

Emmitsburg NEWS-JOURNAL

VOLUME 15, NO. 7

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

JULY 2023

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Vigilant Hose orders new ladder fire truck

Come this October, members of the Vigilant Hose Company (VHC) will say hello to their new ladder truck. With more than 22 years of service to Emmitsburg and the surrounding communities, it was time to retire the old Tower 6. "VHC mechanics are starting to struggle to find parts for repairs for the 28-year-old tower, which has become very expensive," according to VHC Chief Josh Brotherton.

The new ladder truck will be a 2023 Pierce Enforcer 100-foot Aerial Platform. Brotherton explained that the tower should be in service by the end of the year, after equipment is mounted and members receive training.

"Every square inch has been designed to improve firefighter safety and help them perform at their peak," states Pierce Manufacturing literature. The basket at the top of the 100-foot ladder has a load capacity of 1,000 pounds. The new ladder will also be able to deliver 3,000 gallons per minute but only holds 500 gallons of water and 1,000 feet of hose. It can be used in winds up to 50 miles per hour and in situations in which ice is up to ¼ inch deep.

Tower 6 is used for 150 to 200 calls yearly and covers the North end of Frederick County, an area almost 120-square-miles. The next closest ladder trucks are stationed in Taneytown and Gettysburg.

Ladder trucks are not just used for tall buildings, which surprises many. They are used just as much on one- or two-story buildings as those with 10 or more stories. Towers offer a safe place from which to work in all situations, such as if a roof needs to be ventilated, especially with new building construction. They are also used to help with rescues from roofs, mountains, trails, and other complex situations like water rescues. Normal ladders can only reach up to 35 feet while the tower extends to 100-feet vertical or 93-feet horizontal. Towers also carry more ground equipment than other equipment. Some firefighters call them rolling tool boxes due to the wide range of equipment they carry for first response.

Plans for the new ladder truck started in 2022 when a committee was formed. VHC President Tom Ward then began a fundraising campaign to offset the cost of \$1.6 million. Two weeks ago, VHC



The VHC's Tower 8 will retire after faithfully serving the community for 28 years.

announced that they will be able to pay cash in hand for the new tower. President Ward, Chief Brotherton, and the board gave thanks to every member and the auxiliary partners for achieving this astonishing goal. "We are totally blown away with the outstanding and continued support of our little community through donations and support for our many fundraising efforts. It speaks volumes of how close-knit this community is and how dedicated they are in support of their own," they noted.

President Tom Ward said, "our organization is so proud to accomplish this incredible act. The entire Emmitsburg community and all our neighbors and supporters have been amazing in their support. In a time when fire departments across the region and nation are struggling financially, we are blessed in Emmitsburg to have this support. It's something we don't take for granted. The new Tower 6 will proudly serve citizens north and south of the Mason-Dixon line for years to come."

South Mountain celebrates 100 years

The best part of the summer season is right around the corner: fair season. Are you ready for the return of the throttling of tractors, the smell of corn dogs, and kids screaming gleefully on the Tilt-A-Whirl? Well, buckle up, because the 100th Annual South Mountain Fair promises to exceed all expectations. The fair opens this year on July 26 and runs through July 30.

South Mountain Fair has returned in full force in time to celebrate its centennial anniversary this season. Patrons can expect a new breath of enthusiasm this year with five days of festivities.

The Fair was cancelled in 2020 and held in 2021, albeit with an abundance of caution and considerably less zeal, according to coordinator Joanne Irvin.

"I don't think most people realize how much work and how many hours goes into preparing for the Fair and the work doesn't end on the last day of the Fair either. We work at it all year. There is always something that needs to be repaired or painted or mowed or cleaned. The average person doesn't see all of those things, but they all need to be taken care of throughout the year and not just Fair week. In 2020 when the Fair and all of our other

rentals were cancelled, those things still had to be done. The grounds had to be mowed. We still had to pay the electric and phone bills even without any income," she said.

"This year is going much smoother I think, and we are excited to celebrate our 100th year. It wasn't a happy time, but we made it through it and I'm glad we did. Maybe that's why we're looking forward to celebrating our 100th year. We made it," Irvin said.

The South Mountain Fair is known far and wide for its involvement with agriculture students and the centennial Fair is no exception. There will be ample opportunities for children to be acknowledged for their personal efforts ranging from hobby interests to animal husbandry, for local and national merchants to show off their wares, and for community members from neighboring towns and counties to come together for an evening full of great food, entertainment, and fun.

The Fair began in 1922 and continued each year until 1930, when it was cancelled that year because of a drought. The annual event picked up again in 1931 and continued until 1941, when it was again cancelled, this time due to a polio epidemic, then World War



While the South Mountain Fair has the greatest of rides of any carnival or fair around, the heart and soul of the fair will always be the kids and their animals.

II, according to the South Mountain Fair Association. The Fair was resumed in 1948 and has been held every year since then.

One of the highlights of the fair is 4-H Day livestock judging, which will take place all week long. Other activities include mechanical bull rides, chainsaw carving shows, and a fireworks display

on July 28. Exhibit buildings will be open every day for the public. Exhibits include: a photography exhibit; baked goods, wine, vegetables, and fruit exhibits; crafts and art pieces of all kinds; as well as 4H projects.

For more information and a complete schedule of events, visit www.southmountainfair.com.

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EMMITSBURG NEWS

Town Government to see major changes

At the June 4th Town Council meeting, Joe Ritz, a three time, highly respected commissioner, announced that he would not be seeking a fourth term in the upcoming September town election.

In a brief statement, Ritz told his fellow commissioners that “while at times challenging, I have thoroughly enjoyed serving Emmitsburg as a town commissioner. I gave my all to the job I signed up for and was elected to do.”

“I was a voice for all our community, and I take great pride knowing that many residents and business owners alike came to me with questions and concerns. They depended on me to listen and to act as was my objective to honor for all three terms I served. When first elected, I quickly learned that there are many obstacles the Town Council faces, and new ideas and possibilities are denied due to rules and regulations in place, most from higher levels of government that we cannot control.”

“Unfortunately, a lot of the time and energy I devoted truly felt like a waste because the final

results were undesired and unsatisfactory in my view and the views of many others. I admit this exhaustive effort created stress and frustration over the course of nine years and I do not feel that I can effectively serve for an additional three.”

“Therefore, I am stepping down now so that someone new may answer the call to serve, to accept and face the challenges it presents, and to give their all in representing our great community of Emmitsburg.”

“My hope is that whoever replaces me is like me—that they do not have a self-serving agenda, only the best interest of Emmitsburg at heart, willing to serve with the goal of making our community better. I know you’re out there, and I hope you accept the challenge.”

Ritz was first elected in 2014 when he won lopsided elections to fill the seat vacated by Chris Stager. Ritz not only filled the seat of Stager, but assumed the critical role Stager had played on the Council, who frequently challenged the status quo and frequently pressed

hard-to-get answers to issues that vexed the community.

On the heels of Ritz’s announcement, Commissioner Frank Davis, who has been the leading candidate to replace Briggs, made it official that he would in fact seek the office of Town Mayor. Davis’ decision to seek the Mayor’s position will leave two vacancies on the Council to be filled in September.

Davis, President of the Vigilant Hose Company, was first elected to the Council in 2019, and handily won reelection last year. Like Ritz, Davis has been almost single mindedly focused on getting his hands around the Town’s expenditures, as well as improving customer service to our businesses and citizens.

Commissioner Amy Boehman-Pollitt however expressed concern with Ritz and Davis’s decisions as they formed two parts of what was emerging to be a highly effective triumvirate on the Town Council questioning the status quo. The most recent example of which was their ongoing investigation into the reasoning behind the recent water rate increase.

Emmitsburg
NEWS-JOURNAL

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Water fund charges almost derail budget

On the heels of the contentious decision to raise water rates, the Town Council, at its June meeting, was caught off guard when Commissioner Amy Boehman questioned the town staff on what exactly was being charged to the Water Fund that necessitated the rate increase.

Boehman told her fellow commissioners that the issue caught her eye when she was doing her due diligence review of the FY-24 Town budget during which she noted that town office staff salaries, including the front office receptionist, was charging to the water fund.

“I was fully expecting that only the cost of running the actual water plant,

including the salaries of the staff there, would be charged to the water fund, but not a portion of everyone’s salary. If you asked any resident on the street I’m sure they would agree. I would have expected Town office staff salaries to be fully funded by the General fund.” Boehman attributed the depletion of the water fund balance to this practice and questioned why it was allowed.

Town Manager Cathy Willets said that the practice had been in place before she joined the town staff, and defended the practice as it provided a true picture of what the cost of water production were.

“The receptionist charges a certain percentage of her time to the water

fund because she has to answer calls from residents about water bills. A portion of my salary is charged to the fund because I deal daily with water issues.” The Town Attorney and Town accountant also regularly charge to the water fund. About the only staff member who does not charge to the water fund is the Town Code Enforcer, Willets said.

“We’ve tried to indentify every item associated with the water systems. For example, when we mail out the quarterly water bills, we charge the postage on those bills, and the paper they are printed on to the water fund.” Identifying and separating out expenses is just a good practice everyone follows, she said.

Boehman acknowledged that while Thurmont and Taneytown also separate out all water-related expenses, Walkersville does not. “Walkersville only charges the salaries of the staff at their water plant. Not even their Town Manager charges to their water fund. As a result, Walkersville’s water fund

is in great shape. On the other hand, Thurmont is faced with also increasing their water rates due to the fact everyone is charging to it.”

“There are a lot of residents who will struggle to pay the increased water rates, yet we can easily eliminate the need for the rate increase by limiting what is charged to it,” Boehman said. “And it doesn’t help that the FY-24 budget has a 4 or 44?four percent salary increase that will only draw more money from the fund, and significantly offset any money raised by the rate increase.”

Commissioner Frank Davis seized on Boehman’s comments, saying, “I’ve been asking people to think outside the box on options to address the water fund issue, this is a good one. We need to consider this before we pass the budget.”

Commissioner Sweeney however defended the current practice, saying that they shifted over to it in the early 2000s when office staff salaries were being charged only to the general fund,

and that fund was being depleted.

Davis, however, questioned that the town may have gone overboard in what it is charging to the water fund, and pointed out the General fund had \$80,000+ in it that the Town was looking to spend. “Why not spend it on office salaries currently being charged to the water fund? That will at a minimum result in a 75% infusion of cash the water rate increase raised, which may allow us to reduce the rate increase.”

Commissioner Ritz joined Boehman and Davis in not wishing to vote on the FY-24 budget until the town staff could give the Council exact numbers of how much was being charged to the water fund by non water plant staff.

Willets cautioned the Council that there was not enough time to sort out the numbers before the budget came into effect and suggested that the Council could easily modify the budget in the July or August Council meeting.

Based upon the commitment to review and reconsider the water rate increase, the FY-24 budget was passed.

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TOWN ELECTIONS: SEPTEMBER 26

Tuesday, September 26 - 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

22 East Main Street, Emmitsburg

Mayor Donald N. Briggs and Commissioner Ritz III seats are up for election. To vote you must register with Frederick County by August 25. Anyone wanting to run for election must file their application candidacy and financial disclosure with the Town Clerk no later than 4 p.m. on August 25.

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FAIRFIELD/CARROLL VALLEY NEWS

Carroll Valley mulls value of selling lots

Carroll Valley Borough Council could boost the government's coffers by selling many borough-owned lots that are peppered throughout the southwestern Adams County municipality. The move, however, could prove costly for citizens' quality of life, Councilwoman Kari Butterbaugh warned during the June council meeting.

"I just think this whole thing is crazy for the people for the people of Carroll Valley," Butterbaugh said.

The borough owns many parcels that were part of the ill-fated

mid-20th century Charnita development that led to the borough's creation in the 1970s. Residents have often shown interest in owning some of the properties. Butterbaugh noted she has lived in Carroll Valley for about 25 years and was always told the borough would never sell them.

Pennsylvania law states any property the borough wishes to sell that is appraised at more than \$6,000 must be sold through a public bidding process. The borough also must sell the lots at least their appraised

value, Solicitor Zachary Rice said.

Butterbaugh proposed giving Carroll Valley citizens the right of first refusal if the borough decides to sell the lots. Rice said that action would violate the law.

Butterbaugh fears developers will purchase all of the lots and build homes. Such a move would forever change the look of the resort-like community, Butterbaugh warned.

"If you have a lot next to you, and the borough owns it, you are now going to have to compete against

other people," Butterbaugh told citizens in attendance.

Councilman David Lillard acknowledged Butterbaugh's concern and asked if the Council could poll citizens to gauge their interest in the borough selling the lots. Rice said such action is not only a good idea, but required by law.

Whether houses can be built on the lots is currently unknown. Council President Richard Mathews questioned if the borough would be required to perform a perc test on the lots before sell-

ing them. A perc test determines if a lot's soil will absorb water at the necessary rate. If a perc test fails, a septic system cannot be installed on the property.

Rice said the Pennsylvania borough code does not mandate a perc test but an appraiser may since the land's value will fluctuate depending on the test's results. Rice advised the Council to create a policy outlining the necessary steps to sell a borough-owned lot before it is placed on the market.

Council took no action on the matter but agreed further discussion is necessary.

Carroll Valley honors officer, prepares for July 4

Carroll Valley police officer has earned the distinction of life saver.

Officer Seth Reed was patrolling Fairfield Borough on May 15 when he noticed an unconscious male lying next to a lawn tractor near Monahan Funeral Home on the borough's Main Street. Fairfield contracts police services from Carroll Valley.

Reed quickly asked Adams County dispatch to send an ambulance and began performing first aid on the man until Adams Regional Emergency Services personnel arrived. Reed's actions made the man's recovery possible, Mayor Ron Harris said.

For his attentiveness and quick response, the Carroll Valley Borough Council unanimously approved Harris awarding Reed a commendation during the June meeting of the Council.

"I am extremely proud," Carroll Valley Police Chief Cliff Weikert said.

Weikert is hoping to attract another quality officer such as Reed to the borough's force. During his monthly report, Weikert said the borough recently held a written test for officers that did not result in qualified candidates. An additional challenge, Weikert said, is that three Adams County police departments are hiring full-time officers.

Weikert said he may ask the Council in the future to fund a candidate's police academy tuition. Weikert said this approach has been successful in other municipalities and he plans to conduct more research before presenting a formal proposal.

Weikert said the police academy in Harrisburg is also considering hosting a course for applicants who do not live in Pennsylvania. Weikert said such a class may benefit Carroll Valley, which is located near Pennsylvania's border with Maryland.

"Hopefully we get somebody like Seth (Reed)," Weikert said. "They are out there, we just need to come across them."

Independence Day

Carroll Valley is excited to celebrate America's birthday.

Assistant Borough Manager

Gayle Marthers told the Council the community's annual Independence Day celebration will once again include fireworks at 9:45 p.m. The quintessential symbol of July 4 has been absent from Carroll Valley since 2020.

For many years, Liberty Mountain Resort sponsored the spec-

table. Vali Resorts purchased the business in 2019 and the borough initially had a difficult experience establishing a relationship with the Colorado-based company, Marthers said. She expressed appreciation to Vali for realizing the fireworks show's importance to Carroll Valley.

An 80s music tribute band, The Reagan Years, will begin entertaining the crowd at 6:45 p.m. Food trucks will be on-site so people can enjoy the holiday with their neighbors. Marthers said the Independence Day celebration will be scaled down compared to previous years due to the increased cost of rent-

ing kid-friendly attractions such as bouncy houses and inflatable slides. Marthers noted the borough accepts monetary donations for its Independence Day celebration. Those who want to contribute should visit the borough office or mail a check to Carroll Valley Borough, 5685 Fairfield Road, Fairfield, PA 17320.



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THURMONT NEWS

Council passes FY-24 budget

The Thurmont Commissioners voted to adopt the Town Budget for Fiscal Year 2024, starting July 1, on May 30.

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

Revenue within the general fund budget is increasing to \$5,016,075, an increase of about a quarter of a million dollars. Taxes account for \$2,151,876 of the revenue, the majority of which is from real estate taxes.

The town is expected to revenue \$2,006,376 in the 2024 Fiscal Year by keeping the current tax rate of 0.3206. While this is keeping the same tax rate as last year, the constant yield tax rate will be 0.3113 next year. With keeping the tax rate, the Town will yield \$58,125 in expected revenue after expenses,

which the commissioners debated throughout the meetings.

The commissioners also discussed the raising prices because of inflation in addition to the rise in Frederick County taxes and its impact on residents' budgets. "It'll be nice for us to go down a little bit," Commissioner Bill Blakeslee said, referring to potentially lowering the tax rate to the new constant yield rate.

However, it was decided that the tax rate will remain 0.3206 in the 2024 Fiscal Year Budget.

Thurmont also expects to receive \$2,525,379 in revenue from state and governmental sources such as income tax, the recycling program, etc. The FY24 Budget allots for \$42,000 in miscellaneous grant revenue and \$296,820 in other local revenue, which includes various rents, fees, permits, fines, etc.

Recurring expenses in the general fund include \$1,863,051 for

staff salaries in all areas covered in addition to \$94,447 in general expenses. The general fund also includes for the upcoming fiscal year: \$359,171 for parks; \$132,310 for planning & zoning; \$176,300 for economic development; \$1,605,200 and \$767,400 for streets.

The budget increased \$246,970 for public safety over last year, in addition to the capital budget fund expenses: \$20,000 for 10 desktop replacements and \$15,495 for state-mandated body worn cameras, to be added to previous capital savings of \$30,000. The capital budget also includes \$12,000 for an attachment for the skid loader and \$412,318 for highway user restricted funds for the streets department; and \$13,180 for Community Park Tennis Courts Engineering and Design and \$62,950 for a remote

control mower for the parks department.

The 2024 Water Fund Budget expects \$1,060,300 in revenue, a decrease from last year by about \$2,000. The Town expects expenses to reach \$875,500, leaving \$184,800 in operating revenue. Of these expenses, \$299,950 is allotted for salaries and \$60,000 for health insurance. Revenue includes fees for service, charges for building, contract work, etc.

Water Fund Capital includes a new wireless radio control system to replace the aging system in place, engineering and design for water main replacements in town, new meters, etc. Total expenses for the water capital fund are expected to be \$184,800, covered by the expected revenue from the water fund.

The wastewater fund budget is expected to yield \$1,752,800 in revenue in FY24. Fees for services make up the majority of the wastewater revenue at \$1,660,000. Other

sources of revenue include state grants, ineptest, late fees, etc.

The Town allotted for \$1,548,029 in expenses within the wastewater fund. The budget includes \$384,950 for salaries, \$31,796 for payroll taxes; \$316,200 for general operating expenses; \$105,000 for material and supplies; \$73,400 for administrative expenses; etc. It also includes \$168,200 for employee benefits, which breaks down to \$95,000 for health insurance, \$60,000 for retirement funds and \$13,200 for worker's comp insurance.

The wastewater fund budget is expected to have an excess of \$204,771 after expenditures. The excess will be used within the fund capital for: Well 7 pump station and well, shared with water fund; \$30,225 for replacing existing electric box; \$59,001 for replacing roofs; \$11,540 for Well 7 pump station controller and \$24,005 for crane rental and welding for secondary clarifiers.

Comments disable on Town's Facebook page

The Town Council approved a social media policy 4-1 at the June 20 meeting that will designate the official Thurmont page

as one that is for disseminating information. As a result, the Town will be able to disable Facebook comments on their official page.

The change was made because of comments made on the Town's Facebook page that officials deem inappropriate. In previous meetings, Town Manager Jim Humerick said that both town officials and residents have been continuously "bullied" and "ridiculed" in the comments of the town's Facebook posts. On June 20, Humerick said the Town had previously only been allowed to delete obscenities from the page, though doing so would require an approval process to protect the commenter's First Amendment rights.

The Town hopes the new ordinance would eliminate concerns by disallowing residents to comment in the first place. "It's not limiting free speech because there's 100 avenues that they can come and contact us," Thurmont Mayor John Kinnaird said.

Kinnaird assured residents that there is "ample opportunity" for residents to voice their opinions and discuss issues through the weekly town meetings, by calling or emailing the commissioners and mayor directly and by stopping by the town offices.

"If there's a situation or something to be discussed, I think a broad-based discussion on Facebook is not the way to do that," Humerick said. One of his main concerns are outside influences changing residents' opinions if a discussion on Facebook.

During public comment, however, Thurmont Resident Marty Burns said he has been unable to reach town officials for questions in the past and is concerned other residents will experience the same when the comments are dis-

abled. "I just think it restricts too much," he said. "I think we're all about disseminating information and hearing from the public and I wish you wouldn't do it."

Thurmont Resident Ashley Menzel, who has been a professional social media manager for 15 years, pointed out that none of the other local town Facebook pages have their comments disabled. "And you're right, you can't delete [Facebook comments] but you do have recourse to report them if you have those situations, that is something that is available to you," she said.

Because of her work experience in social media, Menzel empathized with the Town regarding the task of fielding comments from residents but suggested they consider hiring someone to manage the social media rather than disable comments. She also encouraged them to think of the missing demographics they will be alienating by limiting their social media pages.

After hearing the public comments, Bill Buehrer felt as though he could not vote for the ordinance to go through. After voting opposed, he said, "After hearing some of the comments, I don't know if it's even the right thing."



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TANEYTOWN NEWS

Police Chief resigns, search to fill office to resume

After a grueling vetting process that everyone hoped had resulted in a suitable candidate for the City's police chief, former Mayor Bradley Wantz announced at his last City Council meeting that Jeffrey Partridge has resigned "due to a personal matter".

Partridge was sworn in at the April 10th council meeting after a 3-month vetting process and unanimous approval by the last City Council just prior to the election in May. So once again, the City is faced with the task of identifying a suitable candidate to fill the office.

At its first meeting, the new Council began deliberations on its options to select a permanent Chief, as well as the roles and responsibilities of the current acting Chief. Unfortunately the deliberations quickly degenerated into a

debate between the Mayor and senior members of the Council on the roles and responsibilities of the Council in overseeing the police department.

City Manager Jim Wieprecht said that Major Robert Mitchell was directed to simply keep the Department running on a day-to-day basis. As such he can't change policy or fill positions such as sergeant, which has been vacant since the last chief resigned in November. Those decisions need to be approved by the Council, McCarron said.

Commissioner Tillman suggested changing this directive and allowing Mitchell to do what he needs to do. Mayor Chris Miller concurred with Tillman's suggestion, and recommended that Mitchell be given complete control of the Department

until a new Chief was found. Miller questioned the Council if they knew anything about policing and what qualified to make police decisions. "Did we want to make the Council the Police Chief?"

Commissioner Judith Fuller pushed back on the idea that Mitchell didn't have all the authority he needs right now. "He has the authority," she said, "all he needs to do is come before us and brief us and get our consent."

Commissioner Jim McCarron cautioned the Mayor and the Council, given the track record of past chiefs, that the Council not delegate full responsibility to Mitchell, saying, "I think we put ourselves in jeopardy if we give the powers of Chief to an acting Chief." The Council needs to be aware of everything that needs to

be done before it is done so they can weigh in if necessary. McCarron said that the "Council needed to proceed with extreme caution and make sure the new Chief of Police is the right one for the Town."

Commissioner Fuller concurred with McCarron, and forcefully pushed back on Miller's recommendation. Fuller said that we need to know what Mitchell is doing because, "if he fails, it will come back on us ... we don't want to be police officers, we just need to make sure everything is operating properly, and we don't end up like we have in the past with things going on at the police department we don't know about."

Wieprecht said he would work closely with Mitchell to prepare a list of items that needed to be brought before

the Council as well as promotions within the police department until a permanent Chief is selected.

The Council concluded its debate by reminding Miller that it was his responsibility to bring forth a name for the Council to consider. In a closed door session prior to the regular monthly meeting, Miller did just that by formally recommending Mitchell to be the City's full time Police Chief.

The Council rejected Miller's recommendation and instead directed him to put together a plan to seek outside applicants for the position. The process previously utilized resulted in fifteen resumes being sent to the City, which included several police chiefs from surrounding communities, of which six were interviewed by representatives from the City Government.

Changes to public comment policy falls flat

At his first City Council meeting, newly elected Mayor Chris Miller suggested that the public be allowed to provide input on agenda items at all meetings held by the Council. In addition, Miller suggested that the public be allowed to comment as items are addressed by the Council as opposed to the current process where the public is only allowed to comment at the end of the meeting.

Currently, public opinion is only heard at the Council's monthly public workshop, which is held the Wednesday before the monthly Council meeting. It's at the work-

shops that the Council actively debates items that they will vote on at the regular meeting.

The purpose of the proposed change to allow comments as agenda items are brought up by the council, according to Miller, was to allow people who attend for a specific item not to be forced to wait for the whole meeting to finish before voicing their concerns.

"Since votes are cast at the Monday Council meetings", Councilman Chris Tillman asked "what is the point in letting the public comment at the end of the meeting when most of the topics have already been voted on? We

get so little participation as it is, adding in line-by-line public comment at our regular Monday meeting will not change the outcome of our votes."

Mayor Miller however disagreed. "At best all it does is open the door for an additional day for citizens to make any closing remarks to council. It gives them the greater chance to participate in their government."

Newly elected Councilman Jim McCarron pointed out that adding public comment to Monday Council meetings would be redundant because the Wednesday workshop was initially implemented specifically for public comment.

"In the past the Council would go straight into a Council meeting and do all their discussion and make a decision in one day," McCarron said. "We went to the current process to save time and prevent grandstanding from the public and debates between the public and council members."

Councilwoman Judith Fuller asked, "Do you want to be here until midnight? Because that is what will happen if we allow it."

Councilwoman Diane Foster pointed out that there are more ways than coming to a meeting for the public to get their opinion heard, including email, phone calls and writing letters.

These alternative ways are important for those that can't make it to the physical meeting.

The City's Planning and Zoning commission recently implemented a policy that gives the public an opportunity to speak after each agenda item, but limits how long someone can talk. The commission found it successful in speeding up the meetings while at the same time affording the public a chance to voice opinions in a timely fashion.

Miller's suggestion however did not receive support from a majority of the Council, so the current process for receiving public comment on agenda items only at the Wednesday Council workshop stands.

Planning & Zoning approves plans & updates projects

The Planning and Zoning Commission was busy at their May meeting approving concept site plans and updating existing projects.

First up for the commission was the proposed concept plan for a hardware store to be located on a 15 acre vacant lot that is part of the Freeser property on the east side of town. The hardware store will be a 15,000 square foot Amish-built 'ski lodge' inspired store with no connection to the local electrical grid.

As part of its review, the Committee unanimously decided to secure an easement for a proposed access road between Atrium and Carnival Drives with the intention of connecting Atrium to Carnival.

The hardware store project has drawn quite a few objections from homeowners on neighboring Carnival Dr. who do not have a connection to Atrium Dr. "We already have issues with children on our street getting hit. The police are there all the time. The kids play in the road because we are the only area in town without a park," said Rhonda Bordell. Bordell recounted a lengthy list of issues with the project, including protecting the stream that runs through the property, keeping the small town feel, and protecting the forest on the 15 acres.

After the Commission approved the concept plan, City Manager Jim Wieprecht reminded concerned resi-

dents that this is still in the planning stages. "It doesn't mean it will happen anytime soon, it could take years," said Director of Planning and Zoning Darryl Hale.

Next up for the Commission was the concept plan for Recovery 180, located at 162-164 West Baltimore St. Recovery 180 helps people recovering from addiction to reenter society in a safe, healthy environment. The inside of the resident building will not see a lot of change in its design as it was separated illegally into apartments some time ago. The primary concerns for the Town are stormwater management, an easement request for road alignment with Harney Rd. and 140, and the 15-space parking lot.

Recovery 180's plan is to have a total of 43 beds in a total of 12 bedrooms in six units. There will be six people per each two toilet/two shower bathrooms. The Council as well as some residents expressed concern over

the living quarters being too cramped. However, a representative of Recovery 180 commented, "From where they are coming from, this is a step up". Per the County each person is required to have a minimum of 200 square feet to live in.

Resident Lisa Crawford had concerns regarding safety and security and how well the building will be staffed. "We will have 24 hour behavioral techs trained in conflict de-escalation and strictly enforced curfews. There will be one tech per every 15 residents," said the representative. "These are people coming from a detox program ready to reintegrate into society," he said. "This is not a release program." He stated that his other Recovery 180 business located in Westminster has been open for almost a year and hasn't had any police activity or reports so they don't foresee any issues with the new location. The Council approved the site plan and it now continues the planning process.

Next on the agenda was the request by Taneytown Auto Parts located at 11 Franklin St. for a site plan waiver to demolish two older dilapidated buildings and build two new buildings in the same place. The old buildings measure 3,220 square feet and the new ones will be approximately 200 square feet larger. They also plan to raise the roofline on a third building to make the roofs the same height as the existing buildings, thus they will have two buildings with a continuous roof.

Taneytown Auto Parts has been in existence since the 1940s when town code had the building under industrial zoning, although its current use is general business as storage. The Commission ruminated on if what was staying was enough to stay with the current code or did the property need to be rezoned to match the new current code. In the end, the Commission decided that since the existing use and the current use predate the current code, a waiver was appropriate.

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GOVERNMENT—SOUTH OF THE BORDER

Congressman David Trone

President Trump's recent indictment has shone a particularly bright spotlight on our judicial system. For me, the issue is less about the treatment of one person than the way the system operates for all Americans. It's an issue that's deeply personal to me.

My passion for criminal justice reform started after my own personal experience with the law. Just after I started my business decades ago, a corrupt Attorney General in Pennsylvania arrested me, my brother, and my wife and charged us with over 26 felonies stemming from complaints from our competitors who were charging higher prices. I was offered a plea deal which would have made me a convicted felon — but I would've avoided any harsher penalties. Had I accepted the deal, my business would have collapsed. I wouldn't have been able to support my family. I refused the deal, and we were completely exonerated.

In a bit of poetic justice, the Attorney General was later convicted of fraud in federal court.

I know I was — and am — incredibly lucky. The fact that I had a good education, was able to hire a great team of lawyers, and most importantly, am white, was essential to us being able to clear our names and continue with our lives. After that nightmare, I began working with the American Civil Liberties Union in an effort to reform our criminal justice system and ensure that every American has the same opportunities that I had.

The current state of our criminal justice system is dire. Despite having roughly 5% of the global population, American prisons make up for over 20% of incarcerations worldwide. A disproportionate number of those incarcerated are people of color. Our criminal justice system is meant to hold offenders accountable, uphold the rule of law, and create a more just

society. But incarcerating people at such a high rate has not reduced crime and is one of the primary reasons our system needs reform.

A good job is the very best way to ensure that returning citizens do not commit crimes in the future. Sending them to prison without a focus on rehabilitation is not enough. Justice-impacted individuals need support during their incarceration and upon reentry in order to reduce the likelihood of reoffense.

I don't need statistics to prove that hiring returning citizens is a good idea; It's something we've done at my company for years. After "banning the box" on job applications, we've hired over 1,400 returning citizens across the country. And they are some of the hardest working individuals in the entire company. Other large employers that responded to our challenge to ban the box have had the same positive experience.

For this and other projects, I worked with the ACLU to create the Trone Center for Justice and Equality where 45 lawyers are working to reform predatory practices like cash bail, mandatory minimums, the death penalty, and others.

This work also helped me understand how much more I could accomplish in Congress than as a private citizen.

We've passed critical legislation to provide Pell grants to people in prison — allowing them to learn, grow, and be better off when they leave prison. In February of this year, I launched the Second Chance Task Force in the House of Representatives. Together with nearly 40 other bipartisan members of Congress, we're working to provide returning citizens with good jobs, reduce recidivism and boost the economy at the same time. We successfully secured \$180 million to allow the Bureau of Prisons to make this project a success.

Despite all of this progress, there's

much more to be done. That's one of the reasons I'm running for the Senate. We need to ban the box nationwide, end cash bail and other predatory practices, and reform the system in fundamental ways if we want it to be truly just. As much as anything, we need to face up to the reality that people who do not have financial resources or are not white are treated much more harshly by the system than people who are white, well-educated, and well-to-do.

I believe in justice. I believe in fairness. And I believe in second chances. The idea that we can either have reduced crime and safe communities or a fair justice system is a false choice. We can — we must — do both. Ending the structural problems in our criminal justice system will not happen overnight. But we can't stop fighting until every American — no matter their race, no matter their income, no matter where they live — is treated equally under the law. It's something worth fighting for.

County Council President Brad Young

Happy 275th birthday to Frederick County!

On June 10, 1748, the Maryland General Assembly passed legislation to create Frederick County from a portion of Prince George's County, which took effect in early December of that same year.

According to the website for

the Office of Economic Development we have almost 300,000 residents, 664 square miles of land making us Maryland's largest land mass county. There are over 7,700 businesses with more than 102,000 workers in the County with 1,373 farms. Making Frederick County a very vibrant place to live.

The Maryland Manual notes that Frederick County was created in 1748 by the Province of Maryland from parts of Prince George's County and Baltimore County.

In 1776, following US independence, Frederick County was divided into three parts. The westernmost portion became Washington County, named after George Washington, the southernmost portion became Montgomery County, named after another Revolutionary War general, Richard Montgomery. The northern portion remained Frederick County.

In 1837, a part of Frederick County was combined with a part of Baltimore County to form Carroll County which is east of current day Frederick County.

The County's website informs us that the County has been home to such notables as Star Spangled Banner author, Francis Scott Key; Maryland's first elected governor, Thomas Johnson; American's first native-born saint, Elizabeth Ann Seton; and many others who helped to shape the course of American history. Memorable visits from Abraham Lincoln, Benjamin Franklin, Robert E. Lee, Winston Churchill and George Washington, who once stood across the Middletown Val-

ley and described it as "one of the prettiest valleys I've ever seen," all help to represent the important role that Frederick County has played in America's development.

We recently had a 275th Frederick County Jubilee at Utica park which showcased many of the great things going on in our county and showed off capabilities of our great first responders.

Our County has grown and developed over these past 275 years to become more dynamic and diverse, with a \$12.2 billion economy that boasts a strategic location, comprehensive transportation network, educated workforce and moderate business costs. Frederick County's targeted core industry cluster growth creates resilience and diversity with Professional & Business Services and Education & Health Services as two of the many strong industries. Frederick County's cool vibe creates a community like no other; the main streets are thriving, and entrepreneurs are creating unique businesses. The County is a top vibrant arts community and is the leader of the craft beverage cluster growth in Maryland. Major employers continue to grow including Fort Detrick with a \$7 billion economic impact to the State of Maryland, Frederick

Health, Leidos Biomedical and Frederick National Lab.

Life Sciences is Frederick County's largest growing cluster with international leaders such as Thermo Fisher Scientific, AstraZeneca and Lonza. Recent projects include Kite Pharma with a 279,000 square foot (SQ) biologics manufacturing facility, Ellume's first U.S. manufacturing facility at 180,000 SQ and VaLogic's 75,400 SQ expansion. Frederick County is leading the state with the Quantum Loophole campus, a first-of-its-kind environmentally friendly data center campus. Kroger-Ocado robotics fulfillment center adds to the growing e-commerce cluster alongside Costco E-Commerce and Goodwill E-Commerce.

Frederick County represents a true crossroads of American history. From French and Indian War and Revolutionary War activities through important Civil War battles, Frederick County's history is a rich tapestry of American heritage.

I consider myself very blessed to have been raised in Frederick County and still be in a great and growing County!

If there is ever anything I can do for you, please feel free to reach out to me and my office. You can contact me via email at: BYoung@FrederickCountyMD.gov, or you can call my office at 301-600-1108.

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GOVERNMENT—SOUTH OF THE BORDER

County Executive Jessica Fitzwater

Happy Independence Day! I hope everyone has an opportunity to enjoy the fireworks and carnivals planned for July. Summertime is for making memories. I can't think of a better place to do that than in Frederick County. Visit our beautiful parks. Walk or bike along our scenic trails. Paddle in our rivers. This is the best time of year to enjoy all that our community offers.

One of the most popular activities that draws people to our county is agritourism. Agriculture adds \$1.5 billion to Frederick County's economy, and agritourism is an important and growing part of that economic impact. As agriculture has evolved in recent years, the laws and regulations affecting this sector have not kept up with changes.

At the recommendation of our Transition Team, I recently appointed a workgroup to identify major issues related to agritourism, examine existing regulations, and suggest ways we can promote agritourism while protecting the health, safety and quality of life of Frederick County residents. The group includes familiar faces from around the county, including Bob Black of Catocin Mountain Orchard, Emma Jagoz of Moon Valley Farm, Sam Roop of Brookfield Pumpkins, Tom Mullineaux, of the Agriculture Business Council, and Denny Remsburg with the Frederick County Farm Bureau, among others.

I've asked the workgroup to issue a report no later than Dec. 1 of this year. You can find details about the workgroup's

meetings on the County's website at FrederickCountyMD.gov/Agritourism.

Agriculture Innovation Grants
Agritourism is only one of the ways Frederick County farmers are adding value to their operations. In our most recent round of Agriculture Innovation Grants, we heard plans for a wide range of projects, from sparkling wine on tap, to edible flowers, and even poultry feed operations. Grants are awarded twice a year through a competitive application process. More than two dozen businesses applied this cycle, with winners announced the last week of June. I am excited to share that we were able to award more than \$124,500.

Our award-winning program recognizes Frederick County's

rich agricultural history and positions farmers for a bright future. Grants are awarded in the amount of \$5,000 or more. By supporting our agriculture community, we help industries to expand or diversify their operations. The eight businesses selected in this most recent round are expected to create 10 full-time jobs and 34 part-time jobs.

We must support our agricultural community so our farms and our farmers can thrive for years to come. If you want to learn more about the Agriculture Innovation Grant Program, please contact Katie Stevens, Associate Director of Agriculture Business, at 301-600-3037.

Life Sciences

Frederick County may be known for agriculture, but we are also rapidly becoming known for our thriving life sciences sector. Our

community is home to more than 130 life science businesses, such as Lonza, AstraZeneca, and Kite.

Last month, I had the honor of greeting hundreds of life science professionals who came to Frederick County for the BISNOW Mid-Atlantic Life Sciences and Biotech Summit. We showcased the fast-growing industry and the creative ways Workforce Services has partnered with firms to create a well-prepared workforce.

During the summit, our Office of Economic Development released its first-ever Life Sciences Industry Profile to highlight the advantages of locating or expanding companies in Frederick County. The profile is designed to be used by commercial real estate brokers, as well as education and government partners. The Life Sciences Industry Profile is available at www.discoverfrederickmd.com/lsp/industryprofile.

Thurmont Mayor John Kinnaird

Welcome to July. This is the month for vacations and traveling, so if you are traveling please be careful on the roads. As you drive around our neighborhoods please drive no more than the posted speed limit and watch out for kids. They may not always be fully aware of their surroundings and can dart out in front of cars without thinking about it.

The State Highway Administration has completed work on the Northbound bridge over Rte 77. This project has taken a while but the results are worth the wait. Many residents have been talking about the increased traffic on Frederick Road and Water Street, much of this increase was due to the bridge work and should drop off.

The Town of Thurmont has been making much-needed improvements to Frederick Road. The stormwater basins have been repaired or replaced and several sections of municipal sidewalk have been updated in front of Community Park. This work at Community Park also includes new fencing along the sidewalk. The new wider sidewalk increased the drop-off at the rear edge of the walkway and the new fence will ensure walkers and bike riders will be safe while passing Community Park.

The next phase of work on Frederick Road will be milling and repaving. The Town of Thurmont has contracted with Pleasant's Construction to repave Frederick Road from Tippin Drive to the Hunting Creek Bridge. Several sections of the curb and gutter will also be removed and replaced. This project will begin around July 10th and should be completed by August 1st. This roadway work is being funded through Maryland Highway User Revenue. This project will bring some impacts on local residents, businesses, and traffic flow. The Town will be working closely with Pleasant's to ensure that impacts are minimal. Your patience while this project is completed is appreciated. If you have any questions regarding this proj-

ect please contact the Town Office at 301-271-7313.

Progress is being made on the new softball field at East End Park. This new field will include lighting for night games. Grading should begin within a week or and construction will continue over the summer. The lights have been donated to this project and will make playing time on the field much more flexible. The funds for the softball field are courtesy of Program Open Space. We have also received additional POS funds to help with Gateway Trail access and amenities. The Town has also received POS funding to help expand the East End Dog Park. We were also awarded funding for the Mountain Gate Trail connecting pedestrian and bike access from Frederick Road at Thurmont Blvd. with the trail system on Moser Road. This will improve access to the Trolley and Library Trails for those living on Frederick Road and in the Orchards Hills development.

The work on North Church Street will be getting underway this fall. Residents will be notified regarding lateral wastewater connections as well as the construction schedule. This project will be a major undertaking and will require lane closures and delays. Please be aware of these and make plans to allow more time or an alternate route while work is being completed on North Church Street.

With Summer here you and the kids will be spending more time outdoors. I ask that you please use sunscreen, hats, or long sleeves when outdoors for any extended period of time. Sun exposure is the main cause of skin cancer and protecting yourself and your family may prevent this painful disease. Remember, the sunburn you get today can develop into skin cancer later in life!

I hope everyone enjoys July! As always I can be contacted by email at jkinnaird@thurmont.com or by phone at 301-606-9458.

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FROM THE DESK OF...

Carroll Valley Mayor Ron Harris

The summer season has begun. Even though Carroll Valley residents have experienced several rainy days, as of June 21st, Adams County is experiencing abnormally dry conditions. The background National Drought Mitigation Center, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration have created a U.S. Drought Monitor application that depicts the location and intensity of drought across the country using five classifications. The five classifications are Abnormally Dry, showing areas that may be going into or are coming out of drought, and four levels of drought which are D1 – Moderate Drought, D2 – Severe Drought, D3 – Extreme Drought, and D4 – Exceptional Drought.

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) posted a news release on June 15th that announced that PA DEP declared a statewide drought watch and recommended voluntary water conservation. Residents are encouraged to reduce their nonessential water use by 5-10 percent. Some examples are: (1) Run the dishwasher

and washing machine less often, (2) Water your lawn only if necessary and Water your garden less often, and (3) Skip the car washing. If you have to wash your car, it is better environmentally to go to a drive-through car wash that recycles the water. Please consider these recommendations when using water.

During July and August, we need to pay attention to heat advisories. It would be best to understand the difference between an “Excessive Heat Warning” and a “Heat Advisory.” Excessive Heat Warning means “the Heat Index values are forecast to meet or exceed locally defined warning criteria for a least two days (daytime highs = 105° – 110° Fahrenheit).” A Heat Advisory means the “Heat Index is forecast to meet locally defined advisory criteria for 1 to 2 days (daytime highs = 100° – 105° Fahrenheit).” During a heat wave, you should listen to the updates from the National Weather Service. Stay hydrated by drinking fluids. Avoid drinks with caffeine or alcohol. Use the buddy system when working in excessive heat and take frequent breaks if you must work

outdoors. Check on your animals frequently to ensure they do not suffer from the heat. Please discuss heat safety precautions with members of your household.

Robin Dicken of Fairfield Neighbors Helping Neighbors (FNHN) would like to thank everyone who came out to enjoy their ice cream social held at the Carroll Valley Pavilion. Thank you, Carroll Valley, for your continued support. While the attendees enjoyed the ice cream donated by Mr. G’s Ice Cream, they were entertained by the gospel music of the Bluegrass Chapel Band for two hours – a huge thank you to Bluegrass Chapel Band and Mr. G’s Ice Cream. The following volunteers helped to make this a very successful event: Janet Rapuano, Marcy Vanmetre, Brandy Mosser, Susie Gills, Carlos, and Doris Wampler. Also, FNHN wishes to thank all those who donated items to this event. As Robin expressed, “We have a very generous community.” FNHN is now planning their fall/winter clothing giveaway in October.

This month, we celebrate the 247th anniversary of the birth of

our country on July 4th. Well, living up to the words of John Adams, Carroll Valley Borough is planning to hold its 247th-anniversary festival in Carroll Valley Commons on July 4th. The party begins at 6:30 p.m. with the entertainment provided by “The Reagan Years” band playing Pop, Rock, New Wave, and Metal hits of the M-TV Era. Fireworks are set to go off at 9:45 p.m. from the top of Liberty Mountain. Free parking is available on the Carroll Valley Common Grounds and the Liberty Mountain parking lot. Bus service between Liberty Mountain and the Carroll Valley Commons parking lots will be available.

The venue is all grass seating, so bring chairs or blankets and save a little room around you to dance! Speaking about dancing, there is a small dance floor in front of the outdoor stage for you to show off your moves and enjoy the music. Hope to see you there. I am the guy with the camera taking pictures that will be shared with everyone after the event.

Two items to share with our residents that recently surfaced are Dirt Bikes and the Discharge of Firearms in the Borough. Dirt bikes can be ridden on one’s property or with the

owner’s permission. However, unless licensed, they cannot be ridden on Borough roads. In this case, the Carroll Valley Police Department should be notified by calling 717-334-8101 for Police Dispatch. The discharge of firearms is prohibited in the Borough except in the necessary defense of person and property; additional exceptions are provided in §6-102, Part 1- Prohibiting Discharge of Firearms. To read the entire script regarding the discharge of firearms (exceptions and penalties for violation of the ordinance), go to the Borough Ordinances Chapter 6 – Conduct.

The Borough will be holding the following meetings in July: Planning Commission (Monday – July 3rd), Borough Council (Tuesday – July 11th), Public Sewer Advisory Committee (Monday – July 24th), and the Parks and Recreation Committee (Wednesday – July 26th). The Borough Office will be closed on Tuesday – July 4th, Federal Holiday. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by email at MayorRonHarris@comcast.net or by cell at 301-606-2021. Be careful driving on the trails. Please slow down.

Liberty Township Supervisor Walter Barlow

Happy 4th of July! Independence Day falls on the first Tuesday of the month, therefore our monthly Board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 5th at 6 p.m.. Residents are encouraged to attend our monthly township meetings and view them on our YouTube channel.

The Zoning Hearing Board will hold a public meeting on Thursday, July 6th at 6 p.m., for the purpose of conducting continued proceedings for the consideration of the evidence presented at a hearing held on May 24, and for the

Zoning Hearing Board to render a decision on an Application for Variance to the Zoning Hearing Board, filed by George F. Wilders, relative to certain adjacent real properties located in Liberty Township with designated street addresses of 201 Harbaugh Valley Road and 203 Harbaugh Valley Road, Fairfield.

The Liberty Township Road Department stayed very busy in June. As mowing along the road continues, please be cautious and courteous of our tractor mowing when you pass them along the roads. The road department also

completed pipe replacements on Sanders Road, Wenschhof Road, and on Boyle Road. We are hoping that these pipes will not need to be replaced again for at least 20 years.

Our 2023 roadwork bid process has been completed and bids have been awarded to the low bidders. We are currently scheduling the work with Russell Standard from Fayetteville for tar and chip work on Pecher Road, AAA Paving and Excavating from Waynesboro for base repair and various other work on Boyle Road, AAA Paving for paving the bridge on

Old Waynesboro Road, and New Enterprise Stone and Lime from Chambersburg for work on Wenschhof Road. A recent inventory of signs in the township indicated that about twenty signs are weathered and need to be replaced. These signs will be ordered and replaced within the next few months.

I want to thank all our local first responders. I truly appreciate the Liberty Township Police Department and all they do to keep our township safe. This year is the 100-year anniversary of the Fairfield Fire Department. I would like to congratulate Chief Bill Jacobs on that accomplishment for the department and extend thanks to the Fairfield Fire Department for continuing to keep our communities safe. I would also like to thank Loretta Weaver from the IT Helpdesk at Adams County for her patience, commitment, and support throughout the years with our website. We wish her well in her upcoming retirement! We look forward to working with Shane Rhoten as he will be stepping into Loretta’s previous role. We work very closely with many of the county agencies daily and don’t get enough opportunities to thank them.

Please consider donating during the American Red Cross Blood Drives occurring throughout this summer. YWCA Gettysburg & Adams County Community Blood Drive hosted by Central Pennsylvania Blood Bank is scheduled for Thursday, July 15th from noon to 5. Everyone will receive a certificate for a free Medium Blizzard from Dairy Queen and a Blood Donor T-Shirt! To schedule an appointment call: 1-800-771-0059.

We encourage you to have fun but be mindful of the drought and any ongoing burn bans as you are celebrating this year. Check with your municipality for guidelines regarding the use of fireworks. Carroll Valley Borough will be hosting a 4th of July celebration at the Carroll Commons Park with food trucks and live music. The event starts at 6:30 PM and fireworks will begin at 9:45 p.m.. This event is a safe way to view fireworks. I also encourage everyone to go show their support for Music in the Park at the Hamiltonban Township Community Park on July 16th and August 20th from 6 to 8 p.m.. Bring your lawn chairs, a picnic dinner, and enjoy the music from various local bands. Have a great summer!



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GOVERNMENT—NORTH OF THE BORDER

County Commissioner Randy Phiel

As anticipated voter turnout for the May 16 Primary Election across Adams County was very light, with only 23% of voters exercising that privilege - despite beautiful election day weather. Of 14,122 ballots cast 4,521 were mailed in. Interest and participation in School Board races were of prime interest this cycle, and several write-ins displaced incumbents. The large number of write-ins on the ballots were unusual with a whooping 29 write in candidates moving forward to the November General Election for School Board, Township, and Borough offices.

Of special note to Adams County voters is that the Adams County Voter Registration & Elections Office will be relocating from the Courthouse to the Department of Emergency Services (911) facility in August. In the past several years elections dynamics have changed dramatically with mail-in ballots and increased voter interest, causing the need for increased oversight, security, resources and personnel. Beside a larger and more secure office facility for records and equipment, patrons will find parking convenient and free.

The Adams County Library System has recently revealed that a 6-year search to upgrade and improve their facility, has resulted in an agreement of purchase with the United Lutheran Seminary to purchase three dormitories on the seminary campus. Library administration met with the commissioners to update them on the plan. The plan currently is to demolish the existing structures and replace them with an efficient one-story complex. The library would still be in Gettysburg Borough, still walkable for residents of Gettysburg, be next door to YWCA programs, have easy parking options and Rabbit Transit bus service.

The present building was deemed too expensive to repair and maintain. The library will then sell the former post office building. It was determined to make necessary repairs to the old post office facility would still not result in a satisfactory product for a library. Both office space and condos have

been thrown around as ideas for that iconic downtown building, so that will be very interesting to watch unfold.

Speaking of the Adams County Library, at the May 17 Commissioners Public Meeting the Board acted on a recommendation from Heidi Gillis, President of the Board of Trustees, to officially appoint Sheila Fleischer, Julie Ransey, and Rita Rice to the Adams County Library Board of Trustees for a three-year term effective April 27, 2023. A sincere thank you to these three residents for stepping up to serve on the board at this very critical juncture.

Cybersecurity continues to be a major priority for the County. It is important because cyberattacks pose notable risk to the public services our local government provides. Most business operations are centered around technology being secure and available to deliver these public services. Additionally, the data the County stores and retains must be protected and secured from bad actors who are motivated to steal it for financial gain. Thus, the County has put numerous protections in place to combat these threats.

A few of these measures include: contracted cybersecurity firm, multi-state information sharing and analysis center (MS-ISAC) advisory report analysis, penetration testing, tabletop cybersecurity exercises, email and data encryption techniques, email & web filters, advanced malware security solutions, vulnerability scanning solutions, phishing exercises, backup and restoration improvements, record retention education, asset tracking software, security logging solutions, and physical destruction of data storage hardware.

We are pleased to report the CCAP Unemployment Compensation (UC) Trust Board of Trustees has authorized the payment of a \$3 million cash dividend to all members who, as of December 31, 2022, have an Eligible Account Balance with the Trust. Adams County will receive a \$47,707 dividend payment, via paper check, in June. The UC Board of

Trustees congratulated Adams County on their success in retaining quality employees and using effective hiring and termination practices.

If you have never taken the opportunity to go the Commissioners Page of the Adams County website, then go to the archived TGIF section, give it a look, and view the outstanding work that Adams County IT does in bringing the TGIF bi-weekly newsletter to life with color and vivid illustrations! From the beginning 11 years ago, and several hundred newsletters cranked out, one person has contributed immensely to making TGIF come to life as a state-wide award-winning newsletter. Thank you, Adams County IT Lead & Network Specialist Chip Guise for his contribution to keeping staff and Adams County residents informed.

At the Wednesday June 14 commissioners public meeting, an initial public hearing was held to announce the next round of Community Block Grants. Any government agency or non-profit with a qualifying project can apply to the Adams County Office of Planning & Development. Applications must be submitted by July 28. Broadly speaking, Community Block Grants can be utilized for community development and social services. Block grants are fixed pots of money that the federal government gives to states to provide benefits and services. For more information and guidelines contact Deana Duvall, Grant Coordinator 717-337-9824 ext. 3006.

The historic Sachs Mill Covered Bridge is a cherished iconic landmark in Adams County. It is certainly one of my favorite views in Adams County. In the Fall when the leaves are bursting with color, stop on the Pumping Station Road bridge and look south down Marsh Creek. It's a picture

postcard! When Marsh Creek is frozen, and snow covered in winter it is stunning! Thank goodness a previous board of commissioners chose to preserve it when it washed downstream in the 70's during hurricane Agnes.

At the June 7th commissioners public meeting the board signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with The Theodore Burr Covered Bridge Society of Pennsylvania, Inc., a nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation and restoration of covered bridges in Pennsylvania. This MOU provides for the painting of the historic Sachs Covered Bridge by the Society - at no additional cost to the County. The Society will paint the outside of the bridge and apply flame retardant to the inside of the bridge. Work is anticipated to begin the first week of August 2023. The MOU is effective June 7, 2023.

It is a fact that we take for granted the 40 county owned bridges that allow us to traverse Adams County. The bridges are very diverse in age, history, and structure. Each year maintenance of the bridges is prioritized by inspections of county bridges by Bridge Engineer Pennoni Associates. Based on bid price and the ability to perform, at the June 7 public meeting, the commissioners signed a \$489,628.19 contract with Jay Fulkroad & Sons of McAllisterville to perform the repairs and maintenance.

Funding emergency and 911 service is an essential and critical service, but costly to provide. County's get some reimbursement, but the difference comes out of the General Fund - thus the taxpayer's pocket. The Pennsylvania House recently passed 121-82 a bill that will increase the existing \$1.65 monthly fee to \$1.97 on Pennsylvania telephone bills. The funds will support equipment, operations and upgrade outdated technology. The new fee is expected to generate an additional \$30 million per year state-wide.

Both the Adams County Board of Commissioners and the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania supported the increase but have called for a higher amount in the range of \$2.20. According to Adams County Department of Emergency Services Director Warren Bladen and the Adams County Budget office, the cost of County funded emergency services is approximately \$700 per Adams County household per year. The total 911 budget is \$3.7M with revenues of only \$2.1M. The overall Department of Emergency Services budget is approximately \$4.5M with revenues of \$2.2M. Unfortunately, neither the current rate, nor the newly enacted rate, off-set the cost of service or the deficit for 911!

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

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COMMENTARY

Words From Winterbilt

Predicting the future?

Shannon Bohrer

With the belief that the future can be predicted, if a book were written several years ago and accurately predicted our current political circumstances, would anyone reading the book believe the content was possible? Just the questioning of facts and science and the simultaneous belief in conspiracy theories was unexpected, at least for many of us. Beliefs that question science and facts along with predicting the future can appear unreasoned and unfounded, yet they have some foundations in history.

Nostradamus, a well known French astrologer from the 16th century, authored a book, *Les Prophies*, which many believe accurately predicted future major events, including wars. Academics have often dismissed his predictions as misinterpretations, frequently related to mistranslations. However, that has not deterred believers of Nostradamus and other soothsayers and mystics. So, while academics have debunked the interpretations of Nostradamus's work and similar works of others, many still believe that some people have prophetic powers and can see the future.

Many people like to think that there are unexplainable forces in our world, and simultaneously, there is an explanation for the same events. That in itself seems unnatural or at least not understandable. There are books on unexplainable topics for the purpose of

explaining something that is supposed to be beyond our comprehension. As an example, there are several books on Edgar Cayce, who was a reported clairvoyant and made future predictions while in a dream-like state. He was sometimes called the "sleeping prophet."

So, back to the original question about my hypothetical book written several years ago that accurately predicted our current political circumstances. I am unaware of any written or even spoken predictions for our current situation. For the purpose of a discussion, let us adopt the idea that a book was written, and the writer was a well-respected soothsayer. Of course, this is with the assumption that there are well-respected soothsayers. The "book," as it was called, accurately predicted a future in which we exist. The protagonist, "IKE" had never held a public office and was a businessperson with a history of success and failures.

The book begins prior to the 2016 presidential election and runs up to the 2024 election, ending just before the election. The protagonist, IKE, was running for president, but it was believed he would lose. The belief that he would lose was compounded by the occurrence of several incidents. One is that IKE dissed a Vietnam War hero, who was also a prisoner of war. The second incident occurred when IKE disparaged a gold star family. The third incident involved IKE saying he could molest women because he was famous. The behavior he described, if acted upon, would be a crime. The common thought was how could anyone, appearing like an

unpatriotic molester of women, win the presidency?

Although it was expected that IKE would lose, he won. After taking office, his behavior was often described as unprecedented. It was also reported that he often violated the norms of previous presidents. The press used the term unprecedented frequently, yet when describing the behavior, it could also be described as criminal and un-presidential.

The book describes IKE visiting France to celebrate the anniversary of World War I. While there, he was scheduled to visit a cemetery where thousands of U.S. Marines were interred. He never visited the cemetery but referred to the interned Marines as "suckers" and "losers." After the reporting of this he denied using those words and said he called his wife in America, telling her he wanted to visit the graves. However, his wife was traveling with him and was also in France.

The book continued with another incident when IKE was visiting Arlington National Cemetery. On this visit, while looking at a grave, he asks a member of his administration, "why do they do that, what's in it for them." They were visiting the administration member's son's grave. IKE also denied this, but he often lied. The lies were so frequent that segments of the press and his supporters just accepted this behavior as being unconventional. Remember, this is a non-fiction book written in 2016. Before the book and IKE existed.

During his first term in office, IKE

was so obsessed that he would lose the next election that he often told his supporters that if he did lose, it would be a rigged election. He did lose. IKE and his supporters then created plans to change the outcome, so it would look like he won. They question everything, taking over sixty cases of potential voter fraud to court and losing all of them. IKE and a few supporters then contacted elected representatives from several states, requesting the elected official find more votes (phantom voters) for him. Just as the court cases failed, the idea of creating more votes also failed.

IKE's supporters, with his approval, then made plans to disrupt the congressional procedure to certify the election. The disruption was a planned event and became an insurrection. The idea was to not accept the electoral college delegates from a few key states and to then appoint alternative delegates that would vote for IKE. This, of course, would not be accepting the votes of the citizens. However, when the insurrection failed the alternative delegates never had the opportunity to cast their ballots.

The insurrection resulted in the impeachment of IKE. This was his second impeachment; both were related to the election. Think of yourself reading this book in 2016. If the book were written describing a poor third-world country, would you believe this possible?

After IKE's failed attempt to overturn a valid election, he began making plans to run again for the next presidential election. His supporters stayed with him, even after the impeachments and failed insurrection. During

one speech, IKE suggested that the country suspend part of the constitution for the purpose of installing him back to the presidency.

While IKE was planning to run again, there were investigations of IKE's behavior and actions that occurred while he was in office and after he left. The investigations resulted in him, and several family members, being arrested for financial crimes. IKE was also arrested for hiding top secret documents, which were not secured and were made available, probably for profit, to other countries. Additionally, he was charged with the planning of the insurrection and attempting to overthrow the elected government.

Even with the investigations and arrests, IKE, according to the book, planned to run again. You might not think he could win, but he could. The unsettling issues in this book are numerous, but the one that may be the most disturbing is that over half the members of one party are ardent supporters of IKE. According to the book, IKE secures his party's nomination and does run again. The book ends before the next election.

If this book did exist in 2016 and you read it, would you think the content possible or even probable? The events and actions taken by IKE and supported by much of his party are inconceivable to the majority of Americans. However, it does not take a majority of Americans to win an election. Thank goodness that this is just a fictional book.

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

The Bulwark

It's morning in Joe Biden's America

Jonathan V. Last

Everyone is paying attention to the new season of *The Trump Show*, but while that's been going on there's also been a lot of good news. About the economy. About the rule of law. About the direction of the Republican party, even.

It feels weird to say this but... maybe it's morning in America?

Let's start with the economy:

Inflation is down to its lowest point in two years. The CPI report for May has inflation at an annual level of 4 percent. That's good. But it's not the only economic good news. Construction spending in the manufacturing sector is way up.

As you might expect from that number, manufacturing jobs are up, too, even above their pre-COVID level. When you put it all together, what you have is this: Wage growth has now bounced back so that it's running ahead of inflation. Workers and Real Americans win!

Meanwhile, the single most important number in economics (and politics) is the unemployment rate. Which sits today at 3.7 percent, which is fork-in-awesome.

Look, if you want to find a cloud in all of these silver linings, you can do it, I guess? Prices for many goods and services are falling, but prices for some things have continued to rise.

It is hard for me to look at all of this data and understand how anyone could be anything but relieved by the economic situation right now. We're coming out of a once-in-a-century shock and things are basically okay.

Don't take my word for it: The Fed meets today and if they pause their rate hikes (as expected) that's a sign that they believe inflation is under control and the soft landing is proceeding.

There is simply no way to spin the numbers as anything but: The economy is pretty good in Joe Biden's America.

But wait, there's more!

Is it very bad that a former president has been indicted on serious criminal charges? Yes. Yesterday was a dark day for America in the sense that we allowed a guy everyone knew was corrupt to ascend to the presidency. That's on the American people.

But the justice system has performed admirably.

The criminal investigation appears to have been almost entirely divorced from political considerations. The attorney general appears to have acted properly across the board. The special counsel he appointed appears to have taken his work seriously. In short: The justice system seems to be balancing a serious pursuit of the law while extending every consideration of fairness to the accused. This is how it's supposed to work.

Then there's President Biden and the

Democratic party, both of which have endeavored to steer clear of the case so as not to either interfere with legal proceedings or inflame the body politic:

President Joe Biden and his top aides have taken a vow of silence on the federal indictment of his predecessor, Donald Trump — and have explicitly ordered the national Democratic Party and his reelection campaign to do the same.

Which is exactly the sort of behavior we want out of a president. If you voted for Joe Biden, this is what you were hoping for.

Even the Republican party is inching toward health.

Not all of it—the majority of the party's voters and elected officials are behaving dishonorably on the subject of Trump's indictment. But it's not unanimous—and that's new!

Bill Barr has spoken forcefully about the strength of the indictment and the seriousness of Trump's alleged crimes on Fox. Michael Luttig continues to be a beacon of intellectual honesty, saying, "There is not an Attorney General of either party who would not have brought today's charges against the former president." A bunch of Republican senators have taken the indictment seriously.

And even some of Trump's rivals are gesturing toward honesty: Not only Asa Hutchinson, who continues to model what a healthy conservatism can be, but Chris Christie and even Nikki Haley / Tim Scott (sort of).

Yes, the weight of the Republican

party is still behind Trump. But this is a crack in the wall that did not exist seven days ago.

Finally, can we all pause to appreciate what Asa Hutchinson is doing? For a couple years now I've been arguing that if we don't have a healthy Republican party, then democracy is screwed because Democrats can't win every time. You're only in a functional democracy if neither party is a threat to the democracy.

Asa Hutchinson is running the campaign we all dreamed of. He's not a lib-cuck—he's still as conservative as he always was. He's not a gadfly—he's a serious guy, with a substantial profile, making a good case.

And he's not playing some triple-bank-shot where he shades his comments and tries to stay on the right side of MAGA while hinting that True Cons don't need to take that stuff seriously. He's just telling the truth. Calmly and without embarrassment.

We've been hoping for a Republican to attempt this sort of reclamation for seven years. And Asa is doing it. When I look around at the field, I find myself asking, Why not Asa?

If you want to tell me that he can't possibly win the nomination, that's fine. I agree. But why can't he be the #3 option?

He's not compromised like Christie, Haley, and Scott. Why shouldn't their voters coalesce around Asa, instead of the other way around? Asa is the Healthy Not Trump option we've all been dreaming of.

The fact that he's making this attempt at all is a miracle and a sign that maybe the future could work out okay. We ought to appreciate what he's doing and take it for the hopeful act it is.

Is there bad stuff going on in the world? Sure. Plenty of it. The Biden administration is not perfect, the Republican party is still miles away from health, and the economy could always sour. We have a major European war in progress.

But you know what? There's always bad stuff going on and the world is like fashion: It's never finished. There's always a new fight, a new crisis, a new problem to be fixed or challenge to be met. We have plenty of those.²

Yet right now the economy is good. People who want jobs mostly have them. Inflation is in remission. Real wages are strong. The rule of law is holding. The justice system is functioning. The West is united against Putin. The president has been the steward of norms and wisdom that 81 million voters hoped he'd be. The Republican party may be improving directionally.

My friends: This is what good times look like, so we ought to appreciate it.

Because (1) It's important not to be addicted to bad news. You need to be able to accept good things when they happen. But (2) Good times don't last forever. And (3) After the shirtshow of the last seven years, we've been due some sunshine.

To read past editions of The Bulwark, visit the Authors section of emmitsburg.net.

The Liberal Patriot

Why can't the Democrats be more moderate?

Ruy Teixeira

What kind of voters do Democrats need more of?

David Leonhardt had the answer in a recent column. He calls them "Scaffles"—socially conservative and fiscally liberal voters. These are cross-pressured swing voters—and there are a lot of them. Socially liberal, fiscally liberal voters vote Democratic. Socially and fiscally conservative voters vote Republican. And there just aren't very many socially liberal, fiscally conservative voters. So the Scaffles are where the action is. If the Democrats hope to vanquish the Republicans decisively, this is where the Democrats should be concentrating. As they say down South, you gotta go hunting where the ducks are.

So why don't they? After all, as Leonhardt points out: These socially conservative and fiscally liberal voters... have voted for progressive economic policies when they appear as ballot initiatives, even in red states. Arkansas, Florida, Missouri and Nebraska, for instance, have passed minimum-wage increases. Idaho, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma and Utah have expanded Medicaid through Obamacare. Republicans without a college degree are often the ones who break with their party on these ballot initiatives.

On the other hand: At the same time, Scaffles are the reason that a Times poll last year showed that most voters, including many Latinos, prefer the Republican Party's stance on illegal immigration to the Democratic Party's. Or consider a recent KFF/Washington Post poll on transgender issues, in which most Americans said they opposed puberty-blocking treatments for children.

There are many, many other examples along these lines. Echelon Insights tested a series of basic values statements

on sociocultural issues including: Racism is built into our society, including into its policies and institutions vs. Racism comes from individuals who hold racist views, not from our society and institutions. The result: Hispanics endorsed the second, allegedly "conservative" statement that racism comes from individuals by 58-36, as did working-class (noncollege) voters by 57-33.

Or consider the findings from a recent survey on "What Americans Really Think About Controversial Topics in Schools". The survey, among other things, asked about what topics respondents thought elementary school students should learn about. Overwhelming majorities thought elementary school children should learn about slavery, the environment, critical thinking, patriotism, the contributions of women and persons of color, and the contributions of the Founding Fathers. But just 29 percent thought elementary school children should learn about gender identity. The figure was even lower among working-class respondents.

The survey also asked respondents whether they agreed or disagreed with a series of statements about race in America. One was a classic statement of colorblind equality: "Our goal as a society should be to treat all people the same without regard to the color of their skin". This Martin Luther King-style statement elicited sky-high (92 percent) agreement from the public, despite the assaults on this idea from Critical Race Theory (CRT) and the likes of Ibram Kendi and large sectors of the Democratic left. In a fascinating related finding, the researchers found that most people who claim to have heard about CRT believe CRT includes this colorblind perspective, rather than directly contradicting it.

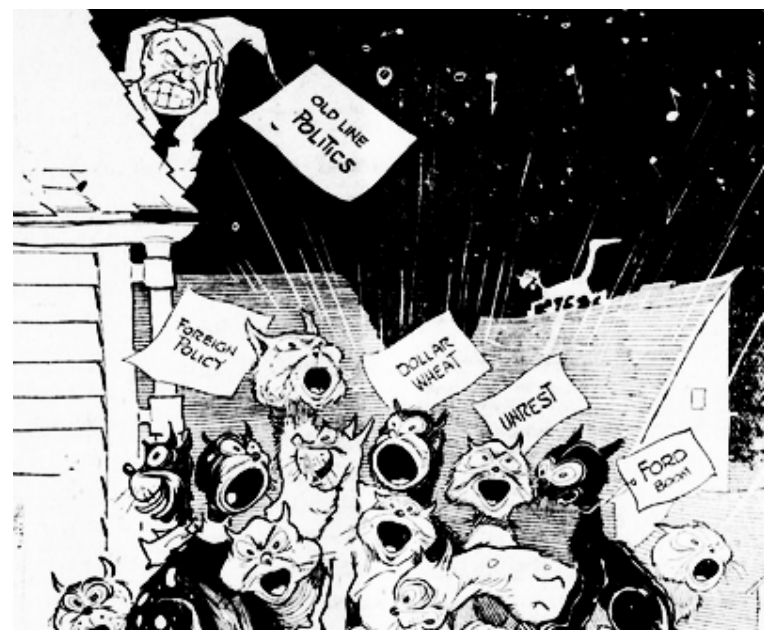
Perhaps they just can't believe any theory that has anything to do with race would reject this fundamental principle.

These and other findings fairly scream out for compromise on the part of Democrats to meet the Scaffles closer to where they live in cultural and value terms. So why aren't they doing so?

To put it in the simplest possible terms: follow the money. The Democrats are a far different party than they were back in their heyday as the party of America's working class. They are far more dependent in every way on more affluent and educated voters. Today Democrats control around two-thirds of the Congressional districts where median income exceeds the national average, while Republicans control around two-thirds of the districts where the median income is below the national average. That's quite a change.

Of course, the trend where Democrats do ever-better among college-educated voters and ever worse among working-class voters is well-documented. In 2022, Democratic performances among college-educated and working-class voters were perfect mirror images of each other. Democrats were +10 among college-educated voters in the national two-party House vote and -10 among working-class voters.

And what do these affluent, educated voters want? I think it's fair to say that it's quite different from what Scaffles have in mind. These affluent, educated voters are very socially liberal voters. Among white Democrats—who are increasingly affluent and educated—there has been an astonishing 37-point increase in professed liberalism between 1994 and today according to Gallup. White Democrats are now far more liberal than their black and Hispanic counterparts, who are overwhelmingly moderate to conservative. Indeed, white liberals are now more liberal on many racial issues than black and Hispanic voters.



Gallup data also indicate that two-thirds of white college Democrats are liberal while 70 percent of black working-class and two-thirds of Hispanic working-class Democrats are moderate or conservative. As one example among many, by 13 percentage points, white college liberals disagree that there are just two genders, male and female. But moderates and conservatives from the nonwhite working class agree by 31 points that there are in fact just two genders.

These affluent, educated voters contribute an enormous amount to the Democratic Party. That ranges from direct support through money and party activism to indirect support through nonprofits, advocacy organizations, foundations, academia and much of the media. To put it simply, these voters now have a lot of numerical weight in the party and punch far above that weight due to their outside contributions to party support.

No wonder the Scaffles are given short shrift. Democrats are simply too dependent on the votes and support of voters for whom social liberalism is a top—and frequently the top—priority.

There is a very clear correlation between the amount of money spent by a party and its college educated vote

share; the greater the share of college-educated voters that a party gets, the greater its share of spending in a cycle.

This correlation should come as little surprise, given the strong relationship between income and education levels. As the Democratic Party continues to pick up educated suburbanites, its coalition has proceeded to become wealthier than ever before.

And so while it was once taken as a given by many Democrats that the increase of money in politics might result in Republican hegemony at the ballot box, the picture is now no longer as clear; campaign finance reform measures might genuinely hurt the Democratic Party more than it would harm the Republican Party.

This gives a whole new meaning to the traditional leftist slogan of "get money out of politics!" And also perhaps a whole new perspective on why Democrats can't seem to moderate their approach on cultural issues to appeal to Scaffles, despite the trove of votes that might be awaiting them there.

Follow the money. It's really that simple.

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

Good Day, Neighbor

Democracy

Dorothea Mordan

Part 2: Representation and Inclusion

"It has been said that democracy is the worst form of Government except all those other forms that have been tried from time to time; but there is the broad feeling in our country that the people should rule, and that public opinion expressed by all constitutional means, should shape, guide, and control the actions of Ministers who are their servants and not their masters."—Winston Churchill 1947, in a speech to the British House of Commons

He may have been a little annoyed after being voted out as Prime Minister in 1945, but the idea that the public has a voice, and leadership has to listen, is a driving force for support of democracy. Our candidate might win. If they lose, we still win because we have the ability to try again. Each year since we became citizens of the United States of America, we have had the ability to move closer to the ideals of our Constitution.

When the British colonists in America held their first and second Continental Congress of the brewing rebellion, repre-

sentatives attended from each colony. Like any era, representatives came from the property owning, better educated groups. The group debating and deciding how to confront the British King was not a melting pot by twenty-first century standards, but each delegate to Philadelphia in 1774 - 1781 had a unique story and set of interests in colonial America. Their variety of concerns led to the organization of our government into three equal branches of decision making elected leaders, with detailed distribution of representation in the two Houses of Congress.

Our country was founded on the desire for a balance of power. The colonial rebels were not powerless, they were simply eternally less powerful than a king, and could be made powerless at his whim. That is one thing that everyone in society wants, the security to know that all they have will not be taken away. So the Founding Fathers came up with the most flexible government they could envision. With all its flaws, it is still pretty sweet.

Our Constitution is a combination of Articles and Amendments, outlining powers and responsibilities of our government, and guidelines how to create and implement new rules and laws into the future, e.g. the minimum number of

states required to ratify an Amendment to the Constitution. Every stage of decision-making for our government was and is driven by the act of voting. Voting sends representatives to the government, who in turn vote for or against new laws, and how to spend money. The fuel for voting is debate. It starts at our kitchen tables, moves through campaigns for office, and right onto the floor of the House and Senate.

Benjamin Franklin said "[It's] a republic, if you can keep it."

I say "The Founding Fathers understood that to protect themselves from each other they had to agree to protect each other from themselves." A codified version of the Golden Rule. This a foundational statement of ethical behavior for many belief systems.

Quotations singing the praises of the US Constitution invariably refer to compromise, either implied or bluntly stated. No US citizen was to have more rights than or power over another US citizen. With power over our fellow Americans coming in the form of property rights, this was not true at the beginning of our independent country, but the Constitutional covenant signed by the representatives of each of the colonies, created a government with the ability to evolve as one by one more groups established their rights as citizens. Over

our 253 years, our votes have grown in unity and purpose. Decades were invested in solid steps. Emancipation and the abolishment of slavery, voting rights for African Americans, women, ultimately all citizens of the USA.

Here in Frederick County the Women's Democratic League, founded in 1923, is celebrating 100 years as the longest continuously active political group in the county. The WDL is dedicated to the promotion of democratic principles and the participation of women in every facet of our government and political process. wdfrederick.org.

The words of our Constitution were chosen carefully, born from risk and reward. The wealthy British subjects who rebelled, prevailed, and founded a new country, risked everything in their fight. When they ultimately wrote and signed a Constitution with the logical (but long time coming) conclusion that each citizen would have a vote, the risk was that people would vote only for their individual interests. The worst case scenario, you have an under educated majority of voters who see no value in compromise.

Over time We the People have come closer to the meaning of By the People by setting goals that are For the People. With a larger percentage of the population voting, we get a variety of ideas, levels of education, and abilities to see how com-

promise between the needs of society and the individual affects us all. The reward is that when we find common ground we are an unstoppable force.

Our US Constitution and state constitutions created guidelines for public safety and education. Having them work for us takes participation. Successful participation takes learning as much as we can about our different experiences and shared history as Americans. Studying all of America's history helps us understand the impact our voting decisions today have into the future.

If we want these rights for ourselves we have to extend them to others. Our votes are how we balance things out. If we want great things for our country, we have to be better educated voters. When groups recognize that their vote—their voice—is suppressed, they fight for it. When you don't vote you suppress your own vote. A lot of people would be delighted with your apathy.

We keep our republic by participating in voting. And every year we celebrate the Founding Birthday of our Democracy with as much fanfare, fireworks and burgers as we can muster.

Happy Birthday America!

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

THE PASTOR'S DESK

Christian freedom

Pastor C. Elsbury Chappell
 Trinity United Church of Christ,
 Thurmont

Saint Paul, in his letters and chapters in the Bible, has numerous references to freedom in the body and the spirit. The following three references include thoughts and explanations of the meaning.

Galatians 5:1, NIV. It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

Paul focuses in Galatians on the freedom given to us by Christ Jesus and especially his death and resurrection which purchased it for all believers. At the end of chapter four Paul declared that the Christian believer has “no connection with the law as a means of obtaining divine favor” and for that very reason the believer is a free person. First, the life the believer lives is not his own life, but the life of the Holy Spirit embedded in him by means of his relationship with Jesus Christ in his salvation and his living in the Holy Spirit in conjunction with the Words of Truth from the Holy Scriptures.

Secondly, the result of faith is the imbue ment of the Holy Spirit upon the individual’s life which empowers him/her to live in submission to God through the power of the Word and the anointing and application of the Spirit to the

mind and soul of the individual. Believers are commanded to walk [or live] in the power of the Holy Spirit thereby producing godliness in one’s life that is provided to him/her by the continual relationship with both the Word of God (either studied or preached) and prayerful communion through the Holy Spirit with God the Father and His Son, Jesus Christ.

Romans 6:6-7, NIV. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin – because anyone who had died has been freed from sin.

Evans raises an excellent question in his Commentary, “If the Christian has the resurrection power of Jesus to overcome sin, why is it so hard to do so?” Morticians will confirm that sometimes cadavers lying on their table will do some odd things – muscles will twitch, or legs or arms will move, but the mortician stated that does not bother him because he knows that “dead is dead!” Paul’s reference that the “old self was crucified with Christ,” simply means, that as we identify with Christ’s crucifixion, resurrection and glorification, we are “declaring that our nature to practice sin has come under the power of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ” and that He will give us the ability and authority to overcome each desire, tendency or weakness to



submit to a lifestyle of sin and disobedience.

Macdonald states the theological concept is that the desire or tendency to continue sinning has been “annulled or rendered inoperative as a controlling force.” Yes, we may falter from time to time, but we will NOT be under the controlling power or influence of the Satanic kingdom. Once we realize our weakness or failure we will rush back to Jesus in prayer and confession seeking his forgiveness and renewal of our ability to overcome by the power of Christ’s death, blood, and his Word. It is His power and Word working in us that enables us to live above sin or to deal with it, even if we falter. Our lifestyle of victory rests in the Risen and Victorious Christ – not in our abilities or human powers! Thanks be to God for His victorious grace that sustains our lives and relationship with Him.

1st Corinthians 6:12, NIV. Everything is permissible [lawful] for me – but not everything is beneficial. Everything is permissible [lawful] for me – but I will not be mastered by anything.

The Apostle Paul gives us three particular instructions in this verse. First, he informs us twice

that “everything is permissible or lawful.” This is a very broad statement that one might take issue with. There are numerous things in life that would be both illegal and unlawful and for that reason would not be permissible. There are in our laws numerous actions that are declared as illegal and would possibly create legal actions for the perpetrator, such as, speeding when driving, stealing, or injuring another person. Thus, we must conclude that all things are not permissible. As Paul says, “But now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the written code” (Romans 7:6).

Secondly, the second phrase would also be a true statement: “not everything in life is beneficial.” As mentioned, illegal actions are not beneficial to our lives or the lives of others. The laws of government are put in place to make our lives better in relationship to one another. The goal is to provide fairness and cooperation within our communities. “To do unto others as you would have them do unto you.” (Luke 6:31) Similarly, even an action that is beneficial can become harmful if it is overdone or taken to the extreme. “Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.” (Philippians 4:5)

And lastly, the phrase, “but I will not be mastered by anything”

is a more difficult challenge but is also possible. All of us deal with weakness or challenges in our lives and hope and pray we never become susceptible to any situation that might overtake us, control, or enslave us. The challenges are often in the form of temptations. Initially they may small temptations, such as lack of moderation in daily tasks, over-working, neglecting family, lust, money. If the temptations are not dealt with in the early stage, they will become sins that control our lives. They enslave us to the temptation and take away our free lives in Christ.

Trinity United Church of Christ traces its roots to the early German immigrants seeking religious freedom who settled near the Monocacy River in the 1700’s. Trinity Reformed Church was dedicated in 1880 at 101 East Main Street in Thurmont. In 1901, the building was expanded to include the present-day sanctuary.

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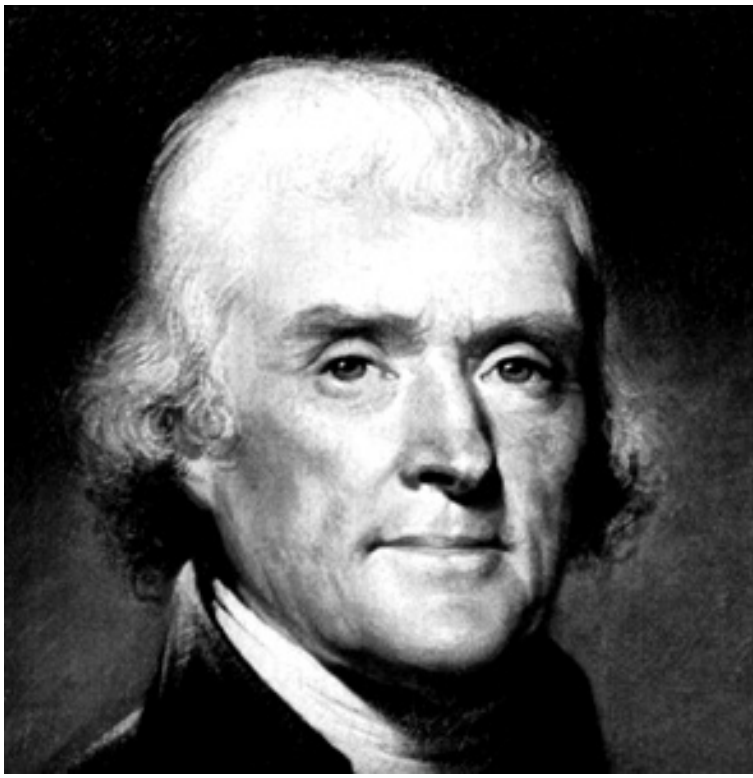
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THE BOOK OF DAYS

Thomas Jefferson



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

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

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

In Virginia, he secured the abolition of a religious establishment, and of entails, and the equal rights of both sexes to inheritance. The most important measure of his administration was the acquisition of Louisiana, includ-

ing the whole territory west of the Mississippi, which was purchased of France for 15,000,000 dollars. His administration was singularly free from political favouritism. It is remembered as one of his sayings that "he could always find better men for every place than his own connections."

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

"I have ever dreaded a dotting age; and my health has been generally so good, and is now so good, that I dread it still. The rapid decline of my strength, during the last winter, has made me hope sometimes that I see land. During summer I enjoy its temperature; but I shudder at the approach of winter, and wish I could sleep through it with the dormouse, and only wake with him in the

spring, if ever. They say that Stark could walk about his room. I am told you walk well and firmly. I can only reach my garden, and that with sensible fatigue. I ride, however, daily, but reading is my delight. God bless you, and give you health, strength, good spirits, and as much life as you think worth having."

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

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

The Fourth of July

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

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

The anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776, has ever since been celebrated as a great national festival throughout the United States, and wherever Americans are assembled over the world. From Maine to Oregon, from the Great Lakes

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

The famous Declaration is solemnly read, and orators, appointed for the occasion, deliver what are termed Fourth of July Orations, in which the history of the country is reviewed, and its past and coming glories proclaimed. The virtues of the Pilgrim Fathers, the heroic exertions and sufferings of the soldiers of the Revolution, the growth and power of the Republic, and the great future which expands before her, are the staple ideas of these orations. Dinners, toasts, and speeches follow, and at night the whole country blazes with bonfires, rockets, Roman candles, and

fireworks of every description. In a great city like New York, Boston, or Philadelphia, the day, and even the night previous, is insufferably noisy with the constant rattle of Chinese-crackers and firearms. In the evening, the displays of fireworks in the public squares, provided by the authorities, are often magnificent.

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

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



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Fireflies

Anne Gageby
Environmental Education Manager
Strawberry Hill Foundation

Who doesn't have memories of running to catch lightning bugs as a child and being absolutely fascinated by their greenish light? Whether you refer to them as lightning bugs or fireflies, I'm sure most people would agree the bright, flashing members of Lampyridae are intriguing.

So cool in fact that a group of elementary school kids from Upper Darby argued that *Photuris pensylvanica*, a species of firefly named for our state, should be designated our state insect. They circulated petitions, created bumper stickers, and worked with state legislators to garner support for their cause. The state agreed. In 1974, then-Governor Milton J. Shapp signed a bill designating *Photuris pensylvanica* our official state insect.

Though there are many different types of organisms that luminesce – from single celled organisms to fish – a few are more commonly known. Lightning bugs, of course, anglerfish, and jellyfish usually come to mind when a person thinks of bioluminescence. Some lesser-known creatures include marine crustaceans such as shrimp and krill, soft corals, bristle worms, tunicates, brittle stars, certain fungi, as well as centipedes and millipedes can luminesce (though the latter are rare).

Bioluminescence is a chemical process in which an organism emits a “cold light”, meaning the light doesn't generate thermal radiation the way light from the sun does. In simpler terms, bioluminescence produces very little heat which is why you can hold lightning bugs in your hand without getting burned. This chemical process is produced by a compound called luciferin which provides energy for light-generation after it reacts to oxygen. Luciferase, a protein, acts as the catalyst for the reaction. It's currently estimated that there are more than 30 different mechanisms that create bioluminescence. While the basic chemical foundation for bioluminescence is understood, only a small number of luciferins have been isolated and studied. The study of bioluminescence as a chemical process is still quite new.

Some organisms produce their own luciferin while others absorb it as food or in a symbiotic relationship. For example, some species of midshipman fish feed on seed shrimp and absorb luciferin via their diet. Hawaiian bobtail squid and hatchet fish house bioluminescent bacteria *Vibrio Fischeri* within their light organs. The glow from their light organs is directed downward and adjusted to mask their silhouettes against the light from the moon and stars. This counterillumination hides both species from bottom-dwelling predators as well as their prey. Brittle stars, on the other hand, use bioluminescence as a distraction by detaching glowing arms.

Predators follow the glowing body parts which allows the brittle stars to escape in the dark.

The evolutionary purpose of bioluminescence is multi-faceted and depends on the species. In the deep ocean, where sunlight is mostly absent, about 90 percent of all creatures are luminescent. Arguably, the most famous bioluminescent predator is the anglerfish which uses a long, fleshy filament that dangles from its head. The filament lights up, attracting curious prey to the light. Similarly, a type of dragonfish called loosejaws, have adapted to emit red light which allows them to better scan their environment for prey. Most fish can only see blue light so this adaptation allows loosejaws to hide in plain sight.

Some species are known to take advantage of defensive bioluminescence. Sperm whales, for instance, will seek out habitats rich with bioluminescent plankton communities. In a symbiotic relationship, the plankton light up to alert the sperm whales of approaching fish that come to feed on the plankton. The whales consume the fish instead and the plankton, now safe from predators, turn off their lights.

Though rarer, some land animals are bioluminescent. Earthworms, for example, have been known to luminesce under the right conditions. The entire body of *Luminodesmus sequoiae*, a millipede found in California, faintly glows. Each segment of the centipede *Orphanes*, found in tropical Asia, gives off luminous secretions.

Luminescence isn't limited to animals and insects. Here on the East Coast, *Clitocybe illudens*, also known as jack-o-lantern mushrooms are famous for their glow. Most of the luciferase enzyme exists in the mushroom's gills, located under the caps. Because jack-o-lanterns grow in clusters, an observer would likely see a small green glowing mass instead of individual lights. Still,



Summer nights are best spent outside, watching the unscripted show of hundreds of fireflies. If you have an imagination, you will never tire of them.

it takes a keen eye and patience to find jack-o-lanterns glowing. Their luminosity diminishes as the mushrooms grow older and you'd likely only spot them on a very dark night.

Jack-o-lanterns aren't the only mushroom that glows. There is a subspecies of bitter oyster mushrooms found in North America that not only glows but is known to be some of the brightest mushrooms on earth. This non-edible mushroom is bright white and can be found primarily on fallen logs, stumps, and trunks of rotting trees, lower to the ground. It prefers oak, beech, and birch, all of which are abundant in our area of Pennsylvania.

While all bioluminescent organisms are incredible in their own way, the one to come back to is the one found in our backyards – the firefly. We just passed the summer solstice and are coming into firefly season but if you've looked outside lately, you'd be hard-pressed to find many of

these fascinating beetles. Between the rain, the cold, and more permanent disruptors, lightning bug populations aren't what they once were. In fact, lightning bug populations are decreasing worldwide.

Habitat loss has become a major factor in the fall of firefly populations. Logging operations and human encroachment are causing forests and fields to be paved over and developed. Most species of lightning bugs thrive in rotting wood and forest leaf litter. Some species are more aquatic however most can be found in marshes, forests, and fields. They prefer habitats that are humid, warm, and close to standing water. Unfortunately, they share the same habitat as another, peskier insect – mosquitoes. For this reason, pesticides have played another role in decreasing lightning bug populations.

Another likely culprit is light pollution. Fireflies use light to communicate, warn predators, find mates, and defend territory. Light pollution is believed to interfere with firefly flash patterns making it harder to find mates and communicate overall. Some scientists argue that turning off backyard lights and putting up blinds or thick curtains can help decrease the overall light pollution in a backyard and relieve some of the strain on lightning bugs. While not proven, it's a small act that anyone can do.

If you can, take some time this summer to enjoy the light show in your backyard. Celebrate our beloved state insect. After all, bioluminescence is one of nature's coolest adaptations. In a world of endless possibilities, Mother Nature often flaunts her creative genius, leaving the scientific community and nature-lovers in awe. And yet there's something particularly magical about a creature that glows.

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IN THE COUNTRY

A new slant on viewing spiders

Linda Knox

According to the old nursery rhyme:

*Little Miss Muffet sat on a tuffet
eating her curds and whey;
Along came a spider and sat down
beside her
and frightened Miss muffin away.*

Whether it was a black, hairy Jumping Spider or plain brown Wolfe Spider, we can't tell from the nursery rhyme, but at least Miss Muffet didn't jump up and crush the poor creature like many would do today.

Maybe she was one of those who have acrophobia, a fear of spiders of any kind. Many, especially ladies, seem to fall into that number, and it does not bode well for the arachnid population. Aside from those who do not like being near spiders, a vast majority of people falls into the non-committal groups—i.e., spiders are not considered to be important or unimportant.

The Time for Kids (Science Scoops Series) declares, "Don't call me a bug," and continues with all the differences between insects and spiders. Briefly, insects have six legs and three main body parts. Arachnids have eight legs and two main body parts. The first part of the spider's body contains the head and thorax, or the cephalothorax. The second part is the abdomen. Insects on the other hand have a head, a thorax and an abdomen, all of which are separate.

Other differences between insects and spiders are most spiders have eight eyes and use minute hairs on their

legs for smelling and hearing. Spiders also have spinnerets at the back of the abdomen to spin their silky webs—a task they can accomplish in less than an hour.

There are many fascinating facts about spiders. Some can lay as many as 3,000 eggs at a time, and some baby spiders float with the wind to find homes. If spiders are born near an ocean, the wind can carry them tens, if not hundreds of miles out to sea. As they grow old, spiders molt. They may replace their outer skin as many as five to ten times in a lifespan.

Some spiders can go for months without eating. So in the middle of winter, don't fret about feeding the spider that has taken up residence above your window—they'll take care of themselves! But if you do want to feed them, find them a live fly. The movements of the fly trying to escape the web will awaken the spider from his long winter's slumber. Placing a dead fly on a spider's web will do nothing for him or you, other than serve as a collection point for dust.

Spiders come in many shapes and sizes, ranging from the size of a dinner plate to a pencil point. Most live only a year or two, but a tarantula may live as long as 30 years. Many male spiders are smaller than females, and some female spiders will carry egg sacks on their backs and go back to find them if they fall off. Webs of many spiders are exceptionally strong, and scientists have found useful ways to duplicate and explore the web's strength.

Of course you want to be aware of the dangerous Black Widow and Brown Recluse. Their bites are very

painful and need medical treatment. However, the spiders only bite when they feel threatened. It is interesting to note that the bite of the much-loved "Daddy Longlegs" would be toxic to us, but it is physically incapable of biting people.

How long has it been since my outlook of spiders changed? I don't know. The catalyst for my change in attitude was my realization of their benefits to man.

Experiments with spider venom have shown how the human nervous system is affected. In understanding how the spider bite affects us, scientists hope to use that knowledge to the cure diseases of the nervous system.

Basically, I guess my attitude towards spiders changed when I realized that they eat flies, mosquitoes that carry disease, crickets, grasshoppers, and other insects that eat plants grown by people for food.

Melvin Berger sums it all up pretty well in his book *Spinning Spiders* when he says, "Spiders eat millions of insects every day of the year. Many of these insects can harm people. In this way spiders help us live better. Spiders are also food for many different birds, fish and frogs. So if you see a spider, let it be. Spiders are an important part of the life of the Earth."

I found several ways of removing unwelcome spiders from the territories in which they are not wanted. The best method is probably to place an open large brown bag in the spider's path and use a yardstick or other tool to guide it in. If there is not enough space to use an open bag, simply wad up tissues and carefully pick up the spider



Yellow garden spiders (*Argiope aurantia*) are also known as writing spiders due to the zig-zag pattern they weave in their large webs. These beautiful spiders are beneficial and prey on bothersome insects, such as gnats, mosquitoes, flies, and aphids.

for removal from the premises. Release them in a "safe place."

Occasionally I have seen a spider floating in the pet's water bowl. If you should happen to discover one like this, push a straw or small stick under the spider so you can lift it out on the water and gently press the thorax until it begins to move and it will scurry off to find a hiding spot.

I remember being with a group of gardeners when a large wolf spider ran out from under a chair. One per-

son jumped up and had it underfoot before I could speak out. I didn't think that would happen now—not around me at least!

Should you decide to become an advocate for spiders, you should be prepared to come to their aid if necessary. Once you've gained a reputation for saving spiders, be prepared to hear a shriek followed by your name!

To read other articles by Linda Knox, visit the Authors section of *Emmitsburg.net*.

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

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SCIENCE MATTERS

Plastic pollution: Is this useful material hurting us?

Boyce Rensberger

They are everywhere. They are in factories and office buildings. They have entered our schools. Many have made it into our homes. Some people even put them on their skin. And, most concerning of all, many people unwittingly eat and drink them.

I refer to plastic, all kinds of plastic. I am typing this on a keyboard made of plastic. The rugs in many homes are made of other kinds of plastic, such as nylon and polypropylene. Many items of clothing are made of yet another kind, polyester. Some women rubbed exfoliating lotions on their skin, lotions that, before they were banned, contained microbeads of, yes, plastic. And, deeply worrying, some municipal water systems deliver water inadvertently laced with microscopic particles of plastics of many kinds.

They may have been a novel idea in 1967 when the movie, "The Graduate," famously had an older man advising a young Dustin Hoffman that the future was in "Plastics." Indeed, it is hard to imagine our modern world without these highly useful and hugely different kinds of polymers, almost all of which are made from petroleum or other fossil fuels.

Plastic pollution includes not just the bits that we can't see, but also the plastic bags that most of us use only once to carry something out of the store and then

throw away. Or plastic foam packing materials that we throw away. Or the plastic toys, tools and gadgets that are thrown away. But where is "away"? Wherever it may be, a goodly portion of that plastic winds up in creeks, rivers, and oceans.

The best-known results of this are the Great Garbage Patches that accumulate in the centers of circular ocean currents. Some of it includes recognizable objects such as plastic bags and bottles, but more is made of smaller fragments. As the plastic is knocked around, it breaks into ever smaller bits.

A quick Web search will show you beaches littered with this stuff. The sun's ultraviolet rays also turn plastic brittle, furthering its disintegration. Waves and tides put some on the shore but carry much more out to the open ocean.

Over time macroplastic (any big object) is broken into microplastic, defined as being smaller than five millimeters in size. (That's about the width of the letter T at the beginning of this article.) Microplastic bits are eventually broken into ever smaller fragments, even to particles so small they are called nanoplastics, which are not yet officially defined, but that measure, at most, 1 micron. That's about 1/25,000th of an inch. So just barely visible in a light microscope.

If you wonder how plastics get into the water supply, think of this: Every time you wash polyes-

ter clothing, tiny filaments break off and are flushed down the drain. That wastewater goes somewhere. If you are on a well-and-septic system, it goes into the groundwater. Otherwise it goes through a sewage treatment plant (even the most thorough water treatment has little effect on plastic) and then out to a river. There is no evidence that plastics are degraded by any biological process on a scale that can keep up with the constant hailstorms of microplastics people are releasing to the environment.

The Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute estimates that some 500 pounds of plastics of all sizes enter the world's oceans every second. Already in the ocean is an estimated 14 billion tons of microplastics, mixing through the water column.

The physical bits of plastic are concern enough, but there is a deeper problem. Scientists have found that many microplastics can bind with other substances they meet along the way, including toxic metals, persistent pesticides and even various drugs that people take and, often enough, excrete.

Can this stuff get into our bodies? Absolutely. Recent studies in the U.K. and in the Netherlands have found nanoplastics in human lung tissue and even in blood. What remains unknown is whether this plastic or the attached molecules are doing us any harm. I have found no study with good evidence of harm but given that thousands of other substances can bind to microplastics, it seems likely that eventually something will be found. Moreover, the plastics themselves contain thousands of different kinds of additives—substances mixed in at the factory to give the plastic various desired properties. The additives, many of which are toxic, can leach out and drift on their own in the ocean.

How do nanoplastics get into our bodies? Consider this: The stuff has been found in bottled water. For example, a study published in *Frontiers in Chemistry* in 2018 analyzed hundreds of bottled water samples from eleven different brands and found nanoplastics in 93 percent. Also, numerous studies have found plastic particles in fish from many parts of the



The Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute estimates that some 500 pounds of plastics of all sizes enter the world's oceans every second.

world, typically in the intestines. Plastic pollution in fish has been found to cause growth retardation and behavioral abnormalities. It's not clear whether that is the result of the plastic itself or other molecules attached to the plastic.

So, what to do about this?

A current area of research is finding ways of breaking down microplastics all the way to nontoxic molecules such as water and carbon dioxide. Plastics are, after all, hydrocarbons. They are organic compounds made of long chains of carbon atoms with hydrogens attached at various points. The carbon chains (and rings) typically also have attached atoms of oxygen, sulfur, or nitrogen.

Some studies have found that certain microorganisms can make enzymes that break down plastics, but it's not clear whether those processes can go all the way to nontoxic substances.

According to one study published this year: "Several types of microorganisms have the capacity for plastic biodegradation. These include bacteria, fungi, and algae. However, the breakdown depends on the physical and chemical characteristics of the plastics. If these microbes are harnessed, they have the potential to overcome this critical environmental issue."

The authors of that study are with the Biorefining Research Institute of Lakehead University in Ontario. It is funded by the provincial government to find environmentally acceptable ways of detoxifying waste materials using microorganisms. One approach is first to find microbes that already happen to have a gene for an enzyme that attacks plastic. Then genetically engineer the microbe to increase the number of those genes. It is well known that the more genes a cell has for any given product, the more it will make.

Once researchers learn what enzymes the microbes produce to break down plastic, the hope would be to synthesize lots of those enzymes and somehow use them in wastewater treatment. But that is clearly a long way off.

And we're making more plastic than ever—more than 400 million tons in 2020, an amount expected to triple by 2050.

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

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THE VILLAGE IDIOT

Shy of 70

Jack Deatherage

A year shy of 70 this month I've begun to notice clichés should be scoffed at less often than I once believed. "With age comes wisdom," is one I used to hear as a kidlet, though not so much since I've reached the age of majority. Thinking the wise may have finally realized some of us are incapable of gaining wisdom, I dug deeper into the origin of the cliché. Oscar Wilde (1854-1900) supposedly added, "but sometimes age comes alone." While Oscar speaks to me, I can't help but wonder, are most people gaining age but not wisdom?

"Timing is everything." Now there's an excuse I've often used for accomplishing nothing! Yet I know a fellow who had his dead-end, self-destructive routine flipped so dramatically that he took off in an unexpected direction. He mastered his addictions, reeducated himself, set goals and one by one achieved them. Half my age, he's shown me that timing is everything, and "keeping one's nose to the grindstone" also is everything.

"Next year's garden will be better." -a Yahoo! Gardening group member and likely every gardener that's ever argued with Nature.

Several people, some I know, most I've not met before this summer, have taken time to tell me how great the new community garden looks. Looking at the garden as it is, I wonder but seldom ask, "What

the hell are you seeing?" Enter "perception is reality".

We all see a vacant lot the town occasionally allows parking on and summerly mows. We may agree on the lot's potential use as a community garden, but from there? Great? Naw.

I stand at the rain barrels waiting on a tap to fill the watering can as I survey what little we've accomplished. I guess I can allow that some people, without my expectations of perfection, see a garden where I see mostly disturbed soil, incompetent gardening techniques, a lack of practical design and a rushed, underfunded beginning. Sure, the raised beds we bought look nice, or at least planted, but even those aren't what I'd envisioned. To me the entire garden looks like a stick figure pencil sketch of Hieronymus Bosch's "The Last Judgment".

Contemplating the task I've assigned to myself and the DW (not that she wanted the work) I realize the town is struggling with funding for water issues, citizens are being hit with increased fees and general inflation. It's the wrong time to approach the town asking for money, labor or materials for a community garden only a few people are volunteering to work in as their busy lives allow.

All the excuses needed to escape the project are in place. Except- "keeping one's nose to the grindstone" is everything.

Building the next phase of the garden's evolution currently relies on our annual household income surviving the 2023 property tax

increase, the 17 years old Buick's transmission not crapping out until we've enough cash in the bank to have it replaced or rebuilt, the reliance on other people to do the heavy lifting my body can no longer manage, the lack of a vehicle capable of fetching cubic yards of mulch, compost, straw bales, tillers, stock tanks, concrete blocks, lumber, fencing, hog panels for creating arches and the gods know what else to the garden. Coupled with an insatiable need for regular naps and the DW's fanatical weeding ability finally beginning to take its toll on her back, it seems a good time to decide the timing for building a community garden isn't right!

"If not me, who? If not now, when?" to drastically paraphrase Rabbi Hillel the Elder (110 BC-10 AD). Drat!

As I once told my friend- the Jewish girl with a manicure, "Now I know why people hate Jews. Ya all make us think about how and why we could be better."

Stumbling along the edge of the annual flowerbed, trying to give all the struggling seedlings enough water to get through the next day's sun and breeze, I realize we should have planted flowering bulbs and perennial flowers. I remind myself we needed to get something started quickly and funds were limited. Dozens of seed packets cost multiples less than nursery seedlings and the selection of flower seeds is nearly limitless compared to nursery stock.

Crocus, daffodils, tulips blooming in the spring, various irises chasing after. Trumpet and Asiatic lilies,

daylilies as summer approaches. Cut-and-come-again annuals mingling among the fading spring flowers as the summer dwindles into autumn. We haven't reached mid-season and I'm already rethinking what next year's garden should be. Which is ridiculous.

Finishing this year's gardening is mostly a matter of routine now. Water, weed, watch for disease and pests- deal with each in its turn, harvest and note what worked, what can be improved upon, what needs rethought. Come autumn, the next evolution begins- building the soil before cover cropping it for the winter. We'll have all winter to contemplate the next warm season's adventure.

Me being me (I've recently been told I have impostor syndrome, squirrely contrarian that I am, I disagree), I'm already thinking on how to get more kid and senior sized raised beds into the garden. Who else generally has the time or inclination to play in a garden?

So far this year the metal beds and the Rubbermaid stock tank have proven their value- mostly pleasant to look at, easy to plant, water and weed. Water and fertilizers mainly stay put rather than skedaddling off to places we'd rather they not. When their soils are depleted we can amend them without the additives being dispersed as they tend to be when building in-ground beds. The newspapers and straw at the bottom of the metal beds will rot allowing the earthworms to work their way to the surface of the beds bringing nutrients up along with them. The

stock tank has holes drilled in its bottom to allow for drainage and access for the worms.

In spite of my doubts about my ability to build a garden, or a community of gardeners, or my ability to stay on track, I have to admit the garden is off to a good start- mostly due to the efforts of the town staff, the mayor, the commissioners and the Emmitsburg Walking Group. Brian and our long suffering DWs have been the daily heavy lifters! While my thinking Bally pinballs from bumper to bumper, they are the community that shows up to build the garden in spite of me.

The mid June rains caused rampant growth where the spring drought had held growth back in spite of almost daily watering. The growth is actually stunning if one has labored over the struggling garden from its rough beginning. I can't help but believe the arrival of more volunteers and potential gardeners will have a similar effect on the entire garden. New ideas, designs, methods and motivations will blow away my meager ideas and efforts.

Mother of the laughing gods! Next year's garden will be better!

I can be reached: Ph: 301-447-2151 (if the answering machine picks up, please leave a contact number - speak slowly and clearly.)

Email: jackdeathjr@juno.com
Facebook group: "Emmitsburg Youth/Community Garden"

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

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THE MASTER GARDENER

Why Daylilies?

Charlie Gormer
Adams County Master Gardener
Life member American Daylily Society

Now that I have your attention... let's get some information about today's modern daylilies and how these can add interest to your gardens and landscaping changes. Many people have daylilies that have either been passed down, were already on the property, or were bought at a large box-store or garden center. They also could have been bought from a catalog.

All of those daylilies can be several to many years old and are quite different from today's modern daylilies. There are also daylilies that are spotted along the roadside and are usually orange and bloom for about a week in the summer. Again, these are not the modern daylilies and invasive. Daylilies and Lilies are two separate, entirely different plants. Daylilies belong to the hemerocallis family and grow from a crown which then forms a fan. Lilies belong to liliaceae family and start from a bulb which grows a single stem with leaves and flowers.

Modern daylilies have many variables for consideration when making a selection: plant size, bloom size, bloom form, color, and patterns. Every year hybridizers of daylilies register around 2,500 new cultivars. This registration takes place with The American Daylily (Hemerocallis) Society. Most of these new registrations are done by gardeners in small gardens throughout the country. Hybridizing is seldom done by commercial industries. It is specialized and

too time-consuming and costly for a business to do.

The process of developing and registering a new daylily takes several years. Pollination, collecting seeds, planting seeds, and observing the plant for many seasons are all necessary steps in the process. The final step is selecting which new plants are worthy to keep and discarding the others. If after several seasons a distinctive daylily with good plant habits has developed, it is worthy of being registered. When registering the plant, the hybridizer will name the plant and it becomes its own unique cultivar. It could still be a few years until the hybridizer has enough fans of the plant to offer them for sale. But once the cultivar can be sold, the hybridizer sells fans and receives some financial return for all the time and work involved in growing and caring for the cultivar.

Daylilies grow from a crown which produces the roots and leaves. The leaves grow upright and form a fan shape. The fans mature and split into two fans and the process continues until a clump of the same identical cultivar grows. One cannot grow the same cultivar from seeds. It is necessary to acquire a fan of the named cultivar. All registered daylilies with the same name came from just one original fan. The hybridizer will then sell the fans once enough have been grown to help recover the efforts and time to develop the daylily.

Modern daylilies vary considerably in plant size from only twelve inches high to over 6 feet. There are hundreds of choices between the thou-



Modern daylilies vary considerably in plant size from only twelve inches high to over 6 feet. There are hundreds of choices between the thousands of cultivars.

sands of cultivars. There are already over 90,000 registered cultivars!

There are several important considerations when deciding where to plant your daylilies. The most interesting part of the daylily is the bloom. Most blooms usually have three petals and three sepals, making a total of six that forms the bloom. However, some cultivars have four of each making a total of eight to complete the bloom. And yet there is even another type of flower, the double daylily, which has even more petals and sepals. Long, narrow petals and sepals are called a spider form.

Most of today's modern daylilies come in various colors and unique combinations of colors, size and forms. The American Daylily Society

classifies blooms into four sizes: miniature—under three inches, small—three inches but less than four and one-half inches, large—four and one-half inches but less than seven inches, and extra-large—seven inches or greater. In the extra-large range there are blooms exceeding twelve inches!

Daylilies grow best in sunny locations with at least six hours of sun. They are easy to care for and have few pests. They grow in average soil which has been amended with compost. Additional water is needed during dry conditions. But with proper sun and water, they will grow, bloom, and fans will divide into more fans.

The American Daylily Society website – www.daylilies.org is a valuable source for learning about daylil-

ies with many pertinent, educational articles. Their database has every daylily ever registered, pictures of the cultivars, and details about the various cultivars. The website also contains a listing of qualified Display Gardens registered with the American Daylily Society.

These Display Gardens grow all the types of modern daylilies. The listing is arranged by regions and Pennsylvania and Maryland are in Region 3. All these gardens are open to the public but a phone call to the owner is necessary to make an appointment to visit. Display gardens are private and the owners are collectors and will have many new cultivars to see and determine if you would want them to enhance your own garden and landscaping.

Another site useful to gardeners and free to join is The National Gardening Association – www.garden.org. Members will often have many pictures of the same cultivar. The various pictures will enable the gardener to evaluate the cultivar. Many other plants are listed in the Association website.

The daylily season starts in June with the early bloomers and finishes up in August. Most modern cultivars will bloom for several weeks. You can acquire early, midseason, and late bloomers. This type of acquisition would give you color all summer long. Although the actual bloom only lasts for one day, the plant will have lots of buds and that compensates for the short individual time for each bloom. Many of the modern daylilies also have been developed to rebloom which extends their season. All this information is available on the American Daylily Society website database.

Now is the time to consider plans for next year and go see some daylilies that might add interest to your garden. Mid-season daylilies are in full bloom. Gettysburg Daylilies is a close-by Regional 3 Display Garden with over 2,000 daylilies. Please come visit!

To learn more about Gettysburg Daylilies visit www.gettysburgdaylilies.com.

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

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THE MASTER GARDENER

Frederick County Master Gardeners Seminars

July 1: "Understanding Our Frederick County Watershed" Bring the family for hands-on learning about the importance of our watershed and its link to the Chesapeake Bay. Find out about macro invertebrates and how they can help to determine water quality, then explore a stream and learn about what lives there. Pre-registration is required; limited to 20 adults and children. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

July 8: "Harvesting & Storing the Garden's Bounty" Now that you have grown it, what will you do with it? Explore different techniques for storing your garden's bounty of vegetables, fruits and herbs. We will discuss drying, freezing, dry storage, and other tried-and-true methods.

July 22: "Make & Take Mini-Garden" (for 1st-12th graders)

Design and plant a decorated miniature garden to take home! Plants and decorations will be provided but bring your gardening gloves. Pre-registration is required since class is limited to 15 children. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Free for children. Adults may plant their own mini garden for \$5; note it on the registration and pay (cash or check) at class.

July 29: "Integrated Pest Management (IPM)" Manage pests with ecosystem-based methods to minimize the use of pesticides. Learn how to identify, prevent, and manage plant problems using biological control, habitat changes, and cultural habits.

All seminars are free unless otherwise stated. You can register online for these and other events at <https://bit.ly>

Small Town Gardener

A snag for all seasons

Marianne Willburn

I never thought I could find joy in, much less love, a dead tree standing on my property, smack in the middle of otherwise pastoral views. But I not only love a dead tree, I'm distressed by the fact that it's only mostly dead, which is to say, somewhat alive, and has begun a process of regeneration with a strong and upright leader.

I should cheer that leader – and the part of me fascinated by nature's ability to recover and thrive should rejoice. Instead I feel like renting a cherry picker and cutting off the top of it just to slow it down. Harsh I know, but like most good love stories, this one built slowly. I hate to see it ended.

It started unexpectedly. Three years ago, the loudest thunder-crack I have ever experienced made us sit bolt upright in bed. A quick sock-footed pad around the house put minds at rest that an ash tree had not fallen through the roof [again], and we went back to sleep.

The next morning, on my way to feed chickens, my attention was caught by something not quite right – one of the 90+ foot tulip poplars was shimmering in the early morning sunlight and the reflection had caught my eyes.

Trees don't shimmer, and I approached the tree a little con-

fused. Gradually I realized that I was staring at the unnervingly muscle-like cambium layer of the tree, completely and utterly naked, and glistening with the nutrients and water that only 12 hours before had been racing to its canopy. From a height of about 15 feet all the way to the top, the bark had literally been blown off the tree. There was no other damage beyond a few stray branches on the ground.

At first my reaction was one of sadness. To see the sinews of the tree stripped of protection and to know that it was not dead but still struggling hit a chord. We have lost untold ash trees in the last nine years to the ash borer – some expensively removed, some threatening to fall when you least expect it during a woodland walk. With all those dangerous trees to be felled, the lightning had hit a healthy tulip poplar. And there were no funds left to fell it.

To add insult to injury, the poplar held a very strategic bit of river bank against the erosive powers of a natural swale that forms during high rains. And to make things even just a little worse, it was the tree that centered the view when I looked out from the deck. We needed that tree. We wanted that tree.

Over the next year the poplar lost most of its branches as windstorms came and went. Far away from the house or driveway, they

were in little danger of hurting someone, and so it became a study in decay that I would stare at with my coffee in the morning, interested by the birds that were starting to take advantage of the clear perch – and the clearer view of the stream where they fished for crawdads and tiny fish. Herons and kingfishers took turns – the kingfishers chasing each other from preferred perches, the herons regally weighing down a branch until a choice space was found in the stream below. There was a barred owl one evening at dusk, hawks in the morning, and of course, the chattering and chasing of squirrels.

Gradually I began to warm to the place of the snag in the life of our property, seeing it not only as a touchstone for so many species in the surrounding woodland, but as garden art in the midst of so much spring and summer green. By last year, its whitened, weathered form was as wished for and wanted as if I had pointed the lightning bolt at it myself.

And as I came to this surprising epiphany, I noticed a gradual rejuvenation – whips sprouting from a healthy base, one strong shoot in particular racing vertically along the ghostly silhouette of its mother. The eroding bank was saved no doubt, but with a price.

Soon that guiding structure will disappear, lost in a rustle of foliage. The clear perch will be gone, my window into the secret ways and wars of wild-life darkened, but the lessons imparted to this gardener will remain: a little decay is a good thing – a necessary and miraculous event in the life of a garden.

Marianne Willburn is the author of Tropical Plants and How to Love Them, and Big Dreams, Small Garden. She writes from her home in Lovettsville, Virginia. Read more at Garden-Rant.com.



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PETS

Pets aren't just pets anymore

Jennifer Vanderau
Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter

I have been what I like to call a television aficionado for many, many decades. I enjoy a good evening spent in front of the old boob tube and have since I was young.

With the development of Netflix and all the other various streaming services, my choices are as varied as the stars in the sky. It's like a dream or something. I never would have imagined having all these options when I was a kid to watch whenever I wanted.

In fact, when my siblings and I were little, we enjoyed the cartoon G.I. Joe, the Dukes of Hazzard and Knight Rider.

Full disclosure, my siblings have way more of a life than I do (boyfriends and babies and such), so their watching has become quite limited.

The point – and I do have one – is I know my way around a channel guide

and as a result, see a lot of not only television programs, but commercials.

One of my absolute favorites that I've just noticed recently is for the company Chewy. (You wondered how I was going to get this around to animals, didn't you? Fear not! I've been shifting my ramblings around to our four-legged friends for years now. Heh.)

So in this Chewy commercial – and I think it's for their flea and tick products, although all their commercials with the talking animals are adorable – there's a family of five sitting around the dinner table.

It's Mom, Dad, a son, a daughter and a dog – and yes, the dog has a place at the table. She's actually sitting on a chair and her dog bowl is in front of her on a placemat at the table. The rest of the family is enjoying spaghetti.

As they're eating their dinner, the family is talking about their accomplishments. The son says he got an A on his book report and the daughter

talks about scoring a goal in soccer. The dad tells them both that's great.

Then the dog, Bailey, chimes in to let the family know that she went for a walk in the woods and didn't get a single flea or tick on her. Mom and Dad both praise her to high heaven.

The son then says, somewhat under his breath, "I wonder if Bailey ever did a book report."

And Mom says, "Be nice to your sister." The tag line is "pets aren't just pets. They're more."

It was hands down, one of the coolest things I've seen in a long time. For years I've been talking to people about how pets should be seen as members of the family. If we lived in a world where that were true, animal shelters wouldn't have so many residents.

Here was a commercial that actually had the family dog sitting at the table in a chair with everyone else. How much clearer could you get?

And I have to do a major shout out to Chewy. That company is so great. I have talked to so many people who are incredibly impressed with them. I remember a volunteer years ago had told me that they ended up sending medication that they had purchased back to Chewy because their dog had passed away. They were shocked to find a condolence letter in the mail a few days later from Chewy.

Chewy is also incredible with their donations to animal shelters and rescues.

When you add to that the adorable commercials they have made that show animals as a real part of the family, it all just does my heart good.

Television can be certainly be a "vast wasteland" as the FCC chairman proclaimed in 1961 – can you imagine what he'd say today? But if you look, you can find not only programs, but also commercials, that have a really good message for the world.

Thank you, Chewy, for all you do for our animals.

Jennifer Vanderau is the Publications and Promotions Consultant 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.



Sprinkles came into the shelter a stray, so we don't know a lot about her, but she is one sweet girl. She's a 2-year-old terrier mix who loves attention. She particularly likes being near her human and enjoys a good cuddle. Do you have the right spot for Sprinkles?



Dipper is a 2-year-old husky who came into the shelter as a stray. He is a happy guy that loves to be able to stretch his legs and run! He does need some work with commands but seems to be willing to work for food. Knowledge of huskies would be helpful in adopting Dipper. He does chase cats so a home without cats would be best for him. He may also be too much for small children so an age restriction for children in the home may apply. Dipper did test Lyme positive but is currently on an antibiotic course for this and is doing well with it. Can you help Dipper out?



Houdini is a 1-year-old border collie who loves to run and play in the outside yard at the shelter. Experience with border collies would be helpful when adopting Houdini. He will need someone that can work with him on commands and help him stay busy and well exercised! He does chase cats so a home without cats would be best for Houdini. Houdini came into the shelter as a stray and tested positive for Lyme. He has been treated. Could you show Houdini what a forever home is all about?



Midgie came into the shelter because an older cat in the home would not accept her. This 4-month-old calico girl is quite playful and really sweet. She is going to make someone a wonderful four-legged companion!

For more information about Sprinkles, Dipper, Houdini, and Midgie 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.

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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

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Achilles

Bethany Davidson
Frederick County Animal Shelter

In Greek mythology Achilles was the strongest and hand-somest warrior in the entire Greek army. His only weakness, his heel. At FCAC, we have our very own Achilles and just like his namesake, he is both strong and handsome.

Achilles can often be seen showing off his physical strength in the play yard. He loves a game of fetch and can destroy a squeaky toy in record time. But this guy isn't just brawn, he's brains too. Achilles is quick to learn new behaviors

during training sessions (He knows sit, down, settle & more) and there is no treat puzzle he can't solve.

And to say that Achilles is good looking would be an understatement. Those eyes. Those ears. That coat. And while he gives off that strong, silent type vibe in his photos, deep down he's a sensitive goofball. Achilles is the total package. He's basically everything you'd want in a dog.

So you're probably thinking what's his weakness. Well, our Achilles is not as brave as the mythical version. When it comes to other pets, Achilles is afraid of cats. So that's a deal breaker

for him. We told you...sensitive. With dogs, Achilles is selective. His adorable wolverine scars are a result of an encounter with another dog so he's still learning to trust his fellow canines again. Thanks to a little bit of counter-conditioning and some slow and careful introductions to super dog savvy dogs, Achilles is making new canine friends. In fact, fellow shelter dog Cinnamon is now referred to as his best friend and they can often be seen taking their afternoon walks together.

More challenging from an adoption standpoint, Achilles is wary of strangers, especially in his kennel. The good news, however, is that staff and volunteers have been diligently working with Achilles on a behavior modification protocol over the past few months. They have been using a technique called counterconditioning and some of Achilles' favorite treats (cheese and peanut butter) to change his association to unfamiliar people.

While he still doesn't want to be best friends with just any person that approaches, he is able to be comfortable in the presence of strangers at closer and closer distances and he's allowing new shelter volunteers into his inner circle. Staff and volunteers will continue to work with Achilles while he's a shelter resident, but he'll need a family that will continue to help him learn that new people are good. Achilles is also looking for a family that is willing to visit multiple times and earn his trust before he'll be ready to ride into the battle of life with them.

Since our little alien pig dog Julie left for her forever home last week, Achilles, who arrived at FCAC on August 12, 2022, is now our longest canine resident. We would love to find a home for this lovable guy before his one-year shelter anniversary. If you think that you might be the perfect fit for Achilles, email us at animalcontrol@frederickcountymd.gov to learn more or book an appointment to visit him at www.visitfcac.as.me.



Jackson is currently the oldest animal available for adoption FCAC, and he is looking for a nice, quiet retirement home. He has so many of the qualities cat owners look for in a feline friend. Jackson is confident, calm, friendly and loves sitting in a lap. He shared his previous home with another cat and doesn't mind the company of small dogs. Jackson will make a wonderful companion and deserves a family. Wouldn't you agree?



If you stop by the shelter, you may spot Ziggi behind the front desk. His easy-going personality has earned him the designation of office dog and staff love his company. Ziggi prefers attention over playing and has been given the title "King of Cuddle". Unfortunately, his family was expecting a baby and felt they no longer had time for him. Ziggi did share his previous home with another dog and would likely do well with a new dog friend.



Cool, calm and collected Irvin is ready for a new home. Often when cats arrive at the shelter, they are scared and take some time to feel comfortable with staff and their new surroundings. Not Irvin, he adapted almost immediately and loves attention from anyone willing to give him a pet. He was found on May 25 at the Motter Avenue Apartments, so not much is known about his past.



Who likes big mutts? If you raised your hand, Bastian is the pup for you. Weighing in at ninety plus pounds, he is not a lap dog, but is as sweet as they come. Bastian loves attention and will wiggle from head to toe when being pet. He reacts favorably to other dogs at the shelter and staff recommends him for kids of any age. Bastian was found on Himes Avenue and no owner came forward to reclaim him.

For more information about Jackson, Ziggi, Irvin, and Bastian 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.



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HEALTH

2022 Mount St. Mary's University Treated Water Quality Report

Important Information About Your Drinking Water

We're pleased to present to you the Annual Water Quality Report for 2022. This report is designed to inform you about the water quality and services we deliver to you every day. Maryland Environmental Service (MES), an Agency of the State of Maryland, began operating the water treatment facility in June 2014 and prepared this report on behalf of the Mount St. Mary's University.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulates Public Water Systems and the contaminants found in water through the implementation of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). The SDWA sets regulations and guidelines for how public water systems operate and identifies several hundred drinking water contaminants, establishes monitoring frequencies and limitations. The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) is responsible for the enforcement of the SDWA and routinely complete Sanitary Surveys as part of their ongoing inspection and monitoring program. MES provides safe dependable operations of the water system and is dedicated to consistently providing high quality drinking water that meets or exceeds the SDWA standards.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Tod Otis, Director of Capital Projects & Energy Management at 240-344-4765, e-mail: otis@msmary.edu. Copies of this report will not be mailed to consumers but are available upon request from your utility.

The Mount St. Mary's University water works consists of three drilled wells. Before the water enters the distribution network chlorine is added to protect against microbial contaminants. The water is then pumped into a storage tank. The Maryland Department of the Environment has performed an assessment of the source water. A copy of the results is available. Call Maryland Environmental Service at 410-729-8350.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with 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 (1-800-426-4791).

Important information Regarding Gross Alpha Emitters

Mount St. Mary's University's water system was placed on quarterly monitoring for Gross Alpha beginning in October 2014. Compliance with the MCL will be determined based on a annual rolling average of quarterly results. Alpha emitters are naturally occurring radiations in soil, air and water. These emitters generally occur when certain elements decay or break down in the environment. The emitters enter drinking water through various methods including the erosion of natural deposits. There are no immediate health risks from consuming water that contains gross alpha, however some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer. Currently, the highest level of gross alpha detected is 13.4 pCi/L.

Definitions

- Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- Action Level - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow
- Treatment Technique (TT) - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water
- Turbidity - Relates to a condition where suspended particles are present in the water. Turbidity measurements are a way to describe the level of "cloudiness" of the water.
- pCi/l - PicoCuries per liter. A measure of radiation.
- ppb - parts per billion or micrograms per liter
- ppm - parts per million or milligrams per liter
- ppt - parts per trillion or nanograms per liter

Special Points of Interest

The water at the Mount St. Mary's University is tested for over 120 different compounds. The Mount St. Mary's University's Drinking Water met all of the State and Federal requirements.

Drinking Water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some compounds. The presence of these compounds does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Safe Drinking Water Act Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Sources of Drinking Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain compounds in water provided by public water systems. We treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Important Information About Arsenic

Arsenic is a semi-metal element in the periodic table. It is odorless and tasteless. It enters drinking water supplies from natural deposits in the earth or from agricultural and industrial practices. Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. Currently, the arsenic levels are being monitored quarterly. We are constantly evaluating alternatives and treatment options for reducing the arsenic levels to less than 10 ppb.

Lead Prevention

Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Mount St. Mary's University Water Treatment Plant is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of mate-

rials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, please contact jjanney@menv.com for a list of laboratories in your area that provide drinking water testing. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Contaminants That May Be Present in Source Water

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife. Pesticides and Herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses. Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming. Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems. Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the 2022 calendar year. The presence of these compounds in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in the table is from testing done January 1 – December 31, 2022. The State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year.

continued on next page

Contaminant	Highest Level Allowed (EPA's MCL)	Highest Level Detected	Ideal Goal (EPA's MCLG)
Regulated at the Treatment Plant - Point of Entry			
Nitrate	10 ppm	1.6 ppm (range from 0.0 to 1.6 ppm)	10 ppm
Typical Source of Contamination: Runoff from fertilizer use			
Barium (2022 Testing)	2000 ppb	607 ppb (range from 310 to 630 ppb)	2000 ppb
Typical Source of Contamination: Erosion of natural deposits			
Arsenic (2022 Testing)	10 ppb	6.4 ppb (range from 0.0 to 6.4 ppm)	10 ppb
Typical Source of Contamination: Erosion of natural deposits			
Chromium (2022 Testing)	100 ppb	9.4 ppb (Range: 0.0 to 9.4 ppb)	100 ppb
Source: Erosion of natural deposits, discharge from steel/pulp mills			
Fluoride (2022 Testing)	4000 ppb	440 ppb (Range: 0 to 440 ppb)	4000 ppb
Source: Erosion of natural deposits and discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories			
Combined Radium (226 & 228) (2022 Testing)	5 pCi/l	3.6 pCi/l (range from 0.9 to 3.6 pCi/l)	0 pCi/l
Typical sources of contaminant: Erosion of natural deposits			
Uranium (2022 Testing)	30 ug/l	11.1 ug/l (range from 6.4 to 11.1 ug/l)	0 ug/l
Typical sources of contaminant: Erosion of natural deposits			
Gross Alpha (2022 Testing)	15 pCi/l*	13.4 pCi/l* (range from 2.8 to 13.4 pCi/l)	0.0 pCi/l*
Typical Source of Contamination: Erosion of natural deposits			
* Result is a rotational annual average. Please read page 4 of the Consumer Confidence report for more information on Gross Alpha Emitters.			
Gross Beta - (2022 Testing)	50 pCi/l*	4.1 pCi/l** (range from 0 to 4.1 pCi/l)	0.0 pCi/l
Typical Source of Contamination: Erosion of natural deposits			
*EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles			
** Because the beta particle results were below 50 pCi/l, no testing for individual beta particle constituents was required			
Regulated in the Distribution System			
Chlorine	4 ppm	1.24 ppm * (range from 1.08 to 1.24 ppm)	n/a
Water Additive used to control microbes. *Annual Rolling Average			
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (2022 Testing)	80 ppb	17.0 ppb (range from 9.3 to 17.0 ppm)	n/a
Typical Source of Contamination: By-product of drinking water chlorination			
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (2022 Testing)	60 ppb	5.5 ppb (range from 1.2 to 5.5 ppm)	n/a
Typical Source of Contamination: By-product of drinking water chlorination			
Regulated in the Distribution System			
Copper (2021 Testing)	Action Level 1300 ppb	90th percentile 220 ppb	Ideal Goal 1300 ppb
Typical Source of Contamination: Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures and systems			
Lead (2021 Testing)	Action Level 15 ppb	90th percentile 3.2 ppb	Ideal Goal 0 ppb
Typical Source of Contamination: Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures and systems			

Frederick Health's Cancer Care

As the largest healthcare provider in the county, Frederick Health is more than just a hospital. The system has invested significant resources in expanding cancer treatment options for the community over the past ten years. The most visible of these investments is the free-standing James M Stockman Cancer Institute, completed in 2017 and located just off US Route 15 and Opossumtown Pike.

But this large, state-of-the-art facility is just part of an expansive network of cancer care locations available to residents, a network that continues to grow.

To improve access to high-quality cancer care, Frederick Health has recently started to offer Oncology & Hematology services at its Emmitsburg location. This facility, which opened in the autumn of 2022, helped to bring Primary Care, Urgent Care, Laboratory, Imaging, Physical Therapy & Sports Rehab to northern Frederick County.

Dr. Patrick Mansky, a fellowship-trained and expert provider with decades of experience, is the Medical Director for Oncology Care. Under his supervision, Frederick Health is expanding Oncology & Hematology efforts in Emmitsburg.

Dr. Mansky, who graduated from medical school in Germany before moving to the United States, has worked with some of the country's largest and most prestigious cancer care networks. These include Memorial Sloan Kettering Hospital in New York City, Case Western in Cleveland, the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, and working closely to develop a community oncology research and treatment program in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Using his extensive expertise, Dr. Mansky came to Frederick Health eight and a half years ago to help build the healthcare system's comprehensive approach to cancer care.

Dr. Mansky and his team were influential in helping to establish the James M Stockman Cancer Institute, both in the brick-and-mortar and clinical senses. In addition, Dr. Mansky has worked to expand

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Mount St. Mary's University Water Report Continued

Polyfluoroalkyl Substances

PFAS – or 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. Beginning in 2020, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) initiated a PFAS monitoring program. PFOA and PFOS are two of the most prevalent PFAS compounds. PFOA and PFOS concentrations were measured from samples taken at both points of entry to your water system in 2022 and are listed below. PFOA results were 27.5 parts per trillion (ppt) and 5.86 ppt. PFOS results were 33.2 parts per trillion (ppt) and 4.9 ppt. In March 2023, EPA announced proposed Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) of 4 ppt for PFOA and 4 ppt for PFOS, and a Group Hazard Index of 1 (unitless) for four additional PFAS compounds (PFHxS, GenX Chemicals, PFNA

and PFBS). The four (4) additional PFAS parameters were also analyzed in 2022 with group hazard indexes of 1.22 and 0.32. Future regulations would require additional monitoring as well as certain actions for systems above the MCLs or Hazard Index.

EPA will publish the final MCLs and requirements by the end of 2023 or beginning of 2024. Additional information about PFAS can be found on the MDE website: maryland.gov/PublicHealth/Pages/PFAS-Landing-Page.aspx.

Well 3 & 5 Results

PFAS parameters	Result	Proposed limit	PFAS parameters	Result	Proposed limit <small>(* unless number used to calculate Hazard Index)</small>
PFOS	33.2 ppt	4.0 ppt	PFHxS	9.02 ppt	9 ppt
PFOA	27.5 ppt	4.0 ppt	GenX Chemicals	0 ppt	10 ppt
			PFNA	2.14 ppt	10 ppt
			PFBS	8.06 ppt	2000 ppt
			Hazard Index	1.22 *	1.0 *

Well 6 Results

PFAS parameters	Result	Proposed limit	PFAS parameters	Result	Proposed limit <small>(* unless number used to calculate Hazard Index)</small>
PFOS	4.91 ppt	4.0 ppt	PFHxS	2.86 ppt	9 ppt
PFOA	5.86 ppt	4.0 ppt	GenX Chemicals	0 ppt	10 ppt
			PFNA	0 ppt	10 ppt
			PFBS	3.4 ppt	2000 ppt
			Hazard Index	0.32 *	1.0 *

“Our current criminal justice system lacks fairness and equality. That’s why I’m working so hard to fix it and make our democracy even stronger.”

CONGRESSMAN **DAVID TRONE**

Our Current Criminal Justice System is Dire

The current state of our criminal justice system is dire. Despite having roughly 5% of the global population, American prisons make up over 20% of incarcerations worldwide. A disproportionate number of those incarcerated are people of color. Our criminal justice system is meant to hold offenders accountable and uphold the rule of law. But incarcerating people at such a high rate has not reduced crime and is one of the reasons our system needs reform.



Why I Care About Criminal Justice Reform

My passion for criminal justice reform started after my own personal experience. Just after I started my business decades ago, a corrupt Attorney General in Pennsylvania arrested me, my brother, and my wife. The charges originated with ridiculous complaints from competitors who were charging higher prices than our business was. The cases had absolutely no merit, and eventually all the charges were dropped. In fact, the Attorney General was eventually found guilty of fraud in federal court.

Trone Center for Justice and Equality

Because of my experience, I started the Trone Center for Justice and Equality at the American Civil Liberties Union. We are working with many others to reform predatory practices like cash bail, mandatory minimums, and the death penalty among others. As your member of Congress, I’ve helped pass critical legislation to provide Pell Grants to people in prison — allowing them to learn, grow, and be better off when they leave prison. In February of this year, I launched the Second Chance Task Force. Together with 42 other bipartisan members of Congress, we’re working to provide returning citizens with good jobs, reduce recidivism, and boost the economy at the same time.

Second Chances for Americans

I believe in justice. I believe in fairness. And I believe in second chances. The idea that we can either have reduced crime and safe communities or a fair justice system is a false choice. We can — we must — do both. Ending the structural problems in our criminal justice system will not happen overnight. But we can’t stop fighting until all Americans - no matter their race, no matter their income, and no matter where they live - are treated equally under the law. It’s something worth fighting for.

DAVID TRONE

FOR MARYLAND

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Gettysburg Choral Society celebrates America in song

Claire Doll
MSMU Class of 2024

This summer, the Gettysburg Choral Society is presenting a concert series celebrating American in song. "Let Freedom Ring!" features the choral society's rendition of "The Gettysburg Address" and a special recognition of veterans to celebrate the historical meaning of Gettysburg and Independence Day just around the corner. Concert dates are May 26th at Trinity United Church of Christ; June 30th at First United Methodist Church; and July 3rd at United Lutheran Seminary Chapel. All concerts are at 8 p.m.

Selections such as Katharine Lee Bates' "America, the Beautiful" and Irving Berlin's "God Bless America" will portray the goodness and beauty of America. "Throughout our history, God's name has been invoked in many of our patriotic songs," says Director John McKay. "Thus, we also unapologetically celebrate and acknowledge the historical relevance of faith in the development of this nation." Hymns from the 19th century, such as "I Will Arise and Go to Jesus," present a historical perspective on the religious upheavals influencing governmental actions across the country. And of course, the beloved "The Gettysburg Address" arranged by Mark Hayes serves to exemplify the significance of faith for Americans. Lincoln's words—"that this

nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom"—portray the purpose of this concert series.

"The music was chosen to highlight the significance of religious fervor in the development of America, and how that influenced patriotism—and especially patriotic songs—that we know and love today," says McKay. The musical selection is identical for all performances, so be sure to attend at least one.

The Gettysburg Choral society's plan to recognize American veterans distinguishes them as a respectable, patriotic musical group. At the performances, the chorus and directors will ask all veterans to stand and be recognized and thanked for the service to the country. The chorus will sing two special numbers dedicated to the veterans, both present at the concert and beyond. The light-hearted "A Patriotic Salute," featuring a medley of various service songs woven together, will be followed by "The Folded Flag," which serves as a somber reminder of those who "gave the last full measure of devotion."

The Gettysburg Choral Society will not be the only musical group at these performances. They will be accompanied by the Gettysburg Flute Flock, a musical group composed entirely of talented flutists. Started by retired music teacher Georgia Hollabaugh as a sort of ad hoc group of flutists, the group has

grown to about 16 members. As a member of Trinity United Church of Christ, Hollabaugh and the group rehearses there weekly. The Flute Flock will perform three numbers, offering a unique addition to the chorus' program: "The Liberty Bell," "George M. Cohan Medley," and "Battle Hymn of the Republic."

The June 30th concert at First United Methodist Church of Hanover, 200 Frederick Street, Hanover, PA provides a lovely venue in which to sing and celebrate music. The choral society's patriotic concert last year was a tremendous success, being the group's first such concert outside of Adams County, PA. Meanwhile, the July 3rd concert at The Church of the Abiding Presence (more commonly known as the Chapel of the United Lutheran Seminary in Gettysburg), located on Seminary Ridge, is described as "one of the most uniquely beautiful and gratifying places to sing" by McKay. Both concerts take place at 8 p.m. and are free of charge, open to donations to help defray expenses.

The May 26th performance at Trinity United Church of Christ "went very well and was a special performance," says McKay. The concert recognized not only the veterans, but also one of the group's own members, Don Walsh, who died suddenly in December. A display of folded flags at the concert honored and served as a special trib-



Gettysburg Choral Society

ute to those no longer with us.

"People who love America and patriotic music should attend these concerts that will inspire us all to remember how our heroes of the past have made it possible for us today to Let Freedom Ring!" says McKay and Manager Julie Strickland. To portray how loved these concerts are, the choral society's Christmas performance took place here last December, and the church was full to capacity, with over 500 in attendance.

The summer series is not all the choral society has in store, however. Make note of the group's upcoming Christmas concert on December 9th at 3 p.m. at the Seton Shrine in Emmitsburg—their first concert in

Maryland! The Gettysburg Choral Society is excited to bring the chorus to another state, and our lovely town of Emmitsburg is beyond grateful and thrilled to host the choral society.

If interested in joining the chorus, please contact director John McKay. He may be reached by call or text at (717) 476-1054 or by email at zoemckay@aol.com. Those interested must be at least 18 years of age, able to read music, and have choral music experience. "Tenors and basses are especially encouraged to audition this summer for our fall season, which begins September 11th," says McKay. The chorus meets each Monday evening from 7-9 p.m. at Trinity UCC in Gettysburg.

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HISTORY

Cavalry operations around Emmitsburg, July 1863

John Allen Miller

The last days of June were crucial to both the Union and Confederate armies. General Hooker, the commander of the Army of the Potomac was relieved of command and General George Meade stepped in. The Federal position at this time was located about 35 miles south in Frederick, Maryland. During the last days of June, the Confederate Army moved about 50 miles into south-central Pennsylvania reaching from Chambersburg.

As the Union Army received its orders to march onward toward Gettysburg, General Alfred Pleasonton issued his orders to the Army of the Potomac's Cavalry Divisions. The orders are as follow:

Special Orders, Headquarters Cavalry Corps, Numbers 99, June 29, 1863.

I. The First Cavalry Division will

move immediately on the receipt of this order as follows: Two brigades and a battery by the way of Peaksville, Wolfsville, and Chewsville, to Emmitsburg, and from thence to Gettysburg by tomorrow night; one brigade and battery with trains to march, by way of Frederick City, Adamsville, Lewistown, and Catocin Furnace, to Mechanistown, where it will encamp for the night, protecting the rear, and bring up all stragglers. A staff officer will also be sent tomorrow night from the brigade at Mechanistown to headquarters Cavalry Corps at Middleburg, for orders. The left of the infantry corps will rest tomorrow night at Emmitsburg.

II. The Third Cavalry Division, commanded by General Kilpatrick, will move by 8 o'clock this morning as follows: First Brigade and a battery, Brigadier-General Farnsworth, will move, by way of Woodsborough,

Bruceville, and Taneytown, to Littlestown. Second Brigade and a battery, Brigadier-General Custer, will move by Utica, Creagerstown, and Graceham, to Emmitsburg; from thence to Littlestown. The trains of this division will move with the First Brigade, and will encamp near headquarters of the corps, at Middleburg. A staff officer will be sent by the commander of this division to the headquarters of the corps at Middleburg tomorrow night, for orders.

By command of Major-General Pleasonton: A. J. Alexander, Chief of Staff, and Assistant Adjutant-General.

As the Confederate troops reached toward Gettysburg, skirmishes developed around Emmitsburg at Fountaindale where on June 28th, parts of Albert Jenkins Cavalry ran into Cole's Cavalry. On June 30th, eight miles north of Emmitsburg, about 3,000 Confederates skirmished with parts of Buford's Union cavalry at Fairfield. This skirmish did not last long, as the patrols broke off the engagement with the Confederates to retreat to the main position of General Buford. General Buford entered Emmitsburg around nine o'clock in the evening.

General George Meade, who was commanding the Federal forces, developed a plan in the event General Lee's Confederates came from the cross roads of those little towns that dotted the PA country side. The Pipe Creek Line was a defensive line about twenty miles long that stretched from Middleburg, Maryland to Union Mills, Maryland. The Pipe Creek Line was about twenty miles long. The Pipe Creek Line was the reason that Federal troops raced to Gettysburg on such a short notice.

On June 30th, Taneytown was the headquarters for General Meade as Emmitsburg began to take on the role as a supply base for the Union Troops. The Pipe Creek Line was formed because General Meade thought the Confederate Army might try to invade Baltimore or Washington from the North, and because it provided several tactical advantages. The higher grounds offered a natural barrier and also provided vantage points for lookout posts and signal stations. The roads that ran through the region that would move the troops toward Gettysburg on July 1st were almost parallel to the Pipe Creek.

By now Emmitsburg was crawling with Federal Troops coming in from Frederick. On June 30th, men of the



First Corps of the Army of the Potomac went into Emmitsburg to obtain fresh milk, bread, pies, and cakes. Members of the First Corps made camp near the present day Post Office and mustered to receive their pay. A disturbance broke out when soldiers of the 76th New York were told to wait until the next day to receive their pay. In the evening hours the First Corps reset Camp three miles from town along Marsh Creek and reset camp there. A battery of artillery was held in Emmitsburg as reserves on the heights toward Thurmont. General Reynolds made his headquarters at the Moritz Tavern, which was three miles north of Emmitsburg.

During the evening hours of June 30th, Oliver Howard, commander of the Army of the Potomac 11th Corps, made his way from Mount Saint Mary's College to see General Reynolds. During the evening, Howard thought that the General appeared preoccupied. While at the Moritz Tavern General Reynolds wrote an analysis to General Meade proposing that if the enemy advances in force from Gettysburg, and a defensive battle must be fought. The strategy reasoned in the vicinity the best position to be held would be just north of the town of Emmitsburg. General Lee would undoubtedly endeavor to maneuver the western wing by Fairfield and the mountain roads near Mt. Saint Mary's College.

General Sickles Third Corps marched through Emmitsburg between two and three o'clock that afternoon. Emmitsburg was now holding troops in reserve for Western Wing of the Army of the Potomac. The town of Emmitsburg was critical to the war efforts. General Meade sent a dispatch to General Sickles and told him to hold Emmitsburg in case of a break through which would have Emmitsburg acting as a road block. General Sickles was subsequently ordered to leave Emmitsburg to rejoin the Army of the Potomac that

was heavily engaged at Gettysburg.

One reason that General Meade ordered Sickles to leave Emmitsburg was that so many Union troops were engaged at Gettysburg it would be too risky to hold Emmitsburg as part of a plan that didn't involve retreat. When another order came from General Meade to confirm the original order to stay at Emmitsburg, General Sickles disregarded it and moved on toward Gettysburg.

July 2nd, would come to a draw with a slight edge in favor of the Federal troops. The attacks made on Culp's Hill, Big Round Top, Little Round Top, and the Wheatfield would prove disaster for both sides. The wheat in a matter of moments would be covered with dead and wounded soldiers of both sides. Companies would be wiped out in a matter of minutes. Inch by inch the Confederates would gain but would be soon repulsed.

On the morning of July 3rd, the Confederates attacked the Federal positions in the center of Cemetery Ridge. The attack started with a major cannonade, under the command of Porter Alexander. Then the plan called for a major assault over open fields that stretched for about a mile. General Pickett's Division led the attack. More than 15,000 men were part of the attack and only but 5,000 of them would return. This was known as Pickett's Charge, or Longstreet's Assault. On the eastern side of Gettysburg the Confederate Cavalry ran into General Kilpatrick's main division. This battle would prove that the Confederate cavalry was as invincible. After the cavalry battle, which proved fateful to the Confederates, Pickett's Charge also came to a close. The Confederate Army was forced to abandon Gettysburg.

On July 4th, Confederate troops started the long march back toward Virginia. The weather took a turn for the worse as heavy rains and thunderstorms raged throughout the area. Members of Cole's Cavalry, most of whom were from Emmitsburg, destroyed a pontoon bridge that carried the Army of Northern Virginia across the Potomac River as they invaded Maryland, near Falling Waters, West Virginia.

On July 4th General Kilpatrick came into Emmitsburg in search of any rebels. With him was a young, dashing general, dressed in black velvet with a red scarf around his neck. This young man was of General George Custer. He was only 24 when he was promoted to Brigadier General in Frederick only a few days' prior. At Emmitsburg, General Kilpat-

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HISTORY

rick learned of the retreating wagon train upon Jack's Mountain. A midnight battle at Monterey proved to be quite an action according to General Custer.

On the morning of July 5th, General JEB Stuart made his way from the fields of Gettysburg to Emmitsburg. There was a sharp skirmish fought in the town's square as seventy Union men and their Captain were taken prisoners. General Stuart stopped long enough to study maps and feed and water the horses. Supplies were also taken for the wounded Confederates who fought at Gettysburg. At this time JEB Stuart learned that the action of Monterey Gap happened only a few hours prior to him entering Emmitsburg. The route he wanted to take had been closed since General Kilpatrick's men rode out of Emmitsburg to attack the retreating wagon train. Another detour was needed.

General JEB Stuart mounted up and rode toward Old Frederick Road. This led him and his men to the town of Cooperstown, (Creagarstown as its known today). The Confederate Cavalry divided the column and some wound up in Graceham. Mr. Cramer a resident of Graceham did not have time to hide his horses and the black powder that he kept in his store. Outside of his store troopers and their mounts were thirsty. A girl, Belva Anne Elizabeth Cramer, pumped the water for the horses and men. Tears started to roll down her face as she pumped. A trooper told her ""Don't cry little girl. We're dirty and ragged, but we are all gentlemen and we will not hurt you."" The trooper did not know that Belva had a bad tooth, and pumping the water from the well made the pain worse.

Accounts from the Ladies of Mt. Carmel and George Wireman indicate, that sometime on July 5th, General JEB Stuart made his way from Cooperstown to Mechanicstown. A priest was giving a sermon while the Confederate Cavalry was making its way through the town. As the priest boarded his buggy, General JEB Stuart came along and escorted the

priest to Mount Saint Mary's. General JEB Stuart demanded supplies or else he would burn the school down. The priest and JEB Stuart became such good friends that Mount Saint Mary's was spared from the torch. General Stuart even escorted the priest to his sanction.

General Stuart now had to get across the Catoctin Mountain and rejoin General Lee. It would seem almost impossible for General Stuart to do this while parts of General Wesley Merritt's troops were at Harman's Pass. This was a good route for the Confederate Cavalry to take (The road, known today as Route 77 went from Thurmont to Smithsburg). After learning of the impasse at Harman's Pass, General Stuart traveled Old Emmitsburg Road passing through Franklinville (located between Thurmont and Emmitsburg). While at Franklinville, General Stuart and his cavalry rested in the fields near the mill and creek to feed and water their horses.

Many historians will argue the route that General Stuart took during his movements protecting General Lee's Left Flank. Some speculate General Stuart took Hampton Valley Road into Deerfield by way of Eyley's Valley Road. Seeing parts of Kilpatrick's command, General Stuart diverted toward Harbaugh Valley Road to Mount Zion Church, which is outside of Sabilliasville. From there General Stuart made his way toward Leithersburg. It was about sunset when Kilpatrick saw JEB Stuart's column movement along the mountainside. General Stuart then ordered his men to dismount and fight Kilpatrick's Brigade. Emmitsburg had now seen the last of the Confederate troops.

Another story tells about a skirmish that erupted south of Emmitsburg as General Stuart and his cavalry passed Mt. Saint Mary's College. It was here, General Stuart ran into a small body of Union cavalry. In the skirmish the

Confederates pushed the Union troopers back into town. The out come of the skirmish might have been different if it occurred at ten a.m. that morning, when a large body of Union troops came through town. The news came to Emmitsburg with these Union troops that the Confederates had in deed lost the Battle of Gettysburg.

Emmitsburg saw Union troops for the several days. The I, VI, and the XI Corps marched through Emmitsburg on July 6th. Members of the I Corp found other members of the VI Corp resting after their march from Fairfield. Emmitsburg was now hosting the Union troops and opened their stores to them. A drummer boy named of Bardeen purchased a fair amount of green peas at a price of ten cents. Katherine Hewitt, a lady friend of General Reynolds, tried to keep their secret love affair private until the end of the war. When she asked to view the General's body, she told the members of his family that they met in California. A grieving Katherine Hewitt entered a convent in Emmitsburg, but kept in touch with the family of General John Reynolds. Ms. Hewitt stayed in Emmitsburg until 1868 when she vanished.

Emmitsburg became a landmark for those in blue since other roads in poor condition could not handle the huge army. On July 7th, General Meade himself came to Emmitsburg and was received with much enthusiasm. Many of the townspeople thanked the General for all he did in protecting the town from the Confederates. Members of the Fifth Corps came through Emmitsburg on their way to Utica. By now the last of the Federal soldiers were passing through Emmitsburg. The worst of the war was now gone from these little communities and the rebuilding could begin.

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

Special Commemoration Programs And Events During The 160th Anniversary Of The Battle Of Gettysburg

Jason Martz

Gettysburg National Military Park staff will commemorate the 160th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg on July 1, 2, and 3, with a series of free hikes, walks and talks that discuss, explore, and reflect on this important turning point in the American Civil War. The public is invited to join National Park Service staff throughout the three-day period across the battlefield, in the Gettysburg National Cemetery, and at the Museum and Visitor Center.

Numerous programs are offered throughout the day and include something for all ages. Each day, three Key Moment stations will be located at specific locations across the battlefield where specific battle action took place. Brief twenty-minute programs, with minimal walking, will take place throughout the day at these stations. Longer hikes of 60 to 90 minutes will also step off from these stations. These longer hikes will explore various aspects and personalities of the battle.

"Park staff have worked diligently to present an abundance of programming that will provide visitors with a wide variety of topics no matter your level of knowledge or age. From our young visitors to our young-at-heart visitors, everyone will find a topic or programs that fits

their interest and stamina levels," says Steve Sims, superintendent of Gettysburg National Military Park.

In addition to in-depth programming, family friendly activities will provide a fun way for children ages 4 to 13 an opportunity to learn about the battle by following in the footsteps of soldiers who fought at Gettysburg, were wounded during the battle, and during President Abraham Lincoln's visit in November 1863.

Living history groups will also provide a unique perspective into the daily life of the Civil War soldier. Visitors will have the opportunity to explore their camps and interact with these knowledgeable historians at different locations around the battlefield. The boom and crack of Civil War-era artillery and rifle demonstrations will provide examples of the tools and tactics of 19th century warfare.

Gettysburg National Military Park is once again honored to partner with the Gettysburg Foundation to present the Sacred Trust Talks and Book Signings. These free events will take place at the Museum and Visitor Center from July 1 to 3, and will feature renowned authors, historians, and National Park Service Rangers who will discuss the impact of the American Civil War on contemporary politics and society, industry, medicine, and culture.



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July 6

Fourth of July Festivities

Emmitsburg's Fireman's Picnic held on the Fourth was largely attended. There were lots of amusement and a Ford Touring car was giving away. Luther Burhman of Graceham was the lucky winner.

Hurt, Asks \$10,000 In Damages

As a result of injury sustained in an accident last November, Samuel Eyler, aged 45, of Woodsboro, has brought a suit for \$10,000 against John Lewis, Ernest Staub and Roy Graybill, all of Thurmont.

Staub and Graybill, employees of Lewis, at the time of the accident were engaged in hauling fodder from his farm north of Thurmont. At the time, Eyler, was coming from the Western Maryland Railroad station onto the main road running north and south through Thurmont.

Eyler was driving a buggy and claims he had the right away and that Staub and Graybill were not holding the check lines of the horses at the time of the accident.

The tongue of the wagon, which was driven by Staub and Graybill, ran into the rear wheel of the buggy, overturning it and dragging Eyler for some distance. Eyler suffered a split kneecap, a crushed bone in the leg, and injury to the hip. He has been under the care of a physician ever since and claims he will be permanently disabled.

Hail Damages Fruit & Grain Crops

Hail, coming with a thunderstorm, Wednesday afternoon, cause considerable damage to fruit and grain crops in the southwestern part of Adams County. In several places, the hail stones were as big as walnuts. At Fairfield Station some of the hail still covered the ground the following morning. The duration of the hailstorm varied from 15 minutes to half

an hour. A wind of high velocity accompanied the downpour.

Fruit growers in the lower section of the County reported considerable damage done to growing apples and peaches. On the farm of Oliver Sanders, near Fairfield, were the storm and wind did most of the damage, a silo was blown over by the high wind.

On many farms in the Fairfield district, the hail shredded the leaves on corn or cut them off entirely leaving only the main stock of the plant standing. In many instances, the kernels were knocked from the heads of grain in the shock.

Over 100 young chickens were drowned on Ralph Musselman's farm during the heavy rain. Mr. Keefsver lost 60 peeps and Jacob Althoff lost 26 or more.

Seeks Parole For Safe Breaker

Irving Martz, who was sentenced to 14 years in the Maryland Penitentiary in connection with the blowing of two safes in Frederick in the fall of 1921, when Clarence Wallace shot and killed Leo Krieger, of Thurmont, while Krieger was pursuing him, has made an application to the State Parole Commissioner for a pardon.

Martz and Wallace, it will be remembered, blew the safe in the coal office of Merckell & Ford on Water Street and also the safe in the office of George Kenny on East All Saints Street. The men left Frederick early in the morning, boarding a trolley headed for Thurmont. Persons on the car suspected them up being the man who had cracked two safes in Frederick during the night and telephone messages were sent to Thurmont where the chase was taken up.

July 13

Death of Dr. Seiss

Dr. Franklin Seiss, died at his

home Saturday evening, following a stroke a paralysis received on July 5, age 64 years. Doctor Seiss practiced his profession in Taneytown from 1881 to 1921, a period of 39 years. His first location was at Thurmont. He was both successful and popular as a physician, and as a citizen stood high in the eyes of all.

During his life in Taneytown, he served as Burgess, member of the Council of the Lutheran Church, member of the County Board of Health, and as a Director of the Carroll Record. In many ways he was actively identified with local affairs. He was a staunch friend of Taneytown, and the people of the town and vicinity whom he labored for so long. The funeral, which was held at the Lutheran Church in Taneytown, was the largest ever held in that church, thereby attesting to the high regard with which the public held him.

Henry Peter Dies

Henry Peters, a veteran of the Civil War, and lifelong resident of Fairfield, died Tuesday evening at the home of his son, James Peters. Death was due to cancer. Mr. Peters was aged 80 years, eight months and 16 days. Funeral services were held at Saint Mary's Church, in Fairfield.

Boy Recounts Tale Of Recent Abduction.

An interesting story of abduction and subsequent release was told to William Trago, of Thurmont, the recounter was Alan Immick, of Tacoma Park who was unaware that Mr. Trago was a Thurmont man.

According to his story, Immick was on his home when two men in an auto stopped him and ask if he knew where a certain person lived. The boy knew the person inquired for an entered the automobile to show them the way. After going to short distance the men in the car gagged and bound



A car approaching the old covered bridge over Toms Creek on the Old Emmitsburg Road.

Immick while the car was traveling at a lively pace.

He says the next stop was in Thurmont in front of a meat shop. One man entered a nearby store to get something to eat while the other guarded the boy. After leaving Thurmont the men headed for Virginia and when nearing Roanoke strip the boy of nearly all his clothing and put him on the road. He reported as soon as possible to a police station and was taken care of until his father sent money for a ticket for his return to Washington. The men, it is stated, had all kinds of burglary tools, blackjacks, guns and liquor in the car, which he believe was stolen.

The alleged abduction occurred on June 20 and citizens of Thurmont, recall, it is said, the fact that a car with two men answering the description given by Immick stopped in Thurmont on the evening designated and invested in food.

Held For Theft

Ervin Munshower, 17 years old, who said his home is in Emmitsburg, was held in jail overnight until the arrival of the sheriff from Emmitsburg, when he was taken back to that place where he was charged with the theft of a bicycle.

It is said that he visited numerous businesses in Gettysburg Monday, and offered to sell the bicycle cheap. His actions aroused suspicion, and he failed to make a sale. When he offered the machine

for three dollars, Edward Rosensteel decided police should investigate.

Four Men, A Car, And Moonshine

Moonshine and gasoline are a bad combination at any time, but more especially when the gasoline is flowing into the motor of an automobile, driven at a high rate of speed by someone who has consumed moonshine.

As a result of such a combination, Harry Fleming, is in the hospital, suffering from a chest injury, while Philip Hoffman, Oliver Stull, and an unidentified colored man are thanking their lucky stars for their escape with nothing more than a severe shaking up.

The accident occurred on the Emmitsburg Road near the state line. According to the report, the automobile, a touring car, passed several houses at its maximum rate of speed. It is not known exactly how the accident happened, but it is believed the car ran off the left side of the concrete roadway and that in an effort to bring it back to its course, it turned turtle.

According to police, a broken jug was found near the overturn automobile. A strong smell of moonshine liquor arising from the spot the jug was broken was identical with a similar odor coming from the passenger compartment of the machine. According to persons who reach the scene of the accident at least three of the

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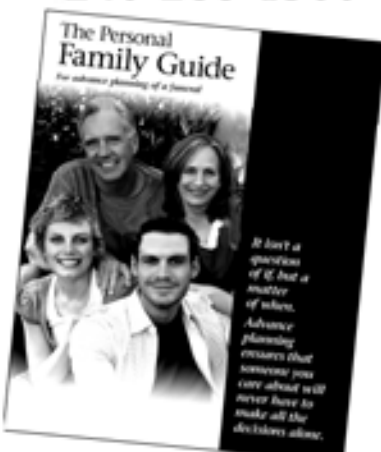
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man appear to have been drinking. The colored man, it is said, was entirely sober.

The top of the car was entirely torn off, the windshield was shattered, the left rear wheel was off and the fenders broken in several places.

When the Marines went through last summer on their way to Gettysburg they pronounced the bridge unfit for their heavy trucks and had to prop it up. A number of heavy trucks have been using the bridge this summer and it has been pronounced unsafe.

The new bridge is to be of reinforced concrete consisting of a single span, 80 foot long by 24 feet wide. Bids for its construction must be submitted to the office of the State Road Commission by noon July 31.

Gasoline Tax

The tax of one-cent a gallon on gasoline has yielded the state a total of \$632,143 in the first full year since it has been an operation. This collection bears out almost exactly the estimate of the State Road Commission, which calculated at the time it was imposed that it would yield an average of \$50,000 a month.

The tax is upon gasoline used in motorcars. Purchasers of gasoline for motorboats, farm tractors, stationary engines, and other purposes are entitled to a refund.

These figures show that

64,412,658 gallons of gasoline were used in Maryland in the 12 months ending on May 31. This is the first time an approximate figure on the total consumption of gasoline in the state have been available.

The one-cent tax will continue until January 1924. The revenues are budgeted to provide funds to wipe out the deficit in the road maintenance fund, which amounts to about \$1 million. The tax will increase to two-cents a gallon January 1, 1924. Collections from the new tax will be used for road maintenance.

Death By Suicide

Clifford Smouse, committed suicide, by hanging himself in the barn next to house near Keysville, on Monday afternoon. He was found hanging down the hay hole, by his wife and Mr. Shorb. Justice Davidson was summoned, who deemed an inquiry unnecessary. Mr. Smouse was ill, and at times despondent, and committed the act when the latter condition. He is survived by his wife, one brother. His age was 53 years old. Funeral services were held at the Keysville Lutheran Church

Almost Loses Hand

Raymond Sauble met with a severe accident on Monday, having his left hand caught by a pulley, severely lacerating it. The bone connecting it to his arm was severed and it was only held on by a small amount of tissue. He was hurried to the hospital where the necessary surgical treatment was given and returned home in the evening with his hand still attached.

Street Signs & House Numbers

New Oxford has ordered nameplates for the streets of the town. Why not do the same for the streets in the cities in Frederick & Carroll Counties? And while we are at it, how about numbers for the houses? When this is done, Emmitsburg Street in Taneytown should be called West Baltimore St. The main streets of towns should have one name, the whole length of it, divided east and west by the squares.

July 27

Gypsies Not Wanted

A band of gypsies had a rather stirring experience the first of this week, charge for not having taken out a solicitation license as required by law. They had camped in the lower part of the County on Sunday and on Monday passed through Walkersville and Woodsboro on their way towards Thurmont.

The sheriff was tipped off that the band had started for Thurmont when the deputies nab them and took five men and a woman back to Frederick where a hearing was held. They were charged with having no license for solicitation and a fine of \$75,000 was imposed, but waved on the condition that they leave the County at once and not return.

From Thurmont the rovers went to Emmitsburg and then proceeded to Gettysburg arriving there early Monday evening. Determine not to allow the gypsies to apply their trade in Gettysburg, state troopers stationed there ask them to move on. The motorized caravan then set forth in the direction of Chambersburg, via Fairfield. The party was escorted to the western Adam County line by the state officers in order to prevent them from camping in that county overnight.

Mountain Fire

A mountain fire near Mount St. Mary's did great damage from Saturday until Tuesday. 1,500 acres of timber were burned over. The fire burned briskly for a time and had it not been brought under control so expeditiously, damage would likely have resulted to the Mount Saint Mary's buildings. The fire was principally on the other side of the mountain from the college, all the timber burned is said to belong to Mount St. Mary's.

For a time the flames seem to be making headway, so an appeal was sent over the surrounding country for help. A large number of men from Saint Anthony's, Emmitsburg and neighboring places responded. After a hard fight they were able to overcome the blaze which was entirely extinguish. 60 men watched it all night until the rain came on

Tuesday morning and there was no danger of it spreading.

The fire, it is believed, was started by the carelessness of someone picnicking in the mountains. The probable cause was a match for a cigarette carelessly thrown away.

Fairfield Fire Co. Buys Hook & Ladder Engine

The Fairfield Fire Company has purchased the hook and ladder apparatus of the Gettysburg Fire Company for \$75. The apparatus, which has been the property of the Gettysburg Company for the last 20 years, is fully equipped with 75 feet of ladder, four hand chemicals, axes, bars, rope and buckets. The truck had to be towed to Fairfield because its engine has not worked for years.

Hay And Corn Crops A Failure

Farmers who held onto last year's hay crop or wise. The crop this year will be very small, as well as poor in quality. No amount of rain, now, will produce a normal corn crop, while the potato crop is hopelessly ruined, even from the latest planning. Corn for canning purposes will also be a very short crop, and the acreage planted with pees will be largely a complete failure.

The 1924 hay crop will be very shy of clover as it never showed up in the wheat stubble. Due to lack of spring rains and the extremely dry month of June and July, the clover that did get a start has been burned up.

There is a system of farming which is in practice in certain sections of the county, which many farmers in our section may use to their advantage this year. Instead of seeding timothy and clover in wheat, the hay mixture is seeded with wheat planted in August. There are two advantages of the system, clean hay and a sure crop.

It is recommend that farmers disc the wheat stubble from now until the first of August about every 10 days, and then seed with a wheelbarrow seeder, a mixture of 6 to 8 pounds of red clover, 4 to 7 pounds alfalfa, 4 to 5 pounds alsika, and 6 to 8 pounds of timothy. This should then be followed with a pulverizer.

To read other articles related to 100 Years Ago this Month, visit the History section of Emmitsburg.net.

July 20

Covered Wooden Bridge Over Toms Creek To Go

The last covered wooden bridge between Frederick and Emmitsburg will soon be history. The State Road Commission has advertised for bids for the construction of a new bridge over Toms Creek near Emmitsburg on the Frederick-Emmitsburg State Road.

The elimination of this bridge has been agitated for the past seven years. A bill was passed by the Maryland Legislature in 1915 to this end, but the project was put on the shelf because of world war activities.

About a year and a half ago a truck of the Standard Oil Company went through the bridge.

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ALL OUR YESTERDAYS - FREDERICK COUNTY HISTORY

July 6

Since the 1940s every president has spend some time at Camp David, some more than others. But seldom have these great men ventured out of the confines of this secluded retreat to visit the historical sites so very close by.

On July 6, 1978, President and Mrs. Jimmy Carter created a lot of excitement when they visited the Mother Seton Shrine in Emmitsburg, the Gettysburg and Antietam Battlefields, and Harpers Ferry.

Their first stop was at the Seton Shrine. About 200 people were at the shrine, where Elizabeth Seton, the first American-born saint of the Roman Catholic Church, is buried. Carter was dressed as a typical tourist in a red checkered sports shirt and brown slacks. Besides Mrs. Carter, he was accompanied by his mother-in-law and his son Jeff and his wife, Annette, and Shelby Foote, noted Civil War historian.

At the Seton Shrine, the Carters went inside and prayed briefly, according to a priest who was with them. When Carter exited, he greeted the nuns of The Sisters of Charity and kissed three of them, including Sister Anne William, the shrine's director.

The Carter entourage then went to the Gettysburg Battlefield, where Foote provided a running commentary as the party toured the hallowed ground. The President then stopped at the Eisenhower Farm to pay his respects to Mrs. Mamie Eisenhower, the widow of one of his predecessors.

Next they were off to Antietam where the bloodiest single day of The Civil War was fought. The motorcade then traveled to Harpers Ferry, and Foote again retraced John Brown's Raid

of 1859 for the Carters.

The 11-hour trip proved that it was still possible for a sitting President of The United States to travel around the countryside like ordinary citizens with little noticeable security and only a modicum of hoopla.

Visitors to all the sites visited by the Carters that day were surprised and excited that they were able to see the president as 'just plain folks.' Mrs. Diane Ellis, of Ithaca, N.Y., was quoted in the local press: "Surprised? I'm in shock. Never thought when we started out for Florida we'd be seeing him. Now we really have something to write about. This is an honor...I don't know if my heart's going to hold out."

July 13

Paul and Rita Gordon's Textbook History of Frederick County was not the first history book by a Frederick resident to be used as a textbook in the public schools of Maryland. James McSherry preceded them by more than a century.

He was born in Littlestown, Pennsylvania, on July 29, 1819. After graduating first in his class at Mount Saint Mary's in 1838, he studied law with James E. Coale in Frederick.

However, his interest lay with literary pursuits and he devoted his life to it. In 1849 he published a History of Maryland, covering the annals of our state from 1634 to 1848. For years it was used as a standard textbook in Maryland public schools.

He also published Willitof, a novel about life in England during the time of James the First. He also penned a historical narrative called Pierre Jean Laval, about an early Jesuit mission in Canada

and the northwestern United States.

For a couple of years he was "the editor of The Frederick Examiner in old Whig times," as the paper said in reporting his death on July 13, 1869. He also frequently wrote for a Catholic periodical in Baltimore.

He didn't devote all his energies to literary pursuits. For many years he was an active member of the Independent Fire Company, and "contributed by his energy and usefulness to that company." At one time he was a vice president of Independents.

He was married to Ann Ridgely Sappington, the daughter of a prominent family in Libertytown, and was the father of several.

July 20

On July 23, 1973, retired Associate Judge of The Maryland Court of Appeals Edward Delaplaine, fourth son of the founder of The Frederick News, married Helen Stickell, widow of Dr. Dean Stickell, at her home in the 300 block of Rockwell Terrace.

His life seemed so full of other things to do. He was an excellent student at Boy's High School and at Washington & Lee University. His law practice was active. He authored books on Francis Scott Key, author of our National Anthem, Thomas Johnson, Maryland's first governor, and on John Phillip Sousa.

His articles in the Frederick News-Post displayed a keen eye for research, though many would find the writing style lacking. And for 18 years he was an associate judge of Maryland's highest court.

So it was that until July 20, 1973, Edward Delaplaine, the youngest of four sons of William Delaplaine, Sr., who founded The Frederick News, and Fannie Delaplaine, did not have time for marriage. On that day he married Helen Stickell, the widow of Dr. Dean Stickell, at her home in the 300 block of

Rockwell Terrace.

Judge Delaplaine was born on October 6, 1893. In less than two years his father died. At the age of 17 he graduated first in his class at Boys High School. He entered Washington & Lee University that fall, and before he graduated he won gold medals in debating. After attending W&L and The University of Maryland Law schools, he was admitted to the Maryland Bar at age 21.

His interest in history was enhanced by his association with Dr. Bernard Steiner, the librarian at Baltimore's Enoch Pratt Library. In 1917 he helped Steiner research the life of Chief Justice Roger Taney. Steiner acknowledged Delaplaine's help in the forward to his published biography.

While history was a first love for Delaplaine, the law and politics consumed a great deal of his early career. In 1915 he was elected to the Maryland House of Delegates and served two terms. In December 1938 he was named by Governor Harry Nice to be chief judge of the 6th Judicial Circuit and an associate judge of the Maryland Court of Appeals.

In 1942 he was elected to the same positions, but because the state's judicial system was changed, he was relieved of his circuit duties and devoted full time to his Court of Appeals position. He would remain on that court until he retired on September 1, 1956.

Throughout his government service both in Frederick and Annapolis, his interest in local history remained unabated. In 1927 he published the first biography of Governor Thomas Johnson. And in 1937 he published what is still considered today to be the definitive biography of Francis Scott Key.

When he left the court in 1956 his time for historical research and writing was expanded, even though he continued to serve on numerous boards and commissions. He frequently said, in reference to his historical subjects that they were his "biographical victims."

On May 21, 1989, Edward

Delaplaine died. He was buried on May 24 at Mount Olivet Cemetery.

July 27

For 52 years the Frederick County Historical Society did not have a permanent home. That changed in 1944.

During the Winter of 1943 and the Spring of 1944, Mrs. William Belt, of Omaha, Nebraska, presented numerous antiques and memorabilia which had belonged to her late husband, who had grown up here, to the Frederick County Historical Society.

Initially Mrs. Belt just wanted the society to house and display the items, some of which had belonged to the famous Tyler family of doctors. During those months, Mrs. Belt learned that the society did not have a permanent home and she decided to donate the funds necessary to purchase such a facility.

The search for a suitable location began in June. The Lipps property on West Patrick at Jefferson Street, with a purchase price of \$12,000, was quickly pinpointed. The house had been erected in 1807 by Steven Steiner, with an addition in 1817. In 1837 the property was sold to Henry Wilcoxsen, who, in turn, sold it in 1849 to John Lipps, whose daughter was the owner in 1944.

On July 22, Miss Mamie Lipps was given \$1,200 to seal the purchase of what the society called The Steiner House. Five days later, at 1:30 in the afternoon, the deed was recorded and the historical society had a permanent home.

Under the terms of the contract, however, Miss Lipps could remain in the rear section of property until November 1, 1945, unless she located suitable quarters prior to that time. In the meantime, Miss Lipps was to care for the part of the house occupied by the Historical Society after November 1, 1944.

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



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TANEYTOWN HISTORY

Taneytown Hudson dealership

David Bule

On June 10, the Taneytown History Museum hosted its yearly Hudson Car Show at the location of the former Martin Koons' Hudson dealership. The event was a remarkable success, with vintage car enthusiasts coming from far and wide to witness the magnificent display of classic Hudsons. The Hudson Car Show showcased some of the most well-preserved Hudson cars in the region, including a stunning 1947 Hudson Super Six Club Coupe, a beautiful 1951 Hudson Pacemaker, a sleek 1952 Hudson Commodore Convertible, a mighty 1954 Hudson Hornet, a stylish 1953 Hudson convertible, and a 1949 Hudson Super Six - a car that was initially purchased from Martin Koons himself.

There is limited information about Martin Koons' Hudson Dealership, but it operated during the early 1920s until Hudson ceased production in the mid to late 1950s. The dealership consisted of a wooden garage located behind Martin's house. This garage had two large bays on each end of the building and a small central office measuring approximately 60x26 feet. Martin relocated to this building in the late 1920s from another rented building one block away.

Few remnants from the business remain, but the Taneytown History Museum is believed to have a ledger documenting the initial forty-seven sales and purchases. Notably, a Hudson Essex Terraplane Club member has the forty-ninth receipt, indicating a potential loss of the later-year ledgers. This Club member also observed the ledger's information, revealing that Koons opted to place orders through the Washington, DC zone office instead of the closer Baltimore office, despite the latter having an outlet within a mere 20 miles of Taneytown.

The lack of documentation of the Dealership and alternate spellings of "Koons" made conducting

research difficult. The obituary for Martin Koons shows that the legal name of Martin Koons may have been "Koontz." According to the obituary in the August 6, 1965, issue of the Hanover Evening Sun, "Martin Koontz, 72, a well-known retired Taneytown auto dealer died yesterday at his home, following an illness of a year. Mr. Koontz was the husband of Mrs. Mary Hahn Koontz. He operated a garage in Taneytown for 45 years before retiring several years ago."

What prompted the establishment of a Hudson Dealership in Taneytown? Martin Koons' genuinely admired the Hudson automobile's pivotal role in American car manufacturing history. From 1909 to 1954, the Hudson Motor Car Company manufactured these vehicles, which garnered widespread acclaim for their pioneering engineering, distinctive design, and remarkable accomplishments in the realm of racing. The enduring presence of the Hudson automobile left an indelible mark on the industry, revolutionizing automotive technologies and captivating the imaginations of automotive enthusiasts.

The Hudson Motor Car Company was founded in 1909 by Joseph L. Hudson and a group of eight other visionary entrepreneurs in Detroit, Michigan. Their primary objective was to produce high-quality, affordable vehicles that appeal to a broad range of consumers. Through their unwavering dedication to excellence and commitment to innovation, they quickly cultivated a loyal customer base. Thus, the decision to establish a Hudson Dealership in Taneytown was driven by recognizing the significance and impact of the Hudson brand, along with the desire to cater to the burgeoning automotive market in the area.

One of Hudson's most significant contributions to the automotive world was introducing the "step-down" design. In 1932, the company unveiled the Hudson Essex-Terraplane, which featured a lower center of gravity because



Although there are no known photographs of Martin's Hudson Dealership specifically situated at 340 East Baltimore Street, presented here is a photograph of the property that currently stands at 418 East Baltimore Street.

of the positioning of the passenger compartment within the chassis. This design provided enhanced stability, improved handling, and a smoother ride. The step-down design became a hallmark of Hudson vehicles and was later adopted by other manufacturers.

Hudson automobiles were also known for their powerful engines. In the 1950s, the company introduced the Hudson Hornet, a full-size car that gained fame for its high-performance "Twin-H Power" engine. This innovative engine used dual carburetors, dual intake manifolds, and a high compression ratio, producing impressive power and speed. The Hudson Hornet's success on the racetrack, particularly in NASCAR competitions, solidified its reputation as a formidable and fast vehicle.

The Hudson brand invested in the Hornet and engaged in motorsports, using its achievements in racing to promote its products. Hudson cars dominated NASCAR races in the early 1950s, with their drivers securing numer-

ous victories. This success on the track helped raise the profile of the Hudson brand and contributed to its overall popularity among consumers.

Besides performance and engineering prowess, Hudson automobiles boasted unique and eye-catching designs. The brand was known for its sleek, aerodynamic styling, which set it apart from other cars of its time. The "step-down" design, bold lines, and distinctive front grilles gave Hudson vehicles a distinct and recognizable appearance.

Despite its achievements, the Hudson Motor Car Company faced challenges in the post-war era. The rise of more prominent manufacturers, such as General Motors, Ford, and Chrysler, posed stiff competition. In 1954 the company merged with Nash-Kelvinator Corporation to form American Motors Corporation (AMC). The Hudson brand continued under the AMC umbrella for a few more years, but eventually, the nameplate was dis-

continued in 1957.

Although the Hudson automobile is no longer in production, its legacy endures. The brand's innovative engineering, racing success, and unique designs have impacted the automotive industry indelibly. Hudson cars continue to be cherished by collectors and enthusiasts, and their influence can be seen in subsequent generations of automobiles.

Unfortunately, those who missed the Hudson Car Show display must wait until next year to experience this event's unique charm and historical significance. Rest assured, however, that the Taneytown History Museum is working hard to ensure that next year's event will be even more spectacular than the last. Keep an eye on the museum's website and social media pages for updates and announcements regarding future events.

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



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COOKING

Fruity fresh summer

Sonya Verlaque

When it gets hot out, I feel like it's hard to even think about cooking and eating but I can usually get motivated for dessert. We have a tiny garden that we started during the Covid-19 lock down at the request of our kids. They think its magic when you put a seed in the ground and then a flower or plant grows.

Right now our strawberry plant is making flowers, and our blueberry bushes failed last year, but we are hoping for better this season. Many local farms, like Chocolates and Tomatoes in Middletown and Glade Link Farm are having a good berry season so far. So stop by your favorite garden or farm and grab some berries and citrus for inspiration for a cool dessert.

Fresh Lemon-Blueberry Dutch Baby

This is a very fun breakfast to make and turn the light on in the oven and watch it puff up like magic.

Ingredients:
4 tablespoons butter, divided

1/2 cup (125g) whole or 2% milk
1/2 cup (64g) all-purpose flour
4 large eggs
3 tbs (43g) granulated sugar
1 tsp vanilla
1/4 tsp salt
the zest of one lemon
1 cup (154g) blueberries
Confectioners sugar for dusting

Preparation instructions: Put 2 tablespoons cold butter in your cast iron skillet and place in the oven as it preheats to 450F. Melt the other two tablespoons in the microwave and put into a blender. Add the milk, flour, eggs, granulated sugar, vanilla, salt, and lemon zest, and blend until smooth. (Do not skip this step — the batter will be lumpy if you do.) Carefully take the cast iron skillet out of the oven with the melted butter and add the blueberries. Shake the skillet to coat the berries in butter and then, immediately pour the batter over the blueberries and transfer the skillet back to the oven. Bake until the pancake is puffed and golden, about 15 minutes. Remove the pan from the oven and let it set, it will deflate some, then dust with confec-

tioners' sugar, cut and serve with syrup or enjoy as is.

Gelo di Melone (Watermelon pudding)

This is a variation on the Sicilian classic gelo di melone, which is steeped with jasmine flowers, the epicurios chefs use 1 tsp of anise seeds in with the boiling water. My kids love watermelon, and after they eat one half of it, this is another way to use the rest. Traditional toppings are chocolate shavings, pistachios, and whipped cream. I also think mint is amazing with watermelon and may also be growing in your garden at home.

Ingredients:
6 cups coarsely chopped seeded watermelon (from a 4 1/2-lb piece, rind discarded)
1/4 cup cornstarch
1/2 cup plus 1 teaspoon sugar
2 tsp fresh lemon juice, or to taste
1/3 cup heavy cream
Garnish: chopped shelled pistachios (not dyed red); white or dark chocolate shavings, removed with a vegetable peeler

Preparation instructions: Purée watermelon in a blender until smooth, then pour through a fine-mesh sieve into a 2-quart saucepan, pressing on pulp and then discarding any remaining solids. Ladle about 1/4 cup watermelon juice into a small bowl and stir in cornstarch until smooth. Bring remaining watermelon juice to a boil with 1/2 cup sugar stirring until sugar is dissolved. Stir cornstarch mixture



Fresh Lemon-Blueberry Dutch Baby. This is a very fun breakfast to make and turn the light on in the oven and watch it puff up like magic.

again, then whisk into boiling juice. Reduce heat and simmer, whisking occasionally, 3 minutes. Whisk in lemon juice. Pour pudding through cleaned sieve into a bowl, then transfer to a wide 1-quart serving dish or 6 (2/3-cup) ramekins and chill, uncovered, until cold, about 30 minutes. Cover loosely and chill until set, at least 3 hours. Just before serving, beat cream with remaining 1 teaspoon sugar in another bowl with an electric mixer until it just holds stiff peaks. Top pudding with whipped cream.

Berry Dump Cake

Ingredients:
3 cups fresh blueberries
3 cups fresh raspberries
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 tsp ground ginger
1 tsp grated lemon peel
2 tbs fresh lemon juice
1 box (15.25 oz) Yellow Cake Mix

3/4 cup butter, melted

Preparation instructions: Heat oven to 350°F. Spray 13x9-inch pan with cooking spray. Spread berries evenly in bottom of pan. In small bowl, mix sugar, ginger and lemon peel; sprinkle over berries. Drizzle lemon juice over top. Top with dry cake mix; gently shake pan to distribute evenly. Pour melted butter over top, tilting pan to cover as much of the top with butter as possible. Bake 45 to 50 minutes or until top is light golden brown, mostly dry on top and bubbly around edges. Cool 15 minutes before serving. Top individual servings with ice cream, because: ice cream.

Lemon Posset

This is a very British desert which was historically a tonic made with milk curdled with ale or wine, which sounds like a strange remedy if you are sick. In this recipe the posset sets up like a panna cotta, because of the reaction between the lemon acid and heated cream so there is no need for flour or gelatin. You could use any citrus in this, especially grapefruit or lime. However, I think oranges have a high sugar content so if you choose to use them, I would reduce the amount of sugar in the recipe to about 2/3 cup.

Ingredients:
2 1/2 cups Heavy Cream
3/4 cup plus 2 tablespoons Granulated Sugar
zest of two lemons
juice of 3 lemons

Preparation instructions: First wash your lemons with soap, rinse and dry completely to get any wax or chemicals off since you are using the zest. Then zest and juice the lemons and set aside separately. In a large saucepan, heat the whipping cream, zest and sugar over medium high until until you just start to see it boil. Once it's boiling reduce the heat to medium low and cook another 5-8 minutes making sure the cream doesn't boil over. Once the cream has cooked down a bit and started to turn slightly golden yellow, remove from heat. Then stir in the lemon juice. Let posset cool about 15-20 minutes, it will still be pourable but safer to put in containers. Strain through a fine mesh strainer to remove zest and then pour into serving containers or ramekins, and let chill in the fridge for at least 4 hours, but it's best to do overnight. This is fun to serve with any type of berries or whipped cream.

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

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MOMS' TIME OUT

Could it happen to me?

Michele Angle

The other day I am talking to a friend who is a bit further along in the child rearing game than I am. Actually her kids are grown, flown the nest, and beginning to have kids of their own. She had been going through a rough time and I was glad to catch up with her. I was also shocked to hear what had been going on in her life.

She had been struggling with mood swings and depression. Out of the blue, these emotions and challenges were causing great turmoil in her life. When we talked she seemed like her old self and I would have never guessed this was such a fresh scar. She went on to explain that she was short tempered, and had been biting people's heads off for the littles of thing. There were times when she would find herself crying over a comment her husband had made a thousand times and not being sure why an innocent remark mattered so much more now. This sweet, mild mannered woman was snarky, aggressive, and sharp with her tongue. As we spoke, I needed to know why she was suddenly sharing all of this with me now.

It turns out, that after meeting with an amazing therapist she realized she had unknowingly spiraled into a season of depression in her life. Before I could even wonder what would cause this, she cautioned me not to follow in her footsteps. As she was raising her children, she was an amazing mom who was all in for her children. She cared for them well. She took them to sporting events, dance classes, helped out at their school, and was even on the PTO. She baked for every bake sale, participated in every fundraiser, including washing cars in the school parking lot. When there was a field trip that needed chaperones, she was the first to sign up. To the outside observer she was "super mom"!

She went on so many trips with her kids, the band trip to Spain, the soccer trip to Italy, and the theater club trips to New York and London, just to name a few, that she earned enough frequent flyer miles to take her daughter to cheer camp in Florida. The places she has been for her kids, I have only dreamed of visiting. I mentioned that I could only imagine all of the wonderful memories she had made with and for the kids.

How could any of this be a negative, or have led to her current struggles? As she explained, it became all too clear, and all too real to me.

She was all in for her children. No matter what they were involved in, whether dance, sports, music, scouts, church, or anything, she was there and 110 percent supportive and involved. This is an amazing characteristic for a mom, but she explained that this is all there was. Her whole life

was focused her on children. Her children's school, hobbies, friends, likes and dislikes were her identity.

Then one day her identity grew up and moved out. When they first completed college and moved out, she was overjoyed at all they had accomplished and the bright futures they each had ahead of them. The problem was they not only moved out, but they moved away. Other states, other countries, it didn't matter because it was away and away with them went her focus and her identity.

Suddenly everything that was important to her had disappeared. Everything she did in her free time (if moms really ever have that) was gone. She finally had actual free time and didn't know what to do with it. It wasn't that her kids didn't still love her, but they were busy with their own lives, jobs, significant others, etc. I grew sadder and sadder as I listened to the way she felt as time progressed. I could totally relate, as my kids are a huge focus of my life.

The cherry on top was that her husband didn't seem to be struggling at all. He seemed fine that all of their babies had moved on and "forgotten" them. He was happy, content, and going about his regular business. The difference she came to realize was not that he didn't miss the kids, but he hadn't made them his entire focus. He had work, hobbies, and could frequently be found helping out with projects at church to occupy his time. When the kids left, the

only thing they took from him was a piece of his heart. For my friend they took her soul. I don't mean that to sound melodramatic, but they were everything, every waking minute was spent for them.

When she started therapy it helped her to realize the kids hadn't left her but went to live their lives, the lives she had spent her life preparing them for. It also helped her to vocalize the hurt. She was able to tell her daughter how hurt she was when her daughter invited someone else to go on their annual antiquing trip to Virginia. Her husband was very supportive when he found out it made her bitter that he wasn't hurting the way she was. Best of all, her kids have started making an effort to call and visit a bit more (especially the ones within driving distance).

Her warning to me hit home though. I am all in for my kids, and I know when they all move out I will be super sad. When I told my husband I could easily see this story being my very own story, he disagreed. He acknowledged that I am very devoted to the kids, but he also pointed out that in the last few years, I have started a new job, found some new hobbies, and we have started traveling together. I am hopeful he is right. I do very much enjoy my new hobby (a story for another month) and I love our day trips more than I can express, but will I survive my kids leaving is the question that keeps me up at night.

To all you moms who have nothing in your day, except what revolves



Sooner or later all parents will face it - 'the empty nest syndrome.'

around your kids, I would caution you. Find something, several somethings, a job, a hobby, time with your husband (this one is important), that you will still have when they move out. I would even dare to suggest embracing some free time, maybe take a class or join an exercise group (God knows I could use this). Do something that is for you, that you enjoy, and do it on a regular basis. This isn't a one and done

kind of thing. This is a lifestyle change. Trust me when I tell you it is a change that will not only benefit you when the kids move out, but can build your relationship now and in the future. They need to see that it is okay to take time for your own mental health and wellbeing!

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

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WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO THE MEN WHO

This month, we continue with our tradition of using the July edition of the paper to remember the forgotten signers of the Declaration of Independence—and on a special "almost signer" who had a great impact on our country at its founding!

Sophomore

Cesar Rodney

Devin Owen
MSMU Class of 2026

One thing about me is that I am incredibly partial to my roots: from the beach where the bay waves crash to the back roads filled with cornfields and the music of the singing of crickets and June bugs. I am someone incredibly passionate about my home, and my peers at the Mount learned that rather quickly given how often I spoke of the sweet and serene small towns of Delaware.

This favoring is what led to me to my desire to write on Caesar Rodney, an original resident of the small state of Delaware. Born near Dover, DE in 1728, Rodney—according to history.com—spent his life serving as an “assemblyman, delegate, and state president” whilst also playing a rather crucial role in the American Revolution. He may not have been an active leader in the revolution, but as the General of the Delaware forces, he did supply soldiers with necessities such as food.

Dover is a town about 40 or so min-

utes away from my hometown of Lewes. It's funny; until this prompt, I was never aware of who Caesar Rodney was, even though there is a high school named after him in his hometown. The school is known as the “Caesar Rodney Riders,” which is in reference to Rodney's midnight ride to Philadelphia's Independence Hall. Many associate the Midnight Ride with Mister Paul Revere and his supposed shouts of “the British are coming!” Yet, Rodney's ride was far more important in the entirety of the matter as he cast the deciding vote for Delaware's independence from Great Britain. His ride had the greater impact on the future of the colonies that would later become the free and independent states we now know. The other two Delaware founders, Thomas McKean and George Read, were at odds with decision; while McKean was for the split from Britain, Read most certainly was not, which led to the need for Rodney's immediate presence in Philadelphia to cast the deciding vote. It's interesting to think that for such a small state, Delaware needed three founders/assemblymen to decide what should be the conclusion for the future of their independence.

Throughout his ride, Rodney was in a great deal of pain due to his cancerous affliction in the face. The affliction

was so awful that it had completely disfigured his features to the point that he was left forced to wear a green, silk veil to prevent upsetting those who may have seen him—though, this silk veil only drew more attention to him. That being said, he was advised against activities such as intense riding, given that they could be detrimental towards his health.

According to US History online, another well-known figure of this time, John Adams, described Rodney as “... the oddest looking man in the world; he is tall, thin and slender as a reed, pale; his face is not bigger than a large apple, yet there is sense and fire, spirit, wit and humor in this countenance.” This spirit that Adams spoke of is what made Caesar Rodney so memorable, especially because, who in their right mind would ride from Delaware to Philadelphia on horseback just to cast a vote? Who would risk their life to break a tied vote? Who would love to see the future of America come to be so badly that he pushed himself to the brink of collapse? Caesar Rodney not only would have; he did so.

For those who might think that Rodney's significance ends with his ride to Independence Hall, I, with the utmost joy, must inform you that you'd be mistaken. Following his ride,

Rodney was tasked with juggling the responsibilities of being a General in the Continental Army as well as a delegate to the Continental Congress. Following these tasks, Rodney was elected to be the first president of Delaware in 1778, making him a crucial piece of Delaware's history. All that being said, and Rodney's importance still has not yet ended; after his presidential term of two years, he was elected as a state legislator, which he went on to serve as for another two years.

Rodney's spirit and fire eventually gave out in 1784, where he died in his hometown of Dover at the hand of the cancer he had been battling for so long. Having never married, Rodney only left behind those who knew him and, most importantly, his legacy.

I find it rather refreshing that I was given the opportunity to not only immerse myself in the knowledge and history of my home state, but knowledge and history of my country as well. How cool is it to say that one of the men who signed the Declaration of Independence is from the state in which you grew up in and call home? As I said earlier, Caesar Rodney is a well-known name in the state of Delaware; yet in the grand scheme of things, his is not a name commonly known in

regard to the part he played in our separation from Great Britain. I find that idea quite saddening, given the efforts he went through in order to make the tiebreaking decision on whether or not Delaware would go to war—the incredibly crucial decision as to whether or not we would have our freedom.

That all being said, I ask you to close your eyes and picture the Fourth of July festivities which you may partake in each year—whether it be outdoor games, barbecues, watching fireworks, going to the beach, or any other traditions you might have—and I urge you to ask yourselves: why do you partake in such traditions? What makes this day one which should call for celebration? To answer these questions, think of the efforts those who signed the Declaration of Independence went through in order to do so; think of the efforts that simple men, who lived their daily lives in an “ordinary” way similar to us, went through in order to fight for our freedom.

Isn't it neat that someone like Caesar Rodney, from a small town such as Dover, could have (and did) have such an impact on the future of our history?

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

Junior

John Jay

Joseph Carlson
MSMU Class of 2025

John Jay was an exact contemporary (1745–1829) of the Founding Fathers we know well (Jefferson, Adams, Hamilton, etc.), and at the time, no American would have held Jay in any lower regard than those three I just mentioned. He was a prominent Federalist, the party in favor of a strong central government and opposed to American involvement in the French Revolution, alongside John Adams, Alexander Hamilton, and James Madison. Though strong men of quiet virtue certainly held stature at our nation's founding, they are typically forgotten by history; history which often loves the outrageous and the controversial.

Posterity does not remember John Jay for two reasons. The first is that, unlike his contemporaries, he was not a prolific author. He was certainly intelligent, but he had what we might today call a judicial temperament, and he was not bombast and voluminous like Hamilton, or an idealist like Jefferson. Rather he was simple, honest, and competent, as well as intelligent, and a private man. He burned many of his private letters to his wife, and for these reasons, there is simply less to read by Jay. If people have read Jay, they have read one of his five (out of ninety-five) Federalist Papers. The second reason Jay has been forgotten is because he never became President of the United States, the reason for which was in fact because of Jay's honesty and competence. George Washington sent Jay to negotiate with the British in 1794, and Jay managed to secure an impossible treaty. The United States as a young nation had zero bargaining power, and

had it not been for Jay, we would have had, essentially, a more devastating War of 1812 only 17 years earlier. Jay ought to have been hailed as a hero for securing an impossible peace, but upon his return he found that the nation abhorred him. Jay's public opinion had been decided from the moment the American people discovered that they were making deals with that tyrant, King George. So, the Federalists opted for a candidate with greater swing-state appeal, John Adams.

When history remembers great American foreign diplomats, what is forgotten is that John Jay was our first Secretary of Foreign Affairs (he was responsible for securing funds from the Spanish government in 1780). Additionally, the first acting Secretary of State was actually John Jay. He was also President of the Second Continental Congress in 1779, but is forgotten beside John Hancock for the latter's larger personality. John Jay was not present for the signing because his home state of New York was preparing for siege by the British, and so he joined a list of Founding Fathers who were not able to sign the Declaration including George Washington, Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and George Mason. Jay was selected to be our nation's first head Supreme Court Justice, setting a strong precedent for the Court against political interventionism. It was incredibly difficult work and not at all prestigious, but Jay did the job well, just as he did everything well. He retired after six years and became the second Governor of New York from 1775 till 1801.

John Jay has received much attention in recent years as our nation has grappled with the fact that the same men who endorsed this statement, “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these

are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness,” also owned people. Jay was born into a family with a deep history of owning slaves (his father owned a number of slave ships), but Jay, as a man of principle, was an abolitionist, successfully passing the gradual emancipation laws in New York that Jefferson was not able to accomplish in Virginia. Of course, Virginia was probably the most difficult State to attempt emancipation in, but many forget that New York had more slaves than any other Northern State. Sadly, however, Jay's record here is not clean; he is not like George Wythe who died freeing his slaves. He owned five people even into his waning years as Governor, and on multiple occasions, he hunted down slaves who attempted to escape, not understanding why they would want to leave.

Jay had an incredibly close relationship with his wife and kids, with his wife even going with him to Europe on diplomatic missions. Jay was President of the American Bible Society, and especially after his wife died, was a deeply religious man. It was his Christian Faith that fueled his abolitionist views, and it was his Christian Faith that drew him to be a Revolutionary in the first place. Almost all the people he grew up with in New York were royalists, and most of them moved to and died in England. However, by 1776, Jay had already spent a lifetime trying to build a robust idea of American rights, and he was not willing to go back on his principles, even in the face of being ostracized or killed.

There is a final anecdote for our partisan times. In the election of 1800, the Federalists and the Democratic-Republicans were faced off in a role defining Presidential election. The main candidates were the incumbent John Adams for the Federalists, and Thomas Jefferson for the Democratic Republicans. John Jay

was governor of New York, whose electoral votes had surprisingly swung for Jefferson. Adams sent a frantic letter to his fellow party member Jay, asking him to switch from electoral vote to popular vote so that he would have a better chance of winning (this was all apparently an issue from the beginning). Adams thought it was “no time to be scrupulous” in the face of such important issues, asking him to cheat for the sake of the nation. Jay did not even reply.

John Jay, a man of competency and quiet virtue, deserves a position beside Thomas Jefferson and the like; in the grand scheme of things, he is probably better off than Jefferson anyways. History may not remember such men, but God certainly does, and we should all prefer virtue to fame in every case.

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



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SIGNED THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE?

Senior Charles Carroll

Claire Doll
MSMU Class of 2024

I live in Carroll County, Maryland, not far from Emmitsburg. I love where I live because of the rolling farm fields, the seemingly endless space, and the long, country backroads. Only recently, while researching the forgotten signers of the Declaration of Independence, did I realize that my home county was named after Charles Carroll of Carrollton. Not only was he a Marylander; this signer was the last surviving contributor to the Declaration of Independence, and is from Annapolis, where my sister lives. I had no idea that this person was so relevant to the places I loved the most.

All these facts compelled me to know more about Charles Carroll. In fact, my county just recently created a Charles Carroll Community Center last year, at the site of the former Charles Carroll Elementary School in Westminster, Maryland. The center will include a full-size gymnasium, multipurpose rooms, and a technology room, all with Wi-Fi access.

So, who was Charles Carroll? Would he even care about any of this?

Born in Annapolis on Septem-

ber 19th, 1737, Carroll attended the Academy of Jesuits at Bohemia Manor and attended a Jesuit College at St. Omer, continuing his education until the age of 28. Carroll's father hoped that his Catholic education would prepare him for the world and develop him into a thoughtful, insightful citizen. Carroll took on multiple occupations throughout his life: a planter, managing his estate; a subscriber to the Potomac Company; a partner to the Baltimore Ironworks Company; a proprietor of the Susquehanna Canal; a member of the Board of Directors for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company; and a landlord. Carroll was also elected to the Senate of Maryland and U.S. Senator from Maryland.

Carroll participated in framing and designing a constitution for Maryland. Being the last surviving member who signed the Declaration, Carroll was also the only Roman Catholic to do so.

Through research and information offered from catholiceducation.org, I learned that Catholics weren't even allowed to vote at the time of the Declaration signing. "Catholics could no longer hold office, exercise the franchise, educate their children in their faith, or worship in public." However, through Carroll's perspectives on defending freedom, he supported the war with his private funds. He fought against the bigotry of anti-Catholic laws and argued for the separation of church

and state. According to thehistorylist.com, "Faced with both persecution and restrictions for his faith, Charles Carroll of Carrollton secured his family's vision of personal, political, and religious freedom for all citizens when he became the only Catholic to sign the Declaration of Independence in 1776."

After spending his life in France to pursue higher education, Carroll moved to London, continuing his legal studies and observing the British parliamentary system. This inspired a motivation to resist the British constitutional monarchy and use his philosophical and theological studies to enforce the culture of independence so relevant in Maryland. Carroll recognized the tensions between the colonies and the motherland and "returned from Europe filled with the great spirit into the controversy between the colonies and Great Britain" (Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence).

The "Of Carrollton" at the end of Carroll's name on the Declaration of Independence serves as a distinction, since John Hancock does say that "Charles Carroll" itself is a quite common name, and he could be mistaken for a false identity. Carroll's father supported Carroll in building his own Maryland Manor, named Carrollton, which he never used as a full-time residence. Established within Maryland's society, Carroll prepared his son to

develop and manage Carrollton, which had orchards, livestock, a cedar mill, and a small factory for making clothes.

The manor was also used to employ over three hundred slaves, which caused Carroll to feel immense discomfort, as his values did not align with slavery. Carroll would avoid breaking up families, and he provided religious and spiritual instruction to his slaves. He finally proposed a bill to abolish slavery altogether. Upon reading this, I found it disappointing yet unsurprising that Carroll owned slaves. While normalized for white men in the 1700s, one's character is truly judged based on their perspective and participation in slavery. For Carroll, while he did vouch for abolition, he also owned slaves in the first place and used his manor with these intentions. I did not want to neglect this idea nor only list the positive facts about Carroll. This research also shows a different side of him, one painted by the conditions of our country at the time.

Our country has grown a lot, however. The same Declaration that Carroll signed in 1776 serves to remind us today that all men and women are created equal, that we are given rights that cannot be taken away from us. No matter his beliefs or dispositions, Carroll maintained that this document would secure the rights to all people in the present and future of the U.S. Our nation, shaped and challenged by significant historical events, stands today as a

reminder of what we can accomplish.

Today, Charles Carroll's manor remains as a historical landmark in Frederick County. The manor was a 17,000-acre tract of land, extending to the Potomac River, Catoctin Mountains, Monocacy River, and Ballenger Creek. When Charles Carroll died in 1832, the estate was given to his descendants, and the manor was eventually sold. Today, the manor serves as a guest house and meeting center.

As for my own county, Carroll County, it is fulfilling to research its history and namesake. Charles Carroll of Carrollton is known for being the only Catholic to sign the Declaration, for having his property as part of his name, and for being the longest surviving signer of the document. So, would Carroll care about having a new community center named after him? Or an elementary school? Or even an entire county? I believe he would. Carroll's legacy invites us to define the meaning of independence and question the standards that might prevent us from following what is right. His name represents so much from where I live, and perhaps this is why his manor is so relevant to who he is. Just like his large and expansive estate, Charles Carroll still leaves a legacy today as a patriotic and ambitious American citizen.

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

The Graduate

Joseph Hewes

McKenna Snow
MSMU Class of 2023

Born in 1730, Joseph Hewes was a man with a heart for the United States and a passion for people's rights. Hailing from New Jersey, one might expect his involvement in signing the Declaration to have some ties to his home state. However, Joseph actually eventually became a representative for North Carolina, where he had significant popularity due to his likeable demeanor.

Joseph spent his early years in New Jersey, where he received a classical education. Interested in business and entrepreneurship, Joseph became an apprentice to Joseph Ogden, who was a merchant from Philadelphia. After some years in Philadelphia as a merchant himself, around 1760 Hewes moved to Edenton, North Carolina, to pursue business on his own.

Joseph was raised by his parents, who were Quakers, and this religious background likely impacted Joseph through his cultivation of a strong work ethic, and eventually his perspective on a peaceful split from Great Britain, while conversations about independence were first taking place. In the workplace, Joseph grew in popularity with his business because of his friendliness, his determination to work hard, and what Constituting America described as his "natural head for business." From researching, it seems that Joseph originally was not terribly interested in politics; how did he, a modest businessman, become involved in the signing of the Declaration? It began in Edenton, when, while he was working there, he became close friends with Sam-

uel Johnston, who was, according to Constituting America, "one of the colony's most influential lawyers and political leaders." Joseph eventually became a representative for Edenton "to the colonial assembly and served on committees on appropriations and finance, appropriate assignments considering his commercial background" (Constituting America). Johnston likely made an impact on him to become involved in local politics, but this did not take Joseph away from where he really flourished in the business world; rather, Joseph found a way to use his extensive talents and knowledge in business to combine these two interests through his choice of committees.

As tension grew between the colonies and Great Britain, Hewes tried to retain a moderate, peaceful, and more diplomatic perspective on the situation. He wasn't in favor of remaining under the rule of the British monarch, but thought that violent action was unnecessary. He was a part of the North Carolina Committee of Correspondence, which, in 1774, "endorsed a Massachusetts proposal for a continental congress, and in August of that year, assembly members meeting in New Bern approved the committee report and elected Hewes, along with William Hooper and Richard Caswell, to represent North Carolina in a meeting in Philadelphia of all the colonies." This election was crucial in sending Hewes towards the meeting that would change everything.

But his views on how the colonies should split were not yet in favor of open war. It wasn't until fighting began in Lexington and Concord, as well as "King George III's subsequent refusal to negotiate with the colonies [which] undermined the position of moderates like Hewes and led him to act more aggres-

sively" (Constituting America). Following these events, Hewes began to work in his state of North Carolina to bring more and more people to the cause of the Whigs, and he eventually helped promulgate Thomas Paine's Common Sense around the state as well.

Throughout these efforts to grow support in North Carolina, Hewes suffered from malaria, which he contracted in 1774. He never fully healed from the effects of this sickness, and fought through this ailment throughout the rest of his involvement in the war. From the amount that he accomplished for the Whigs, he was determined to not let this sickness slow him down. He continued to attend meetings for the committee, and helped grow the military and naval strength of the Whigs. Wealthy from his business success before the war, Hewes saw to it that his wealth generously supported the colonies' efforts for independence. Hewes had a shipping business before the war, and during the war he offered his ships to be a part of the Continental Armed Forces (US History.org). He also began, a few years earlier as unjust taxation was rising, cutting his trade with Great Britain and supporting non-importation policies in response to the injustices taking place. Hewes used his success in the business world to the dismay of Great Britain, and to the aid of the revolutionaries.

Because much of his policies and approach during the discussions about war had largely, thus far before the signing, been conservative and pacifist in nature, rather than radical, Hewes' decision to support the Declaration of Independence and war had a tremendous impact on the outcome on the number of people who actually signed. John Adams believed that Hewes was "critical in persuading moderate members

of Congress to support the break with Great Britain," since even Hewes, who had such a reputation for friendliness and conservatism, decided that it was time to fight back against the tyranny (Constituting America). Who knows how many might not have signed because they thought that negotiations were still possible and that the unjust monarch might have eventually changed his ways? Hewes' efforts before, during, and after the signing of the Declaration of Independence impacted both his local state of North Carolina, and the Congress that changed it all.

Sadly, Hewes did not live to see the end of the war efforts, though he would have been proud to see the victory. Hewes died from illness at the age of 49 in 1779, in Philadelphia.

Hewes was a generous man who desired peace and justice. He sacrificed much of his potential success doing business with Great Britain for the cause of independence. Hewes might have been merely a successful businessman who washed his hands of working for or against the American cause for independence, but he saw something more important than a country in which he might succeed monetarily. He saw a country that needed just laws, fair taxation, and a government which listened to the people. Hewes made his mark on the cause for freedom through his signature in 1776, and through his efforts before and after, gave generously and bravely to help the cause for freedom.

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

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SCHOOL & LIBRARY NEWS

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Monday – Children’s Story Time 4-5 p.m., Children and parents can join us for a weekly story, craft or coloring sheet, or play time. We will be running two identical 30 - minute sessions in an attempt to accommodate busy schedules.

Wednesday – Coffee Club from 3 - 4 p.m. Mingle with the gang for coffee, tea, puzzles, board games, coloring books, &c.

Thursdays – Teen’s Night. The community room is reserved for teen use from 4:30 - 6 p.m.. just hang out or play Wii, play board games, do puzzles, eat snacks, watch movies, make movies, etc.!

Saturday - Join us at 10:30 a.m., for an hour of Story Time and all of its festivities! What could be better than a great book and a fun craft?

Scherenschnitte Night at the Library – July 11 at 6:30 p.m.. Learn the German art of paper cutting design. The artwork often has rotational symmetry within the design, and common forms include silhouettes, valentines, and love letters. The art tradition was founded in Switzerland and Germany in the 16th century and was brought to Colonial America in the 18th century by Swiss and German immigrants who settled primarily in Pennsylvania.

The Summit Stitchers Quilt Club meets at 5:30 p.m. on July 18. New members and new projects are always welcome! Any skill level may attend. If you have always wanted to learn how to quilt, now is the perfect time to start! The group is currently working on this year’s gorgeous raffle quilt.

The BRS Book Club will meet July 17 at 5 p.m.

For more information on the Blue Ridge Summit Free Library visit www.fclspa.org or call 717 - 792 - 2240.

Frederick County Libraries

As Summer days heat up, explore the cool and amazing programs we have set for July with our Emmitsburg and Thurmont Libraries.

We’re inviting the whole community to come to the Thurmont library on Saturday, July 8 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. to meet over 25 local and county health and wellness organizations. Discover new ways to improve your wellbeing, participate in free screenings, learn about healthy eating, physical activity, and local resources that can help you get started on a new or improved health journey.

Explore the natural wonder of Thorpewood in the Catoctin Mountains on Wednesday, July 12, during our Summer Challenge Community Day. Our kind neighbors at Thorpewood are opening their gates for the entire morning so that you can visit the horses, goats, cows, and chickens, get dirty in the mud kitchen, climb on the farm machinery, enjoy an outdoor storytime, and more on this beautiful 156-acre farm. Drop in anytime 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for this outdoor community event for all ages. This day counts as a Destination in your Summer Reading Challenge. Thorpewood is located at 12805-A Mink Farm Road. Visit Thorpewood.org/about for more information about this lovely location.

Caterpillars, Reptiles, Critters and Dogs oh my! At Emmitsburg Library on Saturday, July 1 at 11 a.m., Children are invited to a Book Party to celebrate the Very Hungry Caterpillar with games, crafts and more. On Thursday, July 13 at 11:00 a.m. bring the whole family for a Radical Reptile show! Explore the radical world of reptiles with Nicole and her exotic pets. Not only will you learn all about what makes a reptile a reptile, you will have the opportunity to pet and interact with lots of animal friends. Nicole brings

along part of her personal exotic pet collection to provide high quality education and to extend positive experiences with misunderstood critters to people of all ages. That same evening, visit with the Wags for Hope dogs and enjoy a shared reading experience. Discover Critter Antics: Music and Stories on Saturday, July 22 and visit with an ant, a tortoise, a jackrabbit and an ornery donkey. Featured is Kokopelli Winds, a woodwind quartet and narrator. Come listen to flute, oboe, clarinet, and bassoon in harmony, playing music with stories depicting these colorful critters!

Both our branches are filled with exciting and fun programs for you and your family this summer, visit the library website at <https://frederick.librarycalendar.com/events/month/2023/07> to discover so much more. Have a wonderful summer and we look forward to seeing you!

Emmitsburg Branch Library:

July 1, 29: Book Party (Birth-5, Elementary), 11-Noon.

July 3, 10, 17, 24: Little Adventures (Birth to 5), 11-Noon.

July 11, 18: Family Storytime (Birth to 5), 11-11:30 a.m.

July 6, 13, 20, 27: Exploration Station (Elementary), 3:30-4:30 p.m.

July 13: Radical Reptiles (Elementary, All ages), 11-Noon.

July 13: Read to a Therapy Dog with Wags for Hope (Birth to 5, Elementary), 6-7 p.m.

July 22: Critter Antics-Music & Stories (Birth to 5, Elementary, All Ages), 11-Noon.

July 25: Fitness Together Now! (Ages 4-10), 11-Noon.

July 11: Sharpie Tie-Dye (Teens), 4-6 p.m.

July 13, 27: Open Game Night with Wookie Walkers (Teens), 5:30-6:30 p.m.

June 20: Stuck on Tape (Teens),

Frederick County Public Libraries’ Summer Challenge Returns

Frederick County Public Libraries, (FCPL) is excited to welcome back readers and explorers of all ages for our annual summer reading program.

As in years past, this summer we’re challenging you to read books and visit community destinations. Read for at least twenty days this summer, and you’ll not only build a healthy new habit, you will earn rewards.

Log your reading with our reading log (available at your local library), through the Beanstack app, or online. Earn a ticket for each day you read and each desti-

nation you visit. Tickets earned can be entered into prize drawings held on July 16, and August 16.

This year’s finisher prize is a best-selling, brand new book. Grand prizes include American Girl Dolls, skateboards, bicycles, building block sets, telescopes, Chromebooks, kayaks and more!

Summer reading programs are designed to help combat “summer slide,” and help students maintain academic skills and knowledge while they’re on break.

To sign up and to learn more about Summer Challenge visit our web site at fcpl.org/summer.

4-6 p.m.

July 22: Teen Art Studio (Teens), 1-3 p.m.

Thurmont Regional Library

Summer Lunches: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursdays all summer (18 yrs. and younger) Noon-1 p.m.

July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: Preschool Storytime (3-5), 10:30-11 a.m.

July 3, 17, 21: Starting Stem (3-5), 11-11:30 a.m.

July 10, 24: Mini Masterpieces (3-5), 11-11:30 a.m.

July 11, 18, 25: Baby Storytime (Birth-18 months), 10:30-11:30 a.m.

July 11: Radical Reptiles (Elementary, All ages), 2-3 p.m.

July 18, 25: Elementary Explorers (Elementary) 2-3 p.m.

July 5, 12, 19, 26: Toddler Storytime (18 months-3), 10:30-11 a.m.

July 12: Fitness Together Now! (4-10), 2-3 p.m.

July 19: “Mamma Mia” Super Mario Party (Birth-5, Elementary, All Ages), 1-2 p.m.

July 6, 13, 20, 27: Musical Story-

time (Birth-5), 10:30-11 a.m.

July 6, 20: Middle Grade Magic – How to Draw Magical Creatures (Elementary), 1-2 p.m.

July 14: (Off-site) Nature Storytime & Hike at Catoctin Mountain Park (Birth-5), 10:30-11:30 a.m.

July 21: Cowabunga! (Birth-5, Elementary), 1-2 p.m.

July 28: (Off-site) Storytime on the Road (Birth-5, Elementary, All Ages), 10:30-11 a.m.

July 29: Touch a Truck (Birth-5, Elementary, All Ages), 10-Noon.

July 8: Health and Wellness Fair (Adults, All Ages), 10-Noon.

July 13: Digital Learning at the Thurmont Senior Center (Adults), 10-Noon.

July 14 – Thurs, July 20: Frederick County 275th - Memory Lab by Appt. (Adults), All Day.

July 16: Storytime for Grownups (Adults), 2-3 p.m.

July 18: Superpowers of Fungi (Adults, All Ages), 7-8 p.m.

July 23: Music on the Deck: Remington Rounders (Adults, All Ages), 2-3 p.m.

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SCHOOL & LIBRARY NEWS

FASD ponders canceling football program

The future of the Fairfield Area High School football program was in the spotlight during June's board of education meeting.

Several parents and program supporters told the board the district's new coach, Jake Johnson, announced at a meeting the night before the board meeting he was going to recommend the district end the program.

The district hired Johnson in March to replace Jason Thurston, who resigned last fall after five seasons with the team. Fairfield has

struggled to build a football program since it began in 2004. The team has had only two winning seasons since its inception. Last year, the Knights canceled its Week 3 game against Hamburg when injuries prevented them from fielding enough players.

Parent Corrine Higgs told the board Johnson is frustrated by the lack of participation in off-season workouts. Higgs, whose son is entering his junior year, said she wishes Johnson communicated more with parents.

"My son is not yet a man and I still can use the time I have left to teach him and guide him in regard to honoring his words to coaches, teammates, and coworkers; but what I do not know about I cannot control," Higgs said.

A grandmother told the board her grandson participates in three sports and did not have time to exercise with the football team during the off-season. Another speaker told the board the practices are optional per PIAA rules so the coach should not be considering them mandatory.

The board listened to the citizens' concerns but did not respond.

The district's athletic struggles were further discussed later in the meeting when Athletic Director Andrew Kuhn presented the state of his department. Kuhn proposed replacing team uniforms every five years, but board members expressed concern that replacement may be necessary more often.

Board Vice President Jack Liller suggested the district fundraise for uniforms, but Superintendent Thomas Haupt said he did not believe that plan treats teams equitably.

"I think if we are really going to run scholastic sports programs as a district, then we should support them as a district," Haupt said.

Kuhn noted his five-year proposal is flexible depending on team needs, using the example that baseball pants may have to be replaced more often than volleyball shirts.

Haupt and Kuhn, who are recent additions to the district administration, noted the athletic program has been neglected for the past several years. Kuhn said he is working to return a sense of pride to Fairfield athletics by updating record boards, adding storage space, and purchasing digital scoreboards.

Blue Ridge Summit Library Annual Ice Cream Social

The Blue Ridge Summit Free Library will hold its 47th annual Ice Cream Social and Book Sale from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, July 15, on the library grounds. The event is a fundraiser for the library.

More than 6,000 books will be offered for sale, including selections for adults, teens and children on a wide range of topics. Audio books, DVDs, and music CDs will also be sold. Additionally, new design t-shirts plus sweat-shirts, hoodies and jackets will be available for purchase. A few commemorative mugs from last year's 100th

birthday celebration and 100th anniversary t-shirts will also be on sale.

Early risers can join in the free Whistle 5K Fun Run. Registration is on site at Summit Plaza from 7:30-7:55 a.m. This is a timed event, but there are no entry fees, and no prizes will be awarded. The race start time is 8 a.m.

Activities for kids will include fire truck rides from the Fountaindale Fire Co., face painting by Making Faces with artist Sarah Berkey (noon-2 p.m.); and bubble fun with library board member and bubble-maker, Mary Ann Stanley. The Ft. Ritchie Community Center

will offer a basketball fitness challenge for kids. The Franklin Co. Library System Book Buddy mobile unit will be on site during the event.

Special entertainment this year features Tim Cantner of Timco Magic Creations. Cantner will delight audiences with a free comedy magic show for all ages that begins at 10:30 a.m.

Music and entertainment are scheduled throughout the day. The Wayne Band will open the event, playing from 9-10 a.m. At noon the Harvey Bridgers Award will be presented to a fifth- or sixth-grader for

exemplary use of the library and its services. Local singer-guitarist Rich Fehle will perform at intervals throughout the event.

A variety of food will be offered for sale, including hot dogs, steamers, nachos, drinks and baked goods.

"Of course, this is an ice cream social, and again this year our ice cream is provided by Sarah's Creamery, featuring the famous Penn State Creamery ice cream," said Paul Pinkerton, library board president. "A portion of their sales will be donated to the library."

Other vendors and exhibitors to date

include: Antietam Watershed Association, Blue Ridge Garden Club, Boy Scouts, Steve Burdette (artist), Eddie & Karla Ewald Train Dioramas & Aroma Therapy, Ft. Ritchie Community Center, Gettysburg Heritage Museum, Faye Hiller (creative paper folding), Monterey Pass Battlefield Park & Museum, Bob O'Connor (author), The Institute and Waynesboro Area Appalachian Trail Community.

Fundraisers include a silent auction, featuring nearly 50 baskets with themed contents. Winners will be announced at the close of the event.

FC BOE reaches agreements with unions

The Board of Education of Frederick County has reached a tentative agreement with all three associations: the Frederick County Association of School Support Employees (FASSE), the Frederick County Teachers Association (FCTA) and the Frederick County Administrative and Supervisory Association (FCASA).

Across all three associations, the following applies:

- Salary resource pool equivalent to 6% on average increase.
- 9.5% increase to medical, prescription, or vision insurance premium.
- No increase to dental premiums
- No increase to copays and no change in benefit coverage.

In reaching these agreements, Board President Sue Johnson said, "The Board is grateful that we were able to reach agreements with our three associations. We value the work that all of our staff do every day and the spirit of collaboration that characterizes our partnership."

Highlights of the agreement with FASSE include:

- Current FASSE employees may apply for promotional opportunities after six months of employment. A probationary period of six months will be for all promotions.
- On inclement school closure weather days, bus drivers and bus assistants would be paid a stipend: \$100 for bus drivers, \$75 for bus assistants.
- Increase in Association leave days from 30 days to 50 days.
- A structure for FY25 to pay an

additional supplement for every five years of consecutive service as a benefited FCPS FASSE employee.

- This three-year contract will remain in effect until June 30, 2026, with yearly openers on salary and insurance benefits.

Highlights of the agreement with FCTA include:

- FCTA members at the top of their lane who are not eligible for a step increase will receive a one-time stipend of \$500.

- 10-month special educators will receive three additional work days in FY24 and now be pension eligible. These days will increase to six additional pension-eligible work days in FY25 and nine additional work days in FY26.

- Implementation of a step service credit to all new teacher hires for each year of prior service in FCPS as an instructional assistant, special education instructional assistant, or resident substitute who were subsequently

hired as a teacher.

- Revised language for unpaid extended leave extension request.
- This two-year contract will remain in effect until June 30, 2026, with yearly openers on salary, & insurance benefits. A full contract review will occur for FY27.

Highlights of the agreement with FCASA include:

- A structure for FY25 to pay an additional supplement to employees who completed

four years or more of consecutive service in FCASA (pending funding).

- Revised language around tuition reimbursement to clarify extenuating circumstances and waivers.
- Revised language for annual leave cash in days and bereavement.

This two-year contract would remain in effect until June 30, 2025, with yearly openers on salary, insurance, benefits and items related to the Blueprint for Maryland's Future, including the Career Ladder. A full contract review will occur for FY27.

ARTS

“Instruments of War” exhibit in Gettysburg

Claire Doll
MSMU Class of 2024

The upcoming exhibit, “Instruments of War” in the Gettysburg Heritage Center is premiered in time for the 160th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg, which took place from July 1st to 3rd. The display’s purpose is to emphasize the role of music in the Civil War and show how the different meanings of music were woven into the lives of so many people during this historical time.

The exhibit focuses on the following themes: the origin of “Taps,” the United States Marine Band, the United States Colored Troops, young Civil War musicians, a Medal of Honor musician, Civil War bugle calls, and musician uniforms.

Outside the Heritage Center and upon entering the Heritage Center, two drummers and one trumpet player perform music historically relevant to the Civil War, setting the theme of the exhibit. Inside, the exhibit features several significant instruments and artifacts from the war. Viewers can see a trumpet that dates back to 1820 and learn that the valves of trumpets didn’t exist until the 1840s. In addition, Oliver Wilcox North, the bugler who first sounded “Taps,” wrote about his experiences in the latter part of the 19th century. He wrote letters to his sister—amounting to about 150 letters—and when he left the army, he made millions as a

businessman. He compiled the letters to his sister into a book, which you can see on display at the Heritage Center.

The exhibit also features an E-flat coronet, also called a sax horn, which can be played in different ways, like over the shoulder. The current case that displays the coronets will be given clearer lighting to display the instruments more appropriately. Because this is just the preview of the exhibit, changes will be made to improve the experience of viewers.

The people of Gettysburg can also see an original pouch that musicians would use to carry their music as well as samples of the music they would play. This case also includes a hat made in the 1860s that belonged to a civilian band. The exhibit will have more posters that depict different musicians and bands, serving as informative displays.

You can also find reproductions of musician uniforms, including the Union reproduction called the Regulation Uniform. This uniform includes what is called the “birdcage,” which is used for commanders to identify their musicians in battle. The birdcage still remains today in regular marching band uniforms. The exhibit also includes a gray uniform, which is a reproduction of the 26th North Carolina Regimental Band from Salem, North Carolina.

Jari Villaneuva, presenter of the previewed exhibit, answered

questions following the exhibit. Retired from the United States Air Force, where he spent 23 years with the United States Air Force Band in Washington, D.C., Villaneuva is notably an expert on military bugle calls, especially the call of “Taps,” which is heard at military funerals. Villaneuva, inducted in the Buglers Hall of Fame, even made a display at Arlington National Cemetery which focused on the history of the military bugler. His passion for the role between military history and music makes him a credible and valuable asset to the Heritage Center’s exhibit.

When we think of music, we often do not reflect on its role in history, and more specifically, the meaning it held during the Civil War. The “Instruments of War” exhibit will look at music from a unique, historically charged perspective, giving you an interactive experience that almost places you back in the Civil War era. The Heritage Center’s director of events and group outreach Denise Doyle says, “We hope people of all ages will enjoy learning about how music’s history during a turning point in our country’s history.”



The exhibit shows how the arts, a significant factor in many of our lives, informs us about the history of our nation, as well.

The exhibit is featured alongside the Heritage Center’s current displays, including civilian life and soldier perspectives from the battlefield. The “Instruments of War” display will run for at least a year. It is included with regular museum admission.

The Gettysburg Heritage Center, operated by the nonprofit Get-

tysburg Nature Alliance, commits itself to the education and preservation of the well-loved Gettysburg history and heritage. Located at 297 Steinwehr Avenue and open every day from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., the center informs visitors of Gettysburg about all aspects of the Civil War and provides books, tours, special events, visitor information, and more. Visit the “Instruments of War” exhibit to learn more about the exciting and informative role that music plays in the Civil War.

Apple’s Church 2nd annual Christmas in July concert

For the sixth year, Apples UCC in Thurmont is hosting a benefit concert. This is the second year of our “Christmas in July concert” – to be held on July 15 at 3 p.m. Each year, there is a special group or guest that performs and this year will be the Madrigal Singers from the Noteables Cho-

rus led by Gail Slezak. The Madrigal singers will be singing some selections as well as a local choir that has been pulled together by Paula Mathis.

We are hoping the audience will come and forget about the summer’s heat and humidity while they enjoy listening

and singing some of our seasonal selections. They can just enjoy the music and won’t have to worry about rushing home to wrap presents, cook, clean or perform any of the other task that come with December.

There is no cost to attend but there will be a free-will offering that will be distributed to a local outreach. Paula, who is the major driving force for this yearly outreach says “It’s part of the fabric of Apples that we let people know that we are a church that gives out instead of keeping everything to ourselves. Music is a natural outreach for us as my family has been singing for decades.”

The concert will have a selection of some traditional and ‘new’ traditional songs of the season, performed by choirs, combined choirs, and soloists.

Apples itself is a church that maintains regular Sunday services at 9:30 a.m. weekly in the same building as it was built in 1826. There have been many ‘upgrades’ over the decades but the building is original in the foundation and walls.

“We are lucky to be granted into the town limits of Thurmont, after literally a century of being just outside. The safety and services that we can now access are invaluable.” Mike Mathis, Council President said.

For additional information on the concert, or Apples, please send an email to applesunitedchurchofchrist@gmail.com or call Mike Mathis at 301-606-2169.

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Art During War: What effect does war have on art?

Ashley Walczyk
MSMU Class of 2024

What effect does war have on art? It is a question that perhaps does not seem relevant to us now. The last war America declared as congressional declarations of war was World War II. The more recent wars were never declared “officially” by congress, but they also had an impact on the way art was created and thought of during times of war. Honorable mentions to those wars in which our heroes have fallen since WWII include the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and the campaigns in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Art, ranging from poetry, paintings, and sculptures, to later in photographs, can be used to document the animosity, the confusion, the desperation that most can feel during this time. During times of war, art also became especially significant in showcasing wealth. In wartime, there is an increase in owning, or in some cases, “stealing” art which leads to multi-million-dollar portraits being “lost” or destroyed during this time as well. There’s a particular relationship between art and war, and the complexities of human nature during war, which affects not only art itself, but learning.

War occurs when conflicts arise. This can be between a group of people within a country or can disperse over a larger area in the world. It’s more common for wars to start within their own nations, more known as civil wars. The difference between a civil war and a revolutionary war is that a civil war is a revolt between common people in a country, while in a revolution, the common people revolt against the government.

So why is this all important? Well, art is considered a form of wealth, which also means that art can be seen as a form of value. Art can be used as a form of investing, especially for the rich. In fact, art has different monetary value compared to those investing in the stock market, which is why, when economies crash, the value of art increases exponentially.

To reiterate an earlier article, humans create art for a variety of reasons, including as a form of self-expression, storytelling, communication, social cohesion, cultural identity, and therapy. The exact reasons why an individual artist creates a particular work can vary greatly and may include a combination of these or other motivations.

The role of art during war has five main purposes: art is used to promote war, show opposition to war, destroying art is used to demoralize opponents, art is looted, and/or art is used to recover from war. Depictions of war in art, as well as capturing moments of patriotic loyalty to their respected nation, serves these purposes.

The reason art can be valued highly in war-ridden societies is because of the expressions and emotions an artist use. However, art has also been the center of looting during wartime, which was especially prevalent during World War II.

Art Looted During War

Since art was seen as a delicacy and

for the wealthy, art exhibits were often looted during war. A notable culprit of this was the Nazi Regime looting several museums, collecting art viewed as worthy for the Third Reich, and destroying works deemed as “degenerate” for their society. It is said that approximately sixteen thousand pieces alone were removed for these “degenerate” themes, with the Nazis claiming that German art had been “purified.”

It might seem strange for the Nazis, known for mass-destruction and genocide, to care so much about art other than for monetary reasons. There is a reason for the fascination with art other than its destruction, which can be seen in Hitler’s desire to become an artist himself. He applied and was rejected from the Vienna Academy of Fine Arts, a prestigious school focusing on painting, sculpting, drawing, and many other art forms.

Reasons Art is Created During This Time

Art was created for a number of reasons during this time, so another worthy question is, what motivates an artist to create during or after such a devastating event? A significant motif is a desire to bring to light the realities of war so the public, moved by art, gets a better grasp on what is at stake.

Some focus on the inhumane acts committed during wars. An example of this approach, known as propaganda, is seen through German artist Otto Dix, who created the painting “Trench” to express the inhumanities of war, which was one of the paintings that was named “degenerate” by Hitler and the Nazis. Some artists focus on the realities of war, making sure to remind us of what is occurring on the

frontlines of battlegrounds. This form, also seen as medical illustration, captures the war medicine side, watching as our soldiers perish from disease and wounds. I argue that this is another approach to describing the “inhuman” acts during wars, but others can argue those two as separate.

Charles Bell, the pioneer of medical illustration, was the first to capture this occurrence, being a surgeon for the French Revolution. One of his drawings captures that of a soldier after he was wounded during the Battle of Waterloo in 1815. The illustration, drawn in beautiful imagery, can be seen as graphic, as it depicts the aftermath of the soldier’s arm being torn off by an explosion. Bell’s reason for creating this graphic piece of work was to visually represent the agony of the soldiers, and he wanted the public to understand the realities of war and sympathize with the victims, regardless which side they chose. Some artists aim to change views, and create art that focuses especially on political themes.

C. S. Lewis and Conclusion

“Most of all, perhaps, we need intimate knowledge of the past... because we cannot study the future, and yet need something to set against the present, to remind us that the basic assumption have been quite different in different periods and that much which seems certain to the uneducated is merely temporary fashion” – C. S. Lewis

The quote by C.S. Lewis offers insight into how we should view the modern interpretation of war. Since World War I, the separation of home front and war front were extreme, as many young soldiers would return



This painting shows British and German soldiers during the Great War, having humility as they hold a truce due to Christmas.

home, unsure what to make of the war and what to do next. It’s important in understanding that World War I and on caused a rift in the way war is perceived, as it was no longer common to romanticize it in art. There are fewer patriotic, heroic, or religious figures in paintings, making older renditions of depictions of wars more valued in worth.

While we cannot gain back the art that was lost during war, it does not mean we should forget those pieces as well. Some of the most beautiful artifacts could be forever lost, but the lore behind the mysteries will only strengthen the value of the piece, destroyed, or lost. C. S. Lewis reminds us that it is important to look at the history and knowledge surrounding many academic achievements, especially the focus of art and school, even during wartime.

With the Fourth of July, we must remember those who fought for our freedoms. Whether it be from the beginning during the Revolutionary War, or during the Great War and World War II, where millions of lives were lost, we must honor them through the legacy they left behind. This should also be said about the art and music that was made during this time. Art was just as important during times of war, as it allowed us to come together as one community and contemplate the realities of what is at stake, and what is worth fighting for.

Upcoming Fine Arts Events

Stay tuned for the Fall 2023 Fine Arts semester schedule!

To read past Mount Arts articles, visit the Author’s section of Emmitsburg.net.

ESP Theater’s Summer Youth Shakespeare Camps

The Endangered Species (theatre) Project (home of the Frederick Shakespeare Festival) is excited to bring Shakespeare Camps for Teens and an Integrated Deaf/hearing camp for youth to downtown Frederick.

Shakespeare Camps: Teens will build a 1-hour version (2-week camp) or 40 minute version (1-Week Camp) of one of the Bard’s most delightful comedies. Camp will be led by Daniel Summerstay (Sir Andrew in our mainstage Festival Production of Twelfth Night!) Students will dig into the language, develop their characters, and ultimately perform in an outdoor theatre! This two-week camp is \$350 and we offer “pay-what-you-can” pricing for anyone who requests it.

Two-Week Camp runs 7/10 to 7/21 Monday thru Friday from 10 - 2 pm.

Cost \$350. We offer “pay-what-you-can-pricing” for all who request it via contact@esptheatre.org.

One Week Camp runs 8/7 to 8/11 - Monday thru Friday from 10 - 2 pm.

Cost \$350. We offer “pay-what-you-can-pricing” for all who request it via contact@esptheatre.org.

Inte-Great! Acting Camp (7/24 - 7/28): Designed for Deaf and hearing youth from age 7 to 12 to work together and build a show – based on The Jungle Book. Camp is taught by Deaf director Michelle Mary Schaefer and hearing director Christine Mosere.

Registration for Summer Camps is now open. Whether your child dreams of treading the boards or simply wishes to explore the beauty of Shakespeare’s words, our camps promise a transformative and unforgettable experience.

For more information, including registration details and camp schedule, visit our website at www.esptheatre.org or contact Christine Mosere, Artistic Director, at 301-305-1405 or Christinem@esptheatre.org.

Our camps are immersive theatre experiences aimed at nurturing young talent and fostering a love for the works of William Shakespeare or stories inspired by the Bard. Led by experienced theater professionals, the camp provides the opportunity for campers to explore their imaginations, develop acting skills, and gain hands-on experiences in various aspects of theater production. Camps culminate in a final performance.

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Shane (1953)

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CATOCTIN SPORTS

Celebrating the 2023 athlete class

Gina Lin
CHS Class of 2024

The class of 2023, collectively, should be proud of their accomplishments. After living through unprecedented hardships, the class emerged from a period of uncertainty and continued their educational and athletic careers, unfazed. Catoclin graduated 195 students on May 24th at Mount St. Mary's. To say that choosing qualified candidates for this article was difficult is an understatement, as there was a plethora of deserving graduates. The following athletes have put forth their best selves not only in the classroom but on the field: Ali Brawner, Alex Contreras, Abigail May, and Emma Stream.

Our first distinguished graduate is Alison Brawner. She has been heavily involved in sports from a young age. Brawner began her 13 year basketball career at the age of five; additionally she has been playing softball since she was nine. Outside of school, Brawner played travel softball for most of middle and high school with the Maryland Outlaws. Not only does Brawner demonstrate excellence in athletics but also in academics and related activities. Brawner served as the president of the Class of 2023 and was a member of four honor societies, such as National Honor Society (NHS) and Science National Honor Society (SNHS) She was also active in numerous clubs like Catoclin Crazies and Mario Kart Club.

Brawner kept herself occupied outside of school not just with sports but with work and community involve-

ment all the while maintaining a 4.43 GPA. Brawner's efforts have been recognized of course through various awards and scholarships. She was awarded the Presidential Scholarship, from Salisbury University; and the Gold Scholar Award (students who have taken six or more Advanced Placement and Dual Enrollment classes). Though Brawner doesn't plan to continue sports at the collegiate level, she will be attending Salisbury University with a major in Biology, hopeful of pursuing Biomedical Science. Brawner will work to acquire a Master's degree and potentially a Ph.D. Her goal is to improve the world by engaging in innovative neurological research.

Brawner's success wasn't without help though. She credits Catoclin High's girls basketball coach, Amy Entwistle, who seems to be favorite among athletes. "...she never failed to make me feel powerful and loved." Brawner has offered some words of wisdom for incoming and present highschool students. She advises students to enjoy their time in high school and make the most of it. "It is important to have as much fun as you can in high school, but good grades are more important." Brawner also commented, "I hope I showed people that it is important to be kind to everyone around you. Kindness can go a long way and help someone in ways you may never know."

Emma Stream exemplifies one of the best that the graduating class has to offer. Stream had her hands full during high school; she played a sport every season, participated in

many clubs, and kept up her grades in advanced classes. Lacrosse and tennis were among several sports she played— but Stream committed all four years to swim and field hockey. Stream is set to attend West Virginia University with a major in parks and recreation but won't be furthering athletics. Stream also has an artistic side, she was a part of International Thespian Society and served on the school musical's costume crew in her last two years. Moreover, Stream was a member of Spanish Honor Society and NHS, and vice president of NEHS. Stream has been awarded the Gold Scholar Award and Spanish Department Honor. Outside of school Stream worked as a lifeguard during summers, and plans to continue lifeguarding. Many teachers have had a lasting impact on Streams development throughout highschool but someone that really stood out to her is Olivia Aungst, a CHS English teacher. Stream described Aungst as being "a safe space to voice [her] problems and aspirations." She added, "Talking to your teachers will teach you meaningful life lessons and help you to find purpose." Stream relayed advice to high school students, "I hope that I have taught people to be kind and take each other under their wing, and look out for one another."

Abby May is another worthy student athlete graduate. She has been playing volleyball since middle school and will be playing volleyball on the collegiate level this fall at McDaniel College. May will be majoring in kinesiology with a minor in sports coaching. She played for many travel volleyball clubs such as Hub City and Liberty Elite Volleyball Clubs; currently May plays for Potomac Storm Volleyball Club. During highschool, May was occupied with clubs like Mario Kart Club



Abigail May will be playing volleyball at McDaniel College this fall.

and Catoclin Crazies. She was also class vice president in her junior and senior years. May also received the Gold Scholar Award, three Mind in Motion awards, and two Varsity Athletic awards. She encourages high school students to push themselves in their high school career, "Everything you are taught is to help you grow as a person." She credits her successful high school experience to her peers. "My peers pushed me to be the best version of myself.. and I just wanted to make people proud of my team's success."

Our final student athlete is Alex Contreras. Contreras was among the leaders of Catoclin's track team that helped the team reach states; and he was a three time individual state champion. Additionally, he served as captain of the track and cross country teams for the past three years. Contreras will be continuing his incredible track and cross country career at High Point University. He intends on majoring in biology while in college. Some goals he has are to break four minutes in the mile and run through the Colorado mountains. During high school, Contreras was involved in numerous clubs such as Envirothon, the Conservation Club, Athletic Leadership Club and Millionaires Club. Moreover, he was a member of NHS, and Mu Alpha Theta (National

Math Honor Society).

Contreras graduated with first honors and received the Minds in Motion Award. After a successful high school career Contreras has some advice to relay. He encourages students to explore new practices, as those opportunities can help you discover new people and ideas. Contreras added, "Failure is good, failure means that you are trying." Contreras's success on the track wasn't without help. David Lillard, a CHS Science teacher and the head track coach heavily influenced Contreras. "[Lillard] taught me a lot about running and even more about myself." Contreras shows unrelenting devotion to the track team, "I hope to have left a legacy of commitment and leadership for the track team."

This article is dedicated to celebrate Catoclin's class of 2023, as completion of high school is a huge milestone in one's life. There are so many more graduates that are worth mentioning. It has been a great pleasure to work alongside them and see them progress through their high-school journey. They will be greatly missed. The class of 2023 will be sure to contribute positively to the world.

To read past Catoclin Sports articles, visit the Current Events section of Emmitsburg.net.



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MOUNT SPORTS

The Mount's forgotten athletic heroes

Steve Morano
MSMU Class of 2024

The second oldest Catholic university in the United States is in Emmitsburg, Maryland. For most of its history, it has been known as Mount Saint Mary's College and Seminary. Today, the Mount now plays host to more than twenty Division 1 athletic programs and a multitude of club sports. Over its 215-year history, the Mountaineers have compiled quite an athletic resume, with the most well-known piece of silverware being the 1962 Men's Basketball College Division National Championship. The Mount has also had 12 of its student-athletes compete in the Olympics, with Peter Rono winning the gold medal during the 1988 Summer Olympics in the 1500 meters event. The Mount in recent years has also added Super Bowl winning player and head coach Todd Bowles to the ranks of its alumni, with Bowles earning his bachelor's degree in 2023.

Among Bowles and Rono, names like Phelan, Carter and Deegan echo in the athletic arenas of the institution. But sports have been played at an organized level at the Mount since 1871, so it would be disheartening to the thousands of athletes who have participated on athletic teams through the years if some of their stories weren't retold. This list of "forgotten Mount greats" is by no means comprehensive. But it is a recognition of some of the countless athletes over the years who have played on Echo Field, Memorial Gym, and the ARCC.

John Chapman – In the early 20th century, the Mount had very few organized sports. Still an all-male institution at the time, football, baseball, basketball, and tennis were among the more popular sports at the Mount at that time. John Chapman just so happened to play three of those sports. Excelling at football, basketball and baseball, Chapman earned varsity honors in all three of those sports. Excelling as a fullback on the university's football team, he was named the team captain during his junior season in 1920; he was also named to the All-Maryland collegiate team that year. Chapman also played as a guard on Monsignor John Sheridan's basketball team in the early 1920's, earning a varsity letter for the program.

But Chapman excelled highest at one particular sport, baseball. Having a .462 batting average for the Mount in his senior season, Chapman was a power leaning third baseman for Coach Edwin Hooper's team in the early 1920's. After playing 38 games for the Eastern League New Haven Profs in 1924, his .319 batting average landed him a contract with the Philadelphia Athletics. Chapman only played in 19 games for the Athletics, but across those games, he accrued a .282 batting average and 7 RBIs. Even though Chapman does not have the most appearances in Major League Baseball by a Mount

graduate, (that honor goes to Dan Costello, who played in 154 games for the Pittsburg Pirates and the New York Yankees from 1913-1916) his accolades in football and basketball, as well as his service to the baseball program, landed him a spot in the Mount Athletics Hall of Fame Class of 1973.

Virginia O'Donnell Cole – Mount Saint Mary's University only started admitting female students in 1973, merging with the all-female St. Joseph's College located in the town of Emmitsburg. In the early days of the implementation of Title IX, women's sports were not organized under the NCAA, still an all-male institution until the late 1970's; at that time, the AIAW, or the Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women, was the governing body for women's sports. In the late 1970's, there was one standout tennis player that ruled the AIAW's Small College division, Virginia O'Donnell Cole of Mount Saint Mary's College.

A member of the Mount Class of 1980 and a member of the Mount Athletics Hall of Fame's Class of 1986, O'Donnell Cole was the first woman inductee of the Hall of Fame. She was truly dominant on the court: from the beginning till the end of her career at the Mount, O'Donnell Cole compiled a record of 65-3. The Women's Tennis records only go back to the late 1980's, as the Mount switched from Division III to Division I, but if O'Donnell Cole was included on that list, she would rank sixth in all-time wins



for the Mount and surely would be at the top in winning percentage, with hers being .955% career. The most impressive statistic of her career would surely be her multi-year wins streak, peaking at 48 wins in a row, the longest in program history.

Trond Skramstad – In its 215-year history, the Mount has produced twelve Olympians, eleven of those being track and field athletes. The Mount has always had good track and field program, having three athletes go to the NCAA championships this year alone. And that legacy of success dates all the way back to the 1980's, where nine of the eleven Mount track and field athletes were at their peak. One of those nine track and field Olympians was Norwegian, Tron Skramstad.

Skramstad, a native of Norway, competed with the Kongsberg track and field team, a sporting organization that had all kinds of endurance-based sports teams. But at the Mount, Skramstad was dominant in every event that he competed in. His main events were running, competing in the 100m dash, and the 110m hurdles, but he also competed in field events such as shot put and the discus throw. He was also a talented indoor runner, competing in the 55m hurdles. But some records set by Skramstad may never be broken, that of the outdoor decathlon and indoor pentathlon, two events that are no longer recorded in the NCAA. Skramstad is 8th all-time in Mount Pentathlon runners, with a score of 3,978 and a score of 8097 in the Decath-

lon, leaving him 2nd on the all-time at the Mount.

The Mount has always had a rich athletic history, dating all the way back to the late 19th century when baseball was first played on Echo field and when hundreds of students, staff and spectators crowded in front of the seminary to watch the football team play on Saturdays. There is certainly no evidence of it slowing down by any means, leading to the conclusion that there will be more excellent athletes inducted into the Mount Athletics Hall of Fame. These three featured athletes are shining examples of the excellent athletic history the school has, and a model for what is to come.

To read past Mount Sports articles, visit the Current Events section of Emmitsburg.net.



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COMPLEMENTARY CORNER

Applied Oneness Theory for healing

Jefferson Breland

First off, I thank Renee Lehman for her wonderful Complementary Corner contribution last month.

Renee's article describes Oneness as the essential nature of our human 3D-reality from both the Taoist (pronounced Dow-ist) and modern science point of view.

From her discussion of "everything is energy" to the "field theory" which describes all energy is connected, we are introduced to a newer way of thinking about the fundamental nature of the Universe.

Whether we use the words Tao, Universe, or God, they all describe a singular origin of everything. These words also describe something or someone which is directly unknowable.

Taoism describes the Tao as the mother of the 10,000 things. In this context, 10,000 means everything know to humans. Tao can be translated as "way, path, road, route." All of which refer to living in accordance with the laws of nature. It is the invisible source of all that is visible.

The prevailing scientific theory of the origin of the universe is the big bang theory. According to this theory, everything we can see is the result of a very tiny, tiny, tiny thing exploding to create all the components of the universe.

According to the major Western religions, God is responsible for the creation of all things.

Interestingly, the source of the word, "catholic," is the Greek adjective, "katholikos," meaning, "universal."

Whether the source of everything we know is the Tao, a gigantic explosion, or God, it is pretty straight-forward to understand everything is interconnected, interrelated, born of a common source; therefore, everything is us. Where humans begin to veer away from understanding and living the Oneness can be seen in each of these three possible explanations of the Universe.

In the Tao Te Ching, the first book written about Taoism in approximately 400 BCE, chapter one states, "The Tao that can be named is not the Tao."

What this means is in the Oneness, there are no names, no distinctions that separate anything from another. There is no me or you. There is just... well, the Oneness. Everything is connected.

It seems there is a human necessity to name everything. Our entire world is made up of words for things. That makes some sense, human sense. Names allow us to navigate the world, but, once you name something, it is separated from the Oneness (or is it?). Naming things veers us away from the Tao or the Oneness.

In the Big Bang Theory, scientists hypothesis there was a very small point (this word was used often in descriptions of the big bang) of some something, smaller than an atom, which decided one

day to blow up, hence, the name, Big Bang. No one knows what this very small point of something was. Scientists call it a mystery.

Scientists say the "Big Bang," in some ridiculously small amount of time, a billionth of a second or something like that, created all the components of everything we can observe through fancy scientific equipment as well as through our mind, senses, and intuition as well as things yet to be explained or discovered.

How does the Big Bang Theory veer us away from the Oneness?

The Big Bang story begins with a move away from the Oneness. In the beginning, there was this thing that contained everything. Sounds like the Oneness to me. Then, boom, this thing that contained everything blew apart into all these different things. It was no longer the Oneness.

The "veering away" also occurs in the standard practice of science; that is, to reduce phenomena to its component parts. In this scientific reductionist practice of separating things like water into its tiniest bits, we often lose sight of the miracle of water and its importance in the development of human civilizations and human survival in all environments.

When God created the universe, in addition to all the great stuff, all the distractions and differences that bother us were also created. As a result, we don't always remember we are all God's children. We forget to live the teachings of the Bible. We forget the Bible entreats us many times

to "not judge others, lest we be judged."

These "forgettings" veer us away from living as close as possible to the heart of God.

Now what do these three different ways of looking at the Oneness have to do with health? I am glad I asked.

My preferred definition of "healing" is, "to make whole." (Whole-ness sounds a lot like One-ness to me.)

How do we heal? How do we make ourselves whole? Remembering and...

If we are a Taoist, we know when we create names for everyone and everything in the Universe we are moving everyone and everything out of the Oneness. It is here we have the opportunity to remember we are all born of the Tao since all things and beings stem from it. We are the Tao and not the Tao at the same time. When we allow ourselves to remember we have the same origin as all things, we move closer to becoming One with all things.

Applying Big Bang Theory to the Oneness, the illusion we are separate little bits of the primordial explosion can be proven to be just that, an illusion, or even a delusion.

Firstly, in addition to the biochemical elements which make up our bodies, the essence or spirit of us must have existed in the tiny, mysterious point of who-knows-what that exploded in the Big Bang. The proof is that we have bodies as well as consciousness that is not biochemical. In his lectures entitled, "The Canticle to the Cosmos," the

mathematical cosmologist, Brian Swimme refers to this concept as the bio-spiritual nature of the universe.

Since we were birthed in the primordial, cosmic fireball, we are all related to everything else in the Universe. How can we not be? We're all made of star dust for Pete's sake.

We simply need to remember where we all came from.

We learn from God we are all his children. We know that God created light, the Earth, the Waters, the Heavens, and all creatures great and small. If this is so, how can we not be all related? We simply need to remember all things are of God.

Let it be said remembering is not enough.

All these ideas about the Tao, the Big Bang, and God are useless unless we put them into action.

How do we do this? Love. Love is the answer.

The poet, Jack Gilbert, wrote, "Love allows us to walk in the sweet music of our particular heart."

While we are all part of whichever form of Oneness you choose to believe, each of us is unique in all the history of the Universe. We are holy particulars.

Love is an action. Love is a practice of remembering our common source. Love is remembering we are not alone. Love is a declaration of participating in life. Love is how we know ourselves through our relationships with others. Love is how we help others as well as ourselves.

Remember, God helps those who help themselves.

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FITNESS & HEALTH

Family time in the warm weather

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Find an activity that the whole family enjoys. Depending on where you live it may be a great time for a family walk or bike ride. The back yard is a great place for a ballgame, bad mitten match, basketball or just jogging around.

Now that the kids are out of school we need to keep them active. I know the hot weather can make us feel tired and not want to be out in it but there are things we can do. Take a walk in the early morning if you are an early riser. Schedule a walk with your family or friends in the evening after the air is not as hot. Get in the pool if you have one or meet friends at the community pool for a refreshing dip and good conversation. You can always find something

to do to get some exercise while still taking care not to overheat or overdo in the hot weather.

If you are trying to lose a little weight I have found that keeping a food log helps you to not over eat. Sometimes it surprises you when you look at how much you ate that day. Having to write everything down may make you think twice before putting that bite in your mouth.

Planning your meals for the week will enable you to include a protein, vegetable, fruit and carb for each meal. Preparing snack bags will also help you make healthier choices. Cut up the veggies and fruit and put them in single serving snack bags. If you look in the frig for something to snack on and they are already prepared it is easier to grab and go. This way you will be eating healthier and

not just grabbing whatever is in the frig. Planning meals helps you eat less calories and a better variety of healthy food.

Keeping an exercise and water log also ensures you get these important components of a healthy lifestyle in each day also. It's easy to get water when you are outside in the hot weather because we get thirsty but sometimes we forget to drink our water when we are inside most of the day. Getting enough water is not only important if you are trying to loose a few pounds but it is essential to our overall health.

Since we are made up of mostly water, we need to replenish our body's water to keep our organs and body functioning properly. Sometimes you may think you are hungry and reach for a snack when you are really just thirsty. Try



drinking a glass of water first and maybe you'll find you don't need that snack after all. Of course, water has no calories but that snack may put you over the food intake for the day and eventually add a few pounds you don't want.

Nice, warm weather is here now

and summer and hot weather will be here soon. Get outside and enjoy it while you can and think ahead of how you will stay active even during the hot months. It's important to our body and mind to stay engaged and keep moving.

Have a great summer!

Frederick Health's Cancer Care

continued from page 23

access to these Oncology & Hematology services across the county. From his experience in other locations, he learned that bringing care closer to patients often made a big difference in both outcomes and screenings. As such, the first Frederick Health satellite Oncology & Hematology practice opened in Mt. Airy. Almost immediately, he saw positive results.

"We expanded our cancer care program by establishing these satellite cancer treatment locations, starting with Mt. Airy. This improved access, community health and built a more comprehensive approach to treatment," says Dr. Mansky.

Expanding these satellite care locations was always part of Dr. Mansky's plan.

"Naturally, when we opened the Emmitsburg location last year, expanding Oncology & Hematology services to this location came to mind," he added.

Dr. Mansky, who began seeing patients at Frederick Health Emmitsburg in April, says the easiest way to prevent serious cancer from developing and spreading is to schedule routine screenings and consultations. Patients should take an active role in their health by understanding cancer risks. When those routine screenings

show something amiss, Dr. Mansky and his team can recommend each patient's best course of action. Depending on the patient, that could be further treatment at the James M Stockman Cancer Institute or additional care at the Emmitsburg facility. While the Stockman facility will still serve as Frederick Health's primary cancer treatment location for things like chemotherapy, Dr. Mansky knows the benefits of having that initial meeting closer to home.

"By bringing these services to this community, we meet patients where they are. I've had feedback from existing patients telling me that us being closer to their homes makes a difference. We have patients from all over the northern part of the county and south-central Pennsylvania now coming to Emmitsburg for treatment," added Mansky.

Located in one of the fastest-grow-

ing counties in the state, Frederick Health is working to meet the community's growing needs. With new facilities soon to be brought online in Brunswick and Urbana, Dr. Mansky was optimistic that Frederick Health would also expand the Oncology & Hematology program to these locations.

"Whether it's at our Emmitsburg location or somewhere else in our network, we can scan for a wide variety of cancers. If a resident is concerned about something or has a family history of cancer, please come see me for a consultation," said Mansky.

Any medical issue can be frightening, and cancer is no different. To help address a serious diagnosis like cancer, Frederick Health is working to positively impact the well-being of every individual in the community by offering timely information and available resources and empowering the patient by providing the most up-to-date technology. Dr. Mansky,

like most medical experts, agrees that the patient experience is often the most critical factor in determining how individuals access their healthcare. Ensuring they feel heard and that their care is unique is a primary factor in an individual's decision to pursue one healthcare provider over another.

In conclusion, Dr. Mansky wants the community, espe-

cially those in northern Frederick County, to know they have expert, accessible care close to home.

"We will be here, ready to care for you and help you access these services," he concluded.

To learn more about this program or schedule an appointment with Dr. Mansky and his team, call 240-566-4100 or visit www.frederickhealth.org/oncology-hematology.

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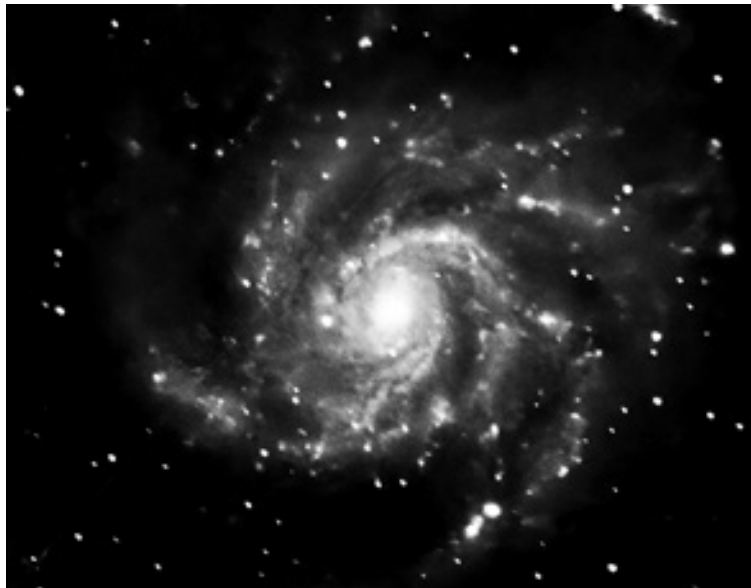
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ASTRONOMY

The night sky of July

For July 2023, The Moon is Full, the Thunder Moon, is on July 3rd. The Earth is at aphelion, farthest from the Sun, on July 6, meaning the sun appears smallest and dimmest in our sky then. Obviously the fact that we in the northern hemisphere are tilted most toward it in summer makes a far bigger difference in our seasons, for this distance variation is only about 1%; our orbit is almost circular. The waning gibbous moon passes south of Saturn on July 7th. The last quarter moon is on July 9th, and the waning crescent passes Jupiter on July 11th. The new moon is on July 17th. The very slender waxing crescent lies just to the right of Mercury low in the west 45 minutes after sunset on July 18th, is just north of the triangle of the Venus, Regulus, and Mars on July 19 and above the trio on July 20th, just right of Mars.

Planets in Greek means “the wanderers”. Never more than this month’s evening sky, as the complex motions of inferior Venus retrograding contrasts with superior Mars in direct motion. For the last two months, faster moving Venus has been overtaking more distant Mars in the western sky night by night, but she never catches him! Instead she has reached the edge of her orbit, half lit in the telescope, and for July, appears as a larger but slimmer crescent each evening, heading back west to pass between us and the Sun in August. She will spend the last four months of 2023 in the dawn sky. As July begins, Mars lies midway between brilliant Venus (so bright it is visible in daylight now!) and Regulus in Leo. Mars passes just



The supernova in the ‘Pinwheel Galaxy’ for a time was rivaling the light output of all the other hundreds of billions of stars in its galaxy.

above Regulus on July 9th, and Venus comes close, but never reaches Regulus, passing south of it on July 19th. To make it more interesting, Mercury comes out from behind the Sun in late July, passing just north of Venus on July 24th, and appearing to merge naked eye with Regulus on July 28th. Use binoculars to resolve them, with Venus just below them. Quite an end to a busy month!

Things much more placid in the dawn sky, with Saturn rising about 11 p.m. in Aquarius, and Jupiter about 3 a.m. in Aries. Both will return to the evening sky by fall. I observed Saturn last week, and it is notable just how much the rings have flattened since last year. They will be at equinox, facing the Sun and earth edge on, in May 2025, and appear so thin as to vanish for several weeks in most earth based telescopes!

High overhead is the Big Dipper, and its handle will be the guide to the biggest news in cosmology in 2023. Just north of the end of the handle is M-101, the “Pinwheel Galaxy”, one of the most photogenic spirals and best known galaxies in the whole sky, visible even with big binoculars. In one of its spiral arms, Japanese amateur Koichi Itagak, noted a 15th magnitude supernova on May 19, 2023. It rose in brightness by about 100X in the next week, peaking at about 10th magnitude in late May, and has faded very slowly, still about 11.5 as of this writing.

Note the supernova for the time being is rivaling the light output of all the other hundreds of billions of stars in this spiral galaxy, even bigger and more massive than the Milky Way! If it were within a thousand light years of us, it would be easily

seen in broad daylight!

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. Note the brightest star of Leo, Regulus, gets a very close visit from Mercury on July 28th!

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. This is the Sagittarius Dwarf Galaxy, now colliding with the Milky Way in Sagittarius in the summer sky. It lies on the far edge of our own barred spiral, and may account for the formation of our bar. 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. North of Corvus, in the arms of Virgo, is where our large scopes will show members of the Virgo Supercluster, a swarm of over a thousand galaxies about 50 million light years distant.

To the east, Hercules is well up, with the nice globular cluster M-13 marked on your sky map and visible in binocs. The brightest star of the northern hemisphere, Vega rises in the NE as twilight deepens. Twice as hot as our Sun, it appears blue-white, like most bright stars.

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. of the Galaxy, and a little above (north) of Vega.

South of Deneb, on a dark clear night, 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. The star at the south end of the Northern Cross is one of my favorites, Albireo, the “gator star”, a notable orange and blue double at 20X.

As we head south, Antares is well up at sunset in Scorpius. It appears reddish 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. This view of our home galaxy stretching overhead is for about midnight on July evenings, looking from the South to overhead.

Of course, you will need dark skies to see this kind of beauty, but many have plans for trips to parks and out west this summer, so be sure to plan for at least a few evenings under dark skies to appreciate our galaxy.

Farmers’ Almanac

“Those who deny freedom to others
deserve it not for themselves”
—Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865)

Mid-Atlantic Weather Watch: warm, humid and dry at first, then scattered afternoon showers and thunderstorms (1, 2, 3, 4, 5); very warm and humid with scattered afternoon showers and thunderstorms producing heavy rain at first, then dry; turning slightly cooler and less humid (6, 7, 8, 9, 10); turning very hot and humid with late PM storms (11, 12, 13, 14, 15); record-breaking heat possible at first with p.m. showers and thunderstorms, then dry and turning slightly cooler and less humid (16, 17, 18, 19, 20); dry, seasonably warm and humid (21, 22, 23, 24, 25); dry, warm and humid at first, then p.m. showers and thunderstorms with heavy rain and turning slightly cooler (26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31).

Severe Weather Watch: The Town and Country Almanack sees heavy rain (6, 7, 8), severe thunderstorms (27), and more heavy rain (28, 29, 30).

Full Moon: July’s Full Moon will occur on Monday, July 3rd. Many Native American tribes referred to it as Thunder Moon because of the numerous severe thunderstorms during

the month (see this month’s forecast above!). Other tribes in various regions of the United States called it Buck Moon due to the rapid growth of antlers on young bucks during the month, Ripe Corn Moon because of the appearance of young corn on the stalks planted in the Spring, or Hay Moon since hay tended to ripen as well.

Special Notes: Watch out! Those Dog Days of Summer will be upon us starting Monday, July 3rd. Get ready for some hot and humid weather that will continue into mid-August.

Holidays: This year’s Fourth of July celebration falls on Tuesday, July 4th! On this day, in 1776, the Continental Congress passed a resolution saying, “These United Colonies are, and of right, ought to be, free and independent states”. If a barbecue is planned, double-check the grill. Nobody wants any surprises, so it is wise to make sure that it is functioning properly and that you remember to fill up the propane tank (or picked up plenty of charcoal and charcoal lighter fluid!). And always remember, if planning any extended outdoor activities, use the appropriate level of sunscreen (SPF 15 or higher). Apply it frequently, especially if swimming or perspiring. The Islamic New Year falls on Tuesday, July 18th.

The Garden: This is the last month to plant these veggies for a fall crop: snap beans, peas, cukes, carrots, kohlrabi, summer squash, early sweet corn and green onions, among others. To get the best selection of varieties, order bulbs now for fall planting. Lots of spring-blooming bulbs are deer-resistant, too. Avoid tulips and crocus and enjoy carefree alliums, winter aconite, snowdrops, snowflake, Siberian squill, glory-of-the-snow, Puschkinia, Fritillaria, and Anemone blanda. Grape hyacinths will send up fall foliage, but even when it’s browsed, it doesn’t seem to affect their vigor.

The Farm: Best for planting root crops (3, 4, 11, 12); weeding and stirring the soil (18, 19, 20); planting above-ground crops (26, 27); harvesting all crops (10, 11, 14, 15); the best days for setting hens and incubators (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31); the slaughtering and butchering of meat (17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24); transplanting (17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24); the weaning of all small animals and livestock (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 28, 29, 30, 31); harvesting and storing grains (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16).

J. Gruber’s Thought For Today’s Living

“Do not regard liberty and freedom so lightly that you forget its value and take it for granted.”



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COMPUTER Q&A

Not backing up your data could cost you!

Aysë Stenabaugh
Jesters' Computers

Too often the "out of sight out of mind" concept can bite us in the behind. Recently, an Emmitsburg Daughters of Charity resident contacted us because she was unable to access her data. Upon completing diagnostics on her storage device we determined that in order to recover her data she would have to send her hard drive to a data recovery specialist. Later she learned that the mistake of not backing up her data would cost her \$800.

Data that is stored on only ONE device is never completely safe because all physical storage devices will eventually fail. The only way to protect your data is to ensure that data is either being manually copied to another storage device, an automatic backup to an external storage device is configured to run at regular intervals or cloud storage is being utilized and data is being saved properly to your cloud storage. Any of the above methods will help ensure that your data is safe, read on to learn the benefits and limitations of each option.

CDs and DVDs are the least secure storage method and are the most likely to become damaged or lost. If you've ever found yourself listening to a music cd only for it to start skipping, the disc probably got scratched or damaged. Since your relying on a laser to burn the data into the disc the slower the burn speed the deeper the burn or etching of the data into the disk. If you do choose to burn your data to a disc, choosing a slower speed can help ensure that your data won't get damaged as easily but it doesn't prevent scratches. It's okay to burn a copy of data to a disc if you need to share your files with another person but we wouldn't recommend using it as a method to backup or store a single copy of important data.

Flash Drives can seem like a good storage option since there are no moving parts and USBs are readily accessible on most devices. In reality, flash drives were never meant to be permanent storage media instead, the devices were designed to copy files from one device and easily transfer them to another. The problem with this is that flash drives can be easily lost or damaged. Flash drives, similar to solid-state hard drives have a limit on the number of times it can write to and erase the memory in the device. Additionally, plugging a flash drive into a device that is not properly regulating its power can cause a surge that can damage the hardware.

External backup drives that remain plugged in and are configured to backup your data are a good option to automatically ensure that your data is stored in a second location. Windows 8 and Windows 10 both provide the ability to set up file history which will automatically copy and new or changed files to your external storage device. Additionally, on Windows 7 and newer devices, you can perform a system image or setup your image on a regular schedule. A system image is a snapshot of your entire computer including personal

files, programs, and settings. Having a system image can prevent you from needing to locate and re-load all of your programs and restore your files and settings. A system image can only be saved to an external hard drive (unless you have the pro versions of Windows which allows network storage devices to be used). Using an external backup drive you do have an initial cost (Our backup drives including setup are \$110), at some point any physical storage device could fail at which point you would replace that device.

Cloud storage is a great way to ensure that all of your data is safe in the event of a fire or natural disaster. When configured properly, data can be saved to the cloud and the com-

puter automatically. With cloud storage, you can typically access your cloud data from any device with internet access by logging into your account. There are several different cloud storage options including Dropbox, OneDrive, and iCloud. For those that want to utilize Microsoft Office software such as Word, Excel or Outlook can benefit two-fold by subscribing to Microsoft 365 (formerly office 365) which provides the latest versions of their Office software as well as 1 Terabyte of online storage for a yearly fee.

Too often we see our customers in tears because they lost pictures, videos, school work, etc that was not properly backed up. If you want to ensure this doesn't happen



to you we strongly recommend considering at least one of the options above, ideally both a physical and cloud storage. If you find yourself with questions about data storage or if you need assistance with your

computer, consider reaching out to us at Jester's Computer Services for advice or to schedule an appointment at 717-642-6611. You can also find us on the web at www.jesterscomputers.com.

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Fair Opens:
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Saturday 1 p.m.
Closes each day
at 10 p.m.

Sunday, July 23

1 p.m. - South Mountain Fair Rabbit and Cavy Show, Show Arena
2 - 4 p.m. - Registration of Open Exhibits (See 4-H Schedule)

Monday, July 24

4 - 7 p.m. Registration of Open Exhibits (See 4-H Schedule)

Tuesday, July 25

4 p.m. - Fair Opens, Exhibit Buildings Open
5 - 10 p.m. - Carnival Rides Open (Approximate times)
7 p.m. - Adams Co. Jr. Livestock Market Swine Judging, Show Arena
7:30 p.m. - FOOD AUCTION - To benefit an Adams County charity

Wednesday, July 26

3 p.m. - Open Goat Judging, Show Arena
4 p.m. - Fair Opens, Exhibit Buildings Open
4 p.m. - Open Sheep Judging, Show Arena
5 - 10 p.m. - Carnival Rides Open (Approximate times)
6 p.m. - Adams Co. Jr. Livestock Market Goat Judging, Show Arena
6:30 p.m. - DRAFT & MINIATURE HORSE PULLING CONTEST, Rear Arena
7 p.m. - Adams Co. Jr. Livestock Market Sheep Judging, Show Arena

Thursday, July 27

4 p.m. - Fair and Exhibit Buildings Open
5 - 10 p.m. - Carnival Rides Open (Approximate times)
4 p.m. - Adams Co. Jr. Livestock Dairy Feeder Calf Judging, Show Arena

4:30 p.m. - Adams Co. Jr. Livestock Dairy Beef Finished Steer Judging, Show Arena
5 p.m. - Adams Co. Jr. Livestock Steer Judging, Show Arena
4 - 9 p.m. - MECHANICAL BULL RIDE - \$5
6:30 p.m. - CHAINSAW CARVING SHOW
7 p.m. - Open Beef Judging, Show Arena
7 p.m. - AUSTIN RIFE - Auditorium - FREE
8 p.m. - CHAINSAW CARVING SHOW
9:30 p.m. - FIREWORKS DISPLAY - Visible from entire fairgrounds

Friday, July 28

4 p.m. - Fair Opens, Exhibit Buildings Open
5 - 10 p.m. - Carnival Rides Open (Approximate times)
5 p.m. - Adams Co. Jr. Livestock Dairy Judging, Show Arena
6 p.m. - Dairy Showmanship Judging, Show Arena
4 - 9 p.m. - MECHANICAL BULL RIDE - \$5
6:30 p.m. - CHAINSAW CARVING SHOW
6:30 p.m. - Dairy Cattle Judging. (Color breeds and Holstein), Show Arena
7 p.m. - JOE BONSON and COFFEE RUN - Auditorium - FREE
8 p.m. - CHAINSAW CARVING SHOW

Saturday, July 29

1 p.m. - Fair Opens, Exhibit Buildings Open
2 - 10 p.m. - Carnival Rides Open (with afternoon break for dinner)
4 p.m. - Adams Co. Jr. Livestock Sale - Show Arena
4:30 p.m. - Parade Of Antique Farm Equipment
6 p.m. - PEDAL TRACTOR PULL FOR THE KIDS
10 p.m. - Exhibit Buildings Close (ONLY LIVESTOCK MAY BE REMOVED)

Sunday, July 30

2 - 4 p.m. - Fairgrounds open to remove entries for all remaining exhibits



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WHAT JULY 4 IS ALL ABOUT

Have you ever wondered what happened to the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence?

Five signers were captured by the British as traitors, and tortured before they died. Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned. Two lost their sons serving in the Revolutionary Army; another had two sons captured. Nine of the 56 fought and died from wounds or hardships of the Revolutionary War. They signed and they pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.

What kind of men were they?

Twenty-four were lawyers and jurists. Eleven were merchants, nine were farmers and large plantation owners; men of means, well educated. But they signed the Declaration of Independence knowing full well that the penalty would be death if they were captured.

- Carter Braxton of Virginia, a wealthy planter and trader, saw his ships swept from the seas by the British Navy. He sold his home and properties to pay his debts, and died in rags.
- Thomas McKean was so hounded by the British that he was forced to move his family almost constantly. He served

in the Congress without pay, and his family was kept in hiding. His possessions were taken from him, and poverty was his reward.

- Vandals or soldiers looted the properties of Dillery, Hall, Clymer, Walton, Gwinnett, Heyward, Rutledge, and Middleton.
- At the battle of Yorktown, Thomas Nelson Jr., noted that the British General Cornwallis had taken over the Nelson home for his headquarters. He quietly urged General George Washington to open fire. The home was destroyed, and Nelson died bankrupt.
- Francis Lewis had his home and properties destroyed. The enemy jailed his wife, and she died within a few months.
- John Hart was driven from his wife's bedside as she was dying. Their 13 children fled for their lives. His fields and his gristmill were laid to waste. For more than a year he lived in forests and caves, returning home to find his wife dead and his children vanished. A few weeks later he died from exhaustion and a

broken heart.

- Norris and Livingston suffered similar fates.

Such were the stories and sacrifices of the American Revolution. These were not wild-eyed, rabble-raising ruffians. They were soft-spoken men of means and education.

They had security, but they valued liberty more. Standing tall, straight, and unwavering, they pledged: "For the support of this declaration, with firm reliance on the protection of divine providence, we mutually pledge to each other, our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."

They gave you and me a free and independent America. The history books never told you a lot about what happened in the Revolutionary War. We didn't fight just the British. We were British subjects at that time and we fought our own government!

Some of us take these liberties so much for granted, but we shouldn't. So, take a few minutes this year while enjoying your 4th of July holiday and silently thank these patriots. It's not much to ask for the price they paid.

Remember: freedom is never free, and the Fourth of July has more to it

than parades, beer, picnics, and baseball games.

The meaning of the symbols on the Dollar Bill

Take out a one dollar bill and look at it. The one-dollar bill you're looking at first came off the presses in 1957 in its present design. This so-called paper money is in fact a cotton and linen blend, with red and blue minute silk fibers running through it. It's not paper money at all...its fabric money. We've all washed it without it falling apart. A special blend of ink is used, the contents we will never know. It is overprinted with symbols and then it is starched to make it water resistant and pressed to give it that nice crisp look.

If you look on the front of the bill, you will see the United States Treasury Seal. On the top you will see the scales for the balance-a balanced budget. In the center you have a carpenter's T-square, a tool used for an even cut. Underneath is the Key to the United States Treasury.

That's all pretty easy to figure out, but what is on the back of that dollar bill is something we should all know.

If you turn the bill over, you will see two circles. Both circles, together, comprise the Great Seal of the United States. The First Continental Congress requested that Benjamin Franklin and a group of men come up with a Seal. It took them four years to accomplish this task and another two years to get it approved.

If you look at the left hand circle, you will see a Pyramid. Notice the face is lighted and the western side is dark. This country was just beginning. We had not begun to explore the West or decided what we could do for Western Civilization. The Pyramid is uncapped, again signifying that we were not even close to being finished. Inside the capstone you have the all-seeing eye, and ancient symbol for divinity. It was Franklin's belief that one man couldn't do it alone, but a group of men, with the help of God could do anything. "IN GOD WE TRUST" is on this currency. The Latin above the pyramid, ANNUIT COEPTIS, means: "God has favored our undertaking." The Latin below the pyramid, NOVUS ORDO SECLORUM, means "a new order has begun." At the base of the pyra-

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