more of our native vegetation and wildlife habitat is being lost. By replacing some of your lawn areas with native vegetation, you can provide food and cover for a variety of wildlife. This will provide much-needed habitat to our declining native meadows.

What, where and when should you plant your wildlife meadow? The best time is in the fall or early spring. The best location for a meadow is in the full sun. Most of the meadow mixes have perennial seeds and annual seeds that prefer lots of sun.

Be sure to remove all weeds and grasses before planting anything. Remove existing lawn with a sod cutter, a shovel, an herbicide, or by cov-

ering it with black plastic. Keep in mind if you are using plastic to kill grasses and weeds, it will take up to 3 months for the plants to die. Whatever your tool, be sure to be rid of all grasses and weeds. The meadow plants will be most successful with a smooth, weed-free soil.

The easiest and least expensive way to achieve a meadow is to start with seeds. You can use a broadcast spreader to evenly disperse the seeds across the weed-free soil. Lightly rake the seed so you have some soil cover. You could use a light layer of mulch to help keep the soil moist. Just as if you were starting a lawn, you will need to water during the first six weeks.

If you have a large area that you wish to turn into meadow, you could simply stop mowing and let nature take its course. Many wildflowers will naturally begin to take over your designated meadow all on their own. The disadvantage to this is that you have little control over which species

# PONDSCAPES

## Hiring Immediately Pond Technician/Laborer

**Will Train. Pay depends on experience. Medical and dental benefits. Must be trustworthy and strong with good listing skills. Must have clean driving record and customer service skills.**

**Contact Stacie Zelenka at  
240-446-2846  
or email  
pspondscapes@msn.com  
www.PondscapesMaryland.com**

MHIC #88198

# HOBBS HARDWARE

Over 70 years in business!

**Glidden  
SPRED  
Paint**

**WOLVERINE**  
We Carry A  
Full Line Of  
Wolverine  
Footwear

**MULCH**  
2 Cu. Ft. Shredded  
Hardwood  
Mulch  
**\$2.99**

## SPRING garden time

**Sand  
Potting Soils  
Bagged Stone**

15 East Main Street, Thurmont      Open 7 Days A Week  
Located Across From PNC Bank      **301-271-2233**

## Cub Cadet

WELCOME BACK  
**SPRING SALE**  
SAVE UP TO \$200 ON XT ENDURO SERIES\*\*  
HURRY IN - Offer Valid March 15 - 22

**XT2<sup>™</sup> LX42** SAVE \$100!

Tackle challenging terrain and unlock your lawn's potential with a 42-inch stamped twin-blade cutting deck, and a 679cc Cub Cadet V-Twin OHV engine. Includes Premium Performance Package features.

**SALE PRICE**  
**\$1,999\***  
REFLECTS \$100 OFF!

**XT1<sup>™</sup> LT42 IntelliPower<sup>™</sup>** SAVE \$100!

Experience a new kind of mowing with a 42-inch twin-blade deck and a 547cc Cub Cadet engine featuring IntelliPower<sup>™</sup> technology that adds up to 20% more available power,\* resulting in less bogging down, higher blade tip speed and a consistent cut in heavy, wet grass.

**SALE PRICE**  
**\$1,599\***  
REFLECTS \$100 OFF!

**XT3<sup>™</sup> GS** SAVE \$200!

Get it done with a beltless direct shaft drive and 22.5 hp\*\* Kohler Command<sup>™</sup> V-twin OHV engine. 42-, 50- and 54-inch stamped cutting decks available, sold separately.

**SALE PRICE**  
**\$4,299\***  
REFLECTS \$200 OFF!

YOUR INDEPENDENT DEALER - EXPERT SERVICE. LOCALLY OWNED.  
The advice, service, selection and support you need to find the right fit for you.

## HARRINGTON & SONS

427 E. Main St., Emmitsburg  
**301-447-6666**  
harringtonandsons.com

\* Save Up To \$200 On XT Enduro Series Sale is: \$100 off regular retail price of select XT1 (LT 42 e excluded) and all XT2, plus \$200 off regular retail price of all XT3. Offer valid 3/15/20 - 3/22/20 at participating dealers. Offer not valid on other models. Cannot be combined with any other offer.  
\*\* As rated by Kohler, all power levels are stated in gross horsepower at 3600 RPM per SAE J1940 as rated by engine manufacturer.  
\*When compared to the same engine without IntelliPower, improvement vary depending on engine models and specific operating conditions. © 2020 Cub Cadet 0320PR\_2X7

**EXCEPTIONAL FINANCING OFFERS AVAILABLE!**

# THE MASTER GARDENER

will live in your meadow. To manage the plants that you may not want in your meadow, you can pull out the unwanted species and remove the seed heads before the seeds disperse. With patience and good management, you will have a meadow for all to envy!

Keep in mind that as your new meadow develops and gets established, weeds will invade. The first year of a newly planted meadow will require more frequent mowing. The first mowing should be before the weeds reach a height of 8 inches. Cut to about 4 inches. This will help to control the weed seed heads from developing and then dispersing. At the end of the growing season, allow the plants to reach a height of 6 to 8 inches to allow for overwintering protection for the new plants.

Once your meadow is established, yearly mowing will be needed. Often it is done in the fall to "tidy up" after the plants have gone to seed. Mowing can also be done in the spring, depending on your preference. Mowing in the fall may take away a valuable food source for overwintering birds and a protected home for beneficial insects, so make your choice carefully.

Before developing a meadow, check your local ordinances. Some communities may have a weed ordinance, which could lead to controversy over natural landscaping. You can apply for a variance. Start with a smaller planting and then expand,

making people aware and appreciative of what you are doing for the environment and wildlife.

When selecting a meadow or wildflower mix, be sure to read what plant species are in the mix. Often you will receive an annual mix, which will give you great color the first year, but will need to be replanted every year. Try to locate a mix that has mostly perennial seeds. Although perennial grasses and flowers take a longer period of time to get established, often times 2 to 3 years, your meadow will reward you in the long run.

Some plants you want to avoid in any mix: Bull thistle, Canada thistle, Crown vetch, Dame's rocket, Nodding thistle, and Purple loosestrife. In Pennsylvania, planting any of the thistles is not permitted. It's unlikely that these will be in any seed mixes but read the labels just to be sure. Know what you are purchasing. Some plants that you would want to include in your meadow are: Black-eyed Susan, liatris, butterfly weed, evening primrose, milkweed, helenium, goldenrod, coneflower, asters, ironweed, and obedient plant. Consider some of the native grasses like Indian grass, little bluestem and big bluestem.

Even if you begin with a small area, you will find enjoyment and satisfaction in knowing how much you are making a difference for our wildlife, water quality and environment.

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

## Small Town Gardener

Growing a beautiful vegetable garden, not just an edible one

Marianne Willburn

Beautiful vegetables? What is she talking about? Aren't all vegetables beautiful?

For those who live and breathe a garden life and not just a garden life-style, the answer is of course yes. Even flopping potato vines are attractive when you know that there are forty pounds of soon-to-be buttered lusciousness a few inches under that browning foliage; and there never was a happier gardener than I last summer when I harvested my solitary Tadafi eggplant off of flea beetle-bitten plants.

Vegetables are beautiful, period. Still, it has to be said that some have an advantage in the looks department. If you're wishing to create a bit of ornamental in the midst of your edible this year, why not look out for varieties that not only taste good, but make your vegetable beds look like works of art?

Some of these choices come with names you should look out for – particularly if you're buying seed – but others will delight you without the benefit of a christening. So I've given you a few general categories with specific varieties I grow picked out in bold.

**Basil** - If you're getting bored with your basil, why not try something a little different? Purple Ruffles basil gives you all the flavor, but adds a note of dark foliage to the garden and is an AAS Winner. Pesto Perpetuo is a bit fiddly to harvest, but wow, what a stunner in variegated leaves of white and green – with no flowers to trim! And finally, a bit of Siam Queen in your garden will elevate your curries and add dark stems, purple flowers and vigor to your herb bed. An AAS Winner and one of my very favorites.

**Cabbage** - Cabbage grown well is a vegetable with such presence that any variety is impres-

sive. But if you want to bump things up a notch, grab a couple six packs of red cabbage this year from your local nursery or garden center. Selection is usually poor, but I have found over the years that a six-pack of Bonnie's anonymous red goes above and beyond during the season. If you're growing from seed for the fall, try Mammoth Red Rock or Koda from Baker Creek Seeds.

**Cardoon** - Again, if you're not growing from seed, you don't have a lot of choices in the nurseries, but thankfully, you don't really need them to grow an outstanding ornamental edible like cardoon. Cardoons are one of the top foliage plants in my garden. The silvery soft but jagged grey leaves will take up a fair bit of space, and overwinter in a mild year. Particularly favored in Europe, cardoon stems are a treat when lightly braised with butter and dill. This is not a seed you'll easily find in the stores, but it is worth a quick trip online to Baker Creek Seeds. I grow Gobbo Di Nizzia.

**Chard** - For many, Bright Lights is the gold standard in gorgeous. The multi-hued stems of Bright Lights give it the versatility to wow at the front of a bed or in an ornamental container with other vegetables or flowers, and those stems keep their color all the way to the plate. Others to try: Peppermint Stick and Neon Glow.

**Okra** - Okra is an inherently beautiful vegetable with tall stalks topped by hibiscus-like flowers throughout summer, but Candle Fire Okra is just outstanding. Dusky yellow-red flowers, red stems and pods...seriously, other okras pale in comparison. An AAS Winner.

**Peppers** - Those wonderful sweet mini-peppers in stores are not just beautiful in a basket or bag, but gorgeous decorating a summer-time pepper plant like it was an Arizona Christmas tree. I really like Renee's Baby Belle salad peppers in a mix of yellow and red, but last year also loved Burpee's Tangerine Dream and Lemon Dream in the form of a Take 2 Director's Cut Combo plant.

**Pole Beans** - When it comes to beans, "beautiful" makes sense. Picking is the work of a moment when you're grabbing yellow and purple string beans out of green vines. Try Purple Pod and Roc D'Or from Renee's Seeds and your bean-picking kids will thank you. Sadly, these beans lose most of their color in cooking, but luckily, none of their flavor.

**Pumpkins** - If you are one of those odd people who actually grow pumpkins to eat and can, we've got something in common. But I still love me a bit of autumn décor and I'm sure you do too. Why not grow unusual, beautiful pumpkins that aren't so warty and tough it doesn't seem worth it to roast them? Orange and green speckled Pepitas and ghostly Super Moon will elevate your pie pumpkin patch, and Pepitas produces hull-less seeds – a win/win! They're both – you guessed it - AAS Winners.

**Runner Beans** - An easy way to pump bright, vining color into your garden, and get flat, Italian style beans in the process. Scarlet Runner Beans are a favorite of English gardeners for good reason – they're prolific and will decorate anything from a pergola to an ugly garden shed. Don't let them sit on the vine too long however, they get tough quickly. Most varieties are excellent and easy – I grow Magic Beanstalk from Renee's.

**Tomatoes** - For a clever little patio tomato that has the strength of a strong ornamental plant and a good-sized fruit, I'd choose Renee's Super Bush, but if you want beauty in your indeterminate varieties, I'd suggest Midnight Snack and Chef's Choice Orange in the garden and on the plate. Both of these are vigorous – both of them are again, AAS Winners. Sensing a pattern?

Here's to a beautiful, extremely edible, garden this year!

**PATRICK ARENTZ GENERAL SERVICES**  
 Landscaping, Light Excavation & Backhoe Services,  
 Topsoil, Mulch, Firewood Sales, Tree Removal,  
 Storm Clean-Up, Lot Clearing & Demo,  
 Mowing: Lawns & Fields  
 Trimming: Trees & Shrubs  
 Hauling: Junk & Debris  
 www.arentzs.com  
**717-642-6802**  
 License # PA002802

**EDEN'S CHOICE**  
**LAWN CARE PROGRAM**  
 Is a customized blend of organic & traditional products applied in spring through fall.

- Better for the environment
- Reduces fertilizers and pesticides by over 50%
- Provides you with a lush, green, weed free lawn

Contact us for a free estimate!  
**301-241-3719**  
 Emmitsburg  
 eillserves@gmail.com  
 Licensed • Certified • Insured  
 Over 25 Years Experience

**BAKER**  
**TREE SERVICES, INC.**  
**1-800-383-4595**  
 147 Water Street, Thurmont  
 Licensed & Insured  
 MD Tree Expert Lic# 904 • CTSP Cert# 1437 • ISA Cert. Arborist# MA-4258A  
 www.bakertreeservices.com  
 treecare@bakertreeservices.com

**Thurmont GREEN FEST**

**Saturday, April 4th**  
**10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**  
**Thurmont Regional Library**  
**76 East Moser Road, Thurmont**

Green Vendors ~ Crafts For Kids ~ Food ~ Music  
 FREE Electronics Disposal ~ FREE Admission

- Visit the Cunningham Falls State Park Scales & Tales Animals
- Info on Frederick Co.'s Green Home Challenge & Retrofit Program devoted to Thurmont
- Info on Solar, Geothermal, LED Lighting & Home Audits for saving Money & Energy
- Learn about EV Cars from Criswell Chevrolet of Thurmont
- FREE Seedlings to the first 150 people!
- Play a Family Feud Recycling Game!
- Food sold by the Thurmont Lions Club!
- Music by the Gateway Brass Ensemble & Christine Maccabee!

10 a.m. - Earth Day. Recycle It! Storytime	12 p.m. - Water Painting (Grades 1 - 5)
Thurmont Green Fest Go Green Workshops	1 p.m. - Rain Barrell Workshop
11 a.m. - Wonders of Water Storytime	1:30 p.m. - Earth Day. Recycle It! Storytime
11:30 a.m. - Earth Day. Recycle It! Family Feud	

## PETS

# The mongrel

Jennifer Vanderau  
Cumberland Valley  
Animal Shelter

When he's placed into the kennel and the cage door shuts behind him, he barely blinks. He's got a blanket, he's warm, food shows up shortly thereafter, so he can't really complain.

Heck, compared to what he's used to, this is the equivalent of some place humans call the Hilton. From what he's heard, it's a very nice hotel or something. All things considered, this shelter he ended up in isn't all that bad.

He gobbles down the food — first he's had in a few days. If he hadn't been picked up in the dog warden's truck while he was running around on the streets, he really wasn't sure where he was going to get dinner and it would have been the third night this week he went without. So in an odd sort of way, things kind of worked out.

The food's really pretty good and the blanket's all soft and warm and for the first time in just about as long as he can remember, he's not shivering and he's actually full. He falls asleep quickly, not feeling much of anything except an odd sort of satisfaction. He'd almost forgotten what that was like.

When the staff comes in the next day, he's not surprised by their shocked expressions. Some even gasp out loud when they see him.

He's never pretended he's something he's not. He knows the score. He lost his back right leg — he forgets exactly how long ago — years maybe — in an accident with a car. He managed to drag himself far enough off the road that the person at the wheel didn't try to find him. It looks worse than it actually is. He's joked with random dogs on the street that he doubts he'd know how to walk on four legs now, anyway, so it's not that big of a deal.

His ear was ripped off in a fight with a particularly aggressive, unbelievably territorial dog at least three times his size. He has no idea how he got away alive from that one. Took a while to heal and it hurt like nothing he'd ever felt before. With the scars all

along that side of his face, it's remarkable the dog didn't take his eye, too. Luck was on his side that day.

Yeah, luck. He's got that in spades.

He's a mongrel, and a disfigured one at that. He's not purebred. He doesn't have an ancestry — well, at least not one anyone would write down on paper and keep as any kind of prize. He's been shuffled from person to person for so long he stopped counting a long time ago. He's relied on himself and those few people who either didn't look at him with horror or couldn't see very well.

People like pretty. He knows that. Humans are all about the flash and the glitz and the glamour. To hear it told from some of the other dogs he's run into, some people pay a lot of money to keep age and bad looks away. And they value money as much as they value beauty. No way humans are going to take a second look at a mongrel like him in a shelter.

The staff make sure he's taken care of — and they're nice, he has to admit. It's almost like they can see beyond the mess of his body to what's beneath. Once, a long time ago, he was just a puppy, with puppy hopes, dreams and beliefs. But like that song he'd heard somewhere from one of those CD things humans listen to: "life has killed the dream I dreamed."

Shelter staff put him through temperament tests (and he wonders how in the world any dog actually fails these things), give him shots and for some ridiculous reason, they put him into their adoption kennels. He scoffs. Who are they kidding? People he's met have been kicking him for years. Now, suddenly someone's going to actually choose him? Out of all the other young, healthy dogs that surround him? Sure. He'll hold his breath.

The longer he stays and the more looks of revulsion he gets from the people who come through the kennels, the more he secretly thinks "told you so."

The volunteers are sweet and they walk him and the time he spends outdoors without having to worry about a car or another animal or getting poisoned are really pretty nice.

He actually starts to think of the animal shelter as the best home he's ever had.

Then there's the day when he's in his kennel, just chillin' after a walk, and someone stops in front of him. He doesn't even look up. He knows the expression that he'll find. When the man kneels down, and looks into his eyes with kindness and compassion, he feels a weird jolt. A kinship. Almost an understanding.

When the man smiles, and murmurs, "hey fella," the jolt turns into a warmth that spreads to the tips of his paws. He cannot believe the guy gets a leash and takes him into a room where they spend some time together. The man pulls him into his lap and with a tentative touch, pets his head — his misshapen, deformed face. And the look that shines through the man's hazel eyes makes that old puppy hope flare for the first time in years.

When the man puts him back in his kennel with assurances that the rest of the family will love him and that he promises to be back to take him home, for the first time in his life, he thinks, "don't go."

That night, he wonders if it's worth dreaming. He wonders if a home can be more than what he's experienced. He wonders if that man — the one with the soft touch and warm eyes — will keep his word, when so many others before him haven't.

As he closes his eyes and drifts to sleep, for the first time in so very long, he wants to believe.

He wakes up the next morning to one of the staff members stroking his head as she filled his food bowl, and whispering into his ear: "You got adopted. You're going to your forever home today!"

And with those words he realizes that dreams do come true.

*Jennifer Vanderau is the Director of Communications for the Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter in Chambersburg, Pa., and can be reached at [cvascomm@cvas-pets.org](mailto:cvascomm@cvas-pets.org). The shelter accepts both monetary and pet supply donations. For more information, call the shelter at 717-263-5791 or visit the website [www.cvas-pets.org](http://www.cvas-pets.org). CVAS also operates a thrift store in Chambersburg. Help support the animals at the shelter by donating to or shopping at the store.*



Punk was surrendered to the shelter because he was being bullied by the other cats in the home - to the point where his owners worried about his safety. He's about a year old and a super sweet boy. Could you give him a home and lots of love?



Look at Kobe's little smushable face! He came into the shelter as a stray and we think he's about 2 years old and a terrier mix. Kobe still has a lot of puppy behavior, but he does know sit. He will need someone that can provide him regular exercise and play time. He has a bit of a short attention span, so patience in training will be required for this guy. Kobe may be too much for small children so an age restriction for kids may apply - please discuss this with shelter staff. Kobe would love to meet you and see if you are the one for him!

For more information about Punk and Kobe call the Cumberland Valley Shelter at 717-263-5791 or visit them online at [www.cvas-pets.org](http://www.cvas-pets.org) or better yet, visit them in person at the shelter.

**BUDDY'S PLACE**  
Dog Grooming For Every Buddy!

**NEW NAME  
SAME  
GROOMER!**

**Call Today!**

Tuesday - Saturday  
By Appointment  
Only!



Stephani Rickerd  
& Aslan

52 E. Baltimore St., Taneytown  
**410-756-1200**

 Check us out on Facebook @BuddysPlaceDog Grooming

## Reifsnider's Farm Supply & Hardware Store

We now carry everything from tools to paint! All your everyday needs!

- Tools • Household Goods • Fencing & Gates
- Plumbing & Electrical Supplies • Paint & Painting Supplies



Kalmbach Feeds For  
Dogs, Cats, Sheep, Goats,  
Chickens and Cattle.



Animal Bedding  
Saw Dust & Shavings  
Animals Health Supplies

Spring is on the way!  
Plan your garden now!  
Seed Packets available!

**\$1 Off** **TRIBUTE**<sup>®</sup>  
EQUINE NUTRITION  
Per Bag of Tribute Horse Feed  
(Good from March 14 - 21)



**2080 Francis Scott Key Highway, Keymar • 410-756-6066**  
M - F 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. • Sat. 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

# Gracie

Michael Hillman

On New Year's Eve, we lost Gracie after a year-long battle with cancer. One moment she was what could best be described as a fat tick, the next, she was literally skin and bones. Such is the devastating effects that cancer brings.

In the diary that my wife, Audrey, keeps on all the important events in our lives, she has the following entry for Gracie's arrival:

"September 20, 2011 (Dad's Birthday) - 'Grace' appeared in our tack room this morning - a very sweet black female, young, cat. I would guess a spring kitten. Very hungry, very sweet, very chatty and craving a human's touch and kindness. I have no doubt she will grace our lives for years to come."

Gracie, as the note above implies, got her name because my wife felt she was a gift from her deceased father as she arrived on the anniversary of his passing and would would 'grace' us for a long time.

As the position for 'barn cat' was currently vacant, she was welcomed into the fold. Some may think the job as a barn cat is not that great - but in our household, the barn cat 'gig' is about as good as it gets. You get a heated tack room, with a heated bed and all the food you want. The only downside is you get locked in at night, so feline nighttime activities are rather limited.

But as good as barn cat gig was, Gracie was having nothing do with it. Every chance she got, she would climb the tree next to the kitchen window, and leap the short two feet to the window screen, latch herself onto the screen and hang there until one of us went outside to remove her - all the while, she protested that the other cats got to be inside - why not her?

I'm not sure who finally suggested it, but with the screen becoming filled with holes from claws, we finally relented and allowed Gracie into the house - just in time for winter.

Gracie gleefully announced her new position as an indoor cat. She then claimed ownership of the couch in front of the wood-burning stove in my study where she could make up for lost time getting toasty warm. As that first winter descended upon us, Grace could always be found basking in the warmth of the fire. I was always amazed at how warm she was, but it never seemed to bother her. On more than one occasion I would

come in from the outside and use Gracie to warm my hands, she never objected.

Every touch always elicited a conversation with Gracie. A conversation that only got more intricate if we opted to reply - which, of course, we rarely failed to do. But it was not only a touch, but the simple mention of her name that would cause Grace to launch into a very vocal conversation.

But Gracie saved her most vocal vocalizations for feeding time. A creature of habit, Gracie would position herself on the desk in the kitchen where she could get the best view of the opening of the cat food cans. As the food was divided up amongst the bowls for all the cats, one could swear that Gracie was critiquing how long it was taking to get her food. When her bowl was finally placed in front of her, her 'chatter' always ended with a high pitch squeak - as it to say 'finally.'

For many years, Gracie slept between my wife and I every night. I don't recall when that changed or what brought the change on, but for many years I went to sleep to the sound of her purring. God help it if you touched her during the night however - she was very vocal in expressing her dislike of being disturbed.

As much as Gracie liked being an indoor cat during that first winter, when spring arrived, she made it very clear that she wanted 'out' during the day. Having already been an outdoor cat, we willingly obliged - especially as Grace was not a wanderer.

Having decided that Mother Nature was better gardener than herself, Audrey had long ago turned her formal garden into a native pollinator 'jungle,' which provided great hunting for Gracie. From sun up to sun down, Grace hunted, slept, and played in the old garden. In doing so, she clearly made it her territory.

That said, Grace would never miss an opportunity to walk through the back door. Out of nowhere she would appear as you walked to the back door, beating you to the door so she could enter first. Almost immediately however, upon discovering that she was now inside on a nice summer day, would she announce her desire to be let out.

The reverse was also true. She would race to the back door as one left, only to discover a torrential rain was falling. She would then sit under the outdoor table until the



As a stray, Gracie made it clear from the start she wanted to be an indoor cat. She got her wish. Like all cats, she was a heat seeker. In the winter, she could always be found asleep on the top of the sofa in front of the fireplace.

door was next opened and race back in ... only to repeat the exercise the next time the door was opened.

Being one of six indoor cats at times was problematic for Gracie. She was good with everyone as long as they keep their distance, but God forbid they would pass within her sphere of influence. I don't recall Gracie ever getting into a catfight, but she did have more than her fair share of screaming fits - mostly at 2 a.m.

Gracie's quality of life took a noticeable tick up when we built the cat enclosures. Attached to the house by a cat door, it allowed Gracie the opportunity to be outside on summer nights, while at the same time giving us the peace of mind knowing she was not out roaming. And now that I think of it, I think it was the introduction of the cat enclosures that ended Gracie's sleeping with us - for as much as she liked us, she loved being outside at night.

It seemed like Audrey's prediction that Grace would 'grace our lives for years to come,' was going to be true. But in November 2019, during her routine yearly veterinary checkup, a mass in her stomach was found. It was subsequently found to be lymphosarcoma, a fairly common cancer in cats, but

unfortunately a cancer battle few cats, if any, win in the end.

Even though we knew the odds were long, we opted to do chemotherapy on her. If any cat was going to survive it, Grace would. She was in the best of health, other than having cancer of course, and carried a lot of weight going into the treatments.

All last spring and fall I found it hard to believe that she had cancer. Nothing really changed. Every morning she insisted on going out into her 'jungle' and every evening she played hard to get with it was time to come in. But as much as her system put up with the drugs to treat the cancer, Grace slowly grew tired on the repeated trips to the vets and to her, probably was a near non-stop series of shots and injections.

While the chemotherapy did slow down the growth of the cancer, it didn't stop it. And slowly but surely the cat I once described as a 'fat little tick' was growing thin and gaunt.

Eventually the decision was made to end the treatments and let Gracie live out the remainder of her life in peace, which she did.

While she eventually she lost her interest in going outside, she never lost her interest in eating. However, with the cancer now almost

fully impacting her intestines, she struggled to keep it down. With no fireplace to warm her, Gracie took up sleeping on a blanket on the kitchen counter under a light that bathed her in warmth. There she could watch the comings and going of all her housemates.

When she finally went into terminal decline, it was thankfully fast. One day she was walking around the house offering her opinion on everything, the next she was sedentary and withdrawn.

The last thing she felt was Audrey's hand as she went to check on her. Grace let out one last meow and passed away.

Of all the animals we had, she was the last we wished to see die. Of course I would hate to have been forced to pick someone else to take her place, but still, losing Gracie was hard. She deserved a good long life, not simply 8 years.

Somewhere, sometime, another black cat will cross our paths, and when it does, it will have Gracie to thank when it discovers it is greeted with open arms into our home.

And Grace will look down from Heaven and give her opinion ...

To read other articles by Michael Hillman visit the Authors section of [emmitsburg.net](http://emmitsburg.net).

**HOME PET CARE**  
**Alering-Schroll Pet Sitting**  
 Dogs ~ Cats ~ All Pets  
 Pet Care In Your Home  
 Mid-Day Care  
 Pet Taxi  
**717-642-6291**  
 Since 1989 Insured



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

To a poor and lonely stray I'd give:

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



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

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

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

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

-- Author Unknown

# FOUNTAINDALE FIRE COMPANY AWARD BANQUET



**2019 Fundraising/Bingo Awards:** Butch Maples, Hillary Maples, Dana Lowe, Isaac Lowe, Zachary Haines, Steve Yingling, Beth Ruppel, Karen Rudisill, John Ruppel, Becky Buffington, Peggy Martin, Charlie Berger, Colleen Rudisill, Claudia Rudisill, Freda Kepner, Denny Lowe, Sam Ginn, Dave Martin, David Metz, Steve Smith, Lisa Smith, & Sarah Ginn



**Administrative Officers:** Asst. Secretary Karen Rudisill, Treasurer Peggy Martin, Secretary Sarah Ginn, & Vice-President Dale Buffington. **Board of Directors:** Colleen Rudisill, John Ruppel, Sam Ginn, & Steve Yingling



**Top Responders for 2019:** Ken Aker, Sam Ginn, Sarah Ginn, Claudia Rudisill, Colleen Rudisill, Brad Hartdagen, Steve Yingling & Peggy Martin



**Line Officers:** Deputy Fire Chief Sam Ginn, Fire Chief Dave Martin, Lieutenant Sarah Ginn, Assistant Fire Chief Steve Yingling



John Ruppel was this year's recipient of the Potty Award which is given in memory of Earl "Polly" Shindedecker to an active member with a minimum 10 years of volunteer time.



Zachary Haines was recognized for 4 years as a junior member, and turning 18, becoming a full fledged Fire Fighter in 2019.



Isaac Lowe was this year's recipient of the Chief's Award.



Chief Dave Martin presenting the Community Service Award to ABATE of Pennsylvania Monterey Pass Chapter. ABATE members present include Scott & Trudi Crum and Mark & Barb Henicle.

**2020 Administrative Officers**

President: Keith Rudisill  
 Vice-President: Dale Buffington  
 Secretary: Sarah Ginn  
 Assistant Secretary: Karen Rudisill  
 Treasurer: Peggy Martin

**Board of Directors**

Chris Corle, Sam Ginn,  
 Colleen Rudisill,  
 John Ruppel, Steve Yingling

**2020 Line Officers**

Fire Chief: Dave Martin  
 Deputy Fire: Chief Sam Ginn  
 Assistant Fire: Chief Steve Yingling  
 Lieutenant: Sarah Ginn

**2019 Top Responders**

- |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 - Dave Martin      | 6 - Chris Corle      |
| 2 - Ken Aker         | 7 - Sam Ginn         |
| 3 - Sarah Ginn       | 8 - Colleen Rudisill |
| 4 - Claudia Rudisill | 9 - Steve Yingling   |
| 5 - Peggy Martin     | 10 - Brad Hartdagen  |



**Tax Time Doesn't Have To Be Stressful!**  
 We are a local professional tax preparation service located right here in Fairfield!  
 Our business is founded on the belief that preparing taxes should be stress free for you!  
**Come in and get answers to the new tax laws. We can help!**



## BUSINESS & PERSONAL TAX PREPARATION

*Fees Can Be Withheld From Your Refund!*

**Call Today For An Appointment • 717-457-0551**

132 West Main Street, Fairfield

*We are a proud supporter of The Emmitsburg News-Journal!*

# HARNEY FIRE COMPANY AWARD BANQUET



Administrative Officers & Board of Directors: Donald Yingling, JimWaybright, Gene Curfman, Leonard Bowers, Richard Yingling, J. B. Martin, Charlie Blocker, Travis Dutterer, Bobby Bachman & Lee Bowers.



Harney 65 year life member Bill Ridinger and his wife Joyce



Line Officers: John Harman, Matt Nye, Chris Waybright, Chad Reese & Jimmy Yingling.



Fire Company member and general good guy Charlie Miller.



Harney Fire Company members Larry Harris and Frank Rauschenberg.



2019 Top Responder and Harney Mayor Kendall Bowers flanked by Chad Reese and Deputy Chief Matt Nye.



Fifth top responder Richard Stickelhouse flanked by Chad Reese and Deputy Chief Matt Nye.



Kim Waybright and future firefighters Kacey & Brayden

**Administrative Officers for 2020**

President: Jim Waybright  
 Vice President: Charlie Blocher  
 Secretary: Richard Yingling  
 Recording Secretary: Bobby Baughman  
 Activity Treasurer: Len Bowers  
 Utility Treasurer: Gene Cortman  
 Trustees: Lee Bowers, Brad Waybright, & Donny Yingling, Sr.

**Operational Officers for 2020**

Chief: Don Yingling Jr.  
 Deputy Chief: Matt Nye  
 Captain: Jim Yingling  
 Luitenant: Brad Waybright  
 Luitenant: Jon Harman  
 Sergeant: Don Yingling, Sr.  
 Safety Officer: Chris Waybright

**Top Ten Responders for 2019**

- 1 - Kendall Bowers
- 2 - Don Yingling, Jr.
- 3 - Lee Bowers
- 4 - Bobby Baughman
- 5 - Richard Stackhouse
- 6 - Matt Nye
- 7 - Jon Harman
- 8 - Donnie Yingling
- 9 - Tod Yingling
- 10 - Connor Scilowachen



**Vigilant Hose Co. #6 - 12th Annual**

## SPRING FLING

Saturday, May 16th - 17701 Creamery Rd., Emmitsburg  
 Ambulance Building - Gates Open at 10:30 a.m.

**2 FINAL DRAWINGS - \$5,000 Each at 5 p.m.**

**Tickets: \$60 (Good for 2 people)**  
 Includes 5 - 4 Digit Numbers for Drawings

**EACH ADDITIONAL CHILD 14-17 \$10 Extra Payable at gate**

**HORSESHOES - FOOD - BEVERAGES - 50/50 TIP JARS - LIVE MUSIC**

Tickets purchased & turned in by April 1st will be entered in a BONUS DRAWING FOR \$500!

For tickets & more information contact us at [www.vigilanthose.org](http://www.vigilanthose.org) or call:  
 Chris Stahley 301-447-3081, John Glass 301-447-3648, Gabe Baker 301-447-2212, Bill Boyd 717-642-9717

## HEALTH NOTES

# The dangers of vaping

Kelsey Shupe  
Frederick Memorial Hospital

The vaping landscape is changing quickly and, in many cases, becoming more dangerous—especially for youth and their families. Frederick Health has gathered the latest information to arm you with the facts and hazards associated with vapes, also known as e-cigarettes.

Fact #1: Many people think vaping is a less-serious alternative to smoking cigarettes, but the bottom line is that vaping is still harmful.

One of the most confusing aspects of vaping is the wide variety of products on the market—and therefore, the large number and combinations of different chemicals within them. We're going to use the terms vapes and e-cigarettes interchangeably.

The use of e-cigarettes is often referred to as “vaping” because many people believe these prod-

ucts create a vapor, which is then inhaled. But in fact, e-cigarettes produce an aerosol made up of tiny particles, not vapor.

It's widely believed that e-cigarettes expose users to fewer harmful chemicals than smoked cigarettes. But health experts say smokers who switch to e-cigarettes are still exposing themselves to potentially serious health risks.

Fact #2: Vaping is considered a health epidemic, especially among youth. E-cigarettes have become the most commonly used tobacco product among U.S. youth (since 2014). More than 5 million U.S. youth used e-cigarettes in the past 30 days, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA). This translates to more than 1 in 4 high school students and about 1 in 10 middle school students.

Fact #3: Some vapes and e-cig-

arettes are specifically designed to look like everyday products like flash drives and pens. “Typical” e-cigarettes are designed with a refillable cartridge (holding the liquid or substance), an atomizer (a coil with a heating element that converts the liquid to aerosol), sensors, and a rechargeable lithium-ion battery.

But disposable e-cigarettes can look and feel like standard cigarettes that are smoked. And many e-cigarettes, especially under the brand name JUUL, are shaped like USB flash drives. The use of these products can go unnoticed in school classrooms and bathrooms because they look so similar to ordinary flash drives or pens.

Fact #4: Vapes contain many harmful substances including nicotine—and additional harmful substances go largely unregulated and undetermined. The FDA does not currently require testing of all the substances in e-cigarettes. In fact,

the CDC states that e-cigarette products are sometimes changed or modified and can have possibly harmful or illegal substances from unknown sources.

So, what do we know? Here are some facts about harmful substances that have been identified in e-cigarettes:

- Nicotine can cause lung disease, heart disease, and cancer, according to the American Cancer Society
- THC is associated with a wide range of health effects
- Vitamin E acetate, when inhaled, may interfere with normal lung function
- Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) can cause eye, nose, and throat irritation, headaches and nausea, and can damage the liver, kidney, and nervous system
- Flavoring chemicals are linked to a lung disease called bronchiolitis obliterans (popcorn lung)

• Formaldehyde is a cancer-causing substance

Fact #5: Vaping harms brain development. All JUUL-brand vapes, and most other e-cigarettes, contain nicotine. There is evidence that nicotine harms brain development in young people through the age of 25. Nicotine use among pregnant women may also cause premature births and low birthweight babies.

Fact #6: Vaping is causing a sharp rise in lung injuries requiring hospitalizations and even leading to deaths. As of Feb. 4, the CDC reports that there have been 64 deaths and 2,758 hospitalizations nationwide due to what's called EVALI (e-cigarette or vaping product use-associated lung injury).

In nearby Loudoun County, a police officer recently sounded the alarm about EVALI on social media, writing: “Although the CDC and the FDA continue to work to identify the cause and no one compound or ingredient has emerged as the cause of these illnesses, many of the patients reported a history of using products containing THC. In Loudoun, THC vape cartridge products were recently uncovered by our detectives and were found to be 95 percent THC. This is well over 10 times more potent than a typical marijuana plant seized during my days as an agent with the Drug Enforcement Administration.”

Fact #7: Symptoms of vaping that cause harm to your body include coughing, trouble breathing, chest pain, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, fever, or weight loss.

Fact #8: Vaping can cause poisoning. The liquid in e-cigarettes, when swallowed, breathed, or absorbed through the skin or eyes, can cause poisoning. According to the CDC, about half of all calls to poison control centers for e-cigarettes are for children 5 years of age or younger.

Fact #9: E-cigarettes have exploded, caused fires and serious injuries, in some cases linked to defective batteries.

Fact #10: Vaping can lead to cigarette smoking and other health risks, but there are helpful resources available. Vaping's future health effects are not completely known. There is growing evidence that young people who use e-cigarettes may be more likely to smoke cigarettes in the future. Additionally, e-cigarettes can be used to deliver other drugs, including marijuana, and the vapor is known to contain cancer-causing chemicals.

Contact your healthcare professional if you, or a loved one, needs help quitting tobacco products, including e-cigarettes. Frederick Health offers a free, 6-week Freedom from Smoking program. You can visit [FrederickHealth.org](http://FrederickHealth.org) and search “quit smoking” to learn more about this program.

Parents should talk to their kids about the dangers of vaping. To learn strategies for starting these conversations with your kids, visit [TheVapeTalk.org](http://TheVapeTalk.org), where you'll find a conversation guide, helpful facts, and much more.

Help us  
welcome our  
newest medical  
oncologist,  
**Dr. Natalia  
Marina**

 Frederick  
Health  
Medical Group

Dr. Natalia Marina joins Drs. Elhamy Eskander, Mark Goldstein, Patrick Mansky, and Brian O'Connor with Frederick Health Medical Group. In addition to her extensive training, she specializes in medical oncology, breast cancer, lung cancer, and benign and malignant hematology.

Dr. Marina attended Università Politecnica delle Marche in Ancona, Italy and completed an internal medicine residency at Steward Carney Hospital, as well as a fellowship in Hematology and Oncology at East Carolina University/Brody School of Medicine at Vidant Medical Center in Greenville, North Carolina.

Board Certified in Internal  
Medicine ■ Board Eligible In  
Hematology and Oncology

MEMBER OF  
American Medical  
Association ■ Massachusetts  
Medical Association ■  
American College of  
Physicians ■ American Society  
of Hematology ■ American  
Society of Clinical Oncology

Schedule your appointment  
with Dr. Marina today: **call**  
**301-662-8477.**



## Celebrating 50 years of maple sugaring in the Catoctins

Becky Bickerton  
Visit Frederick

It's no secret that Frederick is full of interesting history and unique traditions. Winter is here and that means one of the oldest and most popular annual events, the Maple Syrup Festival in Thurmont, is about to begin. Celebrating 50 years in 2020, the festival is held on the second and third weekends of March at the Houck Lake Area of Cunningham Falls State Park. This year you can experience the event March 14, 15, 21, and 22 from 10a.m. to 2p.m.

Making maple syrup is a fascinating process that dates back in some form to the indigenous peoples in North America. It includes tapping trees to harvest maple tree sap, collecting gallons of sap in buckets, and boiling off the water to get sap that has been concentrated into maple syrup. All maple syrup has the same amount of maple sugar, but the maple flavor can differ and syrup can vary in color and taste throughout the sugaring season, as it is called.

Over 80% of the maple syrup you buy at the grocery store is made in Canada (most coming from Quebec), so this is a somewhat rare opportunity to enjoy some of the locally made sweet stuff. Maple syrup is almost entirely produced in the Northeast, so it is certainly a specialty that comes out of the area. It takes over forty gallons of maple sap to make a gallon of maple syrup. Sap is boiled down in the process and most of the liquid is evaporated. In some countries like South Korea, people prefer to use maple sap unprocessed and straight from the tree. It is believed that the sap could help to prevent disease and osteoporosis.

The festival itself also has quite an interesting story. Originally started by the Catoctin Mountain Tourist Council and its small group of 25-35 members, the event started in nearby Catoctin Mountain Park. When the lake at Cunningham Falls State Park was completed and opened to the public, the event was moved to its current location. It is estimated that less than 50 people were in attendance at the very first Maple Syrup Festival, which was just a sim-

ple demonstration. No trees were tapped, no products were sold.

There was interest in continuing to grow the event both to bring visitors to the area and to kickoff the spring season. "People are itching to get outside by that time of year," said Mike Irons whose family was involved in the creation of the event. According to Mike, his family and other festival volunteers used to actually make the syrup that was sold at the event. "We weren't allowed to sell syrup that was made outside of Maryland, the park wouldn't let us. So we travelled to Oakland to help make the syrup ourselves and bring it back to sell. Eventually we couldn't keep up with the amount of people wanting to buy it."

Today the products sold at the event come from S&S Maple Camp in Corriganville, Maryland. Leo Shinholt, the company's owner, is a third generation sugar producer. S&S has been in business just as long as the festival. They tap over 5,000 trees for just one season of syrup production. Leo has learned from experience that the first run is always the sweetest.

Each day of the Maple Syrup Festival visitors can enjoy live maple syrup demonstrations. The demonstrations begin every hour and continue throughout the day. Live music can be enjoyed on both Saturdays and Sundays. A sign language interpreter will be available on both Sundays. Hot food is available including pancakes, sausage, sausage sandwiches, and hot dogs. Maple syrup products such as maple syrup, maple cream, and maple candy can also be purchased. Be sure to buy your souvenirs early, these are popular items and they might sell out!

In addition to watching the demonstrations, kids will love the crafts, games, and activities that are part of the festival. A large heated tent will keep everyone warm, but if nature is calling there is always an opportunity to get outside and enjoy the crisp air. If the weather is nice, start with a hike and reward yourself with some tasty pancakes.

A donation of \$3 per person is requested to attend the Maple Syrup Festival, in lieu of the usual



Making maple syrup is a fascinating process that dates back in some form to the indigenous people in North America. It includes tapping trees to harvest maple tree sap, collecting gallons of sap in buckets and boiling off the water to get sap that has been concentrated into maple syrup.

park entry fee. Youth group members are \$2 and children in car seats are free of charge. All proceeds benefit Cunningham Falls State Park and Gambrill State Park through their Friends group which has been in existence since 1996. The group

has helped contribute things like Polaris vehicles, a skid loader, rescue boat, and a handicapped beach wheelchair to the park. The festival is a cash only event, so be sure to stop by the atm on your way. Pets are welcome in the outside areas of

the festival, but not in the tent.

If you still have questions about the festival, call the park office at 301-271-7574. Park rangers and volunteers will be easy to find during the event and will have all the information you might need.

CELEBRATING **50** YEARS

**MAPLE SYRUP FESTIVAL**

**MARCH 14, 15, & 21, 22 • 10AM-2PM**  
Cunningham Falls State Park – Houck Area

Welcome spring at Cunningham Falls State Park by learning how maple syrup is made from the sap of trees in the park. Enjoy a traditional pancake and sausage breakfast, stock up on maple syrup products, including syrup, maple cream, and candy. Kids can enjoy free games, stories and crafts in a large, heated tent, and live music will be provided by local bands. Syrup making demonstrations every hour. The event supports the Friends of Cunningham Falls and Gambrill State Parks and is a cash only event. Follow signs from MD 77 west of U.S. 15 at Thurmont, Md.

For more information, call Cunningham Falls State Park 301-271-7574.  
[visitfrederick.org](http://visitfrederick.org) • 800-999-3613






Come the first weekend of every month for

*Timeless Trends Boutique*  
**VINTAGE MARKET**  
*uniquely curated home decor*

21 East Main Street, Thurmont, MD  
240.288.8226 • [timelesstrendsboutique.com](http://timelesstrendsboutique.com)

Follow along: @timelesstrendboutique #ttbvintagemarket

*Change is good*

Don't worry! We may not be open daily, but you can still come shop all the furniture and home decor you have come to love! Mark your calendar now for our first Vintage Market, **March 6th - 8th** at Timeless Trends Boutique in Thurmont, MD.

We will hold a Vintage Market the first weekend of every month featuring a team of unique vendors offering vintage furniture, furnishings and gifts. Plus, each month we will be hosting different Pop-up Shops: visiting vendors who will be bringing you new and different products each month.

So mark your calendar; pile all your friends in a big truck and be ready to shop!

**Friday & Saturday 9-5 • Sunday 11-4**

# HISTORY

## Gateway to the Mountains

George Wireman

### Chapter 8: The Matchmaker of Mechanicstown

In 1825, about seven years before the town was incorporated, Mechanicstown scored a “first” — not only for the Colony of Maryland, but for the whole New World. The very first Lucifer matches ever manufactured in America were made in Mechanicstown.

At this time the community was one of the State’s most flourishing industrial communities. During the latter years of the Eighteenth Century a remarkable company of artisans and craftsmen had drifted into the isolated section and, despite its inaccessibility, set them-selves up in manufacturing.

Everywhere in the colonies at this time, fire was produced solely by striking steel against flint, igniting a piece of punk or other in-flammable material and blowing the spark into a flame. “Ignition matches” had only recently been introduced

in the Old World and a rare few had found their way to this continent. The most prominent folk were the Wellers, who had a finger and a dollar in nearly everything that went on in Mechanicstown. Lusty men were the Wellers, shrewd, capable, farsighted and quick to make use of the riches nature had lavished on their lands.

It was on a visit to Frederick in the early 1820’s that Jacob Weller found something to challenge his sharp curiosity. He purchased some matches which had been imported from France. Upon his return home he showed them to his brother Joseph and he too became intrigued. America never had thought of anything as unnatural as striking fire from a bit of wood daubed with a queer looking mess of chemicals. The flint was giving a good and trusty spark and this new-fangled notion from the Old World evoked little enthusiasm on the west side of the Atlantic. But to Jacob Weller it was a mystery, modern advancement, and utter fascination. His dabbling in science and

his remarkable scientific library was a fortunate prelude to further adventures in manufacturing.

Equipped with enough scientific lore to analyze the lucifers and determine what made them flame from friction, Jacob examined them very closely, determined to discover the closely guarded secret of their manufacture. He had no trouble in learning the secret, and finally analyzed the chemical components of the match heads. As a result of his discovery he was ready to launch another business — the manufacture of matches. And so Mechanicstown got America’s first match factory in the little gray stone house that had been for many years his blacksmith shop.

Having found how to make the ignition mixture, Jacob and his brother Joseph began experimenting to find a practical form in which to manufacture them.

Finally Weller hit upon the scheme of using a solid cube of soft wood which he cut almost through into two series of parallel cuts, perpendicular to each other. This made a solid block from which a nest of sticks projected.

The matches were first subdivided by hand and later by machinery, and then dipped into the brimstone mixture, etc., and then set aside to dry. The result was a marketable block of matches — from which individual matches could be broken off as they were needed. The matches were then placed in boxes and were peddled throughout Frederick County at twenty-five cents a box. With each box went a piece of sand paper upon which to ignite the matches.

Weller’s new business got under way in 1825 and historians of the day had little to say of the Match House and what went on there. Several writers list match-making as one of the community’s claims to fame. But one fact remains undisputed. The little gray stone house



The ‘Match House’ home of Jacob Weller. The little gray stone house still stands today on West Main Street.

still stands today on West Main Street, though some-what changed from its original form. Fifty years ago every stranger to the community wanted to see the little match house, but time has clouded the fame of the building and now even natives are apt to forget that it was here that the first friction matches in America were made.

Peddlers whom Jacob Weller sent out to market his flame-producing bits of wood, often encountered vigorous sales resistance, often expressed by the sharp teeth of the householder’s dogs. Many wild tales swept through the countryside. The frontier folk warned each other that these new fire sticks would explode and blow a man, his family and his earthly possessions high into the peaceful Maryland sky.

Did these wild stories make the business too poor to warrant its continuance? Did the itinerant merchants grow tired of having mongrels nip at their heels and decline to stock Weller’s dis-

trusted lucifers? Or was Jacob Weller, perhaps, singed physically as well as financially, when, on two occasions, the enterprise was destroyed by fire, resulting from spontaneous combustion. What brought an end to Mechanicstown’s match production remains to this day, one of Frederick County’s most fascinating and unsolved mysteries.

Through many ownerships the Match House stood almost unchanged for decades (perhaps for a century, because its construction date is uncertain) until it was purchased by a Thurmont resident, Rudolph O. Eyler. The same substantial, sturdy single storied, peak-roofed little house of Jacob Weller’s time, it rested solidly on the ground, having no cellar beneath it. The thick stone walls were as sound as the day they were mortared, so Mr. Eyler ran them up to a full two stories — a move he somewhat regretted later. What a pity the building was not kept in its original size and shape to preserve more fully its authenticity and remind generations to come of the colorful past of the house and of its erstwhile owner, Jacob Weller.

In the course of modernization, Mr. Eyler ripped up the old single flooring so a cellar could be dug, and for a day workmen delightfully sifted the earth and came up with handfuls of old pennies and other coins that must have slipped from the fingers of Weller’s customers and rolled through chinks in the floor.

Mr. Eyler also installed a central heating plant in the new basement, as well as modern plumbing and lighting and made the old Match House into a comfortable eight-room dwelling. There is nothing to distinguish it from neighboring old-fashioned homes, nothing to remind the passing tourist of those friction matches which caused Jacob Weller to become known as the “Matchmaker of Mechanicstown.”

**“Your Community Cemetery”**

*Traditional Plots  
or  
Columbarium  
available for your  
loved ones final  
resting place.*

**EMMITSBURG MEMORIAL  
CEMETERY**  
ESTABLISHED 1845

**301-456-3233**

**THURMONT  
BUSINESS  
NETWORK**  
*connecting and empowering local business*

**BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT**  
**REBECCA LaCHANCE ARTISTIC PORTRAITS**

Rebecca has been on a mission to create not just perfect portraits, but portraits that expand your beliefs about yourself and your gifts; portraits that serve as an anchor for your dreams and your connections. She is also on a mission to create remarkable experiences for you as well. Her fine art style and compassionate approach have distinguished Rebecca as the photographer for people who want exceptional images. Her guests describe her as genius, and a true artist.

3 East Main St., Thurmont  
240-203-7794  
[rebeccalachance.gallery](http://rebeccalachance.gallery)

The next TBN Meeting is March 12 at Cunningham Falls State Park. The businesses will enjoy hot pancakes and Maryland made maple syrup at the meeting to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Maple Syrup Festival!

**April 2 Meeting - Thurmont Event Complex**  
Guest Speaker: Frederick County Council VP Michael Blue

The Thurmont Business Network is open to any business owner/manager in the 21788 zip code.  
Contact [vgriender@thurmontstaff.com](mailto:vgriender@thurmontstaff.com) for more info.

Licensed Insured

**REAVERS WOODWORKING**  
*Quality Hand-Crafted  
Cabinets/Furniture*  
**Brian P. Reaver, Sr.**

**We Now Offer  
Natural and  
Engineered Stone  
Countertops!**

- Kitchens, Armoires
- Hutches, China Cupboards
- Computer Stations
- Entertainment Centers
- Fireplace Mantels
- Vanities, Gun Cabinets
- Children’s Furniture
- Corner Cabinets, Bookcases
- Dressers, End Tables... etc.

Shop: 301-788-7143  
Fax: 301-447-1750

Visit us online at: [www.emmitsburg.net/woodworking](http://www.emmitsburg.net/woodworking)

# HISTORY

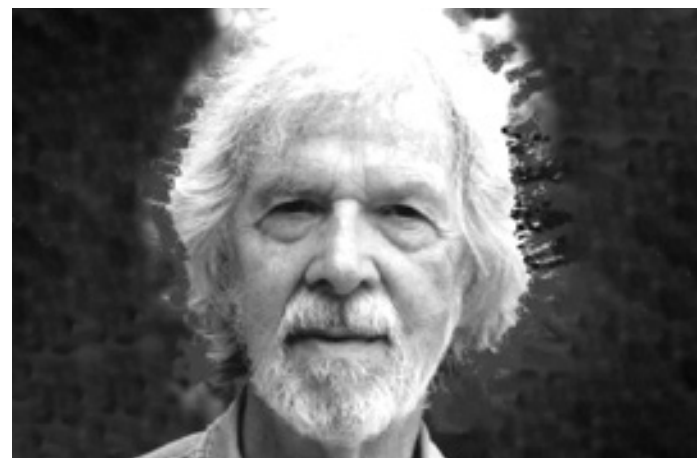


In 1826, John Walker, a chemist in Stockton on Tees, discovered through lucky accident that a stick coated with chemicals burst into flame when scraped across his hearth at home. He went on to invent the first friction match. Until the first half of the nineteenth century, the process by which fire was created was slow and laborious. Walker's friction match revolutionised the production, application and the portability of fire. Walker sold his first "Friction Light" on the 12th April 1827 from his pharmacy in Stockton on Tees. Walker's first friction matches were made of cardboard but he soon began to use wooden splints cut by hand. Later he packaged the matches in a cardboard box equipped with a piece of sandpaper for striking. He was advised to patent his matches but chose not to and, as a result, Samuel Jones of London copied his idea and launched his own "Lucifers" in 1829, an exact copy of Walkers "Friction Lights".

In 1938 the Match House was used as a cachet for the celebration of "National Air Mail Week." Mr. Earl T. Kelbaugh, then Post-master of Thurmont, was the sponsor. As a result of this action, many travelers were attracted to the community, seeking a glimpse of the very first match factory in America. Many even took pictures, but there were others who were heard to remark "What a pity it wasn't kept in its original form."

Today, the Match House serves as the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Baltzell who take pride in telling strangers of its historic past.

Part 9 next month



The Cadle Family would like to express their gratitude to the Emmitsburg News-Journal for their beautiful tribute to our beloved Bo Cadle. He and Jean loved being a part of the Emmitsburg Community, and the community newspaper they started all those years ago.



## The Taney Corporation

Manufacturers of Wood Stairs & Stair Parts

Locally owned continuously  
for over 50 Years

5130 Allendale Lane, Taneytown, Maryland 21787

Office: 410-756-6671 Fax: 410-756-4103

Visit us at [www.tanestair.com](http://www.tanestair.com)

A sponsor of the Emmitsburg News-Journal

Life can change direction.



# BLACK'S FUNERAL HOME

Come see our new chapel location  
224 North Church Street, Thurmont  
(In the Thurmont Plaza)



BLACK'S is here when you need us the most.

## Black's Funeral Home

224 N. Church St., Thurmont • 17324 Sunshine Tr., Sabillasville  
240-288-1300

# RSL AUTO SALES INC.

Serving Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia & West Virginia for over 10 years!

Used Cars, Trucks, Vans, Wheelchair Vans & Handicap Accessible Vehicles



**2018 Chevrolet Silverado Wheelchair Accessible Pickup**

This beautiful 1-Owner Silverado won't last long on our lot. ATC passenger side conversion w/removable seat, 4 wheel drive, remote start, sprayed on bed liner, tonneau cover, AM/FM/CD/XM/MP3 player, OnStar is available, steering wheel audio controls, dual zone climate control, tilt & telescoping steering column, Bluetooth, 5.3L V8 engine that goes to 4 cylinders when 8 aren't needed, remote locking tailgate, heated exterior mirrors and a rear bumper corner-step and it has less than 13,000 miles!

#3460 **\$59,900**

1021 Francis Scott Key Highway, Keymar **301-845-4188**  
[www.rslautosales.com](http://www.rslautosales.com)

**AA-Eastern Mobility** offers customized transportation solutions for handicapped individuals including Stair Lifts, Lift Chairs, Wheelchair Lifts, Wheelchair Ramps, Turney Seats, Hand Controls, Left Foot Accelerators, Wheelchair Accessible Vans and Lowered Floor Minivans.

*We offer many options to customize your home and vehicle to make your life easier.*

**We Have Used Wheelchair Vans and Handicap Accessible Vehicles for Sale!**



**AA - EASTERN MOBILITY, INC.** "Access to the World"  
12455 Woodsboro Pike, Keymar • [www.easternmobility.com](http://www.easternmobility.com)  
Phone: 301.845.4188 • Toll-Free: 888.845.0533 • Fax: 301.845.6316



# COMMUNITY NOTES

## West Mar Camp, right in your back yard

Faen O'Hara  
Frederick YMCA

In November of 1959, at a meeting of the Western Maryland District of The American Legion, it was agreed upon to hold a summer camp for boys (ages 9 thru 12 years old) on a trial basis. It was further established that the boys would be from financially depressed families, broken families, or be juvenile delinquents. They would need to be recommended by either their school principal, minister, or a social agency. Boys would be selected from Carroll, Frederick, and Washington Counties.

The first encampment was held in the summer of 1960 with forty boys in attendance. The all-volunteer staff held the camp for one week at Camp Summit near Emmitsburg, MD. That first encampment was deemed a success and the Western Maryland

District decided to continue with future encampments.

While under the American Legion's management, Camp West Mar was the only all volunteer American Legion camp in the country. At their 50 year anniversary, over 3,500 boys had attended the encampment, utilizing up to 12,000 hours of volunteer time each year. Many volunteers stayed 24 hours a day for the duration of the encampment. Activities scheduled each year for the boys included: softball, basketball, swimming, fishing, archery, and riflery. The Western Maryland District of The American Legion is very proud to have operated an all volunteer encampment for over 50 years.

During the mid 2000s, attendance to the American Legion's Boys Camp began to decline. The number of volunteers was dwindling, as well as their ability to provide as much time and funding they had in the past. They

would eventually not hold a summer encampment at all.

The YMCA of Frederick County began its partnership with the Western Maryland District of The American Legion in the mid 2000's when they began utilizing field space at camp for West Mar Adventure Day Camp. This Y ran day camp brought a bus full of campers to Camp West Mar every day (Mon-Fri). The campers were able to explore the property and spend time in nature.

On January 1, 2016, the Y assumed management of the camp in preparation for a 22 year lease of the property that would eventually be signed in June of that year. The Y immediately began upgrading amenities at camp and bringing life back to the aging property. During the summer of 2016, the Y continued to send a day camp to Camp West Mar every week of the summer; as well as offering 4 one week sessions of sleep-away camp for the

community over the summer.

The Y plans to continue growing the programming and offerings that are available, both during the summer and the off-season. YMCA Camp West Mar's safe and fun reputation will become well known in and around Frederick County. Camp will become a positive part of the culture of our community.

Day Camp - What better place is there to camp than the wonderful Catoctin Mountains? Camp West Mar can accommodate more than 200 campers and we offer day camps all summer from June

22 through August 28. Our campers experience the great outdoors while learning and practicing new skills like archery and canoeing, building relationships, and having a blast. We provide lunch & snacks at no additional cost, along with an adventure packed day!

Overnight Camp - Our overnight camp provides the perfect opportunity to experience all the best of the great outdoors. Campers will enjoy swimming, hiking, craft projects, outdoor games, canoeing, archery, and more. Plus, make new friends that can last a lifetime! Camp West Mar can accommodate 80 overnight campers in 5 air conditioned cabins!

### Other ways to get involved with Camp West Mar:

**C**amp Rentals: Outdoor space perfect for any event - We are gladly accepting requests and would love to host an event for you or simply provide space for anything from birthday parties, out-

door education, church outings, family reunions, corporate picnics and retreats, or just a weekend getaway with friends and/or family. Camp West Mar provides a beautiful setting and escape from the day to day grind of work and school. We can lead you through team building activities, get you on the lake for some canoeing, shoot some arrows, and end the day over a campfire with S'mores. We are happy to accommodate any size group from 5 to 300+ and make it an experience you won't soon forget!

**We're Hiring:** The best summer job ever! It takes a lot of team members to make our camps run smoothly. We hire day and overnight counselors along with lifeguards. We are looking for fun and energetic people who love the outdoors and would love to spend their summer enjoying nature and having a blast. Our Counselors will be immersed in the foothills of the Catoctin Mountains leading our campers through the summer experience of a lifetime! Spend your days creating memories, hiking, swimming, canoeing, shooting archery and more! Apply online at <https://www.ymcacampwestmar.org/job-opportunities>

**Volunteers:** They Rock! We love volunteers! They help to accomplish so many things: from helping to engage our youth to helping in the kitchen or digging up dirt for a garden to assisting with our annual campaign. If you, or a group you represent, want to help out, please sign up online at [ymcacampwestmar.org/volunteer](http://ymcacampwestmar.org/volunteer).

**Support:** Help Provide an unforgettable experience. We strive to never turn anyone away due to inability to pay. With that in mind, we offer financial assistance for our summer camp programs based on family size and income. A donation of \$240 will cover the cost of one day camper for a week and \$450 provides one week of overnight camp. For those interested in supporting the YMCA and Camp West Mar, call 301-663-5131. Learn more at [www.ymcacampwestmar.org](http://www.ymcacampwestmar.org).

Enter for a chance to WIN

\$20,000

See a tax pro for details

Will the lucky winner be you?



Thurmont

135 East Main St. 301-271-3359

Have tax questions?

We have answers.

Call 800-732-1040 to speak to a local tax specialist today, or make an appointment online anytime at [jacksonhewitt.com](http://jacksonhewitt.com)

\$20 OFF  
Tax Prep Fees

Coupon must be presented at time of tax preparation. Can be used by itself for \$20 discount, OR can be combined with below food item offer for maximum discount of \$40. Minimum tax prep fees apply for offer to be valid. Tier pricing excluded. Expires April 30th, 2020.

TWQJV

PLUS

an additional K23MZ

\$20 OFF

when you bring in 2 or more non-perishable food items

Jackson Hewitt®  
TAX SERVICE

WE'RE HOSTING A FOOD DRIVE

All food donations will stay local to help those in YOUR community. Bring 2 or more non-perishable food items, receive a discount of up to \$40 off your tax preparation fees. Help make a difference today.

# THE TWINS

## “It” finally happened

Emma Simmons

In my first column back in January, I wrote about how I've always wanted a horse and then finally a few months ago I got my wish. I started riding a horse named Wesley and taking riding lessons from a great Coach, Wesley's owner. It's been amazing and better than I ever dreamed! It's like flying just above the ground.

I've spent weeks and weeks walking and trotting on Wesley. My Coach - Mr. Hillman - Mike (he told me to call him that), teaches me how to sit in the saddle the right way, hold the reins correctly, and stand in the stirrups easily, which is really important for riding. I trust Mike and I trust Wesley, but sometimes I think about the ground. Wesley is over 16 hands, that's 5 1/2 feet tall. And I'm 4 feet and 9 inches. When you look at a thoroughbred horse from the ground, he looks tall. But when you look down from on top of a thoroughbred horse, it's a REALLY long way to the ground.

Not long ago, Mike told me that I was ready to start jumping. I can't tell you how excited I was. I've not only gotten to ride a horse, but now I'm going to ride one while he's flying over a jump. My heart was beating so fast. But I knew I was ready. I've been riding for months, trotting around Mike's farm, and even cantering through the fields sometimes. I've listened to Mike and done my leg exercises at home (well, sometimes. Sorry coach!).

The first time I jumped Wesley it was magic, like my birthday, Christmas, and summer vacation all rolled into one. For the next few weeks, I rode and jumped. I learned more and more about how to control the horse and keep my balance in the saddle. I was confident!

Not long ago, I started jumping over fences that were a little taller. And I'm learning how to canter over fences too. Let me

tell you, trotting over a jump is fun, but cantering over them is a blast! Sometimes when Wesley and I canter over a jump it feels like we are going to take off and fly around the field. Wouldn't that surprise my coach? He's always so calm that he'd probably just shout out to me to "grab mane" and "keep your chin up" as I flew past his head!

A few weeks ago, it was a great day to ride, it wasn't too cold or too hot, I was getting ready to do a jump called an "In and Out." An In and Out is a jump where there are two fences, one right after the other. I was a little nervous and excited at the same time because I didn't know what it would be like. Mike was telling me to jump it. He said he knew I was ready and to give it a try if I felt confident. I tell Wesley to walk on. He walks forward and then I tell him to trot. Wesley starts to trot and I brace myself for him to leap into the air. He jumps up, then bounces down, takes a stride in between, and jumps again. I was a little discombobulated. (I learned that word from Mike), but when I was done I was thinking, "That was amazing!" I was really excited to do it again and this time I knew what to expect. I praised Wesley and said "Good boy!" Wesley and I walked over to our starting position. I got ready, itching to go. And again, we cleared the jump easily. So I praised Wesley again. Mike says it's important to praise your horse when he does well. It makes Wesley feel good, gives him confidence in me, and makes Wesley want to please me.

Now, even though Wesley jumped the fence, "our approach wasn't straight", Mike said. I didn't really like to hear that, but I knew he was right. We needed to work on that. It may sound easy, but believe me, it's not. Most kids can walk in a straight line if you tell them to, but you have to really try hard to make a horse go straight.

I jumped a couple of more



'Coach Mike' demonstrating to Emma how to put a horse 'in hand' - something she will need to master to jump the 'big fences.'

times with no problems. I remember thinking to myself that Wesley and I are an amazing team. I direct him to the jump, he jumps, I praise him. We can read each other's minds, just like my twin sister and I can do. So, one more time. I line up Wesley with the jump. I ask Wesley to trot. And he trots like the great horse he is. In my mind, I'm all ready to go sailing over that fence. I can almost feel it before we go into the air.

Pause. Actually I mean complete stop. I mean STOP. I mean that Wesley stopped. He stopped and stopped fast, right in front of the jump.

Funny thing is, I didn't stop. I kept going. I went clean over his right shoulder and straight to the ground.

It took me a minute to realize what happened. "IT" happened.

I ... FELL ... OFF!

It's what every rider fears. What riders never want to talk about. What every rider never wants to think about. I've always had won-

derful dreams of riding and jumping horses, but this was NEVER part of my dreams.

Fortunately, I wasn't hurt. But it was definitely a surprise. By the time I figured out what had happened, Mike, my sister, and my Mom were right there asking me if I was alright. "Of course I'm alright," I said, still holding the horse's reins (the only good part about the whole fall thing). I was a little mad and a little, well, a little embarrassed. I think Mike knew this and he asked my sister and Mom to give me some room.

Mike asked me again very quietly if I was ok and I nodded to him. He looked at me for a minute and then nodded back and said, "Well, let's do it again, but without the fall." He gave me a leg up and I got back into the saddle.

I totted around the ring once to get my self together and pointed Wesley towards the jump. We jumped it perfectly this time. When we landed, Mike said: "Do

it again." We did, and then did it again, and again.

Mike told me later that he didn't think it was anything I had done wrong. Wesley just stopped. Right in front of the jump. "They do that sometimes," he said. Later that afternoon, I watched myself as I went tumbling over Wesley's shoulder. No, I wasn't reliving it in my mind. My twin sister, Sarah, caught the whole thing on video!

When I started to go to sleep that night - and I wasn't even sore - I thought to myself: I had a great time riding today. I got to jump a new kind of fence and I got rid of that one thing that had been hanging around in the back of my mind. I finally fell ... and it wasn't so bad. As Mike said, falling is a right of passage for all riders. So I've passed that right, now all I need to do, according to Mike, is fall in the water, then I'll be a true Event Rider!

*Sarah is a 5th Grade at Mother Seton School.*

**Terry's TAG AND TITLE**  
www.tagsintenminutes.com

**Fast, Friendly Customer Service • Convenient Hours**

New Tags & Registration Issued "On the Spot" (restrictions may apply)  
Tag Renewal ~ New-To-State Registration  
Boat Registration ~ Duplicate Titles ~ Tag Return

**BRING THIS AD IN FOR**  
**\$5.00 OFF ANY SERVICE FEE**  
(Not Valid On Tag Returns)

**UNION BRIDGE • 410-756-7111**  
52 N. Main Street - M-F 1-7 p.m.  
**TANEYTOWN • 410-756-4960**  
464 E. Main Street - M-F 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Visit our other locations at:  
**COLUMBIA ELDERSBURG**  
**OWINGS MILLS WESTMINSTER** *Bypass The MVA*

Affordable • Confidential • Experienced • Knowledgeable • Professional • Reliable

**Graceham Moravian Church**

Love ✦ Reach Out ✦ Grow

8231-A Rocky Ridge Road, Thurmont  
**301-271-2379**  
[www.gracehammoravian.org](http://www.gracehammoravian.org)

**Turkey & Fried Oyster Dinner**

**Friday, March 27 - 3-7 p.m.**  
**Saturday, March 28 - 1-6 p.m.**

Family Style - All You Care To Eat  
**Adults: \$20 Children 6 - 10: \$10**  
**Under 6 FREE**  
*Craft & Bake Table Available*

# MOM'S TIME OUT

## Make the time for another Timeless Experience

More weekend destinations in and around Thurmont have been closing their doors in the past couple months but one local shop has instead chosen to completely change up its business model.

Timeless Trends Boutique, known for its large selection of vintage furnishings and home decor, is no longer a full-time boutique, as it transitions from being open five days a week to three days a month. "We took a look at what was working best for us and how we could best implement that along with our personal life changes," shop owner Virginia LaRoche said. "Going forward, we will be open the first weekend of the month, hosting a monthly event called a Vintage Market. Many of the creative vendors you have come to know and love will still be here to showcase their creative, up-cycled pieces and we will continue to offer our custom built furniture such as our farm tables that so many people have come to love!" LaRoche plans on hosting "different pop-up shops to bring you some different products each month, ... mixing things up to keep you interested."

This is a locally proven business model, and according to LaRoche, after looking at the numbers and the frequency of her store's customer visits, it just made sense. "Any savvy small business owner knows that in today's retail world a business can no longer just hang an open sign on the door and post an advertisement in the local paper," she said. "Now, successful businesses find themselves spending hours on social media every week establishing a relationship with their clients and

hosting events to bring them in the door." She added, "We work very hard to stay in touch with our customers, stayed creative in our approach to bring them back, and have always hosted special events for them!"

The monthly Vintage Market will allow the shop's staff to "to work smarter, meet our goals of more family time and have more time to find and create even more beautiful furniture and home decor," LaRoche said. "I love painting furniture but found I was just pushing to get things out on the floor and wanted the time to be more creative with it!" The other side of the business is the hunt for vintage as well as new home décor according to LaRoche. "Having the time to go out and search for the best, most current products and unique vintage items to bring to our customers can be very consuming but also very rewarding," she stated. Looking around you can tell each vendor has a different approach to the business and brings a different perspective and different products to the Vintage Markets being hosted at Timeless Trends Boutique. You will find everything from original vintage and antique items to painted furniture, upcycled items, locally made furniture, jewelry and other artistic work can be found as you browse your way through the boutique!

In speaking to several of the vendors about how they came to be a part of the Vintage Markets at Timeless Trends Boutique their responses were as varied as the products that each of them offer.

"... I decided to expand 5 years ago into another location with painted fur-

niture and home décor. I have been a customer of Timeless Trends since they opened. I was shopping in the store and learned they had space available for rent. I decided to rent a space and have been a successful vendor with Timeless Trends for the last 4 years. I am looking forward to the next chapter with Timeless Trends and the monthly Vintage Market." Lisa Nolan Humerick – owner of Vintage Treasures.

"You could say I got it from my mama! A passion for vintage finds, that is!" replied Mary Guiles, also known as Miss Vintage Creations. "For me, there is nothing quite like the satisfaction of taking an old, dirty piece of solid wood furniture and refreshing it into a modern piece to fit today's decor trend. I love creating heirloom pieces, large and small, that were otherwise destined for the landfill, and made from quality clean materials like real wood, glass and metal. I think people are becoming more aware of what they're bringing into their homes and have a want to be more earth friendly. Shopping vintage is the best way to take care of both! My favorite styles to mesh are Farmhouse with Mid-Century Modern: clean lines paired with warm rustic wood tones and classic colors. This market brings a variety of styles together with a focus on bringing our customers fresh inventory every month to wow them each time they visit. There is a lot of excitement from the vendors and customers alike as we gear up for the first market, and I am honored to be a part of the vendor line up!"

Ashley Barnette, owner of So Long Status Quo, said: "I am excited to



Timeless Trends vendors: Diana Stull, Virginia LaRoche, Mary Guiles, Susanne Garver & Lisa Nolan-Humerick

use my blank slate to bring a totally fresh look to our customers every month. My style leans toward farmhouse cottage with inspiration from nature. Being open one weekend a month means we can completely reset our spaces between sales, and the shop will be entirely different every month. I am excited to showcase many variations of how to decorate using a mix of old and new."

Cindi Prichard of The French Lavendar collection said: "My business is unique in that it involves all natural organic skincare specializing in French Lavender Essential Oil. The women who use my products love lavender and everything French. With this in mind, I carry antiques that have the European flair that I enjoy and I know others will too. My accessories reflect that same style, which compliments the other vendors at the store." As to why she chose this location, Cindi stated, "Because the store is in an old building, displaying my merchandise is a joy and makes it easy to

sell. Setting up vignets is the most enjoyable part of my job. The atmosphere is relaxed and our customer service makes the experience memorable."

LaRoche had thought about retiring from the business, but decided she wasn't quite ready for that big of a change. "I love seeing my customers," she said, "and just felt like I would miss this way too much!" Other plans for the markets, include hosting local vineyards, and food tastings from local small businesses. For more information about attending or being a vendor, visit [www.timelesstrendsboutique.com](http://www.timelesstrendsboutique.com) or call the boutique at 240-288-8226.

Timeless Trends will host its first Vintage Market from March 6 to March 8, with hours on Friday and Saturday of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Timeless Trends Boutique is located in Thurmont at 21 E. Main Street.

To read past Mom's Time Out articles, visit the Authors section of [Emmitsburg.net](http://Emmitsburg.net).

# Images of U Hair Studio

## MARCH SPECIALS!

**Catoctin Highschool Students - Pre-Book for Prom & Receive a 20% Discount!**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<sup>1</sup> <b>Flea Market</b> 7702 Roddy Creek Road 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>3</sup>	<sup>4</sup>	<sup>5</sup>	<sup>6</sup>	<sup>7</sup>
<sup>8</sup>	<sup>9</sup>	<sup>10</sup>	<sup>11</sup>	<sup>12</sup>	<sup>13</sup>	<sup>14</sup> <b>Color Intro Event</b>
<sup>15</sup> <b>Flea Market</b> 7702 Roddy Creek Road 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.	<sup>16</sup>	<sup>17</sup> <b>Spray Your Hair Green!</b> <b>\$10</b> St. Patrick's Day	<sup>18</sup> <b>ALL CUTS 1/2 OFF</b>	<sup>19</sup> <b>KICK OFF SPRING EVENT!</b> Cut & Color \$55 (Single Process) Cut & Color \$100 (Double Process)	<sup>20</sup>	<sup>21</sup>
<sup>22</sup> <b>Flea Market</b> 7702 Roddy Creek Road 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.	<sup>23</sup>	<sup>24</sup> <b>Last Day of Spring Specials</b>	<sup>25</sup> <b>2 Year Anniversary Celebration ALL CUTS \$12</b>	<sup>26</sup> <b>SILK PRESS (Flat Iron) Starting at \$40 ALL CUTS \$12</b>	<sup>27</sup> <b>2 Year Anniversary Celebration ALL CUTS \$12</b>	<sup>28</sup> <b>ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL \$20 Off Any Color Service (\$60 or more!)</b>
<sup>29</sup> <b>Flea Market</b> 7702 Roddy Creek Road 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.	<sup>30</sup>	<sup>31</sup> <b>2 Year Anniversary Celebration ALL CUTS \$12</b>	<sup>1</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>3</sup>	<sup>4</sup>

**224 North Church Street, Thurmont 240-288-7240**

# COOKING

## Putting on the 'Green'

Rheta Thola  
Hollabaugh Bros

Whenever I think of March, I think of Saint Patrick's Day. I remember learning about his life as a teenager and there was one part of his story that has truly stuck with me through the years: He spent most of his life in a field.

As exemplified with the life of St. Patrick as told on page 13, there are many changes that happen each day that culminate into something beautiful. In this area of the country we are used to seeing all of these changes with the beautiful fruit blossoms that emerge in the spring. But that change truly starts weeks before with small gradual changes to a seemingly dead and lifeless tree. Miniscule changes that happen each day lead up to the explosion of beauty. The beginning of change doesn't even seem that beautiful at all – just a small silver tip that begins to extend out from last year's bud. Eventually that silver tip becomes green and bigger and, with patience and good weather, seemingly undergoes a miraculous transformation to a blossom. And that blossom will undergo a further transformation to become (with pollination and LOT more good weather) a fruit.

So religious or not, farmer or not, the life of St. Patrick and the life of a fruit tree (and indeed many things in nature) can teach us a lot about slow gradual transformation. As glorious as instantaneous life changing moments can appear,

it is the slow and gradual change that is what makes it into the history books (or into the market in the form of a delicious fruit). As we come to this spring season with the celebration of St. Patrick's Day, take a deep fresh breath. Get outside and marvel at slow and gradual changes. And just as my parents reminded me, and I remind my children, enjoy the moment and accept gradual change as something that can be beautiful.

### Traditional Irish Potato Cakes

**Ingredients**  
2 tablespoons butter, more if needed  
2 cups cold mashed potatoes  
1 egg  
a little flour if needed - a tablespoon or two up to 1/4 to 1/3 cup salt to taste  
pepper to taste

**Cooking Directions:** Preheat a large skillet over medium heat. Add butter and melt. Using clean hands, mix mashed potatoes, egg, and enough flour to form a "batter" that is thick, not creamy, and "mounds." Add salt and pepper to taste and any optional ingredients as desired.

The amount of flour needed is going to be dependent on how creamy and how rich the original mashed potatoes are – the more butter, cheese, etc. in the original mashed potatoes, the more flour will be needed. Do try to add as little flour as possible, though. Better to have a potato cake that runs a bit when heated than one that tastes of a lot of flour.

Mix right before frying and keep the potato mixture cold. This will

make sure that the outside is nicely browned and crunchy, and the inside will be heated through just right.

To cook, pick up about a quarter of the batter in one hand and form into a patty. Place it into one palm and press and turn into a uniform, round, flat shape. Add to the hot pan; brown very slowly in the hot butter, turning once. Best if eaten at once.

### Colcannon

**Ingredients**  
8 medium Yukon Gold potatoes, peeled and halved  
8 tablespoons unsalted butter  
1/2 cup milk or light cream  
1 small green cabbage, cored and sliced thin  
1 -2 cups of kale, ribs removed and sliced thin  
6-8 scallions finely chopped  
salt and pepper to taste

**Cooking Directions:** Bring a large pot of water to a rolling boil. Add 1 teaspoon salt and the potatoes. Cook until the potatoes are fork tender. Drain in a colander then return to the pot. Mash the potatoes until smooth then add the milk and 6 tablespoons of the butter. Salt and pepper the mixture and set aside to keep warm while preparing the cabbage.

Add the sliced kale and cabbage to a pot of boiling, salted water. Cook for 3-4 minutes or until soft. Drain well. You may also sauté the cabbage and kale in a large skillet with a little olive oil until wilted, if preferred.

Mix the potato and cabbage together and stir in the scallions. Season with salt and pepper.

To serve, scoop potatoes into a serving bowl and make a well in the center. Add the remaining butter and garnish with a few pieces of chopped scallion.

### Irish Apple Cake

**Ingredients**  
3 cups cake flour  
2 teaspoons baking powder  
1/8 teaspoon salt  
1/8 teaspoon ground cloves  
1/8 teaspoon nutmeg  
4oz butter  
3/4 cups sugar  
3 or 4 large baking apples (Hollabaugh's GoldRush or Golden Delicious)  
2 eggs  
1/4 cup milk  
2 tablespoons sugar (to sprinkle on top of cake)

**Cooking Directions:** Preheat the oven to 375 degrees. Prepare a 9-inch round baking pan by spraying with oil or coating with butter. Sift the cake flour, baking powder, salt, cloves and nutmeg into a large mixing bowl. Cut the butter into the flour and rub it in using your fingers or a pastry cutter until the mixture resembles fine bread crumbs. Toss in the sugar and combine it with the flour mixture. Peel and slice the apples into similar 1" to 2" sized pieces. Add the apples into the flour mixture and mix them thoroughly.

Beat the eggs and add a dash of milk. Add to the apples and flour and combine well with a large spoon. Add more milk as needed to fully moisten the flour. The result will be a pretty sticky mixture. Transfer the dough into the prepared cake pan and flatten the top surface using the back of a large spoon. Sprinkle two tablespoons of sugar over the top of the cake.

Bake the cake in the preheated 375 degree oven for 45 to 50 minutes. Cool for 5 minutes in the pan, then transfer to a wire rack to finish cooling.

### Reuben Pizza Rolls

**Ingredients**  
1 pound pizza dough (store bought or homemade)  
8 ounces corned beef  
8 ounces Swiss cheese  
8 ounce can sauerkraut  
Russian (or Thousand Island) dressing  
**Cooking Directions:** Preheat the oven to 400 F. Roll the pizza dough out into a large oval/rectangle, about 16 inches long and 6 inches wide. Cover the pizza dough with the corned beef slices, keeping about 1/2 an inch away from the sides. Top the corned beef with a layer of Swiss cheese slices. Drain the sauerkraut. Then spread it over top of the cheese slices. Roll the pizza dough up length wise. Cut the long roll in half, and then in half again. You will have four more or less equal sized rolls, which you can cut into 3 slices each, for a total of 12 spirals, each about 3/4 of an inch to an inch thick. Put the spirals on a cookie sheet and bake for 15 minutes until the tops just start to brown. Serve with Russian or Thousand Island dressing for dipping.

### Upcoming Events

Mini Maker: Ireland – Friday, March 13th 10 – 11 a.m. Cost: \$7. Registration required.

Pie Baking Class – Saturday, March 14th 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Cost \$40. Registration required.

Pie Family Cooking Class – Saturday, March 14th 1:30 – 3 p.m. Cost \$15. Registration required.

St Patrick's Day Program – Saturday, March 21st 10 – 11:30 a.m. Cost: \$10 per child. Registration required.

For more information about these events, call Hollabaugh Bros at 717-677-8412 or visit our website at [www.hollabaugh-bros.com](http://www.hollabaugh-bros.com).

MELISSA M. WETZEL  
CPA, PC

— Certified Public Accountant —



Tax  
Season  
is  
here!

We're ready to help!

Let our friendly staff assist you in the preparation of your individual and small business taxes in our hometown office at rates you can afford.

Also Available  
Payroll ~ Notary ~ Bookkeeping Services

301 W. Main Street  
Emmitsburg  
301-447-3797  
[melissawetzelcpa.com](http://melissawetzelcpa.com)



STAVROS PIZZA

Emmitsburg Center Square

THE ULTIMATE IN QUALITY!

"The food the educated consumer loves to eat."  
Stavros Pizza Guarantees QUALITY and QUANTITY

LUNCH		MARCH						LUNCH	
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
	CLOSED	CLOSED		Ham & Cheese Sub Special- \$4.99!!					
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
	CLOSED	CLOSED		Tuna Sub Special- \$6.99!!					
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
	CLOSED	CLOSED		Fish Sandwich Special- \$3.99!!					
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28		
	CLOSED	CLOSED		Hot Turkey/ Roast Beef Sandwich- \$6.99!!					
	29	30	31						
	CLOSED	CLOSED		Steak & Cheese Sub Special- \$5.99!!					

WEDNESDAY  
18" CHEESE PIZZA  
\$12  
THURSDAY:  
\$6 SUB NIGHT  
ANY SUB \$6  
SUNDAY DINNER SPECIAL:  
2 - 12" CHEESE  
PIZZAS - \$12  
5 - 8 p.m.

LUNCH  
SPECIALS  
Every Day  
11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

STAVROS COUPON!  
\$3 OFF  
purchase!  
EXP. 04/01/2020 ALL SPECIALS NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER DISCOUNTS/SPECIALS

Stavros Delivery  
Wednesdays &  
Thursdays 4:30-8!  
15 mile Radius!  
\$20min. order  
\$3 Driver Fee  
Check Website for  
more info!

301-447-6767 or 301-447-6768  
Order online: [www.StavrosPizzaEmmitsburg.com](http://www.StavrosPizzaEmmitsburg.com)

Find us on  
Facebook

Closed Monday & Tuesday  
Wednesday & Thursday: 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday: 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.  
Sunday: 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.

# LIBRARY NEWS & EVENTS

## Blue Ridge Summit Free Library

**Mondays - Story Time** starts at 4:30 p.m., immediately followed by Legos and Wee Build Imagineering until 5:30.

**Wednesdays - Coffee club** from 4 - 5:30 p.m., mingle with the gang for coffee, tea, puzzles, board games, coloring books, &c.

**Wednesdays - VITT** (very important teens and 'twens) night. The community room is reserved for teen use from 6 - 7:30 p.m., just hang out or play Wii, play board games, do puzzles, eat snacks, watch movies, make movies, etc.!

**Saturdays - Join us at 11 a.m.** for Story Time and all of its festivities! What could be better than a great book and a fun craft?

**Upcoming Special Events**  
Zero, our wonder therapy dog, will be at the library from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. on March 17, for the ever popular "doghouse sessions". He loves a good book and great company so stop on by and get a fuzzy cuddle!

The Summit Stitches Quilt Club is also meeting at 5:30 p.m. on March 24. New members and new projects are always welcome! Any skill level may attend. If you have always wanted to learn how to quilt, now is the perfect time to start!

The Dining Car Food Club will be meeting at 6 p.m. on March 19. Please put on your creative cap and bring a dish of seasonal foods to share.

## Frederick County Library

(March 2020)

### Emmitsburg Branch

**Family Storytime** - Every Tuesday and Thursday at 10:30 a.m.

**Peppa Pig Book Party** - March 5, 10:30 a.m. Celebrate reading with stories and activities featuring Peppa Pig.

**Elementary STEM Lab** - March 5, 12, 19, 26, 6 p.m. Explore Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math concepts in the STEM Lab. Children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult.

**Create Messy Art** - March 7, 1 p.m. Paint outside the lines, use your hands, create messy art for fun.

**School Skills for Preschoolers** March 12, 26, 11 a.m. Practice school readiness skills with cutting tracing play and other literacy activities.

**Art Lab** - March 14, 1 p.m. Experiment with different art mediums and techniques in this program designed to allow creative expression. March 14 is Fantastical Bean Sculptures.

**Census Job Opportunities** - March 18, 25, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Lean about job opportunities working for the 2020 Census.

**STEAM CAFÉ: Homemade Neon Bouncy Balls** - March 21, 1 p.m. Experiment and make your bouncy balls in fun, neon colors.

**Bread Baking: Building Flavor in Basic Breads** - March 28, 10:30 a.m. Discover various techniques for using commercial yeasts including wine, beer, fresh and dry yeasts.

**Women's History Month: Women in History Celebration** - March 28, 1 p.m. Learn about some of Frederick's most famous women and what makes them amazing. Then, follow in their footsteps

as you participate in art, science, music, and engineering activities.

## Thurmont Regional Library

**Musical Storytime** - Mondays at 10:30 a.m. Music, movement, and stories for the whole family.

**Little Picassos** - Mondays, 2 p.m. Little ones will express themselves through painting, drawing, and more.

**Preschool Storytime** - Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. Songs, stories, and fun for preschoolers and their grownups.

**School Skills for Preschoolers** - Tuesdays at 11:15 a.m. Practice school-readiness skills with cutting, tracing, play, and other literacy activities.

**Preschool Storytime** - Tuesdays, 2 p.m. Songs, stories, and fun for preschoolers and their grownups. Designed for ages 3-5 with a caregiver.

**Toddler Storytime** - Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. Songs, stories, and fun for toddlers and their grownups.

**Baby Storytime** - Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. Songs, stories, and play for babies and their grownups.

**Night Owls!** - Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. Game, technology, slime! Hands-on fun for the entire family.

**Open STEM Lab** - Sundays, 2 p.m. Explore Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math concepts in the STEM Lab. Caregivers, please accompany children under 8.

**Lunchtime Yoga for Adults** - March 2, 12 p.m. Join Sol Yoga for a 60 minute all levels welcome afternoon pick me up. Wear comfortable clothes and bring a yoga mat.

**Read Across America: Stuffed Animal Sleepover** - March 2, 6:30 p.m. Bring your stuffed animal for a bedtime story and activities, then leave your stuffed friend for a fun sleepover in the library! Pick up stuffed animal friend and a photo on Tuesday, March 3.

**Life 2.0: Intro to Reiki** - March 4, 10:15 a.m. Join Mona Thiel of Om Chakra Holistic Healing and Massage Center for an introduction to Reiki and its benefits.

**School's Out!** - March 4, 1 p.m. Try PlayStation VR games and hang out with friends.

**Preschool Coding Club** - March 4, 2 p.m. Introduction to early coding concepts through a variety of activities and games.

**Census Job Opportunities** - March 5, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Learn about job opportunities working for the 2020 Census.

**Nature Sprouts** - March 5, 2 p.m. Explore the natural world through stories and fun activities.

**Writing Workshop** - March 5, 12, 19, 26, 5 p.m. Pressure-free, creativity-stretching, not-like-school sessions. Useful for expanding your talent and honing your writing skills.

**Playdate!** - March 6, 20, 27, 10:30 a.m. A craft, activity, or playgroup designed for children ages 0 to 5 with a caregiver.

**On-site at Catoctin Mountain Park: Storytime and Hike** - March 6, 10:30 a.m. Storytime followed by an easy hike led by a Park Ranger. Meet at Visitor Center, 14707 Park Central Rd., Thurmont.

**Family Storytime** - March 7, 14, 21, 11 a.m. Songs, stories, and fun for the whole family. Designed for ages 0 and up with a caregiver.

**Youth Art Month Reception** - March 8, 2 p.m. Celebrate the creativity and artistic talents of area students as you view their work on display at the library. Refreshments will be served.

**Science Sampler: Owl Pellets** - March 9, 6:30 p.m. Become a wildlife biologist! Investigate what owls eat by dissecting an owl pellet.

**Life 2.0: Smartphone 101** - March 11, 10:15 a.m. Mike Mathis will answer all your questions about using your smartphone or tablet. Bring your device.

**Tiny Stem** - March 11, 18, 25, 2 p.m. STEM projects geared toward smaller hands and imaginations.

**Slime Lab** - March 11, 6 p.m. Try new slime recipes every month with different colors, textures, and additions.

**Forensic Investigations** - March 12, 19, 26, 11 a.m. Forensic science is like a game! Find clues, piece together puzzles and solve mysteries. Learn techniques detectives use when solving crimes and meet a local detective.

**Women's History Month: Women in Frederick County Win the Vote** - Thursday, March 12 7 p.m. Learn the history of how the women of Frederick County first won the right to vote.

**Census Job Opportunities** - March 13, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Learn about job opportunities working for the 2020 Census.

**Storyland: Sensory** - Friendly

**Storytime** - March 13, 10:15 a.m. Sensory-friendly storytime and play in partnership with the Frederick County Infants and Toddlers Program. Designed for ages 0-3 year with an adult. Space is limited, come early for your ticket.

**TGIF!** - March 13, 27, 3 p.m. Chill and chow down. Snacks, games, and more.

**Brain Awareness Week: Take a Virtual Tour of the Brain** - March 16 6:30 p.m. Jump into the body's nervous system and explore the brain using virtual reality technology.

**Hello Holidays; St. Patrick's Day Celebration** - March 17, 3 p.m. Celebrate St. Patrick's Day by testing your luck with games, making crafts, and enjoying snacks.

**Celtic Concert: House of Hamill** - March 18, 7 p.m. This family-friendly concert at Mt. ST. Mary's Knott Auditorium is sponsored by the C. Burr Artz Trust. Free tickets available at the Thurmont and Emmitsburg libraries. (Limit 2 per person).

**League of Women Voters Presents: Why We Vote** - March 19, 6:30 p.m. Get ready for the upcoming election with the League of Women Voters to learn the importance of voting and why every vote counts.

**Earth Day: Rain Gardens** - March 22, 2 p.m. Don Dorsey, Project Manager in the Office of Sustainability and Environmental Resources, talks about the benefits of starting a rain garden.

**Science Sampler: Chemical Reactions** - March 23, 6:30 p.m. Become a chemist! Learn how chemical reactions happen and try a few out for yourself.

**Art Explorers!** - March 24, 4 p.m. Express yourself through art. It's the process, not the product!

**Catoctin's New Deal: How the CCC Developed Catoctin Mountain Park** - March 24, 7 p.m. Andrew Regiec of the National Park Service will detail the history of the Civilian Conservation Corps, with specific focus on how Company 1374 helped to develop what is now Catoctin Mountain Park.

**Life 2.0: Seniors Visit the Library!** - March 25, 1 p.m.-3 p.m. Seniors, come learn what the library can do for you! Meet a miniature pony, explore virtual reality, take a tour, or watch an historic Thurmont photo slideshow from Mayor Kinnaird's collection. All ages welcome.

**Teen Library Council** - March 25, 3 p.m. Make a difference - volunteer, gain leadership experience, and discuss what the library can do for you. Food provided.


**Women's History Month: Women's Wellness Workshop** - March 25, 7 p.m. Explore the importance of self-care and taking time for yourself. Presented by Frederick County Parks and Recreation.

**R.E.A.D. with Wags for Hope** - March 28, 11 a.m. Children read to Reading Education Assistance Dogs.

**Science Sampler: Float your Boat** - March 30, 6:30 p.m. Become an engineer! Design a boat, test it, and see how much weight it will hold.

# JOIN TODAY PAY THE DAY

The earlier you join, the more you save!




SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
\$1	\$2	\$3	\$4	\$5	\$6	\$7
\$8	\$9	\$10	\$11	\$12	\$13	\$14
\$15	\$16	\$17	\$18	\$19	\$20	\$21
\$22	\$23	\$24	\$25	\$26	\$27	\$28
\$29	\$30	\$31	<b>MARCH 2020</b>			

Join the YMCA of Frederick County in March and joining fee equals the date on the calendar. Everything you and your family needs to stay active and healthy this spring is included in your membership!

- Tons of group exercise classes
- State-of-the-art equipment
- Supervised fun for kids while you exercise

...and so much more!



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT™  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

**YMCA OF FREDERICK COUNTY**  
**WWW.FREDERICKYMCA.ORG**

»»» DOWNTOWN Y  
301-663-5131

»»» GREEN VALLEY Y  
301-607-6900



# SCHOOL NEWS

## On Sabillasville Elementary

**Brad Young**  
Frederick County Board of Education

Frederick County Public Schools reminds the community of four important meetings regarding the future of Sabillasville Elementary School.

On Thursday, February 20, Board of Education President Brad W. Young and FCPS Superintendent Dr. Terry Alban hosted the community to an informational meeting at Sabillasville Elementary. They shared the Board's policy and the process that will occur over the next 10-12 weeks regarding the school. Part of the process will include multiple opportunities for the community to give feedback about the school for the Board to consider before a decision is made about the future of the school. We also took questions for about 3 hours on the process. There were about 200 people there. We received much feedback and will investigate the many suggestions that were given. One common suggestion was to move more students to Sabillasville from Thurmont Schools. It was explained that those schools are currently under enrollment and that would not help the situation. It was also suggested that additional enrollment could be coming from the military community. We are

looking into that to see what the government is forecasting.

At the Board's regular 6 p.m. meeting on Wednesday, February 26 in the FCPS Central Office Board Room at 191 S. East Street, Frederick, the Board will hear and discuss the Superintendent's report. The public has the opportunity to make comment at the beginning of the meeting but it is suggested that they listen to the Board discussion and bring comments to the public hearing on March 11th.

The Board of Education will hold a public hearing on the possibility of closing Sabillasville Elementary on Wednesday, March 11 at 7 p.m. tentatively at Catoctin High School. At that meeting members of the community will have 3 minutes each to make public comment about the potential school closing.

During the Board's regular 6 p.m. meeting on Wednesday, March 25, at the FCPS Central Office Board Room, the Board will vote to determine the future of the school. Again, the Board will welcome public comment before the vote is taken.

FCPS also welcomes feedback via email to [sesfeedback@fcps.org](mailto:sesfeedback@fcps.org) or feel free to email me directly at [Brad.Young@fcps.org](mailto:Brad.Young@fcps.org).

### Board adopts budget

The Board of Education recently sent our FY2021 Board requested budget to Frederick County Government. The total budget request was \$680.1 Million. That represents a request of \$28.0 Million over required Maintenance of Effort. It is 6.7% above the approved FY2020 Operating Budget.

Of the \$28 Million increase some of the major areas of increase include positions for enrollment growth, inflationary Increases, additional resources to address student mental health needs, continuation and expansion of programs, strategic replacement cycles for things like computers and buses, other operational needs and funds for the salary resource pool.

Frederick County Public Schools have increased by over 1,100 students just since the start of the school year. That is the equivalent of a new elementary school of students.

Kindergarten and Pre-K Registration Open Monday, March 16

Registration for Frederick County Public Schools fall kindergarten and pre-kindergarten classes begins Monday, March 16 at local elementary schools.

Kindergarten registration will continue on school days between 9 a.m.

and 3:30 p.m. FCPS recommends calling your local school for specific hours. Schools strongly encourage early registration so they have time to predict accurate class size and hire adequate staff.

To enter kindergarten in fall a child must be five on or before September 1. Those registering will need the child's immunization record, proof of birth date and proof of residency. All kindergarten classes at public elementary schools in Frederick County are full-day programs, generally 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. weekdays.

Applications for FCPS fall 2020 pre-kindergarten classes also begins Monday, March 16. FCPS recommends calling your local school for specific hours. Pre-kindergarten applications will be available at your local school.

To enter pre-kindergarten in fall, a child must be four on or before September 1, 2020. Students are selected based on criteria such as eligibility for free or reduced-priced meals or factors that increase a child's risk of not being successful in school. Proof of income eligibility is required for automatic priority placement.

For pre-kindergarten applications, provide the child's immunization record, proof of birth date and proof of residency. If planning to have

the child enter with automatic priority placement status based on the federal income eligibility guidelines for free or reduced-price meals, provide income documentation for each household member by providing one of the following: three consecutive paystubs within the past six months, a W2 form/federal tax return showing 2019 earnings, a Food Supplemental Program verification letter, or a Temporary Cash Assistance verification letter (if those do not apply, please contact the school for other options). If applying for automatic status due to homelessness or foster care, appropriate documentation will be required as well. If the child has a documented special need, please provide a copy of the child's current Individualized Education Program.

FCPS will offer full-day pre-kindergarten classes at Emmitsburg and Thurmont Primary and some other schools. All other schools are paired with pre-k classes at these locations, as follows: Myersville and Wolfsville pre-k students attend Middletown Primary while Lewistown and Sabillasville pre-k students attend Thurmont Primary.

Registration for all pre-kindergarten classes occurs at the child's home school or paired school. For more information, please visit [www.fcps.org](http://www.fcps.org).

## Redistricting and school calendar

**Karen Yoho**  
Frederick County School Board

I've been on the Frederick County Board of Education for a little over a year now, but I've been involved with this school system since 1986 when my son entered kindergarten. In all that time, the two issues that tend to stir up the most public sentiment are redistricting and school calendar. I'm going to focus on the creation of the calendar in this article.

Most likely no one thinks the calendar is easy to create. However, I doubt that many understand just how complex it actually is. For the 2020-21 school year calendar, we received over 2500 emails. When the count was around 800, we divided it up amongst the board members, including our student member. Many of us read our 100 emails and took notes. We made sure that questions were answered by staff. When the number of emails rose to 2500, board leadership arranged for a central office staff member to assist us in reading and compiling the

results. We looked for trends, which can actually be few and far between, believe it or not. But they do at times exist, such as the popularity of spring break.

When the calendar committee first convenes, they've received overarching ideas from the board. Typically, we're looking for a calendar that is conducive to good instruction. That often includes as many 5-day weeks as possible. Once they've received some input from us, the Calendar Committee can go to town, right? Not so fast. There are a number of days that the state requires schools to be off. The two that come up most often are "Christmas through the end of the year" and "Good Friday through the Monday after Easter". Some have commented that winter break is too long. Some years it may seem that way depending on how it falls within the week. In my recollection, we need to have two days in a week before we open the whole system, so we're not having the students and staff come back for just one day. Additionally, it's not uncommon to

hear the suggestion that we take either Good Friday or Easter Monday off our calendar. That is not in our purview.

Since the days off surrounding Easter extend into two different weeks, when we do have a spring break, the decision must be made as to which week will work better. There are several factors that go into that determination. Since Easter is a "traveling" holiday, it makes standardization difficult. Where are we in the term? When does state testing begin? These are some of the criteria that need to be addressed to schedule just this one calendar item.

Another suggestion that comes up frequently is to have school holidays that coincide with federal holidays. Some years we've had off the Friday after Columbus Day. What the public may not realize is that typically the third Friday in October is a day when there are many state education and curricular meetings occurring. When that day is not a day off for students, teachers either must take off to attend or just not attend. As for Veterans Day, many

schools have activities to honor our veterans. Yes, they could be held on a different date, but remember that we are looking for consistency and Thanksgiving break is right around the corner.

Decisions, decisions. I commend those willing to serve on the Calendar Committee. It's a necessary function as we are legally bound to set a school cal-

endar. One positive step is that we are in the process of creating a multi-year calendar. We know that families and businesses will appreciate having this knowledge earlier. The one good thing about the calendar? It changes every year so if this year's makes you see red, maybe you'll love next year's. We can always hope.

**You can afford a school with solid academics and solid values.**



**ENROLL TODAY for FALL 2020**  
MOTHER SETON SCHOOL  
A Pre-K - Grade 8 Catholic School for All  
[MotherSetonSchool.org](http://MotherSetonSchool.org)  
301-447-3165

Now Offering  
**PRE-K for 3 yr olds**  
Call today for more info

# Quality Tire and Auto LLC



Tires and Wheels

Batteries & Light Auto Repairs

We carry batteries and windshield wipers

**301-447-2909**

Avoid the traffic... Stop by our shop at  
**17650 Creamery Rd, Emmitsburg, MD**

We now have a new state of the art tire balancer to better serve our customers needs

Owners: Ron Walter  
Maureen Walter



Pop in today for your new tires

We are your local tire specialists



2019 Best in Best  
TOP FIVE  
Thank you!

## FOUR YEARS AT THE MOUNT

*This month, we asked our writers to think about the importance of literacy, especially in women, to acknowledge “Women’s History Month,” and “Read Across America Day.”*

### Freshman Year

Written in stone

Emmy Jansen  
MSMU Class of 2023

Women’s history month comes around every year and I never know how to celebrate it. What would be the correct way to honor those that have come before me to get me to the place I am today? Often, we settle for merely partaking in the rights they fought to get us. We vote because of the women who campaigned for us to be able to. We get an education because our ancestors, male and female, couldn’t. We were told that “We can do it,” so we do.

There are so many admirable women in modern and past society that we try to model ourselves after. Symbols of American womanhood, like Betsy Ross and various First Ladies, help us to discern what it means to be an American woman, as a beacon of freedom and hope. Freedom fighters such as Malala Yousufzai and Jane Addams show us how to stand up for what we believe in, for us and for others. There are so many female saints, warriors, and mothers who inspire us every day. Mother

Mary instantly comes to mind, her resilience and strength through pain that seems unimaginable. Womanhood, motherhood, and sisterhood make up the female experience and I learn more about it every day. Our inspirations don’t have to be written in history books or magazines. We’re effected by every person we encounter. When I think of strong women, I think of Joan of Arc and Queen Elizabeth II. But I also think of my mom, my grandmother, and the girls in my dorm. We’re inundated by examples of womanhood. March merely provides a context for our introspection.

Though we look to the past to see all the women who have come before us, I’d rather look to the future. Who will I be and how will I play a role in what’s to come? Regardless of gender, how will the people generations from now look back at us?

One way ancestors pass down knowledge and culture is through literature. The two core classes I’m currently taking at the Mount both focus on ancient texts. I often leave class wondering why we spend so much time looking back on the past, specifically from Ancient Greece, even

though there’s so many other cultures and civilizations I know nothing about. Obviously, all these texts have value. Excerpts from the Iliad, Oedipus, and any dialogue from Plato unpack another aspect of humanity. However, our human thirst for knowledge isn’t quenched by this one subsection in the global timeline. Books, new and old, tell us so much about the world around us. It’s unfortunate that in our busy, modern lives we don’t have time to enjoy the mass of knowledge that was left for us. In a world of cultivated understanding and human discovery, we should never remain ignorant. As I sit here writing this in a library, I’m in tune to the books surrounding me that I have never read or touched. Many of the pages here have never been turned since they were put on the shelves. They’re merely taking up space, full of insight that only exists in the author’s mind. I want to read as many books in this library as I possibly can. I’ll let you know in three years how far I’ve gotten.

It might shock you to know that there are people in the United States who don’t know how to read. It might shock you to know that they may never learn. What should shock you most of all is that there isn’t much being done to amend this. This Women’s

History Month, as we reflect on the rights and respect gained over generations, let’s remember the most basic one: the ability to read. If we’re going to celebrate newer freedoms like voting and military service, we should also celebrate the most mundane. Celebrate Women’s History by reading. Use the skill you have that generations ago, your ancestors might not have, both males and females.

Another part of reading is writing. Someone has to be around to write the books that pass down essential wisdom to our great grandchildren and beyond. I find myself scouring bookstores for specific topics only to come up empty. If the book I want to find doesn’t exist, it’s for me to write. Writing has been a staple of my life for as long as I can remember, and college has helped me expand my hobby. I’m constantly reminded of the importance of reading and writing, together and separately. They are significant on their own, as skills necessary in life. They also go hand in hand; Reading makes you a better writer and writing makes you a better reader.

It’s my firm belief that everyone has a story to tell. That’s why I am leaning towards journalism as a career, to tell the stories I’ve always wanted to hear. But you don’t need someone to ask the

questions just for you to answer them. If you’ve been wrestling the idea of telling your story or any story, this is your sign. No one knows what you have to say except for you. There will never be a shortage of stories to tell or people to listen to them but there is a shortage of people willing to tell them. If you won’t do it for yourself or the people around you, think about those yet to come. Our ancestors never thought we’d be sitting here centuries later with the ability to read and write openly. We have no idea what our descendants will be capable of, but we should supply them with all the wisdom and knowledge we can. Humanity has only existed for 200,000 years. We are still at the brink of the human experience. I envy my great grandchildren and the awareness they will have about the world around them. I wish I could be around for it. But the most I can do is bolster their understanding.

This Women’s History Month, I will be reading books by female authors, known and unknown, to celebrate both my ability to read and their ability to write. We have come a long way in 200,000 years. I can’t wait to see where we go.

*To read other articles by Emmy Jansen, visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.*

### Sophomore Year

Lead to truth

Harry Scherer  
MSMU Class of 2022

Education is often spoken of as a sort of liberation. The word itself comes from the Latin ‘ducere’ meaning ‘to lead’ with the prefix ‘e’ meaning ‘out of’. The purpose of educators is to lead their students out of the slavery of ignorance into a more enlightened understanding of the world. This is, at least, the intention. The purpose of reading seems to be largely the same. The reader has a vested interest in his or her development and reads certain materials in light of that interest. This is, at least, the intention.

I contend that the importance of education and literacy and the importance of the content of this education share equal footing. This is to say that an educated person needs to be taught certain things in order to consider himself educated or well-read. The ignorance from which our educators have led us is a burdensome and recurring reality that will stifle our ability to know and understand. The significance of knowing and understanding, however, pales in comparison to the significance of loving.

In my primary, secondary and current undergraduate study, it becomes clearer to me every day that knowledge of the material world and the propensity to love share no relationship. In fact, it seems that an overvaluation of the accumulation of material knowledge can possibly hinder the ability to love; this is a claim that would require many

more words to prove, let alone an ability to cogently prove it, which I do not possess. The burden of leading someone from the darkness of ignorance to the light of truth is an arduous task. It is one that demands patience and uniformity with the will of God, two necessary virtues that seem to be required in the task of education, an occupation which almost guarantees failure.

For the sake of clarity, I think of truth as an unchangeable reality that exists in a certain manner in every time and place and of ignorance as a privation of this truth. Therefore, one can find himself in the camp of truth or ignorance with regard to a certain idea. It becomes clearer, then, that the purpose of education is to recognize those ideas which are rooted in truth and those which stray from that foundation and lead the student to that place of greater enlightenment. With this in mind, it should be considered whether attending a place of education or reading are goods in themselves. It seems that the good arises when the place of education or act of reading fulfill their purpose. One implication of this thought is that one is better off learning and reading a small number of true things than a large number of ignorant things. To me, this claim seems to be largely self-evident.

The subsequent question for our contemporary context is whether the act of education is abused. Is it misunderstood to be merely a political right? I do not have the answers to these questions, but they seem to be fair inquiries for our current leaders.

One person who would have warned against such an abuse of education is Frederick Douglass. The powerful abolitionist found his personal liberation when he learned how to read and write. Douglass, however, did not just read and write anything. He learned fundamental truths about the dignity of each human person and the evil of slavery and used his natural talent and proven rhetorical brilliance to write about these perennial problems in an effective manner.

How does the story of Frederick Douglass affect how we think about literacy and how we should present the issue to our descendants? It is for certain that our children will be curious and will demand an account of their history so that they may better understand where they will go. Because our time is limited here on earth and we should be able to give an account of every second that we spend here, choices must be made with regard to what and how often we read. I am not claiming in any sense that I could successfully give an account of every second of my life with satisfaction; I dare anyone to do this. As an ideal, however, we should still question whether the words that we actively allow to affect our lives are worth this privilege. As persons made in the image of God, we have a responsibility to filter that which we consume for our own good and out of reverence for the gift of life which we have been unworthily granted. Especially today, we know that many products of the human imagination are not worth our time. Douglass devoted time to his reading and writing because he knew that it held existential import; he read to survive, and he wrote to help others do the same.

Our children should think of reading as a necessity for survival. Imagine our cultural leaders thinking of their writing as a tool to lead their followers out of ignorance; a paradigm shift for this small population would yield unimaginable results. Imagine this same population reconsidering the permanence of the written word. This permanent nature presents a hindrance to extemporaneous writing. From another perspective, this permanence is a gift. Without it, there is very little that humans could do preserve their history outside of the uncertainty of oral tradition.

The burden that our generation must undertake, then, is not just

perpetuating the positive trend of widespread national literacy. We must teach the next generation to read the most formative texts in the West. If our offspring do not understand their rich ancestral history, then they have very little on which to base their passion for creative human action. It is surely a benefit to learn and read; if we are not learning and reading the way to virtue and the joys and sorrows of men of old, however, then we are neglecting the fundamental human journey of being led out of ignorance to the Light of Eternal Life.

*To read other articles by Harry, visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.*



**WE’RE DOGGONE GOOD AT GETTING YOU ON THE ROAD!**

**OVER 45 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE**

**EXHAUST REPAIR & CUSTOM EXHAUST SYSTEMS**

UP TO 3" PIPE - CALL TODAY!

STATE OF THE ART WHEEL MOUNTING & BALANCING

**4-WHEEL ALIGNMENTS**

**\$95**

\*SAME DAY TIRE REPLACEMENT ON ALL BRANDS!\*



**210 BOUNDARY AVE.**  
**THURMONT, MD**  
**301 - 271 - 4444**



# ON THE IMPORTANCE OF LITERACY

## Junior Year

### Thank you, Harper Lee

Angela Guiao  
MSMU Class of 2021

I can still remember the day when I walked into my 8th grade classroom and my English teacher said, "Today we are going to begin reading my favorite book." Little did I know that the book she held in her hand would become my favorite book also and eventually serve as a foundation for my ideas about equality and human rights.

Harper Lee wrote two books in her entire career: *Go Set a Watchman*, and *To Kill A Mockingbird*. My favorite book is the latter. *To Kill A Mockingbird* is told through the eyes of two young children: Jem and Scout Finch. The book has two main overlapping plots. In one, we follow Jem and Scout, occasionally accompanied by Dill Harris (the boy who visits every summer) as they navigate life in their small town. In between their adventures, they become engrossed in the mystery that is their neighbor Boo Radley. Radley, a recluse who had become the small town's

favorite gossip subject, is not seen until the very end of the book.

The second plot revolves around Scout and Jem's father, Atticus, who is also a lawyer. He decided to defend a black man named Tom Robinson against the Ewell family, who were white. It was a big deal because it was the beginning of the 1930's a racism was still a very prevalent and accepted act.

Harper Lee wrote *To Kill A Mockingbird*, loosely basing it off her real life. Her father, who served as inspiration for Atticus Finch, was also a lawyer in real life named A.C. Lee. A.C. has a history of taking on controversial cases, once choosing to defend two black men who were being accused of killing a white storekeeper. It is said that Harper used this and the infamous Scottsboro Boys case as a basis for the Robinson case.

Harper Lee officially published *To Kill A Mockingbird* in the 1960's, just as racial tensions soared high and the Civil Rights Movement was reaching its peak. Although she originally thought it would be hated by reviewers, she was pleasantly surprised to find out it was actually widely popular, leading to her eventual win of the 1961 Pulitzer Prize and a Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Ever since that 8th grade class, the fundamental morals I learned from *To Kill A Mockingbird* has influenced so many different aspects of my life. It amazes me that during a time when racism was at an all-time high and the country was literally at a divide, Harper Lee had the courage to speak out against discrimination and unfair practices based solely on a person's skin color.

This month, as we celebrate the women around us, I hope we appreciate women who have the courage to speak up. Women have long since evolved from being thought of as lesser, as weak. I hope women continue to let themselves be heard; let their presence be known; let their strength be felt.

Ever since I was young, I wanted to be a writer. I loved creating stories. When I was younger, my mother always encouraged me to write stories, always pushing me to get more and more creative. But as I grew older, I realized that stories didn't have to be all about adventures and fun. They could also convey a message. They can incite a feeling to do good, to do better. They can motivate change, inspire innovation, influence lives.

But as I grew older, I also realized that not everyone was like my

mother. Not everyone agreed with what I had to say, liked how I felt. Sometimes it was easier to be silent. Sometimes, it was easier to not have controversial opinions, or if I did, it was better to not say anything at all. It was much easier to write things people want to hear, or at least things people wouldn't react to.

And when I realized this, I learned to appreciate Harper Lee even more. As a Southern woman from Alabama, she released a book questioning the actions of white people against black people at the same time the bus boycotts in Montgomery were going on, the same time the injustices in Birmingham were happening.

It is because of her that I realized that sometimes it is okay to speak out. Sometimes it is our duty to say something when something is wrong. It is our responsibility to stand up for people who are having trouble speaking out for themselves. As much as I'd like to wander through life with the childlike innocence of Scout and Jem, sometimes there are instances where life is as real as Tom Robinson's.

This Women's Empowerment Month, let us appreciate women. Let us appreciate the women in history who have made an impact on our culture, our way of life, our liter-

ature, and our future. Let us look to our wives, our daughters, our mothers, our grandmothers, and appreciate the strength and the love and the courage it takes to be a woman!

For me, growing up with divorced parents, there's only ever been one real-life hero in my life. That's my mother. So, to her, I'd like to say thank you.

But also, I'd like to thank all the women role models in history I've had in my life, the ones that influenced me, motivated me, and shaped my understanding of the world and all that comes with it.

So, thank you, Rosa Parks, J.K. Rowling, Mother Teresa, Cleopatra, Amelia Earhart, Maya Angelou, Malala Yousafzai, Ellen, Coco Chanel, and so many more. You have all made an impact on who I have become, how I think about the issues of our society, and my understanding of acceptance and change. I hope you all continue to influence the minds of young people in the world today, tomorrow, and for years to come. Because of you all I am proud to be a woman.

And of course, thank you Harper Lee.

To read other articles by Angela, visit the Authors section of [Emmitsburg.net](http://Emmitsburg.net).

## Senior Year

### Gateway to discovery

Morgan Rooney  
MSMU Class of 2020

It is hard to imagine myself in an alternate universe where I do not have the ability to write. I know I spend the first five or six years of my life with very limited reading and writing skills, but that was so long ago and I knew nothing else.

It's difficult for me to believe that just a few centuries ago, that was the reality for a reasonable size of the population. It is even harder to believe that in some places in the world, it is not uncommon for people to be illiterate. Illiteracy comes hand in hand with poverty. Many people who live in places with extreme poverty do not have the opportunity to go to school or get any education other than what their families can teach them. The sad thing is that almost two thirds of the illiterate world are women.

The authors I read when I was in school to improve my reading skills were very common among my age range, especially for girls. These are women like Barbara Park, Judy Blume and Anne Mazer. I loved to read about other girls who were around the same age as I was. From first to fifth grade, I really enjoyed their series' and was encouraged to write as I was growing up.

I remember when I was in middle school, I would write creative stories for my English class. They weren't particularly good, but I will commend myself by saying that they were creative. I wrote a story about an alien who came to Earth for the first time and could communicate to jellyfish. It definitely sounds silly now, but when

I was 11, this was a whole new world that I had created with solely my imagination and a few other influences. Without the inspiration of female authors who had created characters and stories of their own, I can't say I would be a writer today. One of my greatest hopes is that one day I'll be able to inspire another young girl to write her own story.

When I got to high school, I was assigned a number of different readings. These included authors like Mary Shelley, Harper Lee and Agatha Christie. These women wrote some of the most memorable works I have ever read and I'm grateful they could share their talents with the rest of the world, including me.

I first started writing ever since I can remember. When I was a child, I would look at a blank piece of paper as a blank canvas ready for me to draw out my craziest and silliest thoughts with crayons to make a colorful masterpiece. As I got older and could write legibly, I felt the same way about a blank piece of lined paper. I could write anything without any limitations. Was my spelling great? No way, but I could sound out words enough where my parents and teachers could understand what I was trying to write.

As an adult, I spend my time doing what many others do, regardless if they have a college education or not. I drive while being able to follow directions and signs. I love experimenting with new restaurants and choosing new, interesting items from the menu. I travel to different places when I am given the opportunity. I take up a share of my personal time on social media. I write messages to friends and family to keep in touch with them. I can't imagine a

world where I am unable to partake in those things.

Having the ability to read and write is so much more than just getting around discovering things. Literacy is a gateway to knowledge and learning. Once one has the ability to read, no matter the language, a world of knowledge and discovery is opened up to them. Millions of books in the world are full of ideas, stories and history. Some of the most knowledgeable people I know are the ones who spend their free time reading and learning.

With the ability to write comes the ability to share your idea with others. Whether you're sharing your opinion, a creative short story, a novel, research or history, you're putting your ideas out in the world so others can hear them and learn from them. As I write this, I am sharing my thoughts and ideas with whoever chooses to read it. I am grateful for the opportunity to do so and I hope to continue to learn from others while also sharing my own ideas back to whoever wants to hear them.

I feel like literacy is something many of us take for granted, as we live in a developed part of the world where it is uncommon for us to think otherwise. For myself, I know literacy is something I overlook often. Going through school, I always complained how I didn't want to go. I would get frustrated when I was five years old, sitting next to my dad as he helped me sound out words because they were long and challenging. Even now, with the opportunity I have to attend college, I still have my moments where all I can think is, "I want to go home." It's important to remember what we have instead of focusing on the things we don't.

Although I don't have much time to read for pleasure now, it is something that I hope I continue as I graduate and go through adulthood. Most of all, however, I want to continue writing. Wherever my career takes me, which is unknown to me at this point, I have a goal to keep writing. I have always wanted to be

an author and that hasn't changed. Even though it may never be my full time career, it is something I want to pursue because I enjoy it and it is the best way to share what I have to say with the rest of the world.

To read other articles by Morgan, visit the Author's section of [Emmitsburg.net](http://Emmitsburg.net).



**THE FURNACE**  
HOT CRABS COLD BEER

**Grill & Crab House**  
240-288-8942

Closed Monday • Tuesday - Thursday 3 - 11 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday 11 a.m. - 2 a.m.  
Sunday 12 - 9 p.m.

Delicious Steamed **SHRIMP & CRAB LEGS!**  
Crabs available by the dozen, half bushel & bushel when in season!

**A.Y.C.E. EVERYDAY!**  
Call For Pricing!

Tuesday - 75¢ Wings & Yeungs!  
Wednesday - \$5, \$6 & \$7 Appetizers And TRIVIA!  
Thursday - Kids Eat FREE!  
with purchase of an adult meal.

12841 Catoclin Furnace Rd., Thurmont

# FASHION

## Easter hats & bonnets

Valerie McPhail  
MSMU Class of 2015

Like our habits, do trends die hard? My understanding is that they never seem to escape us; they just return in season, and resurface to the forefront of our interest, or shall I dare say our fashion obsessions? I wonder where the Easter hat, a garment of vibrant fashion reference and cultural history, fits into the case for Spring fashion. For, unlike the trend, the Easter hat is an accessory advanced by the Church, in accordance with scripture interpretation. Its reach into mainstream fashion has not found entirely transferable. Though a fashion statement by definition of a garment that is unlike anything else beyond the Kentucky Derby garb - feathers, bright colors, and classic top hat shape - the Easter hat appeals to current fashion, as nothing is more individual than a sense of personal style.

### Church Attire

To engage fashion, in its fullness of superficiality and vain, within the Church, is a beautiful expression. Fashion's presence in the non-secular is proof that the industry thrives, at best, when engaged within culture, and the affection of the human heart. The latter is where personal style is explored, and even in the Church, an institution built on tradition, can be acknowledged and celebrated. Therefore, the Easter hat, also referred to as the Easter bonnet, is not a religious symbol. Rather, it is representative of the Christian community's commitment to tradition's interpretation of the Bible. History shares that the Easter bonnet was action of the Word, 1 Corinthians 11: 5-6, understanding its guidance to instruct a woman to cover her head when worshipping God.

In the book, "The Penguin Guide to the Superstitions of Britain and Ireland", Jennifer Westwood, and Stephen Roud further discuss the subject of new garments worn on Easter Sunday. Their conclusions develop conversation around larger topics on spirituality. "[The Easter bonnet] represents the tail-end of a tradition of wearing new clothes at Easter, in harmony with the renewal of the year and the promise of spiritual renewal and redemption." ("Easter bonnet") A consideration for expressing one's spirituality through new fashion, at Church, is rare to today's modern culture.

Even the presence of "Sunday's best," the act of dressing-up for Mass or service, is a fading concept to the local Church. A few years ago, my parents spent a weekend in New York to visit my twin sister and me and our weekend agenda included Church on Sunday. We showed up to Hammerstein Ballroom, where my home church was hosting service at the time. I wore jeans and a graphic tee, and my mom, heels and a beautiful navy and pink, Spring dress. As millennials raced around the venue in skinny black jeans, fedoras, and Vans sneakers, my mom blatantly communicated through fashion, that she was from out of town. Acknowledging the difference, I inquired on why she chooses to dress up for service. She answered, "I want to give God my best." Though the matchbox hat, pearls, shawls, and pencil skirt fashion no longer define mandatory attire, the desire to dress with honor to God remains. In response to spiritual rebirth, impressionable fashion is the most intimate act of personal expression.

### The New York Parade

New York City celebrates Easter with a Parade on Easter Sunday each year. Unlike the parades

recorded in the Bible, such as Palm Sunday, this is a fashionable event for the city. From St. Patrick's Cathedral to 55th Street, bonnets, top hats, and unique headpieces are typically accompanied by costume. In a 2018 interview with Racked, Tenth Street Hats CEO Carson Finkle shared the history of the parade,

"The first Easter parade was in New York after the Civil War. People had basically been dressed more like they were in mourning, in black, but that Easter they really wanted to come in bright clothes and Easter hats. The history and the tradition behind the hats really stems from that. For years, people were known to buy new hats, their first hats of the year, to wear for Easter. It's a complete renewal for that year — new hat, new wardrobe."

The parade offers opportunity for public expression, where hats dressed like Easter baskets, flower crowns, and accessories honoring different cultures are represented. Each year, the fashion capital of America fashions the Easter bonnet. To have the hat representing the season of rebirth at an annual parade in midtown New York City is noteworthy of trending status.

### From Runway to Everyday

Whereas women wear bonnets for Easter, Finkle from Tenth Street Hats said that the men's choice is the fedora. The Easter hat has evolved; is the woman in the fedora - a popular New York style - a sign of fluidity in fashion? But that's just sightings of everyday life in the city. At fashion week, Temporary London and Erdem sent designs that appeared to be the closest manifestation to Easter hat. Boxy top, a wide cylinder lid, and ribboned harness informed the design. In New York, the Spring hat was shown in full spectrum. Marc Jacobs led the statement of the season through showcasing a variety of them at his show, which habitually closes New York Fashion Week. Across



Nothing says spring like a pretty bonnet



the world, fashion brands interpreted the style differently. For others, spring brought floppy hats by Oscar de la Renta and straw hats by Rosie Assoulin. Few and far between were the go-go caps from Sportmax, Salvatore Ferragamo's baseball caps, and the cowboy hat at Chanel.

For Spring 2020, the new bonnet is the baby bonnet: the bucket hat. R13 printed the cap with neon-colored animal prints and fiery flames, while Anna Sui

showed a more feminine touch with floral and check-printed patterns of Easter colors such as tangerine, lavender, and baby blue. On the Tenth Street Hats website, the brand informs, "Historically, Easter represents literal resurrection. Over the years, the meaning of the holiday has evolved and shaped itself around more modern traditions. The Easter hat — typically a bonnet or an elegant church hat — has itself evolved along with the holiday. " Though Macy's still sells the traditional Easter hat, adorned with feathers and flowers online, fashion is progressing to new thought on the accessory. From the runway to brick-and-mortar, even online, the Easter hat carries an influence on springtime fashion.

The Easter hat is an accessory symbolic of new beginnings, shedding the past heaviness of winter and embracing Spring through fashionable expression. As fashion evolves, alterations are made repeatedly. But the heart of style is steadfast, uncharacteristically deviant from its function, irrespective of how outlandish, avant-garde, and experimental the designs present. The hat, bonnet, and cap can represent the Easter hat. Fashion welcomes expression in all forms. And God loves our devotion, even if it is represented in the material.

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

**The Upholstery Shop** ✂

Michael Woodhams  
Owner

Custom Upholstery  
Window Treatments  
Furniture Repair & Restoration  
Wide Selection of Top Quality Fabrics

~ Family owned and operated for over 50 years ~

5810 Taneytown Pike • Taneytown  
Look for the Blue Sign!

410-596-1935  
MichaelWoodhamsUpholstery@gmail.com

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED  
VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER

**Needle & Thread - Wooded Hamlet Design**  
FABRIC - NOTIONS - PATTERNS  
2215 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg  
717-334-4011  
www.needleandthread.biz • www.woodedhamlet.com  
Friday 9:30 a.m.-8:00 p.m. Saturday 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.  
Wednesday & Thursday 9:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.  
Closed Sunday, Monday & Tuesday  
Darlene Grube Proverbs 31: 10-31

**Spring Is Here!**  
Get rid of the winter blues!  
Treat your self to a  
**NEW LOOK FOR SPRING!**  
301-447-6600  
121 North Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg  
Tuesday 9-5 • Wednesday & Thursday 9-7  
Friday 9-5 • Saturday 8-2  
Walk-Ins Welcome! Kerry Shorb - Owner Operator Major Credit Cards Accepted

MY FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS  
HAIR DESIGN

# HOME DECOR

## Naturals & neutrals done fun

Jessica Crawford  
Cotton & Co.

In the past couple of articles, we have discussed incorporating color in tasteful doses throughout your home. But what about neutrals? If you go too neutral, it becomes colorless, texture-less and bland. I think that a common misconception is that the word neutral pertains explicitly to color, or the lack thereof. But it's so much more exciting than that. There are many ways to make a space, home or room appear full of texture and intrigue, while sticking to a neutral color palette.

When you're looking to incorporate design intrigue into your home decorating, but aren't keen on bold colors, there's many ways to add interest without the use of bold color tones. While I personally love a pop of a striking color, I also love and appreciate the beauty in simplicity and natural tones. It comes down to breaking up neutral colors with textiles and texture. Whether these are natural, synthetic, hard or soft, these elements are essential to breaking up a neutral palette.

I am a huge fan of natural textures and textiles. A responsibly sourced cowhide or sheepskin rug is a great natural way to add texture to a space. A sheepskin rug is soft and snuggly, while a cowhide rug is a bit more industrial, masculine, but also rich in natural color. I like to picture a sheepskin rug in front of an open fireplace, snow on the ground outside and the family pet curled up sleeping. Or draped over the back of a vintage wingback chair, keeping you cozy during these chilly winter months as you nestle in with a good book. Wool is naturally antibacterial and odor resistant too, which is a fun little fact. It's both a wonderful textile and texture, as it's very versatile.

A cowhide rug is an entirely underrated resource that we have available to us. It's all-natural and each is unique and one of a kind. They're great for a multitude of spaces in your home; as an accent in a seating nook, under a dining room table, in the corner of an entryway, or in a library or office. Anywhere you're looking to add a warm, neutral but natural, bold touch. And if you're unable to find a sustainably sourced natural product, or are uncomfortable using a natural animal product, there are plenty of synthetic options out there and available.

White wool pillows with a delicate embossed design, or a braided synthetic wool look-alike throw are great textile additions to a space. I also have a soft spot for the oversized shaggy pillows that are trending now. We live in a time when there really are no strict rules to designing your home. Don't want matching pillows? Then don't, just stick to a common color, tone or hue

scheme, and you can mismatch to your heart's content. Textiles (rugs, pillows, curtains, throws, etc...) are about half the battle in transforming a less exciting neutral space into a neutral space with impact.

Reeds and grasses are also excellent for adding texture. They tend to be available in natural and neutral tones. Whether it's adding long stemmed grasses to a large vintage glass carboy or jug. Or by incorporating these natural elements that have been manufactured into other products. An over-sized reed basket for storing blankets next to the couch. An open shelf in the laundry room, home office, utility room, lined with natural grass baskets for storing supplies. Natural baskets come in all shapes and sizes for unlimited options for storage and display. They're Home Essential 101.

But you don't just see natural reeds and grasses turned into storage baskets. You see them in all kinds of ways. One of my most favorite neutral displays that I currently use around the store, is a wall composed of various, vintage wicker baskets and trays. I like to seek out seven to ten varying wicker, bamboo, woven grass or reed baskets, trays, and trivets, and hang them equidistance from each other, and create a wall mural. Choosing mismatched, yet coordinating pieces packs

quite a design punch. Each is unique, varying in shape and size and natural color. A wall mural such as this completes the room, by filling wall space in a non-complicated way and adding height. But again void of bold colors; a bold statement without bold colors.

Vintage wicker is a hot trend right now too. There is nothing more quintessential vintage wicker than a vintage peacock chair. Drape a soft faux fur white or grey blanket over that bad boy, with a coordinating neutral cushion and you have a maximum potential statement piece for any room in your home, that needs a pop of interest. Many of our vendors have been carrying vintage wicker recently because it suits so many styles and trends. Whether you consider your style to be mid century, farmhouse, boho, traditional, it seems that wicker can easily be integrated into your home décor.

Need a little design help? Don't be shy. Drop on by the Old Mill in Keymar and see us, we are always happy to assist. Between our seventeen vendors, we have something for everyone, every home and every style. We have a great stock of neutrals and naturals (and bolds and colorful) in-stock and in-store right now. Bring us photos, Instagram feeds, magazine clippings, etc... of styles you'd like to emulate,



A neutral antique empire dresser highlighted by a wall mural of mismatched vintage wicker baskets always catches visitor's eyes.

and we can help. Our vendors update regularly, our inventory is always and ever-changing. We're sure to have something to help you accomplish the look and

design you're seeking to achieve. We're open every weekend, Friday through Sunday and located off Route 194 in Keymar, pop on down and see us!

**Kramer's**  
PIANO SHOP  
Family-owned & operated since 1974

**SALES • TUNING • LESSONS • MOVING**

12049 Woodsboro Pike, New Midway  
**301-898-3245** [www.kramerspianoshop.com](http://www.kramerspianoshop.com)

**Fabulous Nails**  
@ THE TOTAL LOOK

**MARCH INTO APRIL!**  
With a Fabulous Nails  
**Manicure & Pedicure** For Only **\$30**

April Johnson Nail Tech/Artist  
5 East Main St., Emmitsburg  
301-514-1301 • 301-447-2541

We Carry a Full Line of  
2 Blondes APPAREL

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

**Kim Mills**  
ABR, SRES  
Associate Broker

C. 717.752.4340  
O. 717.762.7111

[kim.mills@cbhomes.com](mailto:kim.mills@cbhomes.com)  
[KimMillsHomes.com](http://KimMillsHomes.com)

1814 E Main Street, Waynesboro, PA 17268  
PA-AB068344 | MD-5000279  
Owned by a subsidiary of NRT LLC.

**HEART AND HANDS**

Custom Upholstery  
Custom Window Treatments  
Energy-Efficient Window Treatments

202B E. Main St., Thurmont  
**301-271-1028**  
[heartandhandsworkroom.com](http://heartandhandsworkroom.com)  
Call for an Appointment  
Call for a Personalized Home Visit  
References Available Upon Request

**Pamela Hamrick**  
Owner/Operator  
Over 25 Years Experience

**COTTON & CO. VINTAGE BOUTIQUE**

Vintage, Home Décor, Seasonal & Clothing.  
Monthly Classes & Events.  
Unique Upscale Vendors & Artisans  
Featuring The Maryland General Store

**Hours:**  
Fri./Sat. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. • Sun. 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

facebook  
instagram  
Follow us on Facebook & Instagram  
@CottonAndCoVintageBoutique

900 Francis Scott Key Hwy., Keymar  
410-775-0013

## ARTS

## 2020 Celtic concert

Samantha Jones  
Frederick County Library

How Canceled Flights, Irish Fiddle Tunes, Radiohead, and Whiskey Created House of Hamill

Rose Baldino and Brian Buchanan met 10 years ago, one-night backstage at a theatre in rural Pennsylvania. Brian's band Enter The Haggis and Rose's group Burning Bridget Cleary were sharing a stage, and the two bonded over a love of Irish fiddle tunes, Radiohead, and whiskey. In 2014, they met again when Burning Bridget Cleary's guitarist and drummer had their flights canceled at the last minute and Rose asked Brian to grab a guitar and join her onstage. The two performed for

over an hour and their connection was powerful and immediate. A few months later, as a tribute to the first tune Rose ever taught Brian, House of Hamill was born.

The Frederick County Public Libraries Celtic Committee is thrilled to have House of Hamill as the 2020 Celtic headliner. Listen to the band's collaboration live at this year's concert as they mix classic jigs and reels with their exciting, unpredictable, and catchy tunes. Along with their fortuitous beginning, House of Hamill bring their immense talent to the region. Both Baldino and Buchanan are accomplished traditional fiddle players and classical violinists, with over 25 years of writing and performance experience between them.

The annual Celtic Concert is

a free and family-friendly event, underwritten by the C. Burr Artz Trust, and presented by the Emmitsburg and Thurmont libraries. "This concert has become a popular north county tradition," said Thurmont Regional Library Branch Administrator, Amy Whitney. "We've been so fortunate over the years to have had such dynamic and talented bands as our headliners. We also pride ourselves on discovering new and different styles of Celtic bands to bring to Frederick. Fortunately, this year's band is a little bit of both, they are new as House of Hamill and a prior crowd favorite as Enter the Haggis, our 2013 Celtic band. We are delighted to have Brian back as part of House of Hamill. I think the audience is in for a real treat."

Once dubbed "The Little Concert that Grew", the Celtic Concert



Rose Baldino and Brian Buchanan of House of Hamill.

began in 2000 in a Emmitsburg Branch Library meeting room, and has grown to become a must see concert event around the St. Patrick's Day holiday. Admission is free, all ages are welcome. Tickets are required. Free advance tick-

ets can be picked up (limit two/person—while supplies last) at the Emmitsburg or Thurmont Libraries beginning Saturday, March 7 at 10 a.m. The concert takes place March 18 at the Mount's Marion Burk Knott Auditorium.

## The game is afoot

Justin Kiska

The Way Off Broadway Dinner Theatre is preparing to welcome one of the greatest detectives in literary history this spring with its production of Ken Ludwig's Baskerville – A Sherlock Holmes Mystery. Beginning on March 13th – Friday the 13th, nonetheless – Sherlock Holmes and his crime-solving partner Dr. John Watson will take to the stage to solve one of the pair's most notorious cases, The Hound of the Baskerville. How-

ever, this is a Sherlock Holmes mystery with a twist. The play's afoot! From the award-winning mastermind of mayhem, Ken Ludwig (Lend Me a Tenor and Moon Over Buffalo), comes a fast-paced comedy about everyone's favorite detective.

Holmes is on the case as the male heirs of the Baskerville line are being dispatched one by one. To find their ingenious killer, Holmes and Watson must brave the desolate moors before a family curse dooms its newest heir. Audiences watch as our intrepid inves-

tigators try to escape a dizzying web of clues, silly accents, disguises, and deceit. Does a wild hellhound prowl the moors of Devonshire? Can our heroes discover the truth in time? The truth is far from elementary as Holmes and Watson try to solve the case as only three other actors play 43 different characters, bringing Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's classic mystery to life on the stage.

Baskerville - A Sherlock Holmes Mystery received its world premiere as a co-production between Arena Stage in Washington, DC and the McCarter Theatre in New Jersey in early 2015, directed by Amanda Dehnert. Later that same year, Baskerville premiered on the West Coast at San Diego's Old

Globe Theatre in a mounting directed by Josh Rhodes.

Taking on the role of the world's most famous detective is Joseph Waeyaert, a familiar face to Way Off Broadway audiences, with Matthew Crawford returning to the theatre as Dr. John Watson after having last appeared in SHREK – The Musical during the 2018 Season. Joining the duo as every other character in the play are Sarah Melinda, Steve Steele, and Laura Walling.

"Everyone loves a good who dunnit," says Producer Justin Kiska. "And this is a brilliantly funny, fast-paced adaptation of one of Holmes most memorable cases. Not to mention, with only three actors playing 43 different characters, it's

also a bit of a marathon on stage. But it is so much fun to watch!"

Baskerville – A Sherlock Holmes Mystery runs March 13–April 25, with performance every Friday and Saturday evening and matinees on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday of each month. For evening performances, guests arrive for dinner at 6 p.m. with the show beginning at 8 p.m. For matinees, doors open at 12:30 p.m. for lunch with the show beginning at 2:15 p.m. Tickets for a Friday evening or Sunday matinee are \$47; Saturday evenings, tickets are \$50. Tickets may be purchased by calling the Box Office at 301-662-6600. To learn more about Baskerville, or any of Way Off Broadway's productions, visit [www.wayoffbroadway.com](http://www.wayoffbroadway.com).

Gettysburg College's

# MAJESTIC

at the Jennifer and David LeVan Performing Arts Center

**The IRISH COMEDY TOUR**  
Friday, March 6  
7:30 p.m.

The Irish Comedy Tour takes the party atmosphere of a Dublin pub and combines it with a boisterous band of bawdy comedians, Celtic musicians and maybe even a leprechaun or two. Not recommended for children.

**Tickets: \$42, \$37, \$32**

**Ballet Folclórico Nacional de México**  
Thursday  
March 19 - 7:30 p.m.

Mexico's most prestigious folkloric dance company presents a colorful evening of traditional music and dance with sophisticated costumes and powerful dancers.

**Tickets: \$54, \$44, \$34**

25 Carlisle Street, Gettysburg  
For Tickets Call: 717-337-8200  
Visit our website at [www.gettysburgmajestic.com](http://www.gettysburgmajestic.com)

## Graceham Moravian Church presents Cristabelle Braden

Cristabelle Braden, an award-winning singer/songwriter, speaker, author, and the founder of Hope After Head Injury, will present a concert at Graceham Moravian Church, 8231-A Rocky Ridge Road on Sunday, March 22, at 3 p.m. The concert is open to all.

After suffering a traumatic brain injury, Cristabelle began to write music. Since then, she has surpassed medical expectations and thrived in her newfound gift of music; she has come from re-learning daily life tasks in brain injury rehabilitation to setting her feet firmly on the ground as a songwriter, speaker, and artist with a message of hope. She has released multiple albums of original music and tours all over the United States, bringing her powerful testimony and a message of freedom, healing, and love wherever she goes.

This year she launched a new podcast entitled Declaration Life, all about living with intention, purpose, and declaring truth over your life. Her journey has inspired her to become a passionate advocate for brain injury, lobbying on a statewide and national level with the Brain Injury Association of America, as well as personally working hard to provide support and encouragement to brain injury survivors and their families through her organization Hope After Head Injury.

Her music tells her story with a



strong message of survival, faith, and never giving up. Her heart is in ministry, and a large portion of her performances are at hospitals, rehab centers, brain injury groups, homeless shelters, prison ministries, and more like this, as well as churches, retreats, conferences, concerts, and music venues.

Cristabelle is a living testimony and fights for what she believes in, through her music, speaking, and advocating for brain injury. She is a sought-after speaker, both in Christian ministry and brain injury events. She has shared her story and given messages at women's events, conferences, youth events (including in schools) and more; and also spoken at many brain injury events and conferences, most notably having given keynote addresses at the

Mayo Clinic Brain Injury Conference, as well as statewide brain injury conferences across the country.

Her first book, 'more to me: discovering your freedom through identity' is an interactive prayer journal based on the song of the same name. She took home the Kindred Regional Christian Music Awards "Female Artist of the Year" in 2015 followed by the Kindred Choice Award in 2017. Hope After Head Injury also was awarded the "Best Organization Award" from the Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania in 2017, for all of Cristabelle's work in the brain injury community. Her heart is to bring a message of hope to all she encounters. For more information visit [www.cristabellebraden.com](http://www.cristabellebraden.com) or call the church office at 301-271-2379.

# MOUNT ARTS

## March's peaceful lion and lamb

Chloe Corwin  
MSMU Class of 2020

As they say, March comes in like a lion and out like a lamb, but given the mild weather we have been experiencing and the positive readings from Punxsutawney Phil, this March is looking to be a gentle one. Similarly, the Visual and Performing Arts Department of Mount St. Mary's University has some beautiful and tranquil events to complement the even-keel weather.

To begin, the art subject area is taking the reigns with Carolyn Ciccocioppo ('20) and her Senior Honors Art Project. The reception Ciccocioppo's grand opening will be held March 12 at 5-6:30 p.m. in the Williams Art Gallery in the Delaplaine Fine Arts Center on the MSMU campus. Her show is titled From Brokenness to Redemption at the Well.

Ciccocioppo's show is a culmination of her hard work and dedication to the arts over her four years at Mount St. Mary's University. The blood, sweat, and tears that go into these big events are so critical for a young artists journey. This is a great opportunity for Ciccocioppo, having an entire art show to herself. Notice the show is her senior honors project, not just senior project. There is an elevated level of skill, talent, and ability that Ciccocioppo had to perform at in order to complete this show, and it is certainly not one to miss.

The second event of the semester is from the music subject area in an event called the Peace Concert. On March 17 at 4:00 p.m. in the Knott Auditorium, the wind ensemble and MSMU chorale are joining forces to create a day of peace and contemplation. Dr. Andrew Rosenfeld describes the purpose of this event as such, "this program gives us the chance to respond in music to the many issues of conflict, discrimination, and violence facing us as Americans today." Dr. Mark Carlson adds, "if nothing else, music brings people together for a shared experience, and that is a great step towards solidarity and peace."

Dr. Carlson provides an insight to this concert's repertoire by stating, "The wind ensemble will be performing selections from Benjamin Britten's Four Sea Interludes from his opera Peter Grimes (1945). These four movements are arranged

for wind ensemble from the orchestra original = but they are impressionistic incidental interludes from the opera. While they represent the sea over the course of the opera it becomes apparent that the sea's condition parallels the plot. There is only one bit of music in these interludes which quotes from an actual vocal part from the opera – in it the protagonist asks the rhetorical question, "What harbor shelters peace?" This is a question I would ask the Mount community and invite us all to ask ourselves daily."

This event is free and open to the public, with an additional donation basket that will be sent to a charitable cause.

The final event for March is another from the music subject area. Dr. Rosenfeld and choir director at Frostburg State University, Scott Rieker, have reunited to connect the two schools' choirs in an epic event two-day event on March 27 and 28.

Rieker is a former Mount seminarian from the early 2000's and was a part of the MSMU chorale while a student here. That is where he and Dr. Rosenfeld met one another. Over the years the pair have stayed in touch as Rieker bounced around the country until he took up residence last year as the Frostburg State University choir director. Rosenfeld and Rieker then discussed joining the choirs over the summer, and are now bringing that idea to fruition.

The concert will consist of works by Jewish composers including pieces by Mendelssohn, Bonia Schur, Dr. Andrew Rosenfeld, and Jerome Kern. Rosenfeld comments, "this concert will give the audience an opportunity to enjoy some beautiful but also unexplored literature." The choirs will perform two double choir pieces together and additionally sing their own separate repertoire.

As for rehearsal, the two choirs will practice separately at their respective Universities, and will join together on the first day of shows on March 27 where the MSMU chorale will travel to Frostburg State University. Then the following day, the choirs will come back to the Mount campus for the second show at 7:30 p.m. in the Immaculate Conception Chapel. This event is free and open to the public. The joining of these two choirs is sure

to be a beautiful presentation of superb singing and joyous fun!

April is absolutely the busiest month for the department because of the senior recitals, final concerts, and Mainstage theatre productions. The first week of April is packed with three events back to back to back! Firstly, on April 1 at 6:00 p.m. in the Horning Theater, seniors Matthew Janoi and Maddie Weldon will be performing in the Senior Music Major Recital. This is the first of two events for senior music majors where they will perform a concert of music for a grade to pass their senior project course. This course dictates whether they are able to complete their major or not, so for these students, this concert is a major event.

Then the following day on April 2, the Simon Gabriel Brute Student Art Show will be opening in the Delaplaine Fine Arts Center's William's Gallery. This show will hold art pieces from students of various years and classes. This art gallery is going to be diverse in mediums, color, and content. The reception for this event will be held on April 2 at 5-6:30 p.m.

Then, the long-awaited Mainstage performance of She Kills Monsters by Qui Nguyen finally takes the stage on April 2, 3, & 4 at 8 p.m. Price for admission is \$5.



The MSMU music ensembles playing at the Delaplaine Fine Arts Center in Frederick on February 21.

The cast is as follows: Sophia Vargas as Agnes, Allison Wade as Tilly, Deldridge Berry as Chuck, Jonathan Gilbert as Miles, Claire Moberly as Kaliope/Kelly, Giovannie Gaston as Lilith/Lily, Sarah Johnson as Vera/Beholder, Maria Stollenwerk as Narrator, Katie Schisler as Evil Gabbi, Hannah Hicks as Evil Tina, Julia Connolly as Farrah the Faerie, Carlos Perez as Steve, and Pratosh Brahmabhatt as Orcus/Ronnie.

The students have been working so hard over the last few months and are very excited to finally put this show on for the Emmitsburg community. Allison Wade comments, "I am so proud and excited to present She Kills Monsters! The cast and crew are all working overtime to create a heartwarming show with lots of action and plenty of laughs."

There are a lot of moving parts

to this show, including puppeteers, dragons, monsters, and the mystical world of Dungeons and Dragons. Carlos Perez states, "I am happy and proud to be a part of such a diverse and funny cast. I am excited to experience the entirety of the show with them."

The end of the Spring 2020 semester is approaching faster than one can even imagine. Luckily there are plenty of great events to fill up the days until summertime.

The Mount St. Mary's University Department of Visual and Performing Arts is located in The Delaplaine Fine Arts Center and can be contacted by phone at 301-447-5308. For more information about the department visit [www.msmary.edu](http://www.msmary.edu).

To read other articles by Chloe, visit the Author's Section of [Emmitsburg.net](http://Emmitsburg.net).

Frederick County Public Libraries presents

# 20<sup>th</sup> Celtic Concert

House of Hamill

All Ages Welcome  
Wed. 18 MARCH  
7-9 P.M.

[fcpl.org/celtic](http://fcpl.org/celtic)

FREE ADMISSION & PARKING  
Marion Burk Knott Auditorium  
Mount St. Mary's University  
Emmitsburg, MD

TICKETS ARE REQUIRED  
Pick up your FREE advance tickets beginning 10 a.m.  
(Limit two per person while supplies last)

Sat., March 7 at  
Thurmont Regional Library &  
Emmitsburg Branch Library

FREDERICK  
COUNTY  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARIES

C. BURR ARTZ TRUST

Ken Ludwig's

# BASKERVILLE

A Sherlock Holmes Mystery

THE Way Off Broadway  
DINNER THEATRE

March 13 - April 25, 2020

5 Willowdale Drive | Frederick, Maryland  
Box Office: 301.462.6600 [www.wayoffbroadway.com](http://www.wayoffbroadway.com)

# LOCAL SPORTS

## Winter Sports Wrap-Up

Mia Ferraro  
CHS Class of 2022

**G**irls Basketball - It's been an incredible season for the CHS girls basketball. With the #1 seed in the league, the lady cougars are setting their sights on states. Just like this year's CHS State Champion Football team whose previous state title was earned 10 years ago, the girl's basketball team also won their last state championship 10 years ago and is hoping to reclaim the title this year. The girls finished their regular season on Thursday, Feb. 20 against FSK with an overall record of 17-5. Four of their losses were to division 2A schools, so their 1A record stands at only one loss to Williamsport, a 39-37 defeat early in the season. This places them as the #1 seed as they enter the playoffs.

The team has been coached by Amy Entwistle, a Physical Education and Health teacher at Catocin High School, for 16 years. Her

assistant coaches are Chris Barnhart, one of the gym teachers at Thurmont Primary School, and Jason Smith, president of the Thurmont CYA basketball program. Barnhart's daughter, Cheyney (Junior), and Smith's daughter, Lily (Junior), are players on the team. Coach Entwistle was the coach 10 years ago when the team won the state championship.

The team practices every weekday for about two hours and also on Saturdays. The team of 10 is a young team made up of two seniors, Madi Tobary and Kallen Latham; three juniors, Courtney Eyler, Cheyney Barnhart and Lily Smith and five sophomores, Emma Wivell (second year varsity), Emily Williams, Paige Smith, Lily Gadra and Lily Burgee (all first-year varsity players). Team parent Tara Wivell describes the group as "a very tough, defense-minded team with a lot of scoring threats to overcome opposing defenses."

The team's philosophy is "one

team, one family, one program," and it uses that as a hashtag on social media. Even though the team is young, most of the girls have been playing together since middle school. Also, the assistant coaches have coached the girls at some point prior to high school in Thurmont's CYA program and helped their transition to the high school team. This consistency in coaching is one of the fundamental reasons for success this year and is evident on the court with 5 of these long-time athletes playing varsity this year. Two of the players, Wivell and Eyler, made the Central Maryland Conference First Team this year.

The team's first playoff game is Friday, Feb. 28. If they advance in the playoffs, they would see their toughest opponent as Smithsburg, a very physical team with seasoned players. However, the cougars have beaten them twice this year in the regular season. As the season is drawing closer to an end, this team is looking ahead optimistically at the next few seasons. Because the team is so young, they'll only be losing 2 seniors at the end of the season. Four of this year's starters are expected to return next season.

**Indoor Track** - The indoor track season came to a rewarding end at the State Championship with several athletes placing. Seven boys and four girls participated individually in track events, ranging from sprints to distance. Senior Emma Strickland took 3rd place in the 500 meter dash with a time of 1:20.86, and 1st place in the 800 meter run with a time of 2:24.05. Sophomore Brenna Williams took 4th place in the 3200 meter run with a time of 13:00.87. The girls relay team took 3rd place in the 4x800 meter relay with a time of 10:39.55. On the boys' side, freshman Alex Conteras took 3rd place in the 3200 meter run with a time of 10:31.51. Senior Owen Buczyk took 5th place in the 3200 meter run with a time of 10:42.70,



CHS Girls Basketball Team at their Senior Night (Photo courtesy of Tara Wivell)

and 6th place in the 1600 meter run with a time of 4:52.61. In shot put, Senior Jacob McIlvaine took 2nd place with a distance of 45-10, Senior Tyler Hawk took 3rd place with a distance of 43-5.5, and Senior Tristen Rice took 5th place with a distance of 42-5.5. The boys team placed 4th overall with 35 points, and the girls placed 7th with 30 points.

**Swim** - After many long practices of conditioning, drills and technique work four days a week, the CHS Swim team has successfully finished its season. The last meet of the Swim team's regular season was held on Jan. 30, against Governor Thomas Johnson High School. After that, the season was closed by the Regional Diving meet and the Regional Swimming meet. Sophomore Keola Evans is the first Catocin diver to compete in this meet, as she took 11 dives in the season, surpassing the minimum of six dives needed to qualify. This was her first season as a part of the team, and she plans to return next year because she "really enjoys the people involved." A very determined athlete, she was a part of Unified Tennis in the fall, and will be joining Unified Track as Spring begins.

Evans participated with the rest of the team at the Regional Swimming meet on February 15. The

majority of the team set personal and season bests at the event. "I find it most rewarding," Coach Aimee Watkins stated, "to remind the swimmers who are brand new to the team of what they were like in the beginning of the season compared to where they were by the end, and how much they improved in the sport." With seven freshmen, seven sophomores, two juniors, and five seniors (only one of which has been on the team for all four years), the team contained few returning members among several new swimmers. Watkins is "excited to watch the newer members continue to grow over the next few years."

**Baseball** - While athletes and coaches are celebrating a successful end to the Winter season, they're already preparing for an equally optimistic Spring season that begins on Feb. 29. According to Coach Michael Franklin, the varsity baseball team started with six sophomores, one freshman, and only lost one senior - as it appears that four will join again this year. Austin Smith and Devin Baxter are among the several returning juniors. There is plenty of work that goes into preparation, according to Smith and Baxter. They both describe their preparation in the school day as lots of tee work and morning throwings at the school - with lots of conditioning. Both juniors were a part of Indoor Track this past season, mainly to prepare for baseball and to improve their running. This will be their 3rd year on the team. When asked what it is about baseball that makes him return each year, Baxter stated, "Really, it's how the team gets along and works well together - along with the coaching staff. You learn something new everyday."

**Boys Lacrosse** - According to Coach Neil Metzgar, the boys lacrosse team is very excited about their upcoming JV season as they have "one of the biggest and most talented incoming freshman classes in the program's history." He anticipates that the number of boys in JV will be higher than Varsity this year. While the team is small, they are fortunate to have experienced players. Metzgar plans to bring JV and Varsity together for the playoff run towards the end of the season. He feels that when combined, their "depth and talent" will make them a "tough opponent."

**QUALITY AUTO REPAIR!**  
**24 HOUR TOWING**

**WE REPAIR DENTS AND DINGS FROM SCRATCHES TO ROLL OVERS!**

**PROFESSIONAL, COURTEOUS SERVICE FROM THE OFFICE TO THE SHOP!**

**Complete Auto Body & Full-Time Restoration Service!**

SERVING OVER 20 YEARS IN THURMONT

All Major Insurance Carriers Accepted  
Lifetime Warranty On All Repairs  
Car Rentals Available On-Site  
All Makes And Models

**MIKE'S AUTO BODY**  
Collision & Restorations, Inc.  
12917 Catocin Furnace Rd., Thurmont

301-271-7626

March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb.

Visit [LIBERTYMOUNTAINRESORT.COM](http://LIBERTYMOUNTAINRESORT.COM) for late winter and early spring events (including tap takeovers and live music) at Liberty Mountain!

Spring is right around the corner... Golf Every Day for \$429!

**LIBERTY MOUNTAIN RESORT**

78 Country Club Trail  
Carroll Valley, PA  
717.642.8282

**PIZZA LEONE**  
Giuseppe Monteleone & Family  
At Your Service

**2 Large Cheese PIZZAS \$21.99**  
EXPIRES 03/31/20 TOPPING EXTRA

**2 Lasagna Dinners \$21.99**  
Includes garlic bread & salads  
EXPIRES 03/31/20

**10% OFF Entire Order**  
Dine In or Carry Out  
EXPIRES 03/31/20

1665 Waynesboro Pike, Fairfield

Wed., Thurs., & Sun. - 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.  
Fri. & Sat. - 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.  
Closed Mon. & Tues.

717-642-9200

VISA, MasterCard, American Express, Discover, Facebook



# MOUNT SPORTS

## Men's & Women's Track & Field

Collin Riviello  
MSMU Class of 2020

Both the men's and women's track & field teams brought home hardware from the 2020 Northeast Conference Indoor Track & Field Championships held at Ocean Breeze Athletic Complex in Staten Island, New York from February 21-22. At the beginning of the season, the men were projected to finish fifth, while the women were projected to finish in sixth place.

With a total of 115 points, the men's team took home the second-place team trophy. Wagner won the meet with a total score of 143.5. In third place was Fairleigh Dickinson with 96 points, Central Connecticut in fourth place with 88 points, LIU in fifth with 78 points, Saint Francis University (Pa.) in sixth-place with 34.5 points, Merrimack in seventh with 32 points, Bryant in eighth with 31 points, Sacred Heart in ninth with 30 points and St. Francis (Ny.) in tenth place with 12 points.

Sophomore Dylan LaNoue earned the men's Most Valuable Performer award after winning gold in both the long jump and high jump. He also garnered the Most Outstanding Performer (Jumps) award, the first Mountaineer to do so since 1998. Junior Isaac Kole earned a silver medal in the mile with a time of 4:11.57. Teammate and freshman Grant West placed sixth (4:15.33) adding three points to the Mount's point total. Kole and West also helped the Distance Medley Relay (West, Khalil Reid, Brandon Briscoe and Kole) team to a silver medal finishing with a 10:12.10 and helping the entire DMR team earn Second Team All NEC honors. Senior Alex Devine also earned a silver medal in the shot put (15.58m).

The Mount went two and three in the pole vault: senior Carter Nave earned the silver with a 4.80m mark and sophomore Cage Jones earned bronze with a 4.40m mark. In the 60m hurdles, freshman Spencer Brown placed fifth with a time of 8.36, while freshmen Todd Charles ran a 6.98 in the 60m dash to place 6th. In the 800m, Briscoe ran a 1:57.14 to place seventh, and junior Will Merritt ran a 14:59.75 in the 5000m run to also earn a 6th place finish. Junior Sean Fahey and sophomore D.J. Hamilton placed sixth and seventh respectively in the triple jump with marks of 14.37m and 14.20m. The 4x400m relay team of freshman Zach Berg, Charles, freshman Joshua Cella and junior Branden Roach finished sixth with a time of 3:24.20.

On the women's side, the Mount earned 97 points. Fairleigh Dickinson took the title from the Mount by 12 points with 109 points. LIU took third with 96 points, Sacred Heart took fourth

with 78.50 points, Saint Francis University (Pa.) took fifth-place with 64 points, Central Connecticut earned 63 points in a sixth-place effort, Wagner earned seventh-place with 55 points, Bryant earned 42.50 points good for eighth-place, Robert Morris earned ninth-place with 36 points, Merrimack earned 21 points which earned them tenth-place and St. Francis (Ny) earned one point for eleventh-place.

Freshman Emily Lewis had the meet of her life earning the Most Outstanding Rookie Performer award and the Most Outstanding Performer (Sprints) award, enroute to winning gold in the 60m hurdles with a new school record time of 8.68 seconds. She also helped the 4x400m relay team of junior Chardane Logan, junior Chalys Caruth and sophomore Dominique Jefferey to a gold medal with a winning time of 3:50.68. Lewis capped off her day with a fourth-place finish in the 400m dash with a time of 56.54 second, just .34 seconds behind the third-place time.

The Mount swept the 60m hurdle podium with a 1-2-3 finish. After Lewis broke the school record, the former school record holder, junior Najae Nickerson finished in second with a time of 8.78 seconds and freshman Alexandra Lawson took third place (8.84 seconds). Sophomore Rene Rosso took sixth place in the event with a time of 9.11 seconds. In the 200m dash, junior Kayla

Barnes defended her Indoor title with a time of 24.69 seconds to earn gold. The second-place finisher ran a 24.73. Lawson earned seventh in the 200m (25.31) and Jeffrey earned eighth (25.42). In the 400m dash, Jeffrey also scored earning sixth place (58.09) which netted three points. In the high jump, sophomore Delaney McKnight earned bronze with a mark of 1.64m. Freshman Kayla Hackett earned fifth-place with a mark of 1.55m and senior Chelsea Wright also scored points for the Mount in the high jump with an eighth-place mark of 1.53m. In the triple jump, freshman Seun Sule scored two points by placing seventh with a mark of 11.28m. In the weight throw, sophomore Emily Eckard went fourth in the weight throw (15.12,) and senior Jesslyn Manni placed fifth (15.03m). The Distance Medley Relay team of freshman Theresa Long, Nickerson, senior Tenia Jordan and junior Destiney Boone scored two points by placing seventh in the event.

The women's swim & dive team also competed in a conference championship: 2020 Northeast Conference Swim & Dive Championships. The Mount scored 127.5 points enroute to an eighth-place finish.

Sophomore Kira Buchler had a top-10 finish in the 100-backstroke with a tenth-place finish in 57.58. Buchler also helped the 400-medley relay team (4:02.47) and 400 free relay team (3:36.18)



The Mount's women's track team was unable to defend their Indoor title, placing in second by 12 points.

in scoring points. Junior Julia Whitman finished in 14th place in the 200m butterfly while junior Valeria Villigran finished in 17th place in the 100m butterfly. Junior Eliza Felos went 18th in the 200-back stroke.

On the diving side, freshman Montana Griffith garnered a diving score of 137 points to score team points in the 3-meter diving finals.

Bryant earned the three-peat winning the title with 813.50 points. Central Connecticut State university placed second with 586

points, Wagner College earned third place with 531 points, Saint Francis University (Pa.) earned fourth place with 455 points, LIU earned fifth-place with 415 points, Sacred Heart earned sixth-place with 277 points, St. Francis Brooklyn earned seventh-place with 274 points, the Mount earned eighth place with 127.5 points and Merrimack College earned tenth-place with 97 points.

To read more articles by Collin, visit the author's section of emmitsburg.net.



**SPIKE'S**  
AUTO CARE & TIRE

**WELCOME MSM STUDENTS!**

**10% OFF**  
ANY SERVICE  
WITH YOUR SCHOOL ID

**Oil Changes, Alignments, Brakes, Factory Scheduled Maintenance, Tires & Wheels, Engine & Transmission, Air Conditioning, Maryland State Inspections**

**SERVICING ALL BRANDS, MAKES & MODELS!**

Visit us online! [www.SpikesAutoCareInc.com](http://www.SpikesAutoCareInc.com)

CALL DANNY TO SCHEDULE! ASE  
**301-447-4734**  
17307 N. Seton Ave.  
Emmitsburg

MOUNT AIRY LOCATION  
**301-829-5046**  
1001 E. Ridgeville Rd.  
Mt. Airy



*The Carriage House Inn*  
Circa 1857  
RESTAURANT & CATERING

**Lunch & Dinner - 7 days a week!**

200 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg

**301-447-2366**

Open 7 Days A Week

View our full menu online!  
[www.carriagehouseinn.info](http://www.carriagehouseinn.info)

Sun. - Thurs. 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
Fri. & Sat. 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.



**MOUNTAIN GOLF VIEW CLUB**

**SPRING SPECIAL!**

Ask About Our  
**15 Rounds For The Price Of 10**

Packages for Weekdays ~ Weekends ~ 9 Holes

Purchase Our New  
**GOLF SAVINGS CARD!**

**Get 30% OFF**  
Every Time You Play!

Mountain View Golf Club  
4099 Bullfrog Road | Fairfield, Pennsylvania 17320  
717-641-7380 | [www.mtviewgc.com](http://www.mtviewgc.com)

# COMPLEMENTARY CORNER

## Dragon's Way Qigong

Renee Lehman

In China, the dragon is a magical, mythical being. The dragon signifies power, strength, and good luck. Unlike castle-burning dragons of Western stories, the Chinese Dragon is a benevolent symbol in Chinese culture. It is a symbol of miraculous things and represents the collective wisdom of Chinese culture, encompassing the art of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM), art and architecture, calligraphy, music, martial arts and Feng Shui (pronounced fēng shway).

The Dragon's Way Qigong is a wellness program that was developed in the 1990's by Nan Lu, OMD, the founding director of the Traditional Chinese Medicine World Foundation and Tao of Healing in New York City and has helped thousands of people lose weight, improve numerous health conditions, and discover their own healing abilities. It is deeply rooted in TCM, the oldest continuously practiced medical system in the world (more than five thousand years). The Dragon's Way Qigong program is one of wisdom, where you learn how to reconnect to your own powerful healing ability.

The Dragon's Way Qigong program utilizes Qigong movements, an eating-for-healing plan and an understanding of TCM theory based on the Five Element Consciousness Framework. In this 6-week program, you'll realign yourself with Nature and its seasonal messages and begin to look at your body from a different perspective – one that views symptoms as messages from the body.

In previous articles I have written about the Five Element Framework, the cyclical pattern of expression in nature, as observed by the ancient Chinese. These Elements or energies are felt to be the prime energetic building blocks from which everything in the material world is composed and were never seen as five "distinct things." So, every living thing and every person is a unique embodiment and combination of these Five Elements. The Five Elements are Water, Wood, Fire, Earth, and Metal. Together, they 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.

As I have discussed in previous articles, TCM deals with balancing the flow of the natural vital energy, or Qi (pronounced "chee"), which flows through all living things.

When the Qi is balanced, moving smoothly, and in sufficient quality and quantity, health and wellness are promoted. When the Qi is unbalanced or blocked in any way, disease or diseases, will occur.

Weight gain and feeling chronically "stressed out" are examples of signs/symptoms from the body, mind, and spirit that there is something out of balance within us and needs to be addressed. It is important to realize that TCM does not "fix" the signs/symptoms. TCM is focused on bringing the whole person into harmony and getting to the root of the problem. So, the underlying root cause (energetic cause) of weight gain or "stress" is addressed. Therefore, if you resolve the root problem (body out of balance), the symptom (excess weight) will be resolved! The Dragon's Way Qigong program helps you to address the root problem of your symptoms.

The Dragon's Way Qigong program is not about food restrictions, appetite suppression, or vigorous exercise. It is about understanding the miraculous complexity and delicacy of the body and the way it truly works, about how the organs should operate in harmony, and how Qi powers all its functions. This program provides a real owner's manual for the body. The main components and principles of the program are Wu Ming Meridian Therapy Qigong, an Eating for Healing Plan, Herbal Supplements, and learning how your body works from the TCM perspective so that you can apply practical lifestyle changes and unique stress release techniques drawn from TCM healing practices.

The Wu Ming Meridian Therapy Qigong is an ancient energy practice of ten simple movements that can increase energy, open energy blocks, and prevent energy from stagnating. TCM uses qigong to open the door to heal-

ing (therefore, getting to the root cause) and allow the body's organ systems to work in harmony. When practiced regularly, these qigong movements can help to "clean up" your body. They can help you deal with stress, lose or maintain weight, and increase your energy because it reawakens your body's own natural healing ability.

The Eating for Healing Plan chooses foods for their ability to heal and build your energy. This is not a DIET! It is a way to use food to help heal the root cause of weight and stress issues (the body's organs not working in harmony).

The Herbal Supplements are a combination of herbs that are ancient TCM formulations. They work in harmony with your body and have been safely used in China for thousands of years. Also, Dr. Lu has used these formulations with thousands of people for many years in both his private practice and in this program. The herbs are not stimulants or appetite suppressants. They help strengthen and rebalance your internal organ systems. The herbs recommended in this program can help boost your body's healing ability. If you ask, "Do I have to take herbs?," the answer is no. However, if you are struggle with many health issues including excess weight, it is recommended.

Based on the TCM Principles, one learns to listen to what your body wants to eat, when to sleep, and how to function. On the deepest level, the body has wisdom far beyond anything we generally acknowledge. The body is constantly communicating with us through "signals/symptoms." Recognize that these signals/messages, are early warning signs of the body/mind/spirit being out of balance. Therefore, by learning to see your body through TCM principles, you have the opportunity to open lines of communication within your own body, and become healthier.

As people become aware of the negative impact of stress on their health and well-being, finding ways to reduce these effects are of great importance. The Dragon's Way Qigong may be one of the solutions! If you are interested in getting to the root of any weight or stress-management issues. The next Dragon's Way Qigong pro-

## Padme



Padme is a participant in a new enrichment effort at the Frederick County Division of Animal Control and Pet Adoption Center. The Cat Pawsitive program is "an initiative of The Jackson Galaxy Project" that combines social interaction, training, and positive reinforcement for some of the shelter's more shy felines. Typically, potential adopters are drawn to shelter animals that are more outgoing and those that seem eager to engage with people—like kittens that swipe at passersby or dogs that sit nicely at the front of their kennel. Cats like Padme, overwhelmed with the busy-ness of the shelter, tend to hunker down in a bed or retreat to the back of their housing unit. Cat Pawsitive techniques work to help cats like Padme more adoptable while improving their quality of life. Our shelter is one of only fifty-five organizations nationwide selected to participate in this program.

Despite many long-standing myths, cats are social creatures. They don't behave like dogs because, well, they're not dogs. However, cats are clearly responsive to gentle cues and consistent positive interaction. Cats are smart and sensitive, and seem to have an uncanny way of recognizing authentic interest. Once we identify potential feline candidates for Cat Pawsitive, the cats are partnered with shelter feline advocates. These advocates work with the cats a cou-

ple of hours each week, initially just getting to know personalities and eventually moving on to training.

Cat Pawsitive includes clicker training, using a "device that makes a click sound when you press a button." Each time the cat demonstrates a desired behavior, their human partner works to reinforce that behavior in a positive way: by clicking and reinforcing with a small piece of food. While it may sound simple, it is an effort in patience as not all cats learn at the same pace. Training for Padme began in mid-December with the goal of getting her tolerant of being pet. Now Padme is spending noticeably less time hiding, more time at the front of her cage, and engaging in eye contact with visitors. Most impressive (and undeniably endearing) is her learned behavior of giving "paw" on command.

Cat Pawsitive volunteers are equipped with a journal to mark progress, lessons learned, and personal observation. On February 18, Padme's partner wrote "Padme is really coming out of her shell. She is so smart!" We encourage potential adopters to check out Padme and our other participating felines.

*To adopt or learn more about Padme, call 301-600-1319, or visit [www.frederickcountymd.gov/fcac](http://www.frederickcountymd.gov/fcac); or better yet, see Padme in person at the Frederick County Animal Control & Pet Adoption Center, 1832 Rosemont Ave. Frederick.*

gram will start on April 15 at the Gettysburg Area Recreation Association building. For more information call 717-752-5728. Make the Dragon's Way Qigong, Your Path to Wellness!

*Renee Lehman is a licensed acupuncturist and physical therapist with over 30 years of health care experience. Her office is located at 249B York Street in Gettysburg.*

**WHEN ONLY THE BEST WILL DO**

**BEST OF FREDERICK**

**VOTED: BEST OF THE BEST ASSISTED LIVING 2017 & 2018  
BEST OF FREDERICK SENIOR LIVING 2018 & 2019**

- Five Star Dining Experience, featuring chef-prepared meals
- Celebrating 20+ Years providing exceptional assisted living

**Call to schedule a tour of Frederick's Best Assisted Living Community!**

**HEARTFIELDS** 1820 Latham Drive  
ASSISTED LIVING AT FREDERICK Frederick, MD 21701  
**301-663-8800**

[www.HeartFieldsAtFrederickAssistedLiving.com](http://www.HeartFieldsAtFrederickAssistedLiving.com)  
ASSISTED LIVING • MEMORY CARE  
RESPIRE STAYS

©2018 Five Star Senior Living

**Hearing Problems?**  
**Or is it just wax?**  
Find out for yourself FREE!

FREE Hearing Test  
FREE Hearing Aid Inspection  
FREE Video Ear Inspection  
FREE Estimate

Has the price of hearing aids kept you from reaching a solution to your hearing loss?  
Wait No longer - Save at least 40%!

**MARCH 1ST - MARCH 31ST**  
Call ahead to schedule an appointment with John Straw  
**866-430-9222**

<p><b>STARKEY SERIES FULL-SHELL</b></p> <p>Starkey's most affordable hearing instrument maximizes the ear's sound gathering design in a comfortable size. ITE instruments offer the right combination of appearance and affordability to meet a variety of hearing losses.</p> <p>Corrects loss up to 35-40 db. <b>Only \$395</b> Reg. \$790</p>	<p><b>STARKEY CUSTOM CANAL</b></p> <p>Starkey's Custom Canal aid is made with the precise electronic circuitry components to match your particular hearing requirements. The aid is custom-molded within the customized shell that fits snugly and comfortably in your ear.</p> <p>Corrects loss up to 35-40 db. <b>Only \$695</b> Reg. \$1390</p>	<p><b>STARKEY DIGITAL MINI-CANAL</b></p> <p>Starkey's 100% digital canal aid allows for a variety of color and personalization. To maximize performance in an extremely small space, ITE instruments provide amplification solutions in a compact size that previously required a large instrument.</p> <p>Corrects loss up to 35-40 db. <b>Only \$839</b> Reg. \$1680</p>
--	--	--

**Easy Financing & Payment Plans as low as \$50/month**

Affordable Prices  
Quality Products  
Dependable, Caring Service

Office and In-Home  
Appointments Available at Your Convenience

**VILLAGE HEARING AID CENTER**

10200 Coppermine Rd. <b>WOODSBORO</b> (301) 271-9222	46 Chambersburg Street <b>GETTYSBURG</b> (717) 642-5902	76 Frederick St. <b>TANEYTOWN</b> (866) 430-9222	2 North Church St. <b>THURMONT</b> (301) 271-9222
--	---	--	---

# FITNESS AND HEALTH

## Positive thinking, eating cleaner and living well

**Linda Stultz**  
Certified Fitness Trainer

Thinking positive about becoming healthy is a good way to put you in the right mindset to lose weight, improve your health and your mood. The word diet really refers to what you eat but so many people associate it with losing weight and depriving yourself of foods you enjoy. I like to call it a healthy eating program. It is true that if you want to lose weight you do have to alter what you have been eating that put the extra weight on you, but you do not have to cut out everything you enjoy. One of the most admitted reasons for the extra weight is portion size not necessarily type of food. Weight loss and positive thinking can go hand and hand in getting you to a healthy way of eating that you can maintain for a lifetime.

In today's busy lifestyle we find ourselves eating more fast and processed food than generations before us. They ate fresh food from their gardens or the corner farmer's market. They went to the butcher shop and

bought fresh meat. Today people eat frozen dinners or meals from a box or a fast food restaurant more than ever before. There is nothing wrong with these convenience foods once in a while when you have a busy schedule but this type of food has become the normal meal for many people.

Planning your week's meals in advance does take a little extra time but is well worth it for your health and for your family. You can even make it a family time and include everyone so even the picky eaters get a say in what's for dinner. Once you get in the habit of preparing fresh food it will not be such a chore and you will see the benefits in how you feel and it may even lower your blood work numbers that will make your doctor happy.

Watching your portion size can be hard at first but with positive thinking and making small changes instead of depriving yourself you may even see your weight slowly go down. I know we all want to see the pounds drop off quickly but making little changes and losing slowly is a good way to keep the pounds off. The change may be hard at first but it should be thought

of as just a sensible way of eating.

Now that you are thinking positive about food and changing your health you can enjoy how much better you feel. Not only will this lifestyle change improve your physical health it can also improve your mood and outlook on life. When you get a good nights sleep and wake up feeling rested you look forward to the day. The same thing will happen when you eat well, think positive and exercise. You know you are taking care of yourself and that just makes you feel good.

Thinking positive, eating better and living well all go together. Making these changes will not come over night and will not be easy but they will be well worth it. Incorporating these things in your life will make you a good example for your family and hopefully set a good model for your children so they do not face the health issues many people face today. Obesity, diabetes, heart disease and depression are some of the health problems facing many people today. We always want better for our children and future generations

and we can show them how to have a healthier future by being a good role model when it comes to food,

exercise and positive thinking. Remember to keep moving, you'll be happy you did.



**amber hill**  
PHYSICAL THERAPY, INC.  
where patients come first — since 1985

120 Frederick Road, Suite D  
Thurmont, MD 21788  
301.271.9230

**Our Knowledge & Experience Will Get You Back to Enjoying Life!**

- **Adult Physical and Occupational Therapy** for orthopedic conditions, neck and back injuries, sports injuries, automobile and work injuries, and neurological conditions
- **Pediatric Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy** for autism spectrum disorders, congenital conditions, developmental delays, orthopedic conditions and torticollis
  - New patients evaluated within 24 hours
  - In-network with most insurance companies
    - Private treatment rooms
  - Early morning, evening and Saturday hours

**PROUDLY SERVING FREDERICK FOR 29 YEARS**

FREDERICK 301.663.1157      DAMASCUS 301.253.0896  
JEFFERSON 301.473.5900      URBANA 240.529.0175

www.amberhillpt.com      Owned and operated by Donald J. Novak, PT, DPT  
\*Speech therapy provided by Frederick Pediatric Therapy, LLC at the Frederick location

*Fort Ritchie*  
COMMUNITY CENTER      14421 Lake Royer Drive, Cascade  
For more info or to purchase tickets go to  
www.thefrc.org or call 301-241-5082

**FREE Fitness Classes**  
in March when you sign up  
for Annual Membership!

March 2 - Summer Camp Registrations Open  
March 7 - Indoor Yard Sale  
April 4 - Spring Craft Show  
April 11 - Annual Easter Egg Hunt

www.thefrc.org for more information

**FAMILY DENTISTRY**  
**TIMOTHY B. BRINGARDNER, D.D.S.**  
Serving Emmitsburg for over 25 years

      101 South Seton Avenue  
P.O. Box 538  
Emmitsburg  
(301) 447-6662

**New Patients Welcome**

**Rehabilitation • Long Term Care**

**Meet Jerry Barzal**

- Housewife and Mother: 41 years
- St. Joseph's Ministries: 47 days

Jerry came to St. Joseph's Ministries for short term rehabilitation as a result of a spinal cord injury.

"St. Joseph's Ministries has been a God send to me. Everyone has been fabulous to me. I couldn't have expected anything better. I am now able to walk with my head up due to the excellent therapy received. I will miss everyone when I go home, they are like family." Jerry Barzal

A CMS 5-Star facility, St. Joseph's Ministries offers:

- Comprehensive Rehabilitation
- Private Rehab Rooms
- Warm Water Therapy Pool
- Short Term Care
- Long Term Care
- Person Respected Focus
- Faith-Based Environment

Call today to learn more about us, or to arrange a tour of our facilities.

**St. Joseph's Ministries**  
Our neighborhoods include:  
St. Catherine's • St. Vincent's  
331 S. Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, MD  
**(301) 447-7000**


      www.stjosephsministries.org

# Help keep our youth healthy and safe.

We can all keep tobacco products, including electronic smoking devices, out of the hands of our young people.

**NEW LAW** Effective October 1, 2019, retailers may not sell or distribute any tobacco product, electronic smoking device, filters, rolling papers and e-liquid, regardless of nicotine content to anyone under the age of 21. Members of active duty military who are at least 18 years of age may continue to purchase tobacco products so long as they present valid military identification.

If you see a retailer selling nicotine products to someone under age 21, you can call: **301.600.3361**



**NONICOTEEN**  
**UNDER 21: NO TOBACCO SALES**

FREDERICK COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT ■ BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES ■ 301.600.1755

# ASTRONOMY

## The night sky of March

Professor Wayne Wooten

For March the moon is waxing crescent Just below Venus and the Pleiades cluster in the west on March 1st. The full moon is on March 9th, the Grass Moon in tradition. The waning crescent moon passes below a close conjunction of brighter Jupiter and reddish Mars in the dawn sky on March 18th, a great photo op for early risers. It passes south of Saturn the following morning. The Vernal Equinox occurs also on March 19th, with spring beginning at 10:50 PM CDT. The new moon is March 24th, and the waxing crescent again passes Venus on the evening of March 27th.

Mercury is not well placed for viewing this month, and only Venus is in the evening sky. It reaches greatest eastern elongation, 46 degrees from the Sun, on March 24th. On the edge of its orbit as seen by us, it appears half lit in the western sky with a telescope. In the weeks to come, it retrogrades westward, overtaking the slower moving earth. It gets closer and larger by the day, and now appears as a shrinking crescent in the scope. It passes between us and the sun in May, moving into the dawn sky for the rest of 2020. In the March dawn, we have three bright planets changing positions by the day. Closer and faster Mars overtakes slower but brighter Jupiter on March 20th, then catches up to fainter Saturn on March 31st.

The constellation Cassiopeia makes a striking W in the NW.



**The Big Dipper is a great tool to help you find other constellations both near and far. It's a great pointer. If you continue along the great arch of spring, beyond the arc of the Big Dipper's handle, you'll run right into Arcturus, the second brightest night time star in the Spring & the brightest star in the spring constellation Bootes..**

South of Cassiopeia is Andromeda's hero, Perseus. Between him and Cassiopeia is the fine Double Cluster, faintly visible with the naked eye and two fine binocular objects in the same field. Perseus contains the famed eclipsing binary star Algol, where the Arabs imagined the eye of the gorgon Medusa would lie. It fades to a third its normal brightness for six out of every 70 hours, as a larger but cooler orange giant covers about 80% of the smaller but hotter and thus brighter companion as seen from Earth. At Perseus' feet for the famed Pleiades cluster; they lie about 400 light-years distant, and over 250 stars are members of this fine group. East of the seven sisters is the V of stars marking the face of Taurus the Bull, with bright orange Aldebaran as his eye. The V

of stars is the Hyades cluster, older than the blue Pleiades, but about half their distance. Yellow Capella, a giant star the same temperature and color as our much smaller Sun, dominates the overhead sky in the northwest. It is part of the pentagon on stars making up Auriga, the Charioteer (think Ben Hur). Several nice binocular Messier open clusters are found in the winter milky way here. East of Auriga, the twins, Castor and Pollux highlight the Gemini; it is directly above us as darkness falls in early March. UWF alumni can associate the pair with Jason and the Golden Fleece legend, for they were the first two Argonauts to sign up on his crew of adventurers.

South of Gemini, Orion is the most familiar winter constellation, dominating the southern sky at dusk. The reddish supergiant Betelgeuse marks his eastern shoulder, while blue-white supergiant Rigel stands opposite on his west knee. How bright does Betelgeuse appear to you tonight? In the past six months, this famed supergiant has expanded and cooled, forming

a dust envelope that has darkened it to less than half normal brightness. Last I checked, it was down to the brightest of the three stars that make the belt, the faintest on record as seen by humans. Some speculate it might go supernova, becoming brighter than the full moon from a safe distance of about 700 light years; in fact, it might have done so 699 years ago, and we will find out about it next year?

Just south of the belt, hanging like a sword downward, is M-42, the Great Nebula of Orion, an outstanding binocular and telescopic stellar nursery. The bright diamond of four stars that light it up are the trapezium cluster, one of the finest sights in a telescope and among the youngest known stars.

In the east are the hunter's two faithful companions, Canis major and minor. Procyon is the bright star in the little dog, and rises minutes before Sirius, the brightest star in the sky. Sirius dominates the SE sky as darkness falls. At 8 light years distance, Sirius is the closest star we can easily see with the naked eye from West Florida.

When Sirius is highest, along our southern horizon look for the second brightest star, Canopus, getting just above the horizon and sparkling like an exquisite diamond as the turbulent winter air twists and turns this shaft of starlight, after a trip of about 200 years! To the northeast, look for the bowl of the Big Dipper rising, with the top two stars, the pointers, giving you a line to find Polaris, the Pole Star. Here it sits unmoving 30 degrees high in on our northern sky locally. If you take the pointers of the Big Dipper's bowl to the south, you are guided instead to the head of Leo the Lion rising in the east, looking much like the profile of the famed Sphinx.

The bright star at the Lion's heart is Regulus, the "regal star". The

folk wisdom that "March comes in like a Lion" probably refers to the head of Leo rising just after sunset in early March. It is the hind quarter of the Lion that we find our featured photo of March, the "Leo Trio" of galaxies, M-65 (normal spiral in upper right), M-66 (barred spiral below it), and NGC-3628 (gravitationally torn, edge on, at left).

If you follow the handle of the Big Dipper to the south, by 9 PM you will be able to "arc to Arcturus", the brightest star of Spring and distinctly orange in color. Its color is an indication of its uniqueness. Its large speed and direction through the Milky Way suggests it was not formed with our Galaxy, but is a recent capture from the Sagittarius Dwarf Galaxy, a smaller satellite galaxy now being assimilated by our huge spiral galaxy. Many of its lost stars, like Arcturus, follow a band across the sky at about a 70 degree angle to our galactic plane. Arcturus is at the tail of kite shaped Bootes, the celestial bear driver chasing the two bears from his flocks. Spike south then to Spica in Virgo. Here appearance to the Greeks marked the time to plant, for they associated Virgo with Persephone, daughter of Ceres of the Harvest, returning from six months underground with Pluto to now bless the growth and greening of the upperworld. So when Spica rises now at sunset in the SE, it is time to plant your peas! Likewise, when Persephone goes back down to Hades and disappears in the sun's glare in September SW skies, it is time to get your corn in the crib! This cycle of planting and harvesting by this star goes back to the dawn of civilization.

*To read past editions of the night sky, visit the author section on emmitsburg.net.*

Serving the area for 61 Years!

# McLaughlin's Energy Services

Specializing in Propane and Heating Oils Delivery and Service

**McLaughlin's Products**

- Gas and Oil Furnaces and Boilers
- Oil and Gas Parts and Fittings
- Gas Logs and Fireplaces
- Custom Order Premium Grills
- Gas Emergency Generators
- Tankless Water Heaters
- Outdoor Living Products

**No Worries with our easy switch over service.**

- Low cost or no cost installs
- No hidden costs or fees
- Automatic or Will Call delivery
- Equal Monthly Payment Plans
- 24 Hour Emergency Service
- Lowest competitive price possible
- Can service almost ANY application

Over 30 Working Gas Logs, Fireplaces and Heaters on Display.

McLaughlin's offers a wide range of tank applications for all your gas needs, from 5 to 1,900 gallons. Inquire today!

**We are a Generac Generator sales and service dealer. Let McLaughlin's take care of all your power needs from home standby to portable!**

*We also offer free quotes and estimates for any application you may need for your home or business.*

www.MclHeat.com

Located Just Over the Mountain in Rouzerville!

A family owned and operated business since 1954!

Dedicated to providing your propane and Heating Oil needs!

11931 Buchanan Trail East, Waynesboro, PA  
Phone: 717-762-5711 | 1-800-463-5711

## Farmers' Almanac

*"If you are enough lucky to be Irish, then you're are lucky enough"*

—Old Irish Saying

**Mid-Atlantic Weather Watch:** Snow, in the northern part of the region, rain in the south (1, 2, 3); fair and cold (4, 5, 6, 7) with showers, some snow in the north (8,9). Fair and cold again (10, 11, 12, 13, 14) with snow in the north, rain in the south (15,16,17). Fair, cold (18, 19, 20, 23, 22) snow in the north, rain in the south (23, 24, 25, 26); fair and cold yet again (27,28,29,29, 30, 31).

**Full Moon:** March's Full Moon will occur on March 9th. Native Americans came to call it Worm Moon because of the abundance of earthworms that would appear due to the warmer temperatures, softening up the frozen soil. It has also been referred to as Sap Moon because sap would begin to rise and run during this time of year.

**Special Notes:** Don't forget to reset all of your clocks and watches when you 'spring' ahead an hour on Sunday, March 8th at 2 a.m. EST when Daylight Saving Time begins. The Vernal Equinox occurs on Thursday, March 19th and signals the arrival of Spring. Known for its high winds, March is the perfect time to "go fly a kite"! Nothing is as exhilarating except maybe flying itself! Check out some of these classic designs you can make at home at [www.my-best-kite.com](http://www.my-best-kite.com).

**Holidays:** Sunday, March 1st is the first Sunday in Lent. Be sure to wear green in honor of Ireland's own, St. Patrick, on Tuesday, March 17th.

**The Garden:** Don't feed azaleas or rhododendrons until after they bloom. Then, give them a fertilizer that is specially formulated for plants that prefer acid soil. House plants will react to longer days and

brighter light at this time by putting out new growth. The end of this month is a good time to pinch them back to generate new growth and to thicken them. And do try to plant your peas on St. Patrick's Day!

**The Farm:** Best days for planting root crops (10, 11); weeding and stirring the soil (2, 3, 29, 30); planting above-ground crops (4, 5, 31); planting root crops (21, 22); harvesting all crops (14, 15, 16); setting hens and incubators (3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16); slaughtering/butchering meat (1, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31); transplanting (1, 24, 15, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31); harvesting and storing grain (16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23); the weaning of all small animals and livestock (14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23).

**J. Gruber's Thought For Today's Living**

*"Never let a day go by that you don't do more to your fellow man and for your community than you receive."*

# COMPUTER Q&A

## Spring clean-up for your PC!

Aysë Stenabaugh  
Jester's Computer

Most people won't go for an extended period of time without getting their vehicle maintained. While it may not be quite obvious to maintain your computer if you aren't the most tech-savvy and haven't had maintenance done you probably should. As you use technology, devices become bogged down and inundated with updates, pop-ups, and other annoyances that if fixed, would reduce stress and increase productivity! It's not that the physical devices are no longer working properly, it's more so like changing the oil in your car, it will continue to run when it's low or dirty but it won't run well and bigger problems could arise that may be avoidable with regular care. We've included information about a few of the things that we at Jester's Computer Services recommend you maintain and are included in our clean-up service.

Unwanted Programs whether installed intentionally or not are often set to run at startup which can hinder performance. If you allow children on your computer, you may not know what the programs are that they have installed or whether if that software could cause harm to your device. Sometimes you can just uninstall the program but other times it may take a skilled technician to locate and remove malicious software.

Updates are important to keep your device running smoothly. Updates help to ensure that any security risks that have been found and resolved are applied to your device. If your programs are out of date they may not function properly and sometimes they can even negatively affect the performance of your computer. Many dislike updates because the result can sometimes include change however, you have to weigh it out which is worse, a little change or keeping your device at risk?

Hardware, or your devices physical equipment, can wear out over time. Most commonly we see hard drives (where all your personal data is stored) fail after 5-7 years but they can certainly break down sooner. When you have your computer maintained, good technicians will check your hard drive to see if any corruption is found and if necessary, recommend a replacement before any data is lost.

Temporary files that can include files you opened but did not save, old update files that no longer have a use and temporary files created while browsing the web. None of the aforementioned include your personal data files and are simply taking up storage space on your hard drive. Data files won't slow your computer down but they do take up storage space and when a hard

drive becomes too full the operating system will stop functioning properly.

Registry errors can be caused when you install and then uninstall a program or perform software updates. Since both are something that happens regularly, these errors are unavoidable. You may not even notice that there is a problem but once the errors are resolved, background operations are able to run more smoothly resulting in a better user experience.

Malicious software that is installed on your device may not be obvious to the average user. While viruses and potentially unwanted programs can appear unexpectedly on your computer, often users unknowingly allow them in. At Jester's Computer in addition to our technicians removing any viruses or malicious software we provide educational materials to help you prevent common issues and, for those than need more one-on-one support, we offer individual

classes as well.

Pop-ups, errors & conflicts that you encounter can often be resolved by regular maintenance as well. Often, we remember how simple computers used to be but we at the same time we forget just how much more we use our devices today. Since most of the things we use computers for also incorporate using the internet, maintenance is more vital than ever.

If you haven't had your computer maintained in the last year Jester's Computers would love to support your technology needs! All March long you can take advantage of our clean-up special which provides a \$20 discount off our regular \$99 price. To reach us find us online at [www.jesterscomputers.com](http://www.jesterscomputers.com) on Facebook or by calling us at 717-642-6611. We are open 9 am to 5 pm Monday through Friday with extended hours until 7 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. No appointment is necessary and most services are completed



within 24 business hours!

For more information or support please contact Jester's Computer Services (family owned and

operated for over 20 years!) at 717-642-6611, visit us at 5135 Fairfield Road Fairfield or find us online on Facebook or [www.jesterscomputers.com](http://www.jesterscomputers.com).

**Gettysburg Transmissions LLC**  
Automatic or Manual  
Most Makes, Models & Years  
Automotive Repair & Services  
Certified State Inspection Facility  
Custom Exhaust Systems

Over 15 Years Experience ~ All Work Guaranteed

22 Weikert Road, Gettysburg  
**717-642-9700**

Bill Elker

**Alexander's Plumbing & Pumps, Inc.**  
For All Your Plumbing Needs  
Specializing In:  
Water Filtration & Purification Equipment!

4236 Fairfield Rd.,  
Fairfield

**717-642-5285**

**JESTER'S**  
COMPUTER SERVICES  
5135 FAIRFIELD ROAD FAIRFIELD PA 17320

**\$20 OFF CLEAN-UPS**  
during the month of March - regular price \$99

MON-WED-FRI 9AM-5 PM (717)642-6611 TUE & THURS 9AM-7PM

**How can a clean-up help you?**

- ✓ Perform recommended yearly maintenance
- ✓ Remove Viruses, Malware and Unwanted Programs
- ✓ Update Windows and Common Software
- ✓ Troubleshoot and resolve error messages/pop-ups
- ✓ Detect hardware issues that could be affecting performance

**& so much more!**

**Battlefield Hearth & Solar**  
We've Moved! Visit us at our new location!  
1745 York Road, Gettysburg, PA  
717-334-1232

*Be Warm and Toasty This Winter*

SALES • INSTALLATION • SERVICE

**WE HAVE WOOD PELLETS & BAGGED COAL IN STOCK!**

WE CARRY:  
Alaska Coal Stoves • Vermont Castings Woodstoves  
Blaze King Stoves & Fireplace Inserts  
Kozy Heat Gas Stoves & Fireplaces  
Sunair Retractable Awnings  
Enviro Pellet Stoves

[www.battlefieldhearthandsolarpa.webs.com](http://www.battlefieldhearthandsolarpa.webs.com)

MADE HERE IN THE USA  
PA BUCH PARKING

**DAVID E. LITTLE**  
Custom Painting

Interior ~ Exterior  
Residential ~ Commercial  
Power Washing ~ Free Estimates

MHIC #41079

11530 Simmons Rd., Taneytown  
**301-447-2315 301-676-0064**

**AFFORDABLE SELF STORAGE**  
NOW WITH PORTABLE STORAGE UNITS!

**Need Room?**  
Let Us Store It For You!

Storage Units For The Public & For Business!

12917 Catocin Furnace Rd.,  
Thurmont  
Conveniently Located On Maple Drive,  
Across From Thurmont Feed Store

Mike Jensen, Owner

VISA VISA & MC ACCEPTED

**301-271-7455**

MOTORCYCLES, CARS, TOOLS, FURNITURE, ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES, OLD FILES, NEW FILES, APPLIANCES, HOUSEHOLD ITEMS & TOOLS, CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT, LANDSCAPING TOOLS, LAWN MOWERS, POOL SUPPLIES, BUILDING MATERIALS, SPORTS EQUIPMENT, MEMORIES...  
WHATEVER YOU CAN THINK OF INCLUDING THE KITCHEN SINK!

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Recurring Friday Events

St. Joseph's Taneytown's Annual Lenten fish fry Fridays. Menu: Choice of kettle fried Catfish or Pollack; baked Catfish or Tilapia; fried shrimp or salmon cakes. Kettle fried potato wedges; choice of two vegetables: succotash, stewed tomatoes, green beans, or applesauce. Roll and Beverage. Adults \$13 Children (6-10) \$6 Child plates for age 5 and under (Free). St. Joseph's Parish Center, 44 Frederick St. Taneytown. Dinner Starts at 4.

St. Francis Xavier Parish's 8th annual Lenten Fish Fry Dinners at the Xavier Center, 465 Table Rock Road, Gettysburg. Dine In or Take Out. Children under 5 eat free. Dinner starts at 5. For more information call 717-334-4048 or visit [www.stfcc.org](http://www.stfcc.org).

## Saturdays & Sundays

Gettysburg National Park's Winter Lecture Series. National Park Service rangers and leading historians from across the country offer free hour-long talks exploring important aspects of the American Civil War and the Battle of Gettysburg. Lectures start at 1:30. For more information visit [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

## March 1

Music Gettysburg! presents Solemn Vespers for Lent. Featured in the vespers is the 25-voice Schola Cantorum of Gettysburg. The Schola Cantorum will augment the evening prayer liturgy with moving settings by Josquin de Pres and William Byrd. Vespers will take place in the chapel of the United Lutheran Seminary - Gettysburg Campus, 147

Seminary Ridge, Gettysburg. Vespers start at 7:30 p.m. For more information about this and other concerts in the Music, Gettysburg! schedule call 717-339-1334 or visit [www.musicgettysburg.org](http://www.musicgettysburg.org).

## March 6

The First Baptist Church of Thurmont's Night at the Movies. A special showing of the movie "Overcomer" will be shown at the church located at 7 Sunny Way. There will be free snacks and drinks and child care. Admission is free. Movie starts at 6:30.

For more information call 301-471-9898 or visit [www.fbcthurmont.org](http://www.fbcthurmont.org).

The Majestic Theator presents The Irish Comedy Tour. The Irish Comedy Tour takes the party atmosphere of a Dublin pub and combines it with a boisterous band of bawdy comedians and Celtic musicians, and maybe even a leprechaun or two. The clever comedians, whose ancestors hail from the Emerald Isle, include Detroit native Derek Richards, Boston-born Mike McCarthy, Nova Scotia's Damon Leibert, and from Inchicore, a suburb of Dublin, Ireland, Derrick Keane. Celebrate St. Paddy's Day at the Majestic Theater with nonstop laughter! Show starts at 7:30. For more information call 717-337-8200 or visit [www.gettysburgmajestic.org](http://www.gettysburgmajestic.org).

## March 6 & 7

Mount Hope Maple Madness. Strawberry Hill's annual Mount Hope Maple Madness maple sugaring festival. Sugaring, the art of making maple

syrup, has been practiced for thousands of years. The tradition began in the Northeast United States centuries ago with the Native Americans and colonists. People of all ages are invited to see this tradition brought to life by Strawberry Hill naturalists. You will learn how trees are tapped, view sap-collecting methods past and present, and see the boiling process that produces delicious maple syrup. The festival features a delicious pancake breakfast buffet, PA maple syrup, tree to table tours and family-friendly activities. For more information call 717-642-5840 or visit [www.strawberryhill.org](http://www.strawberryhill.org).

## March 7

Fourth Annual Abolitionists Day. Celebrate abolitionist women on the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage! The event will include: A presentation by Anna Dickinson - Fighting for Freedom and the Vote; Abolitionist songs by Dearest Home & a portrait of Sojourner Truth in words and song. Events start at 2. Sterner Building, 545 Long Lane, Gettysburg. For more information call 717-334-2028.

The Weinberg Center For The Arts presents the Teelin Irish Dance Company Showcase. Just in time for St. Patrick's Day, the Showcase celebrates the graceful beauty and thundering beats of Irish dance and music. Come experience the brilliant energy of Irish dance with cutting edge choreography of the Teelin Irish Dance Company that audiences have enjoyed for years. Show starts at 3. For more information call 301-600-2828 or visit [www.weinbergcenter.org](http://www.weinbergcenter.org).

## March 10

Strawberry Hill's Nature Book Club. The public is invited to attend one or all of these meetings held in the Strawberry Hill

Nature Classroom at 1537 Mount Hope Road, Fairfield. See the full list of 2020 book selections at [StrawberryHill.org](http://StrawberryHill.org).

## March 12

Land Conservancy of Adams County Annual Dinner & Silent Auction. Every March the Land Conservancy of Adams County gathers to vote on our board of directors, honor the far-sighted local landowners who completed conservation easements in the previous year and bid on a variety of unique silent auction items. Visit [www.PreserveAdams.org](http://www.PreserveAdams.org) for more information and to RSVP and choose a dinner entrée.

## March 14

Frederick County Master Gardeners presents the: "Small Space Vegetable Gardening." What techniques work best in small or limited spaces? Find out how to plant square-foot gardens and container gardens. Get tips and techniques for succession planting to maximize your harvest. For more information call Erin Kline at 301-600-1595. Lecture starts at 10. The UME Office is located at 330 Montevue Lane, (off Rosemont Avenue), Frederick.

Strawberry Hill's Nature Bingo Hike - Join Strawberry Hill's Education Coordinator, Lizzy, for a family-friendly nature bingo hike. All participants will receive a bingo card to fill in as we hike the Nature and Quarry Trail. The first participant with bingo receives a Strawberry Hill prize! For more information call 717-642-5840 or visit [www.strawberryhill.org](http://www.strawberryhill.org).

## March 14, 15, 21, & 22

Cunningham Falls State Park's 50th Maple Syrup Festival - A piping hot pancake and country sausage breakfast with real Maryland-made maple syrup

will be available at the Lakeside Grill. On the hour every hour - A working demonstration of the traditional sap-to-syrup process is featured at the Boiling Shed. Interpretive talks, covering the process and history are given by Park Rangers on the hour. 14039 Catocotin Hollow Rd., Thurmont. For more information call 301-271-7574.

## March 16

The Majestic Theator presents: 42nd Street - The Musical. One of Broadway's most classic and beloved tales, 42nd Street, comes cinema screens in the largest-ever production of the breathtaking musical. The musical, set in 1933, tells the story of Peggy Sawyer, a talented young performer with stars in her eyes who gets her big break on Broadway. Filmed in 2018 at London's Theatre Royal the production is directed by the original author of the show, Mark Bramble. This eye-watering extravaganza is full of crowd-pleasing tap dances, popular musical theatre standards ("Lullaby of Broadway", "We're in the Money" (the gold digger's song), "42nd Street" and more), and show-stopping ensemble production numbers. Show starts at 7:30. For more information call 717-337-8200 or visit [www.gettysburgmajestic.org](http://www.gettysburgmajestic.org).

## March 18

East Berlin Historical Preservation Society presents - The Enigma Machine Unsung Heroes and Heroines Local resident, David Peters, will address the audience with an illustrated talk on the subject of the Enigma machine, a famous encryption machine used extensively by Nazi Germany to transmit coded messages during WWII. Learn who cracked the codes and how, allowing the Allies to decipher German signal traf-



## SHOFF PROMOTIONS FREDERICK COMIC CON



SUNDAY, MARCH 8 - 10 AM - 4 PM

Frederick Clarion Inn Event Center  
5400 Holiday Drive, Frederick, MD  
(Next to the Francis Scott Key Mall)

NOW MORE SPACE = MORE DEALERS + MORE FUN!

Admission: \$8 CASH ONLY  
(12 & under FREE)

For more info: [shoffpromotions.com](http://shoffpromotions.com)

GOLD - SILVER - BRONZE  
MODERN AGE COMIC BOOKS  
NON SPORTS CARDS - POKEMON, MAGIC, ETC.  
PULPS - ORIGINAL ART - POP TOYS  
HOBBY & GAMING SUPPLIES  
VIDEO GAMES - SUPER HERO TOYS  
ANIME - SCI FI TOYS - LEGOS

\*\*\*DOOR PRIZES\*\*\*  
\*\*\*FREE PARKING\*\*\*

ARTISTS'  
ALLEY!



COSPLAY  
WELCOME!



## BLUE RIDGE SPORTSMEN'S CLUB

### MARCH EVENTS

**March 7th - Blindside playing from 7 to 11 p.m.**

**March 14th - Barn Shoot - Opens at 8 a.m. - Starts at 10 a.m.**

**March 20th - Meat Raffle Nightt**

**March 28th - Barn Shoot - Opens at 8 a.m. - Starts at 10 a.m.**

**March 28th - Kids Easter Party Sign Up Deadline**

**New Club Hours:**

Mon. - Thurs. 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Fri. 11 a.m. - Midnight Sat. 7 a.m. - Midnight

Sun. 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**Kitchen Hours:**

Mon. - Wed. 4 - 8 p.m.

Thurs. & Fri. 4 - 9 p.m.

Sat. 7 a.m. - 9 p.m. Sun. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

We are a members only club, but guests can be signed in and are welcome to apply for membership. Before hours call the office. Club opens at noon.

3030 Waynesboro Pike, Fairfield, PA • Office: 717-794-5404 Bar: 717-794-2695

•Handguns •Rifles •Shotguns •Antiques •Knives  
•Military •Collectibles •Ammo •Collectibles

## Gettysburg, PA

# GUN SHOW

Gettysburg Allstar Conference Center  
at Eisenhower Hotel  
2638 Emmitsburg Rd., Gettysburg

## March 28th & March 29th

Saturday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Sunday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Up to 500 Tables!  
New & Used • Buy • Sell • Trade

FREE PARKING • FOOD  
\$8 Admission

Contact: Eagle Arms Productions  
610-393-3047 • [www.eagleshows.com](http://www.eagleshows.com)

# UPCOMING EVENTS

fic and change the course of history. The public is invited to attend this free event. Lecture starts at 7:30. For more call 717-259-0822 or visit [www.ebhpspa.org](http://www.ebhpspa.org).

**March 19**

The Weinberg Center For The Arts presents PJ O'Rourke. Combining the skill and discipline of an investigative reporter with a comedian's sense of the absurd and the stupid, political humorist PJ. O'Rourke covers current events like no other. Known as a hard-bitten, cigar-smoking conservative, he in fact bashes all political persuasions. O'Rourke proves himself a savvy guide to national and global affairs. His razor sharp insights never fail to inform and entertain audiences. Show starts at 7:30. For more information call 301-600-2828 or visit [www.weinbergcenter.org](http://www.weinbergcenter.org).

**March 21**

Frederick County Master Gardeners presents the "Creating a Pollinator Friendly Garden." Learn how to create a pollinator friendly habitat and how to get your yard certified as a Pollinator Friendly Garden. Best practices include growing plants that provide food and reducing or eliminating the use of pesticides and herbicides to control weeds and garden pests. Your yard makes a difference! For more information call Erin Kline at 301-600-1595. Lecture starts at 10. The UME Office is located at 330 Montevue Lane, (off Rosemont Avenue), Frederick.

Gettysburg College's College Choir and Camerata Concert. Choral music is one of the hallmarks of the Sunderman Conservatory of Music at Gettysburg College. This is the last stop on their spring tour through the New England

region of the United States. Concert starts at 8. For more information visit [www.gettysburg.edu](http://www.gettysburg.edu).

**March 24**

Gettysburg Community Concert Association Concert presents - The Diderot String Quartet. This young quartet's calling card is their use of period instruments: gut strings without synthetic materials, no chin rests, shorter bows, flatter bridges and standing to play. Concert starts at 7. For more information call 717-334-7776 or visit [www.gettysburgcca.org](http://www.gettysburgcca.org).

Hood Collage presents the Johanna Neuman Lecture: The 100th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage. In honor of the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, historian and author Johanna Neuman, Ph.D.,

will present a lecture on her new book, "And Yet They Persisted: How American Women Won the Right to Vote." Johanna Neuman is one of the nation's leading experts on the history of women's suffrage. An award-winning historian and a scholar in residence at American University, she has written two books and several monographs on the topic. Lecture starts at 7. For more information call 202-329-7414 or visit [www.hood.edu](http://www.hood.edu).

**March 27 & 28**

Graceham Moravian Church's Turkey & Oyster Dinner. Adults \$20; Children 6-10 \$10; Children under 6, free. Carry-outs \$21. Craft and Bake Table available. Dinner starts at 3. For additional info. call 301-271-2379. Graceham Moravian Church is located at 8231-A Rocky Ridge Rd., Thurmont.

**March 28**

Frederick County Master Gardeners presents the: "Planting the Spring Family Garden." Learn about seeds and transplants, planting techniques, planting for pollinators, and basic

IPM (integrated pest management). For more information call Erin Kline at 301-600-1595. Lecture starts at 10. The UME Office is located at 330 Montevue Lane, (off Rosemont Avenue), Frederick.



**Choose When You Want To Play!**  
**THURSDAY NIGHTS**  
 Great Food! Huge Jackpot!  
 Doors Open @ 5:30 PM  
 Bingo Starts @ 6:45 PM

**TWILIGHT BINGO**  
 1st Friday Of Every Month!  
 Food! 3 Jackpots! Larger Payouts!  
 Doors open @ 5:30 PM  
 Bingo starts @ 8 PM

**Fairfield Fire & EMS**  
 Follow Rt. 116 To Fairfield  
 Turn Onto J. Harry Kane Blvd.

**Rocky Ridge Vol. Fire Company**

**BINGO!**

**1st Saturday of every month**

**In The Activities Building**  
**Doors open at 4:30 p.m. ~ Games start at 7 p.m.**

**\$500 & \$1,000 Jackpots at 57 numbers or less.**

**Food available by the Ladies Auxiliary**  
 13516 Motters Station Rd., Rocky Ridge  
[rrvfc.rockyridgevfc.com](http://rrvfc.rockyridgevfc.com)  
 Follow Us On Facebook

**SPORTSMAN'S DRAWING & DINNER**



ROCKY RIDGE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY #13

**SATURDAY, MAY 9th**  
**\$25 Per Person (Includes Meal)**  
 NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Doors Open at 5:30 p.m.  
 Lucky Loser & Door Prize (Must be present to win)  
 Sportsman's Choice Prizes

299 tickets will be sold and 1 ticket will be raffled off the day of the drawing - guaranteed to be a winner in the top 5

**FOR TICKETS CONTACT:**  
 KEVIN ALBAUGH 301-748-0508  
 ANGIE ALBAUGH 301-788-1259



**Jubilee foods**  
**Premium**  
 MEATS • SEAFOOD • DELICATESSEN  
 EMMITSBURG, MARYLAND

## St. Patrick's Day

# March 17th



**Celebrate with Corned Beef & Cabbage!**

**LUCKY YOU! WE HAVE EVERYTHING YOU NEED RIGHT HERE!**

**MEATS ~ DELI ~ BAKERY ~ DAIRY ~ PRODUCE ~ FROZEN ~ SEAFOOD**

Money Orders ~ Postage Stamps ~ Phone Cards ~ Propane Exchange ~ Gift Card Enter ~ Rug Doctor Rentals  
 Seasonal Flowers & Bouquets ~ Cigarettes & Tobacco Products ~ DVD Rental Machine In Lobby



## 2 GREAT WAYS TO SAVE!



DOWNLOAD OUR APP or  
**SIGN UP at [www.shopjubileefoods.com](http://www.shopjubileefoods.com)**  
 Get our circular emailed to you each week  
 and get limited time deals emailed to you!



Go To  
  
  
**& DOWNLOAD**

EMAIL:

Enter email address & drop off at our Customer Service desk.

*As we get Super Deals we will pass them on to you through our email list. Our email subscribers are the first to receive these great limited time offers! SIGN UP TODAY!*

**Free Item!** Check your email for Great Value's "SATURDAY STEALS" & enjoy a FREE downloadable item, available to download Saturdays only!

**DOWNLOAD our app & start saving today!**  
**HERE'S HOW IT WORKS!**

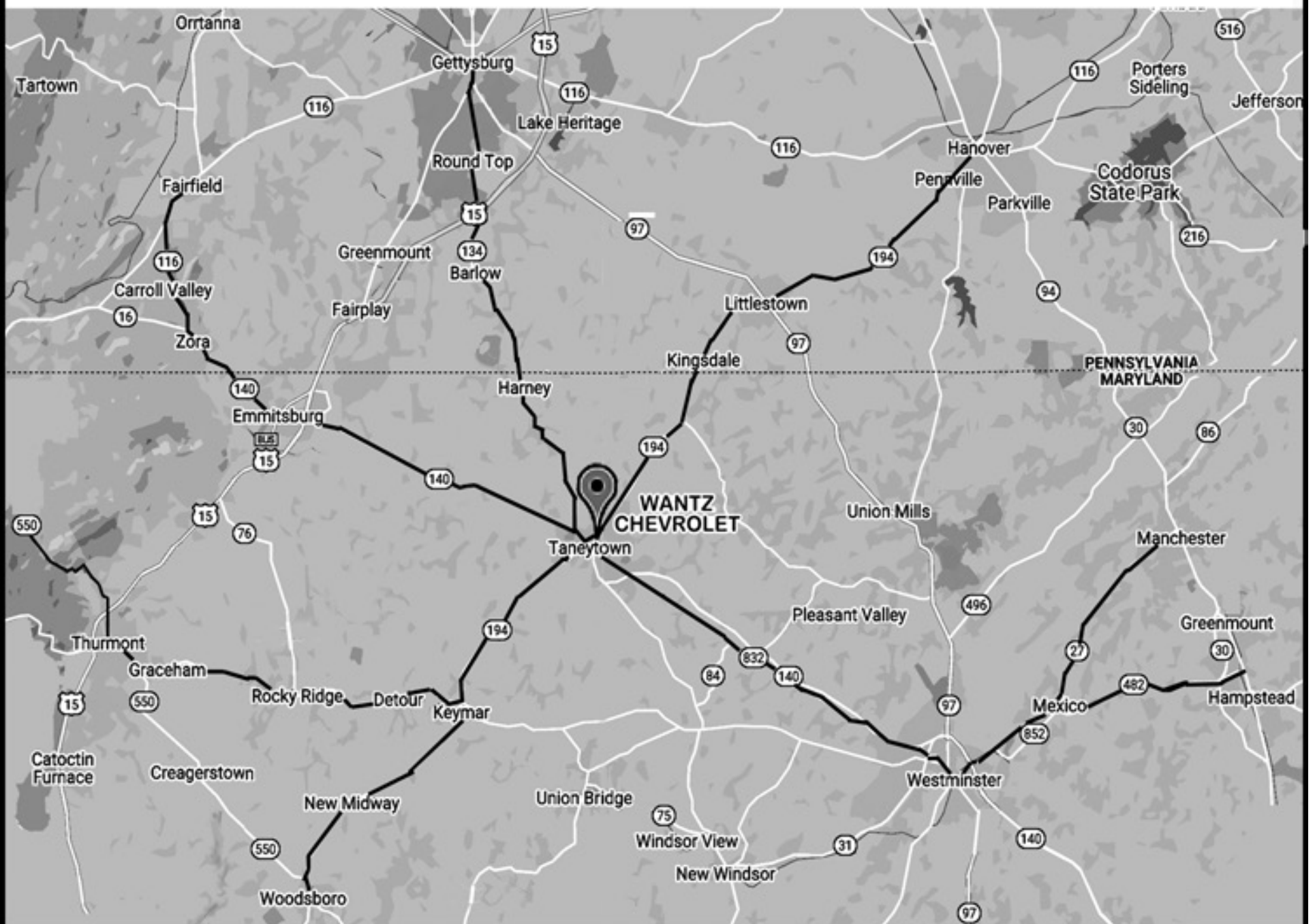
- **DOWNLOAD** the store app to your mobile device & create your account.
- **SHOP** the ad, **LOAD** digital coupons, and **PLAN** your shopping list!
- **SCAN** your personalized barcode at check-out to **SAVE!**

301-447-6688



For a great deal and excellent service remember...

***You're Never Far Away  
From Wantz Chevrolet!***



**WANTZ CHEVROLET**  
1 Chevro Drive, Taneytown  
410-751-1200  
Visit us at [www.WantzChevrolet.com](http://www.WantzChevrolet.com)

*"Don't take a chance, buy from Wantz"*



**FIND NEW ROADS™**