

Emmitsburg NEWS-JOURNAL

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

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Traffic issues forecast to stretch into 2019

Emmitsburg residents, hoping that the New Year would bring an end to the traffic nightmare that has gripped the town for the past six months, might as well get used to it as work on the Square finally kicks into high gear while work on Flat Run Bridge falls further and further behind.

In the fall of 2016, the Maryland State Department of Transportation began a multi-million dollar project to replace the MD 140 Bridge over Flat Run and complete sidewalk construction along MD 140 between North Avenue and Silo Hill Road.

While the sidewalk construction was completed within a couple of months, work on the Flat Run Bridge has been repeatedly delayed, with little public explanation. An initial inquiry to the local project engineer's office resulted in denial of the Flat Run Bridge Project's delay. However, upon making further phone calls to the Maryland State Highway Administration itself, an official confirmation of the project's delay was finally released.

The delay, according to the state,

is a result of drainage and water line issues. The drainage problem first occurred last fall before the project was underway. Drainage alongside Flat Run Bridge had to be re-designed to allow the project to proceed. While this was completed fairly quickly, it nonetheless set the project back a little. On the other hand, the water line issue continues to cause problems.

Currently, the water line that runs underneath the bridge needs to be relocated before the project can move forward; a move that could cost the town an additional \$19,000. According to the state, a "memorandum of understanding" is being worked out now between the Department of Transportation, the bridge contractor, and the town to determine how this new complication will be paid for.

If the remainder of the project continues to go according to plan the Flat Run Bridge project could be completed by the summer of 2019, nearly a full year longer than the original plan.

The Square revitalization, on the other hand, is continuing on sched-



Emmitsburg residents will be glad once the construction in town is finally done, but unfortunately, they have longer to wait than originally expected.

ule. Work on the square is expected to be complete by spring of 2018. The redesigned Square will host four less parking spaces. This was a decision that was made years ago in order to ensure pedestrian safety and encourage community access via walking throughout town.

While sidewalk work throughout town is expected to be completed by the spring, many residents have expressed frustration with the lack of transparency related to the process for the replacement of trees. Several residents were surprised to discover no opening had been made to replace cherished trees in front of their houses. Inquiries to the contractors

were re-directed to the town, who simply re-directed the inquires back to the contractor – leaving residents scratching their heads as to who really was in charge and how to resolve the issue.

This isn't the only issue the town has encountered throughout the course of this project. The town has experienced several street light conduit problems as well as damages to service lines and street light poles. The town has been compiling a list of damages by the sidewalk contractor throughout the past several months and sending invoices to the contractor for all damages incurred.

Local municipalities reject "mini-casinos"

Municipalities across Southern Adams County, including Hamiltonban Township, Liberty Township and Carroll Valley Borough passed resolutions to prohibit category 4 casinos in their jurisdictions. Franklin, Freedom and Mount Joy Townships, among many others, have also adopted resolutions.

Their actions were in response the Act 42 of the Pennsylvania Legislature, passed in October, which created category 4 casinos - referred to as "mini-casinos." "Mini casinos" are defined as having between 300 and 750 slot machines and table games. The legislation authorized up to ten mini-casinos in the state, which can be owned and operated by any business that holds a category 1, 2, or 3 casino license. The mini-casinos are to operate no fewer than 25 miles from established casinos.

As part of the Act, municipalities were given option to pass resolutions prohibiting the location of a category 4 casino within their boundaries. The Act required that municipalities pass any such resolution by December 31. Any resolution passed after December 31 would be

Municipalities the pass resolu-

tions banning mini-casinos may, in the future, choose to opt back and allow mini-casinos by rescinding the original prohibition. However, once a resolution is passed, no mini-casino will be allowed without the expressed permission of the municipality.

Hamiltonban Township held a public hearing on December 5 to discuss the resolution. The township heard from fourteen residents, twelve of which were strongly opposed to having a mini-casino in the township. As one resident stated during the public hearing, "If we don't take any action now, there's no opportunity to take any action in the future."

Supervisor Chairman, Bob Gordon, stated that he doesn't believe there would be any location within the township that could even be suitable for a casino. "However, in all fairness to the residents of Hamiltonban Township, we wanted to give the opportunity to residents to voice their opinions," stated Gordon. Nevertheless, Township supervisors passed a resolution to prohibit the placement of "mini-casino" within the township unanimously.

During the Carroll Valley Bor-



In Freedom Township, over 80% of the citizens voted in opposition to a casino being placed in the township.

ough Council meeting, Borough Manager Dave Hazlett discussed the potential economic development that could occur as a result of placing a casino in the Borough. "You don't want to hamper yourself from an economic development standpoint ... hosting fees for placing a casino in the Borough are 50% of the current municipal budget," stated Hazlett.

However, members of the pub-

lic who attended the Carroll Valley meeting urged the Council to adopt a resolution prohibiting the casinos. The resolution was subsequently passed by a wide margin. In Freedom Township, over 80% of the citizens in the recent election voted in opposition of a casino being placed in the township, joining 19 out the 21 other townships in Adams County opting against future mini-casinos.

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EMMITSBURG NEWS

Justin Kiska to run for Council

On December 4, Frederick County business owner, Justin M. Kiska, announced his candidacy for the Frederick County Council in 2018. Kiska will be running for one of the two At-Large council seats.

Growing up in Frederick County and choosing to call the county home, Kiska has played an active role in the community in many ways. He has always been involved in the area's community theatre, and in 2002, when his family purchased The Way Off Broadway Dinner Theatre, he stepped into the position of the company's President and Managing Director.

Additionally, in 2012 Kiska was appointed to the Board of Directors of The Golden Mile Alliance. The organization was originally created as an ad hoc committee of the city with the purpose of helping to revitalize the Golden Mile Corridor. Upon the group's incorporation into an independent 501(c)3, Kiska was elected as the Secretary of the Executive Committee Board and later, in 2014, he was elected President of The Golden Mile Alliance - a position he held for three terms until 2017.

Having worked with some true public servants early on, Kiska was emboldened with an understanding of the significance of the responsibility of serving one's community. This requires leaders who are willing to show up and make

difficult decisions, and understanding how doing what is right is far more important than politics.

Kiska's campaign will focus on bringing a new form of leadership to the County Council. In addition to issues dealing with future growth and development, education, and budget matters, he is also going to focus on replacing the personal disagreements that have arisen amongst members of the Council over the last several years. Those issues, along with the current Council's actions, which have made them subservient to the County Executive as opposed to a true check and balance, were key factors in Kiska's decision to enter the 2018 County Council race. "As a business owner for the last fifteen years, the idea of actually accomplishing things has become more and more important to me. I'm not interested in fighting political and ideological battles at Winchester Hall. I want to work on finding ways to enable and encourage the county and its residents to thrive as we continue further into the 21st Century," stated Kiska.

Kiska hopes to tackle issues in the County such as the continuing growth in the county and education. "Moving forward with the proper supporting infrastructure in place is the key. Frederick County roads must be able to support increased traffic, public services must be able to provide the highest level



Kiska brings to the table an exceptional policy background fine-tuned by business savvy.

of service possible, and the schools must be able to handle more students." Kiska also believes in the importance of education and providing the county's students with the tools they need to learn and grow. Students should have access to the best technology available, as well as highly qualified teachers in the classroom and a safe and effective learning environment.

"While there's no way to know what all of the issues will be that come up in the next few years, the promise I can make is that whatever they are, I will approach each with an open mind and always look for the answers that will benefit Frederick County as a whole. I may not always make the popular decision but I won't take any vote I cast lightly," said Kiska.

To learn more about Kiska and why he's running for County Council, visit JustinKiska.com.

Lagoon waste storage odor update

Many residents in Emmitsburg have not forgotten the unpleasant odor that lingered in town for several months this past spring and summer, and many are concerned they may face the same odor again this spring. During the December Town Council meeting, Town staff briefed the Council on updates concerning the lagoon waste storage facility.

In November 2016, the Emmitsburg Board of Commissioners approved the storage and lease agreement from Enviro-Organic Technologies (EOT) to use one of the town's empty lagoons to temporarily store food process residuals from poultry processing plants. EOT was contracted to use lagoon 3 from November 8 to February 28. According to the contract, come March


1, EOT would take the material out of the lagoons and spread it on the farmland. The proposal came with an \$80,000 rental agreement for the four months.

Starting on February 28, residents began noticing an unpleasant smell emanating throughout the town from the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The odor was only meant to last for about two weeks, as the sludge was being removed from the lagoon. Unfortunately, this was not the case. Residents noted that the odor presented health concerns for those suffering from asthma or other medical conditions and was an immense inconvenience.

On October 2 town staff met with contracting staff at the Wastewater Treatment Plant to go over the plan for winter 2017 through

fall 2018. EOT noted that there was no fall cleanout this year, meaning no hauling days occurred. However, operations began once again in the middle of December and will continue through February 28, 2018. Loads are being transported and discharged into the lagoon. EOT assured town staff that all material being discharged into the lagoon is happening underneath the top cap, which should help minimize any odor as long as the cap is not broken.

Starting on March 1, spring cleanout will begin. This will consist of twelve hauling days from the start date through May 1 from 6 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.. EOT hopes to use most of the hauling days early on, in order to beat the heat. All mixing will once again be done underneath the



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Eric Glass, Taney Corporation
Dan Reaver, Emmitsburg Glass
Bo and Jean Cadle, Former Publishers of the Emmitsburg Dispatch
Kathryn Franke, MSMU Class of 2013, MBA Class of 2015

Executive Editor: Michael Hillman, editor@emmitsburg.com
Managing Editor: Sarah Muir, MSMU Class of 2018
English Editor: Julianna Mastromatteo, MSMU Class of 2016, MAT Class of 2018
News Reporter: Danielle Ryan, PSU Class of 2015
Sports Editor: Edison Hatter

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

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Town votes against warranty partnership

After months of discussion and research by the town's Board of Commissioners and staff, Emmitsburg voted against the warranty partnership with Utility Service Partners (USP) at the December 5 town meeting.

The warranty partnership with USP was first presented and discussed back in July. As presented, the program is designed to address the public policy issue of aging infrastructure for homeowners, since many communities focus primarily on maintaining public infrastructure. If the town had chosen to utilize this program, they would have partnered with USP to make the program voluntarily available to all residents in Emmitsburg. The program would have provided

homeowners with an optional warranty on external water lines, external sewer lines and in-home plumbing.

The program would have offered three products for homeowners who chose to sign up. The external sewer line warranty costs \$7.75 per month; the external water line product costs \$5.75 per month; and the in-home plumbing product costs \$9.99 per month. Residents would not have been required to commit for any particular length of time, as the program didn't have an annual contract. Anything that impeded the sewer, water or plumbing lines would have been susceptible for repair; \$8,500 of the costs would have been covered under the warranty.

After the Board voiced some concerns over potential litigation and the repercussions from endorsing a single company, Town Manager Cathy Willets spoke with Town Attorney John Clapp. Clapp found no law that would prohibit the town from endorsing the product. Also, he believed that endorsing the program would not create any binding precedent that would require the town to endorse any similar products in the future. He did mention that if the Board would choose to vote in favor of the partnership, he would like to see USP insert language in the agreement stating that the warranty partnership is an independent company and is not affiliated with the town in any way and that

cap. Any material left in the lagoon after the twelve hauling days will be left in the lagoon until the fall when the temperatures decrease. Fall 2018 cleanout will begin on October 1 and will once again consist of twelve hauling days.

Town staff has been working with EOT to ensure that several changes be made to cut down on odor and minimize the inconvenience to residents. Hauling trucks will no longer travel through town as they did last year and a field operator will be on site to ensure the operations are running smoothly and appropriately. Unlike last year, EOT has a schedule consisting of twelve non-consecutive hauling days that they must stick to. However, the bulk of the inbound hauling will happen 24 hours a day, seven days a week, which means that some hauling may occur during the evening hours.

Additionally, this year, the top cap

on the lagoon is fully formed and all mixing will occur underneath the cap. PVC pipes have been installed and enter the lagoon twelve to eighteen inches underneath the cap. EOT is also in the process of testing a bacterium in Georgia that helps minimize odor. If it continues to be successful, they may do a trial run in Emmitsburg's lagoon. Utilizing the straw mat as the top cap did help decrease the odor last year, and EOT will continue adding straw to the cap to keep the cap intact and at a proper depth of about eight inches.

Residents were not pleased last year with the outcome of using the lagoon to store the sludge. Residents such as Richard and Paula Lindsay hope to see some vast improvements from last year. Town staff has taken residents' concerns into consideration and hopefully have a plan set up to minimize the odor and disruption experienced last year.

missioner Joe Ritz also noted that this is not the only program that offers this type of service, with a little research other services that are very similar but don't require the town's endorsement can, and already have been, found.

However, Sweeney and Mayor Briggs spoke to say that many people in the town would benefit from this service. Mayor Briggs felt as though the program appeals to the people who live in the older part of town and Sweeney felt as though the need was great for those in the community living on small or fixed income.

In the end, the Board asked for a motion in support of the partnership, but no motion was made. In a last remark, Commissioner Sweeney said, "I think it's a big mistake for the town not to have the program."

FAIRFIELD/CARROLL VALLEY NEWS

\$84,564 grant awarded for Carroll Valley Path System

During the December Borough Council meeting, Amy Kaufman of GMS Funding Solutions, announced that Carroll Valley was awarded an \$84,564 Community Conservation Partnerships Program (C2P2) grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR). This grant has been awarded to help cover the cost of phase 1 of the Carroll Valley Path System.

Currently no connection between major population centers or adjoining Fairfield and Carroll Valley Boroughs exists; the Carroll Valley Path System hopes to correct this problem. Within Carroll Valley proper, the full-proposed plan calls for the connection of the trails in and around Ranch Park with the Fairfield schools. In addition, the trail will connect to existing trails around the lakes in Carroll Valley and to the trails around Ski Liberty. It is also proposed that a connection trail will be built to connect Michaux State Park with Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve.

The \$84,564 grant was \$20,000 greater than the amount that was originally applied for, and Kauffman noted that the Regional Manager of DCNR loved the project and was excited to help fund it. The C2P2 grant, however, requires a 20% match from the Borough. To account for this 20% match, Kauffman asked Council to approve the application for an additional grant through the Adams County Parks Recreation and Green Space Grant in the amount of \$25,000. If the Borough does not receive the grant, Kauffman mentioned that the C2P2 grant allows for in-kind contributions toward the match, such as providing labor materials, volunteers etc. Borough Manager Dave Hazlett is confident that the Borough has the ability to provide these contributions if need be, however recommended Council still apply for the additional grant. Council voted to approve the application, and the Borough can expect to hear a decision by March.

During the same meeting, Council members voted to adopt

a resolution designating all Borough Parks as tobacco free zones. All tobacco products fall under the resolution, including, electronic smoking devices, cigarettes, cigars, snuff and chewing tobacco. Recently, the Adams County Library System partnered with an organization called the Young Lungs at Play Initiative to designate the Adams County libraries as smoking-free zones. Carroll Valley chose to follow suit and do the same. The Young Lungs at Play Initiative will provide all signage free of charge to Carroll Valley to post on their property. All Council members present voted in favor of the resolution except Council member Bruce Carr, who felt as though the resolution may have been "over the top" prohibiting all tobacco products.

In other news, congratulations are extended to Borough Council President Sarah Skoczen who received the 2017 Marley Award for all of her work with the Trap Neuter and Release (TNR) program in Carroll Valley. Skoczen has helped trap over 200 cats in



The multiphase Carroll Valley Path System will provide connectivity between Carroll Valley, Fairfield and hopefully Michaux State Park.

Carroll Valley and proved that the TNR program is an effective way to help with the population control of feral cats in the community. Skoczen was involved in all aspects of the TNR program which she started in the Borough two years ago, and introduced the use of the trail cam to the program. Of the 200+ cats that were trapped, twenty-two of these cats were young and social enough to be adopted out. Additionally, Fairfield is now starting to utilize

the TNR program after seeing the success of the program in Carroll Valley.

The Borough would like to thank the three Council members who have served their last Borough Council meeting. Between the three Council members, Ken Lundberg, Dan Patton, and Tom Fitzsimmons have provided 37 years of service to the Council. Great thanks for their years of dedicated service to the Borough.

Liberty Township reduces septic fee

During the December 5 Board of Supervisors meeting, the Supervisors unanimously voted to lower the \$35 septic fee to \$10. The \$35 fee has been in effect since 2010, but Supervisor Bob Jackson admitted that it has been too high for several years. In fact, Liberty Township's septic fee has been the highest in Adams County, ranging from \$15 - \$25 more than surrounding municipalities.

When asked where the excess money has been going, the Supervisor's stated that it has been

allocated into the General Fund. Some residents asked if they could be reimbursed the money they were overcharged for the past few years, but no answer was given. Other residents stated they were comfortable with the "excess" money they paid being placed in the General Fund. The \$10 fee will become effective next septic cycle, which will occur in 2019.

In other township news, Liberty Township Supervisors voted on an ordinance to form a Citizen's Advisory Committee during the

December 5 Board of Supervisors meeting. The vote originally tied during the November 14 meeting, due to the absence of Supervisor John Bostek, and was brought back to be voted upon again. The Committee would consist of three to five residents who would be responsible for reviewing and researching fees in the township, deliberating, and providing an objective recommendation for the Supervisors to vote upon.

The concept of forming a Citizen's Advisory Committee received

some backlash during the meeting, as resident Cindy Arentz questioned the necessity of forming this group. Arentz stated that the "group as a whole can provide feedback, so why elect a small group of people to do your job and disregard the opinion of the community as a whole?" As noted by Jackson, the group would simply provide a recommendation, which would be brought to the Supervisor's monthly meetings, to be further discussed and presented to the rest of the community, before taking a vote.

The motion was carried two to one with Supervisor Walter Barlow against. The township is currently accepting applications for interested persons to become members of

the Citizen's Advisory Committee.

During the same meeting, Liberty Township also adopted their 2018 budget, much to the dismay of some residents. The budget includes a \$37,120 capital purchase fund for a new police cruiser and wages based upon full time compensation. Many residents question the necessity for full time employees, when the township could save upwards of \$115,000 if hours were cut back to part time status across the different departments. The township ran smoothly with part time employees many years ago, why couldn't it do so now? Residents also question the necessity for a new police cruiser when all three vehicles in the fleet work fine. Supervisors chose to pass the 2018 budget as presented.

Adams County Community Foundation Giving Spree breaks records

On November 9 the 2017 Giving Spree raised \$565,145.45 from 599 donors to support 71 nonprofits. More than 1,000 people converged on the Gettysburg Area Middle School for the purpose of supporting the nonprofits that make Adams County a great place to live, work, and visit. "Our Giving Spree creates excitement, provides an opportunity to introduce charitable giving to those new to philanthropy, and gives families the opportunity to give together," said Lisa Donohoe, Director of Community Programs with the Adams County Community Foundation. Excitement was definitely in the air at the Gettysburg Area Middle School.

This year saw more participation by younger generations than ever before. A main attraction was the decorated piggy banks on each nonprofit's table. Everybody who came through the door received a golden coin and were able to select from the 71 partic-

ipating nonprofits, which one they wanted to support. The coins were redeemed for \$10 each thanks to a generous donor.

Other donations on November 9, both at the event and online, were matched by \$25,000 in sponsorships from ACCF's Thomas E. & Florence B. Metz Fund and Knouse Foods. The Giving Spree is made possible by the following sponsors: Robert C. Hoffman Charitable Endowment Trust Fund, Biggerstaff's Catering, Kennie's Marketplace, First Energy Foundation, Rice Fruit Company, David & Cynthia Salisbury, Sharon Magraw, Fred and Susi Guinn, Emily Rice-Townsend, Bruce Bigelow, APM Building Materials, Hockley & O'Donnell Insurance Agency, Ferrara Kampstra Wealth management, Consolidated Scrap Resource, Destination Gettysburg, Pell Corporation, and media sponsors Gettysburg Times, Community Media, and Trone Outdoor Advertising.

According to Beverly Grazu-levicz, one of the ACCF staff who

helped plan the event, all the money raised is invested right back in Adams County. The Adams County Community Foundation works to increase the level of philanthropy in our region by engaging donors and their professional advisors. The Community Foundation accepts contributions year-round to the Fund for Adams County. This fund supports great nonprofits across Adams County.

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THURMONT NEWS

Minnick named Police Officer of the Year

On December 12, Jonathan Hamrick, Chairperson for the Thurmont Lions Club Police Officer of the Year Committee, proudly presented the 2017 Police Officer of the Year Award to Cpl. Kyle Minnick.

Minnick began his career with the Thurmont Police Department in January 2012, and received the designation of Corporal in October 2016. Since his time with the Thurmont Police Department, Minnick has saved the lives of numerous persons in the community suffering from drug overdoses by utilizing the Narcan program, and has earned his Supervisory

role in the department. He was instrumental in writing a grant to purchase a license plate reader for the Thurmont agency and has been helpful in maintaining the agency's ETIX software within all police vehicles. Minnick was presented with a plaque, gift certificate and a donation was made to his charity of choice, the Thurmont Historical Society.

Earlier in the meeting, Commissioner Wayne Hooper presented a check in the amount of \$2,520.78 to the Thurmont Food Bank. For the past few years, Thurmont's Annual Halloween in the Park has been a community

event that has allowed the town to help raise significant funds for the local food bank. Last year, \$2,700 was raised, with the help of a generous \$2,000 donation from Walmart. This year, in addition to the funds raised, Thurmont was also able to collect a truckload of non-perishable food items that were donated to the food bank.

Thurmont's Halloween in the Park is an event held every year that provides an evening of spooktacular fun for families in the community. Hayrides, a haunted house, refreshments and children's activities are all part of the admission fee. All proceeds go toward the



Jonathan Hamrick presents the Policeman of the Year award to Cpl. Minnick.

Thurmont Food Bank. If you missed this event this year, try to stop by next

year. It's an evening full of fun and also helps the community.

Thurmont brass band officially named

Thurmont resident, Morris Blake, has been involved with music for nearly three decades. He currently serves as the organist at Harriet Chapel and teaches bells, choir, and violin. Over the years, he has learned to play many instru-

ments, including the piano, violin, mellophone, and trumpet.

Taking his passion for music, Blake came up with an idea: to form a New Orleans swing-style brass ensemble and choir in the Thurmont area. His dream was quickly realized

and the band was formed with four members last month. The group rehearsed together every Sunday and continued to search for additional members. After numerous practices and gaining a few additional members, the group was ready for their premiere performance.

Just in time for Christmas, the group decided to perform at the Thurmont Senior Center On December 21. Besides Blake, the band has six additional members: Rachel Murdorf, Devin Shorb and David Fisher on the trumpet, Alex Contraras, Ed Price on the baritone, and Gene Blum on the tuba.

The group performed ten Christmas selections, including O Come, O Come Emmanuel; Hark, The Herald Angels Sing; Joy To The World; Silent Night; and White

Christmas. The group looks forward to playing together at more events in the future and their growing fan base is looking forward to it as well.

After the performance, the group received their official name. Vickie Grinder, Thurmont's Economic Development Manager, introduced

Mayor John Kinnaird to present the new band and announce their official name - "Gateway Brass Ensemble." After receiving name ideas from the public and putting the suggestions up for a vote, the submission by Susan Free earned the highest number of votes.

The band is still looking for additional members. Those interested should contact Morris Blake.



The Gateway Brass Ensemble made its debut December 21 at the Thurmont Senior Center.

Thurmont adopts Hazard Mitigation plan

Thurmont joined other Frederick County jurisdictions on December 19 by adopting the Frederick County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Dennis Dudley, with the Department of Energy Preparedness presented the Frederick County Hazard Mitigation Plan to the Thurmont Commissioners during their December 12 meeting, and Commissioners voted on it the following week.

The creation and adoption of a hazard mitigation plan makes towns eligible for pre-disaster or post-disaster funding through FEMA to help with natural disaster recovery in a community. Frederick County de-

cidated to make a multi-jurisdictional plan in order to help minimize some of the burden of municipalities and smaller communities. All municipalities included within the plan were involved in the process of creating and writing it.

The mitigation plan covers all hazards that would be expected in Frederick County, including tornados, floods, blizzards etc. The plan can also help mitigate issues within the community such as stream bank restoration that can help contain flooding on local streams. Adopting the plan will make it easier for Thurmont, and other communities, to receive funds after emergencies. The creation of the plan

consisted of a four step process, including: collection of data on each community, assessment of the risk of likeliness for such events to occur again, development of a mitigation plan, and finally, implementation of the plan while continuing to monitor its progress.

Thurmont unanimously voted to adopt the Mitigation Plan. Thurmont's Chief Administrative Officer, Jim Humerick, assured the Commissioners that he believes everything was done in the best interest of the communities. The decision to adopt the plan was a smart move for the community.

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January 4

New Year's Eve Celebrations

On Monday, New Year's Eve, quite a number of Emmitsburgians celebrated the outgoing of the old year. Church bells were rung, whistles blown, revolvers were fired, trumpets blown, all to indicate the passing of another year and to welcome the new. Midnight services were held in the Lutheran Church.

Zero Degree Weather In The Vicinity

During the past week, Emmitsburg has been visited by very severe cold weather. On Sunday morning, at seven o'clock, the thermometer registered 10° below zero. The oldest inhabitants of this community cannot recall weather as cold as this so early in the season.

Play Held For Benefit Of Charity

That Heiress of Hoetown, a play presented by the players of the local Knights of Columbus council, was reproduced New Year's night in St. Euphemia's Hall. If at its first presentation the play was a success, it was even more so at its reproduction. The hall was crowded to its utmost capacity, a great number of the audience being obliged to stand. The musical program by the Emmitsburg Orchestra added much to the success of the play. The proceeds will be donated for charitable purposes among the poor in this vicinity.

Report From Emmitsburg Public Library

During the year, 68 books were added to the library. These include: reference - two; essays - one; history and biography - one; juvenile - one; fiction - 63. 50 of these books were donated and eighteen purchased. Three were discarded and three lost. The Library has on its shelves 547 books in total. In the eleven months that the library has been open, 1,887 books were circulated with an average weekly circulation of 39. Ten magazines were on the shelves each month with occasional copies of others. All were in great demand. The number of annual borrowers was 31. The number of monthly borrowers was 74; for a total of 105.

Uncle Bill's Own Column

After a vacation of ten years, uncle Bill has again become a member of the Chronicle staff. William Napoleon Ebenezer Podgable Tansy, better known as uncle Bill, was born in Sou-seville, somewhere in America, on January 13, 1853. From early boyhood William has been a great student. At the age of thirteen he entered Harney University and graduated from that ancient seat of learning two years later, with a degree in B.S.. For the next 30 years, during part of which he lectured in the universities of Hotstuffski, Siberia, Slobgob, Poland and various colleges in France, England, Ireland and Back River, uncle Bill traveled very extensively, familiarizing himself with the habits of many peoples and writing 167.5 works of various deep scientific subjects.

January 11

Public School Opened Monday

The pupils of the Emmitsburg public school resumed their studies on Monday. Due to burst water pipes and necessary repairs needed to the heating system, the opening date was delayed. Ms. Anna Rowe accepted the position in the public school left vacant by Miss Clara Rowe, who was recently married. Miss Mary Ohler has accepted the position at the Cat Tail branch one-room schoolhouse left vacant by Miss Rowe.

Enlistments And Transfers

Bernard Jenkins of Irish Town has enlisted in the Aviation Corps of the U.S. Army and will leave for the training camp at Columbus Ohio on Monday. Mr. Charles Rowe, a member of the United States infantry, of the national Army at Camp Meade, has been transferred to the Medical Corps. Mr. Rowe was the guest of his parents on West Main St. on Sunday.

Patterson Brothers Suffer Heavy Loss By Fire

A fire early Monday morning completely destroyed the large barn owned by the Patterson Brothers on the old Byers Farm about three quarters of a mile west of Emmitsburg. The origin of the fire is a mystery and was discovered about three o'clock by the seven-

year-old daughter of Mr. Robert Eyer. The men at once went to the barn, but by that time the roof had fallen in. Neighbors arrived on the scene promptly and were able to rescue a great number of the stock. The chicken houses, corn sheds and other buildings were saved. The fire spread with great rapidity and the flames could be seen for miles around. The wheat crop was sold only recently, and fortunately had been delivered. The blaze consumed nine horses, eighteen head of cattle, six hearths, nine tons of cotton seed meal, 6,000 sheaves of fodder, wagons and horse carriages, entailing a loss of about \$9,000 partially covered by insurance.

January 18

Business Brought To A Standstill On Monday

In compliance with the rule laid down by the Fuel Administrator in Washington for the conservation of fuel, business in Emmitsburg was practically on a standstill on Monday. The Union Manufacturing Company was shut down for five days. Both the parochial and public schools were closed and will continue to keep holiday on Monday for nine weeks. All the local stores were closed at noon.

Emmitsburg Snowbound

Owing to the heavy snowfall on Monday night and early Tuesday morning, Emmitsburg was completely snowbound. No mail left the local post office and none were received from noon Monday until noon Tuesday. It was impossible for automobiles or other vehicles to travel most of the roads.

A Birds' Christmas Carol

One of the most sparkling, and at the same time one of the most pleasure giving little plays ever produced by scholars, formed the Christmas entertainment at St. Euphemia's parochial school. A delightful dramatization of Kate Douglass Wiggin's beautiful story, The Birds' Christmas Carol, was the source of which those present derived so much thorough enjoyment on that occasion. So many, owing to household preparations and to the rush of the holidays, were deprived of an opportunity to witness it. However, in deference to the very many appeals for a repetition of the former success,



The U.S. faced a major fuel shortage at the start of 1918 as a result of increased war production needs and the shutdown of railroads transporting coal due to heavy winter snowstorms.

the original splendid cast again will present The Birds' Christmas Carol, next Thursday afternoon and evening.

January 25

Boozers Thwart Closing Of Hotel Slagel Saloon

Members of the Former Former Boozers Association refused to leave the Hotel Slagel's Saloon to allow it to close at noon in accordance with the recently issued requirements from the Fuel Administrator in Washington, in order to save fuel for the war effort. The Boozers protested loudly that the saloon was the only place they could drink without listening to the non-stop nagging of their women folk. "I'd rather be stuck in a trench on the front lines than listen to my wife screech all day to me about needing to fix the roof or chop wood," said one boozer. Other Boozers question the need to heat the saloon - "Pack enough of us in here, and give us enough hooch, and before you know it this place is plenty warm and our blood sufficiently provides us, for the temperature outside can drop to 100 degrees below and we would never know!" Burgess Annan's attempt to talk them out of the saloon ended after his third shot of Dan Shorb's special mountain mix.

New Machine Makes Bank Bookkeeping Automatic

In line with its policy of giving to its customers the best possible bank services, the directors of the Emmitsburg Savings Bank recently decided to install a ledger-posting machine to do

its bookkeeping. The model chosen is one that has been giving satisfaction in the largest and most successful banks in the country. The machine has arrived in Emmitsburg and the new system of taking care of customer accounts will be inaugurated as soon as the transfer of accounts can be made from the old pen and ink system of keeping books.

The new bookkeeper is a Burroughs adding subtracting machine - the machine with steel brains - that makes all figure work practically error proof. With the speed that seems almost incredible, it automatically prints dates, lists old balances, subtracts and adds deposits and computes and prints new balances - all in one movement of the carriage across the page.

To one familiar with bank bookkeeping methods, this means that it not only posts figures to the ledger pages, but also automatically balances each account as the posting is done. Operations for the machine are extremely simple. Mere depressions of keys on the keyboard set in motion the mechanism, which automatically adds and subtracts in the proper columns, and prints the figures neatly on the ledger page. No longer will customers be required to surrender their passports - their only receipt for deposits - to be balanced from time to time. Instead, the bank will substitute the plan of handing neat print statements to the depositors on the first of each month.

To read past editions of 100 Year Ago this Month, visit the History section of Emmitsburg.net.

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Best Wishes for the New Year!

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FROM THE DESK OF . . .

County Council President Bud Otis

Welcome 2018! It is my hope that you and your families had a wonderful holiday season. Now it's a New Year and a fresh start.

Last month's article covered the Bills we passed as a Council in 2017. Today, I'd like to brief you on a new Bill I introduced on December 19th, 2017. It is an Act to Amend Chapter 1-19 of the Frederick County Code to facilitate the flexibility of the Mixed Use Development District (MXD) and specify additional permitted uses in the MXD. Sounds like its complicated, but it really is not.

Currently the Frederick County Zoning Code allows for employment in the MXD however, it is limited to those uses permitted within the Office Research Industrial Zoning District, which includes office space for businesses.

What would the new Bill do?

The need for office space has declined in recent years and is ev-

idenced by vacant office parks throughout the county. Further, innovation and technology have stimulated new methods and mechanisms for the delivery of goods in the modern economy. This Bill would expand the land use in the MXD zone to include wholesaling, warehouse and/or distribution facilities. The Bill further specifies solid building construction, and permits property owners or developers in Development Rights and Responsibilities Agreements (DRRAs) as of January 1, 2018, the option to elect to have its MXD zoned property subject to the new zoning provision allowing for wholesaling, warehouse and/or distribution, or not. This will not, however, affect such other development laws in effect at the time of the DRRAs' effective date.

It is in the best interest of Frederick County for its laws and regulations to remain responsive to ever-evolving innovation and

technological growth. Therefore, in order to promote economic development and job growth, it is necessary to facilitate flexibility of the MXD and update its permitted uses.

The need for this Bill came from the developer to update zoning for Jefferson Tech Park (JTP) in order to allow for a specified use not currently in the MXD code. It is not limited to this development, as it is a countywide change in zoning code.

I have heard from some folks that this is a bad deal for the residents in that area. That it will create hundreds of trucks on the roads every day, that it will create traffic congestion, that it will reduce property values. I have also heard from those in the community that welcome the additional approximately 2,700 jobs that would accompany the proposed development of a distribution center. That this zoning update would allow flexibility

due to changing needs not foreseen many years ago when this zoning code was developed. I'd like to believe that having a viable and economically sound use of this land is a better approach than to let it lay stagnant and become a brown field with no use to the area, likely lowering local property values. Those that purchased homes in JTP did so with the understanding that businesses would be forthcoming in their neighborhood. There already exists a separate entrance and exit to Route 340 drastically reducing the argument for traffic issues in this area. The developer, anticipating increased traffic, even included a bridge to support better traffic flow for the neighborhood and its businesses.

There are views that this change for JTP will help the area's value increase, and we can attract other businesses to Frederick County. The county will also be receiving additional property taxes (albe-

it in 2043 after the tax-increment-funding (TIF) deal is paid) as well as other domino benefits from increases in local employment – for example: employees will patronize our local businesses, pay sales tax, and perhaps even move their families to the area – adding additional income tax revenue to our county's general fund.

Change is a constant in our lives and being able to update outdated uses is critical for us to respond to current trends and be realistic about our use of the precious resource – our county's land.

A public hearing will be held on this Bill, hopefully later this month, for anyone to come out and speak. I truly welcome the pros and the cons on this issue to be heard.

Please feel free to contact me via email at BOtis@FrederickCountyMD.gov or phone: 301-600-1101. I'm here to listen.

Thank you, it is a distinct honor to serve all the residents of Frederick County.

Frederick County saves \$2.6 million in bond refinancing

County Executive Jan Gardner announced that Frederick County Government received \$2.6 million in savings on Wednesday in a refinancing of bond debt. The refinancing is over a million dollars more in savings than originally anticipated.

"As I said in my annual report, Frederick County's strong financial outlook means real savings for our residents. We saw phenomenal savings from his negotiated sale of refinanced bonds, resulting in millions of dollars of savings for taxpayers," commented Executive Gardner. "Our long-term conservative approach to budgeting and strong management of county government has saved taxpayers

substantial money. I am proud to be protecting the taxpayers and delivering savings."

The county used a negotiated sale with J.P. Morgan Securities, LLC, to issue \$36,580,000 of tax-exempt Refunding Bonds, Series 2017B. The True Interest Cost on the issuance was 2.029 percent, for a percentage savings of 7.211 percent.

The debt service savings over the term of the bonds will be \$2,637,940. The county's initial projection for debt service savings was \$1,615,246. The actual savings were \$1,022,694 higher than originally projected.

The AAA ratings reflect financial analysts' confidence in the county government's management and financial health. Moody's, Fitch and Standard & Poor's each reaffirmed their ratings in December 2017. In June 2016, for the first time, Frederick County joined the ranks of the elite few counties across the nation earning AAA stable ratings from every agency. County

Executive Gardner thanks county finance and budget staff for their outstanding work.

For additional information, contact Finance Division Director Lori Depies at 301-600-1117 or via e-mail at ldepies@FrederickCountyMD.gov.

Deputy Fire Chief Jewell announces retirement

After nearly 20 years of public service, Deputy Chief Clarence "Chip" Jewell has announced his retirement as the director of the Frederick County Division of Volunteer Fire & Rescue Services, effective Dec. 31. Over the decades, Mr. Jewell has seen dramatic changes in the fire and rescue service.

He began his county career in 1972 as a dispatcher with Frederick County Central Alarm. He also worked in communications for Montgomery County Fire & Rescue Services and had over 20 years in the insurance industry as an insurance agent and insurance education instructor.

Mr. Jewell returned to county government in 2003 as the first director of Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service. In 2006, he was promoted to director of the Department of

Emergency Communications. In 2014, he returned to the volunteer services as the chief/director of the newly created Division of Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service.

"Chip has been an incredible asset through the years, with an extensive knowledge of Frederick County's volunteer system that is unmatched," County Executive Jan Gardner said. "He will be greatly missed."

"I have truly been honored to serve the citizens of Frederick County as both volunteer director and the director of emergency communications," Mr. Jewell said upon announcing his retirement Tuesday. "Our county is so fortunate to have an excellent cadre of volunteers in our more than two dozen volunteer fire and rescue companies. Our dedicated members continue to meet the demands of training while responding to an increasing volume of emergency incidents. I am grateful for the many years of support from the leadership in each company and the officers of the Frederick County Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association."

Mr. Jewell has been an active volunteer in Frederick County since 1969. He will continue to maintain his activity in the volunteer service as assistant chief of the Libertytown Volunteer Fire Department

and life membership at both Libertytown and the Junior Fire Co. No. 2. He will also continue to serve as a field instructor for the University of Maryland/Maryland Fire-Rescue Institute.

Battalion Chief Kevin Fox will serve as the interim director of Volunteer Fire and Rescue Services, until a selection is made to succeed retiring Deputy Chief Clarence "Chip" Jewell.

The director of Volunteer Fire and Rescue Services supports the work of, and coordinates with, Frederick County's volunteer fire and rescue companies. The position is appointed by the County Executive. She will conduct an open recruitment process to solicit applicants. Candidates will be screened by a panel that will consist of both county staff and representatives of the Frederick County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association Executive Committee. The County Executive will make the appointment, which will be subject to confirmation by the County Council.

Acting Director Fox has extensive knowledge of both the career and volunteer sides of emergency services. He has volunteered as an EMT and firefighter for more than 30 years, serving in numerous leadership positions, including as post president of the Thurmont Community Ambulance Service and vice president of Guardian Hose. Fox has worked for Frederick County Government since 1990, first as an emergency communications dispatcher, and then, in 1999, as a firefighter with the Division of Fire and Rescue Services. For the past four years, Fox has been the division's spokesperson. In 2015, he was promoted to battalion chief. Fox also teaches part time for the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute.



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County Executive Jan Gardner

Everyone loves to save money!

We can celebrate that 2017 ended with some very good news for taxpayers. The county saved an amazing \$2.6 million by refinancing county bond debt. This is very similar to refinancing a mortgage to a lower interest rate. Because of the county's three AAA bond ratings and strong fiscal management, we were able to lock in an interest rate of only 2 percent! This means real savings for taxpayers this year and beyond.

In December, all three New York bond rating agencies – Moody's, Fitch and Standard & Poor's – each reaffirmed their ratings of Frederick County Government at the highest possible: AAA. Each expressed confidence in the county government's management and financial health. Since June of 2016, Frederick County has stood among the ranks of the elite few counties across the nation that earned AAA stable ratings from every agency. Fewer than 50 counties out of over 3,000 counties in the nation earn this trifecta rating.

I am extremely proud to be protecting taxpayers and delivering savings.

Honest Government

Everyone wants it, few deliver it. When I ran for County Executive in 2014, I pledged to restore honesty, integrity, and trust in county government. I believe that citizens deserve to know what their county elected officials are doing and to

be assured that decisions are being made in the best interest of the public, not special interests. We can all be proud that Frederick County is leading the way.

Frederick County has adopted one of the toughest local ethics laws in the state. Our ethics laws prohibit elected officials from profiting from their position and have restored penalties for serious ethics violations that were removed by the prior administration.

We can be proud to be the only county in Maryland to have a non-political, independent appointment process for the Ethics Commission. The Ethics Commission is responsible for holding the elected officials accountable and should be selected independently.

I am also pleased to report that state Senator Michael Hough and I have successfully merged our proposals to strengthen state ethics provisions that apply to Frederick County. A single ethics bill will be advanced during the General Assembly session that begins January 10th.

The new bill would prohibit not just applicants with a pending land-use case before the county council from contributing to the campaigns of the decisions makers but also their agents. The law expands the definition of agents to include the attorneys, engineers, and traffic consultants who are hired by the applicant.

The bill would also require members

of the Board of Appeals, Ethics Commission, Liquor Board and Planning Commission to step down within 48 hours of opening a campaign account to avoid conflicts of interest.

I am pleased to have worked across the aisle and with the League of Women Voters and members of our Ethics Task Force to build consensus to strengthen the state ethics laws that apply to Frederick County. Working together, we achieve more and serve our citizens better.

New bus service to North County

I was pleased to recently announce a new pilot program to expand TransIT bus service to people in the Thurmont and Emmitsburg areas by offering mid-day Tuesday shuttle service to and from the City of Frederick. The service is in direct response to requests by riders and community advocates including a graduate of the Seton Center's Getting Ahead program who launched an awareness campaign and petition. Thurmont Mayor John Kinnaird and Emmitsburg Mayor Don Briggs also advocated for more TransIT options.

Until now, someone living in the northern part of the county could reach the City of Frederick on weekdays by taking a bus that picked them up early in the morning and dropped them off late in the afternoon. That means if someone needed to ride the bus to a

doctor's appointment or a job interview, they had to leave their home around 7 a.m. and weren't able to return until 10 hours later. By adding a shuttle at mid-day, those trips will take half the time allowing citizens to regain valuable time and add flexibility.

It is our hope that the addition of this mid-day service will make a difference in the lives of citizens by helping them to regain hours in their day as they travel to appointments in other parts of the county. We need your help to get the word out so we can evaluate the demand for service after 6 months and 12 months to see if more daily service is warranted.

Details about stops and timing are available online at www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/TransIT, or by calling TransIT's offices during business hours at 301-600-2065. Let people know that there is a new option to help them meet their transportation needs.

Looking ahead

The New Year will be busy. In January, the Livable Frederick 25 year comprehensive vision and plan will be presented to the Planning Commission. Stay tuned for public outreach meetings happening around the county. This is your opportunity to shape the future of Frederick County.

One of the hottest topics in our county is the pace of residential growth. I have submitted three bills to the county council to more responsibly manage residential growth. The first bill strengthens our forest resource ordi-

nance and requires the replacement of trees that are clear cut for development. This will stop the loss of forest cover in the County. The public hearing on this bill is Tuesday, January 9 at 7 pm at Winchester Hall.

The second bill updates school construction fees to reflect the actual cost of school construction. I do not want this cost to shift to taxpayers. If developers choose to build where schools are already overcrowded, they should be expected to pay a fee that actually covers the impact or wait until the county can provide the needed school capacity.

The third bill seeks to end the misuse of developer rights and responsibility agreements by limiting their use to large development projects and requiring that county residents get an enhanced public benefit like a regional road improvement or new school. It also would end the freezing of fees in developer contracts. The prior administration actually froze some transportation fees at zero for several residential housing projects for as long as 25 years! Those transportation fee revenues could have helped to pay for needed road improvements. This should never happen again. These two bills will be heard by the county council on Tuesday, January 16 at 7 pm in Winchester Hall. More detail on these bills can be found at www.frederickcountymd.gov/residentialgrowth

Good government depends on public participation. Let your voice be heard!

Justin M. Kiska, candidate for County Council At-Large

To a lot of people "politics" is a dirty word. And when you watch the news and hear about all of the fighting going on between our elected officials, it's no wonder people don't look too fondly on politicians. At the local level though, we need to put the ideological battles and differences aside and, as they say, "keep the trains running on time."

Allow me to introduce myself. I'm Justin Kiska and last month I announced my candidacy for one of the two At-Large seats on the Frederick County Council.

I'm a proud Republican and while I was going to school and working in Washington, DC, I was fortunate enough to have grown up at the feet of such giants as Jack Kemp,

Bill Bennett, and Bob and Elizabeth Dole. While I was in college, I joined Elizabeth Dole's 2000 presidential campaign then spent time as a policy intern at Empower America, Jack Kemp and Bill Bennett's conservative think tank. After that, I returned to Secretary Dole's office, where my first job out of college was as her Special Assistant and Scheduling Director. Getting to see such luminaries in action on a daily basis taught me what public service really means and that it's more important to show up and do something than to get bogged down in petty personal battles.

I've always been amazed by Frederick County's potential. It's a community grounded in its history but always looking to its future. Grow-

ing up here, I knew what was possible. That's why I came back to Frederick County after my time in Washington so I could join my family in starting our company. We purchased The Way Off Broadway Dinner Theatre, located on the Golden Mile in the City of Frederick in 2002. In 2012, because of my interest in the west side of Frederick, Mayor Randy McClement appointed me to the board of directors of what would become The Golden Mile Alliance, a group designed to help with the revitalization and redevelopment of that area of the city. For the five years I was on the board, I served on the organization's Executive Committee – my last three years as its president.

As a business owner for the last 15 years, the idea of accomplishing things has become more and more important to me. I'm not interested in fighting political and ideological battles at Winchester Hall. I want to work on finding ways to encourage the county and its residents to thrive as we continue into the 21st Century.

While there's no way to know what all of the issues will be that come up in the next few years, the promise I can make is that whatever they are, I will approach each with an open mind and always look for the answers that will benefit Frederick County as a whole. I may not always make the popular decision but I won't take any vote I cast lightly.

Sometimes, that's going to mean disagreeing with the County Executive. Over the last three years, there have been a number of times where I feel the Council has missed its chance to exercise its power as the legislative arm of our government, instead mak-

ing itself subservient to the County Executive, as opposed to a true check and balance. The next County Council needs to take steps to provide a true balance in Winchester Hall. After all, they're there to represent the resident of Frederick just as much as the County Executive.

Over the next few months, I'm going to take some time and use this space to explain where I stand on some of the 'big' issues that will be discussed during the campaign like education, growth and development, and the budget. I look forward to continuing this conversation, but in the meantime, I hope you'll take a moment to visit JustinKiska.com to learn more about me and why I'm running for the County Council.

We need to take advantage of the amazing opportunities we have before us. We already know that Frederick County is a great place to live, but I believe if we work together, we can make it even better.

I'll see you on the campaign trail!

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FROM THE DESK OF...

Carroll Valley Mayor Ron Harris

At the December Borough Council meeting, the Council passed the Tax Levy Ordinance which fixed the Tax Rate at 2.45 mills or 24.5 cents on each one hundred dollars of assessed valuation for 2018. There is no tax increase for the residents of Carroll Valley Borough. Also, without increase, council passed the fixed tax in the amount of .25 mills appropriated for the operation of fire and emergency service for the year 2018. I had the honor to recognize three council members who are leaving council after a total of 37 years of service to the residents of Carroll Valley. They are Councilor Tom Fitzsimmons (6 years), Councilor Dan Patton (12 years) and Councilor Ken Lundberg (19 years). I thank you all for your outstanding dedication and service. Your tireless pursuit of excellence and professionalism to enhance our community reflects great credit upon yourself and the Borough.

"Breakfast with Santa" was an overwhelming success. Every child who attended were delighted and dazzled when Santa arrived. The children expressed their wishes as they sat on Santa's lap. This event

was a cooperative effort of the Carroll Valley Recreation Committee, Fairfield Fire and EMS and local citizen volunteers. To have such a successful event, you need to have people who are willing to share some of their personal time for the benefit of others. The volunteers involved were Amanda Bell, Jayden Bell, Phyllis Chant, David Hazlett, Noah Hazlett, Jeni Jarrell, Morgan Jarrell, Lori Kolenda, Mike Kulkusky, Charlie Lambert, Bethany Lambert, Gayle Marthers, Charlee Marthers, Amie Metz, Lisa Mumpower, Cailiegh Mumpower, Tyler Mumpower, Cali Paulus, Marty Qually, Brianna Redding, Dylan Reed, Emily Ridge, Mike Salisbury, Desiree Salisbury, Sarah Skoczen, Rachel Skoczen, John Svalina, Alyssa White, Heather Wright. This year a "Sensitive Santa" period was held after "Breakfast with Santa" ended.

Sensitive Santa is an event for families with children with all spectrums of special needs, providing a more controlled and welcoming environment to the experience of visiting Santa. Adjustments are made to reduce sensory stimuli (muted lights, music and waiting in long lines to visit Santa) to create a calm-

ing environment. Special thanks go to Santa Koz. Pictures of both events can be seen at www.ronspictures.net. The Borough has also established a "Fairfield Family Initiative" whereby the Borough is seeking to adopt families in need and seek to supply gift certificates for Christmas Dinner for the family, clothing and toys for the school-aged children for the Holiday. Referrals are sought through the Fairfield School District. The proceeds from the "Breakfast with Santa" is planned to be used for this initiative.

With January comes snow and ice which means you need to make sure that you winterized your car. If you haven't, you need to get it done. Check the car's tires and tire pressure, the heat/defroster and wipers. Please slow down. If you drive too fast, those antilock brakes will not help you to come to a smooth stop. When driving behind another car, remember to leave more space between your car and the car in front of you. Some experts tell us that this distance is four car lengths for every 10 mph you are traveling. Remember you have less control over your car during bad road conditions. If the Borough declares a Snow Emer-

gency, the roads on the snow emergency route will be cleared first for obvious reasons. Please keep the snow emergency route clear (no park cars, etc.) to make it safe for our road crew to do their job and for a first responder to answer an emergency call.

We are in the 2017-18 Flu Season. While flu activity varies from season to season, the most activity commonly peaks in January or February. The single best way to prevent getting the flu is to get vaccinated. There are also other measures one should consider. Avoid close contact with people who are sick. If you are sick, stay home. Folks, if you know or you believe you may be coming down with a cold, don't shake hands. As a matter of fact, wash your hands often which can stop the spread of germs and prevent respiratory illnesses like the flu. Watch out for those politicians! Naturally, I am the exception. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. Teach your children to sneeze in the crook of their arm (the elbow) to prevent the spread of germs. Someone did suggest to me about using the armpit, but I don't think that works – it would hurt! Simple advice – be careful and be mindful of others.

The Adams County Library at Carroll Valley is hosting two events

in January. Meet with Live Animal Ambassadors from Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve on January 18th (Thursday) at 6:30 p.m.. Get up close and personal with the Strawberry Hill animals. Learn what makes a turtle shell special and the senses snakes use to find their food. The second event Leap into Science – Do You See What I See? will be held on January 29th (Monday) at 6:30 p.m.. In this workshop, children and families play with light by shining light through objects, bouncing it off shiny surfaces, and blocking it to create shadows. This activity is recommended for children ages 3-7. See you at the library.

Please be aware that Council passed Ordinance No. 5-2017 which prohibits the use of all tobacco products in the Borough's recreational areas, parks and playgrounds. Borough meetings in January are: Council Reorganization Meeting (Jan 2nd); Planning Commission (Jan 8th), Borough Council (Jan 9th), and Parks/Recreation Committee (Jan 24th). Borough office will be closed on Monday, January 1st. Please reduce your speed to make sure you, your loved ones, your friends and neighbors will be safe. If you have any questions call me at 301-606-2021 or email MayorRonHarris@comcast.net.

State Representative candidate Marty Qually

"He who knows best, knows how little he knows."

—Thomas Jefferson

Thomas Jefferson was a genius, and yet he understood just how limited his knowledge was. In today's world of know-it-all politicians, I find this quote refreshing. While I am no Thomas Jefferson,

the concept of needing help to gain understanding is at the heart of my campaign to become the next PA State House Representative for the 91st legislative district.

For the past six years, I have served Adams County as a County Commissioner. This has helped me gain insight into the needs of local government, but I do not presume

to know the priorities of the public. Over the coming months, I will continue to ask residents for their feedback. I will use this column to discuss pressing issues, but more importantly I will take every opportunity to obtain public input.

The best way to get honest input is to ask people directly. While geography and weather are always

challenging, I am already taking time out of my schedule to knock on doors. My evening schedule is often full of public events, where I encourage people to tell me their concerns. Attending ribbon cuttings at new businesses, park openings, and local community group meetings are great opportunities to hear unbiased input. State representatives should be approachable and must take the time to listen to their residents on their terms. My approach to campaigning is the same approach I will have in office – listening to residents' concerns is the basis of good representation.

Since there is not enough time to visit with every resident, I am using modern technology to give us a hand. My children think that I am old fashioned for using Facebook, but so far people seem to enjoy the updates and discussion it affords them. Feel free to join me at www.facebook.com/martyqually. I post items on a frequent basis and always encourage people to respond. It is a great way to stay up to date, and best of all you can check it on your own time.

I also have a website (www.martyqually.com) with basic election information. As always, I am reachable by email at martyqually@gmail.com or by cell phone at 717-339-6514. And when you call or email me, I respond – not a staff member. This communication is free to you, as no state dollars are spent on my Facebook page, website, email, or my phone. It shouldn't cost the public anything more than their time to have their concerns heard.

When you visit my website, please take the time to fill out a

quick survey that we have created. This is the same survey that I am dropping off with individuals when I visit their homes. It's only one question: What should your next State Representative prioritize? It's that simple. The foundation of my campaign is to hear from you. There are 10 topics to choose from, and a blank space to list your own concerns. So far the top two responses have been to see the state balance the budget on time and that there is adequate funding for our schools.

What is equally important as these responses, though, is that almost every person has taken the time to write in their own thoughts. That is how a strong democracy works. When elected officials and residents take the time to listen to each other, our community needs are better represented in Harrisburg.

We live in a great community and we deserve a leader in Harrisburg who represents all of us. We need a representative who understands that good government can create economic prosperity. And we need a representative who knows that the strength of Pennsylvania depends on strong local government.

Over the coming months I will use this column to explore these ideas, but that is not enough. I need to hear from you. Please join me on Facebook for a discussion. If I knock on your door, take a few minutes to let me know your thoughts. And do not hesitate to call me with your concerns. If you want to see change in Harrisburg, please tell me how. Only then can we speak with a clear and strong voice to the establishment in Harrisburg that it is time for change.



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GOVERNMENT—NORTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

County Commissioner Jim Martin

During 2017 my wife and I were extremely grateful for encouraging events and moments that we were able to share. Keep the word “grateful” in the recesses of your mind. We all know that there are two sides to every coin and often the same occurs concerning political issues. In light of that there was a wonderful opportunity afforded us that we never ventured to until January 20, 2017. We decided to attend the Presidential Inaugural Ceremony and be part of a historical moment. In spite of the protests and demonstrations (one side of the coin) that obstructed our passage to the ceremony and parade, we were truly grateful to be present for the protocol and proceedings of the inaugural ceremony (the other side of the coin).

We are also truly grateful to live in a nation that has withstood the tests of time. We owe an immeasurable debt to the sacrifices of our military (and their families) that have protected our nation. We are most grateful for those sacrifices. I believe a true expression of that gratefulness embraces our community on the first Fridays of December. Members of the community from all walks of life came together on that day to participate in the Sergeant Mac Foundation Wreath Proj-

ect. First we joined together to tie bows on fresh wreaths at a local shopping center. Later that day we joined together again to place the wreaths on the final resting places of approximately 1400 graves of those that defended our nation. My wife and I were honored to participate, as well as many others, and received great encouragement by experiencing all the positive energy that flowed from the project activity.

To me this event comes at a unique time. It falls shortly after Thanksgiving and before the Christmas Season. Whether that was by design I do not know, but the timing becomes symbolic of two things. Following Thanksgiving we are reminded of how thankful we need to be for our men and women who serve and have served in our nation's military. As we approach the Christmas Season we are reminded of a time of giving. Many soldiers gave the ultimate sacrifice and their wreath decorated graves are a solemn reminder of what they gave.

My wife and I can truly wish that the type of gratefulness we experienced by being a part of the Inaugural Ceremony and joining the Sergeant Mac Wreath Project could replace the hatefulness we have seen

through the year. Yes, things do change, and opinions do differ, but is hatefulness going to be our process to deal with change? We hope not; so our message is to be grateful and not hateful. As we enter 2018 may gratefulness be the prevailing theme in our lives throughout the year and always.

At this point of my article I can imagine residents of Adams County saying, hey you raised my taxes and you want me to be grateful. I admit that is not a celebratory subject. However, we face rising costs annually just as many individuals do dealing with many businesses, suppliers, landlords, auditors, and attorneys (legal fees) Rising cost can only be managed for a limited number of years while relying on a level tax rate. We do not have the luxury of counties who receive millions of dollars from Marcellus Shale gas fees or revenues generated from strong economic growth. With that being said, we have taken measures to minimize the tax increase.

During the past year we have been successful in containing some major costs due to good financial monitoring and management. When the time was right we eliminated a SWAP financing debt that negatively affected our bond ratings. As a result

of paying off the SWAP and having adequate reserve funds, we received a bond upgrading, the highest ever received by the county. This upgrade enabled us to receive lower fixed borrowing rates. With the lower fixed interest rates, we were able to refinance county debt and reduce interest payments by thousands of dollars and escape rising variable interest rates.

Additional cost saving were achieved in 2017 through staffing changes in 24/7 operations. These changes eliminated and/or reduced the amount of overtime paid by thousands of dollars. This is an example of not reducing staffing numbers, but operating more efficiently to prevent overtime. These staffing changes and savings will continue into 2018. In addition to this the commissioners have put a hold on creating any new position in 2018 to achieve cost containment.

Another challenge we faced this year was need to renew union contracts. These contracts are referred to as the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the county and a particular department. A good bargaining atmosphere was entered into by all parties which aided in everyone understanding the needs of

each party. This produced a signed agreement between the county and the prison bargaining unit without going into a mandated arbitration to reach an agreement. Arbitration requires considerable legal expense which all sides were able to avoid; thus, this prevented greater county expenditures that would have consumed additional taxpayer dollars. The commissioners are truly grateful for good work done to reach an agreement without arbitration.

As you can see, there are numerous moving parts, many more not mentioned, within the county government that must be managed and coordinated. Thanks to the dedicated staff of the county using their experience and professional skills, we can say with confidence that Adams County's financial position is very healthy. To attain that position is commendable in the face of the county's very marginal economic growth.

My prediction for 2018 is that Adams County will see increased economic growth that surpasses what we have been experiencing. That coupled with the County's healthy financial position provides the Adams County board of commissioners with confidence that we can avoid tax increase for years to come.

I wish everyone good health and a blessed New Year.

State Representative Dan Moul's legislative update

In 2017, a plan to reinvent Pennsylvania and restore fiscal stability continues to take shape at the state Capitol. Cost-saving measures and improvements to the state budget process topped the agenda, beginning with Act 5 of 2017, which aims to slow the growth of state pension liabilities by shifting the risk away from taxpayers and ensures that the Commonwealth can meet its future pension obligations.

The new law establishes three new public pension plans from which state employees and teachers hired in 2019 or later can choose. Each offers a defined contribution component, similar to a 401(k). The plans protect taxpayers while providing future employees with retirement security and portability. Current employees will have the opportunity to choose one of the new plans or keep their current plan. Retirees will not be affected.

The House also passed a number of budget reform bills to improve accountability and transparency and rein in excessive government spending. The following bills are now awaiting action in the Senate:

- House Bill 1940 would close a loophole that has allowed out-of-balance budgets to become law because the governor has failed to sign an official revenue estimate indicating whether sufficient funds exist to pay for it.
- House Bill 1941 would set reasonable time limits on budgetary waivers before unused funds are returned to the State Treasury. Currently, funds can lapse indefinitely.
- House Bill 1942 would require the Secretary of the Budget to

determine in December of each year if revenues will fall short of the official estimate, and if so, by how much. That amount of funding would then have to be placed in budgetary reserve to avoid ending the fiscal year with a deficit.

- House Bill 1943 would make special funds more transparent, open and accountable. Special funds are those with a dedicated source of revenue to be used for a specific purpose.
- House Bill 1944 would require annual reports to show the cost of state and federal mandates by the administration, including funds

used as federal matching funds and entitlements. This legislation would also require the governor to present legislative language in the annual budget proposal process.

- House Bill 1945 would require the administration to justify the need for supplemental appropriations or recommendations for cost-savings or other reforms.

At the mid-point of this legislative session, another important fiscal improvement bill that passed in the House, and is now awaiting action in the Senate, is House Bill 110. The bill proposes a state constitutional amendment to limit state spending by imposing a cap based on recent

increases in the Consumer Price Index and state population growth. A constitutional amendment must be approved in two consecutive legislative sessions and then by voters in a statewide referendum.

The House passed other measures to enhance state revenues and more effectively control state spending, including a new Unemployment Compensation system funding law, which aims to stabilize the fund and requires greater transparency and accountability through regular reporting requirements.

The reforms will continue in 2018. The state budget work group that I organized last summer, which


discovered millions of taxpayer dollars sitting idle in various government agency reserve accounts, is closely monitoring Pennsylvania's fiscal health. Our group of 18 rank-and-file House Republican members, now organized as the Common Sense Caucus (CSC), is dedicated to transparent policies that facilitate recurring growth in Pennsylvania's economy and restoring public trust.

I believe we are turning our financial ship around and are finally headed in the right direction. As always, thank you for your trust and confidence in me. I wish you and yours a safe, happy and prosperous 2018.

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THE PASTOR'S DESK

New year, new direction, new name

Pastor Joe Engel
Emmitsburg Community
Baptist Church

The apostle Paul was a man of faith. In his letter to the Philippians he says "I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us". (Phil.3:13-14 NLT)

As this New Year unfolds, we at ECBC have a new start and a new direction. We also changed our name to: Emmitsburg Community Baptist Church.

This journey began with a call from an old friend about the possibility of coming to help a church that needed a fresh point of view. My wife and I attended a service in April of last year. I had several meetings with the retiring pastor about the vision of the church.

As the weeks passed, we felt that the Lord wanted us to minister to this congregation. On May 21 the church called me as their pastor. We were meeting in the gym at Emmitsburg Elementary School. On that May Sunday Rochelle (my wife) and I went looking for space of our own to call home.

Then the Lord began to work.

We had been told that there were not many opportunities to obtain a place suitable for worship in Emmits-

burg. As we drove around Rochelle suggested I ask a policeman if he knew of any spaces available. The policeman suggested we look at Seton Square. He said there were spaces available. We found the perfect space at Seton Square. It was great! An open space with 2 bathrooms, concrete floors, and unpainted walls. Wow! We were so excited.

After discussion with the rental agent, and showing it to the congregation, we secured the space and began planning our future there. It did not take long for the challenges to appear.

Challenge #1 was discovering the space was in a zone not designated for churches. After discovery of a federal law allowing churches in the zone, the Zoning Commission voted to include "Houses of Worship" in the zone. (God at Work)

Challenge # 2 came when we went to the Frederick County Zoning Commission. We encountered another set of hurdles. After complying with the Frederick County regulations, we were granted our permit. (God at Work)

Challenge #3 was furnishing the space. We needed to paint, supply the carpet, install the monitors, meet the fire code, furnish and decorate our new space. We were blessed by our congregation, who helped with all that needed to be done. (God at Work)

Our first service was October 1, Hallelujah! That is the past- challeng-



ing, yet joyful. God works!

My prayer for this year is that we may have:

- enough happiness to keep you sweet
- enough hope to keep you eager
- enough success to keep you happy
- enough friends to give you comfort
- enough enthusiasm to make you look forward to tomorrow
- enough determination to make today better than yesterday.

I don't know what the future holds for our church. But I know who holds the future.

We faced many challenges this past year. God carried us through each one and has brought us to this New Year. God has big plans for us as we go forward in our new facility. We are beginning a Wednesday Evening Bible Study and Prayer time beginning January 10.

It is a joy to know that the Lord leads us as we seek His will. We have come this far by Faith leaning on the Lord. He will provide opportunities for us to share the Gospel in Emmitsburg. We need to keep talking about the Savior because He is al-

ways with us. He gives us grace for every situation and He will keep things under control. Not only that but He will bring us through our trials & tribulations.

We also need to keep studying the Scripture A good word that describes the Bible is the word "unique". The dictionary defines the word "unique" as follows: "only one: being the only one of its kind." It is the only book of its kind in existence!

The Scripture tells us that we are new creations, free from sin, righteous, chosen, set apart, and on our way to heaven! All because of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

So keep talking about the Savior and Keep studying the Scriptures.

We also need to keep serving the Lord Serve one another when we come together on Sunday and serve those in the community. Those are the foundational things we must continue to do.

Look at our lives in a positive way - how do you feel about your life? What would it take to make you feel really positive about your life? The world says that the way to feel good about yourself is by 1) making a lot of money, 2) having influential friends, and 3) belonging to the right circles. Accord-

ing to the world, these are the things that will make you feel good about yourself.

The Bible teaches us that God loves us! We are such treasured people in God's sight

that He gave His Only Begotten Son for us. That makes us valuable.

So we are to look at our life in a positive way. Secondly, we need to keep looking for ways to enrich the ministry. There is more to ministry than singing hymns and giving your hard-earned money. There is a great opportunity for service. We need to expand our thinking beyond Sunday. This world thinks we are wasting our time coming to church every Sunday, listening to sermons about God & Jesus Christ, giving our money to build the kingdom of God. But the things the world calls wasteful are the things that will last for all eternity.

Jesus told us to put our treasures in heaven. What treasure was He talking about?

Serving the Lord, giving to the Lord, and Bringing souls to Him. So we are to look at our life in a positive way, we are to look for ways to enrich the ministry and

Thirdly, we need to continue to have a positive attitude toward others.

The church must be a place where we all can come and be accepted & loved & encouraged & built up. A place where there are people to help us carry our burdens & everyone feels welcome. We are the body of Christ in this community.

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Emmitsburg Community Baptist Church is now located at Seton Square, 17750 Creamery Road Suite 8B. Come visit and see the work He is doing!



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Pastor Joe Engel

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Please Join Us!

THE BOOK OF DAYS

The history of skating



January 20

This seems a fair opportunity of advertising to the winter amusement of skating, which is not only an animated and cheerful exercise, but susceptible of many demonstrations which may be called elegant. Holland, with its extensive water surfaces, affords such peculiar facilities for it and is usually looked to as the home and birthplace of skating; and we do not hear of it in England 'til the thirteenth century.

In the former country, the use of skates is in great favour; and it is even taken advantage of as a means of travelling, market-women having been known, for a prize, to go in this manner 30 miles in two hours. Opportunities for the exercise are, in Britain, more limited. Nevertheless, wherever a piece of smooth water exists, the freezing of its surface never fails to bring forth hordes of enterprising youth to enjoy this truly inviting sport.

Skating has had its bone age before its iron one. It was customary in the twelfth century for the young men to fasten the leg-bones of animals under their feet by means of thongs, and slide along the ice, pushing themselves by means of an iron-shod pole. Imitating the chivalric fashion of the tournament, they would start in a career against each other, meet, use their poles for a push or a blow, when one or other was pretty sure to be hurled down, and to slide a long way in a prostrate condition, probably with some considerable hurt to his person, which we may hope was generally borne with good humour.

The iron age of skating—when ever it might come—was an immense stride in advance. A pair of iron skates, made in the best modern fashion, fitted exactly to the length of the foot, and, well fastened on, must be admitted to be an instrument satisfactorily adapted for its purpose.

With unskilled skaters, who constitute the great multitude, even that simple onward movement in which they indulge, using the inner edge of the skates, is something to be not lightly appreciated, seeing that few movements are more exhilarating. However, this is but the walk of the art.

What may be called the dance

is a very different thing. The highly trained skater aims at performing a series of movements of a graceful kind, which may be looked upon with the same pleasure as we experience from seeing a fine picture. Throwing himself on the outer edge of his instrument, poising himself out of the perpendicular line in attitudes which set off a handsome person to uncommon advantage, he performs a series of curves within a certain limited space, cuts the figure 8, the figure 3, or the circle, worms and screws back-wards and forwards, or with a group of companions goes through what he calls waltzes and quadrilles. The calmness and serenity of these movements, the perfect self-possession evinced, the artistic grace of the whole exhibition, are sure to attract bystanders of taste, including examples of the fair, 'whose bright eyes reign influence.

Most such performers belong to skating clubs, —fraternities constituted for the cultivation of the art as an art, and to enforce proper regulations. The writer recalls with pleasure skating exhibitions in Edinburgh in the hard winters early in the present century. The scene of that loch 'in full bearing,' on a clear winter day, with its busy stirring multitude of sliders, skaters, and curlers, the snowy hills around glistening in the sun, the ring of the ice, the shouts of the careering youth, the rattle of the curling stones and the shouts of the players, once seen and heard, could never be forgotten.

In London, the amusements of the ice are chiefly practised upon the artificial pieces of water in the parks. On Sunday, the 6th of January 1861, during an uncommonly severe frost, it was calculated that of the sliders and skaters, mostly of the humbler grades of the population, there were about 6,000 in St. James's Park, 4,000 on the Round Pond in Kensington Gardens, 25,000 in the Regent's Park, and 30,000 on the Serpentine in Hyde Park.

There was, of course, the usual proportion of heavy falls, awkward collisions, and occasional immersions, but all borne good-humouredly, and none attended with fatal consequences.

During the ensuing week the same pieces of ice were crowded, not only all the day, but by night also, torches being used to illumina-

nate the scene, which was one of the greatest animations of gaiety. On three occasions there were refreshment tents on the ice, with gay flags, variegated lamps, and occasional fireworks; and it seemed as if half of London had come to look on from the neighbouring walks and drives.

In these ice-festivals there is not much elegant skating to be seen. The attraction of the scene consists mainly in the infinite appearances of mirth and enjoyment, which meet the gaze of the observer.

The same frost period occasioned a very remarkable affair of skating in Lincolnshire. Three companies of one of the Rifle Volunteer regiments of that county assembled and had what might be called a skating parade of several hours on the river, performing various evolutions and movements in an orderly manner, and on some occasions attaining a speed of fourteen miles an hour.

The Coldest Day In The Century

Notwithstanding the dictum of M. Arago, that 'whatever may be the progress of the sciences, never will observers who are trustworthy and careful of their reputation venture to foretell the state of the weather,'—this pretension received a singular support in the winter of 1838. This was the first year in which the noted Mr. Murphy published his Weather Almanac; wherein his indication for the 20th day of January would be: 'Fair. Prob. lowest deg. of Winter temp.'

By a happy chance for him, this proved to be a remarkably cold day. At sunrise, the thermometer stood at 4 below zero; at 9 a.m., +6; at 12 (noon), +14; at 2 p.m., 16; and then increased to 17, the highest in the day; the wind veering from the east to the south.

The popular sensation, of course, reported that the lowest degree of temperature for the season appeared to have been reached. The supposition was proved by other signal circumstances, and particularly the ef-

fects seen in the vegetable kingdom. In all the nursery-grounds about London, the half-hardy, shrubby plants were more or less injured. Herbaceous plants alone seemed little affected, in consequence, perhaps, of the protection they received from the snowy covering of the ground.

Two things may be here remarked, as being almost unprecedented in the annals of meteorology in this country: first, the thermometer below zero for some hours; and secondly, a rapid change of nearly fifty-six degrees. — Correspondent of the Philosophical Magazine, 1838.

Still, there was nothing very remarkable in Murphy's indication, as the coldest day in the year is generally about this time (January 20). Nevertheless, it was a fortunate hit for the weather prophet, who is said to have cleared £3000 by that year's almanac!

To read other selections from Robert Chambers' Book of Days visit www.thebookofdays.com.

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COMMENTARY

Words From Winterbilt

My New Year's resolution – the “Three R’s”

Shannon Bohrer

Every year we make New Year resolutions and we seldom acknowledge our successes or failures. Of course, as the old saying goes, we judge others by their actions and we judge ourselves by our intentions. I do believe that having good intentions should count for something. Without our good intentions we would probably not make our resolutions, even if we don't keep them.

Another thing we do when we make our resolutions is to focus on self-improvement. Which again I think should count for something; it shows that we have good intentions. My problem is memory. I have no trouble making resolutions, but I sometimes have trouble remembering them. For this reason I decided in 2018 to make a New Year resolution that I could remember. That also shows that I have good intentions.

I spent considerable time thinking of various resolutions and how to remember them. I was going through some old notes when I came across the “Three R's” and that instantly became my New Year resolution. The three R's

stand for Respect for yourself, Respect for others and being Responsible. I don't remember where I first heard about the three R's or their origin, but they will be my New-Year Resolution for 2018.

“Respect for ourselves guides our morals, respect for others guides our manners”

–Laurence Sterne

Respecting yourself, the first R includes your intentions, your actions and an honest evaluation of yourself. Asked yourself, how you fit into your family, how do you work with others and how you treat others? Examine your positive traits and your negative traits. Self-evaluation is nothing more than honest examination of who you are. Examining yourself does not mean finding traits that make you better or worse than others. We all know individuals that have an inflationary persona and believe they are better than others. From my perspective that is not a good trait - that is a flaw. Respecting yourself is not a competition with others, it is with you. So the question is; how well do you know yourself? How would others de-

scribe you? If your description of yourself is different than how others would describe you – then who are you?

“The past is not simply the past, but a prism through which the subject filters his own changing self-image”

–Doris Kearns Goodwin

Respecting others is just as important as respecting who you are. When I was young - a very wise person told me that in my life I would meet many people, many of which would be different. Sometimes I would not understand the differences. I was told that just because someone was different did not mean that I was better than them, nor did it mean that they were better than me. It just meant that some people are different.

Accepting some people that have very strong differences with morals or ethics – may not seem normal. Understanding that profound differences exist, does not mean we have to accept the differences, we just have to accept that the differences exist. Accepting differences, without being judgmental, can be diffi-

cult, but without accepting the differences can you really respect others? In police and military training, the words “respect your enemies,” is often said. Respecting your enemies does not mean you agree or even like them, you do not have to like someone to respect them. Treating people fairly, even people we do not like, is being respectful.

If we judge others just because they are different – does that say something about us?

“Real tolerance means respecting other people even when they baffle you and you have no idea why they think what they think”

–G. Willow Wilson

Being responsible is the third R and it is just that simple, being responsible for your words, your actions and even your intentions. Taking responsibility can sometimes be difficult. Sometimes it just seems easier to blame others for your situation. I always liked the western sport of bull riding. A large reason being that responsibility is often displayed. After falling off a bull a reporter will ask the rider what happened, meaning why did they fail? The bull riders response is often very simple, “I fell off.” That is being responsible. Blaming the bull, the arena or anything else – is not being responsible.

There are individuals in our society that blame others for their condition, meaning whatever situation they are in – it is not their fault. Just as important is the fact that when not being responsible and placing the blame on others – they are not respecting others.

Being responsible means taking the credit for your choices, your decisions and your actions, even when they are not positive. Being responsible includes knowing yourself, respecting others and also understanding that we are all human – we all make mistakes.

“Each man is questioned by life; and he can only answer to life by answering for his own life; to life he can only respond by being responsible”

–Viktor E. Frankl

Respecting yourself, respecting others and being responsible is more of a direction than a goal.

While the three R's are my new year's resolution, they are not new in my life and I cannot say that I have always followed the rules. But I can say that I have had good intentions and have tried to improve.

Happy New Year

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

Common Cents

Net neutrality: Gandhi's salt for US

Rivera Sun

Net Neutrality is the keystone issue in the movement of movements. It is poised to become as pivotal to our interconnected struggles as the Salt March was for Gandhi and the Indian Self-Rule Movement.

In December the FCC repealed Net Neutrality rules in blatant disregard of the 83 percent of US citizens who declared support for Net Neutrality. Overlooked for years, often misunderstood, Net Neutrality is as ubiquitous to our lives as salt was to Gandhi's India. And the corporate state, our version of the tyrannical British Empire, might have just blundered into their undoing.

The end of Net Neutrality is as odious to us as the British Colonial government's monopoly on salt was to the Indians. Salt was an essential ingredient for preserving life and health in humid, pre-refrigeration India. Net Neutrality and classifying the Internet as a public utility is essential for fair, affordable, and equal access to the Internet, and thus, the life of US citizens, as well as our innovation, creativity, information, education, research, marketplace, exchange, dialogue, organizing, and so much more.

Telecom giants like Comcast and Verizon have sought the end

of Net Neutrality for years. This allows them to create a two-tiered system of Internet access, charging people for “fast lanes” and relegating everything else into “slow lanes”. The chilling effect this will have on our economy, research, movements, and society is incalculable. It is a massive advance for the corporate state's takeover and privatization of all sectors of our nation. With it, they can control everything we see (or don't see) through their greed. Money buys society in the capitalist world. For years, the Internet has opened up arenas of public space beyond what money can buy. The sheer volume of non-commercialized creativity and information online is staggering. It matches the incredible resources of the early commons. And, like the commons, the greedy have found a way to enclose them and charge us more and more for access.

Gandhi's Salt Campaign offers us a model of how to get out of this mess - not just from the odious injustice of the end of Net Neutrality, but also from the tyranny of corporate rule. In 1930, salt was a keystone, yet stealth issue. When the Indian National Congress tasked Mohandas K. Gandhi with planning a new campaign against the British Empire's colonial rule, no one expected the Salt Satyagraha would unrav-

el the empire that the sun never set upon. Even Gandhi's buddies were skeptical about salt. As for Lord Irwin, Viceroy of India, he famously stated that he wouldn't lose any sleep over salt.

Instead, he lost the country.

Salt was an unexpected issue, but it touched every Indian citizen's life. And, when Gandhi announced that he was going to use civil disobedience to directly disobey the “odious salt laws” and render them unenforceable through mass noncooperation, millions of ordinary Indians cheered. In defiance of the salt laws, they made, sold, and bought salt. Even more importantly, they openly refused to obey the British Empire and thus ousted the Brits from authority. This showed the Indians what Gandhi had been saying for decades: a paltry hundred thousand British cannot rule over 320 million Indians without the Indians cooperation. Deny your support, and British rule will crumble.

Fast forward to contemporary United States, which also has 320 million people and faces a parallel of colonial rule in the corporate state. In the case of telecom giants like Verizon and Comcast, well, they're enjoying a monopoly on our modern-day salt of Internet access. With the repeal of Net Neutrality, they're positioned to do

like the British and start charging us for something we need for everyday life and survival.

But we can pull a Gandhi and make salt.

The Salt Satyagraha combined what's known as constructive program and an obstructive program of civil disobedience to unjust laws. The Indians made salt (constructive) and broke the law en masse (obstructive). They marched, demonstrated, protested, wrote essays and made speeches about salt, using those acts of protest and persuasion to connect the issue of the salt laws with the need to end British rule.

We can do the same with Net Neutrality. We can “make salt” by supporting and building out local community broadband. This is already being done in many poor rural and urban communities that were ignored and marginalized by telecom giants seeking bigger profits in wealthier areas. Support this effort. It is needed in both the short and long term for breaking the telecom giants' monopolies and putting more diverse and democratic control into our Internet.

We can defy en masse the corporate state's attempt at colonial exploitation of US citizens. Governor of Washington State Jay Insee just announced a plan of action to uphold Net Neutrality standards in defiance of the FCC. California Senator Scott Wiener plans to introduce similar legislation in January. Support a similar effort in your state. These will be vitally important in reinstating

Net Neutrality not just through the FCC, but as a long-term industry standard.

We can also pressure our Congress Members to use the Congressional Review Act to pass a “resolution of disapproval” that overturns the FCC decision in the next 60 days. We can also support the state-led lawsuits against the FCC.

Perhaps most importantly, we can connect the issue of Net Neutrality with the bigger problem of corporate control. In our protests, marches, demonstrations, online posts, articles, and discussions we need to make the connection known: we are being ruled over by a corporate state that has ended citizen democracy in the United States. If, like Gandhi and the Indians, we wish to cease being a colony (of corporations in our case) and implement democratic self-rule, we need make sure every one of our fellow citizens sees the repeal of Net Neutrality as a symbol of the greed and corruption of corporate rule.

The struggle ahead of us is challenging . . . and vitally important to our lives. Take heart from the example of salt. Use it to take action today. When we organize, we win, as Popular Resistance founders and Net Neutrality campaigners Margaret Flowers and Kevin Zeese say.

Net Neutrality is our salt. Let's use it to end corporate rule.

Rivera Sun is the author of *The Dandelion Insurrection* and has just launched the sequel, *The Roots of Resistance*.

The American Mind

The second annual best books of 2017

William Hillman

Ok, well, most of these books are not from 2017, I just got around to reading them last year.

(Warning, _ Any of these books left in sight of a left wing- western culture hating, identity politics social justice type, - might trigger uncontrolled convulsions).

Top Book of the year was - Antifragile: Things That Gain From Disorder by Nassim Nicholas Taleb published on November 27, 2012, by Random House. A book on how some systems actually benefit from disorder. Honestly, almost anything written by Taleb is worth reading. In this book, Taleb focuses not only on how to make yourself less vulnerable to fat tale events, but how to take advantage of these events. He makes his case with modern examples from our economic system and ancient wisdom from Phoenician, Roman, Greek, and Medieval sources.

“Some things benefit from shocks; they thrive and grow when exposed to volatility, randomness, disorder, and stressors. Yet, in spite of the ubiquity of the phenomenon, there is no word for the exact opposite of fragile. Let us call it antifragile. Antifragility is beyond resilience or robustness. The resilient resists shocks and stays the same; the antifragile gets better.”

“Simply, antifragility is defined as a convex response to a stressor or source of harm (for some range of variation), leading to a positive sensitivity to increase in volatility (or variability, stress, dispersion of outcomes, or uncertainty, what is grouped under the designation “disorder cluster”). Likewise, fragility is defined as a concave sensitivity to stressors, leading a negative sensitivity to increase in volatility. The relation between fragility, convexity and sensitivity to disorder is mathematical, obtained by theorem, not derived from empirical data mining or some historical narrative. It is a priori.”

Taleb's, The Black Swann and Antifragile have done more to shape my thinking and perception of events than any other series of books. My college economic professors would hate these books. Taleb completely destroys the social sciences, especially economics. He gives us another argument on why centrally controlled systems will almost always fail, and the larger and more complex they are, the more people will suffer when they do fail. As our society becomes more interdependent and complex, the more small, un-foreseen events can have devastating effects.

Taleb calls into question the value of our higher education system and university-based research. Most of the technological developments, from the

spinning wheel and loom, to the modern computer as we know it, did not come from the research departments of universities or government think tanks, but from private tinkerers.

Tied for second place are The Camp of the Saints, The Fourth Turning and The True Believer.

The Camp of the Saints (French: Le Camp des Saints): a 1973 French novel by Jean Raspail. The novel depicts a setting where Third World mass immigration to France and the West leads to the destruction of Western civilization.

I gave this book to several friends this year. One friend from England said it best, “We are living this book today.”

The Fourth Turning: What the Cycles of History Tell Us about America's Next Rendezvous with Destiny, by William Strauss, Neil Howe. Recommended by Steve Bannon. This book describes a theorized recurring generation cycle in American history.

“Strauss and Howe laid the groundwork for their theory in their 1991 book, Generations, which discusses the history of the United States as a series of generational biographies going back to 1584.[1] In their 1997 book, The Fourth Turning, the authors expanded the theory to focus on a fourfold cycle of generational types and recurring mood eras in American history.[2] They have since expanded on

the concept in a variety of publications.” – Wikipedia

“Yet the great weakness of linear time is that it obliterates time's recurrence and thus cuts people off from the eternal—whether in nature, in each other, or in ourselves. When we deem our social destiny entirely self-directed and our personal lives self-made, we lose any sense of participating in a collective myth larger than ourselves. We cannot ritually join with those who come before or after us.” William Strauss, The Fourth Turning: An American Prophecy

The True Believer: Thoughts On The Nature Of Mass Movements, is a 1951 social psychology book by American writer Eric Hoffer, in which the author discusses the psychological causes of fanaticism.

The author explains the people that give rise to mass movements and how these movements start. He delves into the similarities of movements - political, radical, religious, and nationalistic. Most of the founding elements of these movements are the same and follow a predictable pattern. The book takes a very nonjudgmental approach, noting that some movements are beneficial to humanity while others are destructive. In common, these groups tend to attract the same type of followers that behave in the same way and use the same tactics and rhetorical tools.

My third choice goes to a book recommended by my friend Mark Lloyd - The Miracle of Freedom: 7 Tipping Points that Saved the World, by Chris Stewart & Ted

Stewart. Over the course of time many events of extreme importance often fade into the pages of history and become forgotten, or turn into a simple footnote in a dusty textbook. Other events become the source of myths and legends.

This book identifies seven events, mostly famous, some seemingly forgotten, that redirected the course of world history:

- The defeat of the Assyrians in their quest to destroy Judah in 701BC.
- The victory of the Greeks over the Persians at Thermopylae and Salamis
- Roman Emperor Constantine's conversion to Christianity
- The defeat of the armies of Islam at Poitiers
- The Mongol's failure in their effort to conquer Europe in 1241AD
- The discovery of the New World
- The Battle of Britain in WWII

The circumstances surrounding these events made it very unlikely that these events would have turned out as they did. Most of these happenings began as what most would consider a desperate lost cause, or some sort of folly, but the results and impact of these events redirected what seemed to be an undeniable surety of the course of history. Well worth the read.

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Down Under

Balloons and resolutions

Lindsay Coker
Melbourne, Australia

Cynic: A blackguard whose faulty vision sees things as they are, not as they ought to be. Hence the custom among the Scythians of plucking out a cynic's eye to improve his vision.

—Ambrose Bierce, *The Cynic's Word Book*

Welcome to another New Year and the good news. The doomsayers are wrong. Civilization will survive, mankind will remain dominant, parties will continue, technology will race ahead, politicians will stay duplicitous, minorities remain ignored, the sea will rise no more than two meters, and money will continue to rule. The fact that we may no longer live in the same shaped country or democracy won't matter, because we'll be glad to have simply survived.

As you freeze and we roast we will continue to ignore reality. It's just too depressing, and only 80% certain. I've already released my balloons into the atmosphere, carrying away my worries into outer space, never to return. I feel so much better knowing that President Trump will not use an atomic missile on North Korea today, that the Arabs will ignore the Jews for at least an hour, and that crypto currency speculators will continue to bask in their delusions.

Gone is climate change, the millions of refugees, lives being digitally controlled, big pharma and their lies, and even the terrified faces of the few intelligent alt-right folk who smell change and their come-uppance. Things like Puerto Rico, Baja California, the Spratley islands, Antarctic melt and Greenland being green for the first time will no longer disturb my sleep.

Above all my New Year's Resolutions are firmly in place.

Top of the list is to learn Mandarin and be competent in it by years end. That should be time enough to understand what China is really saying; I might be even halfway to mastering that forsaken ideographic language so I'll be able to read the people's daily, understand the rules of assembly and know how to apply for the position of floor sweeper.

Second is to wear my VR goggles every other day. That's for when the news is a tidal wave of suffocation; when I need them for obliterating images of child abuse, violence against women, the incarceration of innocents, ethnic cleansing, and, if I lived in your great country, to deal with the scourge of uncontrolled gun use.

Third is to gatecrash all the parties I can. Rallies are out, protest meetings passé, anti-something marches no longer interesting. Being determined to no longer be miserable alone, I intend to trade my

gloom for the carefree life of small talk and gossip.

Fourth is go and live in New Zealand. This is to remind me that one or two areas of relative sanity still exist in the world, where hum-drum is commended, the biggest worry is earthquakes, and the Chinese won't bother to take it over.

Fifth is to pick a team to barrack for. The sport is immaterial, provided the followers are prepared to get bloody in their one-eyedness. I want to wave a banner, shout incomprehensibilities, throw a pie at the opposition, even to rush onto the ground to berate the umpire. It can be distant, as I'll be taken there by another idiot.

Sixth is to back into the future. This is one of the Chinese' best philosophies: You can examine the past, while the future is only possibilities. The past is fixed, but the future cannot be seen clearly, meaning we can make plans only based on what has already happened. They have refurbished this idea recently, and are getting ready to demand world fealty. Back in the 15th century they sent the fleet to every corner of the globe. They demanded that envoys from each country bring tributes to honour the Emperor; those that refused were quietly dispatched. At that time honour was all that was required. Now it includes power and dominance, and all their energy is going into achieving that. Our western ideas, on the other hand, are based on peering into what will come next, taking options on the future while squinting into the past. It's the basis of west-



ern style capitalism, and in today's democracies the future is 'jobs and growth, jobs and growth' while ignoring history and its lessons.

Seventh is to continue to honour and enjoy the wonderful community in which I live. Innately friendly, mostly courteous, very curious about most things, layback and often brilliant. Suffering from political stupidity, but less corrupt than most. Come and try it; anti-clamour, pro-peace, only moderately cynical, and apart from your childish sense of humour you'd fit right in. You speak a version of the language, I'm told you find it nostalgic, and we are just less get up and go. Just that bit slower. Far fewer problems of race. The food is much better, and most stomachs are well proportioned. No fundamentalists, please.

Eighth is to see more of this incredible country. The driest, 70% of it mostly uninhabitable, and the oldest land on earth with the oldest continuous society in existence. Phlegmatic in the face of tourism,

we have striven hard to loose our ties from Britain, and are now doing the same to you. Yes, Donald, we don't trust you any more.

Ninth is to watch us try to walk the tightrope of international politics and at the same time sigh cynically about the belief of our leaders that we are more than a pimple on the arse of the big boys. We may be seen to punch above our weight thanks to some judicious brown nosing, and we are by nature brave and daring, insubordinate and larrikin, but we love our country and so should you.

Tenth is to say 'Happy New Year' to you all, don't let them wear you down, look at all the truly marvelous things you have done. Take pleasure in your friends, be tolerant, be careful and keep reading this paper.

And stop worrying about the future. It'll be here soon enough.

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

THE (retired) ECOLOGIST

Learning ecology by divagation

Bill Meredith

"It's not easy being green,"
...Kermit the Frog

I took my first Ecology course in 1953, and it would be a vast overstatement to say I saw it as a turning point in my life. I was young and naive; to me the future was a long way off. I had signed up to take a required Botany course that fall, taught by Prof. Roberts, a genial, elderly man who studied mosses and chain-smoked Pall Mall cigarettes in class. There were only two students in the course, and I found it interesting but not very challenging. But Prof. Roberts died at the end of the fall semester, and his place was taken by a young man who had just received his Ph.D. I found him less likeable than Roberts, but vastly more up-to-date and challenging. And in the second semester, he changed the course from General Botany to Plant Ecology.

The new professor was a stickler for definitions, and he defined Plant Ecology as "The study of the interactions between plants and their environments." In those days, when a professor asked a question, someone would always ask, "Will this be on the test?" That usually was the end of any discussion, so when I thought about what an ecologist would actually do, I assumed the answer was, "study plants and their environment." That wasn't exactly wrong, but it was so oversimplified as to be useless. But it was several years before I realized it.

When I started college, I assumed I would be a high school biology teacher noble enough as a goal, but hopelessly naive. Fortunately, other opportunities intervened. By the time I arrived in Emmitsburg six years later I was still pretty naive, but I had learned a lot by experience as well as by mem-

orizing definitions. I had acquired a wife, a baby daughter, a Master's degree, and an ambition to succeed in academic life. And sometime around 1960, I found a definition of what being an ecologist really means. In the preface of a new textbook, I found this definition by a British ecologist named Amyan MacFadyen:

"An ecologist is something of a chartered libertine. He roams at will over the legitimate preserves of the plant and animal biologist, the taxonomist, the physiologist, the behaviourist, the meteorologist, the geologist, the physicist, the chemist, and even the sociologist; he poaches from all these and from other established and respected disciplines. It is indeed a major problem for the ecologist, in his own interest, to set bounds to his divagations."

My first reaction was to sit there in stunned silence. Wow. Wow! As Pogo would say, "Double Wow, with Nuts!" ...An ecologist writes like that? ...What the Heck is a Chartered Libertine? ..."divagations?" ...and then, "You mean I have to learn all that stuff too?"

The answer to that question was, simply and bluntly, "Yes." It turned out that there were two ways to do it. The way followed by many... perhaps most... is less effective. As graduate students used to say, "You keep taking courses and learn more and more about less and less, until you know everything about nothing." Sometimes, when I am in a pessimistic mood, I think the ones who are educated that way all end up as politicians. The other way follows two models. The first model is Socrates sitting on one end of a log asking questions, and a student sitting on the other end groping for answers. Socrates never answers the questions directly, but he keeps rephrasing them until the student is led to the answers. The second

model is the Three Princes of Serendip, whose father sent them into the world to wander about on their own and look at things; they learned all kinds of wonderful things just by the coincidence of being there, and after many years they came home as wise as sages. From their divagations, we get the word, "Serendipity," and those who follow that model are the lucky ones. They become ecologists, and their education never ends. The result is that they think differently than non-ecologists.

If more people had that kind of education, we might avoid a lot of problems. For example, in my first ecology course we learned that in nature, the plants and animals that live in a specific place are called a Community. Each community is adapted to the habitat it lives in... the climate, the soil, the elevation, and the other organisms that live there. Relationships exist between different species... they may compete for resources, they may cooperate, they may eat others or be eaten by others. As long as all these factors do not change, the whole community can exist for thousands of years. Each community will have one or a few dominant species... in cold climates with long winters, evergreen forests develop, and small trees or shrubs have to adapt to living in deep shade. In warmer climates with over 30 inches of annual rainfall, hardwood trees are dominant... maples and beeches in wetter areas, oaks and hickories in drier ones. Generally, less than 25 inches of rain produce a grassland community, and less than 10 inches produces a desert. But changes always happen: climate changes over long periods, like the Ice Age, or a hurricane or tidal wave may wipe out a community in a few hours. An invasive species may be introduced, like the gypsy moths that were brought



The Thomas fire, the largest in California's history, started on December 4 and three weeks later it is still burning, having consumed over 273,000 acres.

to this America in the 1860s and are now destroying the oak trees all over the eastern U. S. As the world's population expands more people travel over long distances and new species are brought in by accident; the result can be disastrous enough to wipe out human communities... think of the recent scares about Ebola virus, cholera, or bird flu.

One of the examples in my first ecology text was called the Fire Disclimax. It was known by the earliest settlers in certain parts of California. The climate was hot and droughts occurred every few years. Fires would get started by lightning, and the dry vegetation would be burned, including any small trees that may have sprouted during non-drought years; so the communities that developed there were grasses and shrubs whose roots went deep enough to escape the surface heat. When droughts occurred, there would be fires, but since there were few large trees, the burnable fuel was sparse and the fires didn't last long. Thus the plants that could withstand occasional small fires survived and created a community that was adapted to periodic disturbance by small fires, and it came to be called a Fire Disclimax.

You know the rest of the story. Gold was discovered in California in 1849, and droves of people moved west; most of them didn't find gold, but they found rich soil

that could be irrigated. Cities developed, more people came, trade and commerce grew, railroads were built, fortunes were made... and the newly rich built houses in the Fire Disclimax areas. Naturally, they began putting out the small fires, and trees began to grow where previously there had been just grass, weeds and cactus. The ground became covered with dry, dead weeds and brush. Fires were started not only by lightning, but also by accidents and arson; and within the past several decades, as more people moved in, large fires became more frequent. The Thomas fire, now the largest in California's history, started on December 4 this year, and three weeks later it is still burning, having consumed over 273,000 acres. In today's news, I read that many who lost their homes are moving out of that area and seeking new homes. But in today's economy, land and houses are becoming scarcer. Inevitably, many will stay and rebuild, and new ones will come.

Even 60 years ago, I could have told them that living in a Disclimax is not a good idea; but they wouldn't have believed it. After all, ecologists have a weird way of thinking... what do they know? Why, they even believe in global warming!

To read past editions of the Retired Ecologist visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.

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IN THE COUNTRY

The Everglades - a river of grass

Tim Iverson, Naturalist

For the past 7 years I've spent my professional life working as a ranger caring for and educating visitors on Catoctin Mountain. Initially working for the Maryland Park Service at Cunningham Falls State Park and later for the National Park Service at Catoctin Mountain Park. In November I began a new adventure, accepting a short six month stint at Everglades National Park. While I take this brief detour I decided to highlight this incredible park. Welcome to Everglades National Park! - Tim

Everglades National Park is the largest designated wilderness area east of the Mississippi, a World Heritage Site, an International Biosphere Reserve, and a Wetland of International Importance. Everglades National Park is also one of the most accessible national parks there is. It's surrounded by nearly three million people that live in surrounding Miami-Dade and Collier counties. Historically the Everglades tied all of south Florida together in a seasonal cycle of wet and dry. To meet the demands of Florida's population growth, the historic Everglades have been drained, diked, dammed, and disconnected from the seasons, leaving it diminished but alive.

The Greater Everglades ecosystem historically encompassed 2.6 million acres from central Florida, near Orlando, all the way down to the Florida Keys. Water flowed south into Lake Okeechobee which, during the

rainy season, filled up and spilled over its banks. The flood water then made its way across a variety of habitat types - including sawgrass plains, open-water sloughs, rocky glades, and marl prairies - and finally into the Gulf of Mexico and Florida and Biscayne Bays. This vast Everglades ecosystem contains a unique array of wildlife and habitats found nowhere else on earth.

South Florida averages about 50 - 60 inches of rain annually. Florida, the Everglades in particular appears incredibly flat. When standing in the midst of the river of grass any slope is hardly discernible, yet there is one. Lake Okeechobee sits about 24 feet above sea level causing water to flow south dropping about 4 inches per mile only moving about 100 feet per day.

Water descends through slight depressions creating a river called a slough (pronounced 'slew') channeling freshwater south to Florida Bay. On the eastern side of the park Taylor slough passes through the Royal Palm area, which is home to an incredible array of botanical diversity featuring orchids, bromeliads, ferns, and more. In the center of the park the Shark River slough passes through Shark Valley and vast swaths of marshy wetlands. A series of other sloughs that flow through the Big Cypress Swamp supply freshwater to western Florida Bay and the Ten Thousand Islands, a vast mangrove forest.

The grasses, for which the Everglades is most associated with are located in the freshwater sloughs that bisect the park.



Over 50% of the historical Everglades have been lost in the last century as a result of being drained and replaced with urban areas and farms. The Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan is designed to restore the greater Everglades ecosystem. The maps above depict the historical flow (right) into the Everglades, the current flow, or lack of flow (center), and the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan flow (left).

These sloughs feature sawgrass that can grow up to six feet or more, along with broad-leafed marsh plants. Freshwater sloughs are excellent locations for bird rookeries and attract a great variety of wading birds such as herons, egrets, roseate spoonbills, ibis, pelicans, and more. Countless other birds make this a stop over during long migratory routes. Over 360 different bird species has been identified within Everglades National Park. During an expedition in 1832 John James Audubon described, "We observed great flocks of wading birds flying overhead.... They appeared in such numbers to actually block out the light from the sun for some time." Sloughs also feature a great abundance of fish, amphibians, turtles, alligators, and snakes. Further downstream where the freshwater sloughs meets the saltwater you can find crocodiles.

The Ten Thousand Islands are a chain of islands and mangrove islets along the southern coast of Florida. Mangrove habitat serve as a valuable nursery for shrimp, crabs, and a variety of other important endangered and commercial marine species. During the dry winter months, wading birds congregate here to feed and nest. During the wet summer months, these mangroves forests provide the first line of defense against the howling winds and storm surge of hurricanes. Mangroves thrive in tidal waters such as these where freshwater from the Everglades mixes with the saltwater of the bay. Everglades National Park contains the largest contiguous stand of mangrove forest in the western hemisphere.

The story of life centers around water. Most cities are built on or near a water source. Water is the lifeblood of the Everglades. However, the development of south Florida has centered on draining and controlling the flow of water. The pre-drainage system boasted over 2.5 million acres of wetlands, highly diverse biomass, even continuous sheetflow of water, and water storage between wet and dry cycles.

Beginning in 1890 diversion projects began redirecting water and draining the swamp for agricultural, business, and residential development. As a result the Everglades ecosystem has been reduced by 1.25 million acres. Six major Everglades habitats are now only remnants of their former selves. Others are highly fragmented. Biodiversity has declined significantly. Everglades National Park supports 90% fewer nesting birds than it did prior to drainage and is home to 68 threatened or endangered species. Sheetflow and water storage has dramatically declined, disrupting natural cycles.

Historically, over 450 billion gallons of water per year flowed southward into Everglades National Park across US 41, the Tamiami Trail. Today, only 260 billion gallons of water flow along this path. The road, in conjunction with levees and canals acts as a giant dam obstructing the natural sheet flow. In 1999, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers submitted a proposal to Congress to restore south Florida's natural ecosystem, while maintaining urban and agricultural water supply and flood control. Congress approved the

Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP). The CERP approach is to use the best available science to restore the "right quantity, quality, timing, and distribution" of freshwater to the natural system.

There are four components to the CERP restoration plan, one of which aims to restore natural sheetflow. Levees are being taken down, canals are being filled in, and two elevated bridges are being constructed to allow natural sheetflow to return to the environment. The entire plan should be complete by 2030 and aims to restore up to 75% of the flow the park received before construction of the canals and the Tamiami Trail.

Everglades National Park is both unique and endangered. It stretches in the north from Orlando south towards the keys. Spanning from Naples and the Gulf of Mexico to Miami and the Atlantic. It's an ecosystem of local, national, and global importance, defined and connected by water. Historically the Everglades tied all of south Florida together in a seasonal cycle of wet and dry. To meet the demands of Florida's population growth, the historic Everglades have been drained, diked, dammed, and disconnected from the seasons, leaving it diminished but alive. With the implementation and completion of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Project it has a fighting chance to flourish once again.

To read past articles of In the Country, visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.

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REAL SCIENCE

Visitors from other solar systems

Michael Rosenthal

A recurring theme in the world of science fiction is that of travelers from other civilizations outside our solar system visiting earth. Though no documented cases of such happenings have yet been verified by the scientific community, the public fascination continues; it is supported by films, books, the internet, and show business. As reported before in this column, Roswell, New Mexico, has built an economy for tourists around purported visits by aliens and with their elaborate alien museum. I reported on our visit to the alien museum in an earlier article.

The latest development does not support extraterrestrial life, but supports the accepted scientific knowledge about the vastness of our universe. An asteroid that we have named Oumuamua, hurtled past our sun recently and has been unequivocally identified by scientists as originating in another solar system. It is traveling at 196,000 miles per hour. Nothing like it has been sighted previously in our solar system.

Oumuamua, named for a Hawaiian term for messenger or scout, is the first space rock to have been identified as being formed around another star other than our sun. Scientists believe that there are many others, as many as 10,000, but none has been previously observed in our solar system. Its red color suggests that it carries organic (carbon-containing) molecules that are the building-blocks of life. Oumuamua is a dark red, highly-elongated metallic or rocky object about 400 meters long.

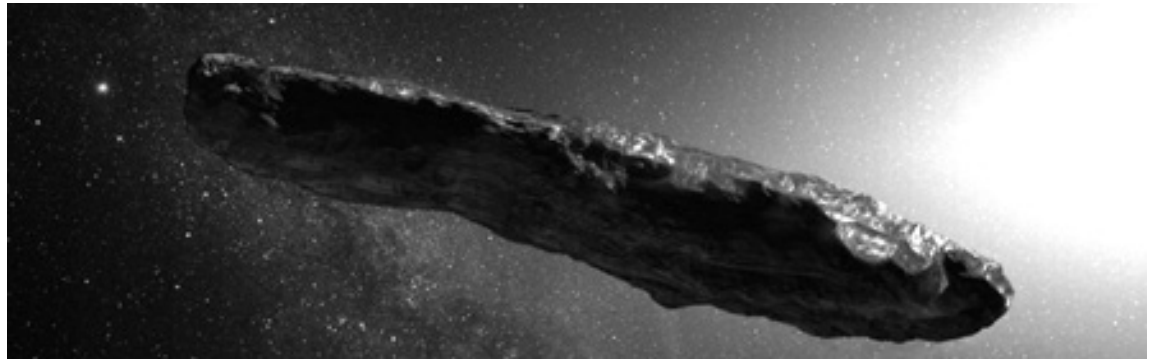
A scientific analysis shows that its orbit is almost impossible to achieve from within our solar system. Asteroids coalesce during the process of planet formation, so we are especially interested in what we may learn about planet formation around stars other than our sun. Two independent

groups of astronomers have been studying this phenomenon: a group from the University of Hawaii, led by Karen Meech, and a group at UCLA, led by David Jewitt. Meech's group was the discoverer of Oumuamua.

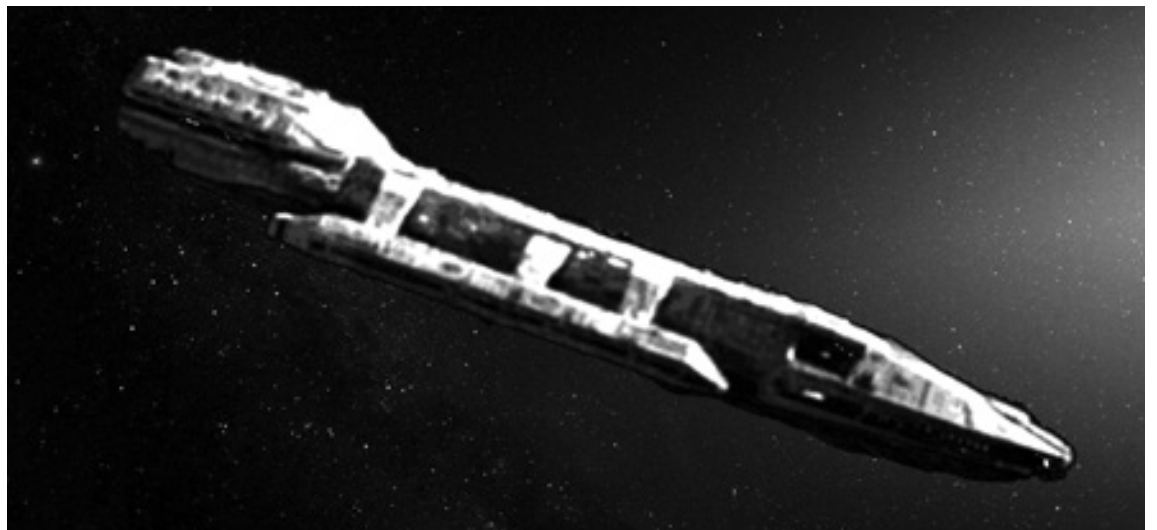
Though it is early in the studies to answer all the many questions that arise, some aspects are known and understood. Ground-based telescopes show that Oumuamua is quite similar to some comets and asteroids in our solar system, indicating that planetary compositions could be typical across the galaxy. It is widely thought that the delivery of organic molecules to the early earth by the collision of comets and asteroids were the basis for life on earth. Thus it can be speculated that life could have similarly originated in other solar systems. So, great potential lies ahead in this astronomical sighting, in our quest to understand our universe.

A chemical education diversion: In my days as a chemistry student (in prehistoric times!), we aspiring chemists were mostly obligated to choose between being an "organic chemist," whose study focused on compounds of carbon, and could lead to biochemistry, the chemistry of life forms, and being an "inorganic chemist," who studied compounds other than the carbon-based molecules, which included metal atom chemistry. I was aesthetically drawn to inorganic chemistry, studying metal ions, whose compounds often had beautiful colors, and which was a less developed field at the time.

The barriers between chemical categories have since broken down; biochemistry, physical chemistry, and organometallic chemistry (to name a few classifications) now encompass these various subdivisions. Though the classifications are recognized as artificial, since the laws of nature apply equally to all categories, the division still remains to help organize our study. I actually was best classi-



Conspiracy theorists have been quick to point out the similarity between Oumuamua and the Battlestar Galactica. The current working theory is that the Galactica was not destroyed as planned but instead was sent on a 500,000-year orbit around the sun. NASA scientists agree that the Galactica could easily have taken on the current shape of Oumuamua by the simple attraction of cosmic dust. The recent formal acknowledgment that the Pentagon is actively researching UFO sightings has the internet ablaze with rumors that NATO is preparing a manned mission to reclaim the Galactica to help fight off an impending Cylon attack.



fied as a "physical inorganic chemist," one who used physical chemistry techniques to study the compounds of metal atoms in their interaction with organic molecules. The organic chemists generously allowed us the use of their carbon atoms when we needed them! Joking aside, all of science is artificially divided into categories for convenience, and many great discoveries continue to be made at the category interfaces. I wouldn't try to explain the difference between a physical chemist and a chemical physicist, except for which campus building each occupies.

The scientific community is understandably upset about the federal government's lack of interest in promoting alternative energy that has lower negative environmental impact and about its support of the coal industry. As we have previously mentioned, coal is on the way out for economic reasons, and I am convinced that the federal government cannot save it in the long run.

A recent Washington Post story supports the idea that there is a trend toward use of alternative energy that government policy cannot reverse. General Electric is cutting 12,000

jobs in its power division as alternative energy siphons demand from coal and other fossil fuels. This is 18 percent of all jobs at GE Power, most of them outside the United States, many in Europe. Power companies see the "handwriting on the wall" — that current or eventual environmental regulations and economic reasons will continue to move the world away from use of fossil fuels. The cost of natural gas and, solar, and other alternative energies continues to fall, and regardless of how one may feel about it, economics drives the engine here.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics in October 2017, suggest that the top-growing job classification over the next nine years will be solar voltaic installations and that wind turbine service technicians will be # 2. Though fossil fuels still dominate the power generation market in the United States, the balance is shifting apart from government policy. We've reported before that objection to the siting of wind turbines along the New England coast has impacted their development, but people will get over that. I would certainly rather see a wind turbine on the horizon, than smoke and pollutants

coming from smokestacks in industrial facilities.

I remember the latter well from growing up in northeastern Ohio in the 1950s. Nuclear energy has a very important role to play. We need to continue to work on the issue of nuclear waste disposal and to develop our technology to keep nuclear power plants safe, but the role of nuclear power is a very important one is producing energy all over the world.

Reading the news every day (we subscribe to the New York Times and the Washington Post, as well as utilize on-line services), we find that the science news is often depressing. But here are good items too. Scott Pruitt, the Environmental Protection Agency's administrator, has assured that his scientific staff will be able to discuss their work from now on in public forums. This follows an event in October in which two scientists were prevented by the EPA from discussing findings regarding the health of the Narragansett Bay. This is especially significant after the EPA removed most mentions of climate change from the EPA website. Mr. Pruitt pledged to continue to conduct research as outlined in EPA's four-year strategic plan. On the negative side, climate change is not mentioned in the strategic plan.

There is a delicate balance between loyalty to scientific findings and that of advancing political policy. There are scientific issues that can stand apart from politics; however, one cannot ignore scientific findings to support a political belief. This is one of the reasons I became a scientist and not a politician.

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

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Magic, music & books in Emmitsburg

Jack Deatherage, Jr.

When I was in my mid teens a cousin and I occasionally walked into Doc Crater's drug-store on West Main Street to buy balsa wood gliders and cigars. The gliders were flown in Bollinger's field. I don't recall where we smoked the cigars, though it wasn't around adults. In my later teens and early twenties I'd go into Doc Carter's with a beer drinking buddy to buy all the latest comic books before hitting Crouse's shop on the Square for the comics Doc didn't carry.

By the time I got serious about not trying to preserve my brain in alcohol (for posterity, of course) I was vaguely aware that something had gone wrong in this burg. Those two shops had closed and new people were opening new businesses of no interest to me, or most other townsfolk. Around the time sobriety settled in nearly all the businesses that had made this place interesting during my childhood were gone.

As financial circumstances allowed, I took to the highways and found stores, eateries and amusements elsewhere. Gettysburg, Taneytown, Thurmont, Hanover and Frederick captured my attention and disposable income. Some towns held my attention longer than others as my interests changed mercurially, and the various shops I frequented changed over time as well. (For several years I pretty much boycotted Frederick County- hell, Maryland, whenever possible- and spent most of my money in Pennsylvania.) The Internet provided greater opportunities to explore the world outside of this burg and I took to that readily enough, especially after DW's family business began to shut down and our budget was pulled tight.

The arrival of the Emmitsburg Tattoo Company on the Square in Crouse's old shop got me to lift my head out of the wallow I was depressing in. There being no other place for me to hang out at the time, and the tatt shop being an easy walk from the house, I took to learning about tattooing, and life perspectives I'd never heard of, or had tried to ignore for 50 or so years.

After months of chatting with the shop owners my perspective of "dying Emmitsburg" was kicked to the curb and slowly replaced with some small understanding that the town had hit a bottom, bounced, and people were using that bounce to re-energize this place. (This is a concept I can understand. I've seen lots of drunks and pharmaceutical addicts do the same thing.) Cool, though I remained skeptical in the extreme.

Then Cantori opens a magic themed shop in Doc's old store and kicks my skepticism almost as hard as Tattoo Don, Pillar of the

Community had kicked my negative perspective. (While my perspective whimpers by the curb, it in no way has failed to influence my daily thinking.)

Seriously? A magic theater and used book store in Emmitsburg? The books might be of interest to me, but magic shows? Meh. Television magicians were boring during my childhood. (Who cared if they could make an elephant disappear on TV. Anything could be done by editing and camera switching before computer generated imaging became all the rage.) I was prepared to be unimpressed by a stage magician. And then I wasn't.

Cantori's slight of hand frustrates me no end. One might think a simple, one-handed card trick could be figured out by a semi-functioning monkey-man, but nooo. After being shown how the trick is pulled off I'm left more frustrated than I was before! Now I'm contemplating the dexterity, the devotion to practice, the desire to master such a simple trick. I'm left mentally exhausted and fumble fingered grumpier than I was before meeting the illusionist! Fortunately, Cantori enjoys explaining the history of magic. He rattles off names of the great magicians throughout the ages. While I don't know the names, I occasionally recognize the tricks they created. Cantori crosses the room to the bookshelves, plucks a tome and quickly flips through it until he finds some master's picture and goes on with the history of a trick.

According to Maryland Magicians- "Michael Cantori is one of the region's premier illusionists, whose class-act entertainment brings both golden age wonder and contemporary themes to every show... He's entertained congressmen, senators, generals, rock stars and royalty, and has been featured in media such as The Los Angeles Times, Chicago Tribune, Baltimore Sun, Fox News, and The Washington Post."

Which begs a question- What the hell is he doing in Emmitsburg?

Of course Cantori sees with eyes I'll never have.

Emmitsburg is central to Baltimore, Washington D. of C., Harrisburg, Philadelphia, Hagerstown, Leesburg and dozens of growing urban/corporate areas a stage magician can work his or her trade in. While the local economy took a dump before the recession, and continued long after, Cantori sees the area as an obvious place for growth. Emmitsburg hit a bottom and the bounce is in progress.

Okay. Tattoo Don and Magician Cantori (a pair of new pillars for the community) can see that, so I'll bow to their view of this place and set my "negative ninny" thinking aside (as best I can) to get on board with their thinking.

Hanging around these guys and acting as their sound board (it

isn't as if I half understand what they are talking about when they throw ideas at me) has been entertaining if not enlightening. Cantori quickly realized this isn't a book buying town. His occasional magic shows have drawn capacity audiences, but the limited shop space restricts the number of paying customers. So what's he do?

Well, he's a tinker who's settled in place. He acquires used musical instruments and reworks them if needs be so they can be passed along to new enthusiasts- for modest fees of course. Building his business sites online while at the shop, plotting out his stage banter or his lectures on music and magic, he still makes time for anyone that happens to wander through the shop door.

Though catching him in the shop has been hit or miss as he is a working magician and often is miles away when I toddle by the shop with a few dollars in my pocket and an itch to torture myself with some book by a dead philosopher. Until his evolving business model begins drawing foot traffic enough to employ a shop



Michael Cantori is one of the region's premier illusionists, whose class-act entertainment brings both golden age wonder and contemporary themes to downtown Emmitsburg.

assistant it's best to call ahead: 301-447-3400, or contact him at: info@illusionplace.com or chase him down on the Net using "Cantori's Bohemian Bazaar".

I briefly considered offering to sit in the shop while the Magus is off gathering "oo"s and "ahh"s as well as money, but having to deal with potential store customers isn't this curmudgeon's thang. Having to count change for a purchase, swipe a cred-

it card or otherwise have to drag long unused societal skills from where ever I buried them gives me the shudders. However! Should the shop need a door stop I could probably handle that, when I'm not doing a similar job at the Emmitsburg Tattoo Company.

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



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THE BEST NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION EVER ...

Thanks to our friends at the Emmitsburg News-Journal, we're having a second month of pet photos to start the new year! These sweet babies are looking for a home and one of the greatest gifts shelter workers could get for 2018 would be to get the four-legged souls in their care out of a cage and into a forever home. If you or anyone you know is looking for a furry friend, please take a look below. The love of an animal is often one of the strongest, most rewarding relationships a person can find. If you want to help but can't adopt, the shelter is always in need of monetary or pet supply donations, including kitten food and adult cat food with meat as the first ingredient. From all of us at CVAS to all of you, we wish you the happiest, healthiest New Year.

For more information about adopting one of these pets, please call the Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter at 717-263-5791 or visit their website at www.cvas-pets.org. The Adams County Animals Shelter is always looking for humans seeking canine or feline companionship. You can contact them at 717-334-8876 or visit them on-line at www.adamscountytspca.org. And you can never go wrong dropping by the Frederick County Animal Shelter. Visit them on-line at www.frederickcountymd.gov/FCAC or call them at 301-600-1546.



Amy is a 4-year-old terrier mix who is a super sweet girl that loves attention. She came into the shelter as a stray so we don't have any information on her, but she's been a lovebug with us. Stop out and get some kisses!



Chloe is a 6-year-old terrier mix who was found running along the road near the shelter. She seems to have had some training. Because of her size and age we're looking for a home for her with children older than 8.



We're not really certain what breed Cody is, but seems to be a people dog. He knows how to sit and shake. He does have a tendency to jump up when he gets excited, but he's easily corrected.



Daniel is a 5-year-old beagle boy who has a ton of personality! Just look at that face! Daniel likes to play with toys and he likes to announce his presence as he walks on a leash. If you're looking for a sweet four-legged friend, you've gotta stop out and meet Daniel.



Faith has been to the shelter before. She's a 3-year-old pitbull mix. In the kennel she seems heartbroken and unable to understand why she's here. Due to her adjustment time and no history with children, we feel that a home with children older than 12 would be best for her.



Holly is a sweet girl that was transferred from a rescue that had to downsize. She's a spitz/Pomeranian mix and is 10 years old. Holly is on the quiet side and prefers a calm place to nap. Holly must meet all family members that reside in the home. Can you give Holly another chance?



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Barbie is one silly cat. This 3-year-old gray girl has quite the personality and ornery green eyes. If you're looking for a fun companion, stop out and meet Barbie.



Look at the face of our boy named Fin! This 2-year-old, gray-and-white guy is such a nice cat. His vivid green eyes and amazing personality will make the lucky human that adopts him very happy!



Moppet is a 1-year-old calico girl with incredibly unique markings. When you look at her back, she has some real interesting patterns to her fur - and her sparkling green eyes make her quite the pretty kitty!



Sandy is a pretty, brown-tabby girl with white who has very expressive eyes. This nice, charming, and sweet 1-year-old girl will make someone a wonderful companion.



Wilson is a 1-year-old orange-and-white boy. Look at that face! There may be a little Kardashian in him, what do you think? If you need a fun companion, Wilson just might be the guy for you.



Opal is a 3-year-old tabby-and-white girl who came into the shelter with a litter of kittens. All her babies have found their forever homes, but Opal is still with us. Look at that gorgeous girl. Does she know how to pose or what? She loves attention and would love to have a home for the holidays.

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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Welcome our newest staff member Korrin R. Lucas, DVM



Dr. Korrin R. Lucas grew up in Tyrone, PA and currently resides in Frederick, MD. Dr. Lucas received her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from the Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine. Prior to that, she graduated from Indiana University of Pennsylvania with a Bachelor of Science degree, majoring in Biology with a Chemistry minor. Before joining the Emmitsburg Veterinary Hospital team, Dr. Lucas practiced in Hagerstown, MD and Frederick, MD. Her special interests include dentistry and soft tissue surgery.

Dr. Lucas is also passionate about using veterinary medicine to benefit those in developing countries. She has traveled to Tanzania several times working to start a goat project at an orphanage, and most recently, she went to Malawi to vaccinate dogs for Rabies. In her spare time, she enjoys riding her horse, Sleepy, and keeping her cat, Jack, entertained.



THE MASTER GARDENER

The things we learn

Kay Hinkle, Barb Mrgich
Adams County Master
Gardeners

One of our favorite things about being a part of the Master Gardeners is there is constant opportunity for learning new things; and what better to learn more about than garden plantings and the great outdoors! We work with some pretty savvy gardeners and they tell us the same thing - they continue to learn through Penn State University and from other gardeners as well.

This article is all about some new things we have learned in the past years that we want to share with you.

First, the banded woolly bear caterpillar has been an unofficial gauge of the severity of winter weather to me for most of my life. While I didn't make plans for a ski or snowmobile trip as a result of seeing lots of black on the woolly bear going into fall, it was certainly a consideration. I like snow, so I have always been delighted to see a dark woolly bear as the weather turns from typical summer to much shorter autumn days.

I learned by reading a past issue of Better Homes and Gardens that the color change is actually an indication of the caterpillar's age. The woolly bear is actually the larva stage of the Isabella tiger moth. I sort of liked to imagine he was a harbinger of winter weather but now I know the "rest of the story!"

Until recently, I firmly believed that leaving hummingbird feeders out after Labor Day might somehow be harmful to the hummingbirds, detaining the start of their migration south. I have honestly never left those feeders out to avoid interfering with that natural phenomenon. To the contrary, I read in a recent issue of

Birds and Bloom that their food source has no impact on migration, but rather the length of days/ amount of daylight drives them to move south at the appropriate time.

In fact, leaving those feeders out late in the growing season will supplement the natural nectar they sometimes prefer as blooming plants begin their decline to colder weather. Hummingbird feeders also supply energy for those birds migrating through that come from further north on a path to their winter homes in Mexico or Central America. They need to build up enough stamina to fly across the Gulf of Mexico as there are no rest stops over the water! Only the strong survive that trip.

Did you know that the average male Ruby-throated hummingbird weighs 2.5 grams? The American Nickel, or 5-cent piece, weighs 5 grams. The hummingbird often doubles its weight by going into its feeding frenzy prior to migration - keep those feeders out please!

A Master Gardener friend gave me several small rue plants at our annual plant exchange. She explained that this plant attracts the larval stage of the Black Swallowtail butterfly. I planted my rue in June and sure enough, in spite of their small size, the rue plants were covered with swallowtail caterpillars in August and September as predicted!

Most of us know that butterflies are a beneficial pollinator. People love to watch them in their gardens because of their delicate beauty. Once you experience them coming into your garden, you may also begin to wonder what happens to them in the wintertime.

Most butterflies are "residents" which means they winter over right in your garden. Some, like the famous monarchs,

migrate to warmer climates. The Monarchs go all the way to Mexico, but many migrating species go only as far as the Carolinas. A few of our very common butterflies that migrate are the Cloudless Sulphur, Painted Lady, Red Admiral, and the Common Buckeye. There are more than one hundred species of butterflies that have been reported in Pennsylvania, but exactly which ones you may see depends on the habitat needs of that species, and what your property has to offer.

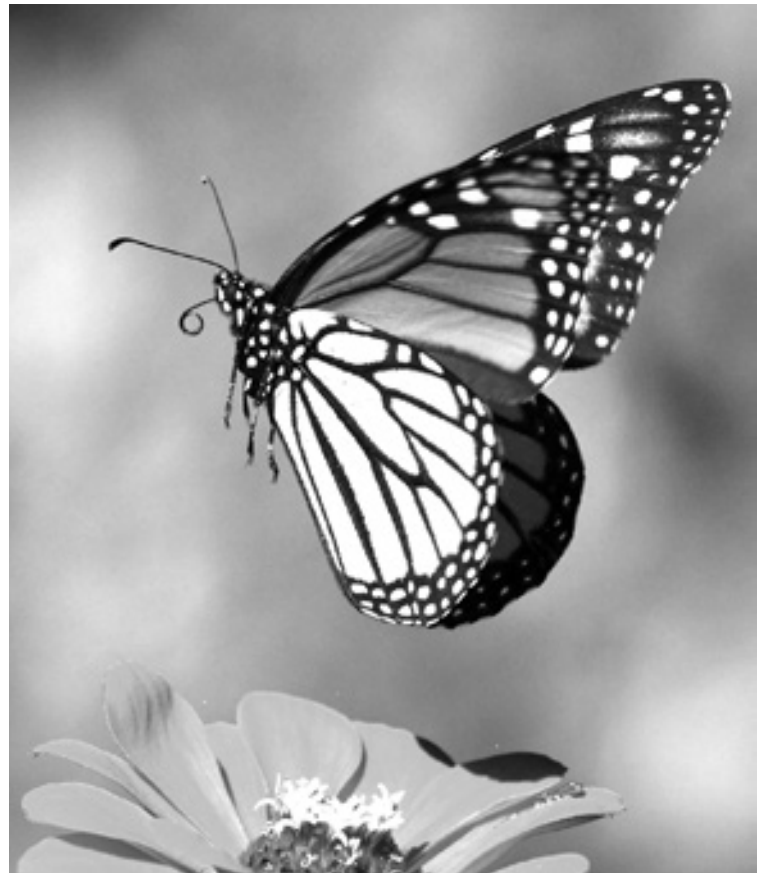
Almost everyone is familiar with the monarch butterfly. Its beauty is unsurpassed in the butterfly world. In recent years they have attracted a lot of attention because they are endangered. Their single host plant, Milkweed, is systematically being destroyed by the "progress" of modern civilization. Since the monarch caterpillar can survive on nothing but milkweed, and most people don't want Common Milkweed growing in their lawn, the monarch numbers have been diminishing at an alarming rate. Today, savvy gardeners are providing a section of Asclepius (milkweed) in their ornamental gardens, and also discovering Butterfly Weed, a very attractive member of the genus Asclepias.

Almost every school child can relate the story of how the monarch lays her eggs on the leaf of the milkweed plant. The egg hatches and the caterpillar (larva) eats the leaves of the milkweed. It then forms its chrysalis (pupa) which hangs by a thread until the adult butterfly emerges.

Every butterfly species will go through the same life cycle. What changes is the host plants that enable them to survive, and the form in which they survive the winter.

Our beautiful and very common Eastern Swallowtail butterfly is a resident. It goes through the same stages of metamorphosis - egg - caterpillar - chrysalis - butterfly, but it does not migrate. Shortly after it emerges from its chrysalis, it will mate, lay its eggs, and the cycle will begin again.

The Swallowtails may repeat this cycle



There are more than 100 species of butterflies that have been reported in our area, but exactly which ones you may see depends on the habitat needs of that species, and what your property has to offer.

at least two times during the season. As fall days become colder, any chrysalis will simply remain and the pupa within it will hibernate. Adult swallowtails will die in the cold weather, but the hibernating pupae will emerge from the chrysalis in spring.

Unlike the monarch, the eastern swallowtail will accept a variety of different host plants, most of which are trees such as Yellow Poplar, Black Willow, Black Cherry, American Hornbeam, Red Maple, Spicebush, American Elm, and Sassafras. Because it can accept all these different host plants, the Eastern Swallowtail is not a threatened species. In the wintertime, a very close examination of one of these trees may reveal a half inch long chrysalis clinging closely to the bark or tucked into some small crevice of the trunk. Here, it will stay until spring unless it is discovered and eaten by a woodpecker, crow, nuthatch, squirrel, or owl.

A close cousin of the eastern swallowtail is the black swallowtail. It looks very much like its cousin with the characteristic two tails, except it is black with some attractive blue dots across its lower wings.

The host plants of the black swallowtail are members of the carrot family, especially dill, parsley, and fennel. When the cold weather approaches, the black swallowtail butterfly attaches its chrysalis to a stick, a heavy stalk, or even the foundation of a building.

Some butterflies, such as the Eastern Tailed Blue, winter over as caterpillars. The Tailed Blue is a small butterfly which you may not have noticed because it tends to rest with its wings up, hiding the blue on the wings' upper side. It has a thread-like tail. This little butterfly uses clover and members of the legume family as host plants, and winters over as a tiny caterpillar hiding in the leaf cover near its host.

The Viceroy also winters over as a caterpillar. The viceroy is a monarch look-alike, but slightly smaller. You have to look closely to notice the difference because their markings are almost identical. For a host plant, the Viceroy prefers a willow, or a poplar tree. In the fall, the very tiny caterpillar, which looks like bird poop, wraps itself in a leaf of one of its hosts, and falls with it to the ground where it remains for the winter. If you own one of these trees and would like to see Viceroy's in your yard, think about this when you decide to rake or burn leaves.

The mourning cloak is an example of a butterfly that can actually hibernate in its adult form. It will crawl inside the crevice of a tree trunk or get under some loose bark to spend the winter. It is often called the butterfly harbinger of spring, since it emerges in its adult form and can be seen flying around on early, warm spring days. It is a large, dark maroon butterfly with ragged, cream colored edges on its wings. You may see it drinking the sap of oak trees, or sipping in mud puddles or animal manure.

Isn't it spectacular; the things we learn as gardeners! From woolly caterpillars and hummingbirds, to life cycles of many butterflies, gardening can be very exciting and interesting. It provides a great example of the wonderful and diverse gifts from nature and helps us to appreciate our world.

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

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THE MASTER GARDENER

Adams County home gardening essentials courses

Passionate about gardening? Me too! I'm always looking for more information on gardening, and this year the Adams County Master Gardeners are teaching a great series that will interest anyone that enjoys working with plants, soil, and design. This six week course will take you through the basics of many types of gardens, including best location, design, plant selection and plant needs for each garden area. Each week we will cover a particular type of garden in which you can glean information for your own yard. The gardens we will be discussing are water gardens, woodland and shade gardens, cottage gardens, container gardens and rain gardens.

Our water garden class will give you ideas on how to incorporate water into your yard. This could be development of a container water garden for your deck or patio, an in-ground water garden that can be incorporated into your yard and planting beds, or enhancement of a natural pond. Garden design and location as well and plant selection for these special areas will be covered.

Many of us have a shady spot or two in our yards, or we may have a natural woodland area that requires special attention. Shade gardens and woodlands can be very challenging, but also very rewarding when the right plants are chosen. This class will cover plants for woodland settings, including ornamentals and edibles, as well as plants for dry shade.

Cottage gardens are a particular style of garden. When developing a cottage garden, the designer will fill a space with lots of plant material, leaving very little empty areas. These gardens have tons of color, lots of plants and are very informal in design. Use of perennials is a main element in a cottage garden. This class will cover what types of plants to select, and how to care for those plants while maintaining the overall design.

While cottage garden design will focus on the yard space, container gardens will focus on just that – plants grown in containers. Many plants do very well in a limited space, including vegetables. When growing plants in containers, we must focus on the growing conditions even more so than we might in the garden. Understanding soil and plant care are imperative when gardening in this man-

ner. Many types of containers are available on the market today, and this class will discuss some of these options.

As we garden today, our concern often focuses on water quality and soil runoff. We are concerned now more than ever how we can be involved with solutions for storm water management, and no longer be the problem contributing to storm water. This class will cover why storm water matters to us and what we can do to manage it on our own properties. We will also cover native plants that work within the parameters of a rain garden.

In addition to storm water management, another hot topic and large concern is how to attract pollinator insects to our gardens. Without these pollinating insects, we would have a very limited diet, as these insect are the key to our food supply. This last class of the series will focus on the importance of pollinators and how we can attract them to our gardens.

Attending this series will give you the knowledge needed to develop many parts of your garden. Many garden spaces can be quite diverse in its soil, sun and uses. We look forward to helping you as you develop or maintain your natural areas.

These classes will be offered in two different locations.

At the Adams County Agriculture And Natural Resource Center, 670 Old Harrisburg Pike, Gettysburg, classes will begin on Wednesday, February 14 and continue for six weeks. The time will be 6:30 - 8 p.m.

At the Fairfield Mennonite Church, 201 W. Main Street, Fairfield, classes will be on Saturday, February 17 March 3, and March 17. The time will be 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Note these classes are every other week, with class times longer.

The classes at each location are identical to allow you more flexibility depending on your schedule and needs.

The fee for six classes is \$75. You may pay with check or any major credit card. To Register go to:

<https://extension.psu.edu/master-gardener-home-gardening-essentials-specialty-gardens> or call 1-877-345-0691 any weekday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Register early, as these classes will fill quickly. Registration deadline is February 7.

Small Town Gardener

Planning for... the winter garden

Marianne Willburn

When the holiday buzz was blissfully over, you probably looked around your surroundings with a calm eye and thought, "I'd like to have an [insert x] next year" or, "An x sitting in that corner would sure look fabulous" or, "Did you see the beautifully lit x on their house this year? Gorgeous!"

You then made a note to pick whatever x was during the clearance sales; or to look around in cheap junk shops for x; or galvanize yourself to finally buy x when you next saw it. In other words, you observed something during the season, made a note of how beautiful/useful/stunning it was, and waited for the next acquisition opportunity to arise.

This is exactly how I want you to think about your garden. In a just a couple months, spring will assault us, and bright, hypnotic colors and textures will come from every angle. It will be almost impossible to remember the times of the year that are dull and grey and threaten to have your gardener's license revoked for non-participation.

Books are fine (I've got thousands), but they cannot convey the 'AHA! moment that happens when you spy a winter or early spring bloomer for yourself and exclaim "Where have you been all my life!?" So it's time to *look around*, see what's blooming in the gardens of other gardeners, public gardens, and friends, and write them down for spring planting and a better future garden.

Yes, I know. You're not turned on by the winter garden. I was there once too, and in some ways, my California Girl spirit still chafes at the idea of staring at a hellebore in 24 degree weather and pretending I don't want to scream at the top of my voice "There is another way!"

But what about when that hellebore is nestled under the feet of a blooming paperbush (*Edgeworthia spp.*), and nearby the soft, dissected foliage of 'Soft Caress' Oregon grape (*Mahonia eurybracteata*) holds spikes of silver blue berries from yellow flowers borne in earliest winter?

Add a few crocus and a couple snowdrops and your winter garden has just taken on star power. Put the whole shebang near the front walkway, and so has your winter attitude.

Here's just a few of those attitude-adjusting early-early-spring bloomers that you may see gracing gardens near you. We'll start easy and work up to a little harder, zone-wise:

Lenten rose – (*Helleborus spp.*) Hellebores are a terrific place to start both because hybrids are becoming more and more popular (read: available), and they are an incredible garden survivor for shade or sun. 12" high with an 18" spread, their cup like flowers have been blooming for a few weeks now and will continue to bloom as winter comes to an end. Z4-9.

Witch Hazel – (*Hammamelis spp.*) – Forget about that forsythia bush taking over the back garden – a witchhazel is a well behaved small tree (10-20' on avg.) that bursts into flaming colors of red, yellow or orange, and does so with a sweet scent that perfumes the mid-winter air. Z3-9.

Winter aconite – (*Eranthis hyemalis*) – When you spy these bright, low growing yellow flowers with Elizabethan ruffs 'round their necks in someone else's garden, your first instinct will be to grab the trowel and wait for your host to turn his back. They seed prolifically and once you've got them in your garden, you'll have them for years to come. Z4-9.

Early daffodils – (*Narcissus* 'February Gold,' 'Tête-à-Tête) It doesn't have to just be about April when it comes to daffodils, nor about crocus when it comes to early bulbs. Planting a few clumps of the earliest daffodils can have you whistling spring tunes when winter winds are blowing. Z3-9.

Paper bush – (*Edgeworthia chrysantha*) We are always told that edgeworthia sits right on that edge in our Mid-Atlantic gardens, yet I and others grew this fabulous shrub right through the bitter winters of '13/'14 and '14/'15. Fuzzy white umbellate buds are held from late fall, and in the early winter, open into bright balls of yellow. Spring and summer foliage is velvety and sumptuous. One of my very favorites. Z7-9.

Wintersweet – (*Chimonanthus praecox*) The name says it all. A waft of wintersweet blossoms in January and February makes it possible to face the ice coating your driveway. A 10' x 15' shrub that works best in the background or against a warm wall. Z7-9.

Winter daphne – (*Daphne odora*) – It's common in warmer climates, but we Mid-Atlantic folks can grow this in-

sanely fragrant small shrub with a little bit of protection and an understanding that it could all end in tears. Drainage, drainage, drainage, morning sun, afternoon shade. That is most of the story. Let me know how it goes – I'm on year two with mine. Z7-9.

There are so many more, but as usual, I must stop short lest the eyes glaze over.

Taking some time right now to observe what you love and planting some of that this spring means that next winter you won't be wistfully wishing you had.

Marianne is a Master Gardener and the author of *Big Dreams, Small Garden*. You can read more at www.smalltowngardener.com or follow *The Small Town Gardener* on Facebook.

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COMMUNITY NOTES

ACEDC'S annual membership meeting

The public is invited to the Annual Membership Meeting of the Adams County Economic Development Corporation (ACEDC) on February 1 at Sidney Willoughby Run, to learn more about the county's economic development initiatives, the nonprofit organization's 2017 accomplishments as well as objectives for 2018.

"Overall, Adams County's economy has made progress over the past year," said Robin Fitzpatrick, ACEDC President. "Unemployment is at an all-time low

since 2007. At the same time, we have seen increased development and expansion of several key industries such as the plastics industry within the manufacturing sector and agribusiness within the agricultural sector. Ongoing land development plans assure continued growth and industry diversification. All are signs of a healthy economy."

"It is especially appropriate that we gather at Sidney Willoughby Run, one of Adams County's many thriving restaurants. We are

especially proud of their success, since we played a role in welcoming their flagship restaurant located in East Berlin," Fitzpatrick said.

Additionally, officials with both the AEA and the Adams County Office of Planning and Development (ACOPD) set a goal to meet with officials from every municipality and school board in Adams County during 2017 in order to educate, listen and gather feedback on each entity's mix of land use and development with the ultimate goal of expanding the county's tax base and economy.

Between 1996 and 2017, AEA has generated the following economic activity within Adams County, \$29.7 million+ in public investment via low-interest loans and grants from DCED and \$80 million+ in private investment via local commercial financing

ACEDC oversight is provided by a Board of Directors comprised of community and busi-

ness leaders, along with numerous committees and committee members. Funding is provided by several key sources including members, termed "Investors."

"People are members because they support economic development. They aren't members because of a benefit to themselves; they are doing it to help the community and Adams County. Giving to the ACEDC is different than other groups where there may be a benefit or reward to you personally," said Marty Qually, AEA Membership Chair.

To learn more about investing in ACEDC for 2018, call Robin Fitzpatrick at 717-334-0042, Marty Qually at 717-339-6514, or see adamsalliance.org and click on "Become an Investor."

"We are appreciative of the many individuals, municipalities, nonprofits and businesses who have already committed to being 2018 Investors. We appreciate

your support of Adams County's economic development, supporting current and future businesses of all sizes, their recruitment, relocation, expansion and ongoing support services," Fitzpatrick said.

The February 1 Annual Membership Meeting will be held at 5 pm at Sidney Willoughby Run, 730 Chambersburg Road, Gettysburg. Tickets are \$45 and include cocktails (cash bar available), networking, an update on ACEDC's activities, plus an array of hors d'oeuvres prepared by critically-acclaimed Chef/Owner Neil Annis. Annis returned home to open Sidney, after opening Compass, New York City, named "Best New Restaurant in New York City" by the Zagat Guide in 2003. In 2011, Restaurant Sidney East Berlin was awarded Best overall, Best Ambiance, Best Service, Fit for Foodies, Most Booked and Best Special Occasion Restaurant in the Harrisburg/Hershey area by OpenTable.

To RSVP for the February 1 event, please call 717-334-0042 or email your response to office@adamsalliance.org. The RSVP deadline is January 16.

The Adams Economic Alliance (AEA), is comprised of three organizations: The Adams County Economic Development Corporation (ACEDC), the Adams County Industrial Development Authority (ACIDA) and the Adams County General Authority (ACGA). For more information, see adamsalliance.org, or follow AEA on Twitter (@AdamsAlliance), Facebook (Facebook.com/AdamsAlliance) and LinkedIn (Adams Economic Alliance).



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COMMUNITY NOTES

Spring Pennsylvania Master Naturalist Training for the South Mountain Region

In the spring of 2018, Pennsylvania Master Naturalist is once again partnering with the South Mountain Partnership and Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve to prepare citizens to become volunteer leaders in their communities through natural resource conservation education, citizen science, and stewardship.

Pennsylvania Master Naturalist is a citizen volunteer initiative with three key components: an initial 55-hour volunteer training, annual volunteer service, and continuing education in the natural sciences.

Building Volunteer Leadership for Community-based Conservation

Master Naturalist volunteers design and pursue a wide variety of service projects from habitat restoration and native plantings, to nature walks and interpretative displays or publications on natural history, to water quality monitoring and supporting the natural resource conservation efforts of partnering organizations. Since 2010, Pennsylvania Master Naturalist volunteers in Southeastern Pennsylvania have: engaged in more than 14,000 hours of conservation service; contributed over \$330,000 in conservation value and impact to numerous regional partners; reached over

20,000 people through education and outreach initiatives; improved 600+ acres of habitat through stewardship service.

Once accepted into the Pennsylvania Master Naturalist program, participants begin by attending an initial intensive training. This natural history training includes 60 hours of classroom (weekday evenings) and field sessions (Saturdays). Following this training, participants will engage in 30 hours of service in the first year and 8 hours of continuing education in order to become certified as a Master Naturalist Volunteer. And, participants complete annual service and continuing education hours to maintain their status as Master Naturalist Volunteers.

Training sessions cover topics including local wildlife, forestry, aquatic ecology, geology, education & interpretation, South Mountain cultural history, and more!

Spring 2018 Registration Deadline is mid-January. Training Schedule at Strawberry Hill – Tuesdays, March 20 - June 12, 6 - 9pm. Saturdays - March 31, April 21, May 12, & June 2.

For additional information or questions, please visit the Pennsylvania Master Naturalist website or contact Ellyn Nolt at or 717-368-4899.



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HEALTH NOTES

Guide to lung cancer screening

Kelsey Shupe
Frederick Memorial Hospital

Lung cancer is the second most common cancer and the leading cause of cancer death in both men and women, according to the American Cancer Society. Every year, more people die from lung cancer than of colon, breast, and prostate cancers combined.

The American Cancer Society estimates that in the United States this year, there will be approximately 222,500 new cases of lung cancer, and 155,870 deaths from the disease. This type of cancer mainly occurs in older people; approximately 2 out of 3 patients diagnosed with lung cancer are 65 or older. The average age of diagnosis is 70. Men have a 1-in-14 chance of developing lung cancer, and women have a 1-in-17 chance, but the risk is much higher for smokers.

While these statistics may be scary, most lung cancers can be prevented since they are usually related to smoking or secondhand smoke. Less often, they are related to radon exposure or other environmental factors. However, some

lung cancers occur in people without any known risk factors, and it isn't clear whether these cancers can be prevented.

Commonly, lung cancers are at an advanced stage and have spread throughout the body when they are first found, which makes them difficult to cure. Thankfully, in recent years, doctors have found a test that can screen for lung cancer in high-risk patients. This test can find lung cancer much earlier and reduce the patient's risk of dying from the disease.

According to the National Lung Cancer Screening Trial, studies show that lung cancer deaths can be reduced by 20% when at-risk patients participate in a lung CT screening program. Locally, Frederick Regional Health System offers this screening program.

What are the risks and symptoms of lung cancer?

You are at risk for lung cancer if you have family history or are exposed to:

- Tobacco. Smoking is the leading risk factor for lung cancer, and about 80% of lung cancer deaths are attributed to smoking. Cigarette, cigar, and pipe smoking all increase

lung cancer risk. Secondhand smoke can also increase your risk.

- Radon. While radon is a naturally occurring gas, it is the second leading cause of lung cancer. Breathing in radon exposes your lungs to small amounts of radiation.
- Asbestos. Working in mines, mills, textile plants, shipyards, and places where insulation is used increases a person's exposure to asbestos, which increases the risk of both lung cancer and mesothelioma.
- Air pollution in cities is thought to increase the risk of lung cancer, although the risk is much lower than smoking.
- Previous radiation therapy to the chest increases your risk for lung cancer, especially if you're a smoker.

See your doctor if you experience any of these symptoms that might indicate lung cancer: A cough that won't go away or gets worse; coughing up blood or rust-colored phlegm; chest pain that gets worse with deep breaths, coughing, or laughing; hoarseness, weight loss and loss of appetite; shortness of breath, feeling tired or weak; or infections like

bronchitis or pneumonia that keep coming back or won't go away; new onset of wheezing.

If lung cancer spreads to other organs, it can cause: Bone pain; nervous system changes, such as headaches, dizziness, problems with balance, or seizures if it has spread to the brain or spinal cord; yellowing of the skin and eyes if the cancer has spread to the liver; or, lumps near the surface of the body if the cancer has spread to the skin or lymph nodes.

Some lung cancers cause syndromes, which are groups of extremely specific symptoms, these include:

- Horner syndrome can affect certain nerves to the eye and face. Symptoms include drooping or weakness of an eyelid, a smaller pupil in the same eye, reduced sweating in the same side of the face, and severe shoulder pain.
- The superior vena cava (SVC) is a large vein that carries blood from the head and arms back to the heart. Since it passes next to the upper part of the lung, tumors in this area can press on the SVC, causing blood to back up into the veins. This can

cause swelling of the face, neck, arms, and upper chest.

- Cushing syndrome – is caused when the adrenal glands to secrete cortisol. This can cause symptoms like weight gain, easy bruising, weakness, high blood pressure, and fluid retention.
- The Lambert-Eaton syndrome which causes the muscles around the hips become weak and patients may have difficulty getting up from sitting. Another issue is paraneoplastic cerebellar degeneration, which causes loss of balance and unsteadiness in the arms and legs. It can also cause trouble with speaking and swallowing.

What is FRHS' lung cancer screening program?

We offer a Low-Dose Lung CT Screening program to identify individuals who have an increased risk of developing lung cancer. This helps your health-care team develop the best follow-up care based on your results. This test is free for eligible patients; the Affordable Care Act requires that all insurers cover approved screening programs at no cost to the patient. The U.S. Preventative Services Task Force approved Low-Dose Lung CT Screening in 2014.

You and your primary care physician will each receive a copy of the results and recommendations based on the screening. Our multidisciplinary team of radiologists and thoracic surgeons will review all positive CT lung scans.

The screening test is performed with a low-dose spiral CT. The scanner rotates around your body, while you lie still on a table that passes through the center of the scanner. This scan provides detailed images of the inside of your body. A computer that combines x-ray images taken from various angles makes the images. It can be performed with one short breath-hold and takes approximately 7-15 seconds.

If abnormal results are found, your primary care physician will discuss them with you and make additional referrals. If a doctor finds something suspicious, more tests and treatments may be recommended.

Am I eligible for the FRHS program?

You are eligible to participate in the FMH Lung Cancer Screening program if you are:

- A current or former tobacco smoker who smoked at least 30 pack years. (To calculate pack years, multiply the number of packs you smoked per day by the number of years you smoked. For example, one pack a day x 30 years=30 pack years. Two packs a day x 15 years=30 pack years.)
- A current or former smoker who has quit within the last 15 years.
- Between 55-77 years old.
- Asymptomatic – no symptoms of lung cancer.

To learn more about our Low Dose Lung CT Screening Program located at the James M Stockman Cancer Institute, you can visit fmh.org/cancercare or call 301-694-LUNG (5864). Call today to schedule your free screening.

Dr. Greg Gagnon is a radiation oncologist and medical director of the CyberKnife and radiation oncology program at Frederick Regional Health System.

I've been working in oncology for 27 years.

Dr. Gagnon led the way to bring CyberKnife—the first and only robotic radiosurgery system designed to treat tumors—to the Frederick community. With this advanced technology and Frederick Regional Health System's affiliation with MD Anderson Cancer Network®, a program of MD Anderson Cancer Center, Dr. Gagnon and the oncology team are one step closer to reaching their goal: ending cancer.

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Local fallen firefighters memorial unveiled

After months of planning, the Frederick County Fire & Rescue Museum conducted a formal Dedication Ceremony to honor all fallen fire and emergency services personnel who died in the line of duty throughout the history of Frederick County. Nearly 200 people attended the ceremony to honor the twenty-three men and women who died while involved in the very act of serving others. Plaques with photographs (or Company patch logo for the few for whom no photos have yet been located) were unveiled during the service.

Past Museum President, Jim Deater, and his wife Joy Deater had the idea to do something special for the fallen fire and rescue personnel in the county, and decided that a memorial was the perfect solution. They realized that apart from a Granite Memorial with names in a small plaza at the Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Frederick, a place where photos with written insights regarding the nature of what led to the deaths of the fallen heroes didn't exist. Furthermore, there had never been a public ceremony for family members of the fallen. This memorial also stands apart from other memorials because it solely honors the fallen fire and emergency personnel from Frederick County.

Starting with known records from the local fire service, the Deaters spoke with families still in the area, called on local emergency services representatives to help, searched for obituaries, utilized Ancestry.com, and looked at area newspaper records and state records in order to compile a completely documented file of information for the memorial. This was an effort that took over eight months of concentrated efforts by the Deaters.

In some cases it was nearly impossible to locate some of the descendants; in fact, some families had no descendants remaining, or those living today knew very little. However, with some good investigative work and many laborious hours, the information

and proper contacts were pulled together. Time spent organizing the event in totality included locating photos of the fallen, compiling accurate details, following up with families, coordinating with various fire organizations locally and also at the state level, planning and coordination for the event.

Family members of the fallen, representatives of the fire companies who had a fallen member(s) and dignitaries - elected and appointed at all levels - were invited to attend the ceremony. Family members of the fallen received a Frederick County Flag, a red rose, programs and information on the Museum.

Of the twenty-three men and women honored during the ceremony, the following six were local:

Vigilant Hose

Company members

James "JEF" Fitzgerald - Date of death: January 10, 2013



Fitzgerald, age 70, was a past president of both the Frederick County Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association and the Vigilant Hose Company of Emmitsburg. He was instrumental in the construction of the new addition to the fire station and a staunch supporter of Vigilant Hose. Though he was no longer responding to alarms, he was still very active in the administrative duties and general upkeep of the department. After working at the fire station, Firefighter Fitzgerald returned home and advised he was not feeling well, when he collapsed in cardiac ar-

rest. He was transported by ambulance to Gettysburg Hospital where efforts to revive him were unsuccessful.

Terry Myers - Date of death: February 15, 1999



Myers, age 50, was operating the pump on Engine 64 of the Vigilant Hose Company at the scene of a brush fire at Mt. St. Mary's University when he collapsed and died of an apparent heart attack. Firefighter Myers' son and other firefighters attempted to revive him on the scene. He was transported to Gettysburg Hospital where attempts to revive him were unsuccessful.

Guardian Hose

Company members

Harry Root - Date of death: June 10, 1898

A large fire destroyed the Excelsior Mill in Thurmont requiring the services of Guardian Hose Company and other departments. The fire was essentially extinguished when a large boiler smokestack collapsed, striking Firefighter Harry C. Root of the Guardian Hose Company who died from his injuries.

Stanley Damuth - Date of death: July 24, 1928.

Damuth, age 21, was riding on the Guardian Hose Company engine responding to assist the Vigilant Hose Company of Emmitsburg on a fire at the William Bentz residence, about two miles southwest of Emmitsburg, when he was "hurled" from the engine and struck a road sign, crushing his skull. The engine was nearly on the scene. Despite efforts of



County Executive Jan Gardner, flanked by Frederick County Fire Chief Tom Owens and Mark Bilger, President of the Maryland State Firemen's Association, presented a Frederick County flag and red rose to family members of fallen firefighters.

firefighters to continue to fight the fire, the house was destroyed. Firefighter Damuth was the assistant postmaster of Thurmont.

Eugene McKissick - Date of death: December 4, 1967



While battling a barn fire on Motter Station Road near Rocky Ridge, McKissick was stricken with an apparent heart attack. He was transported by ambulance to Annie Warner Hospital in Gettysburg. It was reported in the Frederick News Post that he was conscious upon arrival at the hospital. He was 43 years old at the time of his death.

Douglas Finneyfrock - Date of death: June 21, 1973

Finneyfrock was responding to an alarm of the Guardian Hose Company when he lost control of his vehicle and struck a utility pole on Rt. 77 in Thurmont. The roadways were rain slick as a result of a thunderstorm. He was transported to Frederick Memorial Hospital by Thurmont Ambulance and was pronounced dead.

He served as trustee and driver of the Guardian Hose Company at the time of his death.

Nearly all costs for the memorial were covered by donations from businesses with minor costs covered by funds from the Museum and the Junior Fire Company #2 of Frederick. The Vigilant Hose Company helped by providing folding chairs and flags and provided apparatus as well as Fire-Police to assist with traffic control. Additional help was received from the Junior Fire Company, the National Fire Heritage Center, the State memorial in Annapolis, the Frederick County Volunteer Fire/Rescue Association, and the Department of Fire/Rescue Services and the County Executive's Office. Many thanks and gratitude go out to all of those that made this event so memorable and special for all those who attended.

It is safe to say that the Deaters and all those involved made the ceremony and the memorial truly special.

To see the memorial for yourself, visit the Frederick County Fire Museum located at 300B South Seton Avenue in Emmitsburg, open Saturdays and Sundays April through October from noon to 4 p.m. Currently on display are various artifacts from the United Steam Fire Engine Company No. 3 and the Frederick County Fire and Rescue Service, including a 1945 Ford-American Pumper, early Emergency Medical Services and Maryland Forestry Items, parade uniforms of the ladies auxiliaries, an 1800s "Old Lady" Hand Tub Pumper and much more.

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WWI NEWS REPORTS FROM THE FRONT

The Brest-Litovsk peace negotiations



While eager for peace, the Russian negotiators were appalled at the terms set by the Germans.

January 4

Peace Negotiations Broken Off

The Peace negotiations at Brest-Litovsk had been broken off by the Bolshevik government, owing to the German demand that Poland and Lithuania be granted their freedom.

The Bolshevik newspaper, *Investia*, said the Russian delegation, acting on unequivocal instructions from the Bolshevik authorities, took an uncompromising attitude. They said self-determination was impossible until the last German soldier had left the country. Further, they jeered the Germans, asking what they propose to do. They asked whether they intended to take Petrograd and feed three million starving folk, or disarm a revolutionary country in which every workman had a rifle.

Key elements of the peace terms presented by the Germans included:

Article 1 - Russia and Germany are to declare the state of war at an end. Both nations are resolved to live together in the future in peace and friendship on condition of complete reciprocity. Germany will be ready as soon as peace is concluded with Russia and the de-

mobilization of the Russian armies has been accomplished, to evacuate her present positions in occupied Russian territory insofar as no different interference results from article 2.

Article 2 - The Russian government, having in accordance with its principles, proclaimed for all people without exception living within the Russian Empire the right of self-determination, including complete separation, take cognizance of the decisions expressing the will of people demanding a full state of independence in separation from the Russian Empire for Poland, Lithuania, Courland, and portions of Estonia and Latvia.

Article 3 - Treaties and agreements, enforced before the war, are to become effective if not directly in conflict with changes resulting from the war.

Article 5 - The parties agree that upon conclusion of peace, the economic war shall cease. During the time necessary for the restoration of relations, there may be limitations upon trade, but regulations as to imports are not to be of a burdensome extent and high taxes or

duties upon imports shall not be levied.

Article 7 - The parties will grant one another, during at least 20 years, the right of the most-favored-nation in questions of commerce and navigation.

Article 8 - Russia agrees that the administration of the mouth of the Danube be entrusted to a European Danube Commission, without membership from the countries bordering upon the Danube and the Black Sea.

Article 10 - Parties are not to demand payment of war expenditures, nor for damages suffered during the war.

Article 12 - Prisoners of war who are invalid will be immediately returned. The exchange of other prisoners is to be made as soon as possible; the times to be fixed by a German-Russian commission.

The Russian delegation, upon its return from Brest-Litovsk, laid Germany's demands before the Council of Workmen's and Soldier's Delegates. The Council unanimously declared that the German peace terms were unjust. Even the most radical Bolshevik and the most ardent peace advocate have been aroused by the German position. Indications are that the Germans' attitude is harmonizing domestic differences and is convincing Russians that they must fight to save their revolutionary principles. Russia may quite possibly witness a revival of the war; if not in the most active of form, at least a defensive war, necessitating the retention of a considerable German force on the frontier.

The Turkish government has presented its terms for peace with Russia. They included: Russian evacuation of Turkish territory and the demobilization of the Russian Black Sea Fleet. Turkey, it is provided, is to retain her active army in consequence of the continuation of war against the Allies.

The Ukraine, meanwhile, appears willing to strike a bargain with the Germans. The Germans are willing to recognize the Ukraine on the basis that the Ukrainians supply Germany with foodstuffs and recognize the German sphere of influence in the former Russian territories now occupied by the Germans. Neither of these points is to Little Russia's taste, but if the Allies fail to help the Ukraine the Ukrainians may have to yield.

January 11

British Set Peace Terms

The British Prime Minister set forth Great Britain's war aims more specifically and at greater length than he's ever done before.

First among these was the restoration of Belgium and the reparation for the injuries inflicted. Next came

the restoration of Serbia, Montenegro and the occupied parts of France, Italy and Romania. France must have Alsace-Lorraine.

When the question of Russia was touched upon, the Prime Minister said that he would have been proud to fight by the side of the new Russian democracy, but now Russia can only be saved by her own people.

"Romania is to be protected," he said, and the British and other allies are with Italy and her desire for complete union of the people of Italian race into one nation. Of Austria-Hungary, he felt that while the breaking up of the Dual Monarchy was not part of the Allied war aims, it was impossible to hold for the removal of causes of unrest in that part of Europe, unless genuine self-determination was granted to the Austrian-Hungarian nationalities.

The Turkish Empire, he said, within the homeland of the Turkish race, with Constantinople as its capital, may be maintained, but the passage between the Mediterranean and the Black Sea must be internationalized, and Arabia, Armenia, Mesopotamia, Syria and Palestine are entitled to recognition of their separate national conditions.

Germany Prepares For New Western Offensive

The great question of the hour is where on the Western front the threatened German offensive is to take place. The latest reports, which seemed to be based on excellent authority, is that the Germans' objective is Calais. If the Germans could reach that port it would cut off the narrow passage between Calais and Dover, where their submarines have been unable to work and possibly force the British fleet into the open.

The expected German offensive will probably be their greatest assault, but the British and French armies can be relied upon to withstand the shock. Six weeks have elapsed since the first rumors of a possible great thrust in the West, which the enemy announced as imminent, began. By simultaneous activity at Verdun, the Germans could hold the French army where it would be prevented from helping the British and might even delay the American aid, which, it is assumed, would be extended first to the French.

Finland Declares Independence From Russia

Sweden's recognition of the independence of Finland was greeted with enthusiasm. Recognition by Denmark and Norway may be expected soon. Finland's new flag, a yellow lion on a red background, is already flying in many places. Hopes are expressed in many quarters that the United States will be the next to recognize Finland, but it is realized that any steps taken in this direction will have to be with the approval of the Allies.

Finland's prompt admission to the Scandinavian block has ensured the extension of the block clear from the North Sea to the suburbs of Petro-

grad, thus consolidating northern Europe into one closely linked organization, the voice of which to the outside world is unanimous.

Russians Hope Germans Will Bring End To Chaos

No Russian Christmas in 300 years has been celebrated with such tragic circumstances. Petrograd is full of dirt, disorder and crimes. Burglary, robbery and murder, in the most audacious forms, prevail to an extent heretofore unknown and there is no police or other authority in which to appeal to. The food situation is very critical and starvation appears to be staring the people in the face. The only bread to be had is black, gritty and underdone and some is composed of miller's refuse and mixed with straw. Potatoes are getting scarce and dear, while meat is a rare luxury. The wretched conditions of existence had been aggravated by blinding snow storms drifted by violent winds for three days and nights with temperatures at 14°F.

Russian affairs have become so desperate that only intervention of the Allies and the Germans can prevent a catastrophe. Help such as this can no longer be expected from the Allies. The disheartened Russians look to the Germans to put an end to the awful chaos in which the country now is involved.

Leon Trotsky, the Bolshevik Foreign Minister, is convinced that the Allied governments are hoping Germany will make an advantageous separate peace with Russia, so that Germany will more willingly surrender what the Allies want in the West. Just as Allied sabotage of the Stockholm Conference destroyed the last hope of rallying the old Russian army under Kernesky, so refusal to support Russia at a general peace conference tends to strengthen German opposition to Trotsky.

Meanwhile, a peace agreement has been signed between Russia and Bulgaria at Brest-Litovsk. According to the peace terms, Bulgaria gets to retain the territories she has won. This would not interfere with the peace between Russia and Bulgaria, however, in so much as the territory Bulgaria desires consists of parts of Serbia and Romania. The Bolshevik government has refused the peace proposal made by Turkey.

January 18

German Russian Peace Negotiations Resume

Leon Trotsky, the Bolshevik Foreign Minister, has returned to the peace conference at Brest-Litovsk saying that in order not to leave any possibility in the fight for peace unutilized, the Russian delegation accepted the demands that the negotiations be continued at Brest-Litovsk. Trotsky proposed that the present armistice between Russia and Germany be prolonged for another month. The Central Powers accepted the proposal.

It is the belief of many that the



On the cusp of knocking Russia out of the war, German attention was now focused on winning the war on the Western Front

JANUARY 1918



Having come to power promising to end the war, the Bolsheviks found themselves without a card to play in the peace negotiation with the Central Powers.

Central Powers, being assured that Russia will not be supported by the Allies at a general peace conference, are deliberately taking a more uncompromising position with a view of strengthening the military annexation elements within the German and Austrian governments, by showing the obvious trophies of the annexation policy. They know Russia cannot continue the war in the ordinary sense, except under desperate conditions. They know, further, that acceptance of Russia's peace terms would not be rewarded by a general peace. Therefore, they are doing their best to keep the frontiers of the Marxist revolution as far as possible from the frontiers of Germany.

Even after peace is signed, Russia will not be a peaceful neighbor and the Germans would prefer that the Baltic barons put down revolution in Courland then have the revolution spreading over their own borders. They know that as German troops leave the occupied territory the Russian revolution will come in.

Germany Rejects Allied Peace Terms

Germany's answer to Premier Lloyd George and Pres. Wilson will be given with the sword, according to the German Foreign Minister. The principle objection to Lloyd George and Pres. Wilson's peace terms of war is that they: "talk as if Germany was down and out, whereas," said the German Foreign Minister, "the fact is our military position was never better than today and we still have some surprises up our sleeve." Wilson's program about Alsace-Lorraine makes no sympathetic impression on the Germans who are absolutely against giving up that territory.

The German Foreign Minister said he knew the Russian delegation would come back to Brest-Litovsk. He said, "There is nothing else for them to do. Their tenure of power is based on Russia's demand for peace, and if they do not get peace for Russia, they will lose their jobs. That is why we felt confident they would talk business again."

"The negotiations," he said, "are progressing satisfactorily. We expect commerce to resume in full with Russia by spring. We have plenty of experts already waiting to go into Russia to help the worker organization."

Unrest Builds In Germany And Austria

The Germans are doing their utmost to stop fraternization at the front. The Germans are confiscating all copies of Russian newspapers printed in German that contain accounts of the Brest-Litovsk negotiations and other propagandist literature, for fear the unrest in the ranks of the Russian army will spread to the German army. Notwithstanding this, he adds, the German soldiers crawl across the Russian lines every night to obtain copies of Russian paper secretly.

A mutiny among submarine crews at the German Naval Base of Kiel resulted in 38 officers being killed. The mutiny is said to have begun by submarine crews, and subsequently to have spread to portions of the crews of cruisers stationed at Kiel. Although the mutiny was local, it shows the German naval men are dissatisfied, especially in the submarine service, as the number of boats returning to German ports is decreasing every month.

Meanwhile, it is reported that serious strikes, accompanied by rioting, have taken place in Vienna and in other cities throughout Austria. The troubles, it is asserted, are due to the prolongation of the peace negotiations at Brest-Litovsk, the continuation of the reduced bread rations - one half of the former allotment - and police measures against meetings of the workers.

January 25

Bolsheviks Stop Constitutional Assembly

The long-delayed constitutional assembly was opened in Petrograd on Saturday. On the first test of the strength, the Social Revolutionists defeated the Bolsheviks. M. Tchernoff, Minister of Agriculture in the Kerensky government, and the nominee of the Social Revolutionist Party for the chairman of the Assembly, won by a vote of 244 to 151.

The Constitutional Assembly, according to a proclamation issued by the Revolutionary government last March, was to issue fundamental laws guaranteeing the country the immutable rights of equality and liberty. Failure to call for elections to the Assembly was one of the causes con-

tributing to the downfall of the Kerensky government. The Bolshevik government issued a call for election soon after the success of the revolt last November. The elections were completed early in December.

An attempt to open the Assembly was made on December 12, but no progress was made, as the results of the elections were unfavorable to the Bolsheviks. The Social Revolutionists, of which party former Premier Kerensky was a member, gained the greatest number of delegates. A number of Constitutional Democratic delegates to the Assembly were arrested early in December by the Bolsheviks, who have been reported to be using various measures to gain control of the Assembly, even going as far as to call special elections to replace their opponents.

Much uncertainty existed as to what effect the convening of the new body would have upon the foreign and domestic policies of Russia. There have been indications from the Bolshevik side that the new body would be ignored by the Bolsheviks, and a new independent legislative body would be set up if the Assembly challenged the Bolshevik's power.

A declaration from the Congress of Workmen's and Soldier's Delegates, demanding that the Constitutional Assembly approve Bolshevik laws concerning peace and land, was applauded loudly by the Bolshevik delegates and booed by the Social Revolutionists.

The new chairman of the Assembly, Tchernoff, was one of the political leaders who attended a conference at Russian headquarters in November, to form a new government in opposition to the Bolsheviks. The hostile attitude of the Maximalists toward their opponents was evidenced by the insults hurled at Tchernoff by the Bolsheviks in the course of the sitting of the Assembly.

Tchernoff spoke for an hour, depicting in dark colors the conditions surrounding the meeting of the Assembly. "The country," he said, "is disorganized; the people deprived of liberty of person and of speech and menaced by famine." He said the peace negotiations being conducted would make revolutionary Russia a vessel of German imperialism and a tool of international capitalists, and called upon the assembly to refuse to submit to the dictatorship of the minority. Whereupon the Bolshevik members walked out of the Assembly and had it forcibly dissolved by troops under their direction on the ground of its counterrevolutionary sentiments.

The Bolsheviks are now hunting out the supporters of the Constitutional Assembly. Newspapers report the suppression of all non-socialist newspapers, while Red Guards are searching Petrograd for papers containing reports of the first session of the assembly, which are being destroyed.

Germans Give Ultimatum To Russia To Accept Peace Terms

"Russia must give up Courland and all the Baltic provinces or the Germans will resume military operations within a week," the German delegation at the Brest-Litovsk negotiations



Failing to win a majority in the Constitutional Assembly, the Bolsheviks abandoned all pretense of Democracy thereby setting the stage of 80 years of communist tyranny.

informed Russian representatives.

The secretary of the Ukrainian delegation gave out an account of the meeting. It says the Russians put a question to the delegates of the Central Powers as to what were their final peace terms. One of the German delegates replied by opening a map and pointing out a line, which they insisted should constitute the future frontiers of Russia: from the shores of the Gulf of Finland, to the east of the Moon Sound Islands, to the west of Minsk to Brest-Litovsk, completely eliminating Courland and all the Baltic provinces from Russia.

The Russians asked the terms of the Central Powers in regard to the territory south of Brest-Litovsk. The Germans replied stating that was a question upon which they would discuss only with the Ukraine. When the Russian member asked: "Suppose we do not agree to such a condition, what are you going to do?" The German Minister replied that: "within a week we will begin advancing."

The Russians then asked for a recess. The Germans declared it was the last postponement to which they would consent. The request was made by Leon Trotsky, who said he desired opportunity to lay the German peace terms before the Council of Workmen's and Soldiers Delegates.

Germans regard the Russian situation as being very critical, papers say

that the latest news from Petrograd shows that Bolsheviks' privacy is seriously threatened, and the question now arises as to whether it would be wise to negotiate further with men whom anarchy at any moment may sweep away.

German newspapers draw an extraordinary picture of the state of affairs on the Russian front. They declare the Russian front line is melting away through the desertions of full units whose officers have been disposed of or have fled. For weeks, material has been transported away, but much of it was abandoned and lies buried under the snow. Guns, especially those of heavy caliber, were often left in their positions while the supply of ammunition has almost ceased.

Meanwhile, the negotiations between the Central Powers and The Ukrainian People's Republic, has resulted in an agreement of a peace treaty and the war between the two has been declared terminated. The troops of both sides will be withdrawn, and arrangements have been made for the immediate resumption of economic intercourse and resumption of diplomatic and consular relations as soon as possible.

To read past editions of News Reports from the Front, visit the Historical Society section of Emmitsburg.net.

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HISTORY

The History of Emmitsburg

James Helman

Edited by the Emmitsburg
Historical Society

Part 10

Livery Stables

George Sheets Prior to 1840 was the pioneer liveryman; he had stables in the rear of Bennet Tyson's house, living in the house. Later, Jacob Moritz, Madison Fisher, Agnew & Jarboe, Uli Smith, Guthrie & Beam; it was their stables in which the fire started that caused the great conflagration of 1863; it stood where the Elder's stable stands. Jacob Smith, John Long, G. P. Beam, and Howard Row are the liverymen now.

Stone Cutters

Joseph Kelly lived south of the college; he did all the marble work until Frederick Meals came here from Gettysburg near 1860; later U. A. Lough, who owned the M. F. Shuff property, W. H. Hoke, Charles Hoke and A. Annan, now Hoke & Rider. We can understand why so many graves are unmarked; the stone cutters were few in the early days and no opportunity to get them; as to price, the cost must have been great, as men of means have very small tombstones.

Item: At one time a large post stood at the curb on the pavement of Lewis Motter, a beam poised in a slot on either side had a square platform to which was attached chains from the four corners, then centering at the end of the beam. It was a balance scale; 56 pound weights and smaller stood by for use in weighing iron and heavy articles; this was the scale before platform scales came into use.

Item: Miss Mary Knox lived where Albert Patterson lives; she was an expert on raising flowers; the lot of F. A. Maxell's house was her flower gar-

den; the older citizens can remember this genial old lady, as she freely gave to the young flowers from her great abundance, many of them rare.

Item: During the fifties a lottery office was conducted in the Barry room by Smallwood, agent; his sale of tickets was marvelous; like all these schemers blanks are the winners; the sellers get the prizes; the poor maintained this office for quite awhile. When 'hoping against a hopeless game' it died for want of patronage.

Pastimes

In 1790 society and the appearance of the town were much alike; everybody was fighting the wolf from the door; no time for style; yet every age has had its pastimes; one of these was the men rolling long bullets on the streets, pitching quoits and horse shoes was another amusement; the ladies amused themselves at the spinning wheel or the loom, or knitting stockings; later horse racing and card playing, twin brothers, became fashionable. The east end of Lowherds tavern, where the store-house now stands, erected by Joseph Danner in 1838, was the place reserved as a ball alley; here seventy-five years ago the young men enjoyed a game; amongst them Frederick Black stood first. On this spot the noted fight between Daniel Wetzel and Shocky took place; it was a naked hand fist prize fight; a large man and a small man, the large man a bully; Wetzel the lighter had the endurance and won; a short time after, Shocky died from the effects of the fight.

Picnics

Fifty years ago and earlier it was customary for the young men to invite the ladies to picnics, the men providing a large wagon, the ladies the provisions; they would go to Split Rock

usually and spend the day in conversation and dancing. It was a union regardless of creed or party. Where is the social relation of today compared with that of the bygone?

Lutheran Steeple

The rod on the Lutheran steeple was blown down near 1850; a sailor came along and replaced it; after finishing the work he straddled the ball and sung a sailor's song; a great crowd of citizens watched him from beginning to finish. This steeple had a fish about four feet put on when built in 1814, at the remodeling of the church and painting of the steeple. The committee decided to remove the fish; the town has been deprived of the only true weather vane they had; a fine relic of the past. Oh, that it were there again.

View of church and concrete walk

The former study of the Lutheran parsonage was removed and an avenue opened direct to the Church, and a concrete pavement made from the street to the church door. No improvement ever made in the town has met with such universal favor; the dark alley through which the congregation, now dead, traversed when living, and were carried when dead, has resumed its former position, a road away only. The fine scenic effect produced by this improvement shows the aesthetic taste of the pastor and council connected with him; give them the praise due. The church presents an imposing effect from the street; the steeple so unique, symmetrical and substantial, has stood the storms of over one hundred years, attesting the capability of men who did honest work.

The old board fence was removed from the cemetery front and a sub-



When one looks at the dirty, traffic clogged streets of Emmitsburg today, it's hard to imagine that at one time a horse and buggy could slowly meander down them.

stantial wire fence has been placed in its stead. The class of monuments recently erected in the cemetery far surpasses those of any other age.

This sturdy building was the provost marshal's office, Captain Schofield, when the Federal army passed through on the way to Gettysburg, also on its return; General Howard has his headquarters in the priest house, while General Steiner occupied the house now J. Stewart Annan's; whilst this army was passing the soldiers purchased all the tobacco in the town and all the whiskey they could get. One dealer sold hundreds of canteens at one dollar each, until the provost stopped it and put a guard there. Sunday morning after the fight at Gettysburg, Jenkins' Confederate Cavalry entered the town by daybreak on their retreat; when asked how the battle terminated they claimed the victory; soon they were off toward Mechanicstown, crossing the mountain through that gap to Hagerstown.

About ten o'clock Kilpatrick's Cavalry came dashing into town full charge, expecting to find the 'Johnnies' here; they had fled, they reported the full retreat of Lee's army. Kilpatrick was in pursuit of the 'Rebs' that passed through here. Oh, the commotion of that day; the church bells rang, but who heeded them, it was war times. Soon the army was on the move) the roads were full, the fields full (the roads were knee deep in mud). The hungry and dry soldiers ate all the bread and other eatables offered them; the people stood on the sidewalks with buckets of water to slake their thirst; many that passed through six days before did not return, they were either in the hospitals or their graves at Gettysburg. Capt. Wilcoxon shed tears when he told me of his great loss.

It was a day long to be remembered; when the Confederates entered the town they captured some prisoners which they carried with them. When the Union forces came

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HISTORY / OBITUARIES

they captured some rebs that they retained; the occasion will not be forgotten. Two men on Sunday morning went on the Lutheran steeple to see what was to be seen whilst the reb cavalry were in the town. When the cavalry stationed at the street pump saw them they raised their guns to shoot; the citizens assured them these men were citizens of the town and not signal corpsmen, and their lives were saved. Many inconveniences connected with the passage of the army could be mentioned. It is enough to repeat the words of General Sherman: "War is hell!"

Streets

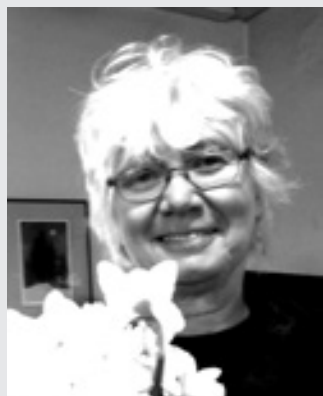
The streets of our town are in fine condition; do you think they were always thus? Ah, no! It is within the memory of some when the streets were mud holes, only good when the weather was dry; but oh! the mud in the springtime, almost impassable; the streets were hollow in the center, the rains washing them deeper after each rain. That is it continued until 1853, when the plank road was made from Westminster to the State line north; how blessed were we then, how smooth the road, how loud the noise of a horse and wagon; in a few years it had worn out, and the State lost sixty-five thousand dollars by an experiment, and we had a ruined street deeper in the middle than before. For eighteen years the street continued in this condition, until 1873, when a Board of Commissioners was elected, who did more real good for the town than any before; they spent the money filling up the center with large rocks, and finished with small stones and gravel; that is the secret of 'Our good streets;' all praise to that board. If future commissioners will add broken limestone then they will be complete.

Cholera 1853

The town was visited by cholera in this year; the first case was that of a black man, Isaac Norris; he was taken early in the night in a stable and died there; black men attended him, not knowing the disease; whether the doctor did or not, I am not prepared to say. Suffice it to say, he died during the night and was buried in Dr. Patterson's field. Shortly after another case occurred and the man died. Then it was noised about that cholera was in town and the scare commenced. Soon another and still another case, until the death list was twenty-three. It continued dry the entire summer and very hot until the middle of September, when a very severe thunder storm passed this way, drenching the earth and washing the surface as it had not been for many months. After this rain no new cases occurred; a few of the more prominent I mentioned dying: Dr. A. Taney and wife, Joseph Moritz, Mrs. Agnew, Eagle hotel; Rev. Thomas McCaffery, George Mentzer, Samuel Morrison; a great many recovered; some light attacks, purchased through J. W. Baugher in Baltimore, which answered very well; the trouble was to supply it with water. With the introduction of the mountain water all the former difficulties, were overcome; sufficient force is obtained to throw water over the highest building.

Part 11 next month

Brenda Broadbent



Brenda Bernhards Broadbent of Emmitsburg, passed away November 18, a week after her birthday, at Kline Hospice House in Mt. Airy. Brenda was a warm and caring person, and wore many hats in her life: teacher, librarian, entrepreneur, business owner, mentor, gardener, crafts person; a nurturer and lover of art and music. She was a lover of life and a wonderful wife to Richard, and beloved mother to Jane.

She was born on Armistice Day, 1950, to Fred and Betty Bernhards of Riverdale, MD, and grew up there. Teachers were Brenda's friends and she was a passionate student even in Riverdale Elementary school-days. She graduated from Bladensburg High School in 1968, where she was SGA president and inducted in the National Honor Society. In 1972 Brenda graduated from Western Maryland College where she studied English, deaf education and was involved in SGA, student religious life, campus clubs, and tennis! She was a favorite of the late Dean Ira Zepp, remaining in touch all his life.

While teaching at Fairmont Heights HS Brenda and Richard met through friends, and they were married at the Adelphi Friends (Quaker) Meeting on the Winter Solstice in 1973. A foot of snow fell that day, the sky clearing to reveal sparkling stars for the evening wedding. Always a spiritual woman, Brenda welcomed the ways of Friends in her life and the family attended Frederick Friends Meeting many years.

After employment at the MD School for the Deaf, Brenda worked many years as a librarian at the Laurel and New Carrollton branches of the Prince Georges County Library and completed a Masters of Library Science degree at U of MD. Jane was born in 1981 and Brenda enjoyed mothering a student as much as being one.

Always an avid creator of crafts and art she developed a deep interest in calligraphy, taking lessons with lifelong friend and mentor Louise Megginson. Early in the 1980's she founded Paper and Ink Arts, a premier calligraphers supply store. When the family moved to Emmitsburg, the business became

her fulltime work and for 30 years she and her team shipped books and supplies to calligraphers all over the world. She was especially popular at the annual international calligrapher's conferences where she freely shared her expert knowledge of calligraphic tools, supplies and techniques, and made hundreds of friends doing so. In 2003 she authored Parallel Pen Wizardry, a definitive monograph on uses of the Parallel Pen, previously unimagined even by its manufacturer.

Her business was sold in 2011 and Brenda was glad having more time to develop her own art and spend time in the flower and vegetable gardens she loved so dearly, though still teaching calligraphic styles at conferences across the country, and mentoring the new owners of the business. Outgoing and smiling beautifully, she was friendly to all, and the love of our lives.

In April 2016 Brenda was diagnosed with ovarian cancer. She persevered through surgery and chemotherapy with the same spirit she brought to art and gardening. Remission in summer 2017 was a precious gift to her and the family. But when cancer returned it did not respond well to treatment.

In addition to Richard and Jane, Brenda is survived by sister Linda Antaya and husband Rick, of Mequon, WI, and niece Melanie and family, nephew Michael; brother in law Phil Broadbent and daughter, Amy, sister in law Bonnie Esposito and husband John.

A memorial service in the manner of Friends is planned for January 14, 1 pm, with Quaker worship starting at 1:30, at Thorpewood, on Mink Farm Rd., Thurmont. Refreshments will follow. RSVP to Richard or Jane by mail or email.

Betty Jane Reaves



Betty Jane Reaves, 92, of Emmitsburg, died on Saturday, December 16, at the Kline Hospice House in Mt. Airy. Born May 6, 1925 in Fairfield, she was the daughter of the late Charles Edgar and Mary Alice (Bowling) Rohrbaugh. She was the devoted wife of the late, John Rollins Reaves, Jr., who died July 20, 2012. She was also predeceased by a son, Gary Rollins Reaves, who died June 28, 1978.

She is survived by her son, the Rev. Ronald E. Reaves, and his wife, Lucretia, of Frederick, a brother, Herbert Rohrbaugh, Sr. and his wife, Mary, of Emmitsburg; three grandchildren, Pamela Miles and her husband, Randy, of Williamsport, MD; Bradford Reaves and his wife, Andrea, of Winchester, VA, and Gregory Reaves of Albion, PA; and great-grandchildren, Delaney and Jordyn Miles, Noah Reaves and Chailene and Kristiauna Reaves. She is also survived by a sister-in-law, Bobie Jean Reaves of Lake Mary, FL, and numerous nieces and nephews.

She is appreciatively remembered by several close friends, neighbors and caregivers, especially Denise Sauvageau (who provided untold hours of love and care), Glenn Higgs (who helped Betty and her late husband,

John, in numerous ways.) and Lee Joy. Appreciation is also extended to Frederick County Hospice caregivers and the staff at Kline Hospice House; also to caregivers, Judy Beall, Lydia Kelly, and Donna Willoughby; and the kindnesses of her neighbor, Tom Wilhide and next door neighbors, Patrick and Patricia Callery.

On April 17, 1945, Betty and her beloved husband, John, were married in the parsonage of Calvary Methodist Church, Frederick, MD, by the late Rev. Franklin Haas. They were married for 67 years.

She was a devoted mother, grandmother and great grandmother and friend to countless folks. She was a lifelong member of Elias Lutheran Church in Emmitsburg. She enjoyed reading devotional books, loved Country & Western Music and has kept personal diaries since the 1980's. During her husband's career as an electrician and appliance store businessman, she worked tirelessly as a self-taught bookkeeper. Betty was a blessing to all who knew her.

A Service of Remembrance and Celebration of her life was Wednesday, December 20th at Elias Lutheran Church in Emmitsburg, with her pastor, the Rev. Jon R. Greenstone officiating. Interment was in the Elias Lutheran Cemetery. Donations in memory of Betty Jane Reaves may be made to Elias Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 465., Emmitsburg, MD 21727, or Hospice of Frederick County, 516 Trail Avenue, Frederick, MD 21701. Online condolences may be expressed to the family at www.myersdurborawfh.com.

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MOM'S TIME OUT

Traveling with kids

Mary Angel

Can you believe it is a new year already and 2018 is at that? Before we know it spring will be here and then summer. The older I get the faster time flies. I have a lot of friends who are already planning their spring get-aways and family vacations. Several of them have asked how we manage to drive to Florida without the kids going crazy or driving us nuts that long in the car. I am here to tell you that a 15 hour drive with 4 kids isn't for the faint of heart. I am also a big proponent for driving to vacation IF you can save a substantial amount of money.

That being said, if you aren't going to save a lot of money by driving then most definitely I would encourage you to fly. If driving will put a good amount of money in your wallet toward upping the vacation fun then I am here to give you some pointers on making the drive a little more bearable and maybe even fun. Let's start

with the elephant in the room... electronic babysitters. I am certainly not a fan of using electronics all of the time to occupy your children (my definitely use them more than I would like). When you are talking about a 15 hour car ride I see no harm in some tablet time and maybe a movie or two. My kids have Kindles so they can play games, watch movies and read books. Those activities can take up good chunk of the drive, but remember to space them out. I almost forgot to tell you that I buy or rent a new, never before seen by my family movie for each trip. It doesn't have to be new, just never seen.

Along the same line as the tablets or portable televisions are the old, discarded handheld systems and their nostalgia value. Although my kids seem to have outgrown the old systems, when we are on a long drive and we bring them back out it is like they are brand new again. Maybe that is because they haven't played them in forever and a day



or it is their nostalgic quality. I am not sure why but I really don't care as long as they are occupied for a period of the drive and I am not hearing a chorus of "are we there yet?"

The next thing to consider is nap time. No matter what age your kids are they either nap or given the right circumstances they will sleep in the car. We always chose to leave in the early am. Sometimes it is beneficial to go to bed a little early so you can get up around 3 or 4 in the morning and start the drive. The kids may be too excited to sleep when you start the drive but eventually the early rise time will catch up with them and you will hear the gentle sawing of logs coming from the back seat. On a side note I must stress that you make sure the driver is well rested. This

little trick has worked out very well for our family.

The last category of entertainment I am going to offer is a more thought provoking, hands on approach to travel. For our last trip I went on line and found tons of printable activity sheets and made a couple of my own. There are a multitude of on-line game makers where you can put in your own (maybe themed) information and create word searches and other puzzles for the kids to work on. Themed games and puzzles are especially fun if the kids don't know the final destination. You can also find pre-made versions of these same games and also crossword puzzles. If you can't find the game creators but have excel then just make your own word search.

I also laminated several games

that they could use dry erase markers on and replay as many times as they would like. These games include a sheet of tic tac toe, hangman, battleship and the dot game. You can also go to the store and buy many different books for them to work in, including coloring, word search, crosswords, create a face, stickers, etc. While you are considering all of these books and activities don't overlook travel sized games. Most of them are small and magnetic, so you don't lose the pieces. I made my girls a Disney guess who games with magnets and a cookie sheet base. This game could also double as a memory game. I also made up themed questions to play Would You Rather. This was one of their favorites and caused a lot of giggles.

I have always made 2 travel bags for each child (one for going on vacation and one for coming home). In addition to the games and electronics are always some of their favorite small toys, a stuffed animal to sleep with on the trip and snacks. Speaking of snack I found the coolest idea for our last trip. I bought some of those divided plastic trays with lids and washed and dried them well. I adjusted the size of the sections to accommodate different snack. There was a huge variety of snacks including nuts, M&Ms, gummies, granola bars, cheese puffs, chips, raisins, and many more. You can also have refrigerator snacks in a cooler that include cheese cubes, veggies and dip, and anything else your kids would like. The key I have found is to keep them small. That was the simplicity of the snack tray, my rule was one square per snack and they were already pre-portioned.

Some other items to make the trip a little smoother would be napkins, a cooler of drinks, tissues, paper towels and a trash can lined with a lot of bags. When you stop for gas grab the top bag and throw it out to reveal a fresh bag underneath. My best advice would be to have fun and make the best of it. Above all else remember you are making memories that will last a life time.

To read past editions of Mom's Time Out, visit the Author's section of Emmitsburg.net.

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Baby it's cold outside!

Kay Hollabaugh

I personally love winter. Perhaps it's because for us – as growers/farmers – there's a bit of a respite from the long, hard (often very hot) days of spring, summer and fall! But I'm also inclined to think I like winter because of the different type of foods that I prepare – and enjoy – in the winter months. Although I love the ease of grilling meats and steaming yummy vegetables in the summer, I equally enjoy the wonderful smells that come from my oven and crockpot in the winter! And how to describe the smell of baking bread? Heavenly is the word that comes to mind!

Also – the month of January is often touted as the month for new beginnings. It's a new year, after all! I tend to bunker down and CLEAN! I'm a "pitcher" (my husband is a keeper so it leads to some interesting conversations!) and I try to go through piles of recipes and cookbooks – pitching what I haven't touched in ages!

Therefore, my first column in the Emmitsburg Journal will boast some of my family's very favorite recipes – proven to be good for heart and soul type recipes – that have been in our family for generations. And the reader must also know that my mom passed away this past October – at the ripe 'ole age of 100! The recipes are hers and she would be SO tickled to know that I am sharing them with you. I hope you enjoy them as much as our family has enjoyed them over the years.

Filled Meatloaf

Ingredients

- 3 Lb. Ground Beef, Lean
- 3 Eggs
- 1 ½ to 2 C. Bread Crumbs
- 1 C. Milk
- 2 Tsp. Salt
- ¼ Tsp. Pepper
- 1 Loaf Day-Old Bread, Cut into Small Pieces (Stale bread is best!)
- 1 C. Butter
- 1 Medium Onion, Diced
- ½ to 1 C. Celery, Diced

Preparation directions:

In a large bowl, hand mix the ground beef, eggs, bread crumbs, milk, salt & pepper. Put half of the mixture in the bottom of a 9x13 pan. Press into the pan. In a large saucepan, melt the butter and saute onions and celery until soft. Add the bread and stir to combine. Put filling mixture on top of the meat and pat down. Add remaining burger mixture and flatten with hands to cover the bread. Bake at 350 for 45 minutes, or until ground beef no longer produces pink when poked.

Baked Apples

Ingredients

- 5 Golden Delicious Apples, peeled, cored and pared
- 2 T. Tapioca
- 3 T. Butter
- 1 Tsp. Cinnamon
- Cider or Water

Preparation directions

Prepare your apples and finish by cutting in half, and placing in baking pan with cored side up. Into the hole created by coring the apple, place the butter, tapioca and cinnamon – equally among all the apples. You may add just a bit of cider or water to the bottom of the pan. Bake for about 15 minutes and then turn the apples over. The goo formed in the cavity will now be in the bottom of your pan and you can scoop it up and over the apples. Bake until done. Entire process – using golden delicious apples – should take about 30 to 45 minutes.

Mom's Apple Fritters

Ingredients:

- 2 Apples, peeled and diced fine
- ½ C. Flour
- ½ Tsp. Salt
- 1 Egg
- ½ C. Milk
- ¾ Tsp. Baking Powder

Preparation directions:

Mix all ingredients together and drop by spoonful into hot, lightly greased griddle or fry pan. Brown

quickly on both sides and sprinkle with powdered sugar before eating. This was a family favorite. One batch was NEVER enough.

Hot Milk Cake

(Mom grew up in the depression and would comment that this was a relatively inexpensive cake to make as her family farmed and she had the butter and eggs at her fingertips!

Ingredients

- 4 Eggs
- 2 C. Sugar
- 2 ¼ C. Flour
- 2 ¼ tsp. Baking Powder
- 1 Tsp. Vanilla
- 1 ¼ C. Milk
- 10 T. Butter

Preparation directions

Beat eggs at high speed until thick and light in color. This should take about 5 minutes. Gradually add sugar, beating until mixture is light & fluffy. Add combined flour and baking powder with vanilla. Beat at low speed until smooth. Heat the milk and butter just until the butter melts, stirring occasionally. Add to batter until combined. Bake in a 9x13 inch pan at 350 degrees for about 40 minutes or until a toothpick inserted comes out clean. Serves 15 to 20.

Mom's Fried Chicken

Mom swore by using an electric fry pan – so I do too! If you don't have one, I'd say a large skillet on the top of your stove would work.

Preparation directions

Spray Pam liberally on bottom of pan. Set pan to 340 degrees. Roll chicken in flour. Put in hot pan and salt. It will brown on one side in about 10 minutes. Turn and brown the other side. Turn fry pan to 280 degrees. Just before serving, turn heat back up to brown the chicken. Allow about one hour, depending on how much you're frying at a time.

Kay Hollabaugh is a 2nd generation owner of the family business Hollabaugh Bros., in Biglerville, PA.



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LIBRARY NEWS & EVENTS

Blue Ridge Free Library

Standing Events

Monday- Lego and Wee Build Creation night!!! Let your imagination show its genius! All ages welcome. From 4 - 5:30 p.m..

Wednesday – Coffee club in the community room from 4 - 5:30 p.m.! Mingle with the gang for coffee, tea, puzzles, board games, coloring books, etc. Food donations appreciated.

Wednesday – VITT (very important teens and 'twens) night. The community room is reserved for teen use from 6 -7:30 p.m. Just hang out or play Wii, play board games, do puzzles, eat snacks, watch movies, make movies, etc.!

Saturday - Join us at 11 a.m. for Story and Craft Hour and all of its festivities! What could be better than a great book, a good snack, and a fun craft?

Upcoming Special Events

Jan. 4th our new Adult Reading Group will be meeting at 6 p.m.. New members welcome.

On Jan. 9th we will have our first scherenschnitte get together of the New Year with Bill Hammann. New members are welcome, old members are appreciated. Please bring your knives and boards if previous students. Younger children must be accompanied by an adult. Makes a great family project!

The Digital Graphics Club will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Jan 10th and Jan. 24th. Come to learn or come to help! We will be creating new graphics, animated and static, for our digital sign.

Deadline for sign up and fee payment for our "Grow a Groundhog" workshop and story time is Jan. 11th from 4:30-5:30 p.m.. Space is limited to 12. Sign up at the library. \$5/child, ages 4-12

On Jan. 11th we will be showing the FREE family movie "Despicable Me 3", rated PG. Movie starts at 6 p.m.. "Gru meets his long-lost charming, cheerful, and more successful twin brother Dru who wants to team up with him for one last criminal heist."

Blue Ridge Summit Free Library will be closed on Jan 15th in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. day.

The Summit Stitches Quilt Club is meeting on Jan. 16th at 5:30 p.m. New members and new projects always welcome! Any skill level may attend.

Jan. 17th birthday bash for Nancy Bert in the community room from 4 -6 p.m.! If you didn't get a chance to say thank you for all of her years serving the community in December, here's your chance.

Join us on Jan 18th from 4 -7 p.m. for a Winter Accessories and Gift Swap at the Library. Bring your new or gently used winter accessories (hats, scarves, gloves, etc...) and any new gift you wish to exchange for the swap.

Our new Fantastical Fables and Films from Far Away club is meeting on Jan. 22nd at 6 p.m.. Movies, graphic novels, books, and cool crafts will be showcased.

The free adult movie "Dunkirk", rated PG-13, will be shown on Jan. 25th at 6 p.m.. "Allied soldiers from Belgium, the British Empire and France are surrounded by the Ger-

man Army, and evacuated during a fierce battle in World War II."

On Jan. 30th we will be holding our second Noah's Ark Animal Workshops. "Grow A Groundhog" and read a story with us from 4:30-5:30 p.m. at the library. Space is limited to 12. Sign up at the library by Jan. 11th. \$5/child, ages 4-12.

Watch the free movie classic "Groundhog Day", rated PG, starring Bill Murray on Feb 1st! "A weatherman finds himself inexplicably living the same day over and over again. " Movie starts at 6 p.m.. Start your Groundhog Day celebrations with a smile!

Frederick County Library Events

Emmitsburg Programs

Caregiver Connection & Coffee Break (Adult) – Jan 3, 11 - 11:30 a.m.. Network with other caregivers and learn about childcare resources. Refreshments for adults and playtime for children provided.

Homeschool Connection (Grades 1-5) - Jan 3 – Lego WeDo, Jan 17 - Winter Books and Art, Feb 7 - Library Olympics, Feb 21 – Cubetto. Register at 301-600-6329 or FCPL.org.

Legos WeDo Explorations (Grades 2-5) - Jan. 6, 11 – noon. Explore science through robot-based learning with LEGO(R) WeDo. Participants will engineer, code, and experiment. Register For Event at 301-600-6329 or FCPL.org

R.E.A.D.® with Wags for Hope (Grades K-5) – Jan. 18, 5 - 6 p.m.. Children read to Reading Education Assistance Dogs.

Winter Books and Art (Grades K-5) – Jan. 20, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.. Winter stories and a birch tree art project. Register for Event at 301-600-6329/FCPL.org

DIY Lava Lamps (Grades 6-12) - Jan. 20, 1 - 2 p.m.. Build a lava lamp using household ingredients.

Resume and Career Coaching Workshop (Adult) – Jan. 23, 10:30 a.m. – noon. Resume, job-seeking, and interview tips and tricks from a professional career coach. Snow date 1/30.

Thurmont Programs

School Skills for Preschoolers (Ages 3-5) - Tuesday, Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, 1 - 1:30 p.m.. Practice school-readiness skills with cutting, tracing, play, and other literacy activities.

Hello Holidays Art Series: Paint A Glass Ornament (Adult, Teens) - Jan. 3, 7 - 8:30 p.m.. Artist Michele Maze of Seven Dragonflies Studio provides hands-on instruction to help you create a holiday ornament on glass. All supplies provided. Register also for additional workshops to be held February 7. Register for event at 301-600-7212 or FCPL.org

Introduction to Role-Playing Games (Grades 4-10) - Jan. 6, 2:30 - 4 p.m.. Learn the basics of table-

top role-playing games and play through a short adventure.

Teen Art Academy (Grades 6-12) - Jan. 8 & 9, 1 - 2:30 p.m.. Learn printmaking and stamping techniques to create a masterpiece. Register for event at 301-600-7212 or FCPL.org

Thurmont Friends Book Club (Adult) - Jan. 8, 7 - 8:30 p.m.. Hosted by the Friends of the Thurmont Regional Library and open to adult readers in the community who are interested in discussing books. Contact the Thurmont Regional Library at 301-600-7212 for information.

Tinkercad and 3D Printing (Grades 5-12) - Jan. 11, 6 - 7:30 p.m.. Two-part series. Jan. 11 - Learn the basics of Tinkercad to create your design. Jan. 13 - 3D print your design!

Chess Club (All Ages) - Jan. 13, 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.. Beginners to advanced players welcome. Learn, play and sharpen your skills.

Wii Winter Party (Grades 6-12) -, Jan. 18, 3 - 4 p.m.. Play Wii, enjoy refreshments, and win prizes.

Backyard Bird Feeders (Grades K-5) - Jan. 20, 11 - 11:30 a.m.. Help the birds in your yard survive the cold winter weather by making a backyard bird feeder! All materials provided.

We Must Now Return to Virginia: Robert E. Lee's Retreat from Gettysburg (Adults) - Jan. 22, 7 - 9 p.m.,

Local history discussion on the retreat of Lee and his troops through Northern Frederick County presented by Jonathan Weller from the National Park Service. Snow date is Jan. 29 at 7 p.m..

Fun With Magnets! (Grades K-5) - Jan. 25, 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.. Explore magnets with games and crafts!

Fun With Magnets! (Grades K-5) - Jan. 26, 3 - 4 p.m.. Explore magnets with games and crafts!


R.E.A.D. with Wags for Hope (Grades K-5) - Jan. 27, 11 – noon. Children read to Reading Education Assistance Dogs.

Winter Carnival (Ages 0-10) - Jan. 29, 11 – noon. Activities, games, and prizes that are sure to chase away the winter doldrums.

Curious Minds: Spending Less, Eating Better (Adults) - Jan. 29, 2 - 3 p.m.. Debbie Rhoades, Extension Educator from University of Maryland Cooperative Extension, shares money saving strategies to start the New Year with better eating habits for less money.

Lego Challenge: Mysterious Landmarks (Grades K-6) - Jan. 30, 2:15 - 3 & 4:15 - 4:45 p.m.. Discover mysterious landmarks from around the world, then build your own!

GO! GO!! GO!!!



Resume & Career Coaching Workshop

Emmitsburg Branch Library
300 South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg MD, 301-600-6329

Tuesday, January 23, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Resume, job seeking, and interview advice from a professional career coach. Attendees will leave with practical information to help them find their next job.

Snow date: Tuesday, January 30

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SCHOOL NEWS

Why I am running for the Board of Education

Edison Hatter

My name is Edison Hatter, I am an eighteen-year-old senior at Catoctin High School, and I am the first candidate to file for the 2018 Frederick County Board of Education election. I have often been asked to explain my reasons for running and it is a question that I enjoy reflecting on. My original desire to become involved with the Board of Education was sparked just over a year ago when I had the opportunity to run for the Student Member position on the board. Despite not winning the election, I learned a lot about the board and the role that they played in the school system. I also had the opportunity to travel around the county and interact with students and teachers of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds. As a result of this experience, I was inspired to explore the possibility of running for the board in

the 2018 gubernatorial elections.

I have received mixed support from both family and friends. While some were completely on board with the idea, some had some concerns about my age, experience, and time management. The concerns I heard were very important to me and I explored each of them before I officially filed for the election.

I found that my answer to the age and experience concern was essentially the same. Competence is competence and knowledge is knowledge, regardless of whether it comes from an eighteen-year-old or a 50-year-old. Over the past few years, I have researched the Frederick County Public School system extensively to learn as much as I could. At the end of the day, I am confident that when the Board of Education debates come around, I will be able to demonstrate that I am as legitimate of a candidate as anyone else. As for the time man-

agement question, I admit that it will be difficult to manage my commitments to school, the Board of Education, and other responsibilities. At this point, I have only applied to the University of Maryland. If that is where I end up going, I should have little trouble getting back to Frederick for Board functions. As most events occur on Wednesdays, I plan on ensuring that I don't have any classes that will conflict with these meetings. At the end of the day, even more mature members on the board have to balance their time to ensure they can attend all board functions. Just because I am younger doesn't mean my time management will be different than any other member currently serving on the board.

I have had the privilege of working with many amazing students in the county over the years. I volunteer in the Kindergarten department at Mother Seton School, I'm

coaching a third to fifth grade girl's basketball team, I've spent time at Thurmont Middle School helping with Math day, and I spend time with high school students at Catoctin every day. While running for the Student Member position on the board, I created a cabinet composed of one student from each of the ten high schools in the county. Through them, I was introduced to so many incredible students and teachers all over the county. They are the reason why I am running for the Board of Education. I have personally witnessed the flaws of the Frederick County Public School system and I want the opportunity to solve them. While there are many issues that I find to be very important, the top two that I will base my platform on are class size and standardized testing. Class sizes are growing all around the county at an alarming rate. It is very disappointing that the board didn't seriously consider a plan last year to de-

crease class size by hiring more staff. Standardized testing is another major issue in the county. Our middle school students take over twenty standardized tests a year on average, while our high school students are required to take dozens of benchmark exams. Even our preschool students take six standardized tests on average. Standardized testing is a state level issue and my hope is to have the Frederick County Board of Education make a presentation concerning standardized testing to the State Board of Education.

Over the upcoming six months, I will be discussing my thoughts on important issues in the school system. Next month's topic will be class size and number of faculty members in each school. Additionally, I will be holding a number of fundraisers in the coming months. The first one is tentatively scheduled for the middle of January. Follow @HatterForBOE on Twitter to keep up with my campaign.

Happy anniversary to me

Mike Bunitsky
Frederick County School Board

It's been just a year since I was sworn in as a member of the Board of Education for Frederick County Maryland. My first year on the Board has been fast paced and never boring—we jumped right in with the complexities of a hacked computer system and moved on to the budget, negotiations with our staff, teachers and administrators and to an issue that is always controversial—redistricting.

One key task of a public servant is to listen to the public. Listening involves reading email, letters, and hearing public comment at meetings. Before I joined the Board I would often speak during public comment to inform them of the administrations position on issues so I was accustomed to the speaking part. Now I am learning about the listening part. Most evenings at the Board we hear multiple concerns voiced during the time allotted to public comment.

Our latest meeting on December 13 is a good example of the variety of issues brought to the Board. Representatives from the Frederick City Neighborhood Advisory Council third district (NAC 3) brought concerns about traffic use and the athletic fields around Monocacy Middle School. Special Education concerns are often a focus of public comment and the needs of our students with dyslexia were brought to our attention again at the last meeting. We also hear input on public access to our buildings and particular safety issues for our elementary schools.

The upcoming calendar for school year 2018-2019 was a major topic for public comment.

Many speakers came out to advocate for closing school on Jewish holidays as we have done in the past decade or so. The Fair Board was present and spoke of their desire to maintain a separate, exclusive day for students to attend the Great Frederick Fair. Congregation Kol Ami was admirably represented by a young man speaking in support of school closing for the holy days of his faith community and his Four H Club's participation in Fair Day.

In addition to listening to community input, the board must also abide by Federal and State law and Maryland State Department of Education policy. We must also consider what is feasible financially and finally, we must do what we believe is in the best interest of our students.

As an example, to approve the calendar we had to weigh the requirements of

- the Governors Executive decision limiting the school calendar to 180 days between September 4 and June 15,
- calculating which day of the week our holidays fall,
- fitting in the legally required holidays,
- accounting for the contractual teacher work days,
- retaining at least three snow days,
- trying to accommodate the local tradition of Fair Day, and
- recognizing that if specific religious holidays are not included as school holidays, hundreds of students may be absent from school on those days.

In the same meeting the Monocacy Valley Montessori School was requesting approval for their charter, a charter extension and financing to increase enrollment and transportation.

Also on the agenda was the site location for one of our most special schools, Rock Creek. I was amazed at how many emails we received pleading for the protection of soccer fields, rather than advocating for the educational environment of these special needs children. Determining the location of schools always brings out NIMBY's (not in my backyard) and while I understand the problems associated with school buses and increased traffic, our schools have to be somewhere and it will not always make all people happy.

As we begin the next round of budget and negotiations I encourage the public to remain en-

gaged. Go to our website at www.fcps.org. Attend the Superintendent's budget round table discussions. Attend the evening budget discussion in January and come to our regularly scheduled board meetings.

To participate in public comment, show up on our meeting nights early, about 5:30 PM, and sign up to speak. Anyone can speak about matters that are of interest to their children, neighborhood or organization. The limitations are 1) you must be signed up before we begin at 6:00 PM, 2) you cannot bring up personnel matters, and 3) each individual gets three minutes to speak (five if you represent an organization).

Listening is a big part of what it means to be in public service. And I am looking forward to what my second year holds for all of us.

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FOUR YEARS AT THE MOUNT

Education is the most formative experience in a person's life. This month we asked our writers to write about a specific experience they had during this past semester that changed them into who they are now. With the New Year finally here, our writers reflect on how the Mount is creating a better version of themselves.

Freshman Year

Finding balance

Kaitlin Marks
MSMU class of 2021

Bursting out into the crisp, cold air and bright sunlight after I finished my last final exam of my first semester of college, I felt a whirlwind of emotions; the most prevalent feeling was excitement, blossoming up in a flurry of joy, and second to that was the realization that I had done it. Half of my freshman year gone in an instant, earned through months of hard work and change. As I entered my dorm room, the place I had made into a second home, I looked in the mirror. The person I saw? Someone new; someone who had grown and stretched and changed; someone who had learned more and said yes to opportunities to become more spontaneous. I felt so happy, especially at the realization that even through the challenges, the tears, the homesickness, the fear, and the doubt, I had finished strong and accomplished big things.

Stepping onto the Mount's campus on move-in day this past August,

I'll admit I was terrified. I have always been reluctant to accept change, and fear always accompanies the word "new" for me. I tried to keep myself calm, acknowledging that this was going to be a great year, and reflecting on how quickly I tended to adapt to change once I was in the situation. However, once boxes were unpacked, things were in place, and the dust settled, my family headed home, and I felt more alone than I had ever thought possible. While that night was difficult, and anxieties worried my mind, the next day brought sunshine and possibility, especially when I had to attend my Honors Freshman Symposium course. Still on uneasy, shaky ground, I began to find my footing surrounded by smart, kind individuals in that class. Moreover, I had the honor of learning, through the semester and day after day from a professor who challenged me, who embraced me for who I was, and who pushed me to become the best version of myself possible. As the semester became more intense, it simultaneously became more enjoyable, and somehow, I felt like I found my balance: I felt like I belonged.

I learned more than just chemistry, psychology, Italian, and how to write about literature in this first semester. Perhaps even more valuable were the lessons I gathered about myself, my place in the world, and my potential. I had the privilege of becoming a writer for this newspaper, which has allowed my confidence to grow and my writing to blossom into new realms. Through supportive professors who provided encouragement after assignments and papers came to fruition, I found myself believing in the unlimited possibility of the future. College provides stepping stones, a path to finding where your dreams lie, and then helps you reach them.

This semester, my goals for the next chapter of college, and the next chapter of my life, shifted. I aim to work hard, and to learn as much as possible. But the most important thing I learned is to say yes. When opportunities arise, no matter how scary they may seem, I want to say yes. In the past semester, I said yes to a leadership program. I applied to volunteer at a summer camp for kids and teenagers with Down Syndrome. I embraced my place here at this newspaper. I tried new things and went beyond the limits of my comfort zone. I discovered that every challenge, victory, conversation, or event happens for a reason.

There is a greater good and purpose over rare, quiet moments at school, and I yearn to fall into an opportunity that unlocks that purpose. Whether I end up a writer, or a therapist, a non-profit worker, I want to embrace all that life has to offer. I have never experienced such freedom or such balance as I developed this semester. With seemingly never-ending to-do lists; strict deadlines, mountains of assignments; attempts to stay healthy, physically and mentally, while also being involved; adjustments to an entire new life; and time spent doing things I enjoy with friends, life is busy. Coming out of finals week, even that feels like an understatement. However, I've found that balance has come easier to me now that I have made it through a semester and come out of it with good grades, good friends, and a more rich, thorough understanding of who I am. Reflecting on my first semester now, I feel immense joy. While there were many challenges this semester—socially, academically, emotionally, and even morally—I feel grateful for each one. These challenges have shaped me into a stronger, more confident person. Although I am still shy, I am much more confident and outgoing than I was before. This semester showed me that it's okay to be myself. I do not have to hide, or be some-

one that I am not. I can be the girl who loves writing, sometimes prefers watching a movie to going out, and misses her family deeply; simultaneously, I am the girl who loves spontaneous trips, loves her school, and celebrates small victories and big accomplishments. Many of my favorite memories are with people who are unabashedly themselves all the time, and I aspire to be like that.

As 2017 comes to a rapid close, I hope I can embrace every lesson I learned this semester and make the rest of this first year as amazing. I've learned to be grateful, to give to others; I have felt passions nurtured and I have been encouraged to find and follow my dreams. I am constantly inspired by those around me, and I am grateful to have a family who is so supportive, involved and encouraging, especially in the dark moments when I worry that I am not enough, or that I cannot possibly be successful. Most of all, I am grateful to have found my balance at school; I didn't know, that first day, that I would be so in love with this college, with the people around me, and with the things I am learning. I can't wait for what's to come.

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

Sophomore Year

Path to independence

Morgan Rooney
MSMU Class of 2020

Now three semesters into my college career, I can say that my first sophomore semester brought about all sorts of new challenges and responsibilities that I had managed to pass by during my first year at this university. The most notable change that really made this semester different from the others was the tradition from dorm life to attending college as a commuter student. Of course, I am happy I spent a year living on the beautiful campus, meals included. It was an experience that left me with no worry but to simply enjoy the ambiance of a small rural university, and the company of friends and classmates of close proximity to me. For the rest of my life I will be able to tell people about my college experience in a dorm, and the close friendship I developed from living with my roommate, someone I had not known previously to move-in day.

Although dorm life was not a negative experience, I determined that it wasn't the life for me. After careful consideration towards the end of my freshman year, I decided to continue my education while living away from the university. For the first time in my life, I felt like I was actually living almost completely independently. After taking a year off work to settle in to college life, I even acquired a parttime job. Before I went to college, I was never completely dependent on others. I knew how to do most things on my own. Something I often heard when I first left for my first year of college was that I would need to learn to do my own laundry.

When I first heard this, I was actually kind of surprised and amused that some people, at the age of eighteen, had never done their own laundry and relied solely on their parents for something as simple as working a washing machine. Of course, I was reliant on my parents for food and shelter previously, but for most things, I was fairly independent. After this semester began, however, I began to realize all the things I had never done on my own before, or even had a second thought about. Things like changing the air-conditioning filter, replacing smoke alarm batteries, and cooking up homemade beef stew for the week for more people than myself were things I had to learn to do and remember to do along with my daily assignments and projects.

One of the drawbacks of living off-campus was that I no longer lived a short three-minute walk away from my earliest morning class; I now had a daily morning commute. Yes, it certainly does take a bit of time away from the morning, which I preferably could have spent drinking a hot cup of tea or having a more nutritional or well-prepared breakfast. However, I find my thirty-five-minute drive quite relaxing, even therapeutic to a certain extent. It brings me time to think and to contemplate the day ahead and all it might bring. Everyone finds peace and solitude through some sort of solo activity, whether it be hiking, meditating, or even an extra five minutes in the shower in the morning.

Driving is my way to take a meditative break from the rest of the world. On my way to school, I can think about pretty much anything. I can run the presentation I am about to conduct to one of my classes through my head;

I can consider my life aspirations and how I tend to get there; I can even contemplate the meaning of life and the importance of each individual being I have ever encountered in my two decades of life. In this fast-paced world filled with newly-developing technology and constant motion, it is important to take a step back, slow down, and simply enjoy the ride of life. I believe that the passing scenery of the farmlands, soft music through the radio, and the light rumble of my car engine is the perfect place to take a step back and take life just one moment at a time. It's my favorite way to relieve stress.

Even if my daily journey only takes me thirty minutes down the road, the independence of expanding my boundaries is quite rewarding in the sense that I feel as if I have expanded my freedom. Through this independence, I have increased my individuality. Even if my day only consists of taking a trip down to the local grocery store to purchase ingredients to prepare a homemade meal—rather than something out of a box or the freezer—my day feels fulfilled. Any spontaneous or impulsive decision that I make can be executed now because I have given myself the freedom to do so, without being reliant on other kind-hearted people doing me favors. I feel now as if I made the best decision for me.

Although living away from the university brings about an increase in responsibility, I don't necessarily think this extra responsibility is a negative thing. It is important to take on new responsibilities if you wish to be independent, which is something I very much strive to achieve on many levels. I believe that independence comes along with success and is an important part of it: I now know that I can achieve things on my own, as an individual.

Although this semester has brought

many new challenges, both academically and personally on a day-to-day basis, the overall experience of this semester was certainly greater than the previous ones. As a result of my new-found independence, I am confident that I can accomplish whatever I set my mind to. I can take care of myself, manage a morning commute, and meet the academic

demands of college life; I will meet the rising challenges next semester, and I expect the semesters ahead of me at the Mount to be even better and to bring more adventures and experiences to my life. I look forward to the years to come.

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



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THE MOUNT - CREATING A BIGGER VISION FOR STUDENTS

Junior Year

Halfway done and counting

Shea Rowell
MSMU Class of 2019

From the middle of my winter break in my Virginia home, book and mug of tea within reach, I am ready to kiss last semester goodbye. Final papers and final exams have been taken, turned in and graded and been posted, for better or for worse. The semester is over and I, along with most of my classmates, am very grateful for the reprieve. I'm enjoying some overdue family time, running errands, and catching up on much-needed sleep and relaxation. It is, however, important to pause for a moment and reflect on the past semester to see where it fits in the ever-lengthening narrative of my career at Mount St. Mary's.

The Fall 2018 semester was the most difficult yet. This is my report after every semester, true, but it is always the truth. This was the first semester in which I was able to really focus on classes in my majors, English and music, and each of my classes challenged me to grow in some way: sometimes in ways I did not expect. Each of

them—through music, literature, and faith—has taught me that I am participating in an ever-changing culture that is much bigger than myself. My only core class, theology, was the most challenging course I took this semester. You might think, as I did, "I've been Catholic my whole life. What could a core theology class really teach me?" The answer, as it usually is to such questions, is that I knew much less than I thought I did.

Every catechism answer I learned in my long years of religious education has a history of religious exegesis and debate behind it. Nothing is ever as simple as it seems, and in this particular theology class, I found this out the hard way. My professor assigned readings from a variety of theologians and opened each class with a group discussion. My classmates challenged each other to think deeply, proposing possible solutions to difficult problems. As difficult as it was, this class gave me a new perspective into the history and origins of my faith, and as all great classes do, left me with more questions than answers and a genuine desire to learn more.

This semester also challenged me to increase my skill in my fields of study. Literature and music study are both built on history, theory, and performance. In previous classes, I've studied the music and literature of the past and present, and their constructions. The most difficult aspect of literary and musical study, however, is the increasing demand to improve performance ability. Each day, my professors raise the bar. I am expected to play a little better, read a little more, and write a little more skillfully each time. There is no room for regression or laziness. Each week during my trumpet lesson, I leave with a new stack of music to work through. Each literature class sends me off with a new text to read and a new assignment to write. My professors constantly guide me in the right direction, helping me to improve every time. And with their help, I have improved. While there is much yet to learn, I have left this semester playing and writing better than I ever have before.

This semester, however, has challenged me in more ways than academics. I have, finally it seems, learned a lesson in the fine and delicate art of time management. As I progress in my Mount career, I find more and more ways to get in-

involved in the community. Between my work study position in the Mount Career Center, leadership in the Mount Music society, membership in music ensembles, and involvement in Campus Ministry, my schedule has become increasingly daunting. I have learned this semester that quality is truly more important than quantity, and that, occasionally, it is ok to say "no". To ensure that the things I commit to are well-executed, I must limit my commitments. Additionally, over-extension has a high personal cost, and there are many things—faith, family, health, friends, etc.—that are equally, if not more, important to nourish in life. Balance is everything.

Self-care, as it turns out, has become much more important this semester than it has ever been in the past. This is the first semester I have been off the Mount's meal plan, as I am currently living in an apartment with a kitchen. This means, I add cooking, cleaning, and shopping to the daily or weekly schedule. This experience has been empowering, as I feel I have taken one more step toward independence, small as it may be, and I am surprised at how much I have enjoyed it. Cooking has become my way of taking some time off. When I am stirring a pot of soup, I am not thinking about the

paper that's due next week. Instead I am wondering whether I should add another pinch of salt. When I am making a grocery list, I am not worried about that English test tomorrow, I am planning creative and healthy meals to get me through the week. Food shopping is a way to step off campus for a while with my friends and roommates; we blast music in the car and forget about the week's worries. Overall, the experience is time-consuming but fun—I've even made some recipes of my own!

Overall, this semester gave me many opportunities to grow. The new challenges my professors and supervisors gave me each inspired me to raise the bar, and looking back, I can see the improvement all that hard work has incurred. This semester, my passion for literature and music has only grown, and my desire to learn and improve myself has increased accordingly. As I start new classes next semester and the end of my junior year approaches, I will aim to keep grinding and keep growing. I know the challenges will only increase, but with a little bit of hard work and dedication, I know I will come out of it a better version of myself.

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

Senior Year

For the love of literature...

Sarah Muir
MSMU Class of 2018

I've talked before about why I became an English major and I believe (if memory serves me) that it was a lengthy description of my epiphany centered around my lifelong love of reading. This was a couple years ago, and, while a few years older, I do not particularly consider myself to be any wiser; however, with the benefit of a continued education, my perspective has changed and my understanding of what it means to be an "English Major" has deepened.

This semester, the Mount offered an English-based senior seminar. The goal of this course was to dare students to recognize the place of importance literature holds for both the individual and the community. The course drew on a wide variety of texts and criticisms, all of which invited me to look at the works in reference to the rich tapestry of literary history. I hope you are not surprised when I tell you that my final for this course focused on the question: Why is literature and the study of literature valuable? For the longest time the answer to this seemed to be both obvious and entirely indescribable.

The question also holds a certain irritant for me because out of the scope of disciplines that exist in the world, the arts are the ones that need to defend themselves. People seldom question the value of studying mathematics or science, and why should they? Within those spheres, the world can be dissect-

ed, discovered and quantified. Literature, however, has value because it contains the world, perhaps not how it is, but how humanity experiences it. It is the ability to communicate and share the world that exists in our minds. The most realistic, factual, maybe even scientific piece of literature is colored by the experiences of the person that writes it, and is written in the light of every word that was written before it. It connects all of humanity to the literary tradition which, in turn, connects all humans to each other.

For those of you who need a little more cause to value literature, please permit me to reuse an example that was applied to my exam. The fact is, literature is valuable because there is an extreme danger to believing that it isn't. To explain further, I propose we visit a thriving city. This civilization has a long history with centuries of science and art to show off, yet, for the sake of this argument, let us say it is about to undergo a coup. After the violence and destruction that follows, the dust settles on the new leaders, and the new government begins to craft the city into an image and likeness that better suits them. In such situations, literature suffers a blow.

Technology and scientific discoveries of the old regime can stay, of course, but any pamphlets, books or newspapers that contain possible incendiary speech is gathered and burned. Every word thereafter is written, produced and censored. This is not because literature isn't valuable; how could lit-

erature be seen as anything other than something of enormous power and potential when, if used properly, it could sway hearts and minds according to its agenda. Besides, sooner or later in this upturned city there will no doubt be flyers and pamphlets and books to replace those destroyed. The value of literature is realized as both a defense and weapon to be utilized by anyone, for good or ill.

Now on to the study of literature, which is equally significant and (as this seems important nowadays) marketable. Since deciding on my major, the question that almost always follows is "what in the world are you going to do with that?" I think this is because people assume English majors are individuals who get a book club degree. However, if you are under this assumption, allow me to say that while, yes, English majors enjoy reading and yes, we are usually adept at discussing what we have read, the skills of the English major surpass this.

People who study literature develop critical and analytical thought processes and possess knowledge about how to communicate effectively. English majors know language well enough to use the written word to convey understanding. With the study of literary criticism, one trains in the ability to recognize patterns, to trace a thread through a multitude of texts to see how they build on and borrow from each other. Above all, the literary critic is required to engage with humanity on a larger scale. In participating in literary study and criticism, you take part of a network of literary critics and works that connect you to a global conversation.

As I have grown into my English major, I have come to recognize it for not only containing within it what I love to do, but also teaching me how everything I know, experience or read has a value. It permits me to be a part of something that creates a world around me, while at the same time changes what I know of the world and my perception of it. Literature is sense and magic and everything rolled into one. As an English major, I am aware of the power that words have to wriggle their way into a person's mind and stay there, so that we can never again see what was once mundane in the same way. To the English major, literature is a growing, immortal tapestry that connects humanity and its

inner worlds throughout millennia. In the study of literature, we develop for ourselves a deeper understanding and connection with the world around us.

For me, this year has been full of wonderful things and all of them have changed me for the better. As I enter the last semester of my senior year, I see how much I have been altered by my education here at the Mount. I see the wide world made smaller and more attainable, I recognize challenges as opportunities, and know that for the rest of my life I will be relying on what I have learned here.

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

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FASHION

A fashionable New Year's resolution

Valerie McPhail
MSMU Class of 2015

Looking into the New Year with a fresh perspective on fashion requires a perspective beyond the trends. Each year the quest to finding my personal style is always my New Year's fashion resolution. Even though my perspective stays consistent, time after time I learn that how I express this perspective is evolving. Part of this evolution involves a review of the stylistic decisions I have made: an old work uniform of silk printed button downs, oversized boyfriend jeans and block heels, jazzy and bedazzled sweaters has since drastically flip flopped into a uniform of black sweaters, dress pants and blazers.

Simplified to a few staples, I rely on these minimal pieces as reference to recycle outfits interchangeably. The reason for such a move involved contemplation over my lifestyle and environment. Most of my time in New York is spent at work, a large, clean, pristine photo studio in the downtown trendy part of the city. A simple, black and white style regimen – and I will quietly admit splashes of gray, come through at times – finds its perfect place. I add personal touches to make it feel less of a strict burden by investing in pieces from brands that I admire — collared blouses and topshop double-breasted blazers are some of my favorite.

The following brands are those stirring a new tide in the fashion industry. While the glamorous Fifth Avenue shops dominate the fashion world, these brands cultivate a sharp perspective, cutting like a cold winter breeze; their perspective is ordinary enough to find relatable.

Wardrobe NYC

This New York City brand is making deep changes in the approach to shopping and dressing. Hence the name wardrobe, the brand is shoppable online only, in sets of 4 and 8 for woman and men. The pieces are sufficient enough to build a wardrobe of leggings, t-shirts, skirts and coats for women. The men have selections almost identical, with the alternations of trousers and a hoodie.

This style of branding and fashion is called “anti-fashion,” for it goes against the grain of anti-maximalist style that has dominated fashion perspectives in the last year. In offering a black and white uniform of structured pieces, there is a traditional approach to fashion. WARDROBE NYC views such a business model with luxury and pristine. It allows fashion to be simply fresh and modern.

Faustine Steinmetz

Heralding from great PR representation and interest in practical fashion, Faustine Steinmetz is becoming a young female designer with

a large legacy for the adornment of practical fashion. Specializing in denim, the Parisian designer has created gold in the trending denim season of fashion. Decorating denim with distress technique, tie-dyeing and color treatment, Faustine Steinmetz has proclaimed a brand identity by making fashion from everyday design.

Shop her styles to find, denim jackets, belts and pants. The difference between these and classic Levis or trendy J Brand is that these pieces are created from their design. When you look at a pair of Faustine Steinmetz denim jeans, you find a recreation of denim made within the pair of trousers. Steinmetz takes attributes of denim to generate a new creation.

Suzanne Rae

This Brooklyn-based designer and self-titled brand not only services the fashion community with a strong feminist philosophy, local production and sustainable garments but also creates fashion built on the principle of practicality over hype and rapid trends.

Designing clothing in themes of life – desire, XXX and XX, Rae brings a relatable feeling, perspective and point of view into the production of her clothing. As a result one will find simple turtle-necks, beige overcoats and printed jumpsuits in the DNA of her designs. These are not only conversations had among women, but feelings and experiences that go into production, and as a result, women can connect with the clothing. Suzanne Rae carries the brand with a lot of close personal thought, allowing a staple element of practicality to drift into the verging line between practicality and statement fashion, created for the sake of aesthetic and looks.

The brands with archives of historic accomplishments are relevant despite their repeating presence each fashion week. There is a need

for the old(er) and wiser brands greater than the standards they set with trends and social media followers. For these brands reveal success stories, Coach as a brand of the 1940s finds itself in the season of rebranding itself, as Gucci continues to spread a universal language of fashion and Kanye West reinstates the meaning of 90's sportswear in mainstream fashion.

Coach

Before Creative Director Stuart Vivier's appointment in 2013, the label had fallen to competitors with similar fashion branding. In sadness, the sneaker and Coach tote bag quickly became old news, whereas new labels such as Michael Kors and Calvin Klein tipped interest.

This remains a memory of the past, for the brands' standing store on Fifth Avenue thrives with activity of artistic expression, animated and engaged with cultural references such as emoji buttons, collaborations with artist Keith Haring: all flirty fashion statements that keeps the brand thriving. The old childhood favorite brand is on the path to restoring its title.

Gucci

Rainbow platform oxfords, electric blue knee high boots and plain white graphic t-shirts all define a brand beloved by the world of clothing design. Not only are these classic designs of Gucci, but statements that have enabled the brand to reach the masses, Creative Director Alessandro Michele defines what fashion means within and outside the industry.

Hitching alongside the maximalization style of dressing: layering and ornamenting style of clothing, jewelry and enlarging the scope of what it means to wear clothes, Gucci maximizes fashion statements with adventure, fearlessness and glamour. The Italian label has held cultural reference. To say “that is Gucci,” translates



A defining look of Gucci's maximalist approach to fashion.

to “that is good.” Gucci fashion stands at leading ranks by meeting the fashionable needs of the young, old, mature and wise. Gucci has lit a spark to the flame of those fashionable at heart.

Yezzus

Kanye West has built an empire brand based on minimalist, athletic –meets undergarment clothing with 1990's stylistics appeal. Popular for his brand name Yezzus sneakers, fans wait on sidewalks and corner streets hoping to go home with a new pair on the day of product drop. The talent of the hip hop rapper carries into fashion. Along with his French terry sweatpants, cotton and elastic crewneck dresses there has been a resurgence of aestheticism in the fashion industry.

Alongside Yezzy, brand names like Champion, FILA and Reebok have regained fame in the fashion world. The resurgence comes with stylistic looks over practicality.

The best way to turn fashion into a New Year's resolution is to make it personal. Consider your sense of style and the way you dress. It then becomes necessary to look back at hold habits of dressing for your everyday. Such reflections will help catapult a conversation to changes for the vision of this year. In the same way these brands, the new, up-and-coming labels journey to challenge the way a culture and industry considers clothing. The trending standards, those topping the charts with devout followers must be considered in order to compare the change of status quo.

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COMMUNITY NOTES

Thurmont's first 'Open Mic Night'

Hillary Rothrock

On the evening of Friday, December 8th at the Thurmont Main Street Center at 11 Water Street, two business owners from the community held a free open mic night for local teens. Niki Eyler, who owns The Eyler Stables Flea Market at 137 Emmitsburg Road in Thurmont approached Hillary Rothrock, owner of J. Rothrock Outfitters of 3 East Main Street about staging an event for the local teens this Winter. Together with the assistance of Vickie Grinder, Thurmont's Main Street Manager, they pulled off the first ever Thurmont Free Teen Open Mic Night.

The idea of hosting an Open Mic Night was born out of Eyler's daughters' love of theatre and a desire to give back. "Our teens face a lot of negativity and stress in their daily lives. I wanted to provide them a safe space to get together, collaborate, and do something fun," said Eyler. Today's teens don't have much to occupy their time in a positive and rewarding way outside of sports and school. Many local arts programs have lost membership, educators, and funding. Both women felt similarly sad about the state of local arts programs compared to not that long ago.

Eyler recalled a time when Catocin HS theatre group was huge and varied, Rothrock recalled a time they could hear the Catocin HS marching band practice from their front yard and the memories it would stir for her and her husband who started dating in their high school band. Both women agreed they found purpose, positive role models, safe fun, and learned skills in their respective high school arts programs and have watched students suffer due to lack of opportunity and experience. "This was our chance to give back to these teens who are our future community committee members, educators, and entertainers," said Rothrock.

Being the first of its kind, Eyler and Rothrock were uncertain how many kids would attend and how well the informal atmosphere would be received by today's teens. "We were prepared for a few kids but hoping more would take the opportunity. When I was a teen in Harrisburg PA, our local coffee-house allowed teen musicians to play. I have many fond memories of attending open mic nights. Some of my talented friends have gone on to make careers out of it. When Niki approached me to brainstorm, we both really liked the idea of an open mic" said Rothrock. With the Thurmont Main Street's help, the ad ran in the local newspapers and the local theatre and music groups shared the information with their members. Flyers were also placed around Thurmont and handed out at their respective establishments.

Niki opened up the open mic night and presented the sign-up sheet to the talented youths in attendance. Acts were limited to double-slots to ensure everyone get a chance to perform. Seats were packed with supportive attendees, leaving standing

room only for parents. There were kids as young as 11 and as old as 15 standing up in front of an informal audience and present their gifts. They were impressively talented and everyone really enjoyed themselves.

The Faith Boyz Band from Mount Airy Christian Academy started off the night. The Faith Boyz Band started out in 2012 as a sibling duo when brothers Clay and Travis, now 13 and 15 years old, discovered their musical gifts while taking individual lessons on guitar, piano, and voice. For 5 years they have performed together in many local venues across the state. They have a CD out that includes an original song written mostly by Travis when he was just 10 years old. In early 2016, Bill and Matthew, an experienced father and son team, joined the Faith Boyz adding a strong rhythm section to the band. Matthew, the youngest member of the group currently at age 11 has been playing the drums since he was old enough to hold the sticks, and it shows. He and his dad Bill have also performed in countless venues with other bands for several years prior to linking up with the Faith Boyz. Although The Faith Boyz play a variety of songs from different genres, their motto is "messengers first, musicians second" as they focus on sharing the Word of God through Christian music. They entertained the audience with classics that had everyone tapping and dancing along. They played some Christmas favorites like Rocking Around the Christmas Tree, Hallelujah, and country favorites like "Chicken Fried".

Following the band, Addison, age 15, of Catocin High School confidently presented several a cappella and accompanied songs and monologues from various musicals including "Good Morning Baltimore" from Hairspray and a beloved Hamilton favorite. She was a favorite of the younger audience members as she tried to connect with them while performing to encourage them to join in and bring their own talents to the stage in future. We can't wait to see where this young lady ends up on stage!

Next up was the talented and laid back Lyla, age 13, from Thurmont Middle School. Lyla was a natural in front of the audience and takes lessons at the Frederick School of Rock. She performed several acoustic classics and modern favorites on her guitar and ukulele with vocals. Next up was Jack, age 14, also of Thurmont Middle School. He wrapped the night up by playing a very moving acoustic ukulele cover of "Dust in the Wind". Together, Lyla and Jack ended the night with a very sweet duet of John Legend's "All of Me". Lyla and Jack are talented performers who also dance with ESP Dance in Thurmont.

The kids that attended the Open Mic Night were interested in performing at future Thurmont events. Rothrock, a music therapy major in college has friends in the local Frederick music scene and brought a range of musicians to this past summer's

Thurmont Farmers Market. Because of the Open Mic Night, it's in the works to provide them a venue in the community at the Farmers Market this coming summer. Maybe the next big star is in our midst and as a community we should be supporting them and providing opportunity for others to discover their talents.

Eyler, Rothrock, and Grinder are very excited to announce that the launch of the free Teen Open Mic Night was such a huge success that another is already in the works! Commodore Recording Studio located at 204 E Main Street in Thurmont will host the second free Teen Open Mic Night on Saturday, January 20th from 6 to 8 p.m.. Owners Doug and Patty Benson are excited to show the talented youth their professional recording studio and meet the talented kids in our midsts and show them how they can sup-



Lyla and Jack headlined Thurmont's first 'Open Mic Night.'

port them in their craft. For more information about studio can be found online at www.commodorestudio.com. The open mic night is open to teens 13-18 but younger musicians and thespians are welcome with parental supervision.

Sets are limited to 4-8 minutes. We hope to see you there!

Inclement Weather Date is scheduled for February 3 from 6 to 8 p.m. For more information you can reach Hillary Rothrock at 301-842-7231 or at Info@JROutfitters.com.

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ARTS

Nicaragua night & auction

Project Gettysburg-León (PGL) will hold its annual Nicaragua Night and Auction on Saturday, January 20 at Gettysburg College's Hauser Field House between West Lincoln Ave. and Broadway. Doors open at 4:30 p.m., with the live auction starting at 5:15. A buffet chili dinner will be served. Live music will be provided by The Woebegoners. Child care will open at 5:45, and the live auction will start at 6 p.m..

PGL functions under the auspices of Gettysburg College's Center for Public Service, and is a sister-city relationship between the Borough of Gettysburg, Gettysburg College and communities in and around the city of León, Nicaragua. The monies raised at the auction are used to carry out PGL's mission to empower people, communities and organizations; and to advance sustainable devel-

opment through capacity-building funds, education and cultural exchange programs.

The auction, PGL's main fundraiser of the year, includes hundreds of items including getaway vacations, signature meals, artwork, themed baskets, and a wide variety of services.

PGL began its relationship in 1985 with León, Nicaragua's second largest city, which in 1989 became a sister city of the Borough of Gettysburg. Since then, more than 750 people from Gettysburg and León have visited each other's communities. PGL has worked with urban and rural communities on dozens of sustainable projects such as health centers, maternity centers, potable water systems, school and house building, rural electrification, and solar ovens and food driers.

In its current program, PGL

continues to provide scholarship aid to three young rural farmers to study agricultural science and train other farmers in their community; supports a social worker working with children at risk; and provides funds for an environmental education program for the school children of León. PGL also continues painting, drawing and music classes in an indigenous section of León through Xuchialt Art School; and has budgeted funds for a large water project in the mountains near León. Each fall, the organization sponsors and conducts Salsa on the Square in downtown Gettysburg.

This year PGL hired Steve Lewis from the UK as the new Country Director. Steve has 25 years of experience in development work, chiefly in El Salvador and Nicaragua. Recently PGL added a



Project Gettysburg-León will hold its annual Nicaragua Night and Auction on January 20 at Gettysburg College's Hauser Field House.

new staff person with the title Program Coordinator to assist the Country Director. His prior experience includes work with World Vision International.

Tickets can be purchased and tax-deductible auction items donated at the PGL auction website. For more information call 717-337-6490 or visit www.gettysburg-leon.org.

GNMP hosts renowned clarinetist

Gettysburg National Military Park, in partnership with the National Parks Arts Foundation (NPAF), is welcoming Dr. Anastasia Christofakis, an acclaimed clarinetist and music educator, as the first Gettysburg Artist in Residence in 2018. Christofakis will spend a month on the Gettysburg battlefield, working and composing music. Dr. Christofakis will also perform a free public lecture recital at the Rotunda at the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center at the Park on January 6, at 12:30 p.m.

The lecture recital (for clarinet and with piano by Liz Hill) will focus on her recent exploratory project into the roots of American Folk Music, and will feature works by Leonard Bernstein, George Gershwin, and Joseph Horowitz, as well as a new work specially commissioned for this series by Jamie Whitmarsh called No Progress Without Loss. The event is free and open to the public, thanks to sponsorship from the Gettysburg Foundation.

A clarinet soloist who works with major orchestras, Dr. Christofakis is known for her expressive performances of demanding classical and modern pieces. Her love and knowledge of music is extensive and compelling. Aesthetically, she feels deeply connected to the challenging but powerful music of Shostakovich and dense but intimate textures of Brahms: "Brahms amazes me with his ability to use small ensembles in a large symphonic way. His use of the different instruments and the way he gets their sounds to compliment and contrast each other is astounding."

Dr. Christofakis plans to hone new material for performance during her residency, which she sees as a unique opportunity for artists to work in place and connect to the wider and unique public such as seeks out the park and its memorials at Gettysburg. "This combination of cultures and people that have created such a diverse country have also developed into their own musical identity. Music manages to fuse

all those stories together in this organic and inclusive way. Gettysburg represents to me a point in history where people stood up to acknowledge just that, the beauty in diversity. At a time where there is so much cultural tension, I think it's important for us to look at and celebrate what diversity is and the beauty that can come from it."

Dr. Christofakis embraces the social aspects of performance and teaching: "The pieces we play are classical in nature, but heavily influenced by the folk idioms of the composers' native countries. It allows us to share these stories with our audiences, and to learn about new places and people. Most importantly, I think that sharing music in this way allows for a deep connection to the people and events behind the music. It allows you, the performer, and the audience to connect to what has happened in a very real way, humanizing all parties being represented."

"Gettysburg National Military Park has offered inspiration to art-



Dr. Anastasia Christofakis, an acclaimed clarinetist and music educator, will be the first Gettysburg Artist in Residence in 2018.

ists for more than 150 years," said Chuck Hunt, acting superintendent at Gettysburg National Military Park. "The Artist-in-Residence program engages new audiences and tells Gettysburg's stories in new and

compelling ways." The program is offered thanks to the input and support of the National Park Service and the Gettysburg Foundation. For more information go to: www.nps.gov/gett.

Shrek – The Musical

Way Off Broadway Dinner Theatre kicks off its 2018 Mega-Mini Season with Shrek – The Musical. The hit Broadway production will mark the beginning of Way Off Broadway's 24th Season of bringing live stage entertainment to the region. Shrek opens January 12th.

Everyone's favorite ogre is back in the hilarious stage spectacle based on the Oscar-winning, smash hit film from DreamWorks Animation. "Once upon a time, there was a little ogre named Shrek..." And thus begins the tale of an unlikely hero who finds himself on a life-changing journey along-

side a wisecracking Donkey and a feisty princess who resists her rescue. Throw in a short-tempered bad guy, a cookie with an attitude and over a dozen other fairy tale misfits, and you've got the kind of mess that calls for a real hero. Luckily, there's one on hand... and his name is Shrek.

Shrek first burst onto the scene in 2001 with the release of the DreamWorks Animation's feature film Shrek. Lending their voices to bring the characters to life were Mike Myers (Shrek), Eddie Murphy (Donkey), Cameron Diaz (Fiona), and John Lithgow (Lord Farquaad). The film was an instant success, earn-

ing over \$480 million worldwide. It also went on to win the first ever Academy Award for Best Animated Film. The film's success spawned three sequels, two holiday specials, and a spin-off movie.

Shrek will run from January 12 – March 10, with performances every Friday and Saturday evening and matinees on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday of each month. For evening performances, guests arrive for dinner at 6 p.m. with the show beginning at 8 p.m. For matinees, doors open at 12:30 p.m. for lunch with the show beginning at 2:15 p.m. Tickets for a Friday evening or

Sunday matinee are \$45; Saturday evenings, tickets are \$48.

For more information visit www.wayoffbroadway.com.

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MOUNT ARTS

New year, new arts

Hannah Opdenaker
MSMU Class of 2018

December at the Mount was filled with much excitement and, of course, decoration. The holiday season always brings out the best of the students on campus and good will towards fellow men hung in the air. The end of the semester was full of events, concerts, and caroling from the Music Department. The University's Chorale presented a concert at the beginning of the month entitled "Music for Advent at the Basilica". The chorale sang selections by Greig, Praetorius, Biebl, Dett, and McMillan, and was held at the National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton. The Music Department's Flute Choir also presented a Holiday Concert on December 2 at the Emmitsburg Library that was free to the public. A group of Mount students performed many beloved Christmas Carols. The Mount Music Society also presented an evening of Christmas Carols at Saint Joseph's Ministries Nursing Home.

Another exciting event that happened around the Mount in December was a lunch lecture presented by the Art Department. Brother Mark Elder, a muralist and painter, came to visit campus for a lecture in Smith Board Room. These being postmodern times in contemporary art, Brother Elder is free to explore Art that reflects Platonic or Aristotelian thinking in philosophy. He has chosen Aristotelian because of his commitment to serving people. This means that every viewer must have some access to the meaning of the piece. At times, he will use Abstract platonic thinking, but only as a basis to construct the narrative and figurative pieces that come from one's love of storytelling.

This past winter semester, the Arts and Music Department saw many successful events. This magnificent start to the school year

promises to present many exciting and new events in the Spring Semester. Mount Music Society member Shea Rowell gave some insight on events the Society is planning on offering in the spring. In addition to café nights and album reviews, the society also plans to host a "thon" style event with a swingin' twist.

Another exciting event that the Mount Music Society will be hosting is a trip to see *Waitress*, the musical at the Hippodrome Theater in Baltimore, Maryland. *Waitress*, tells the story of Jenna, a waitress with a knack for baking who is unhappily married to her husband Earl. She unexpectedly becomes pregnant, falls in love with her Gynecologist, and begins an affair with him. Jenna copes with her unhappy marriage through baking, and enters a pie contest in hopes that she can escape the monotonous life she is leading. The Art department also promises to present some interesting exhibits, as well as student shows and senior portfolio presentations.

Speaking of seniors, the Theatre department plans to present two senior directing projects this semester. Nicole Heilos, a double major in Theatre and Business, will present her senior project in March. She plans on presenting a musical revue with a focus on the effects of mental illness on the human condition. In recent years, there have been many musicals that have focused on how mental illness affects not only the individual, but the family and surrounding community.

Heilos plans to revue songs from shows like *Next to Normal* and *Dear Evan Hansen*, among others. In April, Hannah Opdenaker, a double major in Theatre and Political Science, will be directing an adaptation of the Greek comedy *Lysistrata*. The production will take place in April. The story of *Lysistrata* was first told by Aristophanes in classical Athens. The

play recounts the story of *Lysistrata*, and her comic effort to end the Peloponnesian War.

The spring's Main Stage production this semester, *Almost, Maine*, will be sure to be a heartwarming crowd pleaser. Dramatist Theater Company, the publishing house that owns the rights to the play, has this to say about the show: "On a cold, clear, moonless night in the middle of winter, all is not quite what it seems in the remote, mythical town of Almost, Maine. As the northern lights hover in the star-filled sky above, Almost's residents find themselves falling in and out of love in unexpected and often hilarious ways. Knees are bruised. Hearts are broken. But the bruises heal, and the hearts mend—almost—in this delightful midwinter night's dream.

"Almost, Maine" is a series of nine amiably absurdist vignettes about love, with a touch of good-natured magic realism... witty, romantic, unsentimental. A beautifully structured play, with nifty surprise endings (most but not all of them happy)." As far as student spotlight events, this spring semester is sure to bring some exciting events as well. One of the first events of the semester will include a weekend of staged readings. These staged readings will include excerpts from classical dramatic works from Greek Theater, as well as pieces from Shakespeare or more contemporary playwrights.

Another event that Alpha Psi Omega, the theater honors society, has planned is a *Mixed-Up Cabaret*. This *Mixed-Up Cabaret* will include song and skit selections, with a bit of a twist. Songs



Students listening in on Professor Ben Buhrman's improvisational theater class this semester.

traditionally sung by men may be sung by a group of women. Or a skit that is about the women of Athens may be cast by some of the Mount's male athletes. Another event that the Alpha Psi Omega organization on campus plans to produce is a theater workshop focused on the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) side of theater. Science and Math have taken over many industries, and the theater is no exception. Professor Ben Buhrman has offered to host an event showcasing the many different jobs and outlets that the theater offers in areas other than acting. As an educational theater

program, the Visual and Performing Arts department makes every effort to appeal to any and all students, not just those with an interest in the arts.

The New Year brings with it many exciting events at Mount Saint Mary's University. For more information on shows, performances, exhibits, courses and more contact the Delaplaine Fine Arts Center at 301-447-5308 or visit the Delaplaine on campus next to Patriot Hall.

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



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SPORTS

Catoctin women's swimming

Edison Hatter

This season, the Cougars' girl's swim team has seventeen members, with plenty of experienced juniors and seniors to lead the way. However, senior Natalee Williams has proven to be the most talented swimmer on the team. Williams is the lone returning states qualifier as she swam in the 100-yard butterfly at the Maryland state meet last February. She swam 1:11.35 in her race at states, good for nineteenth place. This season, Williams has aspirations of returning to states and finishing higher than she did last year.

Williams began her season strong earlier this month with a pair of wins in a dual meet against Brunswick High School. Her first race was in the 200-yard freestyle. Williams started with a 36.57 in her first fifty, holding a narrow lead over a Brunswick swimmer in the lane beside her. Both swimmers remained within a couple tenths of a second at the halfway point, but Williams led the way in 1:16.98. On the third lap, she split a 39.65 to open up a three second gap over the Brunswick swimmer.

On her last lap, Williams finished in a 36.01, bringing her total time to 2:33.64. The Brunswick swimmer couldn't keep pace with Williams as she finished ten seconds ahead of her competitor. Half an hour later, Williams competed in the 100-yard butterfly. She led the race the entire way with little challenge from other swimmers, posting a 1:17.10 to

win her second race of the night. "I felt really strong in my first 200-yard freestyle for the year," Williams commented after the meet, "my 100-yard butterfly went well too, but there's still a lot of improving to do for that event."

At the following meet against Linganore, Williams had the opportunity to take on new competition in both the 200-yard individual medley and the 100-yard butterfly. In the 200-yard individual medley, Williams posted a 2:45.67 and took first place in the event. She also placed first in the 100-yard butterfly, finishing in 1:17.34. While both times were slightly slower than her times from earlier in the season, Williams was happy with the first place finishes. Williams will continue into the remainder of the season with some confidence from these early season wins as she continues to try to improve her times before the state meet at the end of February.

The evening of the Brunswick meet began with a closely contested 200-yard medley between Catoctin and Brunswick. Catoctin's relay team was composed of Erika Oland, Liza Hill, Williams, and Jules Ellenburg. The two teams raced beside each other for the first two places, with Brunswick holding a slight advantage. Williams swam strong in the third leg, taking the lead slightly, but ultimately trailed by a couple tenths of a second heading into the last leg. Ellenburg anchored for the relay team, engaging in a back and forth affair for the win. Unfortunately, the Railroaders took the win in 2:13.81, while

Catoctin was a very close second in 2:13.93. Nonetheless, fans of both teams were treated to a fantastic race to kick off the meet.

Catoctin experienced a very similar situation in the 200-yard freestyle as the first two swimmers on the relay, Madelyn Clever and Alixandria Werlang, completed their legs in just over a minute to give Catoctin a slight lead over Brunswick. The back half of the relay, consisting of Ellenburg and Williams, simply didn't have enough left to hold off Brunswick, suffering a narrow defeat again and finishing in 2:00.79.

The Cougars had one last chance at revenge in the 400-yard relay, the last event of the meet. The team, comprised of Carly Crone, Clever, Werlang, and Hill, defeated Brunswick with ease. Crone and Clever puled the Cougars out to a seven second lead halfway through the race and Werlang and Hill opened the lead even further, as the team ultimately won by nearly twenty seconds over Brunswick. The relay team's final time was 4:42.74.

Additionally, Catoctin had many impressive individual performances. Clever took second in the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 1:29.82, while Oland took second in the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 1:16.34. In the 200-yard individual medley, Ellenburg and Clever claimed second and third, with Ellenburg finishing in 2:48.10 and Clever totaling 2:50.45. Finally, in the 50-yard freestyle, Oland took first in 32.10, while Werlang was a close second in 32.98.

Unfortunately, Catoctin High School was unable to field a boy's swim team this year. Two years ago, Catoctin had ten boys on the swim team, including plenty of talented freshmen and sophomores. However, only two boys returned to swim last year, both seniors. One was Remington Oland, a standout high school



Natalee Williams cruising to a win in the 100-yard butterfly.

athlete who is now swimming for the University of Cincinnati. While some boys considered swimming this year, in the end, they all decided against it.

In other winter sports, both basketball teams have begun their season strong. On the girl's side, the Lady Cougars picked up an impressive win over Francis Scott Key in their first game of the season. They dropped the next two and fell to 1-2, but both games were very competitive. Against South Carroll, the Cougars lost by ten, but were close most of the way. In their matchup against Boonsboro, the team lost a heartbreaker by two. Nonetheless, the team has looked solid early on in the season and will hopefully be able to build more momentum as the season continues. As for the boy's team, they also lost a heartbreaker in their season opener against Francis Scott Key. The team had a couple of opportunities to win the game, but ultimately fell by four in overtime. However, the boy's team did pick up a statement win over Boonsboro in their third game. This marks the second year in a row that the Cougars have knocked off Boonsboro, a strong team that usually per-

forms well in the area. Currently, the boy's team also sits at 1-2 and will look to pick up some more wins in the coming weeks.

The indoor track team also began their season strong at the Terry Baker Invitational at Hagerstown Community College in early December. As a team, the girls finished fourth out of eighteen teams, while the boys finished tenth out of seventeen teams. On the girl's side, Emma Strickland and Rachel Waldron combined to score 43 of the 45 points for the Cougars. Strickland ran a 45.41 in the 300-meter dash, good for fourth place and five points. She won both the 500-meter dash and the 800-meter run to score twenty more points for her team. Strickland finished in 1:26.61 in the 500 and 2:31.15 in the 800. Waldron finished first in the 1600 meter run in 5:40.00 and second in the 3200 meter run in 12:49.20, scoring eighteen points for her team along the way. The girls' 4X400 meter relay, consisting of Morgan Cato, Olivia Dart, Karlie Martinez, and Rachel Burns, finished in seventh and earned the final two points for the team.

On the boy's side, Jack Malachowski finished fifth in the 55-meter dash with a time of 6.97, earning four points for his team. Colton Clingerman finished sixth in the 800-meter run (2:15.78) to score three points and Kyle Gasior finished sixth in the 55-meter hurdles (9.24) to score another three points for the boy's team. All three relays scored for the boy's team, with the 4X200 meter relay finishing in eighth (1:46.98), the 4X800 meter relay finishing in seventh (9:40.72), and the 4X400 meter relay finishing in third (3:45.34). Together, the relays scored nine more points for the boy's team. The final point for the boys came from Jacob McIlvaine in the shot put competition. He threw 36-03.25 to secure eighth place and a point for his team.

For a full schedule of Catoctin sporting events, visit www.frederickcountymc.org and click on "Catoctin High School" on the right hand side of the page.

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MOUNT SPORTS

Women's basketball takes center stage

Samantha Barbato
MSMU class 2018

The Mount St. Mary's University Women's Basketball team is under new direction this year after the non-renewal of Bryan Whitten's contract. The leadership transition comes from a hope that change will be exactly what the team needs as they prepared for the new season ahead of them.

After a nation-wide search, the Mount Athletic Department welcomed Head Coach Maria Marchesano to the team in hopes of a bright future. Coach Marchesano comes to the Mount from a successful season as assistant head coach at IUPUI. There, Marchesano was part of a team that helped to bring the women to the most wins in a season in program history, finishing 24-9 overall and 12-4 in league play. Her first experience as a head coach half-way through the season at Urbana University in Urbana, Ohio. Here, she was able to turn around a 2-8 team, to a 12-7 record since her arrival as coach. This year, after the team qualified for D-II Ohio Independent Championships, she was named the D-II Independent Coach of the Year.

"Even before I accepted the position at the Mount, I began to hear of the basketball reputation the Mount has," says an eager Marchesano. "Our game day atmosphere is proof of how important basketball is to the people not only at the Mount, but also to the surrounding communities. Being a part of Mount basketball is special and it's something you feel when you're a part of it."

Joining Marchesano will be Ciara Geiger, who has worked alongside the new head coach during the 2015-16 season at Walsh University, along with Julie Kaufman who will also serve as an assistant coach. Coach Marchesano has transitioned easily to the Mount she says, but the cementing of her staff was what made the process even better. "This university has a lot of great qualities, but without a doubt the best quality is the people that work here. Everyone has been so helpful and once I got my staff set, things started to fall into place," she says.

The team is coming off of their 2016-2017 season with a 12-18 record which they hope to improve this year. The team lost seniors Kayla Bates, Kathleen Belanger-Finn, and Alexis Carter along with grad student Mikal Johnson, but was able to fill the lineup with six new first years. The team this year is led by seniors Katrice Dickson, Stacey Koutris, Kaitlyn Eisenhard, and Caroline Hummell. New to the team are first years Daly Sullivan, Bridgete Birkhead, Jatarikah Settle, Aryna Taylor, Hunter Rowson, and Rebecca Lee, along with redshirt first year Katrina Scheuvront. "Our six freshmen bring a variety of qualities to the team, but the biggest impact the freshmen have had has been their infectious personalities," says Coach Marchesano. "Their ability to bond with the upperclassmen while learning the ropes of college basketball has been a blessing for our team." She continues to describe the group as an "extremely caring and empathetic group" who are able to immediately

turn the switch and become very competitive at the same time. "If they continue to work hard, these six freshmen are going to win a lot of games over the course of their four year careers."

The Mountaineers have had quite a few impressive wins this season, so far and hope to have many more. The women began their home season with an opener against Loyola University. The team started their home season on a high note by cruising past the Greyhounds for a 71-63 win which was spearheaded by junior, Juliette Lawless with career-high 18 points and 9 nine rebounds, with sophomore Ashlee White (15 points) and senior Dickson (14 points) followed closely behind to put Mount further on the board.

The Mount women saw another highlight of the first half of their season when they faced Rider University in the Knott Arena. The Mount held a tight game against Rider, trailing at the half, but immediately cutting the deficit within the first few minutes of the second half. The game stayed close as Rider tied up the game 70-70 with less than two and a half minutes to remain. Free throws pushed Mount back over the edge to secure their win at the end of the game with a final score of 82-78. White demanded the game her own by scoring career-high 36 points, 26 of them being during the second half. She went 9-of-17 from the floor, 5-of-8 from three-point range, and 13-for-15 from the line to tally her 36 points. Through this performance, White is now tied for third-most points in a single game for a Mount player since the move to Division I before the 1988-89 season, the last being Myriam Bacouche who scored her 36 points against Redford in 2003. Also through this performance, White was named Northeast Conference Co-Player of the Week for the week of December 11. Backing up White, were first year Daly Sullivan with 12 points, and Lawless with 10 points.

The Mount rounded out their pre-conference competition with a win against University of Maryland-Eastern Shore thanks to a fourth quarter comeback. Leading the Mount was rookie Sullivan who scored a career-high 23 points, draining six three-pointers in the process. Lawless followed scoring 14 points throughout the game, 11 in the second half, whilst adding a team-high seven rebounds. UMES was leading the game, but Mount was able to close in on the Hawks to cut the deficit to one after Sullivan drained a pair of three-pointers, then again later when Lawless converted free throws, and finally Mount was able to capitalize by forcing a UMES turnover with a basket by White for a 61-60 advantage. The Mount held the lead for the rest of the game, ultimately ending with a score of 66-63.

Coach Marchesano described the whole team as having some really great performances within the first half of their season. "With the injuries we've had, we have had different players step up at different times." She goes on to describe Agentowicz having a strong start to her season, producing a string

of three straight 20-point games, but has also been battling off a nagging injury since mid-September. Luckily, there have been other huge performances at key moments from team members junior Lawless, senior Hummell, first year Daly, and sophomore White.

Next for the Mount comes the hectic in-conference play schedule for the new year. The women got a brief start into the conference season before the new year after facing both Central Connecticut University as well as Bryant University. The new year kicks off the bulk of the conference season with seven games in the first month. January will start with two home match-ups, the first being against Sacred Heart on Saturday, January 6, and the second against Fairleigh Dickinson on the following Monday, January 8. The team will then head North the following weekend to face St. Francis Brooklyn on Saturday, January 13. They will stay in the area to face LIU Brooklyn the following Monday. The women will stay on the road for their final away match of the month, facing Saint Francis University in Loretto, Pennsylvania on Saturday, January 20. The women will finish the month off with home games facing Robert Morris on Monday the 22, and Wagner on Saturday, January 27.

"We are really excited to get rolling with conference play," stated Coach Marchesano, "knowing that conference play will bring a whole new lev-



Sophomore Kayla Agentowicz drives to the basket against Loyola University despite a nagging ankle injury.

el of intensity and challenges for the team. We faced a lot of good teams and grew a lot during the past month and a half while navigating through our demanding non-conference schedule. Now we get to see how far we've come and where we stack up against other teams in our conference."

Join the Mount St. Mary's University Women's Basketball team as they begin fighting the in-con-

ference battles. Tickets can be purchased through a season ticket order form on the Mount Athletics webpage or through Ticket Manager Amanda Moore. Adult admission for the women's games is only \$5, youth tickets (ages 5-12) \$3, and kids under the age of four are in for free! Come support the team as well as watch Coach Marchesano's first season with your family!

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COMPLIMENTARY CORNER

You are what you eat and what you think

Renee Lehman

We have all heard the saying, "You are what you eat." On a physical level, this statement is true. Every one of your cells is replaced in about seven years, and the food that you eat helps to make up those new cells.

Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) believes that food not only provides physical nutrition, food also provides energetic support to the body. Also, TCM believes that food is medicine. It is your job to feed your body the right information to boost your healing abilities and to keep you well.

To get all the nutrients and energetic support from the food that we eat, we also need to have a strong digestive system. If your digestive system is not working well, then no matter the quality of the food you eat, you won't get the maximal benefit from it. So, if you have any digestive issues (heartburn, bloating, constipation, diarrhea, etc.) then your digestive system may have trouble processing and absorbing the nutrients needed for healing and wellness.

TCM talks about balance and harmony within and among all the organs in the body. In the past, I have written articles discussing how the different organ systems function on a body/mind/spirit level. When they are out of balance, different symptoms (messages from the body) will appear. When the digestive system is out of balance, then other organ systems will be affected. Why? — because all your organs rely on a balanced digestive system to provide them with the quantity and quality of energy (Qi) they need to function properly on a

body/mind/spirit level.

"As long as the body's major organs systems work in harmony and Qi flows freely through the meridians, there is no place for disease or illness." - Nei Jing (1st century BCE)

So how do our organ systems (especially our digestive system) become out of balance in the first place? Go back to the first sentence of this article: "You are what you eat." On a physical level, bad eating habits will influence your digestive system; but, there is more to this explanation. On a higher level, on an emotional/spiritual/consciousness level, "You are what you think!"

Think of the "emotional/spiritual/consciousness diet" that you may be on: how many negative thoughts and negative emotions are you processing? How much violence, drama, and news from TV, Radio, Newspapers, Magazines, Digital media on war, violence, politics, and abuse do you consume daily? What type of music do you listen to? Does it calm you or feed your anger? What do your personal conversations with friends and family sound like? Do these conversations promote you or shut you down?

You can think of this type of "diet" as a "You are what you think" diet. Just as you pay attention to the physical food that you consume, it is important to pay attention to the non-physical food that you are consuming. Think of all the "toxins" that need to be processed and eliminated by the digestion system. How overwhelmed is your digestive system? Personally, this is one of the reasons that I believe there are so many individuals in our modern society with digestive system disorders. Our digestive systems are over-



taxed not only by our physical diets, but also by our emotional/mental/spiritual diets!

Rethink your engagement with the news, digital media, etc. Are you consuming too much "junk?" Consider being more mindful in your consumption.

In Thich Nhat Hanh's Five Mindfulness Trainings, he makes clear that we consume not only food, but also all things that come into our senses and our consciousness:

Nourishment and Healing

Aware of the suffering caused by unmindful consumption, I am committed to cultivating good health, both physical and mental, for myself, my family, and my society by practicing mindful eating, drinking, and consuming. I will practice looking deeply into how I consume the Four Kinds of Nutriment, namely edible foods, sense impressions, volition, and consciousness. I am determined not to gamble, or to use alcohol, drugs, or any other products which contain toxins, such as certain websites, electronic games, TV programs, films, magazines, books, and conversations. I will practice coming back to the present

moment to be in touch with the refreshing, healing and nourishing elements in me and around me, not letting regrets and sorrow drag me back into the past nor letting anxieties, fear, or craving pull me out of the present moment.

You may think that you need to keep up with the news to stay aware and respond to the dramas that we read/hear/see. However, it may have the opposite effect. It may increase our fear and stress levels so that we are less likely to be peaceful inside ourselves and with others. British psychologist, Dr. Graham Davey, who specializes in the psychological effects of media violence, suggests that violent media exposure can exacerbate or contribute to the development of stress, anxiety, depression and even post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

Consider how your thoughts "feed" your spirit. Realize how your emotions impact the health of your digestive system. Consider changing your "diet." What stream of consciousness do you want to be connected to? Take in, process and absorb what is useful to you, and then let go of the waste!

"Emotions are the processing of

the mind. What do we say when we encounter too much information or emotion? "Let me sit on this," which means, "Let me find a way to digest what you're telling me." The mind is a digestive organ. Its function is to process those intangible aspects, or energetic frequencies, of the mind—consciousness, thinking, emotions, feelings, wishes, desires, intentions, imagination — even dreaming and psychic ability. This kind of energy has consciousness and purpose.

Your life and your health are based on beliefs that you choose to hold. What kind of material do you allow your mind to receive to nourish and support its growth?"

"I tell them on one level you are what you eat. On a higher level, you are what you think. This means they need to open their mind to recognize that any food's energy carries the vibration of cooperation and the love of the Universe." - Nan Lu, OMD

Renee Lehman is a licensed acupuncturist and physical therapist with 30 years of health care experience. Her office is located at 249B York Street in Gettysburg. She can be reached at 717-752-5728.



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FITNESS AND HEALTH

The 19th annual open house!

Linda Stultz
Certified Fitness Trainer

Each year I like to hold this open house for people to come and see how they can start committing to an exercise program that will improve their health while having fun. You may not think of exercising as fun but I hope I can change your mind by helping you find something you enjoy while helping you feel better. You are getting two for one and will be surprised that you may just have a great time too. This is the time of year that we all think about making a New Year's Resolution. We think of New Year's as a fresh start and this is the perfect time to do something good for you.

Over the holidays we are so busy baking and buying gifts for others that we usually don't think about ourselves. When we do think about how we feel, it is about how many cookies we ate at the office party or how tight our jeans fit all of sudden. Those extra pounds sneak up fast over the holidays and that's why we need to think about getting them off and improving our overall health for the year to come.

Some surveys have stated that the average person gains one to two pounds over the Holidays. That doesn't sound too bad until you read further and they say we never lose those pounds. Year after year of gaining a pound or two can add up over fifteen to twenty years. Proper diet and exercise can get you back to your pre-holiday size and energy level in a short amount of time. It is important to lose those pounds each time you gain them so they don't add up. I met a woman at a class I attended and she discovered how the weight accumulated over time and she didn't really see it coming. She thought, oh it is only a pound or two a year but as I stated, that was twenty years ago. That pound turned into twenty to thirty pounds now.

You may be surprised at how

much you look forward to your exercise sessions. Sometimes you feel like doing something else instead of going for a walk or doing your weightlifting program but if you remember how good you feel, both physically and mentally after a good hard workout, you will be putting your sneakers on and heading for those weights in a hurry.

I'm not telling you anything you haven't heard many times before, but I like to remind everyone that it is so important to take care of yourself. Good food and exercise are the best and safest ways to do that. I have said many times before that a person can develop a bad habit in

a few weeks but it take about six to eight weeks to develop a good habit and stick to it. Give yourself the gift of developing a good habit of eating well and starting and staying with an exercise program that you enjoy for a few months. I am certain you will feel better, improve your blood pressure, cholesterol and glucose numbers and even improve your skin, nails and of course the way your clothes fit. All of these benefits will keep you exercising for the rest of your life.

Mark your calendar and set aside a few minutes to come to my open house and see what I have to offer. This may be the best time you take for yourself and may be the start of

a whole new you. I am located at 285 Boyle Rd. Fairfield. This is just minutes from Emmitsburg, Fairfield, Gettysburg, Thurmont and you. The date of the Open House is January 6 from 10 - 1 but if this

is not convenient for you, just give me a call at 717-334-6009 to set up a time to come check out my facility for yourself. Hope to see you soon and remember to Keep Moving!

If you have any questions about getting started just call me at 717-334-6009 and remember to Keep Moving.

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ASTRONOMY

The night sky of January

Professor Wayne Wooten

For January, the largest “super-moon” of the year is on New Year’s evening’s full moon, only 221,000 miles from earth, and as big as it can appear in our sky. The celestial fireworks continue with the Quadrantid meteor shower, peaking on the morning of January 4th. The meteors will appear to come out of the NE sky. The last quarter moon is on January 8th, and the waning crescent moon passes just above a nice conjunction of Mars and Jupiter in the morning sky on January 11th. The slender waning crescent lies just above Saturn and Mercury in the dawn on January 14th. The new moon is January 16th. First quarter moon is in the evening sky on January 24th, and the second full moon of January, a “Blue Moon”, is on January 31st. Note the due to only having 28 days, this year February will have no full moons during the whole month, a very rare occurrence.

Mercury is visible in SE dawn sky in January, reaching greatest elongation 23 degrees west of the rising sun on January 1st. It passes 1.1 degrees from Saturn on January 12th. Two days earlier, Mars passes only .3 degrees from much brighter Jupiter, both rising about 3 a.m. However, Mars and the Earth will be unusually close this July, and for several weeks this summer, Mars will be even brighter than Jupiter, some-



The California Nebula, in the constellation Perseus, is a huge star-forming region nearby in our own spiral arm of the galaxy. Rumor has it, the California Nebula is home base to the Cylon battle fleet.

thing that has not happened since 2003. Venus lies behind the Sun all month, and is not visible again until the twilight in February.

The constellation Cassiopeia makes a striking W in the NW. She contains many nice star clusters for binocular users in her outer arm of our Milky Way, extending to the NE now. Her daughter, Andromeda, starts with the NE corner star of Pegasus’ Square, and goes NE with two more bright stars in a row. It is from the middle star, beta Andromeda, that we proceed about a quarter the way to the top star in the W of Cassiopeia, and look for a faint blur with the naked eye. M-31, the Andromeda Galaxy, is the most distant object visible with the naked eye, lying about 2.5 million light years distant.

Overhead is Andromeda’s hero, Perseus, rises. Between him and Cassiopeia is the fine Double Cluster, faintly visible with the naked eye and two fine binocular objects in the same field. Perseus contains the famed eclipsing binary star Algol, where the Arabs imagined the eye of the gorgon Medusa would lie. It fades to a third its normal brightness for six out of every 70 hours, as a larger but cooler orange giant covers about 80% of the smaller but hotter and thus brighter companion as seen from Earth. Also in Perseus is the California Nebula, a huge star forming region nearby in our own spiral arm of the galaxy.

Look at Perseus’ feet for the famed Pleiades cluster; they lie about 400 light years distant, and

over 250 stars are members of this fine group. East of the seven sisters is the V of stars marking the face of Taurus the Bull, with bright orange Aldebaran as his eye. The V of stars is the Hyades cluster, older than the blue Pleiades, but about half their distance. Yellow Capella, a giant star the same temperature and color as our much smaller Sun, dominates the overhead sky. It is part of the pentagon on stars making up Auriga, the Charioteer (think Ben Hur). Several nice binocular Messier open clusters are found in the winter milky way here. East of Auriga, the twins, Castor and Pollux highlight the Gemini. UWF alumni can associate the pair with Jason and the Golden Fleece legend, for they were the first two

Argonauts to sign up on his crew of adventurers.

South of Gemini, Orion is the most familiar winter constellation, dominating the eastern sky at dusk. The reddish supergiant Betelgeuse marks his eastern shoulder, while blue-white supergiant Rigel stands opposite on his west knee. Just south of the belt, hanging like a sword downward, is M-42, the Great Nebula of Orion, an outstanding binocular and telescopic stellar nursery. It is part of a huge spiral arm gas cloud, with active starbirth all over the place. You should be able to glimpse this stellar birthplace as a faint blur with just your naked eyes, and the larger your binoculars or telescope, the better the view becomes.

Last but certainly not least, in the east rise the hunter’s two faithful companions, Canis major and minor. Procyon is the bright star in the little dog, and rises minutes before Sirius, the brightest star in the sky. Sirius dominates the SE sky by 7 PM, and as it rises, the turbulent winter air causes it to sparkle with shafts of spectral fire. Beautiful as the twinkling appears to the naked eye, for astronomers this means the image is blurry; only in space can we truly see “clearly now”. At 8 light years distance, Sirius is the closest star we can easily see with the naked eye from West Florida. You must be in south Florida to spot Alpha Centauri on June evenings. Below Sirius in binoculars is another fine open cluster, M-41, a fitting dessert for New Year’s sky feast.

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—Benjamin Franklin (1907-1997)

Mid-Atlantic Weather Watch:

Windy, cold, lake-effect snow (1, 2, 3) turning fair but very cold (4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9). Light snow, mainly in the northern part of the region (10, 11, 12) again, turning fair, but very cold (13, 14, 5, 16). Windy, cold, with some lake-effect snow (17, 18, 19) returning to fair and rather cold temperatures (20, 21, 22, 23, 24). Light snow in the north (25, 26, 27); fair, rather cold (28, 29, 30, 31.)

Full Moon: Hunger Moon is the name many Native Americans called January’s full moon due to the scarcity of food at this time. It has also been called Wolf Moon because hungry wolf packs get much bolder and inch closer and closer to camps for a chance at some food. It will occur on Wednesday, December 22nd.

Special Notes: With its 2018 edition, The Hagerstown Town and Country Almanack turned 222 years old! Its founder, John Gruber, would certainly be proud that his humble publication, first published in 1797 and con-

tinuously ever since, would be hailed today as not only the second oldest almanac in the United States but is the only almanac in America still to be published by his heirs. We pledge to continue improving our look, providing those weather forecasts, and offering useful information and inspiration to help one survive in today’s world. In that way, The Town & Country Almanack will earn its place in the 21st Century as a useful and cherished reference as it had been in centuries past. Our Friends of The Almanack (FOTA) Membership Program continues into 2018 and with every new membership, our on-line readers will not only receive digital access to their favorite almanac for 2018 but also for 2019 and with great pricing on printed versions. Simply go to www.almanack.com/specials and sign up today!

Holidays: New Year’s Day on Monday, January 1st. Famed civil rights activist leader, Martin Luther King, Jr. was born on January 15th in 1929. The third Monday of January has been designated as the day of remembrance for this great leader. This year, it is January 15th which is actually his birthday! Take time to remember him on this day and reflect on the great social changes he brought about in this country

and the ultimate sacrifice he made pursuing unity and racial harmony which is still elusive today.

The Garden: Mulch landscape beds for winter if you haven’t already (and if the weather allows). Mulching prevents erosion, protects against soil freezes and thaws, and helps retain moisture - all particularly beneficial over a dry winter. There are many different types of mulch. Be sure to shake or brush off any heavy snow from the branches of your evergreens and shrubs. The light fluffy snow poses no real threat, but if it should become wet and frozen, the weight dramatically increases. Branches are more brittle when the plants are dormant, and the weight of the snow may snap them off. Our feathered friends need a reliable supply of water and food during winter. Once you start feeding them, they’ll keep returning for more, so be prepared to continue providing ample amounts of both until natural water supplies and food becomes available.

J. Gruber’s Thought For Today’s Living

“The next twelve months offers us a world of promise; it all depends on each one of us and how much we are willing to give of ourselves to help make it a better world”

COMPUTER Q&A

Getting the most from your electronics

Ayse Stenabaugh
Jester's Computer, Fairfield

Whether you acquired new devices over the holiday, or want to ensure you are properly caring for your old electronics, read on for tips on how to get the most life out of them!

Purchase an extended warranty
 Electronic devices eventually fail. No one wants to see their device fail just days or weeks outside of the typical 1 year manufacturers warranty. Protect your investment by purchasing an extended warranty for your device. Most places will let you add an extended warranty to your device within 30 days of purchase. You can also contact companies like Asurion to add a warranty to your new devices.

Good charging habits
 If you are using a rechargeable device you should always let your device drain its battery either completely or close to it before recharging the device. This is because your rechargeable devices have a memory meaning that if you keep recharging your device when it is mostly full, only the cells that are being recharged will work and you will find that your device will start to hold less and less of a charge. Eventually this process can kill your battery completely and you will only be able to use your rechargeable device while it is plugged in.

Always use power adapters and cables that are high quality and are designed for your device. It may be tempting to buy that USB cable that is at your local convenience store but think twice. Poor quality cables can not only damage the circuitry in your device, some have been the cause of electrical fires.

Keep your devices updated
 It may be tempting to skip updates because they can sometimes cause issues. If you skip updates for your devices you could be preventing performance and security patches that can keep your device running the way it should be. If you absolutely feel like its best to skip updates when they first come out, you can always update your device after a week or two. This will give the devices manufacturers a chance to push out any update fixes before you install the updates on your devices.

Perform maintenance
 Not all devices require maintenance, but it is recommended for certain devices such as computers. Regular maintenance can prevent your devices from having problems down the road. Printers for example can perform maintenance if you experience ink smearing. Cell phones may not require the usual "maintenance" however you may need to empty your memory card or download data off your phone from time to time to increase storage space.

Use guest accounts
 On computers and some tablets, you can setup guest accounts. Anytime you let someone use your device you should let them use your guest account. Typically, guest users have limited privileges, so they can't usually mess up your device. On some devices the data on a guest

account is erased after they log out preventing unwanted data from using up storage space.

Learn how to use your device
 Let's face it, hardly any electronic devices come with instructions these days and if instructions are offered they are usually

buried somewhere within the device. Learning from family and friends can be free but stressful. Jester's Computers in Fairfield offers one-on-one technology training so that you can learn exactly what you want to learn right from your very own device.

Classes are by appointment only and start at just \$25 an hour.

As always for computer repair service and technology advice you can trust contact Jester's Computer Services at 717-642-6611 or visit us on the web at www.jesterscomputers.com.




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UPCOMING EVENTS

January 1
 Fort Ritchie Community Center's Annual Polar Plunge - It's a community tradition! Take the plunge with your Fort Ritchie Community Center! All proceeds benefit the programs and services offered by FRCC - so start off the new year by giving back!! Get those pledges and make sure you wear your best costume! Prizes: Most pledges, best overall costume, most unique costume. Music, games and fire will begin at 11 a.m. with the plunge at noon! For more information call 301-241-5081.

January 4
 Mother Seton School Feast of Elizabeth Ann Seton Mass held at the Basilica of the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. Mother Seton was instrumental in creating the legacy of Catholic education in the U.S. as we know it today. Come join us as we celebrate the Feast Day of our patron saint and foundress during a special Mass in her honor with presider Archbishop Lori.

For more information call 301-447-3161 or visit www.mothersetonschool.org.

January 13
 Harney VFW's All You Can Eat Oyster and Pit Beef. Back by popular demand, the famous "Harris Seafood" will be at the Post pavilion steaming their delicious Chesapeake Bay oysters for your eating pleasure. In addition, the Pit Beef will be prepared on site for your eating pleasure. There will be steamed, raw and large padded fried oysters will be prepared on site. Along with our delicious tasting oyster stew. In addition, the Post Auxiliary will have a number of side dishes and desserts to complete the meal. Draft beer, soda and bottle water are included. Games of chances will be available. A donation of \$40 per ticket can be obtained at the post, located at 5801 Conover Road in Harney. For further information or arrangements to obtain tickets, please call the post at 410-756-6866 or Frank M. Rauschenberg at 410-756-5444.

January 14
 Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish community country breakfast. OLMC Parish Center - Buffet Style. Adults \$8, children ages 4-10 \$4, ages 3 and under free. Chance to win free breakfast out of every 25 breakfasts sold.

Music, Gettysburg! Present Felix Hell. Felix Hell, organist - The internationally renowned organist returns to his favorite instrument. Concerts are free and open to the public thanks to support for the series that comes from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, from businesses and from many individuals. All concerts (unless specially noted) take place in the chapel of the Gettysburg Seminary. For more information, call 717-338-3000 or visit www.musicgettysburg.org.

January 20
 Second Thurmont Teen Open Mic Night. The open mic night is open to teens 13-18 but younger musicians and thespians are wel-

come with parental supervision. Sets are limited to 4-8 minutes. For more information call Hilary Rothrock at 301-842-7231 or e-mail her at Info@JRothrock-Outfitters.com.

Project Gettysburg-León Nicaragua Night Auction at Gettysburg College's Field House, located between W. Lincoln & Broadway Avenues on the College campus. Project Gettysburg-León is a sister city partnership between León, Nicaragua and Gettysburg, Pennsylvania that empowers people, communities and organizations to advance sustainable development through capacity-building funds, education and cultural exchange programs. The festive auction, as PGL's major fundraising activity, is of critical importance to its program. Tickets to the auction include the buffet dinner and childcare for those with young children. Tickets are available for advance purchase or at the door (sorry, no reservations without payment). Due

to the popularity of the auction, advance purchase is highly recommended. For more information call 717-337-6490 or visit www.gettysburg-leon.org.

Cooking Class at Hollabaugh's - Authentic Mexican Favorites. Spend a morning with friends in our in-house bakery learning how to prepare several authentic Mexican recipes! Tostadas, Ensalada, Tortillas...we all love them, but do you know how to prepare them? Join us and learn how to prepare several authentic Mexican favorites! We hope to see you there! Class fee is \$30, which includes recipe booklet, all ingredients and supplies. For more information or to register call 717-677-8412 or visit www.hollabaughbros.com.

January 21
 Carillon Recitals in Baker Park, Downtown Frederick. City Carillonist John Widmann plays the 49-bell carillon mechanically using both hands and feet. Relax on the lawn of Baker Park and let the music soothe your soul. For more information call 301-846-4781 or visit www.cityoffrederick.com.

January 26
 Music Gettysburg! presents Robert Burns Night. Poetry by the Band of ayrshire, read by Jeffrey Greenawalt, and the music it inspired, played by Cormorants Fancy, with haggis, shortbread and tea to follow! Music Gettys-



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UPCOMING EVENTS

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January 27

Paint-Along at Hollabaugh's - A professional artist will walk you through the entire painting process. The basic design is pre-drawn for you. Beginners are most definitely welcome! Bring a

friend (or two) and enjoy an afternoon of creativity and fun, or meet some new friends at Hollabaugh's! Please purchase your tickets no later than one day before the event, so we can plan on seating and supplies. For more information or to register call 717-677-8412 or visit www.hollabaughbros.com.

Fort Ritchie Community Center's annual winter yard sale. For more information call 301-241-5081.

January 28

Piano recital - Brian Ganz returns to Frederick's Calvary United Methodist Church with "Chopin's Hidden Gems & All-time Favorites" as his journey to perform all the works of Chopin continues. This explo-

ration of the composer's time-honored masterpieces will include some unknowns: two Bourrees, Fugue in A-minor, and the Souvenir de Paganini. Favorites include the Waltz in C-sharp minor, Fantasy-Improvisation, and the Polonaise in

A-Flat Major. Brian's brilliant interpretations will keep you on the edge of your seat. Calvary United Methodist Church is located at 131 W Second St, Frederick. For more information call 301-662-1464 or visit www.calvaryumc.org/concerts.

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- Reichs Ford Road Yard Waste Recycling Site 9031 Reichs Ford Rd, Frederick

Please remember to remove all ornaments, lights, tinsel, garland, tree stands and plastic bags before leaving the tree at a collection site.

For additional locations and more information, please call 301-600-2960 or visit our website: www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/recycle

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Commerce Secretary Gill Focuses on New Programs During Visit to Mount St. Mary's University

Maryland Secretary of Commerce Mike Gill visited Mount St. Mary's University last month for a morning focused on two of the Mount's newest majors that offer students experiential education and excellent job prospects upon graduation: cybersecurity and entrepreneurship.

The programs allow students to continue pursuing studies in the most cutting-edge fields of the day while still benefiting from a liberal arts tradition that teaches them to be critical thinkers and creative problem solvers.

While visiting Mount St. Mary's, Gill met with President Timothy E. Trainor, Ph.D., and toured the Palmieri Center for Entrepreneurship and the Computer Science, Cybersecurity and Data (CSCD) suite. The Palmieri Center tour included Professors Donald E. Butt Jr. and Nick Hutchings, MFA, who both will be teaching entrepreneurship courses, Emmitsburg Mayor Don Briggs Sr., Jane Graves, DC, board chair of Seton Center Inc., and Sr. Martha Beaudoin, DC, director of Seton Center Inc.

Gill declared the importance of the Bachelor of Science in cybersecurity degree, noting that, "opportunities are unlimited for students who graduate from programs like this one."

At the Palmieri Center for Entrepreneurship, Christine Adamow, director of the center, described the new undergraduate major and minor in entrepreneurship, which will be offered beginning in January 2018. The interdisciplinary curriculum combines in-class activities with experiential, hands-on problem solving. Among the immersive ideas being considered to give students the opportunity to actualize ideas are a coffee shop, a brewery with hops grown on land adjacent to campus, and a makerspace.

Gill, who founded AMERICOM, a provider of cellular products and services to businesses in the Baltimore area, discussed the importance of having partners for entrepreneurial initiatives on campus. "The purpose of an entrepreneurship center is to bring ideas to the surface," he said. "Partnerships allow the ideas to become reality." He also stressed the importance of encouragement, enthusiasm and engagement.



Cheer on the Mountaineers at Home!

Men's and Women's Basketball Home Game Schedules

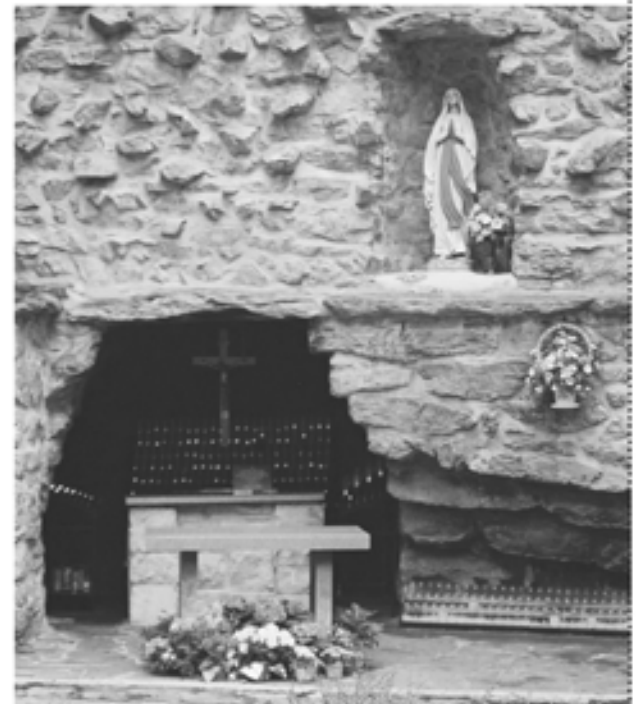
Men's Team

JAN. 4 7 p.m. vs. Bryant
 JAN. 6 4 p.m. vs. Central Connecticut
 JAN. 11 7 p.m. vs. Sacred Heart
 JAN. 25 9 p.m. vs. LIU Brooklyn
 JAN. 27 4 p.m. vs. St. Francis Brooklyn
 FEB. 3 4 p.m. vs. Saint Francis
 FEB. 15 7 p.m. vs. Fairleigh Dickinson
 FEB. 22 7 p.m. vs. Robert Morris
 FEB. 24 4 p.m. vs. Wagner

Women's Team

JAN. 6 1 p.m. vs. Sacred Heart
 JAN. 8 7 p.m. vs. Fairleigh Dickinson
 JAN. 22 7 p.m. vs. Robert Morris
 JAN. 27 1 p.m. vs. Wagner
 FEB. 3 1 p.m. vs. LIU Brooklyn
 FEB. 5 7 p.m. vs. St. Francis Brooklyn
 FEB. 17 4 p.m. vs. Bryant
 FEB. 19 7 p.m. vs. Central Connecticut

For more information about tickets, contact the ticket office at 301-447-5700. Visit www.mountathletics.com for full schedules.



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Visit nsgrotto.org for more information about the Grotto

Events

Youth Swimming Lessons at the Mount St. Mary's Pool

Winter Session Registration is Open
 Classes meet Wednesday evenings
 January 17, 24 and 31
 February 7, 14 and 21

Early Bird Discount ends January 5 at 3 p.m.
 Registration ends January 12 at 3 p.m.

For more information, visit msmary.edu/swimminglessons

For more event details please visit www.msmary.edu/calendar.