

Emmitsburg NEWS-JOURNAL

VOLUME 14, NO. 6

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

JUNE 2022

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Catoctin graduates 150 in class of 2022

The school year is ending, and graduation season is at hand. Seniors are celebrating and are looking forward to the next chapter in their lives. We congratulate and wish our local graduates the very best, and would like to offer a special congratulations to Catoctin High School graduate, Mia Ferraro, the Emmitsburg News-Journal's sport writer.

Mia was brought to our attention by our then sports writer, and here mentor, Edision Hatter, who told us: "Mia is going to go far, grab her." And we did.

Mia began writing Catoctin High School sports articles as a sophomore. It was a position that challenged her, as she had never been active in sports. She credits this challenge with strengthening her skills as a researcher, interviewer and writer.

Mia's passion for writing began as soon as she learned to read and write at Mother Seton School. She explains, "Writing helped me to organize the flurry of thoughts swirling in my mind, and to set goals for myself. A journal and pen became my constant compan-

ions, accompanying me to recess, the beach, and every night to bed." She began writing poems and creative stories as a creative outlet. Eventually she added songwriting to her skills. One of her original songs placed in Frederick County's Chords of Courage Songwriting Contest in 2018, which she then performed at the corresponding awards concert.

Mia's writing continued to evolve as she entered high school. "As I began to understand social issues facing our world, writing became a way for me to connect with others and to spread awareness." She has published articles to promote such issues as the importance of mental health awareness, and the benefits of belonging to a school that actively sponsors Unified Sports.

During her years at CHS, Mia competed in Mock Trial, and served as the Mental Health Awareness Club social media chairperson, Leo Club treasurer, National English Honor Society president, and Guidance Office student assistant. She was a member of the National Honor Society, as well as the National Journalism,



2022 Catoctin graduate, and News-Journal's sports writer, Mia Ferraro, with her proud parents Pete and Lori.

English, Spanish, and Art Honor Societies. She received the CHS English Departmental Award and the Certificate of Platinum Performance her junior year.

As a senior, Mia received the Honor Roll Award for maintaining honor roll status throughout high school. She graduated with Highest Honors and received the Governor's Scholastic Award for graduating within the top five percent of her class. She was named to the Frederick Community College Dean's List and received the Gold Scholar Award, as she completed

27 college credits at FCC while attending high school.

This fall, Mia will be attending the Philip Merrill College of Journalism at the University of Maryland, where she has been invited into the University Honors program. Mia intends to major in Investigative Journalism in order to "hold powerful people accountable for how they serve those they are responsible for protecting." She is forever grateful for the mentoring and experience she has been given from her EN-J family. We wish her the best on her journey.

Fairfield Fire & EMS welcomes 'new-old' engine

Continuing its annual tradition, Fairfield Fire and EMS proudly accompanied the Fairfield Little League teams down Main Street and through town to begin their Opening Day ceremonies.

It was a perfect spring day; spectators lined the streets as local ball players marched from the high school toward the fields adjacent to the Fire Hall ready to play ball. Everyone was escorted by the station's newest-oldest truck – Fairfield's vintage slice of history - a 1926 chemical wagon on a 1928 Chevrolet frame.

The engine was recently acquired from the renovator, Larry Spangler of Hanover, according to Fire Chief Bill Jacobs. The chemical truck is technically both the first and second fire vehicle Fairfield put into use, he said.

Fairfield's first vehicle was a 1926 American LaFrance Chemical Wagon, "that for some reason, they took all the stuff off the first truck and put it on a 1928 Chevy," Jacobs said.

Fairfield's first motorized fire engine was previously on display at its centennial open house in October 2021. The chemical wagon contained extinguishing tanks and utilized fire hydrants to fight fires, according to Jacobs. Spangler Signs of Hanover accomplished the restoration and gold leafing. Six years

of restoration brought the vehicle back to its former glory of vibrant fire engine red.

The department is purchasing the fully restored legacy vehicle in installments. "It was something we figured needed to stay in Fairfield. We were so lucky to find it restored, you don't usually get one of your original fire trucks fully restored," Jacobs said.

The price of purchasing the restored vehicle is \$42,000 and planning is underway to hold special fundraisers and seek out business donations to help pay for the piece of history without having to dip into the department rainy day funds.

A fundraising drive letter was sent to the Fairfield Community to purchase the 1928 Restored Fairfield Fire Engine Wagon and any donations will be gladly accepted in the restoration of community history.

Fairfield Fire looks to raise \$100,000 for the restored vehicle as well as for the restoration of the company's original ambulance building for storage, which will be used to store the department's archives. In exchange for use of the building to store their own historical society artifacts, the Fairfield Area Historical Society will also utilize their expertise to catalog the fire department's relics and memorabilia.



Fairfield's first vehicle, a 1926 American LaFrance Chemical Wagon, leading this year's opening day parade.

The old truck is not the only piece of history the fire company is attempting to recover. The company is asking anyone who may have coveted pictures of the vintage truck in its heyday or the original Steelman Street firehouse is encouraged to reach out to the department to preserve the community history. "We are looking to

fill out our history," he said.

The restored engine will also be on display along with other historic vehicles, at Fairfield Fire's second annual "Early Day Cruise-In". All car enthusiasts are welcome, along with all classic and show cars, to the showcase at the Fairfield Fire Hall parking lot on June 26.

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EMMITSBURG NEWS

Council mulls parking increases

At its May 2 meeting, the Emmitsburg Town Council tabled updates to modernize town parking fees.

A town parking policy was presented that updated parking fees, fines, and permits that have not been reviewed since 2018, Gulden said. The policy also contains a proposed five-year parking plan with significant cost to the town totaling more than \$153,000.

Staff recommended replacing current parking meters with digital meters at an estimated cost of \$66,000. Town Staff noted they are no longer able to repair the current outdated mechanical meters, thus recommending the upgrade. The digital meters also hold the advantage of being able to take digital payments.

The proposed ordinance would modernize the town's vehicle and traffic code to allow parking fees and fines to be paid on-line by credit card. Staff indicated that the town can work with a vendor to accept electronic meter payments, which will cost nothing to the town and allow payments through mobile devices.

Additionally, the ordinance proposes extending 'meter hours' from 8 a.m.

to 6 p.m. to 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The parking enforcement hours will then be staggered. The cost of 'feeding' a meter would also increase from the current rate of 10 cents for 24 minutes and 25 cents per hour.

Staff also recommended putting 32 digital parking meters in the community pool parking lot, which currently offers free parking to swimmers or individuals enjoying the adjoining park.

Under the proposed policy, parking permit fees would increase yearly, for four years starting in July, to help fund various parking upgrades throughout town. The current rate for a parking pass is five dollars a day, \$60 for three months, and \$115 for six months. Parking passes allow holders to park at any meter without the inconvenience of putting coins in the meter, and even with an expected gradual increase as well, parking passes are still the cheapest option, Gulden said.

In May, the town staff started using a new handheld device to enforce parking regulations on permit holders. The device takes a picture of the permitted vehicle with a time stamp, alleviating

the need to chalk tires, and can alert the staff when to check back to see if the vehicle is still there, at which time a parking violation can be issued.

Town staff suggested purchasing two 'parking boots' and accessories at an estimated cost of \$2,000. The 'parking boots' would be used on repeat offenders with outstanding tickets. Utilization of 'parking boots' as opposed to towing, offers significant cost savings, staff told the Council, as towing offending vehicles can cost more than \$200 while boot removal is a \$50 fine paid.

The town is potentially looking to sell 303 West Lincoln Avenue with the proceeds to be used toward a municipal parking lot at a cost of \$40,000 to be constructed around 2025 to 2026. Research is underway to purchase additional property for parking.

Due to the nature of the changes and the amount of information presented, town staff anticipated the council would table the policy while awaiting more information. "Nothing is set in stone," Town Manager Cathy Willets said. More information is expected to be presented at the council's July meeting.

Town budget approved

At its May 16 meeting, Emmitsburg Town Council approved the FY-23 budget. The budget is based upon an estimate that the town's general fund revenue will increase by \$146,131 to \$2,053,217 over the previous year. Town expenses are expected to increase by \$153,217 to \$2,053,217.

Based on inflation, many of the line items in the town's budget are slowly increasing from one year to the next, administrative accountant Cole Tabler said. "As we are finding out as

we go through this budget, that projects are costing more. We are increasing line items where we feel that we are going to feel the most impact," Town Manager Cathy Willets said.

Expenditures for the public works streets department increased to \$482,000. Repairs and maintenance for the parks department has increased to \$24,750, and the finance department expenditures increased to 209,000, \$10,000 over last year due to increases in

wages and benefits.

The budget for the buildings department increased by \$5,000 to \$138,726, according to Tabler. The increase is for heating oil and gas according to Willets. "And we're hoping that's enough," she said.

On the positive side, the Frederick County Sheriff's office contract for FY-23 saw 9.8% reduction in cost to \$271,470 over last year's cost.

The staff also briefed the Council on capital improvement projects on the horizon for FY-23, including the continuation of sidewalk ramp



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

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Registration Deadline: July 22

St. Euphemia historic sign approved

At its May 2 meeting, the Town Council approved the next step on the town's historic Wayside exhibit tour. The town has been working for several years to create a walking tour highlighting historically significant sites throughout town.

The St. Euphemia School wayside will be exhibit number 12 on the tour and is anticipated to be located on DePaul Street, town

connections throughout town, the stormwater basin retrofit at Silo Hill, Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System compliant tree planting, and the town's historic walking tour.

Future capital improvement projects for the water department include: a water storage tank (to be completed in the next two to three years), West Main Street waterline replacement (four years), Emit Garden's Water Treatment Plant (five to six years), Waynesboro Pike waterline replacement (six years), and work on North Seton Avenue (seven or more years).

grant administrator Madeline Shaw said. The St. Euphemia's School was a Catholic grade school founded by St. Joseph's parish, operated by the Daughters of Charity, it served students in first through eighth grade from 1878 to 1956. Mayor Don Briggs sought to highlight the St. Euphemia School due to the cultural significance with integration, ten years earlier than the U.S. Supreme Court ruling. Although segregation laws across America made integrated classrooms illegal until 1954, they did not apply to private schools and St. Euphemia's began admitting black students

Infrastructure projects for the sewer department include a sewer relining of Federal and DePaul Street, Creamery Road Pump Station Replacement, and a ChemScan upgrade.

As part of their budget approval, the Council unanimously adopted an update to the town's staff salary structure with an increase of all pay scales by 5 percent to offset the current round of inflation. The increase is not considered a Cost-of-Living Adjustment because "It is not something that will occur year to year," she said.

The exhibit is being funded in part from a Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area grant, Shaw said.

After the exhibit is created and installed, two more exhibits will be established along with a complete brochure to finish out the tour project.

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FAIRFIELD/CARROLL VALLEY NEWS

Carroll Valley pays off municipal building 20 years early

At its May 10 meeting, Carroll Valley Borough Council approved the final loan payments for the municipal building twenty years early.

“Sound budgeting and careful spending” has been the tagline of Borough Manager David Hazlett to ensure a quicker loan repayment. The administration department credited the support of the council and the initiative of borough staff to tighten their financial belts when needed.

The board praised Hazlett for his skills in financial planning and

management to accomplish paying off the building without raising taxes. “All the staff has done a great job and they’re all to be commended. It’s really wonderful that we have the funds to pay the building off early,” Council President Richard Mathews said.

Extensive public input over the initial cost prior to its construction resulted in the original design of the building being modified to reduce cost. Changes included reducing office space set aside for the police department, eliminating one meeting room and one conference room,

a smaller library, and overall reduction to room sizes.

The reduction in size saved the Borough approximately \$300,000 in construction cost. Additionally, other cost reduction measures were considered, including different light fixtures and floor mounted toilet fixtures versus the original wall mounted fixtures. With these additional costs cut, the total savings in approved design was estimated at approximately \$400,000.

Three months after ground was broken on the building in July 2016, the Borough received a \$1 million

Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program grant. The Borough realized a savings of more than \$489,000 in interest payments as a result of the grant being applied to a principal pay down on the construction loan that financed the new complex.

Paying off the building twenty years early will save taxpayers an anticipated one million dollars in interest payments over the cost of the loan, according to Hazlett.

The municipal building replaced a much smaller one established when the borough was incorporated in the mid-1970s. In 2012 the bor-

ough established a Building Steering Committee to evaluate options to address the then deteriorating borough office, which was plagued with roof leaks, flooding, wood rot, and diminishing available office and storage space. In making a plea for a new building, Harris stated at the time: “The building is falling apart.”

The new municipal building was completed in 2017. The building houses a meeting room, borough administrative offices, a branch of the Adams County public library, as well as the Carroll Valley Police Department.

Liberty considers options for rural fire protection

Fairfield Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Fire Chief Bill Jacobs presented a fire department update to the Liberty Township Board of Supervisors on May 3., which included recommendations on how the township can position itself to better respond to rural fires.

Chief Jacobs pitched fire prevention standards to reiterate the importance of ease of access in backroad communities for first responders.

The department is staunch in proactive planning and always likes to evalu-

ate and take note of suitable ponds for water usage, he said.

“It has to be a good, clear pond for us to suck water out of,” Jacobs said.

It is crucial to update addresses to pinpoint water sources because during a structure fire, other company tankers are often tasked with filling tankers while local departments battle the blaze.

Landowners are encouraged to reach out to the township office to update and inform the fire department of ponds that they might not know

about that could be pivotal in the event of an emergency.

“We are more than willing to do whatever we can for any resident in our territory,” he said.

Dry hydrants are maintained through annual Spring flushing by the fire department, Jacobs said.

Jacobs has noted for years the dangerous development in the back wooded area of the township.

Jacobs asked the township to keep in mind that in the event of an emergency, one lane road areas like Bull

Frog Road have no way to loop back and can result in a backlog of apparatus.

There are approximately 95 homes in the forty-five square mile coverage response area that are only accessible by special units, he said.

As fire trucks are eight and a half feet wide, without solid road shoulders, “You are going to get stuck,” he said.

Newer, lightweight constructed buildings are also burning at a much faster rate, causing more problems for fire departments, Jacobs said.

“Within about 15 minutes of a fire in a house, you can’t go inside, it is that unsafe,” he said.

Reflective signs displayed on a home are also imperative for emergency responders because Global Positioning Systems (GPS) are not reliable for every area, and it is no longer like the days where each resident and individual farm was known personally.

“We don’t anymore. There is too much area for us to know and too many people and we don’t get back in there a whole lot,” Jacobs said.

Strawberry Hill’s Night for Nature raises \$23,000

Strawberry Hill is no stranger to strong community support, as seen during its annual ‘A Night For Nature’ event April 21. Over 100 supporters of Strawberry Hill attended the event. This year’s beautiful evening of environmental stewardship welcomed the community as it met its fundraising goals and raised \$23,000 for environmental education programs for both the young and the young at heart.

The auction included over 75 amazing auction items, including luxury picnics, private dinners, multiday vacation packages, glider rides, and more. In addition to bidding on items, attend-

ees had the opportunity to “raise a paddle” to provide a month’s worth of food for Strawberry Hill’s Animal Ambassadors. Collectively, supporters provided over a year of food for Strawberry Hill’s owl, skunk, and turtles.

These program animals are crucial to our mission of environmental education. Strix, the Barred Owl, allows students to get up-close to a bird of prey and introduces the concept of the food chain through an owl pellet dissection. The snakes, turtles, and toad help children learn the native species that call this area home, distinguish reptiles from

amphibians, and the importance of a healthy ecosystem. Naturalists use our insects to teach about life cycles, invasive species, and the significance of pollinators.

In addition, Strawberry Hill has partnered with the Adams County Winery on a new wine called Nature’s Preserve. A portion of the proceeds from the wine will go to Strawberry Hill and help continually inspire stewardship of the natural world and invaluable contributions to the community.

Nature’s Preserves is described as a “delightfully sweet Catawba and strawberry wine, sweetened with

strawberry juice and infused with a hint of basil.” Inspired by dedication of the local nature reserve, notes of wild strawberry come alive in every sip, with a taste so much sweeter knowing it is supporting the mission of the local nature nonprofit.

Proving that “grape” minds think alike, the winery presented the collaborative wine idea to the nature preserve about six months ago and Strawberry Hill enthusiastically jumped on board, said Amanda Markle, Environmental Education Manager.

With its major fundraiser behind it, Strawberry Hill now readies for

school groups and summer programs, Markel said. Strawberry Hill has been able to educate more than 105,000 people since their foundation in 1986. For decades, they have been planting seeds, nourishing minds, and nurturing an appreciation for the natural world. These lessons learned leave a lasting impact. The children they educate grow up to be scientists, environmental engineers, zoologists, foresters, educators, entomologists, and ecologists who will carry on their mission.

More information about Strawberry Hill can be found at strawberryhill.org.

News Briefs...

Carroll Valley Fire Box Changes Approved

The Council approved Next Generation 911 for Fairfield Fire Box 2. A Fire Box is a boundary that detail fire department response areas.

Pennsylvania is currently in the process of transitioning to NG-911, a national program which impacts how emergency calls are handled. NG-911 has taken into account that more emergency calls are coming in from cell phones rather than landlines and has a built-in Global Positioning System component to dispatch based on initial caller location and additional information.

For the past fifty years or so, fire box boundaries have been drawn with arbitrary lines and not necessarily property lines, Assistant Borough Manager Gayle Marthers said. Adams County is now incorporating mapping departments and changing the lines to go along the actual property boundaries, she said.

The fire department chiefs of Fountaindale and Fairfield that cover the area of

Carroll Valley have reviewed the mapping and support the change wholeheartedly.

With the support of local fire chiefs to ensure each land parcel is entirely contained within a single fire box and the correct company gets dispatched, the county’s process to reestablish fire boxes has been very smooth, Marthers said.

The council noted the efficiency of the system and provided unanimous approval.

Line Painting Bid Awarded

In a joint partnership with Hamiltonban Township, the Fairfield Borough Council

approved the second lowest bid for line painting.

Fairfield and Hamiltonban Township, which have a joint Parks and Recreation Commission, are splitting costs for road line painting in the two municipalities. The total bid amount for the joint partnership line painting is for \$30,810. Fairfield’s portion includes crosswalks at \$625 and double lined stop bars at \$150 for a total project cost of \$775.

Solicitor Matthew Battersby’s recommendation to both municipalities was to not utilize the lowest bidder for the contract due to subpar work performed by the company in the past.

The need was for the “lowest responsible bid,” which Midlantic Marking, had not shown in the past, he said. Alpha

Space Control Co. of Chambersburg, was awarded as the “lowest responsible bidder”.

THURMONT NEWS

Property taxes set to increase by 7%

At its May 3 meeting, the Thurmont council heard the first draft of the proposed FY-23 budget for all town funds – the general fund, water fund, wastewater fund & electric fund as well as the capital improvement budget.

Its associated preliminary plan, that included all components of the town budget was presented to the Council on May 17 by Chief Financial Officer Linda Joyce and was approved. The total town budget for FY-23 is \$13,354,901.

Total expenditures from the gen-

eral fund, which covers day-to-day operations of the town, including staff salaries, police, roads, parks, and capital expenditures is anticipated to be \$4,278,662. The town anticipates \$4,768,518 in revenue, approximately half of which comes from property, the other half comes from income taxes and county and state funding.

To cover costs from the general fund, the town will be increasing the property tax rate from 29.92 cents per \$100 of assessed value, to 32 cents, or 7%. When prop-

erty assessment increases are factored in, the new tax rate will result in overall town revenue increasing 11%. In order to stay up to speed with inflation rates it was necessary for the town to increase taxes, Joyce said, as to not dip into reserves.

Commenting on the tax rate increase, Mayor John Kinnard said: "As everyone knows, prices of everything have gone through the roof, we had to increase our revenue to cover our increased costs."

Water fund expenditures are expected to be \$838,257, with rev-

enue of \$1,062,150, for an operating surplus of \$223,893.

Wastewater expenditures are expected to be \$1,471,239, with revenue of \$1,764,009 resulting in a surplus of \$292,770. And the town expects to pay \$5,633,798 for electric service, while generating \$5,760,224 in revenue for a surplus of \$126,426.

Proposed capital improvement items in the FY-23 budget include replacement of the town dump truck, a new pickup truck, and the purchase of an electric vehicle.

Acknowledging a current high inflation period and increase of prices, the council praised Joyce for her very clear distinction on budget items.

"We have a great town, and we provide, I believe, very good services to our residents at a very reasonable cost," Kinnard said.

Kinnard noted that looking at past budgets, generally Thurmont does not spend what is budgeted. "We budget revenue and expenditures conservatively ... We underestimate on our revenues and overestimate on our expenses," Joyce said.

Simmer annexation introduced

At its May 17 meeting, the Thurmont Town Council presented an ordinance to introduce the potential annexation of the Simmer Apples Church Road property.

The property is located southeast of Apples Church Road and borders Graceham Road and consists of 24.5 acres, of which seven acres are in town and currently zoned R-5 residential. The remaining 17.5 acres lie outside the town's boundaries in the county and are zoned agriculture, according to Planning and Zoning Manager Kelly Duty.

Thurmont's recently adopted Master Plan, the guiding plan for town growth, has the property in the future growth area and is designated as "high density residential," Duty said.

Discussion was initiated by the applicant in mid-2018 who has been working with the town for several years to create a concept plan for multi-family residential development that includes a daycare facility and assisted living facility.

The potential annexation was officially brought to council in 2020 and was directed to Planning and Zoning

for review in 2021, who upon finding compliance with the master plan and with adequate public facilities unanimously recommended annexation with designated R-5.

Daniel Cross, proprietor of Cross and Company, a real estate investment, development, management, and brokerage company of Frederick since 1997, provided a summary of the annexation agreement including graphics and an aerial view of the property.

The goal is to be accepted into the town and zone change from

County Agricultural to Town R-5 for residential use.

The developer look to create an affordable mixed-use intergenerational community providing dwellings as townhouses and townhome style condominiums, with the potential for rental apartment buildings, Cross said.

These days, the country tends to build age exclusive fifty-five and over communities as real estate developers do not want to pay the Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance to fix schools ... we have lost the concept of three generations living in the same neighborhood," Cross said.

The development also plans for open spaces, victory gardens, pedestrian friendly streetscapes, "Things that make a neighborhood a neighborhood," he said. Understanding the need to preserve downtown Thurmont and enhance businesses, Cross also suggested flexibility for potential pop-up retail for residents to walk to.

The annexation has met the approval of Frederick County and meets all town requirements, Mayor John Kinnard said.

Public comments will be accepted at a future public hearing regarding the annexation with a date to be announced.

News Briefs...

Emergency Mitigation Plan Adopted

At its May 25 meeting, Rohan Brown of the Frederick County Department of Emergency Management presented information about the Frederick County Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation plan.

The purpose of the plan is to prevent further damage to the community by assessing vulnerabilities to natural hazards and to prepare a long-term strategy that considers climate change, he said.

The county's pre-disaster mitigation plan details strategies for natural disasters and works to adequately address resources needed with the assistance of county officials and stakeholders.

Committee collaboration notes areas of concern for mitigation actions and strategy for emergency situations and the county plan is reevaluated every five years.

Twelve Frederick County municipalities participate in the plan as well as Frederick County Community College, Hood College, and Mount Saint

Mary's University, Brown said.

The Council unanimously approved the adoption of the resolution.

"It's a good program to be involved in and we're happy the county has taken the lead with this," Mayor John Kinnard said.

The town has been part of the program for the last five years for plans specific to Thurmont, Commissioner Wayne Hooper said, and reimbursement through the county is crucial when hazards happen.

"It's a good thing to have available," he said.

With the resolution passed, the town is now eligible to apply for the next round of hazard mitigation grants from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

The intention is to apply for funding for the Emmitsburg Road Flood Control Project. This study is a priority for the town due to the impact on residents, Chief Administrative Officer James Humerick said.

Main Street Thurmont Praised

With ample parking and products, the Thurmont Main Street Farmers Market continued strong this season, welcoming all.

Through September 10, the outdoor market at Thurmont Community Park is home to one of the largest outdoor farmers markets in the county.

Due to its size, the market offers the freshest produce, local cheese and butter, locally raised beef, chicken, and eggs as well as handcrafted sauces, rubs, natural honey, quality baked goods and endless more.

Anyone interested in participating in the Main Street pop up shop every Saturday is encouraged to reach out to Economic Development Manager Vickie Grinder at vgrindr@thurmont.com for more information.

Thurmont Economic Development recently unveiled a historic visitors guide glossy and full color to entice visitors to town and showcase the majesty that is Thurmont. Thur-

mont is now the only municipality in Frederick County that has a full color visitor guide, according to Grinder.

The extensive guide has been two years in the making and was just in the beginning stages when COVID-19 forced the project to be put on the backburner. The project was brought back to the foreground last September and work hit the ground running like never before, Grinder said.

The guide is available as part of the "Welcome to Thurmont" bag that arrives with the first electric bill for those recently moved into town.

The guide displays the vigorous work that went into obtaining accurate information regarding businesses and town attractions as well as beautiful photos to attract visitors and tourists. "This is a big thing for us," she said.

More information about Main Street Thurmont and the official visitors guide can be found at thurmont-mainstreet.com.

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TANEYTOWN NEWS

Sewell Farm annexation hearing draws crowds

At its May 4 workshop, the Taneytown City Council held a public hearing for the Sewell farm annexation. Several years into the consideration for the property annexation, citizens packed city hall for the next phase of the development.

Citizens both supported and opposed the annexation of the property. Those supporting the annexation highlighted additional tax revenue and continued community growth as reasons to approve the measure. Heavy traffic and scarce water resources were the main concerns of those who opposed the annexation.

The annexation involves two parcels of the Sewell's land totaling approximately 126 acres that lie adjacent to the boundaries of the city. The annexation will allow for construction of a housing development, currently proposed for no more than 340 homes units. The proposed new homes would have access to

the city's public water and sewer services.

Ronald Sewell, co-owner of the property, said that he "would hope that this development would be an asset to the town." He added that the family has tried to get their property annexed to the town for years and it is only now coming to a vote. Co-owner Lori Sewell noted that because the property is part of the city's master plan for future growth, it is not eligible for agricultural preservation status.

The potential housing development will hopefully give the city an edge for prospective residents coming into the city, she said.

Clark Shaffer implored the council that now is the time to approve the annexation. Shaffer represents both the Sewells and the housing development company involved in the project, NVR, in legal matters. Citing how "strict" the annexation agreement made with the council is, Shaf-

fer emphasized that the town will have "little or no control over this property" if it does not lie within town limits.

"When this property comes in, it will be subject to the sovereignty of the city of Taneytown. It will only develop if it meets the criteria that you've established in your ordinances," Shaffer said.

Several citizens opposed to the annexation voiced concerns about potential strain to the town's water resources caused by adding new wells for additional housing units. Ann Ness, who lives across from Meade's Crossing, told the council the construction of that development negatively affected her neighbors' water supplies. One, a dairy farmer, had his well pumped dry and had to bring in water from tractor trailers, according to Ness. Another had a well that turned to mud.

Michael Smith, of Finger Road, referenced a period in the late 1990s when

citizens emptied water from washing machines to supply water for their yards because wells were so dry. "I just want to warn the town when the citizens out on 140 and Harney Road, when their wells go dry because they have to supply more water to a development," Smith said.

Having moved from Baltimore County four years ago, Joe Bivens cited the relatively higher cost of his water bill as a determining factor in whether the annexation should be approved. "If this whole deal . . . adds to the strain of the water, then it shouldn't be done. If this helps it, more people paying toward the water . . . maybe it's a good thing."

After first expressing his belief in the importance of property rights, Chris Tillman noted a few concerns "from a public safety and public policy" standpoint, including whether Harney Road is routed in a safe way to eventually meet Rt 140. He also cited concerns about school capacity being able to handle

new students moving into the area.

For Tillman and Ness, the primary issue is the increase in traffic congestion a development will cause when they say there are already enough traffic problems going through town. "It's a heck of a mess," Ness said.

"If you've sat in the line coming up Baltimore Street in either direction towards the light in morning or afternoon, is now the time to add another 500 cars to it?" Tillman asked.

Before opening the public comment period, Mayor Wantz asserted several points about the annexation proposal.

"Annexing a property does not change the ownership of the property. We just simply move boundary lines around it to include it in the city, typically at their request," Wantz stated. "This does not create an enclave. The maps have been approved by the county commissioners and the county attorney."

The council will approve or deny the proposal at its July workshop.

Delivery wagon returns home

At its annual Spring Car Show, Crouse Ford of Taneytown welcomed the community for a look at one-of-a-kind vehicles, including the return of an antique local delivery wagon. The 1961 Ford Falcon Delivery Wagon was on display from local farm manager Del Hilbert.

Delivery wagons, or station wagons without windows, are very rare and the '61 Falcon is a rare breed of a Hucker's truck, according to Eric Glass of The Taney Corporation. The delivery wagon was bought new by resident

Delmar Riffle from first generation Crouse Ford owner George Crouse, Sr. in 1960. - three whole generations ago, according to Glass.

Riffle, a former Taneytown baseball star and proud United States Marine, was a successful community businessman, Glass said. Born and raised in Taneytown. Riffle was a good friend of George Crouse, Sr. who owned a Ford Dealership in the heart of Taneytown. As the owner of Riffle's Vending Company, Delmar needed a Sedan Delivery Wagon - Ford of course - and bought

it new from Crouse Ford for \$2,800.

In addition to the variety of candy for his many vending machines Riffle would hand make fresh sandwiches each morning at the family restaurant Riffles Alley, next to the fire department.

All of the items were then delivered to the Cambridge Rubber Factory at the edge of town and placed in special cooled vending machines, Glass said.

Riffle kept the delivery wagon sitting in his garage for many years after he retired. Glass bought the wagon for

a "boosted" \$3,500, but Riffle in turn "just grinned and said, 'I will buy the next lunch,'" according to Glass. "The rest is history," Glass said.

The vehicle was eventually purchased by Hilbert who put many dedicated hours of love into restoring the delivery wagon for its car show display.

The annual Crouse Ford Spring car show had a great turn out this year with over 90 cars entered for display, third generation and current owner Tom Crouse said. The event is popular with both local community spectators and car enthusiasts coming from as far away as Poto-

mac, Maryland, and West Chester, Virginia, he said.

This year's Dealer Choice award was presented to Joe Finzell of Westminster, who showed a red 1960 Ford Falcon.

Crouse said he was sad to see the cars pull out at the end of the show. "This is the first time in over two years our car lot has been full!" he said. At the conclusion of the car show festivities, the vehicles paraded in front of Assisted Living at Lorien Taneytown across the street. Delighted residents sat on their front porches to wave at the passing motorists and to notice the multitude of unique cars.

News Briefs . . .

Mowing Contract Awarded

The City Council approved a bid May 9 to contract Ecker's Lawn Service, LLC, for a three-year period, from July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2025, for mowing services within the city. The contract allows for a potential total annual expenditure of \$56,000. That figure could vary, however, according to City Manager James Wieprecht.

Parks within the city average one mow per week, Wieprecht said. Other areas only require one mow per month. The weather and rain or drought conditions will affect the frequency of necessary mowing, Wieprecht explained. The city will only pay for actual mowing time.

The potential expenditure for the approved contract is \$2,095 more than the actual expenditure the city paid in Fiscal Year 2021. "Considering current fuel prices and labor wages, we feel this is a very modest increase and . . . that Ecker's priced their bid very competitively," said Lorena Vaccare, Director of Parks and Recreation, in a memo to the mayor and council.

The cost for weekly mowing, based on 30 cuts per year, is budgeted at \$54,000. For monthly mowing, the budgeted cost is \$1,200 for eight months per year. Additional mowing, if needed, is budgeted at \$800, based on \$40 an hour with a potential of 20 hours.

The city requested proposals from 10 contractors for the service.

Three contractors were present at a pre-bid meeting which included visits to all mowing sites. Ecker's Lawn Service was the only provider that submitted a bid.

Police Training Completed

Officers with the Taneytown Police Department recently completed in-service trainings and continuing education units as part of ongoing staff development. All officers participated in four combined hours of training

on Constitutional and Community Policing and De-Escalation and Minimizing Use-of-Force, according to Mayor Pro Tem Joe Vigliotti, who acts as liaison to the department.

Some individual officers participated in several different specialized trainings. Sr. P/O Sakadales completed 21 hours of Field Officer Certification Course. Sgt. Jessie Castellar completed 18 hours in Community Policing: Improving Efficacy and Building Trust. Police Administrative Assistant Haleigh Engels completed a course in Positive Psychology.

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FROM THE DESK OF...

County Councilman Michael Blue

By the time you read this article, the Frederick County Council will have adopted the Fiscal Year 2023 Operating and Capital Improvement Budgets. I wanted to take this opportunity to provide a brief overview.

This year's budget was \$792.1 million. We were able to maintain the property tax rate as well as the income tax rate with no increases. I am proud that we have not raised property tax or income tax during my four years serving you on the County Council.

This year's budget will have seen a lower income tax rate to our taxpayers who file "joint status" returns and

have taxable income of \$100,000 or less. It will also lower the income tax rate to taxpayers who file "single status" returns with a taxable income of \$50,000 or less. Over 80 thousand tax filers will benefit from the income tax rate reduction, or 60% of all tax filers in Frederick County, according to the County Executive's budget message.

I will now breakdown some of the major categories of funding in the budget. \$402.1 million or 51% of the budget goes to education, \$156.9 million or 20% goes to the public safety. These are the two largest expenditures in our budget. Together, education and public

safety make up approximately 70% of our total budget.

In FY23 Frederick County has made a record investment in education. Over the past 8 years, we have provided over \$100M above Maintenance of Effort (MOE). The budget this year provides for over \$1 million in additional funding to Frederick Community College (FCC). With this additional funding FCC was able to freeze tuition for the upcoming academic year.

Our public safety agency budgets are the second largest component after education. This year we were able to include more than \$500,000 for body cameras for Sheriff's Deputies.

In support of more workforce housing, the County is seeking more choices and has added a one-time investment of \$3M to the housing initiative fund.

The budget also has assistance for Seniors. The County will implement a new delivery model for Meals on Wheels. Paratransit services will expand with two additional buses and drivers for increased demand.

The Capital Budget exceeds \$211 million this year with a 6-year CIP of over \$1.1 billion. This funding will allow Frederick County Government to provide new construction and renovation of schools, libraries, fire stations, parks, roads, and bridges.

It has been my honor and privilege to assist in providing an effective, efficient, and companionate government. I want to stress again, and proudly state, Frederick County has not seen any tax increases during my four years of service.

The Primary Election will be on July 19th. You can vote in person during early voting. Early voting will be held from Thursday, July 7, through Thursday, July 14. Early voting centers will be open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. If you have not registered to vote, please do so as soon as possible.

You can call my office at 301-600-1034 or email me at MBlue@FrederickCountyMD.gov.

County Councilman Phil Dacey

Responsible budgeting should start with looking at the real needs of the county and working to meet those needs. What Frederick County Government has done over the last four years instead is review how much revenue is coming in (taxes and fees) and spend every dime of that revenue. When revenues come in higher than expected, (which they have each year of the four year term), the County Executive proposes to spend that money as well, rather than give it back to

taxpayers as an overpayment.

Every year on the Council I have tried to reduce the rate of growth of government and return some of Frederick County's financial success to the taxpayers. I thought the rate of growth last year was very high as the budget grew at over 8%. This year I had sticker shock when I saw that the budget grew at 10.2%. Last year I was concerned about adding 68 new county positions. Well this year, we added a whopping 163 positions. In my 4 years

on the Council the budget grew from roughly \$600 million per year to \$800 million per year, a staggering 31% increase in spending.

It took Frederick County almost 250 years to reach a spending level of \$200 million (the total budget in 1999 was \$199 million). It took us only 4 years to add that much spending to reach the budget level of \$800 million. I don't need to explain further that this rate of growth is not only unprecedented, it is unsustainable.

There is confusion about the property tax rate. Property values have been skyrocketing across the county – therefore, unless the Council takes action to adjust the property rate downward, property owners will be paying significantly more property taxes in the coming years. My main concern is that the citizens who are responsible for our budget surplus, have not seen any tax relief. The average taxpayer is continuing to pay more for the same services that they are receiving, and has not had any relief in the form of tax reductions or rebates from the surpluses that

they have generated for the county. The County budget has increased by \$145 million in the last two years alone; lowering the tax rate by adopting the constant yield would have slowed that increase in spending to about \$125 million and all property owners would have benefited.

The budget and the tax rate passed by a vote of 4-2-1 with Councilmember McKay and myself voting against. It remains my hope that we will be able to grant some type of general tax relief to everyone in the county that works or pays property taxes.

Thurmont Mayor John Kinnaird

Here we are in June already! We got a real feel for summertime the weekend of May 21-22 when the temperature soared to the low 90s. This summer we may be looking forward to higher average temperatures, and we must be prepared to handle the heat and sunshine. Remember to keep hydrated when the temps rise, we need to drink more water when we sweat. Also be sure to wear a hat, long sleeves, and plenty of sunscreen if you plan on working, picnicking, or playing outdoors. I know everyone loves a nice tan but please do not overdo it, sunburn can lead to skin cancer

later in life. Keep sunscreen close at hand for the little ones when they are outdoors.

The Board of Commissioners have been hard at work reviewing the Master Plan Update, 2022-2023 Town Budget, and an Annexation proposal for the Simmers property. These topics are being discussed during our Town Meetings, BOC Workshops, and Public Hearings. The public is welcome to attend any of these meetings, watch them Live Streamed on Cable 99, or on the video archives on the town website (thurmont.com). Typically, during Town Meetings, we will

ask for public comment, at Workshop Sessions we do not take public comment, and Public Hearings are designed to include public comment. I encourage everyone to watch our meetings and attend if you have any comments to include in the discussion. Many times, I am approached by residents that have heard mistaken or confused facts from others. Watch our meetings, attend them in person or ask me or one of the commissioners if you have any questions regarding current topics being addressed by our Board of Commissioners.

I want to congratulate the members of Catocin High School Class of 2022 for finishing twelve of the most important years of your life! We are all extremely proud of every one of you and we hope that you can follow your dreams as you move on to your next adventure. Some of you will be going on to higher

education, some may be entering the military, many of you will be entering the workforce, and some may be starting families. Whatever your career path is, be sure to enter it with pride knowing you are a Graduate of CHS! Wherever life takes you please remember you will always be welcome in the Thurmont & Emmitsburg communities.

With summer close at hand, we will see our children out and about on our streets and sidewalks. Always be on the lookout for children crossing our streets or riding their bikes, skateboards, or scooters. Kids are often unaware of their surroundings, and we need to be extra diligent when they are close to our streets.

Thurmont is once again offering our 'A Day in the Park' Summer Recreation Program for kids in 1st - 8th grades. This year there will be three week-long sessions with a maximum of 30 kids per week. Each week-long program will be filled with lots of fun, edu-

cational experiences, and adventure. Each one-week session costs \$45.00 per child and includes an official "A Day in the Park" tee shirt, knapsack and more. You can stop at the Town Office at 615 East Main Street (Mon - Fri 8:00 am until 4:00 pm) to pick up a registration packet. If you can't get there in person, call 301-271-7313 and we will send you a registration packet.

The Thurmont Farmers Market is being held each Saturday morning from 9:00 am until noon at the Community Park on Frederick Road. Each market offers a wonderful selection of fresh vegetables, fruit, baked goods, eggs, beef, cheeses, handmade soaps, crafts and other goodies.

On Friday, May 20th we had our first Art and Wine Stroll in over two years. It was an outstanding success with several hundred guests enjoying the entertainment, vendors, food, artwork, and the wine and moonshine tasting. If you missed this one be on the lookout for our next Art and Wine Stroll.

Thurmont residents can put out grass clippings and leaves for pickup on Monday mornings. The grass and leaves must be placed in paper bags, no more than 40 lbs. in weight. Have the bags at your curb no later than 6:00 am on Monday mornings. Grass clipping and leaves only, no sticks, rocks, root balls, etc. will be collected.

I hope everyone has a nice June! I can be reached at 301-606-9458, by email at jkinnaird@thurmont.com, or on Facebook if you have any comments or concerns.



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**ELECTION JUDGES
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2022 EMMITSBURG ELECTION**

The Emmitsburg Mayor and Board of Commissioners are seeking persons to serve as election judges for the September 27, 2022 town election.

In accordance with the Emmitsburg Town Code, judges must be registered and qualified voters in Emmitsburg and cannot hold or be a candidate for any other Emmitsburg public officer.

To apply, or for more information,
call 301-600-6300
or e-mail info@emmitsburgmd.gov.

GOVERNMENT—SOUTH OF THE BORDER

County Executive Jan Gardner

Summertime is nearly here. Memorial Day marks the unofficial start of the season. I am proud that in Frederick County, we set aside time each Memorial Day to pay tribute to the men and women who died in service to our nation. Thanks to the American Legion Post 282 for keeping this tradition alive.

In May, we returned to our traditional in-person graduation ceremonies at our high schools and colleges. Congratulations to all the new graduates who recently earned their diplomas and degrees! As the school year wraps up, Frederick County's carnival season kicks off. Grab some homemade apple dumplings at the Thurmont Ambulance Company's carnival, which runs through June 4th, then enjoy some rides at Guardian Hose Co.'s carnival the week of June 20th. If you love a parade, be sure to check out Thurmont's on June 23rd, and catch Emmitsburg's annual Community Heritage Day parade on the 25th, part of a day packed with events.

Agriculture Innovation Center

Our farmers grow food and fiber for all of us. One of my top priorities is to ensure that agriculture remains eco-

nomically viable for years to come. That means preserving our best farmland and helping our agriculture community to thrive through innovation.

I am excited that we are taking the first step toward bringing an agriculture innovation center to Frederick County. A center with shared use facilities could allow farmers to create value-added products without investing in costly equipment. We have contracted with a team of experts to determine what the demand may be for a center. This team brings national experience and local knowledge of the agriculture industry.

Their study will start with a survey and a series of focus groups within Frederick County's agriculture community. Then they will analyze their findings and create a business plan. Ultimately the team will recommend the type of agriculture center that would create the greatest economic impact, as well as a list of potential sites and a detailed business plan to support the center.

An agriculture innovation center could be a real game-changer. The center could include a fully equipped commercial kitchen space, cold and dry storage spaces, and packaging and dis-

tribution equipment. The demand for butchering services has increased significantly over the past two years, and the four meat processors in Frederick County are booked well into 2023, so a shared facility could be one way to help meet that demand.

We know that sharing space and equipment can make a huge difference for operations trying to bring a new product to market. The goal of an agriculture center is to eliminate the high cost to start up a business and minimize the financial risk for farmers.

The County's Office of Economic Development partnered with HR&A Advisors, ACDS LLC, and Epstein and Sons International. HR&A's senior advisor for this project has worked on strategic plans for many food processing facilities, markets and agricultural business parks, including Pike Place in Seattle, Washington, and Agricenter International in Memphis, Tennessee. ACDS, based in Friendship, Maryland, conducts rural economic development efforts nationally and internationally. Epstein is an engineering, architecture and construction company that specializes in the food industry. Epstein worked

on Cloverdale Farms' processing facility expansion in North Dakota.

If you want to learn more about the agriculture innovation center, contact Katie Stevens, Associate Director of Agriculture Business Development for the County, at 301-600-3037 or by emailing KStevens1@FrederickCountyMD.gov.

Leaving a legacy of agriculture may be one of the most important things we do to protect and preserve what we love about Frederick County."

Grants for Small Nonprofits

There is still time for small nonprofit organizations that were affected by the pandemic to apply for a grant. We set aside \$1 million of Frederick County's American Rescue Plan Act allocation to help these organizations. The ARPA Nonprofit Community Health and Recovery, or ANCHR, grants are for organizations that have not been eligible for previous recovery programs. Grant amounts range from \$5,000 to \$50,000, based on the nonprofit's annual budget.

Our nonprofit community works every day to make life better for people in Frederick County. With these grants, we are providing small nonprofits an

anchor to help them weather the storm created by the pandemic.

Funds may be used recover from revenue gaps or increased expenses, such as a drop in donations or a higher demand for service, or to help cover payroll, rent or other operating costs. Grants also can be used to expand or create community programs to address needs created by COVID-19.

Details on how to apply were mailed directly to nonprofits last month. Additional details are available at www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/ANCHR. The deadline to apply is June 9th.

New Fire Station

Frederick County's newest fire station will be dedicated later this month. The Northgate Fire Station on the north end of Thomas Johnson Drive, has easy access to Route 15 and Monocacy Boulevard. That means we can reach people faster when they need assistance, because it's all about taking care of people. The state-of-the-art facility will be able to house up to 22 firefighters. We expect Northgate to be busy as soon as it opens, with projections of more than 3,000 calls a year in their response area!

Hope to see you at a summer carnival!

County Notes...

Grants Available to Support Small Nonprofits Recovering from Pandemic

Small nonprofit organizations affected by the pandemic can apply for one-time grants that Frederick County is offering. County Executive Jan Gardner announced that \$1 million of the County's American Rescue Plan Act allocation has been set aside for the grants. The ARPA Nonprofit Community Health and Recovery, or ANCHR, grants are designed to help organizations that have not been eligible for previous recovery programs. Grant amounts range from \$5,000 to \$50,000, based on the nonprofit's annual budget.

"Our nonprofit community works every day to make life better for people in Frederick County," Executive Gardner said. "With these grants, we are providing small nonprofits an anchor to help them weather the storm created by the pandemic."

Grant funds may be used recover from revenue gaps or increased expenses, such as a drop in donations or a higher demand for service, or to help cover payroll, rent or other operating costs. Grants

also can be used to expand or create community programs to address needs created by COVID-19.

All 501(c)(3) and 501 (c)(19) nonprofits registered in Frederick County will be sent information on how to apply. To be eligible for a grant, the organization must have been in existence since March 2019; their annual operating budget must not exceed \$500,000; at least 51% of the people they serve must live in Frederick County; and the organization must have a physical loca-

tion or address in the county. Details are available at www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/ANCHR.

Executive Gardner also announced that \$300,000 of the County's ARPA funds will be awarded to the nonprofit Good Works Frederick to support a volunteer-based ride-share program. Extensive public outreach identified a need for accessible transportation options in the community. Good Works Frederick will partner with the United Way of Frederick County to expand the Ride United program so more people can benefit from the service.

To find details about other ARPA-

funded initiatives in Frederick County, visit www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/ARPA. To watch the

County Executive's public information briefing, go to www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/FCGtv.

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FROM THE DESK OF CANDIDATE FOR ...

Congressman David Trone (D), U. S. Congress

Good news is often hard to find, especially on television and the internet. This doesn't mean good things are not happening. It's just that most of these outlets seem to thrive on accidents, crime, and disaster. And lately, we'd need to add the economy to the bad-news list.

Much of this is understandable. The COVID-19 pandemic has ravaged every corner of America, and we continue to struggle to recover fully. Consumers and businesses face rising prices and shortages of essential products. Political division has taken its toll on our government and each of our communities, stalling important measures aimed at bolstering our economy and our society. War and unrest around the world threaten peace and prosperity in communities here and abroad.

There is no question that we are living in difficult times. But, despite what we're constantly reading in the news and even seeing in our daily lives, there are signs of good news that we should not ignore. It may not be on the front page or at the top of the news hour, but it's happening —

and we're better off because of it.

Unemployment in Maryland and across the country is the lowest it's been since the beginning of the pandemic. At a rate of 4.6% in Maryland, and 3.6% nationwide, more people are working now than at any point during the last two years. The fastest growing industry, leisure and hospitality, is a promising sign for our economic recovery. Those working in restaurants and hotels — some of the most significantly impacted by public health restrictions for the past two years — are returning to work in droves. And their customers are returning, too; 65% of adults reported eating out in just the past week.

Unlike a few years ago, the lower employment rate is not a result of people leaving the labor force. Labor force participation reached 62.4% in March, a rate near pre-pandemic levels. But perhaps the most promising sign of economic recovery is our record-breaking 11 straight months of job growth. In March alone, the US added 431,000 new jobs. Many of them offer a dual-incentive:

good wages and benefits for workers, and support of industries critical to our communities — infrastructure, transportation, and healthcare especially.

I'm not suggesting in any way that we do not have challenges in the economy that must be addressed. Inflation is one of these issues. "Inflation" is the economist's word for a rising cost of living, and it can be devastating for individuals, families, and businesses. From the grocery store to the gas pump and everywhere in between, things simply cost more these days. And while the federal government has taken steps to curb the effects of inflation, it certainly is taking a toll.

But even here, there is another side of the story. For example, recent statistics show promising growth in wages, a trend that is reaching lower-income workers. Rising income will be an important boost for families throughout the country, especially when some of the other factors causing higher prices are brought under control.

Other promising signs are evident as well. We've made an historic investment

in workers, families, businesses, and communities over the past year. The American Rescue Plan and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invested trillions of dollars in the American people and set our country up for continued success in the years to come. We'll repair the crumbling roads, bridges, and airports that support our economy — and create tens of thousands of jobs while we're at it.

One of the reasons I left business to enter public service is because government typically does not plan for the future. I'm delighted to say that this is an exception to that. It's an example of government making an investment with a long-term payout for the entire economy.

Much of this money will be invested right here in Frederick County, with millions coming to support flood mitigation, improve access to behavioral intervention and crisis support, celebrate our rich and diverse history, repair our roads, and support transportation infrastructure to allow Frederick County to continue to be a wonderful place to live and work. These investments provide

an excellent foundation on which to build. The worst thing we could do is to stop the progress we're making in Maryland and across the country.

Here's something else that isn't prominent in the news: we're accomplishing all of this while reducing the federal deficit. The budget requested by President Biden earlier this year accounts for nearly \$1 trillion in deficit reduction. One of the best things is we are reducing the deficit without raising taxes on middle and low-income households. I continue to be committed to increasing tax rates for millionaires and billionaires, and fighting to close loopholes that allow large corporations and their shareholders to avoid paying their fair share. But I will not support higher taxes for anyone else. Period.

As we transition beyond the pandemic, there's a lot of work to do. But I look ahead with optimism. The road ahead may be bumpy, and it will take a great deal of determination and everyone working together, but I'm confident that we can get it done.

Julianna Lufkin (D), County Council District 5

In my earlier articles, I've discussed matters that are close to my heart, as well as being part of my platform. These include support for local farmers, by connecting them with the children in FCPS who suffer from food insecurity, increasing the public transit to reliably include our more rural areas, and ensuring that our less-densely pop-

ulated areas of the county receive access to high-quality internet.

This month, however, I'd like to take a moment to talk about gratitude for our local activists.

As I'm sure you are aware, the past few months have been very intense in our community, in regards to the out of control and unacceptable behavior

shown by some attendees at the Board of Education meetings and agendas, the issues state-wide with redistricting and the primary, and the Police Accountability Bill at the council.

At several Board of Education meetings, our beloved LGBTQ+ community and allies, including myself, turned out in droves to support the state-mandated curriculum which allows educators to talk about students and families that don't fit the "traditional" mold. Despite incredibly adversarial conditions, they, members of the BOE, and those on the Family Life Advisory Committee bravely told their stories, voted in favor of the curriculum, and showed not only folks who are out, but those who may still be examining their gender and sexual orientation that here in Frederick County, we will support you. Thank you, truly. I'm honored and proud to live in a county like ours.

As far as the redistricting efforts,

all those who worked to make Maryland less gerrymandered have my sincere appreciation. As a Democrat, and a politician, it can be a fine line to walk. With fairer maps, might Maryland elect fewer Democrats? Personally, I would prefer that we elected our Democrats fairly, and I believe that we will, judging by the numbers of registered voters.

Frederick County desperately needs election judges! I cannot recommend volunteering to work as an election judge enough. If you have a flexible schedule, please reach out to the Frederick County Board of Elections and volunteer to be an election judge. The Board of Elections has the monumental task this year of ensuring a fair and accurate election, while working with changing dates and fewer staff and volunteers.

On both a larger and smaller scale, there are those in our community who advocate every day for a greener, and

more sustainable future. I am proud to tell you that I have recently received an endorsement from Sunrise Movement's Frederick hub. Sunrise Movement is a national organization made up predominantly of young people, whose goals are to elect champions of renewable energy sources, as well as officials who pledge to support climate policy and to work hard for a safe, sustainable, and green future for our planet.

I pledge to you, citizens of the 5th District, that if elected, I will never stop advocating for you. I am running on the Democratic ticket, but that should not stop registered Republicans and Independents from reaching out to share your views with me. I will never stop showing up for our community, listening to your concerns, and working with you to find solutions. You can find more information about me and my platform at my website; Linktr.ee/Lufkin.Listens.

JULIANNA LUFKIN
FOR
FREDERICK
COUNTY

Lufkin.Listens@gmail.com
301-305-1557



Julianna 
LUFKIN
LISTENS

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FROM THE DESK OF CANDIDATE FOR ...

Daryl Boffman (D), County Executive

In my previous articles, I have covered our campaign platform regarding education and business. This article focuses on our “One Frederick” platform. Our campaign’s mission statement says, “One Frederick, united in pursuing prosperity for all.” As we read and watch headline news and social media postings and listen to radio broadcast, we can conclude that our United States are more divided than any other time in history. Democrats and Republicans cannot agree on the best policies for the people. In fact, the Republican Party is divided between the Trump Republican and Establishment Republicans, while the Democratic Party is divided between the Progressives and Moderates.

Our nation has historically been divided over race, religion, national-

ity, gender, economic status, abortion rights, gun control and language. More recently, we have found ourselves on opposite sides of COVID-19 protocol, Black Lives Matter, drug addiction, Critical Race Theory, filibusters, voting access, historic statues, election results and more. Our deep division in these United States is weakening our nation’s world prominence. The partisan politics has created a toxic environment amongst our nation’s political leaders when discussing of our nation’s most pressing laws often voting along party lines, not what is in the best interest of the people. This same behavior is trickling down to the State and Local levels. We need to put an end to this style of governing and it starts at the County level.

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused two plus years of stress and misery in every nation, tribe, and community and forever changed our lives. Our nation alone lost over one million people to COVID-19. One would think battling through the pandemic together would cause us to draw closer as a nation; instead, we drew further apart. We have become more angry, less tolerant, less empathetic, and more selfish.

As your County Executive, I will work hard to bring us together as One Frederick through servant style leadership. I am a committed resident who believes in the great people of Frederick County and care enough to sacrifice my time, talent, and treasures for the good of our community. My service to the community in key

cornerstone organizations (Frederick County Public Schools, Frederick County Chamber and Frederick Health Hospital) are a testament to my love for Frederick County. We are fortunate to live in a beautiful community with a rich history and great resources. As our County is becoming more diverse, we need to expand opportunities for other residents to benefit from the County’s excellent quality of life and opportunities for prosperity.

I will create more access to affordable housing, broadband internet, county-wide transportation and better paying jobs. I will create a synergy with the leaders of the twelve municipalities to align our visions for Frederick County, while allowing each to have their own uniqueness. A “No

growth” plan is not an option for such a vibrant County primed to attract key industry leading corporations that will improve our ability to capitalize on the global economy. I will develop a Strategic Growth plan that supports the community’s priorities for the future as reflected in the Livable Frederick Plan. I will continue to preserve our farmland while working with the farming and agricultural businesses to research and develop new and more efficient ways to keep a vibrant farming industry yet make it more attractive to new and younger farmers. I would also partner with local non-profits and human services organizations to streamline and consolidate access to the services needed by our residents to survive and thrive.

Please visit our website at www.friendsofdboffman.com to learn more about our campaign to serve you.

Renee Knapp (D), County Council-At-Large

A few weeks ago, I was driving on a rural road on one of those beautiful days in Frederick County when the sun is shining, and you can tell that spring has finally arrived by the smell of everything blooming. As I approached a four way stop, I saw a cyclist approaching the intersection too. Behind the cyclist, cresting a blind hill, was an eighteen-wheeler carrying building materials. It was one of those moments on the road when all you can do is watch and hope. Thankfully, the driver of the truck was able to stop quickly enough to not hit the cyclist, most likely because of the sign indicating an upcoming four way stop.

As the county continues to grow, county government must recognize the increasing need for rural road safety measures. In addition to accommodating more cars from our growing population, large trucks using navigation systems are being routed onto rural roads to circumvent highway traffic. The rural roads of Frederick County are also a popular place for local cyclists and those who travel from more urban locations.

The farming industry also uses our increasingly crowded county roads.

Farm equipment cannot be moved as quickly as other vehicles. As more drivers are using rural roads to get around crowded highways, they encounter farming equipment that slows them down and they can become dangerously impatient, often resorting to illegally passing the farming vehicle across a double yellow line. When I learned to drive on the winding rural roads of Frederick County many years ago, that’s a chance I might have taken when there were a lot fewer cars. It is a much riskier choice today.

As your County Council representative, I will support resources dedicated to rural road safety. Frederick County is the largest county by area in Maryland. Local law enforcement agencies are doing their best to ensure the safety of motorists, farmers, and cyclists, but they can’t be everywhere. It is the responsibility of county government to support a systematic approach to promote rural road safety that takes the needs of all users into account, so that all types of vehicles can navigate the limited resource of county roads safely.

When someone buys a home in Frederick County, a disclosure is included in the settlement documents

that informs the buyer of the county’s Right To Farm Ordinance. That is usually the extent of a new resident’s information about how the rights of farmers and the agriculture industry are protected in Frederick County. As more housing is built and more businesses choose to locate here, the pressure on farmers using rural roads will continue to increase. They cannot move their vehicles faster safely. Pub-

lic awareness of the provisions in the Right To Farm Ordinance must be an ongoing effort that goes beyond a disclosure statement.

We can look to the success of other county public awareness programs, like those that promote recycling and vaccination, for ways to promote rural road safety. We should consider signage that reminds residents to do their part to keep agriculture thriving

in Frederick County by looking out for the safety of farmers. Friendly reminder notices that review the provisions of the Right To Farm Ordinance could be included in water bills and other communications. A successful public awareness campaign can make the red or orange reflective triangle on the back of farm equipment as recognizable and understandable as the familiar recycling symbol, and hopefully prevent someone from being injured or worse.

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FROM THE DESK OF...

Carroll Valley Mayor Ron Harris

According to the Farmer's Almanac, in June we are to expect hot, hot weather this summer. COVID cases are slowly rising. People should consider getting vaccinated. Primary elections are over. The primary voter turnout was high for Adams County. Officials reported that 39.92% of the registered voters visited the polls – the norm was 25%. In June, we celebrate National Flag Day on Monday, June 14th.

Pennsylvania celebrates Flag Day as a state holiday. Remember, the flag is flown from sunrise to sunset. The flag should never fly at night without a light on it. Father's Day will be celebrated on Sunday, June 19th. It is a day set aside to spend quality time with dad, grandfather, and great-grandfather or father figure. In 2022, the June solstice occurs on Tuesday, June 21st, marking the start of summer in the Northern Hemisphere. It is the longest day of the year – the longest period of sunlight hours.

The Carroll Valley 2022 Trout Derby event was a success. Thanks to the donors for their monetary support to purchase 442 trout. And thanks to the following for their assistance in preparing and running the event: Cody Gilbert, Lori Borden, Kylee Partilla, Mike Yocum, Laura Keller, Shayna Gilbert, Brad Sanders, and the Carroll Valley Maintenance

Crew. The Denim & Diamonds – Daddy Daughter Dance was an overwhelming success, with 151 attendees. Thanks to Carroll Valley Maintenance Crew, Councilor Dave Lillard, Lori Borden, Kylee Partilla, Hunter and Charlee Paulus, Amanda, Steve, and Jayden Bell, Jeni, and Jim Jarrell, Councilor Jessica Kraft, Jesse Kraft, Jacoby Kraft, Tim, Sarah and Emma Skoczen, Brad and Chrissy Sanders, Quinn Dehart, Pat Feeser, and Gayle Marthers. Must-see pictures are available at ronspictures.net.

The Central Pennsylvania Blood Bank will be holding its Blood Drive on Thursday, June 30th, from 12:00 pm – 7:00 pm in the council meeting room at the Carroll Valley Borough located at 5685 Fairfield Road. The two ways to schedule your donation appointment are to enter the following in your browser 717GiveBlood.org and click on Donate Now or call 800-771-0059. A form of ID is required to donate. The Blood Bank strongly suggests you schedule an appointment to help the Blood Bank improve your donation experience. Walk-ins are always welcome. However, donors with appointments will be taken first, resulting in a significant wait time for those without appointments. Masks are required. If you are not wearing a mask, a mask will be provided for you to wear.

The Adams Regional Emergency Medical Services (AREMS) 2022–2023 Subscription Drive is happening now. It is once again that time of year to enroll in the Ambulance Subscription Program. While you still receive emergency ambulance service if you do not subscribe to the program, AREMS strongly encourages you to participate to avoid costs beyond what typical insurance will cover. You should be aware that you must have a minimum of a primary insurance plan to be eligible to join this ambulance membership. Two benefits of joining AREMS Ambulance Services are helping your local emergency medical services provide quality emergency services. Secondly, you are eliminating your out-of-pocket expenses under certain circumstances. The cost of emergency services could cost over \$1,100. By becoming a "member," AREMS will waive any unpaid balances (excluding deductibles & copays) for emergency service after your insurance company processes your bill. If you have questions, call 717-624-7456.

The Carroll Valley Library June program follows: Monday, June 6 at 6:30 p.m.: Barks & Books – Reading to a therapy dog helps build confidence in new or reluctant readers. Please bring your child to the library to read to Danny, our favor-

ite KPets pup! Monday, June 13 at 6:30 p.m.: Wooden Home Décor Sign – Make a wooden home décor sign with four interchangeable plaques for the different seasons. Ages 18 and over. Registration is required. Tuesday, June 21 at 10 a.m.: To the Pond Story Time – Local author, Anna Heckert, will be using a ukulele and puppets to present a Storytime about her children's book "To the Pond." Thursday, June 23 at 6:30 p.m.: Sunrise Sipper and Star Charms – Make a refreshing mocktail and a pretty beaded star charm decoration. Ages 11-18. Registration is required. Monday, June 27 at 6:30 p.m.: Seashell Fun – Come and learn all about seashells and make a beautiful seashell craft! Ages 5-10. Registration required.

Missed the May electronic recycling drop-off event held at Freedom Township? Consider the Washington Township Transfer Station to turn in your electronic items. The station is located at 12721 Buchanan Trail East Waynesboro, PA. (right off PA 16 as you go to Waynesboro from Carroll Valley). Call ahead at 717-762-4413. What about used automobile oil, batteries, and other things? Suggest you refer to the Adams County website (adamscounty.us). On the homepage, under the heading Top Clicks (bottom of the list), click Recycling Brochure.

You can download this 23-page pdf document or perform your online search to find what you are looking for on the Adams County website without downloading. The brochure contains a wealth of information broken down by categories of recyclables (e.g., Microwares, Pesticides, Refrigerators, Sealants, etc.), the entity's name, and phone number. Advice – always call ahead.

A free Vacation Bible School (VBS) for children in the Fairfield community, ages 5-12, will be held June 13-17, from 6:15 to 8 p.m. The VBS location will be in Hamiltonban Community Park. In case of inclement weather, Liberty Worship Center, which is adjacent to the park. Online registration is available at vbcmate.com/Fairfield. For more information, call 717-977-1739. Registration will continue until the week of Bible school. Each night, children should be brought to the Liberty Worship Center parking lot, so the VBS "shepherds" can escort them to the park.

Carroll Valley Yard Sale is scheduled for Saturday, June 4th, in the borough parking lot from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. If you want to rent a space, contact Gayle Marthers, Assistant Borough Manager, at 717-642-8269. Remember, school is out, and watch your speed on the trails. If you have any questions, please call me at 301-606-2021 or email me at Mayor-RonHarris@comcast.net.

Liberty Supervisor Walter Barlow

Liberty Township was pleased to have Fairfield Fire Chief Bill Jacobs speak at the May township meeting about fire safety in our community. He explained the use of dry hydrants and the impor-

tance of cooperation in rural areas like Liberty Township that rely on community efforts of providing water from the local streams and ponds because no public water system with traditional

fire hydrants is available. Liberty Township is reaching out to our property owners to grant permission to access those water sources to provide fire suppression in the case of emergencies. The also

township hosted a CPR and First Aid Training that was attended by Hamiltonban and Liberty Township employees and a few members of the public. Thank you to Adams Regional EMS for providing the training for a reasonable fee.

We had a few complaints recently about trash blowing in to neighboring yards, and we asked that you use securely covered trash bins to prevent animals and wind from distributing debris in to neighboring properties. I would also like to remind residents that heavy rainfalls cause flooding, and we may need to close roads for safety. Wenschhof Road is particularly prone to flooding. When closing a road, we notify Adams County Department of Emergency Services of the road closure and place signs, barricades, and orange cones at the flood site. During a recent storm, Wenschhof Road was closed due to flooding on a Friday afternoon and were not able to open it until Sunday morning. Someone did not want to adhere to the road closure and removed our barricade and cones and tossed them into the woods. We ask that you respect the road closure devices and know that the Township will reopen the road as soon as we determine it is safe for travel.

Only two bids were received for the recently advertised road work bids. As the lowest bidder, New

Enterprise Stone and Lime was awarded the project for work on McGlaughlin Road. With the rising cost of fuel and other materials, several companies declined to bid. With the proposed cost coming in at 40% over budget, the Supervisors prioritized the work and agreed to postpone awarding the bid for bridge work and several other roads to focus available funding to repair McGlaughlin Road. We are continuing our intermunicipal work with Hamiltonban Township which includes trading hours and equipment as we work together on road projects to help each township and keep costs down by completing as many projects as we can in house. Please be sure to obey the posted speed limits as warmer weather approaches. Road work and mowing activities will be present on the area roadways increasing the need for caution.

We had a great turnout for the April electronics recycling event. The next event is scheduled for October 15 and is open to Park's Garbage customers in the Fairfield area. The Liberty Township Police Department took part in another successful Annual Drug Take Back event on April 30 at Carroll Valley Borough. I would like to thank the volunteers who worked the polls for the 270 people who came out to vote on May 17.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

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Fredrick County Health Dept. & CDC Guidelines Will Be Followed

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GOVERNMENT—NORTH OF THE BORDER

County Commissioner Marty Qually

A few weeks ago during our daughter's graduation from nursing school, I received a call from a friend. He wanted to know my reaction to the leaked Supreme Court vote and their apparent Roe v Wade decision. Honestly, it had been on my wife and my mind all week. My answer was simple, women have the right to be in control of their own bodies. Period. To me, this is an inalienable right. America is based upon this primary right, no one, not even King George, could tell our founders what we could do with their bodies. If you do not have the freedom to control your own body, you are not free. Little did I realize that this question was a set up.

His next question was that we needed someone to run against Dan Moul for State Representative. When I asked him who, he simply said, "you". The problem was it had to be a write-in campaign and the election was only ten days away. I told him that, if he could muster volunteers, I would agree to campaign. Fast forward to today and 811 write-in votes later (we needed 300) and we have a competitive race for State Representative. This would not have been possible without a bunch of people stepping up immediately to volunteer on Election Day. They deserve a huge thank you for their hard work. This

"race" was about friends telling friends telling friends to get out and vote. I'm still stunned and humbled by how fast this all happened.

The shock and excitement of winning wore off quickly. I have spent more time this week apologizing to people than being excited to have won. We should never have let the sixteen year incumbent have another hand out of an election. When we don't hold those in authority to account for their records, the people get screwed. It is ironic that in my opinion Mr. Moul ran to hold the previous incumbent accountable for his poor decision to vote for a late night pay raise. Sixteen years ago he went to Harrisburg to fight leadership, champion term limits, and promised to never take money from corporate lobbyists and the political machine that runs Harrisburg. In looking over his campaign finance reports and his record, all I can say is that I'm not sure the man we sent to Harrisburg is the same as we have now. I'm not saying that Mr. Moul is a bad guy. He is actually very pleasant. I'm just not sure he still works for us. Don't trust me, look it up at www.campaignfinanceonline.pa.gov. It is a very easy searchable database. I suggest paying attention to the donations in 2018.

If the 16 year incumbent wins, he and his far right handlers will continue to take rights away from women in Adams County. I will not sit by as half the population is denied the freedom to control their own bodies. During this campaign I will do my best to shed light on the incumbent's record of voting against women and highlight how we need to redouble our efforts to protect a woman's access to safe, legal, and accessible healthcare, address paid family leave, promote pre-and post-natal care, find ways to increase affordable high quality day-care, and fight for pay equity. For too long men in power have dictated how women are expected to live. I was raised by a strong mother, both my former wife Tanya and my wife Elizabeth are strong women, all three of my sisters are amazing, and our daughter is "fierce" (Elizabeth gets the real credit for that one). I know that our world is a better place when these, and all women, are treated as equals to men.

This is going to be a David versus Goliath election, but I believe our community is worth fighting for, no matter the odds! Sixteen years with few results isn't good enough for us. Here is what the sixteen year incumbent should have been fighting for, if I win this year, these are the items that I will fight for.

Election Reform. Lobbyists can literally donate ANY amount to State House candidates. There should be limits. Your vote should be more important than lobbyists' money. Third parties should have easier access to the ballot, so that voters have more choices. And lastly, elected officials should not be in charge of drawing their own voting districts. We choose our representatives, not the other way around.

Living Wage Jobs. We need to find ways to improve local businesses or add new compatible industries. Over half of our residents commute out of the county in order to provide a home and food for their families. We need to bring those jobs here.

End the Opioid Epidemic. Our officials must stop claiming to be fighting to end this epidemic, while voting to remove funding from programs that work.

Increase Mental Health Services. (See Ending the Opioid Epidemic above) The incumbent has voted to reduce funding, but still attends events and claims to support these services. You can't have both.

Improved broadband for residents and businesses. With almost a third of county residents being underserved or unserved, we need better high speed internet. This means better jobs and

better lives for our residents.

Preserve our rural character. This means preserving family owned farms and protecting our waterways and game lands. Sitting back as large well funded developers walk all over us, is not how we manage growth. It is how we lose our community.

I have a proven track record of working with others. As a minority county commissioner, I have been able to work with my peers and get important projects completed. When needed I have led on important issues, like the creation of the Mercy House and Broadband expansion. When necessary, I have worked to find compromise. This is why we are able to pass our budgets on time and the public isn't complaining about gridlock in Adams County.

I am also 100% accessible to the public. When you call me you don't get an assistant, you get me. My email is martyqually@gmail.com and my personal cell phone is 717-339-6514. If any resident has a concern or wants to discuss any issues, just give me a call or send an email.

I will always put the concerns of county residents first, not party leadership and not big lobbyists. I work for you now as a County Commissioner, and if elected to the State House, I will continue to work for Adams County residents first, last, and every time in between.

State Representative Dan Moul

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) is alerting consumers that most utilities will be increasing prices for electric generation on June 1. Many non-shopping (default service) customers will see dramatic increases in energy costs, ranging between 6% and 45%, depending on their electric utility. This increase is even before Gov. Tom Wolf's carbon tax kicks in, which could nearly quadruple electricity costs for consumers.

The carbon tax is part of Pennsylvania's entry into the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, which was advanced by the governor without legislative approval. According to the PUC, one option consumers

may want to explore immediately is their utility's voluntary Standard Offer Program – which is another alternative for default service customers not participating in the competitive electricity market. Consumers and small businesses can also use the PUC's PAMPowerSwitch energy shopping website to explore and compare other offers from competitive energy suppliers which may provide savings compared to their utility's default service rate.

House Passes Bill to Ensure Accountability in State Spending

To protect the interests of taxpayers, the Commonwealth has a detailed pro-

cess by which it purchases goods and services, and it is designed to ensure fairness and accountability. The Commonwealth is permitted to use a less stringent process for procurement in order to expedite necessary purchases in an emergency. While emergency procurement of certain goods and services is vital to meeting the needs of Pennsylvania citizens, we recently learned through legislative hearings that some state agencies are using emergency procurement procedures for non-emergency situations.

I recently voted to change this. House Bill 2159 would establish a

new process that would require state agencies seeking to make an emergency procurement to submit a written request and outline the basis of the emergency and how it creates an urgent need for the purchase. It would also require the agency to solicit at least two quotes unless it can explain why it would be impractical to do so. The proposal would allow an emergency procurement if there is a threat to the safety, health or welfare of the Commonwealth or there are circumstances outside the control of the purchasing agency that threaten substantial harm to the operations of the Commonwealth. The bill now goes to the Senate for consideration.

Spotted Lanternflies Pose Threat to PA Agriculture

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture recently added Adams County to the list of Pa counties under quarantine due to the presence of the invasive spotted lanternfly. You can find the map of existing and new counties here. If you see a spotted lanternfly, especially outside the quarantine zone, it's imperative to report it online or via phone by calling 1-888-4BADFLY. In Adams County, we treasure our orchards and vineyards. We have good cause to educate ourselves and be on alert for this destructive pest. To learn more, visit here.

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Beautiful log home in Carroll Valley/Fairfield in a tranquil setting on 6.63 ac. of trees. Well maintained. Lg. front & back porches!
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SOLD



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****ACTIVE LOTS****

23 Gladys Tr., Carroll Valley, PA
Gently sloping double lot on a beautiful high setting. Property being sold AS IS. Suggest buyer verify septic location and viability of the report.....**\$49,900**

11 Sidetrack Tr., Carroll Valley, PA
Two building lots, 1 ac. each, lovely setting, wooded hillside, creek, touches golf course, walking distance to resort & ski slopes. Owner financing available.....**\$64,900**

4 Fir Tr., Carroll Valley, PA
Nice 0.79 ac. lot perc appr. for elevated sandmound septic system. Property wooded & sloped. Close to ski & gold resort. Only 12 mi. from historic Gettysburg.....**\$12,000**

5 Deer Tr., Carroll Valley, PA
Very nice lot, close to Carroll Valley Golf Course & Liberty Mt. Resort. Years ago this lot failed perc test. Chance buyers could do another perc test.....**\$7,000**

4 Fernwood Tr., Carroll Valley, PA
0.86 ac., perc appr. lot for a Drip Irrigation Septic System, walking distance to ski resort, & golf course. Heavily wooded with mature trees. 12 mi. from Gettysburg.....**\$27,900**

5600 Fairfield Rd., Carroll Valley, PA
Rare commercial property, 1.78 ac., many possibilities. Liberty Mt. golf & ski resort at rear of property, 487' road frontage. There is a spring in back of property.....**\$350,000**

COMMENTARY

Words From Winterbilt

Labels, Socialism v. Capitalism

Shannon Bohrer

Our country has been divided for some time and the differences are often reflected in our two political parties. Having differences is not new; in fact, our form of government encourages individual thought and expression of ideas. The “melting pot,” a term often used to describe our various ethnic origins, was often credited for the creativity, ingenuity, and innovations that continually developed our country. Yet, today the “melting pot” is used as a foil to divide us, and sometimes very effectively.

Our political differences are not new and for many years while we had differences, the two parties frequently worked together. Working for the betterment of the country overshadowed individual parties. Unlike today, it was country before party, and it worked. Today, some would have you believe that our differences are so significant that they are unresolvable. It is common to label these differences and then express them as good for their party and bad for the other side.

Two very central and well-known labels include the idea that the democratic party represents socialism, and the republican party favors capitalism. These labels are not new; they have

existed for generations. For many people, the word socialism has a negative connotation, and conversely, the word capitalism sounds -well profitable. Of course, that is what some want you to believe. The history of our “socialist programs” is not bad, and the history of “capitalism” is not all good.

The socialism label has a long history, as in this example, “Never in the history of the world has any measure been brought in here so insidiously designed so as to prevent business recovery, to enslave workers, and to prevent any possibility of the employers providing work for the people.” While one might think this is a recent quote, it was said in 1936, by Representative John Taber (R-NY), as an argument against the Social Security proposal. There was also “Social Security is the end of democracy,” as stated in a pamphlet by the American Liberty League in 1935. The fearmongering of socialism has long been a staple of conservatives. And yet, social security works, it is well-liked, and it is paid for by the citizens. If the program is paid for by the individuals receiving the benefits, is it socialism?

A more recent quote from Ronald Reagan, “if you don’t [stop Medicare] and I don’t do it, one of these days you and I are going to spend our sunset years telling our children and our children’s children what it once was like in America when men were free.”

He was arguing against the passage of Medicare because it was a “socialist program”. He espoused the theory that if the law passed, the federal government might control where Americans could live and how they could earn a living. Sometimes, the word socialism is thrown about like a paintbrush, and anything covered with the brush - is anti-American.

In the early 1960s, a common theme was that the socialist Medicare program was going to be the end of a free people. What is missing from this argument is that Medicare was created because insurance companies routinely dropped older people when they got sick. Our health care system is a form of capitalism; insuring healthy people is profitable and insuring older and sicker people is not. Dropping older and unhealthy people, anyone over 65, was good business, meaning it was good capitalism.

In 1964, Senator Barry Goldwater had a warning about Medicare, “Having given our pensioners their medical care in kind, why not food baskets, why not public housing accommodations, why not vacation resorts, why not a ration of cigarettes for those who smoke and of beer for those who drink?” There are many that believe anything that can be painted with the brush of socialism should be. Of course, the socialist program called “Medicare,” is very popular, and

many would like to see the program expanded. Like social security, Medicare works, it is well-liked, and it is paid for by the citizens. Again, if the program is paid for by the users, is it really socialism?

The end of freedom as we know it was and still is a common theme with Social Security, Medicare, and, more recently, the Affordable Care Act. It is said that Socialism will ruin us; it will make people dependent on the government and take away our freedom. Oddly, the freedom to collect social security and Medicare that you pay for gives one more freedom. Imagine what our country would be without social security and Medicare? “Among elderly Social Security beneficiaries, 37% of men and 42% of women receive 50% or more of their income from Social Security.” And without Medicare, how many elderlies would not have medical insurance?

Conversely, capitalism is hailed as the engine of America, and capitalism is responsible for building American businesses, employing workers, and creating the American dream. As Bill Gates once said, “Capitalism has worked well, anyone who wants to move to North Korea is welcome.” Words from a successful capitalist.

What is avoided by the supporters of capitalism is that many large companies not only fail to pay any taxes, but they also receive subsidies from the federal government. When industries receive subsidies, is that a form of welfare or socialism? Can businesses

become dependent on the government? If so, are they in danger of losing their freedoms?

In 2018, sixty profitable businesses, which were on the Fortune 500 list, paid no federal taxes, yet they received a tax rebate of \$4.3 billion. That 4.3 billion is a minor figure compared to twenty billion in subsidies, or industrial socialism programs, received by the fossil fuel industries. When two dozen fossil fuel companies pay no taxes while reporting record profits and receive tax “rebates,” otherwise known as subsidies, should that be called industrial socialism, or corporate welfare?

Could the insidious design of industrialized socialism enslave our capitalistic companies? If we do not stop industrialized socialism, will we be telling our grandchildren what it was like when American companies were free?

You might be thinking that industrialized socialism is not that big of a deal, or it’s helpful for the creation of jobs. Of course, that is what the beneficiaries of the subsidies tell us. Corporate welfare or socialist capitalism is estimated to be one hundred billion dollars each year. That may seem like a lot of money, but it is being paid for. Just as we pay for social security and Medicare, we also pay for socialist capitalism.

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

Tumbleweeds

What won the west & why

Mark Greathouse

Was it a Colt .45? A Winchester? How about a shotgun? Despite what the old dime novels would have folks believe, guns didn’t win the west. They were important sure ‘nuf, but guns didn’t run ranches, operate banks, run post offices, or publish newspapers. Wherever commerce flourished in the old west, you would sure as shootin’ find families. Most didn’t even have Colt .45s or Winchesters.

Families build nations. Even before the first European immigrants, families formed the bedrock of America. From wikipups and teepees to log cabins and sprawling towns, families spawned America. While surveyors, trappers, miners, railroaders, and the like blazed trails from Atlantic to Pacific, the force that truly established our nation was and has always been the family. Shucks, I’ve traced my own ancestry from five brothers immigrating from Ireland to Texas between 1845 and 1867 to find them having spawned more than 2,600 family members spanning nine generations. That’s a lot of family!

Apparently in today’s America, the binding family dynamic that “won the west” isn’t so important anymore, as the family has endured ever-increasing assault by socio-political forces. Per the U.S. Census Bureau in the seven decades since 1950, two-parent families with chil-

dren under age 18 dropped from 92 percent to 70.5 percent of total families with children. Minorities have been hit the hardest. Quoting from YaleGlobal Online in his best-seller Red, White, and Black, Robert Woodson, Sr. notes, “In 1925 in New York City, 85 percent of black families were a husband and wife raising their children – while today the rate of out-of-wedlock births among blacks has skyrocketed to nearly 71 percent.” Planned Parenthood aborts annually more than 250,000 black babies, not exactly family friendly.

Where are America’s nuclear families going? How have we reached such a sorry state? Why? Anti-family agendas have pretty much infiltrated academia, social media, news media, public education, medicine, government, religion, and corporations. Lest we forget, greed, avarice, and pure selfishness dictate against family and were also around in the Old West. But technology has created modern social contagions, such as gender dysphoria and “wokism,” that make the antidote for the disease of family destruction more difficult to deliver. Pornography creates sexual dysfunction that discourages family structure. The LGBTQ community with rare exception speaks for itself as to reduced family size. Debt is a population killer, as debt-burdened folks are fearful of being able to support large families. Divorce tears our families apart.

Academia provides the anti-family “brain trust” via classrooms and pseudo-intellectual political influ-

ence. Social media apply their “community standards” to shadow ban or outright delete arguments for traditional marriage, pro-life positions, and so on. News media stoke over-population horrors. Public schools contribute to the anti-family agenda by “educating” youth at ever-younger ages about sexuality, while teacher unions pursue family destruction by repurposing teachers to serve as substitute parents. Medical tyranny is applied to politically leverage diseases by limiting social contact and thereby reducing intimacy and controlling opportunities for conception. Even traditional religious denominations have fallen victim to the infiltration of secularist agendas that compromise moral principles and make congregations more susceptible to warped teachings destructive of family such as loosening of teachings against adultery. Seems that we have a national pandemic of societal cowardice that gains function with each new hate-filled woke aberration.

We exist in an ever-more-divided, ever-more-decadent world. All manner of amoral agendas are being thrown at us aimed at destroying families and thereby our nation. The attack on family is part of a larger agenda, and it’s going to get worse. Readers should realize that these agendas are the antithesis of being born with equal opportunity for life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness. The enemy is filled with hate and won’t listen to reason, and we must fight back while we yet have our freedom of choice.

We seem to have lost connec-

tion with the role of families 150 years ago such as won the west. The nuclear family, based on natural law and Judeo-Christian values, stands as a huge obstacle to those who would tear the family asunder to feed their woke agenda. While good things can be born from struggles, it’s a tall order to overcome what might be termed a mass psychosis bent on destruction of religion and morality. Folks who cluelessly put their children through public school and college brainwashing, ignore the secularization of churches, succumb to social media “community standards,” believe the liberal-biased news media, accept a non-exceptional America, and the like probably won’t care for the answer to stopping the destruction of families. Far too many have been schooled to avoid conflict, avoid win-lose, avoid discomfort, and submit unquestioningly to authority. Gotta wonder how they might have fared in Montana, Kansas, or Texas of the 1850s?

In any case, we absolutely must reclaim America’s moral compass before we can ever hope to rein in the threats that surround us. That includes finding Bible-based churches that follow God’s teachings. Mothers and fathers must regain the respect essential to strong families. We also must act strongly against the forces that are fomenting anarchy and are silencing the voices striving to revive family and American exceptionalism. It doesn’t take villages; it takes families to win America’s culture war.

Anti-family agendas have infil-

trated academia, social media, news media, public education, medicine, government, religion, and corporations.

Why is building strong families important? I suggest that it should be right obvious by now. The very strength of our nation depends on its families.

We first and foremost absolutely must reclaim America’s moral compass, before we can ever hope to rein in the threats that surround us. That includes finding Bible-based churches that follow God’s teachings. Mothers and fathers must regain the respect essential to strong families. We just might follow Ephesians 5:23-28 which counsels, “Now as the church submits to Christ, so wives are to submit to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave Himself for her to make her holy... In the same way, husbands are to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself.” This was the wise counsel that helped build America’s families. Second, we must act strongly against the forces that are fomenting anarchy and seeking to silence the voices striving to revive the family paradigm and American exceptionalism. Those are the beginnings for turning the tide against the proponents of anti-family agendas in our midst. It doesn’t take villages; just as in the Old West, it takes families to build a strong America.

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

Country First

Democracy's erosion cannot be ignored

David Marshall

In 1790, George Washington stated, "The establishment of our new Government seemed to be the last great experiment for promoting human happiness." Democracy was referred to as the great experiment because it was unknown to the Founders if the proposed system of self-government by the people could withstand the test of time. Will there ever be a point where we can say that the experiment is complete and America has achieved her intended goal? What would "human happiness" look like in our politically, religious and racially diverse society?

The great experiment is not only a continuous process throughout centuries, but the nature of the experiment evolves as the description 'We the People' changes by becoming more inclusive of others. Originally, "We the People" was limited and was a term which was not applied to the lives of everyone born in the United States. When the Constitution was written, poor white men were unable to vote. Women and people of color were also excluded from casting a ballot. During that time period, only wealthy white men who owned property were given the honor of full citizenship and the right to vote.

The great experiment took on more challenges as "We the People" became multiethnic and multi-religious. Throughout history, we have seen how America has successfully met many of the challenges. But in recent

years, democracy has become more fragile. Today, we can see that our concern should not be focused just on the actual system of democracy, but its focus should be on the character of the people within the system.

The fight to save democracy must be a multiracial, multicultural and a bipartisan effort. The Founders knew the challenges that lay ahead. For example, while as a group they choose not to take on the issue of slavery, but many of them believed future leaders would eventually have the moral conviction to end it. The Founders recognized human imperfections with the tendency to abuse power. Therefore, history and current events shows how the great experiment is depended on citizens, along with those elected to represent us. There has to be respect for humanity, ethics and integrity embedded deep within our sense of community.

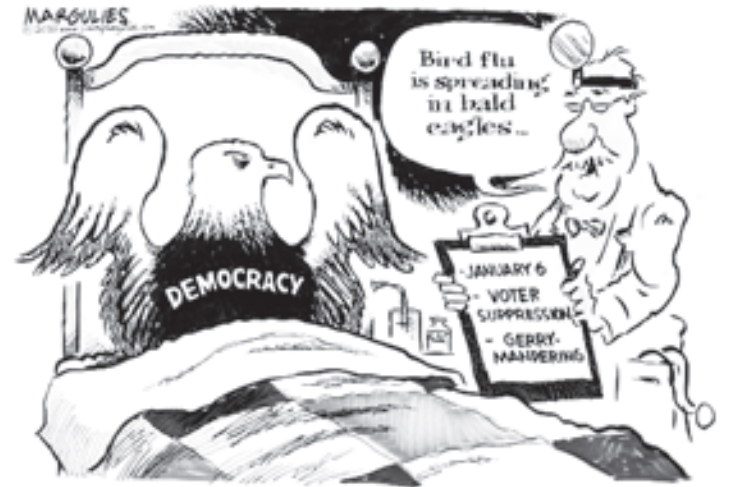
The Founders' ideas were based on enduring principles and the need for laws dependent upon the consent of a people who understood those principles. One of the unique features of the great experiment rest in the fact that the Founders acknowledged how individual rights are derived from the truth that "all men are created equal". Therefore, democracy relies on its citizens exercising the Golden Rule, which is the ethical principle of treating others as you would prefer to be treated. It instructs us to put ourselves in our neighbor's place, and guide our behavior accordingly. It assumes that when we put ourselves in our neighbor's place, we are wise enough not to make any foolish decisions and decent enough not to make evil ones.

The application of the Golden Rule is a moral checks and balance which transcends race, gender, class, religion, political party and zip code.

The United State has been one of the most diverse countries in the world for quite some time. Until recently not many people would have placed American democracy at serious risk. Did the Founders ever think future generations of Americans would strategize ways to destroy our system of government by the people? The events surrounding the 2020 presidential election makes the reality of a fallen American democracy even more real. The nation heard the published recording with the former president pressuring the top election official in Georgia to "find" enough votes to overturn his defeat in the state. When it becomes a win-at-any-cost struggle for power, can democracy survive our current political polarizations and lack of ethics?

"All I want to do is this: I just want to find 11,780 votes, which is one more than we have," Donald Trump says, according to the audio of a phone call to Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger. "There's nothing wrong with saying, you know, that you've recalculated." As legal scholars described the comments as a flagrant abuse of power, democracy is dependent on public servants like Raffensperger who, as a fellow Republican, was respectfully willing to tell a sitting president he was wrong. For that reason, the overturning of a fair and accurate election didn't happen in Georgia in 2020.

Having lessons learned, things are lining up where future state representatives in Pennsylvania may be less willing to resist than their counterparts in Georgia when it comes



time to oversee the 2024 presidential election results. The recent primary election in Pennsylvania is alarming considering the Trump-backed GOP gubernatorial candidate (Doug Mastriano) has proposed things that could create election chaos, according to experts who are already fearful of a democratic breakdown around the 2024 presidential contest.

Mastriano, who was present at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, has vowed to decertify voting machines in counties where he suspects the result was rigged. He emphasized that the Republican-controlled legislature should have the right to take control of the all-important choice over which presidential electors are sent to Washington. As governor of Pennsylvania, Mastriano would have the unusual authority to directly appoint the secretary of state, who serves as the chief elections officer and must sign off on results. If he or she submits to internal or external political pressure, and refuses to certify the election results despite what the court says and despite clear evidence, chaos without a doubt will occur locally and nationally. If one is seeking

to destroy American democracy, this would be a good strategy.

It was encouraging to see Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger take the brave and unpopular stand to defend democracy, it is equally encouraging to see Rep. Liz Cheney take a bold stand to defend humanity. Cheney wrote via Twitter "The House GOP leadership has enabled white nationalism, white supremacy, and anti-Semitism. History has taught us that what begins with words ends in far worse. GOP leaders must renounce and reject these views and those who hold them." With hate crimes and domestic terrorism on the rise we need to follow the Golden Rule while embracing Rep. Cheney's bold example of speaking out.

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

Down Under

Australia has a new leader

Submitted by Lindsay Melbourne, Australia

*As cold waters to a thirsty soul,
So is good news from a far country.*

- Proverbs 25:25

The result of the May 21 election was a surprise to no one here, and heralds the beginning of a new style of leadership. The nearest analogy to this was the removal of Donald Trump, except that our version had nothing but ego: no guts, no brains and no responsibility.

So, thumbnail of the worst politician to have ever lived: Grew up in Hillsong, that happy-Clappy Pentecostal perversion. Went into advertising and scheming, went into politics, and became minister for communications. At the election in 2019, no one expected his party, the conservatives, to have a chance – the economy was a mess, was fighting among itself as the far right tried to rid itself on the moderates. And, with the help of his Hillsong friends, managed to appoint himself as candidate for prime-minster.

Enter the opposition, the Labor party, which you do not have, but is the same as the English system. The

odds on them winning were heavily in their favour – but guess what? They lost. They lost because they have too many idealists in the ranks who believed coal was the enemy of everyone, so went to the coal-mining areas and said, in so many words, 'you are wrong.' That is all it took, and the resultant loss led to three years of total incompetence.

Now to 2022.

Scott Morrison, the PM, was not going to win, the result was going to be a labor win.

But no, they will form a government with much less than 50% of the vote.

To explain: Australia is one of only sixteen countries where compulsory voting is in place, which means you have to vote or get fined – and be sneered at. (As an aside, we believe that to be a democracy, when every citizen has to be represented, then they must vote. It is not a matter of choice.) As well, we are not stuck with having just two parties, which in theory, you do as well but in practice do not.

One of our progressive philanthropists, 'Twiggy' Forrest, knew that the major parties were disconnected from the majority, so poured money into recruiting suitable peo-

ple who could stand as independents. Locals who could talk to the locals, intelligent people who could get their message across.

The result? The conservatives lost some 12% of the vote, or some 12 seats. Labor lost 3%, which is certainly not enough, but the independents, who became known as 'teals', and the greens, have won a whopping 12 seats, and their preferences, (you do have preferential voting, don't you?) have gone to Labor.

Joy throughout the land.

Our buffoonish ex leader celebrated by playing the banjo, and the latest corruption index, which in 2020 was at 10 for Great Britain, Canada (the lower the better – Norway and New Zealand at 2 or 3) saw us drop to 11 last year and probably to 13 or 14 this year due to the billions 'gifted' the PM and his mates from coal, oil, gas and the jailed but huge Argentinian group who not only runs most of the meat packing here, but now the aquaculture section as well.

Now the even better news.

The new PM, Anthony Albanese, is a younger version of Joe Biden – smart, quiet, to the point, astute. Sworn in on Monday, he's off the QUAD meeting in Japan, with his two most senior ministers.

There is so much to fix back here – they are going to be very busy – but there is one thing that is intrac-

table. The economy. Australia sells Iron ore and coal the China, we buy most other things from them.

We cannot do without them, and our livelihood depends on them. (YUK!)

We have always believed, (what a strange word – belief is what you hope for) that we could balance our need for China with our loyalty and reliance on the U.S. But that is a myth: unless China actually attacks us, we are on our own. Over the years we have lost our manufacturing industry, exporting primary products – but here's the thing: China only has to experience a down turn in manufacturing and we are against the wall.

But here comes Anthony. A cabinet composed of highly educated, competent and honest (yes, all right, is any politician entirely honest?) that is preparing to undo some of the damage wrought by the former PM. Things like public housing, the health system, overseas aid.

And that is perhaps the most serious oof all. The conservative government, in power for 12 years, had reduced funding for overseas aid, even promising the Solomons more while giving less. So, they go to the Chinese and we may well finish up with a Chinese naval base at our backdoor.

I was involved in this last election, locally heading a group known

as 'Get UP' – which you don't have – but one that researches the background and performances of every candidate.

All the people doing similar things agreed that the result would be just what it is.

So were heading into a new phase.

How are things with you?

Let's not go into Ukraine, the Taliban, or any other once hot topics, just let me hear you rejoice along with us.

Now a note about the Greens: They have made significant inroads into their numbers in parliament, but how many countries are trying to reduce green-house gas emissions? Just 16.

Western Europe, Canada, the US, Australia and New Zealand.

Every other country don't care, India are building more coal fired plants, and whether they know it or not, they are right. Because the tipping point, that point when things can never be brought back occurred thirty years ago. Much better to spend the billions that have been sunk into 'gas-reduction' being used to help fix the effects of climate change: Levees, relocations to higher ground and so on.

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

THE PASTOR'S DESK

Saying goodbye

**Pastor Heath Wilson
Tom's Creek United
Methodist Church**

This will be the last time writing for the News-Journal. It has been a wonderful 8 years in this community and I am only leaving because I am part of an appointment system where you are moved around to different churches. I have been blessed to live in this amazing community. Sometimes we start to get down on the area we live and we focus on all the problems and don't see all the good and amazing things that are in our communities. Let me share just a small glimpse of what I have seen in this community.

The food banks in this area are wonderful and meeting the needs of people. They have amazing people volunteering to run them. And even more important they receive so much support from the community in the form of food donations and financial support. This community really does care about making sure people have basic necessities.

In connection with this Seton Center is a blessing to this community. It would be easy as a United Methodist pastor to say I am not going to support a Catholic ministry. Yet, they do such an amazing job of providing services and support to anyone in need. They also make sure that people that are receiving support are holding up their end and they ensure that the resources are used well. Many

churches in the area financially support them so that they can be a clearing house for providing support to people in their time of need. They are a wonderful blessing to this community that helps everyone regardless of the church they attend or if they don't attend church.

Many may not know it but the Council of Churches do a wonderful job of bringing church together and trying to shine light and hope into our community. They bridge denominational differences and theological differences in order to work to overcome

"It has been an honor to be in this community while serving as Pastor at Tom's Creek United Methodist Church"

issues that affect our community. They hold rallies to let people know that while we may have differences that we do not condone hate and we condemn actions that demean and harm others. They come together to tackle issues that are affecting the community when they arise. They are a blessing to the community.

We have amazing volunteer Fire/Rescue/EMS services. I know that the Vigilant Hose

Company goes above and beyond just the basics. If and when they can they have provided pumps for flooding basements, they have financially supported other efforts in the community even as they try to support all the needs of the volunteer department, they will give out meals to kids when schools are shut down for COVID, etc. I would say they provide even better support than many fully tax payer funded Fire/Rescue/EMS departments and that goes for all the local Fire/Rescue/EMS services. They put in a lot of blood, sweat, and tears to help protect our communities and they do it all without complaining but with servant hearts. They are a blessing to this community.

This community comes together in times of need. I think of Thurmont Kountry Kitchen who when the COVID pandemic started and they were taking a financial hit how they decided they were going to offer free meals to school children in need. Many businesses would be tempted to cut back on giving in those circumstances but they decided to be more generous and use the time of less business to make food to help the most vulnerable. They knew it was the right thing to do and trusted in the end God would bless their faithfulness. I know the church I served saw their big heart and financially supported them as they endeavored to be like Christ to our community. Many other business owners in this community rise above and beyond when the need arises. They are a blessing to this community.

And this wonderful monthly publication is another amazing part of this community. There are lots of local papers that have closed up shop and many areas do not have any publications. What has always amazed me about this publication is that it is not just flashy but it goes deep. There is a whole "extra" section that contains articles that delve into history and ensuring that the actions of those that blessed our community in the past are not forgotten. I must admit I normally don't have time to read it all but I know many who do and they are bet-



ter for it. What a blessing to this community.

Friends, it has been an honor to be in this community while serving as Pastor at Tom's Creek UMC. I can only hope and pray the community I am going to will be as wonderful as this amazing outpost of humanity. Yes, it is not perfect but no community is. Yet, I see people striving to make this the best community it can be. We live in a fallen world and so this side of heaven there will always be brokenness. We can gripe, complain and fixate on the brokenness or we can try to find ways

to help rise above it and to work together to make it an even better place. I pray that this community does not give into the brokenness but instead continues to come together to invest in creating greater good for all. Don't let your hearts be discouraged but instead look to the heavens for ways God might be leading you to be part of the solutions and helping to grow love and grace. I leave you dear reader with a question to ponder:

How can you join with others that are blessing this community?

Thank you for welcoming into this community and I wish you all best.



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THE BOOK OF DAYS

Talleyrand



Died May 17, 1838

At his death in 1838, Talleyrand had reached the age of eighty-four. He had figured as a bishop before the Revolution, made a narrow escape in that crisis of the national history, was Napoleon's minister for foreign affairs under both the Consulate and Empire, was the leading Frenchman in arranging the Restoration, and did not forsake public life under either the restored Bourbons or Louis Philippe. The character of the age in which he had lived was strongly brought before our thoughts when, on taking the oath to the new system of things in 1830, he said—'This is the thirteenth—I hope it will be the last.'

He is generally reputed as the very type of the statesman of expediency and the slippery diplomat; and yet there is reason to believe that Talleyrand, all through, acted for the best in behalf of his country. It is true, he had an extraordinary amount of that sagacity which, in the midst of general enthusiasm, can coolly calculate chances; which is, accordingly, never carried away; which plays with the passions and sentiments of men. But he was not necessarily on this account a wicked politician. He was even honest in certain great crises—for example, when he counseled Napoleon to moderation after obtaining the purple, and lost his favour by discommending the invasion of Spain, which he truly prophesied would be found 'the beginning of the end.' Being out of the immediate service of the Emperor, he was perfectly at liberty to move for the change of dynasty in 1814, and he continued faithful to the new one in the trying crisis of the ensuing year.

The reputation of Talleyrand has arisen more from his words than his actions. He could justly appreciate the ardour of other people, and make cool, witty remarks upon them. Hence it was thought that he had no heart, no generous feeling. He could point out the evil consequences of openness and zeal; hence it was thought that he had no probity or faithfulness. But he was in reality a kind-hearted man, and generally acted correctly. All we can truly say is just this, that in the various difficult matters he was concerned in, he could see the inevitable consequences of being the simpleton or the enthusiast; and that, being a wit, he loved to

put his reflections on these things into epigrammatic form, thus unavoidably giving them an air of heartlessness. The generality of men, repining at the useful self-command they saw he could exercise, took their revenge by representing him as a monster of cold-heartedness and treachery—which was far from being his actual character. Their injustice was supported by a sang-froid which was constitutional with Talleyrand, but which was merely external.

The bon mots of Talleyrand had a great celebrity. There was something cynical about them, but they were also playful. When told that the Duke of Bassano was come back with Napoleon from Russia, he remarked, with an expression of doubt on his countenance, 'Those bulletins are always lying—they told us all the baggage had been left behind.' Such a fling at a stupid statesman many might have made. But what are we to say of the depth of such of his sayings as that the execution of the Duc D'Enghien was 'worse than a crime—it was a blunder'? There we see the comprehensive and penetrating intellect, as well as the epigrammatist.

After all, as often happens with men's good things, some are traced to earlier wits. For instance, his saying that lan-

guage was given to man 'not to express his thoughts, but to conceal them,' is traced back to South, the English divine. So also his reply to the question 'What had passed in the council?' 'Trois heures,' had a prototype in a saying which Bacon records of Mr Popham, the Speaker of the House of Commons, who, being asked by Queen Elizabeth what had passed in the lower house, answered, 'Please your majesty, seven weeks.' It is not easy even for a Talleyrand to be original.

Some of his acts were practical witticisms, as when, at the death of Charles X, he appeared in a white hat in the republican quarters of Paris, and in the quartier St. Germain put on a crape; or, when asked by a lady for his signature in her album, he inscribed it at the very top of a page, so that there might be no order for ten thousand francs written over it.

Not long before the death of Talleyrand, an able English writer, speaking of his brilliant apothegms, said, 'What are they all to the practical skill with which this extraordinary man has contrived to baffle all the calamities of thirty years, full of the ruin of all power, ability, courage, and fortune? Here is the survivor of the age of the Bastille, the age of the guillotine, the age of the prison-ship, the age of the sword. And after baffling the Republic, the Democracy, the Despotism, and the Restoration, he figures in his eightieth year as the Ambassador to England, the Minister of France, and retires from both offices only to be chief counsellor, almost the coadjutor of the king. That where the ferocity of Robespierre fell, where the sagacity of Napoleon fell, where the experience of the Bourbons fell, this one old man, a priest in a land of daring spirits—where conspiracy first, and soldiership after, were the great means of power—should survive all, succeed in everything, and retain his rank and influence through all change, is unquestionably among the most extraordinary instances of conduct exhibited in the world.'

James Audubon
Born May 4, 1782

One of those enthusiasts who devote themselves to one prodigious task, of

a respectable, but not remunerative nature, and persevere in it till it, or their life, is finished. He was born of French parents, in the then French colony of Louisiana, in North America, and received a good education at Paris. Settled afterwards by his father on a farm near Philadelphia, he married, engaged in trade, and occasionally cultivated a taste for drawing. Gradually, a love of natural history, and an intense relish for the enjoyment of forest life, led him away from commercial pursuits; and before he was thirty, we find him in Florida, with his rifle and drawing materials, thinking of nothing but how he might capture and sketch the numerous beautiful birds of his native country. At that time, there was a similar enthusiast in the same field, the quondam Scotch pedlar and poet, Alexander Wilson. They met, compared drawings, and felt a mutual respect. Wilson, however, saw in young Audubon's efforts the promise of a success beyond his own.

Years of this kind of life passed over. The stock of drawings increased, notwithstanding the loss at one time of two hundred, containing a thousand subjects, and in time the resolution of publishing was formed. He estimated that the task would occupy him fifteen more years, and he had not one subscriber; but, notwithstanding the painful remonstrances of friends, he persevered.

In the course of his preparations, about 1828, he visited London, Edinburgh, and Paris. We remember him at the second of these cities, a hale man of forty-six, nimble as a deer, and with an aquiline style of visage and eye that reminded one of a class of his subjects; a frank, noble, natural man. Professor Wilson took to him wonderfully, and wrote of him, 'The hearts of all are warmed toward Audubon. The man himself is just what you would expect from his productions, full of fine enthusiasm and intelligence, most interesting in his looks and manners, a perfect gentleman, and esteemed by all who know

him, for the simplicity and frankness of his nature.'

In 1830, he published his first volume, with ninety-nine birds, and one hundred plates. His birds were life-size and colour. In 1834, the second volume of the birds of America was published, and then Audubon went to explore the State of Maine, the shores of the Bay of Fundy, the Gulf of St Lawrence, and the Bay of Labrador. In the autumn of 1834, the second volume of Ornithological Biography was published in Edinburgh. People subscribed for the birds of America, with a view to posterity, as men plant trees.

Audubon mentions a nobleman in London, who remarked, when subscribing, 'I may not live to see the work finished, but my children will.' The naturalist, though a man of faith, hope, and endurance, seems to have been afflicted by this remark. 'I thought what if I should not live to finish my work?' But he comforted himself by his reliance on Providence. After the publication of his third volume, the United States government gave him the use of an exploring vessel, and he went to the coast of Florida and Texas. Three years after this, the fourth volume of his engravings, and the fifth of his descriptions, were published. He had now 435 plates, and 1,165 figures, from the eagle to the humming-bird, with many land and sea views.

Audubon never cultivated the graces of style. He wrote to be understood. His descriptions are clear and simple. He describes the mocking-bird with the heart of a poet, and the eye of a naturalist. His description of a hurricane proves that he never ceased to be a careful and accurate observer in the most agitating circumstances.

Audubon died at his home, near New York, on the 27th January, 1851.

To read other selections from Robert Chambers 1864 *The Book of Days* visit Emmitsburg.net.

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ECOLOGY

Poison ivy

Daniel Brannen
Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve

As spring approaches and we begin spending increased time out in the great outdoors, our chances of encountering our dreaded three-leaf nemesis, *Toxicodendron radicans*, or poison ivy, increases. But wait, is this plant really our nemesis? No, not really. In fact, poison ivy (and its cousins, poison oak and poison sumac) are quite important to our natural world.

But, before we get into the details of poison ivy, just what is it? The first known reference to poison ivy dates from the 7th Century in China and later in the 10th Century in Japan. Though poison ivy was known to the Indigenous peoples throughout the Americas, it was not known to Europeans, as the poison ivy species did not grow in Europe. The explorer John Smith, leader of the first English settlement in Virginia, in the later 1500s and early 1600s, wrote one of the first descriptions of poison ivy. He noted the climbing appearance on trees similar to that of English ivy back home. Thus, originating the name – poison ivy. However, believe it or not, poison ivy is not a “true ivy,” rather it belongs to the cashew and sumac family. Other members of that family include the mango, Peruvian pepper, and the pistachio. Poison ivy is native to both North America and Asia. Poison ivy can be found in every state except Alaska and Hawaii and is predominately

found in the eastern and midwestern United States.

The visible characteristics of poison ivy are known by many – lobed or small toothed (not serrated) leaves found in bunches of three leaflets – inspiring the saying, “leaves of three, let them be.” Leaves can be pointed or more rounded, large, or small. The compound leaves are alternate on the stem with each leaflet growing to become 5cm-10cm in length. Poison ivy has green berries in the summer with duller, waxy white berries in the fall. The leaves or usually red or shiny green in the spring and become a deeper green in the summer. As fall approaches, poison ivy leaves begin to turn a brighter orangish-yellow or red. Some larger, more mature poison ivy leaves can take on a mitten shape, with the outer leaflets having a deeper lobe (creating the appearance of a thumb) on one side. Poison ivy can grow as a small plant, shrub, or vine. Furry roots of poison ivy secrete a “glue-like” substance that helps adhere the roots to tree bark. Typically, the roots are brown in color and can run along the ground or climb the outside of a tree. Many times, the roots may be small and not noticeable on the bark of a tree. So, climbers beware!

Humans are aware of the poison ivy plant largely because of the itchy rash that one can get if exposed. The cause of the rash is the compound Urushiol. Urushiol is an oily mixture that causes an allergic reaction and a red and itchy rash; more specifically, urushiol-induced contact dermatitis. Urushiol is not an irritant that

burns skin. Rather, the rash is a result of our own body’s immune system attacking our skin cells. Urushiol can stay on clothing and other surfaces for two years or longer unless it is washed away. Urushiol can be found in the sap of poison ivy throughout all the plant’s parts – leaves, flowers, berries, bark, roots, and branches. Most people have some allergic reaction to poison ivy. However, in the population, 15-25 percent of the population are not allergic to urushiol and have no skin reaction to poison ivy at all. Also, someone may be in contact with poison ivy several times without having a reaction and then begin developing reactions or “catching poison ivy” later in life after more exposures.

Poison ivy can typically last between 5-12 days, and in some cases, even longer. The reason most people believe that their poison ivy is “spreading” is because blisters may appear later than the initial outbreak. This is because an amount of the urushiol was in such a small concentration on that particular part of one’s skin that a dermatological reaction was delayed until a few days later. Once skin is washed and cleaned from an initial contact with poison ivy (and clothes cleaned as well), urushiol can no longer be spread on one’s skin. While many believe that the fluid in poison ivy blisters, if scratched and opened, causes the spread of the “poison,” this is not the case. The fluid inside poison ivy blisters is produced by the body and does not contain urushiol.

So, how do we prevent or treat



Leaves of three - let it be.

poison ivy? The best prevention is to know what poison ivy looks like and avoid it. However, if you must work around poison ivy or are hiking in areas where poison ivy is prevalent, wear appropriate clothing to protect your skin – long sleeve shirts, long pants, and gloves. Remember, urushiol can get onto your clothes and if touching your clothes before they are washed, urushiol may be transferred from your clothes to your skin causing a reaction as well. Never burn poison ivy. Burning the plant may cause the urushiol to become airborne where it can then cause skin reactions to the exposed parts of your body where the smoke has touched. If inhaled, the urushiol may cause breathing issues, which could become severe. Be careful petting a dog or cat after they have been in poison ivy. While they cannot get poison ivy (neither can most animals or birds), the urushiol may be on their hair or fur, which can then be transferred to a person. If known or suspected contact with poison

ivy has been made, wash your skin with soap and water as soon as you can to remove any urushiol. Over the counter skin treatments are available for a poison ivy rash and one can seek guidance from a licensed medical professional.

As mentioned previously, the poison ivy plant has benefits in the natural world as well. Poison Ivy is eaten by many animals and birds. Black bear, deer and racoons eat the leaves and stems of the plant. Deer, especially, depend on poison ivy leaves as a food source. For many of these animals, poison ivy’s “eye-catching” fall colors of red and orange are a sign that a good food source is available. Also, a birds feed on poison ivy berries: tufted titmice, American robins, woodpeckers, wild turkeys, crows, and quail. Poison ivy provides ground cover for smaller animals, reptiles, and amphibians – such as squirrels, chipmunks, lizards, and frogs.

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IN THE COUNTRY

Barn birds of the Mason-Dixon area

Rusty Ryan
South Mountain Chapter of the
National Audubon Society

The Mason Dixon area supports two barn birds, the Barn Swallow and the Barn Owl. The Barn Swallow is considered abundant and the Barn Owl is uncommon. Both species are the most widely distributed of their kind (swallows and owls) in the world.

The Barn Swallow

Have you ever heard the saying: Were you born in a barn? This question is often asked when someone feels a draft due to somebody forgetting to close a door behind them. Well in the case of both of these birds, leaving the barn doors open leads to the success of these unique predators and beneficial friend to humans.

The Barn Swallow is the most widespread and numerous swallow species in the world. It is a neo-tropical migrant which means this bird winters in the southern hemisphere but migrates north each spring to breed in North America. The Barn Swallow usually arrives to the Mason-Dixon area by April, breeds and leaves the area by August.

The Barn Swallow is easily recognized from the other swallow species by having a deeply forked tail. This swallow is about the size of a slim bluebird and has a habit of flying very low over fields in search of flying insects. These aerial feeders are the swallow species most likely to be foraging for food by following the farmer or property owner when mowing.

As the name implies, this swallow is fond of nesting in barns. I suppose that this species has adapted over time to prefer barns due to these structures having flight access into and out of barns. The nest is usually cup shaped and attached directly to the beams and eaves. The necessary nesting materials needed to construct the nest can be found nearby. The necessary nesting materials consist of mud and straw (horsehair is often used). The Barn Swallow produces saliva which is mixed with the mud to make pellets which the bird will fly back and use to make nest. The Barn Swallow like the Purple Martin does return to the same nesting site each year.

The Mason Dixon area supports 5 other species of swallows. They are the Purple Martin, Tree Swallow, Rough-winged Swallow, Bank Swallow and Cliff Swallow.

Besides the Barn Swallow, the Purple Martin and Tree Swallow use artificial nesting provide by humans. The Tree Swallow readily accepts the standard bluebird box if placed in the appropriate location and the Purple Martin almost exclusively relies on artificial nesting. Note: In the March 2010 edition of the Emmetsburg Journal, I wrote an article on becoming a landlord for Purple Martins, the

Mason-Dixon area largest swallow species.

So if you live in the country and have outbuildings that are accessible than you have a good chance of attracting this swallow. So don't forget to leave the doors open in the spring and summer in hopes of coaxing this swallow to raise young. Who knows, you may just have the right property to entice the Tree Swallow, Barn Swallow and Purple Martin. Your neighbors should be envious of the lack of nuisance insects during those afternoon picnics when there swallows are busy devouring insects.

The Barn Owl (the monkey-faced owl, ghost owl)

The Barn Owl is a long legged owl a bit larger than a crow. It has a distinct white heart shaped facial disk and vocally sounds nothing like the hoot owls such as the locally common Great Horned Owl and Barred Owl.

The preferred habitat is open grassy fields. They are nocturnal and the unique facial disk allows this owl to hunt in complete darkness by relying on just sound.

If you're a farmer and mice are causing you problems than having the Barn Owl around is just the ticket for controlling these rodents. It has been said that the Barn Owl is the world's best mouse catcher. According to literature from the Maryland Cooperative Extension (FACT Sheet 795), the value of the Barn Owl to a farmer is unrivaled. During the average lifespan of 10

years, it is estimated that one owl will consume 11,000 mice. These 11,000 mice could consume/contaminate an average of 13 tons of grain, seed and growing crops in their lifetime. Sounds like a no brainer for the farmer. The typical barn cat cannot rival the barn owl when it comes to being the better "mouser".

Besides barns, hollow trees, bridges and other structures, the Barn Owl will utilize artificial nesting structures. Some property owners are not too keen on having Barn Owls have free reign to their barn due to the messy excrement left behind on their farm implements. In order for both man and bird to co-exist, nest boxes can be constructed and attached to the barn with its own private entrance.

True story: Twenty years ago a friend approached me about placing an artificial barn owl box in his silo. The silo had no top so we suspended the box on the interior of the silo and within days a pair of Barn Owls took residence. For the past twenty years, Barn Owls have raised young in the man made box. Humans can make a difference.

So if you're a fortunate property owner who resides in rural areas surrounded by grassy acreage you should be able to attract both barn birds who will keep those pesky insects and rodents under control the organic way.

To read past articles by Rusty Ryan visit the Authors Section of Emmitsburg.net.



The Mason-Dixon area supports 5 other species of swallows. They are the Purple Martin, Tree Swallow, Rough-winged Swallow, Bank Swallow, and Cliff Swallow.



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REAL SCIENCE

Air pollution and COVID-19

Michael Rosenthal

One of the things a beginning student hears about science is how intricately related one thing is to another, the basis of which is the Laws of Thermodynamics. Recent research has produced evidence that the dangers of COVID-19 increase with exposure to air pollution. There is no doubt that a person's coronavirus risk is greater when one is older, overweight, or immunocompromised. Recent scientific studies have introduced a new factor in virus susceptibility: exposure to air pollution.

A recent study of young adults in Sweden had found that even brief exposure to polluted air increases the risk of COVID infection. The median age of this group was 25 years old.

We have been worrying up until now about the COVID-19 impact on older adults, but now we need to broaden that concern

to include a wider age range.

It should be noted that the study in question was arrived upon a study of a group of younger adults so further research is necessary to determine whether this phenomenon occurs over a broad age range, and its early study indicates it need to be tested against later appearing variants.

A general condition of exposure to pollutants in the air is linked to inflammation and an imbalance in the human body known as oxidative stress. I can't but help to think of my growing up in Youngstown, Ohio, and the air pollution due to the steel mills and related industry that formed the city's backbone economy. We just took it for granted that it was the way things had to be. The decline of the American steel industry has had a disastrous effect on the Youngstown economy (Bruce Springsteen even has a song about it, entitled Youngstown!), but the air quality is greatly improved.

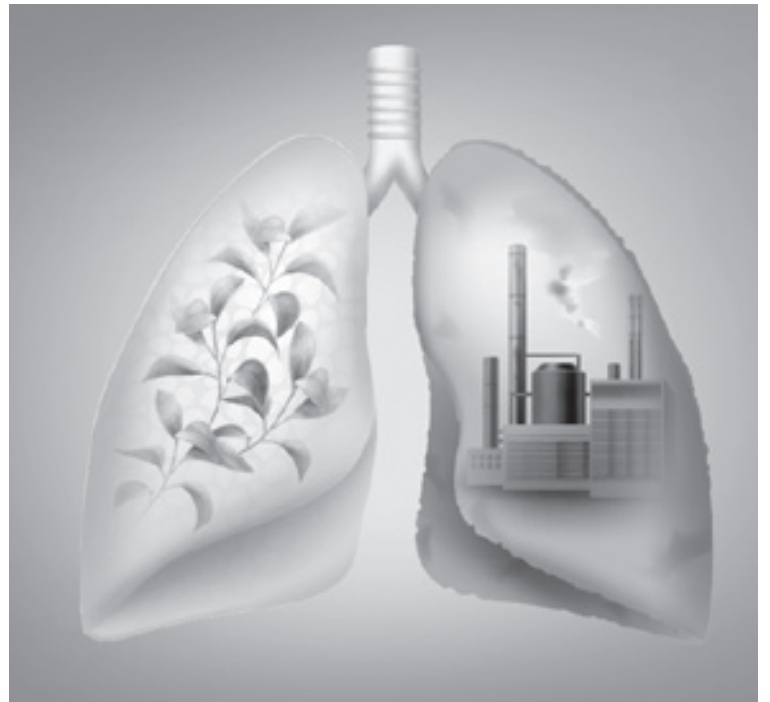
Though the understanding of this link is not yet complete, theories are emerging. The nature of science is that understanding of effects are not always (or even often) well understood early in the investigation. There are examples of refinements in understanding a scientific phenomenon that have taken many years of study and observation before an understanding is reached. Scientists keep an open mind for revision of explanations of observed phenomena. If you are thinking of a career in scientific research, you'll never run out of things to study!

Concerns about COVID's relationship to air pollution as a broader public health issue have existed since the earlier months of the pandemic. A Harvard University study analyzed data on the virus and found that the COVID-19 death rate was closely related to long-term exposure to fine particulate matter. It was also found that nitrogen dioxide, a common air pollutant we have written about earlier, significantly affected COVID death rates. If we had reduced long-term exposure to nitrogen dioxide by only ten percent, we would have avoided more than 14,000 deaths. Since COVID is relatively new, many studies need to be conducted that give us more information about secondary and environmental factors that could affect the virus's ability to spread.

I can't help but think of a story that I may have written about before, but is relevant here to scientific thinking and its limitations.

When I was young, I had two sisters of a nearby family who were my "babysitters" in Youngstown. I remember many things about them. One of them had a boyfriend over at times, allowed by my parents, and I learned at any early age by secret observation what boyfriends and girlfriends like to do together. No it wasn't obscene!

When this couple married, my parents and I were invited to their wedding. It turned out to be one of those Youngstown air pollution days when the steel mill pollution was trapped in



Air pollution is the number one cause of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, a.k.a., COPD.

the sky, and the day turned dark. It was scary! Sadly the marriage failed, and the community consensus was that the reason was the strangeness of the day of the wedding. I remember being skeptical about that explanation even then. The seeds of the scientist had been planted in me! (The phenomenon was called a temperature inversion).

I have written before about my confidence in the newsletter entitled Environmental Nutrition, a publication of the Health Information Network. I maintain my confidence and enjoyment in this publication, with always contains useful information on "Food, Nutrition, and Health". Its presentation is always such that you don't need a graduate degree in science to understand it! And no, I do not receive a gratuity by recommending them! Once again I recommend subscribing. They can be found at P.O. Box 8544, Big Sandy, TX 75755-8544, or by phone at 800-829-5384.

The recent edition has a summary of the new Mayo Clinic Diet. This diet has been in existence for more than 70 years. It has constantly been listed as one of the best diets there is! The diet has choices that offer some variation, can be personalized to head toward weight loss and weight man-

agement. It recommends that that high calories treats be limited. It provides a framework rather than an item by item demand. It uses the phrases "Example of food to include" and "Examples of food to limit". Mayo Clinic also has a new cookbook entitled Cook Smart, Eat Well available from the Mayo Clinic Press. Since I don't cook (I only microwave), I can't offer first hand reaction, but I have great faith in the Mayo Clinic and its products.

Finally, let me say a few words about Vitamin D, a fat-soluble vitamin known for its role in bone development and maintenance. It also is known for reducing inflammation and modulating neuromuscular and immune function. Most of my information here comes from the Environmental Nutrition Newsletter. Its variation D3 comes naturally from sunlight and in a few foods while D2 comes from dietary supplements and foods such as milk, cereals, and orange juice. I take a Vitamin D supplement at my physicians' recommendation. It is a relatively safe vitamin as long as you don't overdo it and go beyond your physician's amount recommendation. More is not always better in science! You cannot get toxicity from sun exposure (but you can get sunburn. I found that out living in Texas! but that's another story!) Or from diet. The cause of toxicity is a buildup of calcium in the blood that can lead to nausea, vomiting, weakness, and bone pain and kidney problems. Since the possibility of interaction is always possible with medication or supplements you are already taking, I recommend consulting with your physician before adding a new supplement to your routine.

Finally, a word or two about truffles. Truffles are among the most prized delicacies in the culinary world. They can cost thousands of dollars per pound. Sadly, I have never eaten a truffle. I chose the wrong profession. They are the fruits of underground mushrooms. They have a strong and distinctive smell that has given rise to specially trained dogs and female truffle hogs (I didn't make that up!) to locate and harvest them. If any of my readers wants to invite me for truffles and wine, I am open to it.

To read past articles by Michael Rosenthal, visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.

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THE VILLAGE IDIOT

Debut 149

Jack Deatherage Jr.

Every now and again the facade I struggle to keep in place slips and tears begin to well up in my eyes. I rediscover I'm not as much the knuckle-dragger I once was- capable of only expressing anger and rage, or cold indifference. I blame it on empathy Mom and the Sisters attempted to instill in me the few years I attended a Catholic school during the most impressionable ages of six to nine. Though the increased estrogen like displays are also likely related to andropause, senility, or decades of alcohol induced brain damage- possibly a mixing of the four?

Among the seeds in the "seed fridge" is a small packet containing forty peas. I've had the seeds for eleven years. According to "Seed to Seed" (the seed savers' bible) by Suzanne Ashworth, *Pisum sativum* seeds maintain 50% viability after three years- if stored properly. The seed packet is dated: 2004. Close to 98% of the seeds sprouted for me in March of 2022. The packet label also informs me the cultivar is from Sweden. There is a handwritten comment- "24" good fresh. I recognize the penciled script. It ain't mine.

The woman who sent me the pea seeds eleven years ago isn't around to tell me anything else about the variety. I vaguely remember she'd requested them from the USDA seed bank for an experiment she planned to trial on her Minnesota homestead. She was a prime mover in the heirloom garden Yahoo group we belonged to and had sent me numerous seeds over the years. Yahoo was the place to be. She probably wrote about 'Debut 149' on that group's message board and perhaps other group boards I didn't belong to. All that information went down the cyber memory

hole years ago when Yahoo lost members to Facebook.

I ran an online search for 'Debut 149' and came up with a USDA site and the Experimental Farm Network (EFN). Not having the smarts, or the credentials, needed to make use of the government site I wandered over to EFN and found this:

['Debut 149' is a very rare Swedish pea that stays sweet and tender even when seeds become oversized. It has a bush habit, but also benefits from staking. It's early and productive, and can even tolerate the full heat of summer for a while. We are very excited to be offering this seed for sale the first time in this country (at least as far as we can tell), and we're doing so in tribute to the woman who first introduced us to this fine pea and sent us our initial stock back in 2015: the late great Roxanne Joyce Reese Brown.

Roxanne was an artist, gardener, and seed saver from Foley, Minnesota. She was also a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, aunt, sister, and friend. She sold her art at a booth at the Minnesota Renaissance Fair for 25 years. Those who loved her all knew that she had the greenest thumb around — in addition to vegetables, she had an enviable gladiolus collection — and she was an excellent cook as well.

We learned the sad news of Roxanne's passing in 2017 when her kind and generous husband Viren Brown sent us a large package of her seeds along with a letter expressing gratitude for our sharing in Roxanne's passion for gardening. Included were more 'Debut 149' peas...

First, on March 17th, 2015, after I asked her about it (she'd included it in a list of seeds she had for trade): "It's a bush pea that benefits from staking. Good sized pods, good yield, no problems with mildew here in Minnesota. Very rare and you won't find information

on it." Then, on July 2nd, 2015, she emailed me... this brief message: "Please add to your notes this pea is sweet and not starchy even when slightly overripe. It's a great pea for the home gardener." And on July 21, 2015: "It's been in the 80s here with a lot of rain. The plants are strong and healthy right up to seed production and no powdery mildew..."

We're truly honored to be releasing this pea in Roxanne's memory and on her behalf. We're sure she'd get a real kick out of this.]

Thus the tearing up. Not only did Roxanne share seeds with me, she helped me with my wine and mead making adventures, chided me when I got all bullheaded, urged the DW to slap me with a shoe when I was deemed needing such a correction. She gifted me a homemade skincare ointment, crafted from deer fat and herbs she grew on her homestead, when working with leather during the cold of winter caused my hands to crack and bleed. She also sent me homemade gardener's soap and some simple jewelry (including rosaries for my Catholic relatives she'd never meet).

Rooting through the seed fridge also turns up seeds gifted by another Yahoo gardening friend- Patty Forshey, who died in 2012. The seed packets are marked "La Pat" as that was how she ended her missives to those of us who belonged to her Heirloom Growers Garden group on Yahoo. Among the seeds La Pat sent me are some from a tomato she found growing in a "waste" area near where she lived in Florida. Of course she had to collect some of the



Wanda fruitlessly attempts to beat some sense into Jack.

fruits as they were worthy of saving if just because they'd survived so well in the wild. After growing them out for a few years she sent them to her "tomato experts" in the hopes someone could identify them. It was eventually determined that the cultivar was a wildling, probably generations removed from whatever cultivar some animal had dropped seeds of where La Pat eventually found it.

La Pat, being an artist (I have a painting she sent me of her pet orchid), named the tomato 'Raphael'. The seeds have languished in my fridge for more than a decade while I slowly got my gardening collective shi- umm... act together. If the seeds are no longer viable I hope someone among the 300+ members of La Pat's garden group is still maintaining the cultivar.

Brook Elliott, a writer for Mother Earth News as well as a member of the same Yahoo group La Pat, Roxanne and I were in, once asked why we were

involved with heirloom seed saving. I was hoping to find the flavors I remembered from my grandfather's and Dad's gardens.

I've long since lost touch with Brook. Though I have managed to find a watermelon, a cantaloupe, a few tomatoes and some bean cultivars I suspect I ate as a child while seated at my Grandmother Cool's kitchen table. As important to me as those discoveries are, having stories of heirloom gardening people I've never met- never will meet- to add to the seeds I might someday share is every bit as satisfying as a bite of a well grown 'Crimson Sweet' watermelon or 'Pride of Wisconsin' cantaloupe.

Now, when nostalgia threatens to over lubricate me eyes I can blame the sudden dampness on my aching back and knees as I limp out of the garden carrying something tasty to eat.

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

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THE MASTER GARDENER

Composting 101

Phil Peters
Adams County Master Gardener

Springtime! We've all spent the past few weeks cleaning up the garden and lawn. Now is a good time to plan to set up a compost pile if you don't already have one, or to renew the one you already have. Recycle all those garden & vegetable scraps, leaves and other lawn waste by putting them to work improving your soil.

Getting in the composting habit is easy to do. Now is the time to start.

The first step in creating a compost pile is to select an area that is easily accessible and that is near the garden where the compost will be used. Be careful not to locate it near a well or where it will be an eyesore. Set aside a space next to this so you can turn the pile and store the mature compost.

Good. Next, let's make an enclosure to hold the organic material. You can

purchase any number of ready-made compost bins or you can easily assemble one of your own. A good size for a pile is about 4' x 4', big enough to do the job and just the right size to work without straining yourself. You can make a simple circle of wire fencing about 4' high and in diameter to hold the pile. It is also easy to set up four metal garden stakes at the corners and stretch wire garden fencing around them. Leave the ends loosely attached so you can open the fence to turn the pile. Or you can make a square enclosure from wood, using second-hand pallets, lumber or even concrete blocks.

Now let's put something in it. We'll build the pile in layers. Start with a 4" to 6" layer of twigs or branches (or an unused pallet) so air can get in from the bottom. Next, put on another 4" to 6" layer of dead leaves or straw to get going. Avoid using weeds that have seed heads or plants that are diseased. On top of this brown layer we will put another equally thick layer of green things: grass clippings, garden waste, old potted plants and their soil, kitchen scraps from salads and vegetable leaves & stems. Just don't put in anything with oil or grease in



It may take a while to get your compost bins set up, but once you do, they will be producing 'black gold' for years, and your plants will love you for it.

it. Sprinkle each layer as you add it with some water so it is just moist. Now put on an inch or so of soil. This soil will provide the bacteria and microbes that make the compost for you. The water will help them get to all the materials in the brown and green layers and break the materials down. Keep on with this layering until you have used up the material at hand or until the pile is about four feet high. Don't forget to dampen the layers down as you go.

Come back to the pile the next

day and you will feel that it has begun to heat up. The warming is due to the microbes doing their job. The pile will get hotter and gradually diminish in size. Turn the pile every week or so to aerate the pile and to expose more material for the microbes to digest. Build up the pile regularly by adding more lawn, garden and kitchen scraps.

Soon you will have a layer of rich brown compost at the bottom of the pile. We will pull this out and use it to make the soil in the lawn or garden more open and airy. By now about two months have passed. How fast the mix turns to compost depends on how often you turn it and how much material you put in. If you top the bin up regularly (on a weekly basis) and turn it at the same time, you will have compost sooner. Don't feel you have to do this. You can proceed at a much more leisurely pace; the composting process will happen on its own.

Pull out the usable compost from the bottom of the pile. It will smell rich and earthy and be a bit damp. Set it aside to age and to allow the composting process to finish. Used too early the compost may actually take nutrients away from the plants. Allow it about four weeks to finish and it is ready to go to work for you.

Where can we use the compost? The logical place is to work it into our garden beds. Of course, pots, containers and the lawn are also good choices. Remember, compost is not fertilizer. While it does have some of the major nutrients in it, it is not a primary source of nitrogen, phosphorous or potassium. What compost brings to the garden is much more subtle and just as necessary for the health of your plants. It is rich in the micro-nutrients, magnesium, iron, boron, etc., that plants cannot do without. These elements are not always supplied in commercial products. In addition, compost also adds tilth (good conditions for seed germination and root proliferation) to the soil. This improvement allows the air and water and nutrients to penetrate deeper into the soil where they can be accessed by the plant's root system. Together the macro-, and micro-nutrients and the more open soil will allow your plants to reach their full potential.

Happy Composting and Happy Gardening!

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

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THE MASTER GARDENER

Invasive Jumping Worms appearing in county gardens



Jumping worms that trash ecosystems could be wriggling through your garden.

Another invasive pest is making its presence known in the County—the jumping worm (*Amynthas* spp.), sometimes called crazy worms or snake worms. This pest negatively impacts soil and threatens to displace the common earthworm or nightcrawler (*Lumbricus terrestris*). Even though nightcrawlers are not native, their presence is generally a good thing for gardeners. Their tunnels increase soil's ability to hold air and water and their casts (waste material) help distribute organic material through the soil. On the other hand, jumping worms are such voracious feeders that they can wipe out large quantities of organic material in the top layer of the soil. Their casts, which look like dry coffee grounds, break down so slowly that they are not beneficial.

How do I know if I have jumping worms?

Granular soil is the most common sign of jumping worms. Then, if you dig a few inches into the soil, you may encounter the jumping worms themselves. They will writhe and move quickly, like snakes. A

close look will reveal that the jumping worm's clitellum (band) completely encircles its body, whereas a nightcrawler's clitellum is raised and has a break in it.

What can I do to control jumping worms?

If you do not have jumping worms in your garden now, the best defense is to avoid importing them. Jumping worms overwinter in the soil as tiny egg-filled cocoons that are too small to see easily, so just looking for worms in new plants and soil isn't enough to keep them out of your garden. For purchased or gifted plants, carefully look for the telltale coffee-ground-like soil, and, if present, remove the plant from the pot, throw away (do not compost) the soil, and wash the roots in a sink before planting outdoors. Also, only purchase mulch or compost that has been heat treated. Make sure worms you purchase for fish bait or vermicomposting are not jumping worms.

Research is underway on control methods for jumping worms. For now, here are suggestions for reducing an infestation:

Handpick and destroy them. A

drench of 1/3 cup dry mustard to a gallon of water poured on the ground will irritate jumping worms and bring them to the surface.

Solarize the soil to destroy the cocoons. In late spring or early summer, cover soil with clear plastic for several days. Temperature should be over 104°F under the plastic for at least three days.

Incorporate diatomaceous earth into the soil where jumping worms

are active. This may have a detrimental effect on them but will not harm beneficial nightcrawlers.

Finally, if you suspect that your garden has jumping worms, be extremely careful about sharing plants. Wash the roots and replant in purchased, bagged soil.

While gardeners through Pennsylvania have been battling jumping worms for several years, the Master Gardeners of Lan-

caster County have just begun to receive reports of them from residents. For more information, see "Look Out for Jumping Earthworms" (www.extension.psu.edu/look-out-for-jumping-earthworms). For help identifying jumping worms or other garden pests and diseases, contact the local Adams County Master Gardener office at 717-334-6271.

Small Town Gardener

With great cuttings comes great responsibility

Marianne Willburn

When I give you a cutting, it's more than likely I'm going to remember.

It's not that I'm obsessed, controlling or critical (that's a different conversation held when I'm not around), it's simply that I love my plants. If someone expresses an interest that goes beyond "Hey that's pretty," I jump on it, usually offer a cutting or piece, and often follow up later to see how it's doing.

This is of course awkward for those who find themselves in way over their heads. Perhaps they never wanted to learn how to root edgeworthia from late February cuttings but didn't know how to say no when I put down my beverage and pulled out the pruners. But, it also means that if you are a little shy in asking, I more often than not, will foist.

Consequently, when I am walking around gardens far, far better than my own, and find myself desperately wanting a cutting or a piece of something, I'm aware that the gardener giving it to me (with better plants, better skills and possibly a better greenhouse), is very likely to remember the transaction next time we meet.

The pressure is intense.

If you've ever been the recipient of a precious plant or cutting, you most probably know what I'm talking about. Some of these plants we truly want to grow; but we may find ourselves distracted or forgetful during the propagation process, or we might not have the right place prepared.

However, asking for another one

because you couldn't be bothered to walk out to the potting shed for rooting hormone is not an easy question to phrase.

That's why I like to keep three things going during the growing season:

- A ready-to-go Forsythe pot for cuttings;
- A collection of doches shaded under shrubs; and,
- A concentrated nursery area near the hosepipe for small potted seedlings.

A Forsythe pot is a pot within a pot. The inner pot is terracotta and is filled with water (no drainage hole). It continuously wicks that water into a ring of vermiculite/perlite/damp sand between it and the larger pot. This moist medium is where you stick those cuttings immediately upon getting home with them (often with a light dip of rooting hormone depending on the cutting).

For the added humidity often necessary for woody cuttings, I put a plastic bag over the top, held off the cuttings by means of kebab skewers. For smaller cuttings, a thrift store cake stand cover works beautifully too.

Once they are reliably rooted, a nursery area specifically for smaller pots allows them time and care to fill that pot with roots and get big enough to handle rougher treatment, planting out, or sometimes, a winter season. Keeping that area near a hosepipe means that it is easy to water for me and for anyone else I may have to rely on in times of travel or sickness.

Though I like to tease about this process and the pressure to perform, one can achieve a great deal of satisfaction by

making baby plants. Or baby anything for that matter. A book I refer to time and time again is Lewis Hill's *Secrets of Plant Propagation* (Storey Press, 1985). I'm on my second copy. It is an older book, but straightforward and to the point. Some plants are ridiculously easy to root, such as red-twigged dogwood that roots from whips cut in February by simply pushing them into the ground. Some are harder, like that edgeworthia I mentioned earlier, which likes a continual misting and stories read to it at bedtime.

There are good times of the year to take cuttings and bad times, and they vary depending on the plant. I like to look at those as best practice guidelines – fabulous if you can follow them (and SO much easier) – but if you've only got one chance at getting your greedy hands on a cutting, you gotta take it when you can.

Right now, I'm focused on six cuttings of rare *Aucuba japonica* cultivars I received from friends with a world-class garden in the Norfolk area. I started by lazily rooting them in water, which usually works, and didn't, and moved on to the Forsythe pot before they became too desiccated and worthless. Even with a skimpy 50% survival rate, I may come out smiling.

Fingers crossed. I really don't want to ask for them twice.

Marianne is the author of Tropical Plants and How to Love Them and Big Dreams, Small Garden. You can read and follow at www.smalltowngardener.com.

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PETS

Dad isn't coming back for me. . .

Jennifer Vanderau
Cumberland Valley
Animal Shelter

The minute they shut the cage, the shaking starts. He can't seem to help it. Or stop it. That clanking sound was just so...final. This place – it's strange, different. And loud. He got a glimpse of some monstrous-looking thing in the kennel right beside his. He can only assume it was another dog like him, just much, much bigger. What on earth could that be?

The blanket, toys and water they gave him are nice, but he's scared and his body trembles. It makes his stomach hurt, the shaking.

He tries to calm himself with thoughts of Dad.

Dad'll be back. I'll only be here for a little while. He wouldn't leave me here. Not Dad. Sure, I don't see much of him, certainly not as much as I'd like, but that doesn't mean he'd leave me here. Just because I seem to make him mad more often than I make him happy doesn't mean he'd walk away from me... Dad wasn't even upset when they brought me back here. He didn't say goodbye. See? He'll be back.

So he watches the hallway. And anyone who comes through it. Looking for the only face, listening for the only footsteps, that really matter.

The staff walks by. Some of them stop to tell him he'll be alright, but he can't take his eyes from the hall. And he can't stop shaking. He wants his dad. He didn't know it was possible to want like this.

One of the staff members cleans up the little spot he'd made on the floor when they put him in the kennel. He couldn't help it. He was so terrified. He breathes a tiny, nearly insignificant, sigh of relief. Good. Dad would've been mad if he would have seen that when he comes back to get him. Dad gets mad a lot about slip-ups like that. He'd have been really mad if he found it on this floor. Sometimes it's just really hard to hold it. Especially because he's older. He knows Dad doesn't really understand that, so he always tries to hold it.

The random barking from all around startles him. That monster next door has a voice to match the huge body. It's disturbing when you're

not expecting it. And he fears, really fears, what they're trying to tell him. Because of that, their canine voices shoot through his body like an arrow and make the shaking worse.

He knows what they're saying, but he doesn't want to hear it.

He's not coming back.

Somewhere in the back of his mind, he knows it's true. It's why he's been so afraid. From the minute they'd walked in the building, he knew. This isn't a place where Dad comes back.

But if his willpower alone could make it happen, it would. Because he suddenly wants nothing more than to see the man he'd spent years of his life with come down that hallway and take him home to his bed, his bowl and his toys.

When the lights go out and he hears staff whisper, "G'night, kids," a terror like none he'd ever known rushes through him and he thinks he's going to throw up. He can't sleep here. He can't be here. He can't live here. He can't do it. He can't.

Night always scares him. He doesn't like the dark. He used to calm his fear by listening to Dad snore. It wasn't anything jarring or irritating, just a light, almost soothing sound that let him know he wasn't alone. But Dad's not here now. There are no sounds to calm him. And he is alone. Alone with the monster next door and a building full of animals he doesn't know.

Morning comes and therein begins a routine of sorts. The staff members are nice and they make sure he's cared for, but it's just not the same as his home.

He's moved over into what's called the adoption area and some days he thinks maybe Dad will come back for him and tell him it was all a mistake. That he really does love him and he can't live without him.

It doesn't happen.

Although.

There is a guy who comes by one day. And he comes back the next day. And he's super nice. He had incredibly kind eyes. One day the two of them go into something called a bonding room together.

At first, he doesn't want to go up to the man. His heart is still hurting from missing his Dad.

The man doesn't push. He just waits and talks. He says he's alone,

that he moved away from his family for his job and he doesn't like living by himself with nothing to come home to.

The pup listens and for the first time since Dad left him here, a little bit of hope flares in his heart. That night, he wonders, what if?

The next day they go for a walk around the property. It's fun and the man is so nice and when they come back in, they go back to the bonding room. The pup gets kind of excited and a little nervous because this is really starting to mean something to him.

He has a little accident on the floor and cringes to himself, thinking, this is it. I've done it again. There's no way he'll want me now.

The man just grabs a paper towel and says, "No problem, buddy. That kind of thing happens," and scratches his ears.

Actually scratches his ears!

That's the day the term adoption is used and by the next afternoon, he's going home with the man.

It's a little scary at first, figuring out the new house and what he's allowed to do. He's hesitant, but the man talks in a soothing tone and tells him it's okay and asks if he wants to watch something called Netflix.

The man lets him sit beside him on the couch and he turns on this pretty cool show called Stranger Things and at one point, the little pup looks up, makes eye contact with the man and he smiles.

And that little dog's heart beats in a new rhythm, a comfortable rhythm, and he wonders to himself if maybe, just maybe, this is a man could really be a dad to him and someone he can rely on for the rest of his life.

As he falls asleep that night in bed with his new owner – he actually gets to sleep in the bed! – he thinks maybe all the pain he had to endure had been leading him to find the place in life where he was meant to be – where he truly belongs.

With someone who could really be his father for life.

This is a story in honor of Father's Day. We had a little terrier come in a few years ago because his father "couldn't care for him" anymore. He watched the door like a hawk, as though he was expecting some-

one, and just shook like a leaf. We assumed he wanted his dad back. He found out soon that his father wasn't coming back. Thankfully, we found him a home where people gave him a second chance and love for the rest of his life. This story is in honor of him and all the others who are tossed away, but eventually learn that some humans, some father, know the true devotion of an animal and cherish that spirit.

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



Hank is one cute little beagle who came into the shelter as a stray, so we don't know a lot about him. We think he's about 10 years old, but you could not ask for a better companion. Hank loves being around people and is so sweet. We gave him a dental cleaning with multiple extractions because his teeth were in terrible shape – he could barely eat! Hank feels a whole lot better and would love to find a home in which to spend his golden years. Could that be with you?



Pearl has a story to tell, but we don't know what it is. She came into the shelter as a stray and can be quite submissive. We think she's about 7 years old and a terrier mix. Fast movements tend to make her cower. Pearl is really sweet and will make a very loyal companion. She needs someone who understands she may never be the bravest girl, but she will be your best friend. Because of her fear of fast movements and loud noises an age restriction for children in the home may apply, so please discuss this with shelter staff. Pearl is also dog selective, so a home without other dogs would be best for her. Do you have the right spot for Pearl?



Eeyore came into the shelter as a stray and we've found he's a pretty laid-back guy who likes to go on walks and take naps. This 6-year-old terrier mix does tend to jump up when he's excited. Eeyore loves chew toys and Kongs filled with goodies to keep his mind busy. Because of his energy, he may be too much for small children, so please discuss any possible age restrictions with shelter staff. Eeyore would love to be your best four-legged friend.

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

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

To a poor and lonely stray I'd give:

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

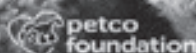
I'd Will to the sad, scared shelter dog, the place I had in my human's loving heart, of which there seemed no bounds.

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

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

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

-- Author Unknown



PETS

Put your paws together

Maryland has three new laws that will have a positive impact on companion animals in Frederick County. They are:

Cost of Animal Care (SB877/HB1062): Requires individuals whose animals have been seized due to charges of cruelty or severe neglect to pay the cost of caring for the ani-

mals while the case is pending. When animals are seized during a case of cruelty or severe neglect, the cost burden on the shelter that cares for them can be extremely high, and animals languish while the case is pending.

Cat Declaw Prohibition (SB67/HB22): Bans the painful de-knuckling of cats (often called "declaw").

This procedure is actually the removal, with a scalpel or laser, of the last digit of the cat's toes. Many vets are voluntarily refusing to perform this cruel and painful operation. We are proud Maryland has acted to end this practice.

Shelter for Dogs in Extreme Weather (SB44/HB16): Requires dogs left unattended in extreme weather have shelter that meets clear, minimal standards. While Maryland

law requires that dogs left unattended or tethered outside have "shelter," there was no definition for that term – meaning dogs could be left without real protection in freezing cold or high heat. Being proactive, in 2008, Frederick County Animal Control and the Board of County Commissioners enacted Frederick County Animal Ordinance 1-5-26; Proper Restraint, Shelter, Protection and Care for Dogs

which provides enhanced protections from weather.

In addition, Maryland reauthorized the Spay/Neuter Fund for another 10 years. Maryland's Spay/Neuter Fund is a model program that uses a small fee on pet food to fund spay and neuter services across the state. This competitive grant fund has financed almost 90,000 surgeries in the last ten years.



Blossom is a 2-year-old tabby with white girl who came into the shelter as a stray, so we don't know a lot about her. She is a happy girl who loves attention and will make someone a wonderful companion. Could that be you?

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

Help us adopt Oreo

One of the first things visitors to Frederick County Animal Control and Pet Adoption Center see when they enter our facility is a sign that reads "FCAC's favorite cookie, the one and only Oreo." While the sign is there to identify the free roaming education room cat for guests, its text is true. Oreo, who is the shelter's longest feline resident, is without a doubt a favorite. Staff frequently spend their lunch breaks with Oreo whether they're reading a book while she lounges on their laps or they're eating and explaining to Oreo why she can't also enjoy that delicious roast beef sandwich. Staff have even been known to choose doing paperwork while sharing Oreo's cat bed on the floor over working at a much more comfortable desk. So how is it that this favorite became one of FCAC's longest residents instead of quickly finding a forever home?

Oreo, who first arrived in October of 2021, seems to be everything that adopters are looking for. Sure she's a little older at 8 years old and she prefers to be an only cat, but she loves hanging out with humans and sitting on laps. She curious and playful and adjusts quickly to new environments. She'll make you laugh with a personality that's as big as she is. Oh, big.

While fat cats may get tons of likes on social media, here at FCAC overweight felines are frequently overlooked by



adopters. Some are concerned about the potential health risks of obesity such as lowered life expectancy, diabetes, and arthritis. While others are worried about the time and money that may be involved in providing a weight loss diet. Those are all valid reasons to look at other adoptables but getting an animal down to a healthy weight is often easier than people think.

Owners should consult a vet when starting a weight loss program for their pets to ensure they are losing weight in a safe manner, but getting started can be as simple as eliminating free feeding. FCAC residents often begin to slim down on our standard diet which is just a 1/2 cup of food per day. In fact, that is exactly what Oreo eats and she's down to 16.8 pounds from 18 pounds at her first weigh in. In addition to losing weight, Oreo has also gained considerable muscle mass with all of her daily exercise. Wand toys are a great way to tap into a cat's hunting instinct and get them moving.

When animal's reach their ideal

weights, the goal then becomes to maintain that weight. If a pet loses too much beyond that number, other issues can arise. One commonly seen at FCAC is a loss of muscle mass. Ideal weights will vary from animal to animal based on their body frame, etc. Oreo, for example, will always be a fairly large cat. Our vet puts her ideal weight around 14 to 15 pounds.

FCAC staff will continue to show Oreo a little favoritism and help achieve the healthiest version of herself until she finds the forever home she's been waiting for. If you're interested in helping Oreo complete her transformation from Mega Stuff to Oreo Thins, call 301-600-1546 for information on our adoption process.

For more information about Oreo, call the Frederick County Animal Control and Pet Adoption Center at 301-600-1319 or visit them online at www.frederickcountymd.gov/fcac or better yet, visit them in person at the shelter.

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HEALTH

Frederick Health names Nurses of the Year

Josh Faust
Frederick Health

As the last two and a half years have shown, those in the healthcare field have borne the brunt of the COVID-19 global pandemic. They've been on the front line of treatment, care, and recovery as the world deals with an unparalleled healthcare situation. Individuals at all levels of healthcare have reported feeling overwhelmed and exhausted by the ongoing pandemic. As a result, some have left the field while others opted to retire or pursue other opportunities.

While the national average for nursing vacancies is currently between 18-20%, Frederick Health prides itself on being below that mark. That being said, healthcare systems across the globe are looking at unique ways to bring in new

healthcare professionals and keep their existing staff. Yet as the global community begins to cautiously turn the corner on the pandemic, organizations like Frederick Health, the largest healthcare provider in Frederick County, are looking to honor and recognize the dedication of those front-line employees.

In years past, Frederick Health has always named two nurses of the year. Why two you may ask?

In healthcare, nurses are usually assigned to two unique categories. The first is patient facing or direct care nurses. These are the nurses that are responsible for patient care in the hospital, urgent care, emergency department, and the like. The other category is for indirect care nurses. These nurses administer system-wide programs, scheduling, and other essential operational tasks. Both categories are vital in

maintaining the high-level of care provided by healthcare teams and systems.

At Frederick Health, the Nurses of the Year award winners must be nominated by their colleagues and peers. Those nominations are then reviewed and compared by a selection committee. Once they have decided upon the winners, they are announced at a ceremony. This year, the ceremony was held in early May.

The 2022 Nurses of the Year award winners were Anne Palmer (direct care) and Leisa McDaniels (indirect care).

"Frederick Health nurses are exceptional and provide care to our patients, families, and community with compassionate hearts. I am so proud of the Nurse of the Year winners and all the nominees," said Diane McFarland, the Chief Nurs-

ing Officer with Frederick Health.

Palmer, who has worked as a Registered Nurse at Frederick Health for 38 years, is an expert in pediatric care. Navigating the challenges associated with caring for a sick child with grace, Palmer is highly regarded by her peers and supervisors and is described as "full of compassion and empathy". During the award ceremony, Palmer was referenced as the "go to resource" when it comes to pediatric care.

Parents in Frederick County can look to nurses like Palmer, especially with the exciting expansion currently underway at the Frederick Health Hospital.

With the new Critical Care Expansion set to open later this summer, residents will continue to have access to high-quality, award-winning pediatric care. Part of that expansion includes a new

state-of-the-art pediatric emergency room and treatment wing. By continuing to enhance its facilities, Frederick Health is working to adapt to an ever-changing community.

As the Frederick Health network grows, including an upcoming location in Emmitsburg that is scheduled to open later this summer, Frederick Health is looking to hire additional nursing staff. To learn more and to apply for a position, you can visit www.frederickhealth.org/careers.

Frederick Health recently celebrated its 120th anniversary of caring for the community. But making sure that you have excellent nursing and clinical staff, as well as access to the most technologically advanced care is important. Leadership within the healthcare system understands the need for both.

"We've been in this community, in Frederick County, for 120 years," said Cheryl Cioffi, Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer with Frederick Health. "The reality is that our community is changing, and Frederick Health is changing, improving, and expanding to meet those needs."

Leisa McDaniels, the indirect care Nurse of the Year award winner has been involved in many of those changes.

A clinical specialist who has been with Frederick Health for a little over five years, Leisa is a wealth of knowledge as it relates to specialty areas of care, a field where Frederick Health is expanding rapidly. During the award ceremony, Leisa was described as "an important part of what keeps our medical team moving forward." That "medical team" is the current Frederick Health Medical Group. This group boasts over 100 providers in 17 specialty areas. In her role, McDaniels supports the nursing team and works to promote and organize programs that benefit both the healthcare team and the community abroad.

McFarland spoke about what these two nurses mean to the Frederick Health community.

"Anne and Leisa are both extraordinary nurses, nominated by their peers, for their expert practice and for going above and beyond to make a difference to our patients and families. They both are exemplary coworkers, caregivers, and community members."

As the world continues to grapple with the COVID-19 pandemic, those in the healthcare industry continue to show up, every day, to care for their neighbors and community.

"Anne and Leisa are the nurses that we all strive to be, and we thank them for their dedication and commitment," continued McFarland.

To learn more about the services offered by Frederick Health, please visit www.frederickhealth.org.

For more information, please visit www.frederickhealth.org/pmdcreferal.

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Frederick Health

Graceham VFC holds annual award banquet

Graceham Fire honored their dedicated volunteers, which make up the department, with a special banquet in April. The celebration was a combination of their 2020 and 2021 annual award ceremonies and the 60th anniversary celebration, all of which had been canceled due to COVID-19.

Assistant Secretary Julie Fogle presented the 2020 recognition awards on behalf of former fire chief Valaria Kilby. Kilby recently moved to Florida and holds the distinction of being the first female chief of Graceham.

The Officer of the Year award for 2020 was presented to Louis Powell for his role as Assistant Chief.

The 2020 Chief's award was presented to A. Kate Lott for her outstanding devotion to the fire service. Lott was also the recipient of the Dr. James Marrone EMS of the Year award

and holds the distinction of being the company's first female president.

2020 Top Responder of the year was awarded to Randell McCormick. Other acknowledgements included Tammy Smith for her outstanding efforts in company fundraising and Terry Boller for his continual support to the station through electrical knowledge. Bonnie and Leonard Kesner were presented certifications for honorary membership due to their service and support to the company.

The 2021 President's award was presented to Treasurer Brian Boller as an individual always available for additional work around the station.

The 2021 Chief's Award was presented to Timothy Lott for his internal drive and can-do attitude. Lott joined Graceham in 2016 and has since "hit the ground running with training and as a top responder," Powell said.

The department's top five responders of 2021 were recognized by current Fire Chief Louis Powell Jr. as Kenny Miller, Shawn Wetzel, Julie Fogle, Hilary Blake, and Tim Lott.

Life membership awards were presented with gratitude to Julia Kennedy and Carol Boller.

Honorary Memberships were awarded to Phyllis Kreitz for her significant contributions toward fundraising efforts and keeping department finances in order.

The organization's highest honor, the Hall of Fame Award was presented to William Morgan for his over thirty years of dedication to the company. Morgan has been an active fire fighter and driver as well as serving on the board of directors. Morgan also sits on the building committee and has influenced fire house remodeling.

Former department chief of 1978 Eugene Grimes was inducted posthu-



Present and future members of the Graceham Volunteer Fire Company show off one of the company's engines.

mously into the Hall of Fame. Grimes could always be found with a smile on his face and was active in not only directing traffic and fundraising, but also served on the board of directors

for at least two terms, Fogle said.

For more information about Graceham Volunteer Fire Department can be found at gracehamvolfire.org or by calling 301-271-2000.

Annual Thurmont Art & Wine Stroll draws crowds

The threat of inclement weather could not stop the Thurmont Main Street Art and Wine Stroll May 20.

The community was encouraged to spend an evening perusing Main Street to meet the variety of talented local artists and artisans who make up the colorful tapestry of the Thurmont community through outdoor music, art, and wine.

In addition to the local sips and sample sensations available from local producers, art and musical entertainment of the surrounding community decorated the venue. Vineyards in attendance included Links Bridge Vineyard, Mazzaroth Vineyard, Springfield Manor Winery, Distillery, and Brewery, and Rosie Cheeks Distillery.

Plentiful musical entertainment included acoustic guitar icon Steven Gellman who let his vocals waft through the warm evening as his passion for original folk serenaded the crowds.

Local northern Maryland talent 5.5

Men brought new and Old Country as well as Classic Rock tunes through its two harmonious drummers. Well known Saxophone player and teacher Rocky Birely performed at the Main Street Center with two of his students, Alto sax player Calli Hensch and on the clarinet, Delaney Hensch who are both students at Caroctin High School. The evening also saw performances by Thurmont's own national award winning Elower-Sicilia Productions of Dance.

Newly opened Rosie Cheeks Distillery of Walkersville welcomed imbibers for a taste of its one-of-a-kind small batch moonshine. Rosie Cheeks brings a unique spin on hooch, utilizing local farm ingredients and distinctive flavors including peach cobbler and cherry pie. The family owned and operated distillery's name comes from the family's last name Rosebud, highlighting the close-knit family ambiance, according to owner Lee, who presented at the festivities along with his son Dakota.

As the warm air reminded everyone that summer is right around the corner, The Gateway to the Mountains opened its doors to all lovers of music, art, and having a good time. The community walking evening highlighted an evening of encouraging local work, as artists and craft exhibits lined the sidewalk and supporters continuously flowed through town.

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



Myra Derbyshire. showing off her work at the Thurmont Art & Wine Stroll.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Monday, June 13th
Cash Only
(Johnny Cash Tribute)

Tuesday, June 14th
Stone Country

Wednesday, June 15th
Dixie Wind Band

Thursday, June 16th
Half Serious

Friday, June 17th
Different sisters
Band

Saturday, June 18th
Borderline Band

Platters nightly in the activities building startin at 4:30 p.m.

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HISTORY

The fall of the Banking House of Annan-Horner

Editor's Note: While doing this month's 100 years ago research, we came across the following entry:

The Collapse of the Banking House of Annan-Horner Bank

The year 1922 brought no relief to the bank's hard-pressed farmer customers. April, usually one of the wettest months of the year, saw only one inch of rain. Once again, a late frost destroyed a considerable portion of peach, apple, cherry and pear crops (upon which the farmers banked so heavily), as well as the early vegetables in the gardens. In increasing numbers, farmers had to turn to savings to make ends meet.

Up until this time, the bank suffered primarily from events outside of its control, but, with the finances becoming increasingly tenuous, certain questionable actions of the bank cast suspicion on its veracity, setting the stage for the collapse of the bank.

A few days before the 18th of February, 1922, the Baltimore Commercial Bank returned a "promissory note" for a loan for Albert Wetzel to the Annan-Horner Bank requesting that the bank substitute collateral in place of it. On February 18, Albert Wetzel, as required, went to the bank to repay his loan. After making the payment, he was informed that the

actual loan document was temporarily missing, but "not to worry, it would be found and delivered to him."

Contrary to the bank's statement, a few days after receiving Wetzel's payment, the bank returned his promissory note to the Baltimore Commercial Bank, falsely stating the note was uncollected.

Several months later, the Baltimore Commercial Bank sued Wetzel and wife and obtained a judgment against them for \$140. While there is no record of Mr. Wetzel's response upon learning that a lien had been placed against him, one can only assume that



At one time, the Banking House of Annan-Horner was the most eye-catching and prestigious building on the square: fitting for the leading role it played in the development of Emmitsburg in the early 1900s.

word spread quickly through the community. Over the following months, more cases like Wetzel's came to light.

In a futile and fatal last-ditch effort to raise capital, on September 22, the Emmitsburg Water Company, which was controlled by the Annan-Horner families, raised the water rates. The public outcry against the rate increase was swift and severe. With it, any sympathy for the plight of the two families and the bank vanished.

The bank's fiascos began to mount and soon the bank lost all credibility with the citizens of the town. In November, the bank admitted the insolvency and offered no objection to the appointment of a receiver, which was appointed on December 4. On December 23, the Annan Horner Bank was officially declared involuntarily bankrupt.

The Truth Revealed

On March 17, the Federal bankruptcy referee began his public hearings. The object of the hearings was to ascertain the assets of the bank and individual members of the firm. The bank's assets consisted mostly of personal loans to local residents and equity in real estate in the Emmitsburg area.

On April 27, Edgar L. Annan and Annan Horner appeared as witnesses. It was during this hear-

ing that residents of Emmitsburg first learned that the bank was technically insolvent as early as 1920, a full year after they had been lulled into buying stock in the bank. In his defense, all that Edgar Annan could say was he thought the figures wrong even though they were his figures. In their testimony, the cousins claimed that poor investments especially Liberty Bonds, were responsible for the condition of the bank's finances.

At the resumption of the hearings four days later, it was disclosed that, before the financial conditions of the bank had been made public, Edgar Annan had sold his place of home and place of business in Emmitsburg for approximately \$11,000 and had invested the proceedings in the name of his wife and two daughters.

In August 1923, the bankruptcy referee appeared before a grand jury and won an indictment charging Andrew Annan with embezzlement, and then later, handed down four more embezzlement indictments against Edgar Annan and Andrew Horner.

Arrest and Trial

On Thursday, Sept. 20, 1923, Andrew Annan was arrested at his home. That same day, Edgar Annan drove to Emmitsburg from his home in Baltimore, where he had moved two weeks

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HISTORY

prior, to address some business matters. Upon arriving in town, he was arrested. Andrew Horner was arrested as he walked down Main Street near the center of the town. When it became known that the arrests had been made, a crowd of several hundred people assembled at the square to witness the officers pass with the men in custody.

On Thursday, September 25th, Andrew Annan's trial began. The courtroom was filled to capacity, mostly with residents of Emmitsburg. From the very beginning, the prosecution and defense clashed over how facts were to be interpreted. It was called one of the most complicated cases ever to be brought before the court because much of the testimony involved intricacies of reporting roles and responsibilities of the Annan-Horner Bank to its new owners the Farmers State Bank.

On September 28 Andrew Horner got the first good news in what probably seemed a lifetime. "Not guilty of Intent to defraud" was the verdict of the court.

On March 8, 1924, Edgar Annan and Andrew Horner finally got their day in court on the remaining charges and were also found not guilty.

The verdicts of both trails were lengthy, and far too long to reproduce in the pages of this paper.

But it can safely be said that the courts found that the operators of the banks were caught in a financial storm not of their making, nor within their ability to control. And that while they could have called in loans earlier to stem the bank's losses, they could only have done so to the detriment of the beleaguered Emmitsburg farming community.

As these were the very people whose children their children played with, whom they sat next to while worshipping every Sunday, the bankers held off as long as they could; unfortunately, the die had long since been cast, and as the judge noted, all they were guilty of was looking out for their community.

Epilogue

While Andrew Horner and Edgar Annan were found not guilty of the charges brought against them, they and their families never recovered the good will of the residents of the town.

Proud men, they were terribly humiliated by being forced to walk through town in handcuffs in front of people they had known all their lives. Less than three days later, Anna E. Annan Horner, the wife of Major Oliver Horner died. According to Polly Baumgardner Shank, niece of Andrew Horner and Edgar Annan, and the oldest remaining relative, "Aunt Anna

died of a broken heart over the whole thing."

Andrew Annan and his family moved to Ohio where they joined up with his cousins the Agnews. In 1931, he returned to Washington where he built a reputation as a highly successful and respected lawyer. According to family legend, he held the bible during the swearing in of one of the presidents.

All of Andrew Annan's brothers and sisters moved to their summer home in Lynn, Massachusetts following the collapse of the bank and proceeded on with their lives.

Andrew's brother "O. A." would eventually rise to the position of president of Pittsburgh Glass. Andrew Annan died in 1945. Edgar Annan stayed in Emmitsburg, but disappeared from public life. While never charged, J. Stewart Annan's personal fortune and land were ceded to cover the debts of the bank. In 1921, he was forced to sell his Fort Henry mansion. In 1924, he lost all his farms.

As few people in the area had sufficient funds to purchase J. Stewart Annan's property, or the other farms forced into bankruptcy

because of the repercussions of the bank's failure, many local farms passed into the hands of outsiders and, with it, many old names that had been uttered since the first settlement vanished.

In 1931, J. Stewart Annan, a man who single-handedly did more to enhance the quality of life in Emmitsburg, died.

To read an expanded version of the account of the Rise and Fall of the Banking House of Annan-Horner, visit the Historical Society section of Emmitsburg.net.

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June 2

Emmitt Band In Memorial Parade

The newly re-organized coronet band of Emmitsburg made its first public appearance leading the Memorial Day parade. The band made a favorable impression. This is the first time this band has played since it was broken up by the world war.

The parade was held under the auspices of the Francis X. Elder Post of the American Legion. A large number of the members of this post were in line. Several veterans of the Spanish-American war, and of the Civil War also took part. The procession was augmented by two squads of the Sons of the Veterans of Gettysburg and by 200 members of the Thurmont Lodge of Odd Fellows as well as members of the Vigilant Hose Company and by number of school children.

The procession formed at the square and marched to each of the five cemeteries. Small girls were given bouquets of flowers and flags, which they placed upon the graves of the veterans of America's wars buried in each cemetery. The procession then proceeded to Fireman's Field, where a program was rendered.

Gasoline Tax Now In Force

The state tax on gasoline commenced on Thursday. The tax is one cent a gallon to be paid by the wholesaler. The tax will doubtlessly be passed on to the customer. The revenue is to go towards the deficit of more than \$1 million in the maintenance fund of the state road commission.

Decoration Day in Harney

Decoration services were held in Harney on Wednesday evening. It was estimated that the crowd was as large as it was at Taney-

town, and if anything the parade was larger. The service was held in the Lutheran Church, which did not hold more than about half the people. The American Legion, with a full firing squad, was present and added greatly to the service. The Taneytown band was also present to enliven in the occasion. The ladies aid Society held a festival, on the church lawn, immediately after the decoration services.

Shot Through Neck

Walter Stambaugh, of near Jimtown, was accidentally shot through the neck Monday afternoon by Oliver McCormick. It is stated that the boys were playing with a revolver, a 32 caliber. One of the boys had supposedly removed all the shells from the gun, and while Oliver was doing some fancy stunts with the gun, the thing discharge, the bullet entering Stambaugh's neck, missing the bone and came out on the opposite side. It is said the boy made light of the accident for a time, but he later began to suffer and was brought to Thurmont where the wound was dressed.

June 9

Harney School Ends School Year

The Harney School closed on Friday. We are informed that all did well in their examinations; nearly all made promotions to higher grades. We are sorry that our school is not graded higher so that those who have passed the final test in all branches taught could be taken further under the very able instruction a Professor Freezer, instead of being compelled to quit school, simply because their parents aren't able to bear the expense of sending them off somewhere to high school. We have many very



Marines marching through the center of Emmitsburg on their way to Gettysburg.

bright pupils who would make good in the higher branches, and if given the opportunity with doubtlessly become shining lights in the educational world.

Child injured

One day last week one of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Shield's little girls while playing about the house pulled from a table a crock containing two cans a Lye dissolved in two quarts of water. The child was looking up and evidently had her mouth open when the crock upset and a quantity of the Lye went into her mouth. She was severely burned and has been in serious condition since the accident.

Gets Electric Shock

Last Saturday afternoon while Mr. Frailey of Catocin Furnace was working on an electric light in his store, he received a severe electrical

shock. The current was so strong that he was unable to release his hold on the bulb and not until he broke the cord did he get relief. He was thrown over a ice cream cabinet and against a glass case. It is stated that three of his ribs were fractured and his left arm cut by the glass, six stitches being required to close the wound. He lost quite a great deal of blood before a physician could reach him.

Guardian Hose Company Future Questioned

A meeting of the citizens of Thurmont has been called for Tuesday evening at the Fireman's room in town Hall, the Guardian Hose Company at one time ranked in efficiency as one of the foremost volunteer companies in the state. However the interest in the company has steadily waned until at present it can scarcely be mentioned in the same breath as a fire company. Save for the faithfulness of a few of the officers what apparatus that we have would have been worthless long ago.

One property holder, when asked to come to the meeting on Tuesday evening, refused to come, at the same time remarking, "it (the fire company) isn't worth a damn anyway." It is possible that there maybe more truth than poetry in that statement, therefore it is necessary that all, especially property owners, should see to it at once that it is made in efficient organization.

Should a fire start in one end of the town, with the weather condition similar to those at the time of the Creagerstown fire of a few years ago, we would be little better off in the matter of protection than our sister town did.

news came to town that Earl Sauble had drowned while bathing in the Monocracy, where he had gone in company with friends. The drowning occurred shortly after their arrival.

The rest of the party could swim, but Sauble could not, and he was warned to be very careful, as the channel was deep and that he should not attempt to cross. Not appreciating the full danger, he waded in and suddenly dropped beneath his depth. He began to struggle to regain his footing and two of his companions made efforts to save him, but we're unable to do so.

The alarm was spread, and help was summoned from town, and with the assistance of John Danny, who dived, the body was brought to the surface and taken ashore in a boat. Efforts were made at resuscitation, but as nearly 2 hours had elapse, there was no hope for success.

The victim was is about 19-years old, in the prime of youth, popular, and a very valuable helper on the farm. He was another sudden victim in the diversion that has taken away so many young men under very similar circumstances, which illustrates the great danger of deep water bathing, even to those who are good swimmers.

Heavy Rains Fall

An unusual amount of rain has fallen in this locality, the first downpour coming Friday evening. The first rain caused streams to rise and gave the ground a good soaking, adding the growing crops immensely.

The second fall rain began Sunday evening about 5 o'clock. This rain came from the southwest and it was accompanied by very heavy thunder. After the first heavy shower, another storm came in and rain fell in Torrance for some time. Rain fell continuously until after 10 o'clock and at times that thunder was very heavy.

continued on next page

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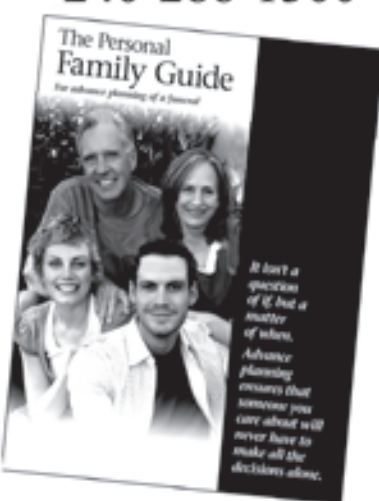
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100 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

continued from the previous page

The heavy fall of water put the streams all out of their banks. Hunting Creek, which runs through Thurmont was unusually high, some persons claiming the amount of water to be equal to that of the Johnstown flood of 1889. The municipal electric light plant was in danger of being put out of commission, the water being but a few inches of running into the door. It is stated that the water ran across the State Road nearly a foot in depth just south of town.

A washout occurred on the trolley line with several lengths of track away. Trolley service was interrupted from Sunday night until Monday afternoon.

Power was lost in Emmitsburg as well and Tom's Creek was reported to be out of its bank Sunday evening. Because of the absence of light it was found impossible for the Rev. Higby to deliver the sermon to the graduates of the Emmitsburg high school.

Roadside Advertising Sign Law

The law prohibiting the placing of advertising signs within the right away of any public highway of the state has been amended. On June 1, the State Road Commission assumed responsibility for the enforcement of the law on state highways, while the State Board of Forestry will continue to enforce the law on other than state roads.

The law prohibited advertising signs within the right of way, was enacted in 1914, and shortly

there after the State Board of Forestry appointed June 20 as Sign-board Day. On that day, through the cooperation of civic associations, Boy Scouts, many thousands of advertising signs were torn down. The movement thus inaugurated for the purpose of beautifying our highways by the elimination of unsightly advertising upon trees, fences, and other structures within the right of way of the highways has been universally commended. Signboards outside the right away, which were enacted with the written Consent of the owner, are exempt.

June 23

Scholarships To Graduates

Hereafter all graduates of Saint Euphemia's will be awarded free scholarships to Mount St. Mary's or to St. Joseph's College. The announcement was made by Reverend J. O. Hayden, head of Euphemia's school during the recent commencement. This does not apply to just one or two students, he announced, but to all who have fulfilled the requirements.

Fairfield Ask Road Be Maintained

A petition asking that the State Highway Department to maintain what was formally a State Road over Jack's Mountain, while the Department is making repairs on the stretch of roadway from

Fairfield to Zora, was presented to the Highway Commissioner by a delegation of more than 50 residence of Fairfield and Hamiltonban Township.

On April 20, the Highway Department relinquished responsibility for the road from Fairfield across Jack's Mountain, and took over what is now known as the 'lower road' from Fairfield to Zora and started repairs on the stretch of about 4 miles. However, while the Zora Road is under construction, as it is at present, traffic, for the time being, must go by way of Jack's Mountain.

The latter road was formally maintained by the state, but in recent years, has not been kept up. The township, likewise, has spent nothing for repairs on this road, with the result that in dry weather, the road is deep in dust, and in wet weather is almost equally impossible because of mud. On the Jack's Mountain slope, the road is covered with stones and numerous gullies cross it, making it nearly impossible to travel upon.

Injured By Horse

Thomas Sweeney of near Thurmont, had a narrow escape from serious injury last week. He was riding a horse while the potato fields of Rouzer's farm was being worked. For some uncounted reason the horse reared and fell backwards, landing on Mr. Sweeney. He was rendered unconscious for a short time. Later he complained of being unable to move his legs.

He seems a present to be regaining his usual health and spirits.

June 30

Marines March North

The march of 5,000 of Marines from Frederick to Gettysburg last Sunday created more excitement in and around Thurmont and Emmitsburg than anything since the coming of troops during the Civil War.

These Marines, fully equipped for service on short notice, camped at Frederick Saturday night and early Sunday morning. Heavily laden trucks began to arrive over the State Road in Thurmont, and the buzz of motors in the air announce the coming of one or more airplanes all bound for Camp Haines, located about a half mile north of Thurmont.

Everybody from the small boy to the age veteran was up and out to await and see the soldiers. Sunday school and church attendance suffered severely. Every porch along the state road was crowded with people watching the passing trucks.

At 1:45 the first column of 3,000 Marines on foot arrived. They were 45 minutes in passing. After those came the artillery, heavy trucks, and field pieces drawn by caterpillar tractors.

Probably no better site from the onlookers standpoint, could have been selected for the camp. The road runs between two hills,

the Marines occupied the one to the east. On the hill to the west were hundreds of people and automobiles. A band concert and moving pictures were held in the field in the evening. Hundreds of visitors enjoyed this entertainment. Early on Monday morning the Marines broke camp and started on the last lap of the hike to Gettysburg.

In Emmitsburg, five venerable veterans of the Civil War, four of them Union men, and the fifth a Confederate, with two large flags at either side of their group, where gathered in front of the town fountain, facing the troops as they came up the road to welcome them. They were: Marshall Hoke, 80; James Hostilehorn, 76; John Mentzger, 84; Thomas Fraley, 74; George Ryder, 78.

Hoke, Mentzger and Fraley were in Cole's Calvary, Company C, 1st Maryland Calvary. Hostilehorn was in Company S, 1st Maryland Calvary. They operated during the Civil War in North Mountain, Berkeley County, West Virginia. Hoke was on the staff of the Commander-in-Chief.

Rider fought with an independent Confederate unit, known as the Second Battalion of Maryland Calvary. A six veteran in Emmitsburg, who watch the procession from his home porch, was Alexis Keepers, 80, another survivor of Cole's Calvary.

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COOKING

Dog days of summer

Sonya Verlaque
FCC Culinary School

The Old Farmer's Almanac dates the dog days of summer from July 3rd to August 24th. Your household canine may be extra lazy these days, but the term "dog days" historically didn't just reflect the difficulty of getting things done during these extra hot days of summer. The rise of the star, Sirius, in Canis Major with the sun. Sirius is the brightest star in the night sky and the ancient Romans felt that because Sirius is so bright, its rise with the sun must contribute to the extra heat during the summer.

Certainly during the summer, it feels more difficult to turn on the oven and make a meal. So looking toward cold dishes, or slow cooking is helpful when getting food on the table. The farmers markets are now in full swing and you can find inspiration at every table for your next culinary adventure.

Locally cucumbers are ready to harvest in June and July and are crisp and refreshing. Cold cucumber soup can be made ahead and left to chill for lunch or to serve something in place of a salad for dinner. These are suggested herbs, but you can see what is fresh and available in your garden or with your local farmer. Taragon and sage are great options also.

Cold Cucumber Soup

Ingredients

2 large cucumbers, optionally peeled and diced
1 cup plain yogurt
2 tbs lemon juice
1 tsp Dijon mustard
1 green onion, coarsely chopped
2 tbs fresh dill, coarsely chopped
2 tbs fresh parsley, coarsely chopped
water
salt to taste

Directions: Puree everything in a blender along with enough water to get the desired consistency before letting chill in the fridge for at least an hour to over night. The amount of water depends on

how "juicy" your cucumbers are. Strain the soup through a sieve for a smoother texture and refrigerate for at least one hour.

Slow cookers are a great way to plan your dinner in the morning and not feel rushed to get something on the table at the end of the day. They also don't heat up your home up when it's already hot in the summer. Making this beef ragu in the morning is simple and then all you have to cook later in the day is some pasta to put it on and top with creamy ricotta and a beautiful plate is there to make the whole table happy.

Slow Cooker Beef Ragu

Ingredients

1 tsp olive oil
6 garlic cloves, smashed slightly
1 1/2 pounds flank steak, cut against the grain into 4 pieces
salt and pepper
1 (28 ounce) can crushed tomatoes
1/4 cup reduced sodium beef broth
1 carrot, chopped
2 bay leaves
2 sprigs fresh thyme
16 ounces pappardelle pasta
Parmesan, ricotta, and parsley for topping

Directions: In a small skillet, heat the oil over medium high heat. Add the garlic and cook, stirring, until golden and lightly browned, about 2 minutes. Season the beef with one tsp salt and pepper to taste. Transfer to a 5- to 6-quart slow cooker. Pour the tomatoes and broth over the beef and add the garlic, carrots, bay leaves, and thyme. Cover and cook on high for six hours or on low for 8 to 10 hours. Discard the herbs and shred the beef in the pot using two forks. Cook the pasta according to package directions. Drain, return to the pot, and add the sauce from the slow cooker. Increase the heat to high and cook, stirring, until the pasta and sauce are combined, about 1 minute. Place in bowls and serve with parmesan, ricotta, and parsley.

After you go strawberry picking

and end up with buckets of strawberries that you need to use, make these oatmeal strawberry bars. This recipe can easily be doubled to fit a 9x13 pan and if you cut the 8x8 pan into 9 squares (3x3) they are about 100 calories each. So a light and easy snack for the summer to have with your morning coffee or to hand off to kids while they are running outdoors. These also keep, wrapped, in the refrigerator for 5 days but they probably won't last that long

Strawberry Oat Bars

Ingredients

For the Strawberry Bars:
1 cup old fashioned rolled oats
3/4 cup AP flour
1/3 cup light brown sugar
1/4 tsp ground ginger
1/4 tsp kosher salt
6 tbs unsalted butter melted
2 cups small-diced strawberries about 10 ounces, divided
1 tbs freshly squeezed lemon juice
1 tbs granulated sugar divided

For the Vanilla Glaze (optional)

1/2 cup powdered sugar sifted
1/2 tsp pure vanilla extract
1 tbs milk

Directions: Place a rack in the center of your oven and preheat to 375 degrees F. Line an 8x8-inch baking pan with parchment paper so that the paper overhangs two sides like handles. In a medium bowl, combine the oats, flour, brown sugar, ginger, and salt. Pour in the melted butter and stir until it forms clumps and the dry ingredients are evenly moistened. Set aside 1/2 cup of the crumble mixture, then press the rest into an even layer in the bottom of the prepared pan. Scatter half of the strawberries over the crust. Sprinkle on the lemon juice and 1/2 tbs of the granulated sugar. Scatter on the remaining berries, then the remaining 1/2 tbs sugar. Sprinkle the reserved crumbs evenly over the top. You will have some fruit showing through.

Bake the bars for 35 to 40 minutes, until the fruit is bubbly and the crumb topping smells toasty and looks golden. Place the pan



on a wire rack to cool completely. While the bars cool, prepare the glaze: In a medium bowl, briskly whisk together the powdered sugar, vanilla, and milk until smooth. Using the parchment-paper han-

dles, lift the bars from the pan. Drizzle with glaze, slice, and serve.

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

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MOMS' TIME OUT

Keeping order in your home?

Mary Angle

Four children, that can be a crazy thought if I stop to consider it. Those of you who have read my articles know that my husband and I were not going to have children when we met. I was afraid of babies, and he wanted to be a teacher and figured he would have plenty of "kids" that way. Fast forward a few years (quite a few) and we have 4 children. Those of you with multiple children know they are quite different even though they are raised in the same household. That has always baffled me, until I came across the concept of birth order.

There are tons of books, blogs, articles, and even pictures that explain the concept of birth order and the character traits that go along with each placement. It's easy to research or buy a book on the subject, but I would recommend not skimming and going in depth with your investigation. When I first looked at some of the charts, I was very skeptical and a little nervous about the character traits that were associated with each of my children. There were traits like secretive, demanding, self-centered, and financially irresponsible. These were not traits a mom would want for their babies.

When you read more to find out where these traits are coming from it can sometimes make a little more sense. Think about your first child and how nervous you were to bring them home from the hospital. Remember how you washed every toy that fell on the ground or even carpet in your own house? I know I was overly cautious with the first child. That cautiousness and attention to detail can create a child who is very responsible, organized, and an overachieving rule follower. Then you go and have a second child and your attention shifts. It isn't that you love the first born any less, but they are now slightly more independent, and they don't need you as much as an infant. I was blessed by how helpful my first born was with his baby brother. This might also explain why some first born children can become bossy and a bit of a know-it-all. My oldest seems to have the typical organized, punctual, obey the rules personality, sometimes to a fault. He doesn't always know how to let his hair down.

The believe a second child can have both last child and middle child traits. Simply because for a time they were the last child, until the baby came along. Once the next baby comes along the second born is now officially a middle child. As a middle child, my son was very independent, easy going, and a total peacemaker. There were many times when his sister would be talking (getting in more and more trouble with every word) and he would keep walking by whispering under his breath, "Stop talking, just be quiet". He would never pass up a chance to hang out with friends or help someone out who needed a

hand. He was and still is extremely generous and sociable.

My third born has both last and middle traits as well. She loves to be pampered (what teenage girl doesn't), and she is very creative, which are both last child traits. One of the traits that I am torn on is that a middle child can be a good negotiator. She never passes up the chance to try and negotiate, and she did amazingly well in the debate section in her history class, but she often says too much and ends up in trouble instead of winning her argument. I suspect that has nothing to do with birth order and everything to do with being a teenage girl. I also believe since she is our first-born girl, she has some the first-born characteristics, like being bossy and a high achiever. She was the youngest to get her license, a job and to date.

Our last child, the baby, doesn't fit the last child's mold as much as the others fit in their positions. She doesn't like to be pampered as much as her sister; she isn't financially irresponsible (maybe because she doesn't have money to be irresponsible with); and she is as far from outgoing and a risk-taker as you can get. I was about to say she isn't competitive because she doesn't do any activities that require that trait, like sports or marching band, but she can sure lose her temper when she doesn't do well at family game night. Her siblings call her a honey badger because she can go from adorable to dangerous in a split second. Her cre-

ativity is off the charts, but she can't see that because she is not self-centered in the slightest. She has a great sense of humor and an infectious laugh. She is bored easily, but again that can just be a teenage trait.

After researching the theories behind the birth order, I definitely see how life can lead to some of these characteristics becoming real life. I can also see how friendships, changing circumstances and life choices can change these characteristics in the blink of an eye. There are many factors that can affect your child's personality, like number of siblings, number of parents, autism, and mental health. What I found out by looking into birth order was that all of my children are individuals and each of them is unique in their own way, with their own struggles and strengths. The best thing I did for my children was ignore their birth order and just love them where they were in their journey. Birth order is a lot like love languages, it can simply make it easier to understand where they are coming from in a given situation. I hope you do your research and get a little chuckle as you see which characteristics each of your children display, whether bossy, organized, independent, or creative, as they navigate life.

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



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SCHOOL NEWS

FASD presents proposed budget

At its May 23 meeting, the Fairfield Area School District (FASD) School Board approved the proposed Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget.

Business manager Tim Stanton presented the projected revenues and expenditures. Proposed revenues are at \$19,836,530 and proposed expenditures are at \$19,647,571.

The proposed budget was developed through a collaborative effort with business office staff by reviewing historical trends throughout the district, according to Stanton.

"It is crucial to get a good handle on

this year's budget to accurately project the budget for next year," Stanton said.

The proposed budget does not need to request a millage increase, as there is a projected surplus of \$188,959, according to Stanton. FASD's millage will remain at 11.1305 but based on the adjusted Index, the district could increase millage from 11.1305 to 11.5757, he said.

All revenue and expenditures were budgeted to the estimated actual amounts expected to come in next year. To manage negative variances that potentially may pop up down the line, there

is a \$100,000 budget contingency line. Under the business office, the contingency line is built for unexpected circumstances and is controlled by the superintendent, Stanton said.

In comparison to other local school districts, FASD has the second lowest tax rates across Adams County, he said.

The district's three revenue sources are local, state, and federal.

In regard to local revenue assumptions, earned income tax has returned to pre-pandemic levels.

Anticipating COVID-19 would have a huge negative impact on earned

Annual Friends of the Emmitsburg Library book sale

The Friends of the Emmitsburg Library will be holding their annual book sale on Saturday, June 4 from 9 until 3. The sale will be part of the 2022 Summer Challenge Kickoff Festival at the Emmitsburg Library on South Seton Avenue. A wide variety of books will be sold in the gymnasium. The popular Fill-a-Bag with Books sale will be held from 1 until 3 p.m. Bags will be provided.

The library is accepting donations of books at the library during regular business hours: Mon. and Wed. 10-6, Tues. and Thurs. 10-8 and Saturdays from 10-5.

The Friend's book sale was previously held as part of Commu-

nity Heritage Days. This year, at that event, the Friends of the Library will be co-sponsoring the Smoketown Brewery Beer Garden in conjunction with Emmitsburg Multi-User Trails. Visitors 21 and older are invited to visit the tent located near the bandstand from noon until 9 pm.

The Friends of Library supports the needs of the Emmitsburg Library by providing funding for special events, exhibits, programming for all ages and the annual Summer Reading Challenge. Membership is free, meetings are at 2 p.m. on the 2nd Thursday of every other month and all are welcome. The next meeting is Thursday, July 14

income tax due to layoffs, it had previously dropped from the traditional amount of \$2.3 million down to \$1.6 million.

Real estate tax makes up the majority of local revenue with the school district collecting about 95 percent. The total assessed value increased from the previous year by \$7.7 million to generate additional real estate tax of \$79,952, Stanton said.

State and federal revenues are consistent with current trends, he said. Federal revenue is based on Title I, Title II, and Title IV grants.

\$408,470 of American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) funding is built into the budget.

In the expenditure section, the district is seeing \$447,000 increases in employee salaries. Fiscal Year 2022 had a \$359,690 medical funding holiday that is not included in the Fiscal Year 2023 budget.

FASD is also changing for special education classes to be in-house and not with Lincoln Intermediate Unit (LIU), saving on professional services but adding an additional teacher and two teacher assistants, Stanton said.

Several expense items are one-time occurrences that will not repeat, according to Stanton.

FASD is lower than average in regard to school lunch prices and the PDE advocated for the proposed budget to raise prices, he said. The district is reimbursed for free and reduced lunches and students and faculty are encouraged to take advantage of meals. "They should go through the line, because it's free, and we'll get \$3.31 from PDE," Stanton said. While the average district lunch prices increase is consistently ten cents per year, FASD has not increased meal prices since 2016, he said.

Due to supply chain issues, the district needs to more align with other districts and will look for board approval moving forward in increasing prices, Superintendent Thomas Haupt said.

An important focus is the district has close to a \$200,000 surplus with no tax increase, Stanton said.

The board made no vote during the May 9 Board Study Session for the potential 2022-2023 Budget, noting it was important to provide time to ask questions and fully to digest the information.

The final adoption for the proposed budget is anticipated for June 27.



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FREDERICK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDATES

Karen Yoho

July 19 is one of the most important dates for all Maryland candidates this year as that is when the Primary Election will take place. Redistricting caused it to move from June to July.

The middle of this major summer month is not an ideal time for an election. Many will be out of town. This is why it is so important for everyone to "Make a Plan to Vote". There is a whole page on the Frederick County Board of Elections website dedicated to helping voters do just that. It is too much information to share here, so I would recommend visiting their site.

So why mention the Primary Election (on July 19)? Too often, busy voters haven't gotten to know the candidates yet. They figure they

will wait until the fall to start making their decisions. That could well be too late because the candidates you really would have liked to vote for are already out of the running.

The Board of Education race is a case in point. The State Board of Elections sends a link to all candidates to proofread the ballots. I looked through all 249 versions of the ballot that will be printed for Frederick County residents depending on where you live and what party you are registered with. On all 249, my name is the last one to appear before the words "End of Ballot". Board of Education is considered a non-partisan race, which means for Non-Affiliated voters, it is the only category to appear on your Primary ballot.

There are four open seats, so double that number of candidates will move on. Of the sixteen candidates, the top eight vote getters will advance to the General Election on November 8. That means half the field will be wiped out in the Primary.

So, when voting, you must make your way to the last section of your ballot to find the Board of Education candidates. This election, there are sixteen names listed. You get to select only four. What do many voters do at this point? They either skip this section

entirely or randomly pick some names they think they might have heard of for some reason. The collective choices of the voters will have a significant impact on our schools, and our students are too important to leave up to chance.

There are four open seats, so double that number of candidates will move on. Of the sixteen candidates, the top eight vote getters will advance to the General Election on November 8. That means half the field will be wiped out in the Primary.

Now, why do I believe I am a candidate worthy of one of your four votes? I am a current board member who has helped steer the school system through the most difficult time the county has seen in the last century. I appreciate that many have not liked our decisions, but we did not

lose a student or teacher to Covid, and we did have small groups of students in most schools including the Career & Technology Center.

Having been an elementary classroom teacher for 25 years, a substitute for 12, involvement in PTA at the school and county levels, and a parent helper with thousands of volunteer hours, I feel confident that I know what schools need to help our students be successful.

Is FCPS a perfect place? No, but it has so much going for it already, and it will be a pleasure to help the school system reach its potential. I truly love FCPS and would appreciate another term as a BOE member. Next month, I will provide more details about why I believe I should earn one of your four votes. To learn more about me, visit KarenYoho.com.

Rae Gallagher

The primary election date for Maryland is set for July 19, and the 2022 election couldn't be more crucial for the future of our students. This year, a total of 16 candidates filed for the four seats open in the Board of Education race. It is critically important that those seats are filled by individuals who are fully committed to enhancing our public education system through transparency and communication, full and fair funding, and collaboration with key stakeholders including parents, educators, business leaders, non-profit partners, and our students. Elected school board members must be willing to work within Frederick County communities with a focus on student achievement, enhanced funding, recruitment and retention of quality staff/educators, and equitable policies that serve all students.

Here's why I hope that I will

earn one of your four votes for the FCPS Board of Education. Some candidates focus on single issues or priorities, without a full understanding of what it takes to make change happen. Given my experience working with education systems, I am well-aware that being a Board member requires consistent pulse-checks on the direction and progress of our entire system. When a crisis or challenge arises, our students, educators, and community deserve a Board that is responsive to those needs and willing to engage in tough conversations and make tough decisions.

Board members must hold the FCPS superintendent accountable in meeting the district's priorities while building a strong and sustainable budget, ensuring timely and productive negotiations with employee associations, responding to the needs of students and staff, and attracting/retaining a diverse,

capable workforce. FCPS is a great school system with good student outcomes for most students - but there are areas that require immediate attention, strategy, and resources. As a Board member, I will focus on solutions, not complaints.

When elected to the Board of Education, I will work collaboratively with other Board members to ensure that all FCPS employees have competitive salaries and benefits. Our system is rapidly losing highly-qualified and effective educators to other counties - while many others are leaving the profession altogether. Our school system will not survive without the talented individuals who make it run every day - and we will never be able to reduce class sizes if we are unable to retain educators in our

classrooms. In addition to closely examining pay scales, I am committed to examining workload priorities, decreasing class sizes and increasing educator:student ratios, and exploring creative ways to attract new talent to FCPS.

I also strongly believe that access to additional programming to meet the unique needs of all students is critical - including mental health, restorative practices, early childhood education, wraparound support services, programming to reach learners with limited English proficiency, and more high-quality career and technical career programs. While the current FCPS career and technology programs offer excellent opportunities, I plan to prioritize the expansion of additional pathways

such as carpentry, mechanical/collision repair, and service programs such as cosmetology. Our schools must acknowledge that every child is not college bound, and make efforts to remove the stigma of pursuing alternative post-secondary options.

As a parent, as a community member, and as a professional deeply connected to education systems, I am personally invested in the success of Frederick County Public Schools. In my view, there is no greater investment of our County's resources than the investment in the future of our students. Our entire community wins when we have a strong education system. Let's work together to build a bright future for all of our students.

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 By Authority of Brandon Chuhran, Treasurer

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For questions, please email Amie McDaniels at amiemcdaniels@gmail.com or call 301-271-7313

FOUR YEARS AT THE MOUNT

This month, we asked our writers to consider what it means to be an American, for both civilians and service members.

Sophomore

The greatest dream

Joseph Carlson
MSMU Class of 2025

Often there is made what is called a “necessary distinction” between patriotism and nationalism. George Orwell defined patriotism as “devotion to a particular place and a particular way of life, which one believes to be the best in the world but has no wish to force on other people,” and nationalism as “the habit of identifying oneself with a single nation or other unit, placing it beyond good and evil and recognizing no other duty than that of advancing its interests.” There is no problem with these definitions. They render patriotism the simple affection for one’s country, and nationalism the affection for one’s country at the expense of human beings. In this conception, it is even possible for one to have a superlative opinion of one’s country, and for them not to be a nationalist, but a simple patriot. The reason for this judgment, however, is not accounted for. The contest is often between the arguments for why one ought to or ought not to believe that their country is the greatest. Some might think that one cannot offer an objective judgment on which country is the greatest, but this would render all of our experiences meaningless. The emigrant would be quite silly

under this false national relativism, and nations would have no need to improve if all were created equal. Rather, all human beings are created equal, and the nation that is the greatest is the nation that treats human beings with the greatest dignity.

There is so much that goes into the definition of a nation. For centuries, it was defined simply by various regimes, ethnicities, and borders, and nothing else. America was the game changer, because at least in her conception, it was not these attributes that formed a nation. Rather, these attributes were considered practically superfluous, though often not in the hearts of citizens, but at least in America’s founding. What was thought most important, rather, was the idea that “all men are created equal.” Of course, the nation was hypocritical from the start, but she was the first of her kind to attempt to let this idea be her foundational principle of government. American patriotism, therefore, has been peculiarly tied to understanding human dignity. That is why Americans have often had this sentiment shared by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.: “I criticize America because I love her. I want her to stand as a moral example to the world.” There is not only room for this sentiment, but there is a necessity for this sentiment, because we will perpetually compare America to what she desires to be. To be a true patriot, we must, for the sake of the Land

of the Free, amend to make and to keep her the Land of the Free. Indeed, it is as Richard Rorty put it: “National pride is to countries what self-respect is to individuals: a necessary condition for self-improvement.”

There is, however, as is often true among my less than patriotic peers, a weird desire to criticize America without offering solutions to the problems pointed out. And, no I do not expect everyone to have solutions to the problems on a macro-scale; rather in our own lives, it is our duty to, for the sake of America, to be what we think Americans should be. The larger world of the life of the nation is only an accumulation of the smaller worlds of the lives of the citizens which make it up. Therefore, as Frederick Douglass said, “the life of the nation is secure only while the nation is honest, truthful, and virtuous,” through virtues which are only realized in one’s own individual life. Virtue is built inherently from the bottom up; thus, if anyone, rightly so, wishes to offer criticisms for their country, they ought to first attempt to solve those problems in themselves. If the whole nation lived this way, one would find that the elderly were far better taken care of by the family than by the state, and the immigrant by the friend, and the orphan by the Christian. The state will never be capable of offering a social fabric to take care of the poor and the needy, and thank



goodness; if the government could be truly charitable for us, then that would relieve us of the opportunity to love one another.

American patriotism has always been unique for these reasons, for it is the pride in a nation which seeks only the good of its citizens, and no other end. We criticize her when she fails to pursue this end. And, the true patriot, whether the nation herself has pursued this end or not, will seek to do so no matter what.

There is nothing wrong with Americans loving their apple pie and American football. Of course, the Englishman would be just as justified in loving their tea and ‘other’ football. There is a limit to this, though, that most of us understand, which is that these associations are ultimately meaningless. If England treated human beings better on every level than America did, I’d hope we’d all acknowledge that it was a better country. Some wouldn’t, and we should all work on

making these kinds of judgments based on reason, and not on arbitrary associations.

That being said, I’m glad that America is better, and not just because English breakfasts are bland and it’s too foggy in London. America is truly the land of the free, and with that freedom has always come the responsibility to freely choose to love human beings. I’m very sad that we have often fallen short. But truly, in the words of the great Dr. King, “We have a great dream. It started way back in 1776, and God grant that America will be true to her dream. I have an ultimate faith in America and an audacious faith in mankind.” America is the greatest, for her dream has always been the greatest, and so long as we stay true to that dream, we will remain great.

To read other articles by Joseph Carlson, visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.

Junior

Infantry paratrooper turned America Ninja Warrior

Claire Doll
MSMU Class of 2024

June is a time for new seasons and new beginnings, a time of excitement and adventure. Whether you are celebrating a beloved high school or college graduate, or whether you yourself are enduring such a thrilling change, this month holds many opportunities for growth and festivity. The roads that lie ahead seem infinite, and most, like I did, will choose college: spending the next four years studying, pursuing a degree, and saving up lots of money.

Now, on a seemingly different note, June is also a month for reflection. On June 6th, 1944, more than a hundred thousand Allied troops landed on the beaches of Normandy, France to fight Nazi Germany. The operation demanded nothing less than victory, and the sacrifice of more than 9,000 killed or wounded Allied soldiers prevented Hitler from accessing France, which was required for an Allied victory. However, it’s odd—when I think of remembering the military, I think of Veteran’s Day, or Memorial Day, or

even the Fourth of July. Not often does D-Day cross my mind. However, when asked to write on military remembrance and to recognize an individual who has experienced this level of sacrifice and honor, I wanted to somehow relate it all back to this month—how can we simultaneously embrace the exciting and everchanging themes of June as well as reflect upon the immense value and history this month holds to World War Two, and the military in general?

Nick Green, a current firefighter and paramedic for the Baltimore City Fire Department, joined the army immediately after graduating high school. “I had no choice,” he said, reflecting on how his father didn’t have enough money to send him to college in the coming fall. He could either attend school and work or enlist in the military. When choosing the latter and joining the army in October 1996, Green had no idea what would be in store for him—both during and after his service.

At first, Green did not like the military—in fact, he was convinced it wasn’t for him. It took months more, however, to finally realize not only that this was the right choice, but also why it was the right choice. For the first three years, Green worked as an army infantry, which is the main land combat force of the military. Green described it similar to how the military is portrayed in the mov-

ies—defense of country, improving combat skills, and plenty of physical demand. For the second three years of his service, Green worked as military police. When asked what his favorite job experience was, he answered without hesitation. “Infantry paratrooper,” said Green, who has literally jumped out of airplanes. “It was cool, it was loud, and it was a lot of weight on you...it was different,” he said, describing the experience. Being an infantry paratrooper has earned him lots of respect, as “only a certain number of people in the military get to do it, and it puts you in a class by yourself.”

Green’s most worthwhile experience with the military, however, was in Panama in Central America in 1999, when he traveled there to help the Panamanian people. Being able to provide individualized and purposeful service to citizens whose voices were being silenced by their dictator was beyond meaningful to Green. The U.S. military’s purpose in Panama was to disband this leader’s efforts and to enforce democratic policy in the country. Green notes that the army has allowed him to travel around the world, listing several states stretching from the East coast to the West Coast—North Carolina, California, Georgia, Louisiana, Missouri, and Maryland, to name a few. Green also traveled to Germany and worked as a military police officer to enforce the laws on

the American base.

Right after 2003 upon leaving the military, Green immediately got hired as a deputy U.S. marshal in Washington, D.C., a job requiring law enforcement and security duties for which the military highly prepared him. After working as a U.S. marshal for a year and a half, Green took a test for the Baltimore City Fire Department, and since then has worked riding medics and fire engines for 18 years.

Aside from job opportunities, what long-term benefits did the army hold for Green? In 2019, the current firefighter and paramedic was featured on NBC’s “America Ninja Warrior.” He was, in fact, dared to participate, after one of his coworkers said he couldn’t climb up a firepole. After proving himself, Green decided to research and spontaneously apply to the famous reality TV show. After being accepted, Green participated on June 27th and was featured on live T.V. Without his military experience, Green notes, his application wouldn’t have stood out, and he wouldn’t be in such strong physical shape to take on the competition. And when asked what he learned most from the military, Green said, “The military is great. It teaches you a lot and gives you a lot of experience in a short amount of time, and it is a very good thing to do while you’re young.”

When finding a person who I

could interview for this month’s article, my father immediately referred me to his coworker, Nick Green. “No one else can say they have a friend who was on America Ninja Warrior,” my dad said, among Green’s many accomplishments. However, the true courage and strength to enlist lies not physically, but mentally. To be in the military means to sacrifice first to reap those benefits; it means to dedicate years to make even the smallest difference; it means to choose the path of life less travelled, the road that’s a little rockier, but overwhelmingly meaningful. Nick Green did exactly that, and 26 years later, he reflects on his military experience with pride and gratefulness.

This June, as you celebrate your recent graduates, or as you acknowledge the war history that this month offers, be sure to thank someone who served in the military, who is currently serving in the military, or who aspires to serve one day. We should thank these men and women not just on a specific holiday, and not just in the month of June when everyone celebrates new beginnings; we should celebrate them every day, thank them for their courage, strength, and contributions to our nation.

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

ON PATRIOTISM

Senior

The military discount debate

McKenna Snow
MSMU Class of 2023

When I go into a Chick Fil A, or a little family-owned store, and pay with my own card, I often get the following reaction. Upon seeing my military card, the cashier will say, “let us know that you’re military next time before you pay, and we can give you a military discount!”

I am a 19-year-old college student, and I’ve never been in the military. Why do I fall into a bracket of people who qualify for a military discount?

Well, I say that, but some stores do not think I qualify, since it was my dad, not me, who has served in the military. That’s fair enough; I definitely have not been through what my dad has been through—not by a long shot. So, who is right? The people who argue that only the veteran or active military should get the discount, or those who say “thank you for your service” to the whole family?

It might not seem like a conversation worth having. I’ve certainly

never argued with a store that only gives the discount to the military soldier—as a business, that’s totally their call—but I’ve also never said “no thank you” to cashiers who offer it to me. So no, maybe it’s not a conversation of major importance; but the underlying themes of both stances are worthy of reflection today.

Though he is retired now, my dad served for over twenty years in the military. He flew apaches, has deployed four times, and has moved his family around the United States more than five times. He’s worked late nights, crazy early mornings, gone through extensive and rigorous training, and has had to give up a lot because of his job.

I am fortunate enough that I did not have to go through my dad being deployed while I was a teenager. But, when I was younger, I remember my dad being gone for the whole year, and getting to see him on Skype. I remember the picture was fuzzy, the connection was bad, and the sound cut in and out when he talked. My mom would call us all into the room to say hi to Dad, and we would wave and tell him we loved him. I do not overlook the blessing in my life or take for granted the gift I have to this day of still getting to tell my dad

I love him. Speaking plainly, coming home from deployment is a blessing, and not every military family has enjoyed that blessing as I have.

And this sort of loss is what my mom had on her mind while he was gone. Was he going to come home? But she had to keep it together for her children. One year that he was deployed, there were only five phone calls my mom received from him for the entire year. That’s all she heard from him, while she took care of five small kids at home, for an entire year. All the days beside these five were a total mystery for my mom, and it was a time of deep prayer. On my dad’s end of the phone, things were a mystery to him in a different way. What were his children like at home? How was daily Mass and grocery shopping? He couldn’t ask his wife about her day.

But as I mentioned, it was a time of deep prayer, and that is what sustained them. They figured out their time zone differences, what time consistently each day they could pray together, and they did. They couldn’t call to pray, but they knew that at that hour of the day, the other spouse was saying the rosary. So, they did pray together, for each other, and with each other, even when thousands of miles apart.

Grace is not hindered by distance.

Military spouses go through a lot. Tragically, some go through much more than others. But they all go through, to some degree, a challenge that is foreign to civilians. My best friends from childhood were in a military family, and they went overseas, and then to Alaska, and then retired in the states. Parenting while going through a move is difficult and strenuous, and military life makes that almost a regular requirement. Growing up, it seemed to me that house shopping online was one of my mom’s hobbies, since she had to be on the lookout so frequently, almost regularly. Going places where you have no connections, no friends, no extended family, is always difficult. Taking the whole family along is a whole new challenge; as a parent, there is the added stress of making sure your kids have friends, have playdates, have good neighbors, a good church to go to, and joyful parental support through all the transitioning.

I am overwhelmingly thankful for how my parents have taken care of me and my siblings through the unique lens of military life. Looking back, I can see how my mom was always so patient with us even when she hadn’t heard from her hus-

band in weeks. She was cheerful, busy, active, and connecting us with new friends. My dad was joyful, fun, and gentle even after all he had been through during deployments.

I do not resent my experience as a child growing up in a military family, nor would I completely discourage people from joining the military. But I think it is important to keep in perspective the gravity of what military personnel and their families go through, so we can more authentically thank them for their service. That’s why, maybe the military discount conversation isn’t as important as understanding the realities beneath each party’s arguments: the deep and unique difficulties the soldier himself has been through, and the family’s, who were not exempt from shouldering the burdens. I commend those who desire to serve, or who have served, because of the love of one’s country and of one’s family. It is a noble and courageous thing that in my experience, has made my family grow stronger and more self-sacrificing towards one another. What a good service to have done.

To read other articles by McKenna Snow, visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.

Graduate

Heart of America

Emmy Jansen
MSMU Class of 2022

Seasoned readers will know that I am a native of Richmond, Virginia and this is a fact I have not shied away from sharing in my tenure as a writer for this publication. This is because I believe my birthplace has impacted me far beyond what I had originally realized and because I see similarities between my hometown and the Emmitsburg-Gettysburg area. Seasoned readers will also know that as part of my major, I studied war, international conflict, and peacebuilding. But another thing you should know, despite my capital city birthplace and global studies, is that I am a small-town girl at heart.

Back in high school, my friends all chose big state schools for their bustling energy and atmosphere while I chose Emmitsburg, which is a choice I will never regret. When you live in small community, it becomes your world. Being a part of this publication has given me glimpses into the inner workings of towns that I otherwise never would have heard of. It saw me driving to mountain towns across the states, sitting in town hall meetings where I was the youngest in the room, and writing about places I never lived but whose stories I learned by heart. I have always had a passion for learning and sharing the knowledge I gain with others; when you have a good thing, you want others to have it too.

I believe the heart of America is within small towns and small communities, which take shape wherever humans gather together. Part of my conflict studies brought me to the denigration of the community and our once communal activities

have become automated or individualized. I’m a strong believer in the public library, school spirit, and community gardens. I first voted when I was seventeen in a primary because I was itching to participate in the world around me. I’m an avid listener of public radio, I donate to Wikipedia, and I go to high school plays, science fairs, and concerts of which I have no personal connection. I believe good things were meant to be shared and the best things are those that can only be done collectively.

I also believe in love. Despite not being from the northern Maryland area, I tried to immerse myself in the culture instead of retreating from it. I was a very involved student, constantly bringing ideas and solutions to the university administration, who helped me transform them into reality. But my grievances never once came across as cynical: they were only ever out of love. I threw myself into the project of transforming my university because I believed in its strengths which were being overshadowed by its weaknesses. When there is an ideal, I believe you should throw yourself at it wholeheartedly. I loved the mission of the university, to educate Catholic leaders in a holistic, liberal arts background. While I soaked up every ounce I could, I desperately wanted to share my knowledge and opportunities with those who came after me. I loved my university, for everything it stood for and everything it failed to be, just as I loved my high school, my parish community, and my small towns.

This is also how I view the duty of being an American. I believe what unites all service members, citizens, and patriots alike is this belief in love. I had the privilege of hearing Dr. Theodore Johnson speak at the Mount this past Fall on this very subject. His book, *When the Stars Begin to Fall,*

is a discussion of how racism poses a threat to American democracy as well as incorporating his story as an African American veteran. He tackles the question that he’s been asked throughout his career: how can you love, fight, and protect America overseas when at home, you are discriminated against and violated? While Dr. Johnson and I came to this question from very different angles, this is a question that has resounded in my head since my middle school years. How can I acknowledge all the flaws and shortcomings of the state, country, and community I’m in while still proclaiming to be a patriot? Interestingly, for both Dr. Johnson and I, this question never came from ourselves. For me, this issue of fighting against the weaknesses of my country never contradicted with my love for said country. It wasn’t until others were confused that I had to justify this for myself.

To me, this issue of active patriotism, instead of more ‘passive’ patriotism where one would love America without acknowledging its flaws, brings me back to my previous discussion of school spirit and the Mount. I wanted to transform the university because I saw how its weaknesses were holding it back from being able to fully display its strengths—strengths that need to be cultivated and protected. If I have something good, I want to share it with others. This goes for not only my alma mater but also for our country. There are many things that make up the duties of an American citizen: paying taxes, voting, serving on a jury, and more. But I think the primary responsibility of being an American is to love. Because that is what I see throughout my tenure as a writer, throughout my studies both local and global, and in my own not-so-small town. Where there is love, there is community. And it

is these communities that form the foundation of America.

I love America. For its flaws and weaknesses, trifles and failures, my view of America is one of love, positivity, and growth. I see the heart of America in the strength of community, the sharing of ideas, and the formation of a new generation. These stories are ones I seek in what I read and also what I write, which is why I will miss writing for this publica-

tion when my time comes to an end. My view of America is that it takes shape in small communities, whether schools, neighborhoods, or churches. It is in these microcosms that I find the American spirit most potent and it is in these places that I feel the most at home.

To read more articles by Emmy Jansen visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.



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FIND NEW ROADS™

WATER REPORT

2021 Thurmont Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

The Town of Thurmont is pleased to present this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report, for the Thurmont Water System, PWSID #010-0023. This report is designed to inform you about the quality and sources of the Town's drinking water. Our goal is to provide a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We work continually to improve our treatment process and to protect our water resources. The drinking water provided by the Town of Thurmont during the past calendar year met all of the Environmental Protection Agency and the State of Maryland health standards for drinking water contaminants.

Our drinking water source is ground water consisting of five wells, 3, 4, 9, 7 and 8, with three treatment facilities. Wells 3, 4 & 9 are treated at the same plant. Wells 3, 4 & 9 are in the Frederick Limestone aquifer and Wells 7 and 8 are in the Gettysburg Shale aquifer. The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) has categorized through testing, that Well 3 is ground water under the influence of surface water and it is treated the same as a surface water source. MDE has completed source water assessments on the vulnerability of all State water sources to contamination. For more information on specific assessments you may call the MDE Source Water Protection Division at 410-537-3714.

The Town of Thurmont routinely monitors for contaminants in our drinking water in accordance with federal and state laws. Not all contaminants are tested annually. The table below shows results of contaminants that were detected for the previous year January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021, unless otherwise noted. As water travels over land or underground it can pick up contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals along with radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those with cancer, undergoing chemotherapy, who have undergone organ transplants, have HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Definitions of Abbreviations and

Terms used in this report:

MCLG Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety. These goals represent a target level for a contaminant that is not necessarily achievable with standard treatment.

MCL Maximum Contaminant Level, the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water based on present regulations as set by the EPA to protect the public health. MCLs are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible, based on the best treatment technology currently available.

TT Treatment Technique

NTU Nephelometric Turbidity Unit, a unit of measure for the cloudiness or turbidity of drinking water.

PPM Parts per Million or milligrams per liter or ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

PPB Parts per Billion or micrograms per liter or ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

PPT Parts per Trillion or nanogram per liter or one ounce in 7.5 billion gallons of water

pCi/L Picocuries Per Liter, A measure of radioactivity in water.

NA Not Applicable

ND Not Detected

MRDL Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

MRDLG Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal

AL Action Level, The Concentration of a contaminant which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	2021	3	1.9-3.4	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use, Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Arsenic	2020	1	0 - 1	0	10	ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Barium	2020	0.02	0 - 0.02	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Selenium	2020	5	0 - 5	50	50	ppb	N	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits discharge from mines.
Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Combined Radium 226/228	2021	0.3	0.3 - 0.3	0	5	pci/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium	2021	2.3	0-2.3	0	15	pci/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.
Turbidity	Limit (Treatment Technique)	Level Detected	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination				
Highest single measurement	5 NTU	2 NTU	N	Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of water caused by suspended particles. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration.				
Lowest monthly % meeting limit	1.0 NTU	100%	N					
Disinfectants and Disinfection By-products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine	2021	1.1	1 - 1.1	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	9/21/21	5.3	0-5.3	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	9/21/21	19.2	6.4-19.2	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
NOTE: Not all sample results may have been used for calculating the highest level detected because some results may be part of an evaluation to determine where compliance sampling should occur in the future								
Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90 th Percentile	#Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	2021	1.3	1.3	.24	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	2021	0	15	3	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Unregulated Contaminates	Collection Date	Average Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)	11/22/2021	26.13	8.16-50.10	N/A	N/A	ppt		Non-stick cookware, water resistant clothing, personal care items, firefighting foams.

Information about lead in Drinking Water: If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems. Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your homes plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your homes water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for thirty seconds to two minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1-800-426-4791

Information about PFAS: PFAS- Short for per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances-refers to a large group of more than 4,000 human made chemicals that have been used since the 1940s in a range of products, including stain and water-resistant fabrics and carpeting, cleaning products, paints, cookware, food packaging and fire fighting foams. These uses of PFAS have led to PFAS entering our environment, where they have been measured by several states in soil, surface water, groundwater and seafood. Some PFAS can last a long time in the environment and in the human body and can accumulate in the food chain. Currently there are no federal Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) for PFAS in drinking water. However, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has issued a Health Advisory Level (HAL) of 70 parts per trillion (ppt) for the sum of PFAS concentrations in drinking water. While not enforceable the standard set by the EPA HAL does provide customers with a margin of protection from a lifetime exposure to PFAS in drinking water. Beginning in 2020, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) initiated a PFAS monitoring program. The combined PFAS concentrations taken from Thurmont's water system are listed in the table above under unregulated contaminants. Additional information about PFAS can be found on the MDE website: mde.maryland.gov.

We at the Town of Thurmont Water Department work around the clock to provide quality water to our residents. With water being our most precious of resources, we ask you to not only conserve water but to help us in protecting our water sources for future generations. If you have any questions regarding this report please contact Harold Lawson at 301-271-7313. Town meetings are held on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Office, 615 E. Main Street.

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LOCAL ARTS

GCCA 79th concert season

Peggy Magaldi

Although the opening concert of the 79th Gettysburg Community Concert Association concert season is not until September, music lovers are invited to celebrate the return to live concert performance by joining GCCA, now during the membership campaign. The 2022-2023 concert season offers four concerts in Gettysburg plus many more, free with membership, in Hagerstown and Waynesboro through a regional agreement. The following is a sneak preview of a truly a "Something for Everyone" concert season.

Opening the season on September 27, is cellist, Sophie Shao with piano accompanist. **Shao** received an Avery Fisher Career Grant at age 19, was a major prizewinner at the 2001 Rostropovich Competition, and a laureate of the XII Tchaikovsky Competition in 2002. Ms. Shao plays on an Honore Derazey cello previously owned by Pablo Casals.

The second concert on November 15, offers the Barclay Brass, an eleven

piece all brass ensemble comprised of some of Washington DC's top brass musicians. Performers of the highest caliber, Barclay Brass members are proud to serve as musicians in the premier military bands in Washington, DC. From the Pope to the President, these members have performed for some of the highest profile officials and ceremonies.

Formed by members of Amsterdam's famed Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra (RCO), the Camerata RCO, are nine musicians who perform chamber music in multiple formations from duet to small chamber orchestra, with a special focus on the Classical and Romantic repertoire for winds and strings. Praised by the *New York Times* for their "warm, glowing performance," the ensemble has enjoyed tremendous success in the Netherlands and abroad and performs around 50 concerts a season internationally. Catch this performance on March 30.

The season concludes on April 18, with the Telegraph Quartet. Described by the San Francisco

Chronicle as "...an incredibly valuable addition to the cultural landscape" and "powerfully adept... with a combination of brilliance and subtlety." The Quartet has performed in concert halls, music festivals, and academic institutions across the United States and abroad, including New York City's Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center.

Concerts are at 7:30 pm with Gettysburg area venues to be determined.

Free (with GCCA membership) concerts in Hagerstown's Maryland Theater, include Runa: Celtic American Roots; The Everly Set: Tribute to the Everly Brothers; The Empire Trio: Hooray for Hollywood; Divas 3: Pop Vocal Trio: Chester Gregory: Tribute to Jackie Wilson and Friends. In Waynesboro enjoy Sunday 3pm concerts at Waynesboro High School - the Side Street Strutters, swinging nostalgia band; solo pop pianist, Jim McDonough; Hooray for Hollywood; The Generations Big Band with holiday sounds; Chester Gregory tribute to Jackie Wilson; and cap off the



2022-2023 concert season with the original Kenny Rogers Band.

The membership campaign is currently underway. Information and membership forms are available at www.gettysburgcca.org. Adult memberships are \$50 for four GCCA concerts and the free (with membership) reciprocal concerts in Waynesboro and Hagerstown. Children to age 18 and older students with a college ID card are admitted for free.

For more information on the Gettysburg Community Concert

Association call 717-334-7776 or visit www.gettysburgcca.org. The Gettysburg Community Concert Association (a non-profit membership organization) 2022-2023 Season is supported in part by a grant from PA Council for the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of PA and the NEA, a federal agency; the Adams County Arts Council's STAR Grant Program which is funded by the Adams County Commissioners and the Borough of Gettysburg.

Totem Pole Playhouse Presents Always...Patsy Cline

Totem Pole Playhouse announces the company of the first production of the 2022

summer series, Always...Patsy Cline. More than a tribute to the legendary country singer,

this heartfelt musical is based on a true story about Cline's friendship with Louise Seger, a fan from Houston. Louise befriended Patsy in a honky-tonk in 1961, and continued a correspondence with Cline until her death. Patsy & Louise spin some down home country humor while Patsy sings some of the finest songs ever writ-

ten: Crazy, I Fall to Pieces, Sweet Dreams, Just a Closer Walk with Three,, How Great Thou Art and more, 27 songs in all.

Resident Artistic Director David Hemsley Caldwell returns to the theatre having directed over 25 shows here at Totem Pole and over 100 in New York, Los Angeles, and across the country. Musi-

cal Director Darren Server returns after recently providing musical direction in various theaters in Florida and has served as Musical Director as Totem Pole since 2004.

For this Patsy Cline tribute, Caldwell has assembled a great cast of two. Jacqueline Petroccia has starred in over a dozen productions of Always... (Connecticut Critics Circle Award, St. Louis BWW Award) and is lauded as one of the leading interpreters of Cline's songbook.

Lisa McMillan is delighted to return to TPP as Louise Seger, after last appearing as Mrs. Shubert in *Shear Madness*. She has appeared in national tours, feature films/TV/commercials, with a recurring role on the ABC soap *The City*.

The Performance Schedule includes evening performances at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday, and matinee performances at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Sunday.

Totem Pole Playhouse is located in Caledonia State Park at the junction of US Route 30 and PA 233. For tickets, call the box office at 717-352-2164 or visit www.totempoleplayhouse.org. Tickets are \$50.

Totem Pole Playhouse is a non-profit, professional summer theatre located in the middle of Caledonia State Park, Fayetteville, Pennsylvania. Totem Pole Playhouse, "America's Summer Theater," began its life in a small converted auto shop in 1950 and has gone on to become one of the best known and highly-regarded summer theaters in the United States. The 70th anniversary celebration was delayed due to the worldwide pandemic but will be recognized this year.

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Summer Classic Movies is supported by a generous grant from the Vesta Fund.

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July 29 - August 14 *Footloose* THE MUSICAL
Ren and his Mom move from Chicago to a small rural town and were not prepared for the local laws - including a ban on dancing. With this Oscar-nominated hit score the celebrated film musical now bursts explosively onto the stage!

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For show times and ticket pricing call:
717-352-2164 or 888-805-7056
or visit our website: www.TotemPolePlayhouse.org

Why we write: the history of writing

Ashley Walczyk
MSMU Class of 2024

Part 1 of 3

Writing has taken on several forms over the past few millennia. Dating back to 35000 B.C.E. with cave drawings, the language of the work captivated desires to transcribe them into stone that was able to be viewed by multiple people. The written language, developed several thousand years ago, is what helps us to record history and produce literature and poetry. Although the invention of written language was not created until 3500 to 3000 B.C.E. in Mesopotamia, these cave drawings depicted stories of daily life in the prehistoric world.

Written language formed in southern Mesopotamia, in an area called Sumer. The earliest form of writing was called cuneiform, which consisted of "making specific marks in wet clay with a reed implement," according to Joshua J. Mark from the World History Encyclopedia. Mark also went on to include a line of development of written language in the Egyptians, but it was soon determined that they used what we know as hieroglyphics. Hieroglyphs are commonly known as symbols and pictures to depict certain words or phrases.

The use of written language during this time was for communication between trades and for business purposes. Many small cities in Mesopotamia used this form as a means to communicate what they needed for resources. The distance between each city was hard for travel and being able to communicate in between each city and region was crucial for survival. As well as this language, the use of pictographs was popular amongst all the cities. These consisted of pictures used as symbols to represent something, like a good. Each good was then counted out and charted to track stock and financial transactions.

Phonograms were also used after the invention of pictographs. Created in the Sumerian city of Uruk in 3200 B.C.E, these phonograms were symbols that represented sounds. Similar to our alphabet, these sounds were what these civilizations used to communicate with each other. Pictographs and phonograms were revelations in the world of Mesopotamia; they had created a form of writing that would be able to keep track of the history of their culture.

A lot of stories, however, were still that of the oral tradition, telling stories to a group of people through memorization and public speaking. The Greeks and Romans made countless developments in written language history, which we know of with several works that were preserved and translated from their language. The Greeks and Romans both established what is known as the pho-

netic writing systems; however, the original invention was created in Phoenicia. Ancient Phoenicia is located along the east coast of the Mediterranean, in the areas of modern Lebanon, and parts of Syria and Israel.

Another early group who developed written language was the Chinese. The Chinese used divination rites, using oracle bones, in 1200 B.C.E. according to Mark. Although there is some debate on whether or not Mesopotamians had any influence on the creation of written language in several cultures, there is no distinguished proof that there was any cross between China and Mesopotamia. This means that the invention of written language happened not once, but twice, in world history.

The standard practice of divination started with heating bones or shells and etching marks onto them until they cracked. These cracks were then interpreted by a Diviner, who would exclaim what each marking meant and how it

would affect their daily lives. This ritual was essentially what would come to be the Chinese script.

With written language established in these worlds, recording history became a lot easier than simply drawing pictures on the wall and trying to understand the meaning. This development also came as a shock to the world, as it was the first time that different cultures and civilizations were recorded. Although, it was not as simple as reading the scriptures provided from this time period, as other cultures provided more difficult forms of transcription.

In the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, many scholars had difficulties when trying to interpret the glyphs and culture surrounding the Mayan civilization. Without understanding the written language of the time, many assumed that this civilization was another Egyptian civilization. Problems with the recorded history resulted in the loss of some daily tasks of the Mayans. For-



While they may look like just pictures to us, hieroglyphs and pictographs like these served as the foundation of written language, which allows us to write this publication today.

tunately, with modern technology, we can now understand the Mayan civilization and the Mayan calendar, noticing that it ended in the year 2012.

Some civilizations were not as fortunate at being able to be deciphered. The people in the Kingdom of Meroe and the Minoan Culture of Crete were two of

these examples. Located in what is today Sudan, Meroe used Meroitic script. The Minoans used the Linear A script. Both civilizations cannot be fully understood because of the lack of these interpretations. This has led to conflicts today, as the history of these cultures could be lost.

Part 2 next month

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CATOCTIN SPORTS

2021-22 Catoctin sports highlights

Mia Ferraro
CHS Class of 2022

With the 2021-2022 school year coming to an end, the Catoctin athletic community is proud to look back on all of the achievements by which to remember the year. Catoctin sports teams have gathered a number of Gambrill Division championship titles, regional titles, and even states titles, among plenty of other feats worth celebrating. Proudly representing the success of the year in its entirety are three particular teams: varsity volleyball (fall), varsity girls basketball (winter), and varsity softball (spring).

Fall

The CHS varsity volleyball team is one of Catoctin's handful of teams that claimed a Gambrill Division title this year. Their 3-1 victory over Williamsport High School at their penultimate regular season game determined their Gabriell title. Consequently, the Lady Cougars advanced to the Central Maryland Conference (CMC) Volleyball Championship, which resulted in a 3-0 loss against previously undefeated North Hagerstown High School (18-1). The Lady Cougars sealed a 3-0 victory at the regional quarterfinals Nov. 4 against rival Brunswick, before wrapping up the season after a loss of 3-0 against Smithsburg at the regional semifinals later that week. The CHS girls volleyball team finished the season with a record of 11 wins and five losses.

The Lady Cougars made a memorable impression on the CMC rankings by the end of the fall season. Three CHS volleyball players ended the season on the leaderboard for kills: senior Paige Romeril with a total of 152 kills in 53 sets, senior Rylee Curtis with 128 total kills in 49 sets, and junior Anna Belluomo with 113 kills in 52 sets. These individuals

were also recognized in the conference standings for digs, with Romeril having 197 digs, Belluomo with 144, and Curtis with 130. Two CHS volleyball players earned a spot on the leaderboard for assists, with senior Paige Smith making 250 assists total in 54 sets, and senior Lily Gadra making 137 total assists in 42 sets.

Winter

The winter season brought a lot of success for the CHS varsity girls basketball team. The Gambrill division champions progressed to playoffs against Boonsboro High School on March 1 as the no. 1 seed in the Class 1A league in Maryland. The team defeated Boonsboro 72-41, and two days later claimed the 1A West Regional Championship title upon defeating Brunswick 56-27. Following these initial playoff victories, the Lady Cougars made it to the state championship after gathering 111 points total at the quarterfinals and semifinals. The team traveled to the University of Maryland Xfinity Center on March 10 for states, and concluded their successful season as runner-up against 2019 state champions Pikesville High School with a score of 51-42. The Lady Cougars concluded the season with an overall record of 23-3.

Three essential players on the CHS girls basketball team earned high rankings in the CMC winter high school sports standings. In total points, the scoreboard included senior Emma Wivell with 327 points in 26 games, senior Emily Williams with 328, and freshman Taylor Smith with 298. The same three individuals earned high positions in the conference for assists, with Williams leading the CMC rankings in only second place at 118 assists in 26 games. Wivell had 66 assists, and Smith had 54. Wivell made the leaderboard in rebounds with



The CHS varsity softball team claimed the CMS championship title this year.

187 in 26 games, as well as Williams with 155. This past month, the three athletes were selected to the Maryland Basketball Coaches Association All-State Teams: Wivell made first team, Williams made second team, and Smith made honorable mention. The two seniors were honored at the CHS Signing Ceremony to be congratulated for their commitment to a collegiate level women's basketball team. Wivell will be joining the Salisbury Sea Gulls, and Williams has committed to the Shenandoah Hornets.

Spring

The CHS varsity softball team carried 13 victories and one loss into May, as well as several high rankings on the CMC leaderboard. In early May, five Cougars made the scoreboard for batting: senior Avery Sickeri with a batting average of .510 in 15 games, sophomore Meghan Gray with an batting average of .489, sophomore Raegan Miller also with an average of .489, Taylor Smith with .488, and senior Kara Watkins with .435. On the leaderboard for

home runs were Sickeri with 10 total home runs in 15 games, Gray with seven home runs, and Taylor Smith with six. At the very top of the CMC rankings in RBIs was Sickeri with 31 RBIs in 15 games. Also up on the leaderboard were Taylor Smith with 21 RBIs total, and Paige Smith with 21 as well. Taylor Smith led the rankings as the top pitcher with 12 wins and one loss. She also led the conference in strikeouts, with an average of 13.8 strikeouts per game. Finally, the freshman also earned a high position on the ERA leaderboard, with an ERA of 1.73.

The Lady Cougars entered the postseason upon winning their last regular season game on May 9. After defeating Williamsport High School 15-0, the team took the no. 1 seed in Class 1A West Region II and were set to automatically advance to the regional semifinals the following week. First, the Gambrill Division softball champions went on to defeat Spires Division champions Linganore High School 5-1 on May 10, earning the title of CMC Softball Champions. The Lady Cou-

gars' season came to a close May 16 after falling to Williamsport 2-7 at the regional semifinals. "We want to thank our seniors for everything they have done for this team and wish them all great success as they move forward in life," the team's Instagram account posted after the defeat. "To our underclassman, can't wait to have you back next year in hopes to build off of this for the better." The Gambrill Division champions wrapped up their season with 17 victories and two losses. Seniors Sickeri and Watkins were recognized at the CHS Signing Ceremony as well for their further pursuit of softball in college. Sickeri has committed to the West Chester Golden Rams, while Watkins has committed to the Shenandoah Hornets.

As the 21-22 athletic season concludes, my time as CHS sportswriter quickly follows. Upon graduating in May, I have many transitions to make this summer regarding my education and career. While I am to continue working for the Emmitsburg News-Journal, I will be passing off the role of CHS sportswriter this summer. I am confident that the experience and learning opportunities that this position has presented me will guide me as I further my journalism career at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism at University of Maryland. It has been a pleasure to write about the success of my friends and peers as they accomplished personal goals and attained athletic ambitions over the past three years. I am beyond grateful to Michael Hillman for this opportunity, as well as the Catoctin and Emmitsburg News-Journal community for the support. I suppose a sports article is not usually the place to get sentimental -- but thank you to my readers for sharing this incredible experience with me.

To read past Catoctin High sports articles, visit the Current Events section of Emmitsburg.net.



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MOUNT SPORTS

Mount St. Mary's set to join MAAC Conference on July 1

Sam Barber
MSMU Class of 2022

After over three decades of conference membership with the Northeast Conference (NEC), Mount St. Mary's has officially announced that it will be joining the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) beginning on July 1, 2022. The change of conferences comes on the heels of a tumultuous time across the entire NCAA Division-I college landscape, including in the NEC.

Mount St. Mary's was previously an associate member of the MAAC for men's and women's lacrosse. Both programs joined the conference in the mid 1990s. The women's program exited the MAAC after just one year of membership while the men's program bolted from the league after the NEC sponsored the sport in the 2010-11 season.

With Mount St. Mary's move, this marks the second team to leave the conference this year. Earlier in the spring sports season, the Bryant University Bulldogs, who have been members since their ascent to the Division-I level, announced they would be leaving the NEC for the America East Conference, effective July 1 of this year. Despite the two losses, the conference was quick to add Stonehill College, a Division-II program out of the Northeast-10 Conference (NE-10). The NE-10 has become a pipeline for the NEC when it comes to adding replacement schools. In 2018, the conference announced that Merrimack, a longstanding NE-10 program, would be joining the NEC in 2019.

On the surface, the move may come as a surprise, given that Mount St. Mary's has been a member of the conference since joining the Division-I level in 1989. However, when the conference realignment is examined on a deeper level, it should not be seen as a surprise. In order to understand this move on a broader scale, someone must first understand what the driving force to this all is. In the summer of 2021, the conference realignment fever began brewing again as Big 12 Conference flagship members

Oklahoma and Texas announced their intended departure from the league, no later than the beginning of the 2024-25 season. The move last summer has sparked a domino effect across all of Division-I athletics, from the Power Five conferences to the mid-majors.

This recent wave of conference realignment is a near parallel to the realignment event that took place a decade ago, from 2012-14. Despite there being numerous driving forces, such as geography and money, no other element plays a bigger factor than media and TV deals. These lucrative television deals, which are usually worth hundreds of millions of dollars, have been dictating the landscape of collegiate athletics for the better part of the past 25 years.

While the Mount will not have the high-end, pricy television deals that the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) or the Southeastern Conference (SEC) has, however, the athletic program will now be partnered with the ESPN family of networks and the MAAC to have all of their varsity athletic events televised.

Although the NEC has been shaken up from the recent departures, the MAAC, which has been a Division-I conference since 1980, has been bracing for the confirmed departure of Monmouth University, who is joining the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA). With the addition of Mount St. Mary's, the MAAC will have 11 members; Canisius, Fairfield, Iona, Manhattan, Marist, Niagara, Quinnipiac, Rider, Saint Peter's, and Siena.

In the 214 years of Mount St. Mary's University, the academic mindset and standpoint has essentially gone unwavering, of course with the exception of the modernization of the academic catalog. With that being said, from an academic standpoint, the schools in the MAAC align better with Mount St. Mary's. Along those lines, all of the Mount's newest foes are private and predominantly religious-based institutions. So, in the classroom, it is a win-win situation.

Since the 2016-17 college sports season, Mount St. Mary's has been

able to transcend their athletic programs. Not only have both basketball programs collected three NCAA Tournament appearances, but they have also seen back-to-back conference championships from the women's lacrosse team, as well as an Elite 8 appearance from the storied bowling team. Further, Mount St. Mary's has raked in the on-field accolades, and have been able to add to the prestige of their already-acclaimed athletic history with the addition of four sports: bowling, women's rugby, and men's and women's water polo. Undoubtedly, the bowling team has created the most palpable buzz while the men's and women's water polo teams are building an exciting future in Emmitsburg.

While every angle of Mount St. Mary's athletics will ultimately benefit from the move to the MAAC, no team will benefit the most than the men's and women's basketball programs. The men's program, under the direction of Dan Engestad, have represented the NEC in two of the past five NCAA Tournaments. From a coaching perspective, the MAAC will bring a lot of herald coaches to Knott Arena, including Iona's Hall of Fame head coach, Rick Pitino and Niagara's Greg Paulus, to name a few. Not to mention, the MAAC is a giant leap, in terms of competitiveness, when compared to the NEC. When sizing up both conferences, the MAAC has produced a string of Cinderella teams in March Madness, most notably the Saint Peter's University Peacocks, who made the infamous Elite 8 run which captivated the nation and sport fans alike.

As for the women's basketball program, the Mount is led by the likes of Antoine White, who overtook for an already successful Maria Marchesano. White hit the ground running in his first year as he built off a 2021 NCAA Tournament appearance, with an appearance of his own. Under the direction of both Marchesano and White, the Mount's women's basketball program has been able to transcend into the 21st century. Now with White at the helm, his team will be pinned against an elite coaching



Mount St. Mary's set to join the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference for the 2022-23 season.

company with Fairfield's Carly Thibault-DuDonis and Marist's Brian Gigoris. Both coaches have elevated their respective teams to a stand-alone level.

Away from basketball, expect to see the women's lacrosse program to see a tremendous uptick in the competitive factor. Over the past four seasons, the MAAC has been dominated by the Fairfield Stags, who have represented the conference in the last four NCAA Tournaments. The resurgence of Canisius' program to their glory days of the early 2010s will also be a contributing component to a heightened level of success for Mount St. Mary's.

No team has taken Mount St. Mary's by storm more than the softball team. Under the direction of head coach Anna Nagro, the Mount captured their first winning season (26-22) since 2006. Although fans will not see Mount St. Mary's competing in the NCAA Tourna-

ment in late May, there is a lot to be excited about for this program. All signs point to the team being able to step up to the plate, in terms of contending for conference titles, as the MAAC has only had one instance where a team has won consecutive conference tournament titles (Monmouth 2017 & 2018).

Mount St. Mary's will join the MAAC in all sports except for bowling, men's water polo, and women's rugby. The MAAC does not sponsor bowling, so the hunt is on for the championship-caliber team to find a permanent home. As for men's water polo, the team will continue to compete in the Mid-Atlantic Water Polo Conference (MAWPC) while women's rugby will stay put in the National Intercollegiate Rugby Association (NIRA).

To read past Mount Sport articles, visit the Current Events section of Emmitsburg.net.

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COMPLEMENTARY CORNER

The myth of multitasking

Jefferson Breland

Last month, I wrote about the importance of choice with regard to food, emotions and our health. When I began writing that article the subject was going to be about multitasking. I got distracted by one of the details of the multitasking article which led to the article about choice.

Well, I still have multitasking on my mind... and juggling. Yes, juggling.

In my treatment room I have a set of three juggling balls. They are made of colorful leather. They are padded so they don't bounce and roll and break things when I inevitably make a mistake. I put them in my treatment room to entertain myself when I have a gap between patients.

I was contemplating dusting the shelf the juggling balls were resting on when it occurred to me that juggling might be a great metaphor for multitasking.

Many people I know claim that they are great at multitasking; more specifically, they claim that women are better at multitasking than men. Most of these people are women and mothers. Their claim makes perfect sense given the enormous challenges of being a mother and having to do a gazillion things at once. Multitasking is a requirement in many of our jobs.

So, what is multitasking? It seems obvious, and I like to not make assumptions, so I looked it up. According to the Oxford English Dictionary, multitasking is: a) the performance of more than one task at the same time b) the execution by a computer of more than one program or task simultaneously. The computer definition is interesting. I am guessing that the computer processor alternates between tasks at ultra-high speeds thereby creating the illusion that the tasks or programs are occurring simultaneously.

So next I looked up juggling. It was interesting to find that most articles talked of juggling as a great way of increasing ones capacity to focus and get exercise. Scientific articles claim that juggling increases the brain's grey matter and its neural connectivity. Another article claimed that one needed to stop thinking and become a kind of robot.

In my own experience of juggling, I have noted that you have to focus and not focus at the same time. One must pay attention to all of the balls at the same time. If one pays too much attention to one ball, the other balls seem to develop a mind of their own and go in every which direction.

So how does this relate to multitasking? When we have many tasks on our to-do lists, we use

phrases such as "I have a lot of things on my plate," "I have a lot of irons in the fire," "I bit off more than I can chew," and finally, "I have a lot of balls in the air."

There are many, many scientific research papers on multitasking. The general consensus is that multitasking is not easy. There are many factors to consider in determining the effectiveness of one's ability. Generally speaking, multitasking decreases productivity and leads to mistakes.

According to one study, neuroscientists discovered when you focus on completing one task both sides of your brain work in harmony. If one is asked to perform two tasks simultaneously, the brain splits in half resulting in forgotten details and three times the number of mistakes in the given tasks.

Imagine increasing the number of tasks to three, four, or five. How many mistakes would be made? How many details forgotten?

Our body as a whole appears to be a multitasking machine. Our "body" appears to do all the things it needs to do to live simultaneously.

Upon closer examination, nothing could be further from the truth. Our body is a perfect example of doing one thing at a time. It is a collective, a biological commune where each of our body's systems: respiratory, circulatory, nervous,



digestive, endocrine, immune, muscular, lymphatic, urinary, skeletal, reproductive, etc. does only its own specific task. Not only that, each of the approximately 37.2 billion cells in our body which make up those systems do only their own thing, their unique task. What looks like massive multitasking in our body is actually billions and billions of brilliantly coordinated single actions.

A lung cell doesn't try to do the work of a stomach cell. They each have their own purpose and consciousness. A liver cell can only be a liver cell.

My take away is our brains perform more effectively when we give our full attention to the task at hand. (Yea, I know, I'm a bloody genius.) So what does this all have to do with our health?

Our bodies are a reflection of our general state of being on the body, mind, and spirit levels. If we extend the discovery in the aforementioned research paper that states when we focus on completing one task and both sides of our brain work in harmony to the whole body, each cell can then work in harmony. When our brains send clear signals to the body, our bodies respond with clarity as well.

If our emotions and thoughts are jumbled, our brain will send jumbled signals in the form of neurotransmitters to the body and quite literally, these mixed messages will confuse the systems of the body and symptoms will start to appear.

In the process of writing this article I have shifted my thinking about the comparison of juggling and

multitasking. I now believe multitasking is more akin to juggling poorly. By juggling poorly, I mean we don't keep the balls moving smoothly and continuously from our hands into the air. If our mind wanders whilst juggling, which often happens when we "multitask," that is when we drop a ball.

Juggling is a singular action. It is not about separate actions of throwing and catching. It is not about the number of balls. Juggling is about the seamless coordination of the specific tasks of each part of our body. Our focus needs to remain on keeping the balls moving in the desired pattern. We need all the parts of our brain to contribute to the action of juggling without any particular part of the brain dominating the process.

Back to the question, "How does this relate to our health?"

When we focus on one task in life, we give ourselves the opportunity to synchronize all parts of our brain. We give ourselves the opportunity to focus on the present moment. When we focus on the present moment we have the opportunity to be more peaceful. When we are peaceful in our mind we have the opportunity to be peaceful in our body. When we are peaceful in our body we have the opportunity for the body to begin to balance itself. When our bodies are balanced, health is the natural result because we allow the body to do what it is designed to do: to heal itself.

To read past Complementary Corner articles, visit the author's section of Emmitsburg.net.

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HEALTH AND FITNESS

Motivation and positive thinking

Linda Stultz
Certified Fitness Trainer

Many things go together to improve your health, help you lose weight, keep your joints moving without pain but I think the most important is Motivation. It is easy to get excited about a new diet that promises you will lose weight fast and easy but it is something different to stay on that diet for the time needed to achieve your goal. What makes starting and doing the diet for the first couple weeks is the anticipation of seeing the numbers go down on the scale and being able to button those jeans you love but couldn't wear for the past year. What keeps you on the diet for the rest of the time you need to be get to the number on the scale you want and to keep being able to button those jeans and even getting into other clothes is the motivation you find to stick with it. That's where the true change comes and why you are able to keep the weight off. Getting weight off may not be what you need. You may need to improve joint movement to decrease pain. You may want to add muscle to improve your metabolism. Whatever you want to do to improve your physical, mental or emotional health can be helped with positive thinking and continual motivation.

Short term motivation is a great way to get started, long term motivation is what will keep you going and the one that will improve your health and life. When I talk about long term I don't mean making the goal so big that it will take you months or years to reach it. Start with small steps and once you reach the first goal make another one. I hear so many success stories where people say, when I reached the first five pounds gone I added walking another 15 minutes for the next week.

Then, after successfully incorporating that into their routine for a week or so they added losing the next 5 pounds. Reaching small goals adds up to big improvements in health and very big feelings of success and personal pride.

Setting specific goals and how to reach them is also important if you really want to be able to lose weight or get healthy or whatever you are looking for. Decide what you want to achieve and then do some research on how to get started. Decide if you will start with exercise or watching your food intake and what kind of food you eat. You know what kind of person you are. Maybe you are the type of person that has to start full force and be strict with yourself. Maybe you are not sure what kind of routine you need to start. That's where talking to friends and family and doing a little research on what types of programs are out there. Whatever way you choose to do, the important thing is just to get started. Sometimes deciding and getting started is the hardest part. That's where the motivation comes in. Do this for yourself!

Positive thinking is the most powerful thing we can do for ourselves. I will admit, sometimes it is not easy and I have to think about it for a little while but there is always something. Don't beat yourself up if those negative thoughts still come to you, just try to have them less and less and hopefully they will be replaced by positive ones more and more. If we tell ourselves something is going to go wrong or something is bad then we start to believe it. I didn't realize how even small thoughts or words like "I'm worried sick" can impact how we feel and our overall health if we keep thinking that way. Losing weight is a positive and healthy thing. Thinking about it can be daunting and thinking about how to do it can be even harder but

thinking about the final outcome is a very positive pleasure.

Positive thinking can help us in so many ways. People have found new employment by believing in themselves and portraying that at an inter-

view. If you go into that interview with the idea that you are not going to get the job then chances are you may not because the boss saw too. Of course, I don't mean be overly boastful and say you can do anything just be honest and be willing to work hard to learn what you don't know. If you go into an inter-

view with a positive attitude and show the person you are enthusiastic about the company and show you are willing and interested in learning that may just be what they are looking for. Positive thinking will always have a better outcome than being negative and down on things.



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A collaborative effort of local law enforcement, local government, and the Frederick County Health Department with funding from MDH and SAMHSA, 2020.



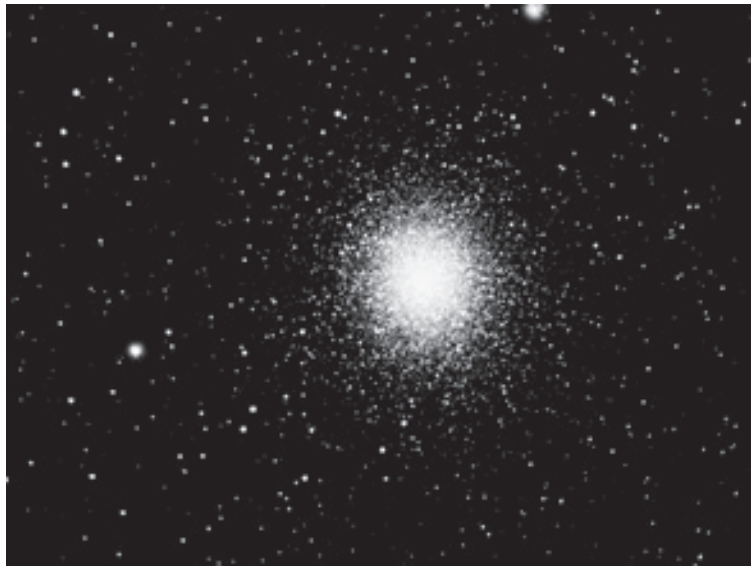
ASTRONOMY

The night sky of June

Professor Wayne Wooten

For June 2022, the waxing crescent moon passes just south of the Gemini on June 2nd. The moon is first quarter on June 7th, and the Full Moon, the Honey Moon, is June 14th. The waning gibbous moon is below Saturn on the morning of June 18. The last quarter moon passes below Jupiter on June 21st. On June 22nd, the waning crescent moon passes below Mars in the dawn, and the slender crescent sits just to the left of Venus in the dawn on June 26th, a great photo op 45 minutes before sunrise. Then it passes Mercury (best to use binoculars in dawn) on June 27th. The new moon is June 28th. The slender crescent again sits south of the Gemini on the NW horizon after sunset on June 30th. This return of the moon to the same place among the stars is the defined as the “sideral” month, and as we see here, it takes 27.3 days.

While the naked eye, dark adapted by several minutes away from any bright lights, is a wonderful instrument to stare up into deep space, far beyond our own Milky Way, binoculars are better for spotting specific deep sky objects. For a detailed map of northern hemisphere skies, about June 30th visit the www.skymaps.com website and download the map for June; it will have a more extensive calendar, and list of best objects for the naked eyes, binoculars, and scopes on the back of the map. There is also



Few objects in the sky can compare to the nice globular cluster M-13. This ball of almost a million older stars lies about 25,000 light years away, in the halo of our Milky Way Galaxy, almost directly above the Galactic Center in Sagittarius.

a video exploring the June sky from the Hubble Space Telescope website at: www.hubblesite.org/explore_astronomy/tonights_sky/. Sky & Telescope has highlights at www.skyandtelescope.com for observing the sky each week of the month.

This June Mercury lies between us and the sun until midmonth, when it moves into the dawn sky just to the lower left of brilliant Venus in the dawn. The best grouping comes when the waning crescent moon joins the pair on June 26-27th. Venus is heading behind the Sun soon, and rises lower in the dawn sky each morning. By year's end, it will pass behind the Sun and back into the evening skies.

Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn are working their way back into the evening skies this fall. Saturn in

Capricornus will come to opposition in July, Jupiter in Aquarius in September, and Mars by year's end.

The Big Dipper is almost overhead as twilight falls, and its pointers take you north to the Pole Star. If you drop south from the bowl of the Big Dipper, Leo the Lion is in the SW. Note the Egyptian Sphinx is based on the shape of this Lion in the sky. Taking the arc in the Dipper's handle, we “arc” SE to bright orange Arcturus, the brightest star of Spring. Cooler than our yellow Sun, and much poorer in heavy elements, some believe its strange motion reveals it to be an invading star from another smaller galaxy, now colliding with the Milky Way in Sagittarius in the summer sky. Moving almost perpendicular to the plane of our Milky Way, Arcturus was the first star in the sky where its proper motion across the historic

sky was noted, by Edmund Halley.

Spike south to Spica, the hot blue star in Virgo, then curve to Corvus the Crow, a four sided grouping. Jupiter lies just east of Spica this July. North of Corvus, in the arms of Virgo, is where our large scopes will show members of the Virgo Supercluster, a swarm of over a thousand galaxies about 50 million light years distant. Even farther south, on June evenings we can spot the top three stars of Crux, the Southern Cross, just above the horizon. Above it is Omega Centauri, the closest and brightest of the globular clusters, visible as a round blur with the naked eye.

To the east, Hercules is well up, with the nice globular cluster M-13 marked on your sky map and visible in binocs. Few objects in the sky can compare with this glorious ball of stars in any telescope 6” or larger. This ball of almost a million older stars lies about 25,000 light years away, in the halo of our Milky Way Galaxy, almost directly above the Galactic Center in Sagittarius.

The brightest star of the northern hemisphere, Vega (from Carl Sagan's novel and movie, “Contact”), rises in the NE as twilight deepens. Twice as hot as our Sun, it appears blue-white, like most bright stars. At the opposite end of the parallelogram of Lyra is M-57, the Ring Nebula. It is visible with large binoculars, but does not show its fine colors and faint central white dwarf until you get to some big deep sky scopes.

Northeast of Lyra is Cygnus, the Swan, flying down the Milky Way. Its bright star Deneb, at the top of the “northern cross” is one of the

luminaries of the Galaxy, about 50,000 times more luminous than our Sun and around 3,000 light years distant. Under dark skies, note the “Great Rift”, a dark nebula in front of our solar system as we revolve around the core of the Milky Way in the Galactic Year of 250 million of our own years.

To the east, Altair is the third bright star of the summer triangle. It lies in Aquila the Eagle, and is much closer than Deneb; it lies within about 13 light years of our Sun. Use your binocs to pick up many clusters in this rich region of our own Cygnus spiral arm rising now in the east. The nearest spiral arms of our Milky Way are now on the eastern horizon, and may be mistaken for a cloud rising if you are not used to the transparency of rural skies! They arc overhead in the morning hours for restless campers.

To the south, Antares is well up at sunset in Scorpius. It appears reddish (its Greek name means rival of Ares or Mars to the Latins) because it is half as hot as our yellow Sun; it is bright because it is a bloated red supergiant, big enough to swallow up our solar system all the way out to Saturn's orbit! Scorpius is the brightest constellation in the sky, with 13 stars brighter than the pole star Polaris! Note the fine naked eye clusters M-6 and M-7, just to the left of the Scorpion's tail.

Just a little east of the Scorpion's tail is the teapot shape of Sagittarius, which lies toward the center of the Milky Way. From a dark sky site, you can pick out the fine stellar nursery, M-8, the Lagoon Nebula, like a cloud of steam coming out of the teapot's spout.

Farmers' Almanac

“I wonder what it would be like to live in a world where it was always June.”

—L. M. Montgomery (1929-2003)

Mid-Atlantic Weather Watch:

Warm, scattered showers and thunderstorms (1, 2, 3); cooler, dry 4, 5, 6); turning warmer and humid with isolated showers and thunderstorms (7, 8, 9); cooler, then warm and humid but dry (10, 11, 12, 13); thunderstorms (14); dry north, showers and thunderstorms at first south, turning very hot and humid (15, 16, 17, 18, 19); scattered thunderstorms, very hot and humid (20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25); occasional afternoon thunderstorms with heavy rain (26, 27, 28, 29, 30).

Severe Weather Watch: The Town and Country Almanac sees severe thunderstorms (3); severe thunderstorms, heavy rain (14, 15, 16); more heavy rain (17); excessive heat (18, 19); severe thunderstorms (25, 26, 27).

Full Moon: The Full Moon in June will occur on Tuesday,

June 14th. It has been known as Rose Moon because roses start to show their gorgeous blooms at the beginning of the month. It has also been referred to as Strawberry Moon because the first strawberries of the season become ripe for the picking in June!

Special Notes: The Summer Solstice that will occur on Saturday, 20th, signals the official start of summer (it's finally here!). It's graduation time so honor your high school or college grad. This is a major milestone and is should be recognized as such with a party or a very special gift.

Holidays: Proudly display ‘Old Glory’ on Tuesday, June 14th! Be sure to display it properly and reference www.ushistory.org/betsy/more/displayonly.htm to be sure. Father's Day is Sunday, June 19th. Do something really nice for the guy who a) taught you how to ride a two-wheeler b) videotaped every sporting event or recital you ever were in, c) helped you finance that new (fill in the blank), or d) all of the above!

The Garden: Plant or sow sum-

mer annuals such as nasturtiums, vinca, verbena, geraniums, phlox, marigolds, lobelia, impatiens, cosmos, sunflowers, zinnias, and alyssum. Feed annuals and remove spent flowers to promote another round of flowers. It's not too late to start warm-season crops such as corn, beans, tomatoes, squash, peppers, and eggplant. If you cut flowers for fresh in-door arrangements early in the morning, they will stay fresher and more vibrant much longer.

The Farm: Best for planting root crops (23, 24, 25); weeding and stirring the soil (4, 5, 26, 27); planting above-ground crops (1, 2, 3); harvesting all crops (13, 14); the best days for setting hens and incubators (7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21); the slaughtering and butchering of meat (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 28, 29, 30); transplanting (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 28, 29, 30); the weaning of all small animals and livestock (13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20); the harvesting and storing grains (20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27).

J. Gruber's Thought For Today's Living:

“A wise man will often rely less on his own judgment to pay respect to judgment of others.”

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Jester's Computers

Like most things in life, computers don't last forever. At Jester's Computers we see clients replace computers for a variety of reasons. Sometimes a replacement computer is the best option but often a repair or upgrade can be made to resolve issues that occur from normal use. Users will typically notice when there is an obvious problem such as error messages, unexpected shutdowns, or strange noises. Often users are unaware of hidden issues that can easily be resolved or address including heat and power.

Heat can often contribute to computer problems and even total failure. Over time the fans that are inside your machine which are designed to keep components inside the computer cool and operating at ideal temperatures can become dusty, dirty, and clogged. The buildup of dirt inside your device can pose a much bigger risk if left unaddressed. Sensitive components inside your machine will wear out quicker and can even experience premature failure if operating at too high of a temperature for a period of time. At Jester's we recommend yearly maintenance for your device which includes cleaning the inside of the machine to eliminate dust and improve the temperature in your machine. You should never use a vacuum cleaner to eliminate buildup inside of your electronic devices as doing so causes static electricity which can damage the components. We recommend keeping your system in a well-ventilated space. If your device is in an area that gets exceptionally dusty like a garage or basement, we suggest checking the inside of the device every 6 months to ensure that buildup hasn't occurred.

Power is another potential cause for computer problems that may not be so obvious. First and foremost, you should always plug your laptop or desktop into a surge protector to prevent possible power surges from causing damage to your device if you experience a power spike. What many people don't realize is that over time surge protectors wear out and are less and less effective. We recommend changing out the surge protector for your computers at least every 10 years. Because power supplies which deliver power to the components inside your machine are so sensitive, we suggest powering off computers during a storm or when you plan to be away from home for an extended period of time.

You can even go so far as to unplug them (especially if you have no surge protector) to provide them with additional power protection in the event of a storm. If your computer is turned on when the power goes out it is possible that damage can

be done to data or your operating system as well as hardware components so it is best to be proactive and shut your system down if you believe you may experience a power outage. Its useful to note that if you have a laptop, you can extend your battery's life by unplugging your laptop when its fully charged and plugging the device back in to charge when it drains down to about 60%. If you drain your battery down entirely without shutting your device off your system can experience issues because it did not shut down properly.

Cell phones are no exception to these rules. Charging your cell phone for an extended length can cause damage to the battery and can cause overheating of your device. Playing games or watching videos for long period can also cause overheating and damage to cell phones. Mostly users will experience lagging and buggy issues until the device has had a chance to cool down.

Failure of technology devices can occur at any time. Which is why we strongly recommend

ensuring that any important data is backed up in two places as well as having yearly maintenance done for your computers. At Jester's Computer Services we understand that technology can be frustrating which is why for over 24 years our small family owned and operated business has strived to provide excellent service and support. We work with clients of all skills levels both in our shop located at 5135 Fairfield Road in Fairfield and in the local surrounding areas for on-one-one and in-home support. We can be found on the web at www.jesterscomputers.com. Our hours are Monday-Friday 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. We can be reached via call or text at 717-642-6611 or through email at customerservice@jesterscomputers.com.

If you have questions about the suggestions made above, or if you would like technical support you can contact us at Jester's Computer Services at 717-642-6611 or customerservice@jesterscomputers.com. Online we can be found at www.jesterscomputers.com



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HUMOR

Did You Know?

Fish and Chip selling officially remained an offensive trade until 1940 due to the smell it produces.

The University of Alaska spans four time zones.

The tooth is the only part of the human body that cannot heal itself.

In ancient Greece, tossing an apple to a girl was a traditional proposal of marriage. Catching it meant she accepted.

Do you know the names of the three wise monkeys? They are: Mizaru (See no evil), Mikazaru (Hear no evil) and Mazaru (Speak no evil).

Warner Communications paid \$28 million for the copyright to the song Happy Birthday.

Intelligent people have more zinc and copper in their hair.

A comet's tail always points away from the sun.

The Swine Flu vaccine in 1976 caused more death and illness than the disease it was intended to prevent.

Caffeine increases the power of aspirin and other painkillers, that is why it is found in some medicines.

The military salute is a motion that evolved from medieval times, when knights in armor raised their visors to reveal their identity.

If you get into the bottom of a well or a tall chimney and look up, you can see stars, even in the middle of the day.

When a person dies, hearing is the last sense to go. The first sense lost is sight.

Trivia in Roman mythology was the goddess who haunted crossroads, graveyards and was the goddess of sorcery and witchcraft. She wandered about at night, and was seen only by the barking of dogs who told of her approach.

In ancient times strangers shook hands to show that they were unarmed.

Avocados have the highest calories of any fruit at 167 calories per hundred grams.

It cost the soft drink industry \$100 million a year for thefts committed involving vending machines.

The moon moves about two inches away from the Earth each year.

The Earth gets 100 tons heavier every day due to falling space dust.

Due to earth's gravity it is impossible for mountains to be higher than 15,000 meters.

Men's shirts have the buttons on the right, but women's shirts have the buttons on the left.

Mickey Mouse is known as "Topolino" in Italy.

Soldiers do not march in step when going across bridges because they could set up a vibration which could be sufficient to knock the bridge down.

The painting that won second place in a competition held by the US National Academy of Design was hanging upside down when it was judged.

Everything weighs one percent less at the equator.

For every extra kilogram carried on a space flight, 530 kg of

excess fuel are needed at lift-off.

The letter J does not appear anywhere on the periodic table of the elements.

How numerals 0 - 9 got their shape

Do you know why numbers look like they do? Someone, at some point in time, had to create their shapes and meaning. Watch this short presentation and then you will know how our

Arabic numbers were originally created a very long time ago and what logic the people that created them used to determine their shapes. It is really very simple and quite creative?

You have to admire the intelligence of a person or people who created something so simple and perfect that it has lasted for thousands and thousands of years and will probably never change?

When the presentation gets to the number "seven" you will notice that the 7 has a line through the middle of it. That was the way the Arabic 7 was originally written, and in Europe and certain other areas they still write the 7 that way. Also, in the military, they commonly write it that way.

The nine has a kind of curly tail on it that has been reduced, for the most part nowadays, to a simple curve, but the logic involved still applies.

Interesting geography facts you may or may not know or care about

More than half of the coastline of the entire United States is in Alaska.

The Amazon rainforest produces more than 20% the world's oxygen supply.

The Amazon River pushes so much water into the Atlantic Ocean that, more than one hundred miles at sea off the mouth of the river, one can dip fresh water out of the ocean. The volume of water in the Amazon river is greater than the next eight largest rivers in the world combined and three times the flow of all rivers in the United States.

Antarctica is the only land on our planet that is not owned by any country.

Ninety percent of the world's ice covers Antarctica. This ice also represents seventy percent of all the fresh water in the world. As strange as it sounds, however, Antarctica is essentially a desert. The average yearly total precipitation is about two inches. Although covered with ice (all but 0.4% of it is ice.),

Antarctica is the driest place on the planet, with an absolute humidity lower than the Gobi desert.

Brazil got its name from the nut, not the other way around.

Canada has more lakes than the rest of the world combined. Canada is an Indian word meaning 'Big Village.'

Next to Warsaw, Chicago has the largest Polish population in the world.

Woodward Avenue in Detroit, Michigan, carries the designation M-1, so named because it was the first paved road anywhere.

Damascus, Syria, was flourishing a couple of thousand years before Rome was founded in 753 BC, making it the oldest con-

tinuously inhabited city in existence.

Istanbul, Turkey, is the only city in the world located on two continents.

Los Angeles' full name is El Pueblo de Nuestra Senora la Reina de Los Angeles de Porciuncula -- and can be abbreviated to 3.63% of its size: L.A.

There are more Irish in New York City than in Dublin, more Italians in New York City than in Rome, and more Jews in New York City than in Tel Aviv.

There are no natural lakes in the state of Ohio, every one is manmade.

The smallest island with country status is Pitcairn in Polynesia, at just 1.75 sq. miles/4.53 sq. km.

The first city to reach a population of 1 million people was Rome, Italy in 133 B.C. There is a city called Rome on every continent.

Siberia contains more than 25% of the world's forests.

The actual smallest sovereign entity in the world is the Sovereign Military Order of Malta (S.M.O.M). It is located in the city of Rome, Italy, has an area of two tennis courts, and as of 2001 has a population of 80, 20 less people than the Vatican. It is a sovereign entity under international law, just as the Vatican is.

In the Sahara Desert, there is a town named Tidikelt, Algeria, which did not receive a drop of rain for ten years. Technically though, the driest place on Earth is in the valleys of the Antarctic near Ross Island. There has been no rain fall there for two million years.

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