

Emmitsburg NEWS-JOURNAL

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NEWS

Elections Bring Two New Commissioners

Glenn Blanchard and Jen Melor were winners in October's elections to fill two seats on the Town Council. **Page 2**

Pippinfest Attracts Thousands

Perfect weather helped attract thousands of visitors to the annual Pippinfest event. **Page 3**

Harney to Honor Veterans

Ceremonies will include the presentation of an original Purple Heart certificate to WWI veteran Charles Rowe. **Page 4**

6th Annual Foothill Artists Studio Tour

This annual event boasts a drive-through tour featuring various local artists. **Page 36**

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With the holidays just around the corner, now is a good time to remind yourself of what is important in life. **Page 10**

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Trees are the largest living organisms on the planet, yet somehow most of us manage to overlook them. They've come to symbolize wisdom and knowledge. **Page 15**

Pets Large & Small

Do you ever find yourself marveling at how things work out sometimes? Me too, and on that on that note, boy, do I have a story for you... **Page 18**

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One of the greatest advances in intelligence gathering was the tapping into Warsaw Pact communications. **Page 26**

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Retired Ecologist

Satisfaction in a career, what I have called contentment, is possible only when you know you've done the best you can. **Page 14**

The Village Idiot

Part 4 of Jack's thoughtful look at the heroin epidemic that is killing kids in our community. **Page 35**

Emmitsburg Elementary renovations become priority

Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS) has moved the Emmitsburg Elementary up in priority on the county's list of schools needing renovations in coming years.

According to the FCPS approved Educational Facilities Master Plan, the school jumped five ranking levels from a 2011 study to the recently adopted Capital Improvement Program for 2015 to 2020.

According to the master plan, improvements and renovations needed by the Emmitsburg Elementary School include heating/ventilation/air conditioning (HVAC) replacement, parking and roadway repairs, playground equipment replacement, roof and flooring replacements, and oil tank removal.

Ray Barnes, Executive Director of FCPS Facilities Services, told the News-Journal that the Emmitsburg Elementary School was ranked at number 17 out of 24 county schools in the 2011 assessment, but has now moved up to the number 12 spot for work beginning in 2015.

Barnes said the ranking system established in the county's Education-

al Facilities Master Plan is produced to create a list of schools that are regarded as being in need of future renovations.

"We look at schools that have been constructed since 1990, and then we develop a priority list about what should be renovated and in what order," he stated. "That assessment is done every so often, and it compares physical assessment of the building to its instruction program (functional assessment) and combines the two to come up with a score."

He said the physical assessment consists of an evaluation of the building complex itself, while the "instruction program" assessment takes into consideration how the physical structure is serving the demands of facilitating the delivery of the educational program.

The "instruction program" assessment evaluates spaces within the building complex that support the program, even including the cafeteria, administrative suit, kitchen, and similar spaces. That aspect of the evaluation basically



Improvements needed by the Emmitsburg Elementary School include replacing the existing heating, ventilation & air conditioning systems, and replacing the roof and flooring.

assesses "the building for its ability to deliver the program and the quality of instructional space in the building."

"Through looking at the combination of spaces, we determine how the building is functioning relative to the program," Barnes said.

Out of a possible score of 1,000 in each category, Emmitsburg Elementary scored 451 in physical assessment and 631 in functional assessment as a result of the re-evaluation, producing a total score of 1082, which resulted in an heightened ranking of 12th place.

Strawberry Hill holds fundraiser

Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve will be holding its 12th annual auction fundraiser, Party for the Preserve, November 2 at Liberty Mountain Resort. The auction will take place from 6 to 10 p.m. in the Alpine Room and will be open to the public.

This year, the fundraiser dinner theme is "Guess Hoos Coming to Dinner," featuring a surprise guest for those attending.

The event will also feature live, silent, and ball jar (Chinese) auctions, with entertainment provided by accomplished Orrtanna musician, Tom Jolin, playing various instruments. "This is going to be a fun night," Kay Deardorff, Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve Promotion and Outreach Coordinator, said.

The fundraiser will offer a variety of items, including photographs, oil and watercolor paintings, pottery, hand-crafted woodwork, fanciful dinners, bed and breakfast getaways, stained glass art, outdoor gear, gift certificates, and other products.

The items to be auctioned have been donated by local artists, businesses, and Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve supporters.

Some of the major sales at last year's auction included a bed and breakfast getaway in Philadelphia, dinners hosted by local supporters,

general arts and crafts, and various themed gift baskets.

According to Deardorff, the event usually generates about \$15,000 to \$20,000 annually. "Our goal is actually \$20,000 at this year's event," she stated. "This is our major fundraiser for the year."

The money raised "supports our facility upgrades and educational programs," she said. As part of making the auction successful, Deardorff said, "We depend on the donations and the sponsorships that come in through the auction."

Money raised last year has been allocated for bathroom facility work (with groundbreaking scheduled for late winter or spring) and educational programs. Some wildlife rehabilitation additions are also planned.

Other upcoming fundraisers include the Twisted Turkey Trail Tussle to be held November 16, where some 200 runners are expected this year to participate in the power walk and 10K trail run.

Educational programs offered by the preserve which fund-raising helps support, include the summer camps, maple sugaring, demonstrations and presentations for school groups, and adult programs, such as the Nature of the Gettysburg Battlefield Series.



Supporters of Strawberry Hill will gather to celebrate the Preserve's accomplishments for the past year.

The cost of operating Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve varies from year-to-year, but the facility does employ two full-time staff members, five part-time naturalists, and two part-time office staff, as well as a college intern.

About 5,000 students visit the site each year as a result of field trips or other organized group at-

tendance, while adult attendance varies throughout the year.

The Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve is located at 1537 Mount Hope Road, Hamiltonban Township. For additional information on the preserve or participation in various events, visit the Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve web site at www.strawberryhill.org.

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NEWS

They said yes!

Megan Kinsella, our English Editor and Kelly Conroy, our Assistant Editor, just recently began a new stage of their lives after graduating from Mount St. Mary's University, and they are about to embark on yet another journey: we got notice just before we went to press that they both are now engaged to be married!

Megan and Kelly have always been positive role models through their academics, sports, and involvement in the community. The quality of this paper is a direct result of hours upon hours of hard work by these ex-

ceptional individuals over the span of four years.

In addition to making an impact on the paper, they each made such an impact on the Mount. Both were chosen as two of four winners of a prestigious award at the Mount's sports banquet last semester. The other two recipients? Their fiancées! This just goes to show how compatible these two couples really are, and how deserving they are of each other's love. Please join us in wishing Megan and Kelly heartfelt congratulations as they begin this exciting new chapter of their lives.



Kelly Conroy



Megan Kinsella

Two elected to Board of Commissioners

Two vacant seats on the Emmitsburg Board of Commissioners were filled in the October 1 town election, one seat being filled by a former commissioner and the second filled by a first time board member.

Elected by town voters were former Commissioner Glenn Blanchard and Jennifer Mellor, who were sworn into office by Mayor Donald Briggs at the board of commissioners' October 7 meeting.

Following the administration of the oath of office, Blanchard thanked his supporters and stated that he "appreciated the opportunity to work for the Town of Emmitsburg again."

Mellow stated, "I would like to thank everyone who came out and voted, especially those who voted for me."

Blanchard was initially elected to the board of commissioners in 2005. In February of this year, he resigned his seat on the board "due to ongoing health issues." Former Mayor James Hoover was appointed to serve the remainder of Blanchard's term.

Mellor was the only candidate among four running who has not previously served on the board of commissioners, but has served on the town Parks and Recreation Committee. Prior to her serving on the town committee, she served as the program director for the Westminster Recreation and Activities Department.

The seats filled represent three-year terms, and were those preoccupied prior to the election by Hoover (finishing out Blanchard's vacated term) and Patrick Joy.

Hoover chose not to run to retain his appointed seat in this year's election. Incumbent Joy did run, but failed to secure reelection to his seat on the board. Joy was elected to his first term on the board in 2010, and a victory would have represented his second term as a commissioner.

A fourth candidate, former Commissioner Joyce Rosensteel, also failed to acquire a seat on the board. Rosensteel, who had served as a commissioner since 2002, was defeated in the same election in which Blanchard was initially elected.

Six candidates had filed to run for election to the board in this election, but two of those, Rosario Benvenuti and former Commissioner Denise Etris, withdrew before the election as held.

The election results were as follows:

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Letters to the Editor, notice of upcoming events, news stories, and interesting and creative articles are welcome and may be submitted via regular U.S. Mail to P.O. Box 543, Emmitsburg, MD 21727, by email to editor@emmitsburg.com, or at our office on the square - 1 East Main Street.

- Glenn Blanchard, 124
- Jennifer Mellor, 103
- Patrick Joy, 84
- Joyce Rosensteel, 43

Town Clerk Donna DesPres said that 185 voters cast their votes in this year's town election. There are 1,715 registered voters in Emmitsburg, she stated.

The position of mayor and one seat on the board of commissioners will be up for election during next year's town election to be held on September 30, DesPres said.

Commission members are compensated \$4,000 annually. The mayoral position, which is not up for reelection, is compensated at \$8,000 annually.

Contract dispute 'fixed' by altering minutes

The Emmitsburg Board of Commissioners voted at their October 7 meeting to amend the minutes of a special meeting held September 23 to "legitimize" a contract that had been signed under somewhat controversial circumstances, a move objected by Commissioner Chris Staiger.

The contract in question is between the town and Rockville-based

Standard Solar, and authorized the company to begin work on a solar energy installation to be constructed at the wastewater treatment plant site. In a separate contract, Standard Solar also agreed to lease ground at the site for the solar installations.

A special meeting of the town commissioners was held September 23 to consider approval of the two

proposed contracts.

Things began to go awry when, as Commissioner and board President Tim O'Donnell stated at the October 7 meeting, O'Donnell mistakenly restated a motion made by Commissioner and board Vice president Clifford L. Sweeney concerning the adoption of the two contracts.

O'Donnell said Sweeney had made a motion to approve both contracts, but when O'Donnell restated Sweeney's motion to bring it up for a vote, he left out reference to the work contract and only mentioned the lease contract.

The motion was approved, with Commissioner Staiger voting against.

The two contracts were then signed by town administrators, which subsequently led to a series of internal town emails regarding

whether or not the contract for the actual work had been legal.

Town accountant Vickie Felix, who prepares meeting minutes, wrote to Town Manager David Haller on September 24, "The way the motion was stated at last night's meeting for the solar project contract only accepted the land lease agreement and did not include the power purchase agreement. Is it ok for me to alter the motion (in the minutes) to include the PPA? Please advise."

Haller responded, "I feel certain the intent was to approve the entire project, since both contracts were signed."

In response to being copied in the emails, Staiger subsequently wrote to town staff stating, "I'd be curious to hear what the board presi-

dent thinks. Regardless, the administration should not be making any changes to the minutes of any board meetings."

On September 25, Haller sent an email stating that the town could be sued by the contractor if the legitimacy of the contract were to be disputed. "If UGI (UGI Utilities Inc.) and Standard Solar start the project which it appears you approved Monday night they will suit (sic) the town for any and all damages," he said. To which Staiger replied, "If anybody is getting sued, it's because the mayor signed a contract that wasn't explicitly approved by the board of commissioners."

The board then agreed at their October 7 meeting to alter the minutes of the September 23 meeting to reflect that both contracts had been approved as a result of Sweeney's motion, with Staiger voting against.

Staiger subsequently told the News-Journal, "Since both contracts were signed when only the lease contract had been voted on, they needed to find a solution," further stating, "Mayor Briggs and Commissioner O'Donnell coached Commissioner Sweeney to invent a second motion approving the power purchase agreement that was never actually made or voted on at the 09-23 meeting."

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Hamiltonban allocates fire funds

At their October 1 meeting, the Hamiltonban Township Board of Supervisors distributed money allocated by the state to the various fire companies that serve the township.

The distribution of funds was based on the percentage of emergency responses provided by each of the fire companies to the township.

This allocation year the state Volunteer Firefighters' Relief Association provided Hamiltonban Township with \$19,125 repre-

senting the municipalities' annual share of a two-percent tax imposed by the state on fire insurance premiums written by insurance companies that are not incorporated in Pennsylvania.

Of the \$19,125 allocation, the supervisors voted unanimously to provide Fountaindale Volunteer Fire Company with 50 percent, representing \$9,562.

Fairfield Fire & EMS was allocated 30 percent, or \$5,737, while Cashtown Community Fire Department and South Mountain Vol-

unteer Fire Company were each allocated ten percent, or \$1,912.

In other fire department related business, the supervisors directed the township solicitor to produce a memorandum of understanding (MOU), which, when completed, will produce an agreement, between the municipality and the various fire companies that serve it, containing specific stipulations of what is expected of those emergency services.

Board of supervisors Chairman Robert L. Gordon stated that the

Adams County Council of Government (COG) recommended that municipalities establish MOUs with their respective fire services.

"We've never done this in the past," Gordon said, "but this is recommended (by COG)," that all municipalities "have one to agree who is to do what."

In other business, the supervisors noted that a public hearing regarding will be coming up regarding a conditional use permit required by a proposed communications tower that will be part of the county's new communication system upgrade.

The county is proposing to

construct the tower in a portion of Michaux State Park located in Hamiltonban Township in the vicinity of Teaberry and Cold Spring roads.

Secretary/Treasurer Deborah Feiler said the county will have to obtain a conditional use permit from the township to erect the tower because the tower would be located on land designated as Woodlands Conservation by the municipality.

Editor's Note: The meeting conditional use hearing is scheduled for 7 p.m., October 31, at the township office.

Carroll Valley increases part-time police salary

Following on the heels of the resignation of a part-time police officer, Carroll Valley Borough Council decided at their October 15 meeting to increase the pay scale for part-time police from \$16 to more than \$20 per hour.

Patrolman Dan Lanious resigned from the force effective September 30. Lanious had been on the force since 2007, borough Police Chief Richard L. Hileman told the News-Journal.

As a part-time officer, Lanious worked an average of under 30 hours a week, borough Secretary Gayle Marthers told the newspaper, noting that "some weeks he worked up to 32 hours."

The position carries no benefits, being a part-time job, and the pay, until the council's October 15 meeting, was locked-in at \$16 an hour.

Hileman told the council that his concern with finding a replacement for the vacated posi-

tion was that the pay rate was too low to attract many applicant. Liberty and Cumberland townships, he said, are around \$18.50 an hour, while Gettysburg is around \$18.

In addition, the chief noted, while the position he wishes to fill to replace Lanious is a part-time job, in actuality it is "a part-time officer working a full-time position." On top of that, he said, part-timers are not provided with any benefits.

Hileman pointed out that part-time officers with most forces only fill-in as needed, while in Carroll Valley, the part-time position is that of a front line officer who has regular on-duty hours of operation.

"In fairness, we may have some difficulty with finding a part-time officer," Hileman stated in reference to the surrounding municipalities paying more money per hour and the fact that this is not just a fill-in position.

Councilman Ken Lundberg agreed, saying, "Our salary bar is not compatible with some of the other departments in the area." Council President John Van Volkenburgh concurred, stating, "I'm for a pay rate increase."

With that said, the council agreed to raise the pay scale for a part-time officer to \$21.50 per hour.

Councilman Neal Abrams said, in closing, "We're going to miss Dan Lanious. He was one of those guys who was just always there."

Pippinfest attracts thousands

A combination of perfect weather and the efforts of Fairfield Borough Pippinfest Committee were credited for attracting thousands of visitors at the annual Pippinfest event.

Pippinfest was held this year on September 28 and 29, and represented the 32nd year of the apple harvest celebration.

Thousands of individuals flocked to the year's event from near and far, thronging Main Street and the back alleys to a degree that had not been seen for some time. This year's event seem to have been one of the most heavily attended Pippinfest street fes-

tivals to have been held over the past number of years.

Pippinfest Committee Chairwoman Sally Thomas briefs the Fairfield Borough Council at their October 22 meeting regarding the event, as well as future plans to expand upon it.

Regarding the heavy turn-out over the two days of the event, Thomas said, "It was marvelous. Think we're on the right track" in providing what those attending the event are expecting.

Thomas became chairwoman of the Pippinfest Committee three years ago, and stated that her first year of organizing the event "was a learning

curve," but that the experience resulted in the past two events having been "in the black" when it came to avoiding a loss of money in holding them.

She said this year's festival was also "very successful for all of the non-profits involved. We're going to bring the event back like is used to be."

More than 60 craft and food vendors participated in this year's event.

Thomas also informed the council on the committee's tentative plans for the 2014 Pippinfest.

Thomas said next year one of the objectives would be to concentrate more activity on Main Street, transfer-



Thousands descended on Fairfield to enjoy the 32nd Annual Pippinfest.

ring a number of the vendors from the lot currently used next to the Fairfield Fire & EMS firehouse.

That lot may instead be used for a concentration of children's and family activities and games.

She said the committee is looking at two lots on Main Street which

could be used as a new, future vendor location.

Thomas said, "This event would not happen (every year) without the support of everybody in the community...I have the most amazing committee you will find anywhere. I think we're on the right track."

Fairfield area news briefs...

Fairfield budget passed, no tax hike

The Fairfield Borough Council voted at their October 22 meeting to adopt the 2014 municipal budget which will not incur a tax increase.

The 2014 budget was approved in the amount of \$166,732, which includes \$52,000 for police coverage (provided by the Carroll Valley Borough Police Department), \$28,450 for secretary/treasurer salary and associated expenses, \$13,700 for municipal building related expenses.

The council agreed to set the tax rate at 1.1575 mills, representing no increase over the current tax rate.

The last time Fairfield Borough raised its tax rate was for the 2011 budget to reflect the change in the value of a mill that occurred as a result of the county-wide re-assessment.

Carroll Valley to hold hearing

The Carroll Valley Borough Council will be holding a public hearing at their November 12 meeting regarding a changes to the zoning ordinance which, if adopted, would help pave the way for a significant, proposed developed.

The development which would

be most directly affected by the ordinance change would be that proposed by Eluma, who is proposing to construct a phased housing project on a 107-acre wooded site bordered by Sanders and Tract roads and butted-up against the borough's K-section residential area.

The changes to the zoning ordinance proposed only concern cluster housing, a housing category that the developers are interested in employing in lieu of the potentially less economically viable single family homes currently permitted.

Elected official pay raise proposed

The Fairfield Borough Council will be holding a public hearing at their November 26 meeting regarding a proposal to increase the salaries of the mayor and members of the council.

The council voted to advertise their intent to consider granting the raises at their November meeting.

The increases would bring the annual salary of mayor from \$650 to \$1,200, would increase the annual sal-

ary of the council president from \$500 to \$1,200, and would increase the annual salaries of council members (other than that of the council president) from \$350 to \$1,000.

State Borough Code, Section 1001. (e)(1) sets the maximum compensation for members of council in boroughs with a population of less than five thousand at \$1,875.00, thus the proposed salaries remain well below the maximum allowed by law.

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NEWS

'Little Shop of Harney' features handmade wares

A Harney woman has launched an arts and crafts business just outside of Emmitsburg that will feature homemade products created by a number of artisans.

Harney resident Susan Beck held the grand opening of her new store, Little Shop of Harney, on October 19.

The store is located at 5036 Harney Road in the community of Harney, situated on the corner of Harney and Conover roads, about five minutes from Taneytown, ten minutes from Littlestown, and eight minutes from Gettysburg.

Beck said the shop will initially be featuring the work of four artists, including items made by herself as well as wares made by Pane in the Glass (formerly located in Waynesboro), Herbal Earthling, and Mindful Threads.

The array of hand-made products includes stained glass, crochet goods, hats and scarves, soaps, lotions, shadow boxes, jewelry, different types of tea, and other wares.

"Everything is hand-made," she said, also noting, "New things are going to be arriving monthly. Every month I would imagine there will be something new and different."

She described the store as a cooperative of artists, not a consignment shop. "I charge \$25 a month to display their art. Whatever they sell, they keep all their money. They just pay \$25 to rent the space, so to speak."

Beck herself specializes in stained glass. "I do the foil method, small and large panels, sun catchers, custom work, and mosaic, and will probably add, in the next few months, fused glass done with a kiln and lamp bead working."

Beck is also looking for other artists who produce homemade items who may want to sell their items in her store. "I'm always looking for new artists to display."

Regarding establishing the store in Harney, she stated, "We're just trying to get Harney to come back like it was

with a little bit of industry because we're so close to Emmitsburg and Gettysburg."

The store is located in a former hotel that was constructed in 1861. During World War II, the building was used as a factory manufacturing parachutes and American flags. Afterward, it served as a Hess furniture manufacturing operation.

The store hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, and noon to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. The shop is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays.

For additional information, contact Beck on the store phone number at 443-487-3705.



The Little Shop of Harney is located in a former hotel that was constructed in 1861. During World War II, the building was used as a factory that manufactured parachutes and American flags.

Harney to honor veterans

On Saturday, November 9, the Monocacy Valley Memorial VFW Post 6918, located in Harney, Maryland will host its annual Veteran's Day Observance at the Post at 3 pm.

Post Commander Albert Angell said Veterans Day is a time to pause, to reflect and recognize the challenges and sacrifices of veterans who have served and continue to serve in the United States Armed Forces.

Members of the Monocacy Valley Memorial Post 6918 have em-

braced the Post Memorial wall with names of our fallen comrades. At the conclusion of the program, Post Commander Albert Angell and the Presidents of the Men's and Ladies Auxiliaries will participate in the laying of the wreath at the post memorial wall.

During the ceremonies an original 'Purple Heart' certificate of World War I veteran Sergeant Charles J. Rowe will be formally presented to the Monocacy Valley Memorial Post.

Sgt. Charles J. Rowe, a well-

known Emmitsburg resident, was wounded during the Battle of the Argonne Forest, part of the final Allied offensive of World War I. The certificate was found on E-Bay and purchased by a local resident who recognized its significance.

The Honor Guard of the Post will give a 21-gun salute to honor all of our veterans and the sounding of taps for our fallen veterans. Members of the Post will be joined by the riders of the Maryland Patriot Guard Riders who have supported the Wounded



Warriors program and continue to support the families of fallen veterans.

The public and all veterans and their families are invited to attend the program and to participate in this special occasion. Food and drinks will be available in the canteen for a nominal price at the completion of the program. Please contact Frank M. Rauschenberg at 410-756-5444 for further information.

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One hundred years ago this month

November 7

Wildcat Spotted

It will be remembered that from time to time stories have been told of local wildcat encounters. Few of these stories were overdrawn. The attention of Ward Brown, of Emmitsburg, who was working in the woods back of Mount St. Mary's College the other day, was attracted by an animal which he took to be a skunk, but which upon closer inspection proved to be an unusually large catamount, nearly a yard in length.

Not knowing whether, unarmed, to attempt an attack upon it, fearing that it might spring upon him, he sat down at a respectable distance from it to lay deep plans. But before you could come to a definite decision the considerate cat took to the bushes and Brown resumed his occupation.

Vote Not Counted

In the election on Tuesday, James Farrell took along with him into the booth a sample ballot which caused his vote to be thrown out, at least not counted. When the time came to deposit his ballot, the judges were equally divided on whether it should be counted, and the ballot was placed in an envelope and delivered to the board of elections. The law provides that a facsimile ballot should not be taken into the election booth by a voter. Some claimed the sample ballot was a facsimile, while others claimed to be such it should contain the same on both sides as the official ballot contains. When later questioned about the ballot fiasco, Mr. Farrell indicated he was disgusted and intended to move to Florida.

To Jail for Happy Christmas

A resident of the mountain, styling himself "the original henpecked husband," appeared before the magistrate and asked to be jailed for six months to escape the constant nagging of his wife and daughters. He begged with tears in his eyes that he be sent to jail for at least two months, as he "wanted to have a happy Christmas." It is rumored, but not confirmed, that his wife is a member of the Equal Suffrage League, and so his plea is a harbinger of things to come for all males if women should ever get the right to vote.

Halloween

It is understood that the rollicking observations of Halloween is of pagan origin. Judging from this year's observation in Emmitsburg, few, if any, of the pagan features have been eliminated.

November 14

Death of Dr. Reigle

On Wednesday afternoon the community was saddened to learn of the death of Dr. Reigle, after a long illness. Dr. Reigle was widely known and much respected citizen of Emmitsburg, and passed away at his home on East Main St.. Dr. Reigle who was veterinarian, had a large practice which was not confined to this immediate community. Until his illness, which had begun about a year ago, Dr. Reigle was very active and a familiar figure in this district. Some time ago he retired from active business life. Funeral services were held at the Reformed church, of which he was a member, and interment was in the Mountain View Cemetery.

School News

The following children are on the roll of honor for attendance at the Hayfield School House for the fall term: Ivy Brown, Nora Harbaugh, Bernadette Orndorff, Catherine Orndorff, Arthur Lingg, Clarence Lingg, Pious Kelly, and James Orndorff.

The Emmitsburg grammar school will present "The Courtship of Miles Standish" the latter part of this month.

The spelling bee at the Annandale school on Friday evening last was largely attended. Besides quite a contingent of town folks, many patrons of the school attended. Ms. Clara Rowe is the present teacher.

Impressive Apple

The center of interest in the apple exhibition at the Hagerstown Fair was a Stayman Winesap weighing 16 1/2 ounces. This specimen was from the orchard of Mr. John Hollinger, of Emmitsburg, whose fruits has acquired an enviable reputation among the orchardist of Maryland. This week alone Mr. Hollinger shipped 306 barrels of apples from his orchard. Including the 500 barrels sold in Emmitsburg, Mr. Hollinger has sold 1,500 bushels altogether this season.

Admiral Bushman Readies Fleet

Realizing that it will only be a matter of days until the Mexican situation will reach a crisis, Admiral Bushman is putting the Flat Run Fleet in readiness to sail to southern waters. The Board of Strategy of the Naval Annex of Harney University has been in executive session night and day for two weeks making plans for the combined attack on the Mexican arsenal of Coca-Cola Bay.

Admiral John Glass will be commanding the fleet, now coaling at Turkey Run, where it is expected that the Zorro Zouaves, under command of Col. Dan Shorb will go aboard. The Dry Bridge Dragoons will also form part of this command, which would take orders from Commodore Cornelius Buckingham, who will be the chief officer of the gunboat "Sardine." Nick Keller has been carrying cipher dispatches to Gen. Bill Snyder, who for the past 10 days has been secreted in a cider barrel in the cellar of the Mexican president's palace.

Gen. Jerry Overholzer will have entire charge of the wireless towers, recently erected on Poplar Ridge. With this system, which is entirely new and the invention of Major Hiram Ranger, it is expected that the secret plans of the Strategy Board will be carried out.

The signal for the fleet to sail will be the explosion a 6,000 pop bottles from Carrick's Knob. In the event of hostilities daily bulletins will be posted at Dry Bridge, Whitman's Wharf, Pig's Misery and other seaports in the area.

November 21

Dog Fight Causes Runaway

Owing to a dogfight, a runaway which might have been serious, occurred on Monday morning in front of the garage on Frederick Street. A horse belonging to Mr. Eiker took fright, demolishing the buggy. Mr. Eiker was thrown to the ground but not seriously hurt. The horse was stopped at the railroad station.

Three Escape From Jail

John Myers, Charles Wills, and Charles Hess were arrested on Saturday night, charged with breaking the locks and hinges on the town lockup.

Within a half-hour after Myers and Wills had been locked in the jail, Hess



The remains of the Hayfield one-room schoolhouse on Old Frederick Road, located next to the back entrance to the Mount's Sports Complex.

who had been able to furnish bail, and was therefore a freelancer for the time, visited the prison, calmly unscrewed the hinges on the doors and liberated his two friends. They were caught later by Victor Rowe, District Deputy Sheriff, and John Matthews, police justice for the Emmitsburg, who, after searching the neighborhood, found the fugitives drinking near Crystal Iron Springs.

The offenses for which the men were arrested occurred on October 14. They are alleged to have broken into the home of David Hardman, near Emmitsburg, on that day, and to have stolen a quantity of cider and vegetables. Owing to difficulty in finding the culprits, the warrants were not served until last Saturday.

When arrested Myers and Wills were very much under the influence of liquor, and magistrate Matthews refused to give them a hearing. They were placed in the lockup. Hess, being sober, was given a hearing, and his bail fixed at \$500, which he furnished.

When it was found that the prisoners had departed, Deputy Sheriff Rowe, immediately secured an automobile and with Magistrate Matthews toured the neighborhood. The men were found near Crystal Iron Springs, brought back to Emmitsburg and given a hearing on Monday morning and additional charges of jail breaking were added to the charges against the prisoners. The bail of Myers and Wills was fixed at \$300, which they were unable to furnish. Hess was again released on a \$500 bond he had very he had already furnished and told not to break his friends out again.

The Battle of Gettysburg Movie

The New York Motion Picture Com-

pany will present "The Battle of Gettysburg", a \$75,000 production, in five reels, which will be shown in Thurmont's town hall, one night only, Monday, November 24. Come early if you wish to secure a seat. This is without question the greatest military film ever produced.

November 28

Fountaindale Man Assaulted

One Sunday night David Wilkenson, of near Fountaindale, a trapper by trade, heard a noise in his barn where he is accustomed to storing hides and pelts. Upon opening the door, a man, who had evidently entered the building with the intention of "making a haul" sprang at him and hit him a severe blow on the head with a heavy club.

Regaining his feet, Wilkenson knocked the man down. Just then another intruder felled Wilkenson, breaking his collarbone and arm and seriously bruising him about the head. It is understood that there are sufficient clues to lead to the apprehension of the assailants.

Taneytown Defeats Emmitsburg

The Emmitsburg Duck Pin team was defeated by the Taneytown team last Thursday evening at the Matthews Bowling Alley by a margin of 110 pins. The Emmitsburg team claimed the win was due to cheating by the Taneytown team and demanded a rematch. The rematch was held Wednesday evening at which time the Emmitsburg team was defeated this time by 240 pins. No rematch is expected.



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FROM THE DESK OF . . .

State Delegate Kelly Shultz

There is an increasing drug epidemic in Frederick County and throughout the state. The facts are difficult to refute and show a dramatic increase in usage over the past year. In fact, the use and abuse of heroin has increased 300% in the past year – with the unfortunate outcome of a similar increase in deaths. There are many reasons to be considered regarding this increase, but a very important aspect for our community to consider is the awareness that this is actually occurring.

On September 30, I, along with Sheriff Chuck Jenkins, hosted a parental awareness program for all parents in the community to learn about this issue that is having a dramatic effect on our youth. My goals were to educate our community on the

overall scope of the problem and then to provide information on available resources. The event was well attended, but the Sheriff and I knew that we could not stop with one forum. More parents need to know how to help our children. The unsettling fact that most parents are not aware of the scope or the resources became very apparent over the course of the evening.

Throughout the past 4 weeks, my office has been working with all elected leaders at all levels of government to come up with a plan to increase the awareness countywide. We have heard from dozens of people throughout our area on ideas and formats that would be beneficial and I am very pleased to say that progress is being made. The Board of County Commissioners, Munic-

ipal leaders, Board of Education, the Sheriff's Office, the State's Attorney's Office, and the Frederick County Delegation have all been working together on our common mission of educating parents who need to know so that they can be a part of the solution in their children's lives.

In 2004, the Maryland General Assembly passed a law that required every county to form a Drug and Alcohol Commission. Frederick County does indeed have a commission, but it has not focused on parent awareness. There is a great deal of work that needs to be done, and assisting in their efforts is crucial to achieving our goals. The ability to work along with an existing organization will help to reduce the initial start-up times that have a tendency to occur with new community organizations. The group will consist of leaders within our community that care about your children!

The goal will be to educate parents through many different existing services. The Frederick

County Board of Education has agreed to allow information on upcoming forums and resources to be advertised through their very effective "Find Out First" communication system. They have also agreed to allow the use of their facilities for any future awareness events. I am thankful for their interest in working with the community for betterment of the children. Education is a key responsibility of your elected leaders, and we are moving forward with our commitment.

The resources that were discussed at our first forum were very well received by those in attendance, but the reality that most did not know that they existed is a problem that needs a solution. Our leadership advisory group will be working with the resource providers to develop a document that all parents will be able to access that includes information on where to go for help when they need it the most. I have, over the past several months, heard horror stories from parents who do not feel that there is any place to turn to

for help during their crisis situations. We will work to correct that impression.

Awareness is the first step in finding solutions to this epidemic. There are many more steps that need to be taken in order to protect our children from a lifetime of drug abuse. Enforcement, sentencing and policy decisions will all be necessary conversations that need to be had within our community. I, along with the other community leaders involved, are willing to discuss these issues and work to come up with solutions.

If you are in need of resources, or have any questions about available care, please do not hesitate to contact my office in the interim. We are open to suggestions on the format of our meetings and will be listening to your concerns. This group intends to be responsive to the needs of the community...because our children are worth it!

To contact Delegate Kelly Schulz email her at: kelly.schulz@house.state.md.us, or call her office number: 301-304-0619

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GOVERNMENT—SOUTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

County Commissioner Blaine Young

Albert Einstein once said: "If the facts don't fit the theory, change the facts." We feel this aptly applies to the recent letter criticizing the financial actions of the current Board of County Commissioners.

The previous letter noted that the county budget has dramatically increased since this board took office after flat funding during the Jan Gardner term. That is not true. When these county commissioners ran for office together, they pledged to get the county's fiscal house in order.

Some have not understood that the budget has increased due to the inclusion of the fire and rescue tax, totaling \$42.2 million in FY 2014 in the General Fund.

Furthermore, the separate fire tax expenditures in the last budget adopted by the Gardner Board for FY 2011 was \$44.7 million, while the separate fire tax expenditures rolled into the General

Fund by this board in FY 2014 was \$42.2 million. This represents a 5% decrease in spending as compared to the Gardner Board.

One must look at what has increased in the operating budget, some of which increased only because this board made the fiscally prudent and responsible action by fixing the long-term problem with our fire tax districts and rolling them into the General Fund.

Had these commissioners operated the way the Gardner Board did, the fire tax expenditures would have continued to hemorrhage tax dollars for years and years. When the four of us ran for office together, we pledged to get the county's fiscal house in order.

Since taking office this current Board of County Commissioners has reduced the overall size of the county government workforce while at the same time the county has grown in population. In 2009 there were 2,624 budgeted merit

positions on the county payroll. In FY 2014, there are 2,190. This is a smaller, leaner workforce than in 2004. This was done without any loss in services to the taxpayers.

It was also referenced that this board was sacrificing the quality of life to developers. Again, that is not true and is a myth. In 2007, 788 new housing permits were issued by the county; in 2010, the last full year of the Gardner Board, there were 577 permits and for 2012 there were 500 new dwelling unit permits issued. That is a 13% decline in permits from the Gardner Board! Clearly, the developers are not running the show at Winchester Hall or running wild in Frederick County!

The letter writer also stated that the Gardner Board brought the county its first AAA bond rating. While true he fails to mention that – because of the Gardner Board's fiscal actions, the county received a subsequent down-

grade. Our board received an upgraded bond rating from Fitch after taking immediate action.

The letter writer also said that the Gardner Board budget started at \$436 million. This is also incorrect. That was the FY 2007 adopted budget that was adopted by the previous Board of County Commissioners. The first Gardner Board adopted budget was \$472 million. That was an immediate \$36 million increase in government spending, or an 8% increase from the previous year. Compare this to only a 4.9% spending increase over the previous three years by this board which equates to a 1.63% annual incremental increase! The Gardner Board spent the fund balance and pretty much every other dollar they could locate in their term in office.

They also raided the recordation and bond enhancement funds. This board has not raided the bond enhancement

fund! This board has replenished the fund as well as other unfunded liabilities such as pension and OPEB (Other Post Employment Benefits).

The bottom line – and the facts – is that the Gardner Board grew county government to the largest it had ever been with budgeted positions. We were left a budget mess to clean up, a fire tax in crisis, and we were chosen to clean up and fix the mess made by the Gardner Board. We note that Ms. Gardner is now considering coming back to the county, after this board has made the tough decisions that corrected and strengthened the county's fiscal house.

This board has fulfilled its pledge! In closing here is a quote from Abraham Lincoln: "I am a firm believer in the people. If given the truth, they can be depended upon to meet any national crisis. The great point is to bring them the real facts."

This board trusts that it has indeed met that obligation with the real facts.

Former Commissioner Pat Joy

Hello Emmitsburg. First I want to acknowledge the fantastic job Chris Staiger did in writing this column for the last few years. I know we loved his clear writing style, honesty, wit and subtlety. I will endeavor to live up to the high standard he has set. The first order of business for the town was the election of two new Commissioners. Glenn Blanchard, who resigned suddenly last year, got his health in order and won his old seat. Jennifer Mellor, a new face out of Silo Hill, received the second highest number of votes. I am sure we wish them all the best.

At the October 7th meeting, the Town Council had a few items. The first was a cleanup action from the Special meeting on September 23rd. The Council needed to approve both the contract and power purchasing agreement for the new solar farm to be built at the Town's sewage plant on Cream-

ery Road. Unfortunately, the motion was unclear and it appeared that only the contract was approved. Cliff Sweeney amended the minutes to clear up the intention of his motion although as Chris Staiger said, it unclear if this was proper (no legal opinion was obtained from the Town attorney). But since both the contract and the power purchasing agreement were already signed and no one is challenging the arrangement, the issue is moot.

These are the type of problems that arise when the Town Council is not brought into the discussion until the last second. The Mayor and town manager were not even seeking the Town Council approval for the solar project until it was brought to their attention by the Council, that the Mayor cannot approve a \$1 million dollar contract on his own. Then everyone had to scramble and try to follow prop-

er procedures. The Town Council decided to delay the next two agenda items until second October meeting.

At the October 21st meeting, three main agenda items were on the table. The first dealt with a policy to use the Town parks after dark. It is unclear why this became an issue now; the town manager has always approved the permit for the Lions Club for Community Heritage Day and the fireworks but he was concerned when Christ Community Church wanted to show a movie in Community Park. The Council previously allowed that movie to be shown and Christ Community Church had scheduled another event with a movie on November 1st. The draft policy restricts after dark usage to non-profit organizations in existence for 18 months and requires \$1 million in liability insurance. The town manager said the 18 month provision was necessary be-

cause we do not want fly by night organizations to come in and use our parks. Commissioner O'Donnell expressed concern over the restrictive nature of the policy after talking to concerned citizens but was not joined by any of the other Commissioner. The policy was passed by the council, only O'Donnell opposing it.

The second agenda item was revisions to the sign ordinance. The ordinance has been revised to allow flexibility on behalf of businesses in particular for temporary signs, specifically it does not require a permit for temporary signs up to a cumulative 32 Square Feet. Off-premises/non-residential signage does require a permit at no charge for non-profit/community organizations. The revised ordinance was passed unanimously.

Next on the agenda was the Town Helmet ordinance. The Ordinance requires the use of a helmet for all ages for bikes, skateboards, roller-skates and scooter usage. As the town manager ex-

plained, the ordinance, as written, is basically unenforceable. He recommended adopting the State regulations with requires helmet usage on roadways for those under the age of 16. The use of the State regulation allows our Deputies to issue tickets like any other moving violation. Commissioner O'Donnell spoke in favor of keeping the ordinance as is because of the importance on leading by example and the danger of riding without a helmet even for adults. Commissioner Staiger who previously voted for the ordinance indicated his preference to go to the State standard. He indicated he is not in favor of having rules on the books that can't be enforced. The Council provided direction to the town manager to bring back a revision to the Helmet Ordinance to make it consistent with the State regulation.

That's it for this month! Feedback on this article (both positive and negative), as well as other information is welcome by emailing me at pjoy@emmitsburg.com.

Emmitsburg Mayor Don Briggs

We are scheduling street resurfacing work on North Alley, Creamery Road and Schoolhouse Lane to start in late October - early November. Like all road work, it will come with inconvenience, particularly on North Alley, but the work is needed. Plan around it and give yourself more time. Check channel 99, town website and look for door hangers. Emergency preparation: Vigilant Hose, the Ambulance Company and Sheriff Deputies will be notified.

Newly elected town commissioners Glenn Blanchard and Jennifer Mellor took the oath of Office and were seated at October 7th town meeting to start their three year terms. Welcome and thank you both for seeking the challenge and wanting to serve. Thank you also to Pat Joy and Jim Hoover for their service to the community.

Square update: town planner Cipperly and I will meet Secretary of Transportation Smith on October 31st. I also had a telephone con-

versation with Melinda Peters, the State Highway Administrator.

The town received a sketch plan for the proposed retail store. Things are moving along.

In spite of the government shutdown, the 32nd annual Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial service was held this year at Mount St Mary's. Though other communities have their special events, nothing compares with this event. Attended by over 5,000 people, streamed to every firehouse in the country and many places abroad; this solemn tribute to all of those who sacrificed their lives to save ours is an extremely emotional experience.

The 8th year Scotty's Ride was again an overwhelming success. Agreeable weather accommodated a prompt 10 am departure from Jubilee for the 200+ bikes and 400+ people 110-mile ride through our beautiful country. Thank you again to Sheriff Deputies and fire police for their assistance.

The food bank needs donations.

Food cost have increased and we are moving into the heating cost season of the year.

Special thanks to 'Team Emmitsburg', Pastor John Talcott's directed youth group, did a great job this fall keeping the downtown clean!

Events:

Nov. 4th. Mother Seton Fall Five K Run and Kid Dash. When: Sat, Nov. 16th. Where: Start and finish at Waldron Stadium, Mount St Mary's. Time: Pre register 7:45 - 8:45 am. Kid dash at 8:50am. 5K at 9am. Contact: Bridget McCarthy at bridgemccarthy@hotmail.com; or Mother Seton School at 301-447-3161 or go to active.com. \$25 -18 or over and \$15 under 18.

Nov 6th. Emmitsburg Wattle Waddle - Thanksgiving Turkey Trot at the Community Park. Thanksgiving Day morning, Nov 28th. Join 200+ so inclined serious runners and those with burdened consciences of what they will eat later

that day who are out for a stretch. Good cause - The Seton Center.

Dec 2nd. Emmitsburg Christmas Tree Lighting on the Square - 6pm, with caroling and a visit by Santa. Then down to the Carriage House Inn for the Evening of Christmas

Spirit – food, hay rides and entrainment.

As the year draws to an end, no matter what has come to pass in our lives there is always much to be thankful for. From my family to yours, Happy Thanksgiving.

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FROM THE DESK OF . . .

Carroll Valley Mayor Ron Harris

It's November. We now have 54 days left for holiday shopping. I guess if you want to make it seem like it is a longer period of time, you could always say you have 1,296 hours or 77,760 minutes left before you are finished shopping. I don't think that helps. One good thing though and that is this year we turn back the clocks and say goodbye to Daylight Saving Time during the overnight hours heading into Sunday, November 3rd. That means an extra hour of sleep and at my age I want all the sleep I can get even if the rest of the nation wants to join in. You always could use that extra hour to go online and shop. Election Day is November 5th (Tuesday). The polls will be open from 7 am to 8 pm. If

you have any questions regarding the election polls and voter ID, contact Ms. Monica Dutko, Adams County Director of Elections and Voter Registration at 717-337-9832.

November 7th is National Bittersweet Chocolate with Almonds day. Had to include this special day since I was told that almonds help improve your cholesterol levels. Have no words for the chocolate other than it tastes good. November 10th is Forget-Me-Not-Day. It is a day set aside to remember family and loved ones. On the same day, we celebrate the birth of the United States Marine Corps. Did you know that the Marine Corps was created in 1775 during the Revolutionary War. They are celebrating their 238th birthday. If

you have never been, you may want to visit the National Museum of the Marine Corps located in Triangle, Virginia. For more information go to www.usmcmuseum.com.

On November 11th, we honor all Armed Forces veterans who have served our country. It was first celebrated in 1921 as Armistice Day. President Eisenhower changed it to Veteran's Day in 1954. As they do each year, Fairfield School is holding a "Veteran's Day Breakfast" on November 11th from 8:30 to 10 am in the Fairfield High School cafeteria. All veterans as well as their spouse or guest are invited to attend. However, RSVP's are necessary by November 5th. You can call the office at 717-642-2045 or email fasdvets@fairfield.k12.pa.us. As a 20 year veteran, please accept my heartfelt appreciation. We celebrate Thanksgiving this year on November 28th.

Around this time of year, the question always comes up as to whether someone can hunt in Carroll Valley. To clarify the rules, Carroll Valley cannot by law change state law regarding hunting; however, current state rules make legal hunting in Carroll Valley difficult. Pennsylvania has what are called "Safety Zones". In a safety zone, it is unlawful to

hunt for, shoot at, trap, take, chase or disturb wildlife within 150 yards of any occupied residence, camp, industrial or commercial building, farm house or farm building, or school or playground without the permission of the occupants. It is unlawful to shoot into a safety zone, even if you are outside of the zone. Driving game, even without a firearm or bow, within a safety zone without permission is unlawful.

For comparison, think of a safety zone as about one and a half football fields. Hunting on hospital and institutional grounds, and in cemeteries, is also prohibited. It is unlawful to discharge a firearm within 150 yards of a Game Commission vehicle whose occupants are releasing pheasants. The safety zone for archery hunters statewide, including those using crossbows, is 50 yards. Archery hunters carrying muzzleloaders during any muzzleloader season must abide by the 150-yard safety zone regulation. Around playgrounds, schools, nursery schools or day-care centers, the safety zone remains 150 yards. For further information, refer to www.pgc.state.pa.us. As Carroll Valley has grown over the years, it is more and more difficult to find a location outside these safety zones. Should you think someone is hunting too close to a residence,

you can call the Pennsylvania Game Commission's Dispatch Center in Huntingdon at 814-643-1831 and an officer will check for violations. If you see persons hunting from vehicles or after dark, call County Dispatch at 717-334-8101 or 9-1-1 to get the quickest response."

I have received a number of questions about texting, cell phone, and seat belt usage while in a motor vehicle. And, since many of our residents commute down to Maryland, what are the differences. In Pennsylvania, texting is prohibited while driving and is considered a primary offense (meaning the officer can pull you over if they see you do it). Texting means using an Interactive Wireless Communication Device to send, read or write a text-based message. At the present time, it is not illegal to make or receive a cell phone call while driving.

As far as seat belts are concerned, if you are driving or sitting in the front seat of a car, you must wear your seat belt. If you are driving with anyone under 18 years old in the vehicle, they must wear a seat belt at all times both in the front and back seat. Failure to do so is considered a primary offense. Pennsylvania vehicle law also requires your child be placed in an appropriate car seat. In Maryland, texting is also prohibited while driving and is considered a primary offense. However, in Maryland, you must use a hands free device to make or receive a cell phone call. The state also bans all learner permit and provisional license holders younger than 18 from cell phone usage when driving. Since October 1st all occupants of the vehicle whether sitting in the front seat or back seat must wear a seat belt. Again, failure to do so is considered a primary offense. Hope this helps you in your travels. Please follow the law and be careful when you are on the road.

You may want to attend the November 12th Borough Council meeting at 7 pm. The two topics of interest are: the public hearing on Ordinance #2-2013 - Zoning Change Regarding Cluster Development and the briefing to Council on a proposed Southwest Adams Recreation Commission (SARC). The briefing will explain that the SARC is a joint effort of the Fairfield Area School District and the surrounding municipalities within the District Boundaries to collaboratively create recreational opportunities for all members of the community. It is envisioned that by working together, more diverse opportunities can be provided. The organizational structure and financial support will be covered.

Borough meetings and office closures in November are: Planning Commission (Nov 4th), Borough Office Closed (Nov 5th & Nov 11th), Borough Council (Nov 12th), Borough Office Closed (Nov 28th & Nov 29th) and Parks/Recreation Committee (Nov 20th). 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 at mayor@carrollvalley.org. Please come out and support your candidate(s) by casting your vote on Tuesday, November 5th. Happy Thanksgiving folks!

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GOVERNMENT—NORTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

County Commissioner Randy Phiel

Isn't fall is such a beautiful time of year in Adams County with warm days, cool crisp evenings, low humidity and lots of color? The 150TH Anniversary summer activities are now in our rear view mirror, our strong community spirit is reinforced by another community driven Apple Harvest Festival, we were honored to host the National Medal of Honor Convention and we still have a highly anticipated 150th Anniversary of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address event on November 19th and Remembrance Day activities the following weekend.

Moving to current affairs, the PA Senate Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness Committee on Friday held a senate hearing in Adams County, regarding emergency services and the challenges of volunteer firefighting, at the Adams County Emergency Management Building. The hearing Chaired by Senator Lisa Baker was hosted by Senator Richard Alloway who had asked myself and Adams county Emergency Services Director John

Eline to assist with site organization and hearing testimony. What better time and place to have this hearing with everything that is going on in with emergency services in Adams County? We have so many important emergency service issues facing Adams County that include sustaining volunteer emergency services, the recent Council of Government Fire Study, municipal fire tax considerations and concerns regarding the future of Advanced Life Support Service in Adams County - with WellSpans announcement of discontinuing ALS service in the next 12-18 months. The hearing was valuable, appreciated, very timely and Adams County was an appropriate venue. The event was timely and well attended. Thank you to Senator Alloway for bringing this event to Adams County.

On Saturday, October 19 in front of the Adams County Courthouse we dedicated a new Blue Star Memorial Marker honoring our nation's veterans. If you have not seen the memorial marker

take a moment to pause and read it. It looks great in front of the courthouse and is a very appropriate tribute. Thank you to our local Gettysburg Garden Club and their Blue Star Committee for facilitating this tribute. The Blue Star Markers have been a project to honor veterans by the National Garden Clubs since 1949.

The federal government shutdown certainly got all of our attention for three weeks. While delivering remarks as an invited guest at the Arendtsville Lions Club several weeks ago during the shutdown, I proposed this question: "Does anyone believe that their county government... is more effective and efficient than our federal government." With a few smiles about 30 hands immediately shot into the air. How frustrating, damaging and embarrassing to us as a nation has this government shutdown been? As a retired 30-year federal law enforcement ranger for the National Park Service, I was quoted in both local papers expressing my frustra-

tion, concern, embarrassment and consternation over the National Park Service consistently being used as a high profile political pawn during these shutdowns to initiate as much residual political impact as possible - at the expense of dedicated Park Service staff, visitors and communities. I can assure you it was not an enjoyable task for the law enforcement rangers left at the Park for those three weeks. I had been through at least three closures in my career; but never before at Gettysburg NMP had visitors been barred from getting out of their cars and walking on park roads when essential personnel such as law enforcement and limited maintenance were still on duty. It is obvious that the directive to ban foot traffic and getting out of your vehicle came from upstairs - and not at the local level. The shutdown and closing the Park entirely was damaging to our community and nation in numerous ways. I have hiked the Grand Canyon rim to rim three times in the past six years. Each rim to rim

trip takes about one year of advance planning, reservations and permits. These are life-time experiences for many folks whether it be visiting the Statue of Liberty, seeing the Grand Canyon for the first time or visiting the site of the 20TH Maine Charge or the site of The Gettysburg Address. I cannot imagine having those kind of plans torpedoed because of bureaucratic ineptness and divisiveness. They say you should learn from history so that it does not repeat itself...we can only hope?

The rumor is strong that there could be an historic Presidential visit for Dedication Day on November 19th. Preparations need to be made and are being made for that possibility - whether the President appears or not. The next weekend 10,000 - 12,000 reenactors are anticipated for the Remembrance Day Parade.

These are great opportunities to experience some very unique events in your community. Winter is on the way folks. Get out there and enjoy all the historical, educational, cultural and natural opportunities that beautiful Adams County has to offer.

State Representative Dan Moul

The debt limit may be reaching new highs in Washington, but the opposite is true in Pennsylvania where members of both parties in the House and Senate approved legislation to lower the debt ceiling for public projects funded through the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP). House Bill 493, now on its way to the governor, will lower the RACP spending limit from the current \$4.05 billion to \$3.45 billion. State borrowing for RACP grants, which are used for the acquisition and construction of regional economic, cultural, civic and historical improvement projects, has increased sharply in recent years.

Property taxes are a significant concern in our area. The House gave its unanimous approval to two more property tax reform bills. House Bill 1677 would amend state law to ensure that the definition of a homestead is in line with lan-

guage in the Pennsylvania Constitution, and House Bill 125 would amend the Pennsylvania Constitution to allow local taxing authorities to exclude from taxation up to 100 percent of the assessed value of the homestead property receiving the exclusion. The House previously approved House Bill 1189, which gives school districts the ability to eliminate property taxes in favor of other taxing options better suited to the needs of residents and students in the district. All three bills are now in the Senate.

I co-sponsored another bill that would protect the privacy of individuals who dial 9-1-1 in an emergency. House Bill 1041, which passed in the House and is headed for the Senate, provides an exemption from the state's Right-to-Know law for individuals who reveal personally identifying information during a 9-1-1 call, unless a court rules that disclo-

sure would be in the public's interest. The bill is designed to prevent cases of retribution against informants and to ensure the public has a sense of safety and privacy when reporting a crime or other emergency.

The House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime and Corrections was in western Pennsylvania recently for the first of three regional public hearings on the state's heroin epidemic. Pennsylvania has an estimated 40,000 heroin users - the third highest rate in the nation. The committee is focusing on the law enforcement response to the problem.

In response to several recent reports of child luring and attempted kidnapping in Pennsylvania, the House has approved a measure to increase the penalties for luring a young child into a motor vehicle or structure. Under House Bill 1594, child luring would become

a second-degree felony, punishable by up to 10 years in prison and a fine of up to \$25,000. The offense is currently graded as a first-degree misdemeanor with a fine of \$10,000. The bill now heads to the Senate for consideration.

Gov. Tom Corbett has signed legislation that extends the life of the state's Children Health Insurance Program (CHIP) through 2015. CHIP provides quality,

comprehensive health insurance coverage for routine doctor visits, prescriptions, dental and eye care to more than 188,000 uninsured Pennsylvania children and teens not eligible for or enrolled in Medical Assistance. The program, which is largely paid for with federal funds, was set to expire on Dec. 31. For more information, go to <http://www.chipcoversparks.com/>.

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Bill Eiker

COMMENTARY

Words from Winterbilt

A time to be thankful

Shannon Bohrer

Fall is a favorite season of mine—I really do enjoy the coolness in the air and the changing from summer to winter, and I look forward to cold days and a warm wood stove. The heat from a wood stove just seems more enjoyable than electric, oil or gas. Maybe it's a primitive instinct as our ancestors heated their dwellings with wood. Then of course in the fall you have Thanksgiving and Christmas to look forward to and with the holidays you have visits and company with friends and family. The holidays just seem to remind us of what is important and while thinking of what's important it's always nice to have good food and spirits, as well as good desserts.

While I do look forward to fall, I also keep in my mind and heart the people that have encountered so many hardships and problems. In the western part of the country they started off the spring with wildfires and ended with flooding. Just when the problems of Hurricane Sandy seemed behind us, a boardwalk in New Jersey burned to the ground. We could go on and on about the tragedies not just here, but around the world. The war in Syria and millions of refugees are just a few examples. Being an optimist does not mean you don't have empathy for others, but it does mean that you are thank-

ful for what you have. It can also mean that you're thankful that you do not live in the locations with the natural disasters and or the wars.

I live in a good place and I do like it. For the last several years it almost seems that this part of Maryland is like an Island. We have had hurricanes and flooding north and south of us, but not here. There have been tornados, wild fires and droughts around the country, but not here. The recent flooding in Colorado was described as Biblical because it - never - happened before. I recently read in National Geographic about global warming and how it affects the weather patterns and also the rise in sea levels. A little shocking it was. I am glad I don't live in Florida or the Maryland Eastern Shore. According to the maps in the magazine, Florida will be under water and Baltimore City will be ocean front. That's of course many years away, so it won't affect me since I am getting older. Then again, maybe the time estimates are wrong, in which case I could be here.

I like to think of Global Warming as it relates to the story of the frog in the hot water. As the fable goes, if you place a frog in a pan of water and then turn on the heat, very low, the frog will stay put. The frog does not notice the small changes in water temperature until it's too late - at which time the frog is boiled. For the record,

I have never tried this and I really don't know if it works and I strongly recommend it not be done. I believe a strong case could be made that as the earth heats up we are somewhat like the frog in the pot of water. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change just came out with a report that does not look good for us, confirming the belief that not only is the world warming, but man is 95 percent responsible. I am sure that there are people that still don't believe this. Then of course by the time they do believe it, they might be boiled.

While the world heats up and flooding and other disasters occur, there are other incidents that don't seem to make the news, but should have. In August 2012, the small town of Bayou Corne, Louisiana, experienced a sink hole that encompassed about one acre. The entire town of about 350 people was evacuated. As time continued some people moved back, but the sink hole grew and the town is almost empty. The sink hole now covers over 24 acres and is about 750 feet deep. The sink hole is very active, belching gas and crude oil. A potentially larger problem is that explosive gases have seeped into the aquifer affecting the drinking water and the odor of decaying and rotten debris, along with gases, is everywhere.

The cause of the sink hole is in dispute, but a drilling company was working on a deep mine called the Oxy3, when it col-



lapsed. The mine was extracting minerals by pumping in water (fracking) and pushing the salt water to the surface. The mine is located in a salt dome (Napoleonville Dome) and with the materials extracted they are refined into sodium hydroxide and chlorine. Salt domes are used to store natural gas crude oil and even some radioactive materials. Our strategic oil reserves are stored in salt domes. After the collapse the mining company got a permit to do some relief drilling, but it was discovered that a wall of the salt dome was breached, meaning it can't be fixed. While the mining company has bought out many of the residents, some have stayed at are involved in a law suit.

Just before the sink hole happened the local residences said it felt like an earthquake. And recently, the increases in fracking have been as been linked to an in-

crease in earthquakes. I don't think the residents (former residents) of Bayou Corne have had a good year and I can only hope that were they moved to will be safer.

I am very glad that I do not live where natural and/or manmade disasters are occurring. And at the same time I am very thankful for where I live, especially with the good neighbors, friends and family that my wife and I have. As I have heard said before, "No sense in being a pessimist, it doesn't work anyway." Another thing I have to be thankful for is my beautiful wife. She is a nurse and she is retiring soon. In addition, she likes taking care of old sick people—and that bodes well for me.

I hope everyone has a good Thanksgiving.

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

Common Cents

Zero sum

Ralph Murphy

The current violence in the Middle East is not new, but the shifting alliances and clash of ideologies and resulting violence is less predictable. It reminds me of what game theorists and economists call a "zero sum game" where someone has to lose for another to win.

The Muslim world is dominated by two major denominations - the Shia and the Sunni. Both adhere to the Quran- the Islamic holy book and are expected to live by the "five pillars of Islam". The Five Pillars include the obligation of its followers regarding faith, prayer, giving of alms, fasting, and a pilgrimage to Mecca for those who are able. At that point the two Muslim denominations diverge. The prophet Muhammad died in 632 AD and his teachings were succeeded by his wife's father, according to the Sunnis, or Muhammad's cousin and son-in-law according to the Shiites. There were wars shortly after the prophets death over who was the real "Caliph" or religious leader, and they have continued to the pres-

ent day.

It is difficult to give an exact percentage break down, but there are far more Sunnis than Shiites. The Sunnis constitute 80 to 90 percent of the modern Muslim population worldwide. The Shiites are more numerous in The Islamic Nation of Iran, The Islamic Nation of Iraq, and Bahrain. Lebanon could be as high as 55 percent Shiite.

Before 9/11 the Shiites were considered predictably more militant. For example, taking American diplomats hostage in Iran; blowing up embassies in Lebanon through proxies, and generally fueling discord. Sunni- Al-Qaeda's terrorist successes at home and worldwide broadened the range of violence, to include distant, Western targets.

Islamists promote an ideology where "Islam should guide social and political as well as personal life." The movement promotes Sharia Law- a strict doctrine that demands legal punishment to include amputation of limbs for any theft- and stoning for adultery. Shiite- Iran as well as Sunni- Saudi Arabia have incorporated this standard into their legal structures. It is part of the Islamist

packages associated with many of the Arab Spring successes in recent years. Sharia law enforces a socio- economic structure which delves deeply into politics, moral behavior, and even hygiene and diet. It is legitimized by quoting the Quran and by citing the verbal communications of the prophet Muhammad and his followers. The Quran allows its followers to take "three or four" wives if they so choose, but also concedes that a man can settle down with "just one" wife if he prefers. A positive option for a generally, monogamous people. It also avoids a lot of frustration and jealousy.

Monarchs in Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and Morocco are concerned about the internal opposition fomented by the Islamists, and the movement is almost spontaneous, with a successful democracy rare in the Muslim world. Little pan-Arab institutionalization exists ... except for the Muslim Brotherhood that was formed in 1928.

One thing most Muslims agree upon is the right for the creation of a state of Palestine. This is a view that is shared by many Western peoples as well, and is even promoted by Israeli President Shimon Peres who is now in

his nineties. The main obstacles to this new state are the Israeli settlements on the West Bank. A contentious issue that the Clinton Administration's, Secretary of State, Madeline Albright tried to finesse with the promise of their removal in exchange for peace and Israeli annexation of East Jerusalem. East Jerusalem is a holy site to Christians, Muslims, and the Jewish people. However, PLO leader Yasser Arafat balked and the deal fell apart. At the time Albright claimed that was the best deal the Palestinians were ever going to get. While subsequent events haven't proven her wrong, the two- nation objective still hinges on a deal in that portion of the "Old City".

East Jerusalem was annexed by Israel in the 1967 conflict, and at the time was mostly populated by Arabs. It contained the "Second Temple", a religious site where Jesus was said to have ousted the money changers, leading to animosity among the affected Jews shortly before his crucifixion. It was destroyed by the Romans in 70 AD. The Western Wall at the western base of the "Temple Mount" remains a sacred place of worship for Jews. Once a wall that surrounded the Jewish temple's courtyard, it is now an area of continuity with their past. The mount itself is also sacred to the

Arabs as the point where Muhammad was said to have ascended to Heaven. The "Dome of the Rock" is revered as his actual departure point.

There is currently a Mosque on the Al Aqsa ("Noble Sanctuary") site and the Israelis have plans to erect a "Third Temple" there, depending on ongoing, diplomatic negotiations and related, regional turmoil. Perhaps a church, a mosque, and a temple could all be squeezed into the area, but without East Jerusalem as the capital of Palestine - peace is unlikely in the near term.

Israel is rumored to be a nuclear power- something they refuse to confirm. This makes an Arab invasion unlikely as none of them could respond in kind. The Israelis also took in about a million Soviet Jews prior to and after the collapse of the USSR. This drove up housing prices and led to recent unrest. The West Bank appears a convenient area for new housing, but this would come at the prospect of long term instability.

Maybe the Golan Heights are a better bargaining chip for both the Arabs and Israelis when trying to come up with a zero sum solution for this important dilemma?

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

Pure OnSense

Iraq's long shadow

Scott Zuke

The Middle East continues to dominate the U.S.'s attention when it comes to foreign policy, but for the first time in over a decade, Iraq has dropped off the list of policy priorities almost completely. After being swept from the spotlight by the crises in Syria and Egypt, renewed peace negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians, and a flurry of nuclear talks with a suddenly receptive Iran, it's easy to forget that Iraq is still there. Even a high level diplomatic visit will probably struggle to make many headlines. Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki's meeting with President Obama at the White House on November 1 will bring him to a country so eager to move on after a fruitless, costly decade of war that Iraq has been largely ignored and forgotten only a couple years after being occupied by U.S. troops.

Ten years ago there were 130,000 U.S. troops in Iraq. Today there are only a few thousand American civilians left behind, with more departing every day. After Operation Iraqi Freedom, Shock and Awe, the removal of Saddam Hussein, the

"Surge," and years of subsequent efforts to train Iraqi security forces and implement the loose framework of a democratic government, it's hard to say what, if anything, has been accomplished.

On the contrary, despite its role in establishing the current political order in Iraq, the U.S. has secured little long term political influence there. Maliki's government has been particularly at odds with the U.S. over its calls for Syria's President Bashar Al Assad to be removed from power, and even took the aggravating step of looking the other way while Iran used Iraqi airspace to transport arms shipments into Syria.

And, for all of the accusations that the war was started over oil, the U.S. hasn't really seen much benefit from Iraq's oil reserves. It took almost a decade for the country's oil production to return to the levels they had been under Saddam Hussein, and now much of the growth of Iraq's energy sector is thanks to China, which buys half of the country's oil exports and is investing heavily in its oil fields.

But if the invasion was a strategic blunder for the United States, tragically costing the lives of thousands

of troops in addition to hundreds of billions of dollars, it's been an utter catastrophe for Iraq. According to one recent report, over 100,000 Iraqi civilians have died since the U.S. invasion, either directly from violence or indirectly due to such things as hospitals being overwhelmed by the number of casualties and having to turn patients away.

Iraq even experienced its own Arab Spring-related protests in 2011, despite having a democratic-style government, unlike those of the more publicized Arab Spring countries. Like the other revolts, though, the protests in Iraq had much to do with peoples' dissatisfaction with poor government services, corruption, high unemployment, and a lack of security in the midst of a sectarian civil war. Security forces, like their authoritarian neighbors, reacted to the demonstrations violently, on one day killing 20 citizens.

With such daunting domestic challenges and internal political strife, the country has fallen far in its ability to project influence in the region. In the words of Middle East expert Marc Lynch, Iraq, long a major power player in Arab politics, now lies "flat on [its back], torn by political failure and societal division and unable to play any kind of meaningful role." If this is the product of U.S. nation-build-

ing, the critics would seem to be clearly right in their skepticism.

Though Iraq is no longer a prominent aspect of U.S. strategy in the Middle East, its influence on current policy in the region cannot be overstated. Along with Libya, which has also fallen into political chaos since U.S.-backed regime change, it provides the main justification for President Obama's reluctance to pursue military intervention in Syria. Not only is the public weary from the protracted and poorly defined War on Terror, but the very theory of regime change in order to install a puppet leader who falls in line with U.S. interests has fallen apart since the Arab Spring.

Iraq has become the key piece of evidence that the "strongman" authoritarian model of governance no longer promises stability, especially where sectarianism prevents a wide sense of national identity. It's difficult for Westerners to understand the Middle East's many conflicts precisely because it's hard for us, with our historically settled, internationally recognized, and indisputable borders, to understand the internal divisions in these countries whose borders in many cases are historically arbitrary and imposed only a few decades ago by imperialist outsiders. Iraq, for instance, is not naturally a single, cohesive state, but rath-

er an awkward combination of three distinct groups: Shiites in the south, Sunnis in the center and west, and Kurds in the north. A leader here is either Shia or Sunni, not Iraqi, making it near impossible to govern fairly or effectively.

Iraq also serves as a warning for the future of Afghanistan following the planned withdrawal of U.S. troops in 2014. Afghanistan is every bit as hard to govern, suffers from ethnic and religious sectarian divides, has an unreliable and (not-so) strongman leader in Hamid Karzai, and faces even more challenges when it comes to providing basic human services. As war weary as Americans are, and as intractable as its problems may actually be, it's hard to argue that dropping Afghanistan from our list of policy priorities won't have negative consequences at some point down the road.

Putting Iraq on the backburner of policy priorities may be the most sensible choice given the other crises crying out for attention at present, but it would be a mistake to say that all of its lessons have been learned. Even from the sidelines, it will continue casting a long shadow over U.S. policy in the Middle East for a long time to come.

To read past editions of Pure OnSense visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.

Down Under

The Mandrake effect

Submitted by Lindsay!
Melbourne, Australia

Disbelief in magic can fool a poor soul into believing in government and business.

—Tom Robbins

Even if you do not remember it, June 1 1934 was a memorable day. No one knew it then, but the beginning of a new era took place without fanfare or headlines. Simply, the first ever super hero appeared in print. Well, only partly in print, because the words were illustrated in true comic style, but the effect was electric. Lee Falk was the writer and cartoonist, and he called his creation Mandrake the Magician.

Comics had been around for ages, of course, but never before had an unstoppable champion of the people – the good people, that is – been so fancifully portrayed. A phenomenon was born, and it didn't take long for others to get into the swing of it. Superhero, super friend, super family, supercharge. Down with baddies, long live the goodies. We are protected! We have a hero on our side, the evil that threatens sometime, anytime, will be dealt with. We Can Sleep Safe in our beds. We did, and were entertained.

Not only an evil scourge, this man (always a man) would risk his life for us. He would fight against unimaginable odds, vanquish villains, and be-

comes the hope of the masses. We were enraptured, thankful, and lulled into that make-believe world of fantasy. A wave of his hand, a stare from his eyes, and things no mere mortal could achieve happened.

OK, we know it's just pretense, we know it's not true, but it's fun and it's harmless, and it translated well into the grist of Hollywood movies. Whole generations wanted to be superman, Spiderman, or any otherman, and the fun we all had felt good. We wanted a bit of that magic, a bit of hero in our lives.

Sometimes, however, fantasy has the ability to become reality; a hand or two waved across our collective eye can make us see things as they are not. We read the comics, see the movies, and watch with a smile as Mr. Mandrake does his deeds to others, yet the situations he and his mystic brothers gave us can become the foundation for a new version of the superhero, a real but inverted set of wizardries that may be waved over our collective minds in a program of mass mesmerization. Whatever our new Mandrake makes us see, it is not designed to defeat the baddies, the evil villain, or the world-destroying genius, but to keep them all safe. And who then is the enemy? Why the goodies, of course. Us, in other words.

Mandrake and his like would be dull without their companions, and in his case it was the giant king of an African tribe who got the nod.

His name was Lothar, he could not be harmed by any man made device, was immensely strong, loyal and true. He wore a Fez, a leopard skin, and apparently not much else. Over the years he became more and more ordinary in the clothing department, and is now indistinguishable from other mere mortals. His invulnerability remains, his loyalty to his master has never been better, and his power is still extra-ordinary. His name, by the way, has changed, and has become Rupert Murdoch.

Mandrake, meanwhile, has morphed into a shadowy multi-dimensional monster that expands and guards its own future, has no single name but power, makes parties and people blame each other for the problems, and has created the illusion that it is benign, wishes wellbeing for us all, is the bastion of democracy, and that all is well with the world. In fact things are far from being all right in the world. Here's some examples.

Australia has one of the highest per capita outputs of carbon dioxide emissions in the world, yet the total is relatively small because there's only 23 million of us. We discuss the need to reduce our emissions, the topic is hot on talk-shows, TV sends us graphic black balloon pictures showing how bad we are and how big our footprint is; the Murdoch pundits propose that global warming is a myth, and we are bemused, no matter where we stand on the subject, and most of us are by now either activists or indifferent. BUT – we are the chief exporter of coal to Asia. Millions of tons of it are shipped to China, India, Japan – not so they can extract its chemicals, but to burn for power, heat, processing the things they make mostly for you.

A very few magnates benefit enormously from this, including the richest woman in the world, Gina Reinhardt, but we the public only see the need for us to reduce our own emissions. It is as though no one knows that the air above is constantly mixing, and if our output is small we'll survive. Mandrake says we will, but we won't. Our new Prime Minister is making your tea party look green, (how does the green-tea party sound? They need making fun of), while nuclear power is unmentionable – even though we are a major exporter of the raw materials. But hey! We're all right, our footprint is small and business is business.

We and ourselves took violent sides over the weapons of mass destruction saga in Iraq, which proved to be a smokescreen for the massive genocide Hussein was carrying out at that time. We put in sanctions, entered into wars financed by debt, made reprisals to topple this most terrible of dictators, then wondered what all the fuss had been about. De-luded, hypnotized? Absolutely.

We see the destruction of chemical weapon stockpiles in Syria, not the hundreds of thousands of refugees forced to flee their home, often with nothing more than their lives. The destruction acts as a façade created by the waving hand and flashing eye of the magician.

Politicians from either side are now normally unable to fraternize with anyone from the other side, making an exchange of views and tips nigh on impossible, strengthening a divide that sees the sorry mess of a loony few holding the nation to ransom. If ever a bit of reality was needed, it is there.

We see the proposed removal of the

limit that private citizens can donate to a political candidate or party, nearly 40 years after that limit was introduced to combat widespread corruption. Another victory for the illusionists. We are aware of the argument that not raising the debt ceiling will mean a default on debt and send the economy and the world reeling into ruin – but we fail to see the debt itself, partly because it is so big that it is beyond imagining, partly because most people seem to have got used to the idea that it's normal. There was once a song that went 'to dream the impossible dream' but this should be 'to service the impossible debt.' It is the black hole of finance, the Mandrake effect of massively living beyond the country's means – and for all the talk, it would not be the first time America has turned tail and run away from its fiscal responsibilities.

There are many other examples, but what we see is what we come to care about, even when those things are illusions. We care not for the things we cannot easily see, even when they are the reality. It is not curiosity that kills the cat, it is laziness, lack of clear sightedness and understanding. The new Mandrake has one aim: To survive. The illusionist knows the reality behind his magic, knows that the times ahead are so perilous that only the very powerful, the very rich, the very ruthless will make it. That does not include us, of course. We'll go on hoping and trusting unto the end.

I cannot look into your eyes, but here's a spell-breaking hand wave from down under instead.

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

THE PASTOR'S DESK

A church for all seasons

Bill Meredith

I was looking through an old family photo album the other day, and found a program for an evening service at the Meadowdale Methodist Church in West Virginia. It was dated 1937; my mother had kept it because the Welcoming Recitation was delivered by Billy Meredith. I would have been four at the time. I grew up there; the members of the congregation were like family, and more than half of them were literally so, for my ancestors had lived there for five generations. They had been baptized, married and buried there since the 1840s. But the war changed all of that; after 1945, the old folks stayed there but the young ones, including me, left for greener pastures. So it was that I arrived in Emmitsburg in 1957 with a wife and baby daughter.

My wife was a Presbyterian, so we

joined the Emmitsburg Presbyterian Church, and, like our forefathers, when we put down roots, we stayed. I found this church to be a kindred spirit to the one I had been born into: traditional, familial in atmosphere, and inhabited by a mixture of newcomers and families that seemed always to have been here. Without doing anything special, we suddenly found we were part of it.

As the next 56 years passed, our church was caught up in the changes that affected churches everywhere. Older members died; some new ones came, but not enough. Our children grew up, married, and moved away, as did many others. The world, the country, and our society changed, and the church did too. But while it adapted, it retained its essential character. The congregation now is smaller, but it is still family, and it provides a sense of stability for me.



Emmitsburg Presbyterian Church Sunday School participants ~ 1950

It also provides me with unexpected questions to think about. Last week, right out of the blue, my wife asked, "What are you so happy about?" We were in church, of all places; the organ prelude had started, and she was standing by the pew, motioning for me to stop lagging around and get seated. Just a few minutes earlier, I had been talking to a friend, a 9-year-old lad who always states things in an unexpected way; and I must have been still smiling at his remark. So, we got ourselves seated. I told my wife what the boy had said; she smiled too, momentarily, and then turned her attention to the bulletin. But my attention was not so easily diverted.

Questions like that don't just go away. They may sound simple, but they don't have simple answers, and this one began dividing like an amoeba, from "What are you so happy about?" to "Isn't it alright to be happy in church?" and then to "How can you not be happy in church?" I have reached the age where my mind is no longer capable of multi-tasking, so as the prelude ended and we proceeded into the service, the hymns, prayers and sermon were crowded toward the background of consciousness by a series of "Whys?" and "Why not's?"

It would be hard to be happy if you weren't comfortable. The old churches were intentionally designed so the

pews would be uncomfortable and would keep people awake during two-hour sermons. But by the time our church was rebuilt, after the fire in 1903, the design had mellowed; our pews are of oak, venerable in age but beautiful in grain and pattern, and curved to make a fair approximation of the human spine. Originally, they had cushions filled with hair that had been pulled from the tails of horses some time before the first World War, but those now have been replaced by softer ones. So, physically the pews are comfortable; but that is not what the question was about. The kind of comfort I feel there is the kind you feel when you visit family. When I look around, most of the faces I see are kindred souls I have know for years; we know each other's stories, and each Sunday we take up where we left off last week. Those who have joined more recently seem to fit in; they seem comfortable, and they smile. They've joined the family.

It would be hard to smile if you were surrounded by ugliness, and Lord knows, there is enough of it in the world around us. Our church lets me get away from it for a while each week. The building has a magisterial simplicity about it; the ceiling is high, designed like its medieval ancestors to lift your eyes, and hence your spirit, upward. The stained glass is beautiful but not distracting. There seems to be

an aura about the place that is more timeless than traditional; it generates the feeling that here is a place where the ugliness and tension of daily life is not allowed to enter. I was taught as a child that God is everywhere; but here, the things that distract us from Him in everyday life seem to be shut out, or at least muted. That is worth smiling about.

Most people don't think of church music as having any connection with smiling, but the Bible does say we should make a joyful noise, and we do. Dr. Elizabeth Krauss plays the organ as if she had ten fingers on each hand and feet trained for tap dancing. She plays Bach as joyfully the master himself did, and also frequently plays her own compositions and arrangements... smiling all the while. My own musical talents are limited, but I know enough to notice when she changes to a lower key if the one in the hymnal proves to be too high, or slips minor and seventh chords into places where no notes are written. She makes the music come alive, and I smile when she does it.

My wife and I both love children, but our youngest grandchild is now a college sophomore, and there are no great-grandchildren in sight. So the children at church fill a special need for us. There are not many of them, but they are all bright and full of life, and each is unique. They talk to us and tell us their secrets, and laugh with us. They represent hope; when they smile, the world lights up a little.

So, come next Sunday, I will be there again. At the social hour I will have a cup of coffee and more cake than I should; I will talk to friends, maybe greet a visitor, and share the news, good or bad, of each family. I will hear the latest riddles and stories about school and pets, and if especially lucky, I will get to hold a baby. The service will start, and I will hear music played as it should be; I will remember my own family during prayers, sing hymns only slightly off-key, and hear a sermon that will challenge me to think. At the benediction, I will be told to go in peace; and I will. Smiling.

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Halley's Comet of 1682



Looking for a dramatic spectacle in the sky? Then read about Comet ISON, which is currently streaking toward the sun, in the Astronomy column on page 44.

Halley's Comet, so called, has been the means of dispelling many popular illusions concerning the influence of those mysterious bodies on worldly affairs. Before it had been ascertained that comets are periodical in their appearance, there was unbounded scope for speculation on the nature of this influence. The excellence of the celebrated vintage of 1811 was attributed to the great comet which appeared in that year; as was also the abundance of the crops. Nay, the number of twins born in the same year, and the fact that a shoemaker's wife in Whitechapel had four children at a birth, were in like manner laid to the charge of the comet; as likewise were the facts that wasps were few, and that flies became blind that year.

The Great Plague of London was attributed by some to a comet which appeared in the spring of that year. As there was a comet in 1668, and in the same year a remarkable epidemic among cats in Westphalia, some of the wisacres of that day connected the two phenomena together as probable cause and effect.

An unusually large flock of wild pigeons in America; the disasters which were experienced by the Christians at the hands of the Turks in 1456; a fit of sneezing that became very prevalent in some parts of Germany; the deaths of eminent persons in various countries—all were believed to have been either produced or presaged by comets which appeared in certain years.

The reason why Halley's comet, or rather Halley's remarkable prediction concerning the comet, has had some influence in lessening these vague speculations, is because a regular and periodical occurrence of any event takes away from it much of a capricious or uncertain character.

After Flamsteed had written down his careful observations on the comet of 1680, Sir Isaac Newton was able to determine what kind of curve it marked out in the heavens; and then Dr. Halley proceeded to investigate, in a very elaborate way, whether any two recorded comets were really two successive appearances of the same celestial body. He found reason to believe that the comets of 1531, 1607, and

1682 were in fact one and the same comet, which takes about seventy-six years to perform its remarkable journey round the sun.

After making corrections for a few disturbing causes, he boldly declared his belief that that comet would appear again late in 1758 or early- in 1759; and, with a pardonable self-respect, he appealed to posterity not to lose sight of the fact, that if the comet should really return about that period, the prediction of such a result was due to an Englishman.

The comet was espied on the 25th December 1758, and passed its perihelion on March 13th, 1759. This would have been a great triumph to Halley, if he could have lived to see it. All Europe agreed that this particular comet should be called Halley's Comet, in honour to the man who had so boldly and successfully predicted its periodicity. Then, as time passed on, arose the question—"Will this comet re-appear after another interval of about seventy-six years, say in 1835?"

When the year 1835 arrived, all the astronomers in Europe were pointing their telescopes towards the heavens, under the belief that the comet would begin to be visible some time in August. They were right. On the 5th of August the observatory of Rome detected the comet. It became visible to the naked eye towards the end of September, attained its greatest brilliancy about the middle of October, and passed its perihelion on 15th November.

All this is very wonderful to persons unskilled in astronomical mathematics; but so certain do savans now feel about it, that they decide that the recorded comets of 1378, 1456, 1531, 1607, 1682, 1759, and 1835 were only so many successive appearances of Halley's comet, at intervals of about seventy-six years apart.

There is not the slightest doubt among them that Halley's comet will appear again in or about the year 1911, although possibly not one of our present astronomers will be alive in that year.

By thus substituting regularity for uncertainty, Halley's labours on the subject of comets have effectually re-

formed popular notions concerning those wondrous visitants.

The Burning of the 'Sarah Sands' Nov 12

One of the finest examples on record, of the saving of human life by the maintenance of high discipline, during trying difficulties, was afforded during the burning of the Sarah Sands, a transport steamer employed by the government in 1857. She was on her passage from England to India, with a great part of the 54th Regiment of Foot on board, intended to assist in the suppression of the Indian mutiny; the number of persons was about 400, besides the ship's crew. The vessel, an iron steamer of 2000 tons burthen, arrived at a spot about 400 miles from Mauritius; when, at three in the afternoon on the 11th of November, the cargo in the hold was found to be on fire. Captain Castle, commanding the ship, and Lieutenant - Colonel Moffatt, commanding the troops, at once concerted plans for maintaining discipline under this terrible trial.

Some of the men hauled up bale after bale of government stores from the hold; some took in sail, and brought the ship before the wind; some ran out lengths of hose from the fire-engine, and poured down torrents of water below. It soon became evident, however, that this water would not quench the flames, and that the smoke in the hold would prevent the men from longer continuing below. The colonel then ordered his men to throw overboard all the ammunition in the starboard magazine. But the larboard or port magazine was so surrounded with heat and smoke, that he hesitated to command the men to risk their lives there; and he therefore called for volunteers. A number of brave fellows at once stepped forward, rushed to the magazine, and cleared out all its contents, except a barrel or two of powder; several of them, overpowered with heat and smoke, fell by the way, and were hauled up senseless.

The fire burst up through the decks and cabins, and was intensified by a fierce gale which happened to be blowing at the time. Captain Castle then resolved to lower the boats, and to provide for as many as he could. This was admirably done. The boats were launched without accident, the troops were mustered on deck, there was no rush to the boats, and the men obeyed the word of command with as much order as if on parade—the greater number of them embarking in the boats. A small number of women and children who were on

board, were lowered into the life-boat. All these filled boats were ordered to remain within reach of the ship till further orders. The sailors then set about constructing rafts of spare spars, to be ready in case of emergency.

Meanwhile the flames had made terrible progress; the whole of the cabins and saloons were one body of fire; and at nine in the evening the flames burst through the upper deck and ignited the mizzen rigging. During this fearful suspense, the barrel or two of powder left in one of the magazines exploded, and blew out the port-quarter of the ship—shewing what would have been the awful result had not the heroic men previously removed the greater part of the ammunition.

As the iron bulk-head of the after-part of the vessel continued to resist the flames, Captain Castle resolved to avail himself of this serviceable aid as long as possible; to which end the men were employed for hours in dashing water against the bulk-head, to keep it cool. When fire seized the upper-rigging, soldiers as well as sailors rushed up with wet blankets, and allayed its fearful progress. This struggle between human perseverance and devastating flames continued until two o'clock in the morning, when, to the inexpressible delight of all, the fire was found to be lessening; and by daylight it was extinguished.

The horrors of the situation were, however, not yet over. The after-part of the ship was a mere hollow burned shell; and as the gale still continued, the waves poured in tremendously. Some of the men were set to the pumps, some baled out water from the flooded hold with buckets; while others sought to prevent the stern of the ship from falling

out by passing hawsers around and under it, and others tried to stop the leak in the port-quarter with spare sails and wet blankets. The water-tanks in the hold, having got loose, were dashed from side to side by the violence of the gale, and battered the poor ship still further.

At two in the afternoon (twenty-three hours after the fire had been discovered), the life-boat was hauled alongside, and the women and children taken on board again. All the other boats, except the gig, were in like manner brought along-side, and the soldiers re-embarked; the gig had been swamped, but all the men in her were saved.

During thirty-six hours more, nearly all the soldiers were assisting the sailors in working the pumps, and clearing the ship of water; while the captain succeeded at length in getting the ill-fated ship into such trim as to be manageable. He then steered towards the Mauritius, which he reached in eight days. The achievement was almost unparalleled, for the vessel was little else than a burned and battered wreck. Not a single person was lost; the iron bulk-head was the main material source of safety; but this would have been of little avail had not discipline and intrepidity been shewn by those on board.

The sense of the 'honour of the flag' came out strikingly during the peril. When the ship was all in a blaze, it was suddenly recollected that the colours of the 54th were in the aft-part of the saloon. Quartermaster Richmond rushed down, snatched the Queen's colours, brought them on deck, and fainted with the heat and smoke; when recovered, he made another descent, accompanied by Private Wills, brought up the regimental colours, and again fainted, with a result which proved nearly fatal.

To read more from Robert Chamber's *The Book of Days* visit www.thebookofdays.com.

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THE (retired) ECOLOGIST

Not-so-great expectations

Bill Meredith

Be not afraid of greatness; some are born great, some achieve greatness, and others have greatness thrust upon 'em....
—Shakespeare, Twelfth Night.

Set your expectations low, and you'll be seldom disappointed....
—Tony Hillerman's mother.

I have reached the point in life where my last three grandchildren are in college. One of them has found an area of study that he likes, is good at, and will lead to a promising career; the other two, like the majority of students their age, are still searching. It is a stressful process; I know, for I was an advisor to college students for 41 years,

and before that, I went through the process myself. During that time it seemed that everyone I met asked the same question: "What are you studying to be?" I remember getting a lot of advice; most of it was unsolicited, and the majority of it was bad. So I do not talk to my grandchildren about careers unless they bring up the subject, and I try not to give advice unless they ask for it. Nevertheless, I think about them, and that in turn leads me to muse about the way I arrived at my own career. It was not unique. One of the people who shared it was Tony Hillerman.

Hillerman is one of my favorite writers. He was born about eight years before I was, and grew up in Oklahoma during the years of the Dust Bowl and the Great

Depression. It was, as Dickens would have said, the worst of times; people in his community literally struggled to stay alive, and there were no signs that things would get better. His mother was tough-minded and resilient, and she prepared him for life by telling him that if he set his expectations low, he would be seldom disappointed. Eventually, of course, things did get better; he went to college, joined the army, survived the war despite being badly wounded in Germany, worked as a journalist, and later became a university professor. He wrote 18 best-selling novels and 12 other books, and a few years ago when he died at age 83, he was listed as one of the wealthiest men in New Mexico. He had a keen sense of irony, and was well aware that, starting with nothing and not planning for any grand goals, he'd had a good life. So, toward the end of it, he wrote an autobiography entitled *Seldom Disappointed*.

When I read Hillerman's autobiography, I was struck by the parallels between his life and mine. In the details, of course, we were completely different, but both of us seemed to wander



along without a long-range plan or a grand goal to drive us, taking advantage of whatever opportunities we stumbled upon. Like him, my expectations were aimed low. The prestige careers of the time, medicine and law, were too expensive to be considered seriously, so I entered college without a specific career in mind. As best I can remember, I simply hoped for a good marriage and a family, and some kind of job that would allow me to support them; and as the years passed, fortune was kind. In church recently, I heard an excellent sermon on the wisdom of being content with what you have in life; and as I listened to it, I thought, "Tony Hillerman achieved that. And by some combination of serendipity and dumb luck, so did I."

I did not start out with the intention of becoming an ecologist, and I don't believe in predestination, but I've often thought that both my father and my grandmother unintentionally pre-programmed me for that career. I have written often about Grandma's influence by letting me "help" in the garden from the time I was big enough to walk, and by her frequent references to the almanac in explaining what made things grow. Likewise, I often recall Dad's habit of naming plants and animals for me when we went to fetch the cows each evening, and the stories he told of felling trees and hauling them to the sawmill when he was a boy. When I was very small, he seemed to know everything. As I proceeded through school, I came to realize that he didn't, but even so, he knew more than anyone else in our neighborhood. So when I went to college I looked for role models like that. When I found that my best teacher was a biologist, I gravitated to him without any conscious soul-searching, and the die was cast.

Time has slipped by, and it is fall again. The maple tree across the street sat there patiently while we went through a mild drought in September, half of its leaves turned brown and dropped off. Then in mid-October we got nearly seven inches of rain in two days, and almost over-night the remaining leaves turned to such a bright gold that it hurts my eyes when the sun hits them. During the drought the grass in my yard died back

and the ground got too dry for earthworms to penetrate, so they curled up in their burrows and waited; the robins disappeared, and some of my friends thought they had migrated early, but after the rain they reappeared. They had simply moved into the woods around streams, where the ground was still soft and worms were still available, and now they are back, feasting on the crab apples in my back yard. Meanwhile, the grass turned green again before the rain had even stopped, and now it needs mowing... perhaps I'll get to it. The rain brought up a few misguided dandelions, purple dead-nettles and other spring flowers that mistook the shortening days for spring photoperiods, as they always do. I no longer need detailed information about weather for teaching ecology, but I still dutifully record the temperature and rainfall each day, because Grandma said it was important to know such things. Because of that habit, I knew in advance that the first frost would come this week, so last Saturday I picked the last peppers from the garden, and they now rest in jars on the kitchen counter, waiting for me to carry them to the basement. Contentment.

I should offer one caveat. I never would advise students or grandchildren not to dream or to have aspirations. The world does not owe us a living; "low expectations," as Hillerman used the term, doesn't mean sitting around and waiting for handouts. Rather, it means having a realistic knowledge of yourself, and doing your best to achieve what is possible. Satisfaction in a career... what I have called contentment... is possible only when you know you've done the best you can. Malvolio, the doleful sourpuss who said some achieve greatness and some have it thrust upon them, was right, as far as he went; but he left out one important category. Some of us... indeed, most of us... never do achieve greatness. But that does not preclude our leading useful and, indeed, happy lives. Perhaps, if my grandchildren ask about it, that is what I should tell them.

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

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IN THE COUNTRY

Timber land

Tim Iverson, Naturalist
Cunningham Falls State Park

Trees are the largest living organism on the planet, yet somehow most of us manage to overlook them. They've come to symbolize wisdom and knowledge. They provide us with innumerable benefits and products. Yet despite all this they're considered common place and trivial. While not the sexiest of causes out there we couldn't exist as a society without them. Flying in the face of that notion though are some serious troubles facing the tree populations and species of Maryland. Trees are as diverse as the people they shade, with each unique tree providing and facing unique features.

As we draw to a close the festival of fall foliage few find it hard to believe that the vibrant reds and subtle hues that burst into symphony during this time of year were there all along. Yes, it's true! The reds, oranges, and yellows were subtly hiding in the leaf the entire time. The green pigment we see from spring to fall over rides the other colors to allow for photosynthesis. Once the days grow darker and colder the chlorophyll breaks down and reveals everything behind the curtain. The colder temperatures create other chemical reactions that affect the remaining sugars and embolden the yellow, orange, and scarlet tinges while the green fades away. Shortly thereafter the leaf falls to the ground below.

In broad general terms trees are broken down into two main categories: coniferous and deciduous. Coniferous trees have needles, and produce cones. Deciduous trees have broad leaves, which die off in cooler temperatures in a process called abscission. Deciduous means "to die off", which is where the name comes from and this usually, coincides with winter and cooler tem-

peratures. Abscission happens when leaves stop producing chlorophyll and green pigmentation. During the summer the broad leaves are essential for survival, but in the winter those leaves become a lethal liability. The leaves are a costly source of water loss and consumption, and during the winter months water is hard to come by. To prepare for this deciduous trees will shed their leaves. Conifer needles have less surface area and retain water better than leaves because of a waxy coating and smaller pores, which can allow for year round photosynthesis.

Winter is a tough time for every living thing, including trees. Conifer trees have a higher density of foliage, which during winter means snow and ice accumulates faster on them. This makes them more susceptible to breakage, especially with the addition of high winds. To offset this problem conifers tend to be more flexible and the cone shape of the tree helps to shed snow easier. The dense foliage also makes them more attractive to animals. Birds, deer, mice, and more eat the foliage and fruit that these trees produce during the winter months inhibiting or even stopping growth and regeneration all together. Mice, rabbits, and a few others chew bark for the nutrients stored within. If they chew a ring all the way around the trunk water and nutrients can't travel through the tree, and it eventually dies off. Trees along side road ways also face significant human damage from salt and chemicals during the winter months. Some trees are fairly resistant, but many show symptoms of poisoning.

In an effort to combat tree loss the Maryland Department of Natural Resources assists in replanting. The TREE-MENDOUS Maryland Program allows citizens to purchase a tree to be planted within their county on public lands. Trees are planted in parks, schools, cities, and pret-



Looking for the perfect Christmas gift? Consider a tree; a gift that will last generations.

ty much anywhere else a tree can be planted. Trees are vitally important to the environment as well as the economy. Trees prevent soil erosion, improve water and air quality, attract birds and other wildlife. The forest industry is also a huge component to Maryland's economy, coming in as the fifth largest industry in the state.

It's not just winter that's hard for trees, existing is increasingly harder too. The American Chestnut was virtually eradicated from the "Chestnut Blight" at the beginning of the 20th century. In a matter of 40 years the estimated near 4 billion American Chestnut population was decimated, and only several thousand still exist today. Today the Ash tree is staring down a comparable problem.

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) may pose the greatest threat to any species of trees currently. This little green bug, about an inch long, takes no prisoners and doesn't differentiate between any of the various species of Ash trees. It's estimated that it has already destroyed 50 - 100 million Ash trees in North America, since its discovery in 2002, and is well on track to devour much of the remaining 7.5 billion. The EAB seeks out Ash trees and lays eggs in the

trunk of the tree. When these eggs hatch they essentially eat their way out, making the tree susceptible to disease. When the larva reaches adult stage they migrate into the canopy of the tree and begin to feast on the leaves. When cold weather returns they will overwinter by boring into the trunk and base of the tree and the process repeats annually. In Maryland the spread of the EAB is being curtailed by banning the moving of firewood, and in state parks you can only burn wood that has been treated for the pest. The ban on moving firewood is effective in the short term, but the EAB is known to migrate at least 1/2 a mile. If there

are any of these pests found in an area then treatment will begin in that area to prevent further spread and destruction. Once the EAB has been detected various insecticides can be deployed to prevent any additional damage. Currently Maryland is operating with universities, state, and federal agencies to manage the issue. Treatment and removal are what is being utilized throughout the country, and possible introduction of other species which are predators of the EAB are being considered and experimented with in other areas of the nation.

Just about 1/3 of Maryland's total size is considered forested areas (2,709,062 acres out of a total 6,264,876 acres). Maryland recently passed legislation aimed at helping those forests. The new law is called the Forest Preservation Act of 2013. Basically the goal is to have no net acreage of forest lost by incentivizing preservation. The legislation provides tax incentives for anyone with 3 or more acres of forest. It also assists landowners in creating and maintaining forests, and assists with invasive species control. This law is intended to keep Maryland on track to reach 43,000 acres of forests in just seven years. This will help provide new recreational opportunities, improve water and air quality, provide valuable habitat, provide flood control, moderate climate and temperatures, and increase property values.

With time and conservation hopefully we can push back against the loss of tree acreage and species. Since 1973 it's estimated that the loss of trees in the Washington and Baltimore metro areas has increased storm runoff and pollution by 19%, and as a result cost more than \$1 billion in damages. It's extremely vital to our economy, our health, and our environment to see that this progressive loss stops. There's no need to wait until Arbor Day to show your love for trees. So get out there and plant a tree, sit under a tree, or climb a tree!

To read other articles by Tim Iverson visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net

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from all of us!

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IN THE COUNTRY

Historical Franklania

Nate Shank
Strawberry Hill Nature
Preserve

The Franklania tree was discovered by botanists John and William Bartram in 1765. It was first found along the Altamaha River in southeast Georgia. On October 1, 1765, after crossing the Altamaha River near Fort Barrington, John and William Bartram came across a group of small trees they had never encountered before. Since the foliage turns orange, red, and purple in the fall, it is likely that is what caught their attention. After discovering this new species William gathered seeds for their garden in Philadelphia. This garden is now known as Bartram's Garden, the oldest botanical garden in America. The last confirmed sighting of Franklania in the wild was in 1790 by Moses Marshall. English nurseryman John Lyon claimed to have found a few of the plants in 1803, but his report was not certain. The newly discovered plant was likely extinct soon after. Other expeditions to follow turned up empty, and all surviving Franklinias today derive from the Bartram's Garden.

Believe it or not Franklania

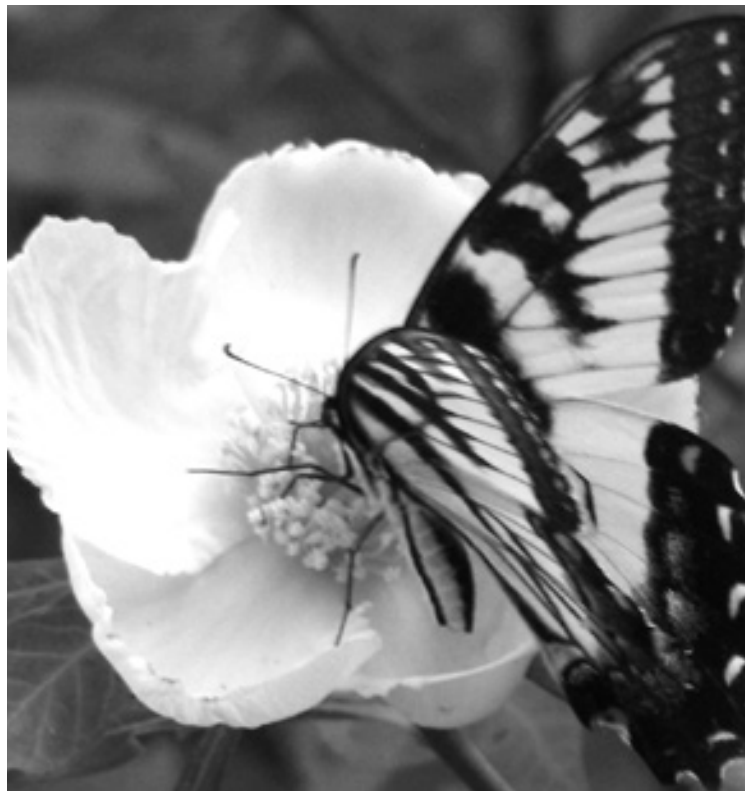
alatamaha was not the first name given to the plant. Since the Bartrams were unable to classify the plant, it was left with no name for a few years. In 1773, William returned to the location of the wild plant and named it *Gordonia pubescens* because it looked like loblolly bay, also known as *Gordonia lasianthus*. William was later informed that the specimen he had sent to England was a new genus altogether. In 1785 the Bartrams named the new genus *Franklania*. The name, *Franklania alatamaha*, was given to the tree by John Bartram in honor of his friend Benjamin Franklin. The plant has also been known as the Franklin tree, the lost Camellia, and the lost *Gordonia*. *Franklania*, *Gordonia*, and *Camellia* are members of the tea family *Theaceae*.

From the year 1998 to 2000, the John Bartram Association conducted a *Franklania* census in 38 states, the District of Columbia, and eight other countries. It was discovered that over 2,000 were reported growing around the world. Most trees were reported in Pennsylvania, North Carolina, and New Jersey. The oldest known *Franklinias* are growing at Harvard University's Arnold Arboretum dating from 1905. The

oldest known plant is 21 feet tall and 53 feet wide consisting of eight trunks that are more than five inches in diameter.

The *Franklania* is very picky and a challenge to grow. Requirements include well drained acidic soil, wind protection, mulch, and partial shade. It is common for trees in low poorly drained areas to develop root rot. *Franklinias* also tend to do well in humus enriched soils and can be planted with other acid loving plants such as blueberry. A soil pH of five to six is best, but most forest soils are accepted. When the roots are not covered by humus, pine needles, or mulch they may heat up and dry out faster. Full sun can stress the tree in long periods of dry heat. *Franklania* can also be trouble to transplant, but can more easily be propagated by twig cuttings or from seed. It is adapted well to colder and even subzero temperatures. It is actually known to do better in northern climates rather than its southern roots. Though it is known to be a difficult plant to propagate and maintain, it is highly valued and desirable due to its beauty, origin, and many enjoy the challenge. *Franklania* has also been successfully hybridized with other genera. This diversity may lead to longer lived plants, better form, disease resistance, and more.

Franklania is hardy in plant zones five to eight. It grows 10 to 15 feet tall and can be single-stemmed or multi-stemmed. The height can reach close to 20 feet at full maturity but the tree rarely lives more than 50 years. The three inch flowers bloom in late summer after many other trees are past blooming often with fall colored foliage. The bark is striped with white on grey. The flowers are white, fragrant, and



The three-inch flowers of the *Franklania* tree bloom in late summer, after many other trees are past blooming and have fall-colored foliage.

symmetrical with bright yellow stamens blooming in late summer until frost. With a combination of red and purple foliage and white showy flowers the color display can be phenomenal.

It is unlikely that anybody will know why the small *Franklania* grove disappeared in the wild, but there have been a few theories. Some believe that the plants declined because of climate change after moving south during the last ice age then not moving north fast enough after the ice sheet receded. Others believe that man destroyed the trees and habitat. The grove that was found by the Bartrams may not have been genetically diverse enough to fight insects, disease, or other stresses of nature. Another theory is that a forest fire, flood, or other natural disaster wiped out its habitat.

Its cold tolerance and drought sensitivity are just a few of the incompatible characteristics to where it was discovered. The trees flower later than most in the east-

ern United States, which means that the flowers would be pollinated in September and later. The seed pods do not mature then for another 13 or 15 months. So from the point the flower has been pollinated to the point the seed is germinating it would have been two years. This behavior is more consistent with northern plants from colder climates. There have been theories that *Franklania* was introduced to America in the 1700s when the British were importing plants to England and America from around the world. The theory also considers Asia its origin because of optimal soil, water, and climate conditions in some high altitudes. Asia is home to some camellia plants that are also in the tea family and also desire long mild days, stronger sunlight later in the year, and cold nights. Other theories have supported the belief that *Franklania* is native, and that cotton farming is to blame for the decline and extinction. Botanists have identified a cotton related pathogen in soil that could be harmful to *Franklania* and could have been carried downstream through erosion. If the small grove that was found in Georgia was the last place to evade the pathogen a small natural disaster could have easily caused its absence from the wild. A similar fate has come upon the Wollemi pine in Australia. Less than 100 trees exist and a fungus has been unintentionally introduced that can be potentially deadly. The Wollemi pine could have a similar fate as the *Franklania* if we didn't have modern science.

About 24 years ago while clearing invasive brush at Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve a small tree was found and identified as a *Franklania*. Since then it has been singled out and can still be seen beside our Nature Center to this day.

For more interesting information about Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve visit www.StrawberryHill.org, call 717-642-5840, or email info@strawberryhill.org.

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IN THE COUNTRY

Roots of a global movement

Amy Roberson
Ten Thousand Villages

For 53 years, the small town of Fairfield, Pennsylvania has been at the forefront of the fair trade movement. Long before socially responsible businesses were popular, or the label fair trade was ever stamped on a box, visitors to the Ten Thousand Villages Gift Festival and Oriental Rug Event in Fairfield have been empowering artisans. Fair trade grew up here.

The global fair trade movement began with the founding of Ten Thousand Villages more than 65 years ago through the visionary work of Edna Ruth Byler, a pioneering businesswoman. Byler was struck by the overwhelming poverty she witnessed during a trip to Puerto Rico in 1946, where she was moved to take action. The seminal contribution of Byler ignited a global movement to eradicate poverty through market-based solutions.

Byler believed that she could provide sustainable economic opportunities for artisans in developing countries by creating a viable marketplace for their products in North America. She

began a grassroots campaign among her family and friends in the United States by selling handcrafted products out of the trunk of her car. Before long, Byler expanded from her car, and in 1961, through the help of Fairfield Mennonite churchgoer, Ruth Musselman, and a ladies group from her church, the Gift Festival in Fairfield was born.

This November, visitors to Ten Thousand Villages' 53rd Annual Gift Festival and Oriental Rug Event will join in the story of Byler, Musselman, and the global fair trade movement. A movement which, based on Byler's same visionary principles, continues to grow. Ten Thousand Villages, an independent nonprofit, charitable organization, has grown to a global network of social entrepreneurs working to empower and provide economic opportunities to artisans.

This commitment to support artisans around the globe is strengthened through long-term buying relationships and fair trade compensation practices including cash advances and prompt payments. Ten Thousand Villages has deliberately

married the concept of fair trade with healthy and environmentally sustainable business practices. From store operations to product sourcing to marketing practices, Ten Thousand Villages strives to meet the "triple bottom line" of economic, environmental and social sustainability.

Following Byler's example, each handcrafted item has a story that is not forgotten: a story of artisans, empowered by fair trade. In bright oranges, yellows, and reds, colorful throws are handmade in Bangladesh and will be featured at this year's Gift Festival. Recycled Saris, patched with love, are repurposed into these Sacred Sari Throws by artisans of Sacred Mark, a workshop of artisan group Prokritee in Bangladesh. The artisans are women who have broken away from the sex trade and now make their living by making soap and handicrafts. Prokritee and its enterprises provide jobs for poor rural women: widows, divorcees or heads-of-households, primarily rural, landless and with little or no income. By providing jobs for women, Prokritee improves their standard of living and helps them send their children to school.

Pakistani Artisans of arti-



An artisan in Bangladesh hand-stitches a Sacred Sari Throw.

san group Bunyaad also benefit from fair trade. Including over 850 families in about 100 villages in Pakistan, Bunyaad guarantees a fair wage for their artisans. In the uncertain financial circumstances provided by a rural economy, reliable and consistent payment provides artisans with an unprecedented capacity for financial planning. With the looms located inside the artisans' homes, this project also gives increased opportunity to women. Women can work on the looms around their other household chores, like caring for children, preparing meals and tending their homes.

Each Bunyaad rug is made from handknotted wool in a variety of unique designs and sizes.

This year, Ten Thousand Villages' 53rd Annual Gift Festival and Oriental Rug Event will be held November 5th – 9th at Fairfield Mennonite Church, 201 W. Main St, Fairfield.

Event hours are Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 7:00 pm, Saturday, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm, with an Intro to Oriental Rug Seminar Thursday evening at 7:00 pm.

For more information visit www.mechanicsburg.tenthousandvillages.com.

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PETS LARGE AND SMALL

Coming together in exactly the right way

**Jennifer Vanderau
Cumberland Valley
Animal Shelter**

Do you ever find yourself marveling at how things work out some times?

Me, too, and on that note, boy, do I have a story for you.

A few weeks ago on a Friday night, we received an emergency call about a man who had passed away in his home, but he left dogs behind. There was no other family member around to take the animals. No next of kin. So, authorities had to call the animal shelter.

One of the dogs was a 4-year-old boxer named Ramsay. Really sweet boy.

I happened to be here when the call came in and I went to the residence to help our shelter manager collect the animals. I have to tell you, when I was there, I just had this feeling (I can't adequately describe it) that maybe dad was still around in that house, watching over the welfare of his babies.

I tried to coax the dogs out of the house and I have this very vivid memory of the model airplanes hanging up in the basement. Evidence of a life, you know? A man who had a history. His wife had passed just weeks before and he obviously loved his dogs and he existed. On the planet. With model airplanes in his basement.

I wished him well as I stood on

the threshold of his home.

I know it sounds too much like some reality show on TLC, but from that night, I really think some kind of destiny took over this story.

We loaded the dogs into the shelter van and they were quite well-behaved by the time we got back to the shelter, especially for not understanding where dad went and for being taken out of their home at night.

I remember getting a real sense of loss, though. I even texted my brother and sister to explain where I had been that evening because I felt this odd need to share.

Earlier in the day, Ramsay was home with his dad. Now he was in a kennel. There was a lot of sadness here.

We worked with rescues and got Ramsay's photo and information out there, but it was just last weekend where the story seemed to really be guided by...something.

A man stopped by the shelter -- seemingly out of nowhere -- and asked the ladies working if we had any boxers.

He hadn't seen anything online -- he knew nothing. He just stopped by on a whim and a chance.

The man went on to explain that he was having a rough time because his two boxers had recently passed away from cancer



Cheyenne

Cheyenne is a 2-year-old Boxer/Shepherd mix, as far as we can tell. She's a beautiful brindle color with a little bit of white on her paws and chest; she also has the most interesting ears—one folds over while the other stands up straight! Cheyenne is a playful and active girl looking for someone who can keep up with her. She does know how to "sit" and would be happy to learn more. Cheyenne would do best in a home with children over the age of 6. Can you give Cheyenne her second chance?

-- and it had happened fast. They died within three months of each other and the gentleman was really struggling to deal with the loss.

He had lost 30 pounds and started growing out his goatee. He explained that he actually preferred to keep his whiskers in the shape of a goatee, but since he lost his dogs, he couldn't really be bothered to shave, so a pretty thick beard had grown.

He was retired and likely had too much time to think. I really don't know what brought him to the shelter that day -- if I think too long about it, my instincts start to lean toward something otherworldly.

Naturally, we introduced him to Ramsay and needless to say, we have one less dog at CVAS because Ramsay was adopted by this gentleman.

On the day of his adoption, as he filled out the paperwork, the man told one of our staff as he rubbed his scruffy face that he was going to have to start shaving again because (are you ready for this?) he "couldn't really feel Ramsay's kisses."

And that was unacceptable to him.

We make happy endings at CVAS, but this was kind of something else.

I know yesterday was Halloween and I'm sure by now you think I've been checking out way too many paranormal websites and watching far too much Long Island Medium, but it really makes you wonder if something else was at work here.

Do you know everything that had to happen for this story to end this way?

I can't help but imagine that forces beyond our ken may have lined these paths up to cross exactly where they did.

Look, my dad was a chemistry teacher and I can almost guarantee you he's shaking his head as he reads this right now. I know the scientists (dad and the other Sheldon Cooper's included) will say

coincidence -- that the chaos of the molecules and atoms that we live in just happened to come together in exactly the right way to create this. Nothing more; nothing less. And that's valid. I get that.

You don't have a chemistry teacher for a dad without getting at least a little understanding of science and a skepticism of what folks term "paranormal."

But if you had seen how the gentleman who passed away had kept his boxers -- he had a fenced in yard for them and a doggie door and everything... and if you'd listened to the other man speak so reverently of caring for Ramsay and how we all just knew he was one of those pet owners who would do anything for his animals...I don't know. It just might make you scratch your head a little.

We make happy endings at CVAS, but with a story like Ramsay's I have to wonder if we also, sometimes, may witness miracles, too.

...

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

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

To a poor and lonely stray I'd give:

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

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

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

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

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

-- Author Unknown

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PETS LARGE AND SMALL

Choosing the right four-legged friend

Roseann Deluca
Cold Creek Dog Training

As a veteran dog trainer, seeing the wrong dog with the wrong person is one of the saddest situations I work through with clients. This week, I thought we could discuss different things to consider when looking for a new or another four-legged friend. Just a few easy steps to follow can make a world of difference in getting the right dog in your life.

If you have the opportunity to see a litter of puppies, you will get to see many different personalities within the litter. Just like the difference between human siblings of the same parents, puppies can offer the same diversity. Within one batch of puppies, you can get a wide range of characteristics. The best thing about looking at a young puppy is that you will be able to see the raw genetics of what the puppy's personality is like. This is the inner core of the puppy before any training or conditioning begins.

If you are looking at shelter puppies, shelter helpers can show you and point out the characteristics of the individual puppies since they are with them all the time on a day-to-day basis. If you are looking for a pure bred dog, your breeder will be able to direct you toward the proper puppy that will fit what you are looking for. Myself and any other professionals will always encourage you to NEVER purchase a puppy from a pet store, regardless of your sympathy for this puppy behind the polished glass presented too prettily to the public. Most puppy mill buyers do it out of pity for the poor puppy and the conditions of its birth. But that purchase enables the puppy mill to continue—if you don't buy, there is no market. Rescue workers spend hearts and tears and lots of money to save these puppies. If you want a puppy mill puppy, get one from a rescue relief organization please!

And back to our topic... One of



The ideal puppy for the average person or family is the one that is in the middle of the road. A middle child is the best way to go.

the favorite expressions of many dog-lovers is that they didn't pick their puppy, their puppy picked them! But, it's important to realize that the pushiest, most boisterous puppy will push to any person that is there first. So, in reality, it's not that you are as special as you might like to think—your new possible "pick" puppy will do this to everyone! Also, the pushiest, most confident, rowdiest puppy that screams "take me home with you," really should be going home with an experienced dog family who is ready to give lots of time to training and management to good canine leadership.

Also, another popular pick puppy is the shy guy, the sweet little one who is behind everyone else. Pushed aside, or hiding in a corner. The one who makes you go "Awww.... look at that poor little guy!" This little fellow also should be in experienced hands, since he will need extra care and guidance (not babying, as we discussed in previous articles, of course). He will need extra understanding to help him be comfortable in his shy, more reserved personality.

With the wrong person or family, these two puppy types can be a bad choice. The ideal puppy for the average person or family is the one that is middle of the road. "Middle child" is the best way to

go. You need to consider the energy level (and potential energy level) of the puppy and choose what fits your lifestyle. High-energy, active people can look to a high-energy personality type and breed. The more relaxed type of people need a lower energy dog. If you are not an active person, don't get a breed that requires tons of exercise.

When you are considering a shelter dog, take a look at what the parents might be. Sometimes it's a good guess, and other times all bets are off. There is DNA testing available now for about \$50 that will accurately tell you what your potential mixed breed dog is made up of. Just because its a black dog with floppy ears doesn't mean its a black lab at all! There are certain general characteristics that reign through any breed. Dogs, amazingly enough, have been altered and bred by man in a very, very short period of time for a variety of jobs. Each of those jobs, whether to be a lap dog and bark in alarm or have the courage to fight off a predator to save the sheep, is significant to how the dog will be in life. And within each of these breeds/types of dogs, you will find different energy levels—pushy guy and shy guy!

Also keep in mind that dogs behind kennel fences give different

reactions than they do away from the fence or cage. Many dogs seem fierce and extremely energetic when confined. A fence can actually be used as a tool in training to bring out aggression and confidence in sport and protection dogs. So, be sure you observe your new potential dog in his kennel as well as away from it on a walk. When you walk your dog or puppy, does he pay attention to you and follow you, or drag you to other things he wants you to see?

When looking at an older dog, consider the same type of parameters: how pushy is he, how shy is he? Does he seem super playful and energetic, or does he seem to just mosey along? Also, elderly dogs make wonderful adoptive pets because they are already through the rockiest part of adolescence and well-established in who they are.

Spend some time online doing breed research, no matter if you are rescuing an unknown breed type from a shelter, or a pure bred from a rescue organization, or going to a reputable breeder. People these days are much more informed about everything, so taking these extra steps while looking for your new four-legged friend is essential. There are lots of fun and helpful breed matching quizzes online that take you through questions about your lifestyle and goals and abilities and match you up with an appropriate breed choice. Take the quizzes, have

some fun, and be informed!

Consider the needs and nature of your current dog if you have one. Get one of similar energy level and opposite sex. Rather than get two puppies from the same litter, let at least 6 months to a year pass before bringing in another four-legged family member. Say thank you then run from a breeder who offers you two puppies at a discounted price or the last two in the litter that "shouldn't be separated." This can be a real issue since littermates are so bonded to each other and same sex littermates of the same energy level can be a problem as they mature. I have seen this many times!

Most importantly, don't make a decision with just your "heart." Have a plan and some facts behind it. Visit different places several times, look at multiple dogs and puppies, and visit several places—be informed. Stay away from those busy times of life when it's not good to bring in a new family member, like holidays and vacations. Let it be when there's lots of time to focus on the new arrival. Think of your new family member as a permanent, forever part of your life. If you follow these easy tips and some basic training and canine leadership understanding, you really can have the right dog just for you!

To read more articles by Roseann, visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.



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THE MASTER GARDENER

What are you doing in your garden?

Faith Peterson, Adams County Master Gardener
Mary Ann Ryan, High Priestess of Mabon

Ahhh, November: cool temperatures, long nights. What does this mean for gardeners? Typically by this time many of the leaves have fallen from the trees and jackets have come out of the closet. But what are we doing in the garden?

Raking leaves – What do we do with the leaves? Many people bag them and put out on the curb for the garbage collector. I've seen piles of leaves raked to the curb for the local municipalities to suck them up. But have you thought of saving those leaves and using them as mulch? Either composting them or just shredding them and spreading on your vegetable garden, perennial or shrub beds is a great way to add organic matter to your soil, which in turn is beneficial to your plants.

To cut or not to cut – I receive questions all the time that refer to cutting back perennials in the fall. There is one main thing to keep in mind when answering this question. Are the plants diseased or insect infested? If you had problems with the plant, the best choice is to cut back the perennial and rake any dropped leaves or flow-

ers. This will help control re-infestation next spring. However, if your plants have been healthy and any insects or diseases have been controlled throughout the growing season, then keeping seed heads on the plants is beneficial to the winter birds as it provides a good food source for them.

Feeding the birds – Over 65 million Americans enjoy the pleasure of feeding and attracting birds to their backyard. You can become a bird feeder by following a few simple suggestions. The first step is to determine the best spot for your feeder or feeders. Pick a location that has easy access all year. When the weather is bad, you may not want to fill a feeder that is in a difficult to reach area.

Next consider cleanup. Pick a location where discarded seed shells and bird droppings won't be a cleanup problem. Also, think about squirrels. A squirrel-proof feeder or a feeder with a pole and baffle, at least 10 feet from any tree branches will prevent squirrels from jumping from tree to feeder.

Keeping the seed dry is very important. Wet seed will spoil and become moldy, and the mold is bad for bird's health. Look for feeders with drainage holes in the bottom, so that if any moisture



Your selection of feeders will determine your winter bird population. Platform feeders – such as the standing feeder in the foreground and covered feeder in the background, will attract birds who like to eat off the ground like Cardinals & Blue Jays. Hanging feeders (middle feeder), will attract birds who prefer to eat off of plants, such as Gold Finches, Nut Hatches, & Wood Peckers. The wider the variety of feeders you provide, the wider the variety of birds you will attract.

gets in, it can drain away.

Cleaning the feeder is an important part of your new hobby. Diseases like salmonella grow in moldy wet seed. Keeping your feeders clean should not be a major project. The types of seed used will often dictate the cleaning frequency. The higher the oil content in seed, the more frequently cleaning should take place. A Niger (sometimes called thistle seed) feeder and one for sunflower seeds should be cleaned on a 2 to 3 week interval.

Whole sunflower seed and suet feeders should be cleaned about once a month. Wash feeders in

a bucket of hot soapy water to which you add about ¼ c chlorine bleach. A bottle brush will help in cleaning out corners. After rinsing thoroughly, allow the feeder to completely dry before refilling and hanging.

Many birds have seed preferences which you want to consider when you purchase seed. Most prefer sunflower. A few prefer peanuts. None seem to favor other grains used in mixes; corn, Milo, red millet, oats, wheat and canary seed.

Birds will kick out seed that they do not eat, which winds up on the ground under the feeder. There they

are likely to be contaminated by dampness and bird droppings, and may also attract rodents. It is much more economical in the long run to purchase only the seeds that the birds eat.

Black oil sunflower seeds are the favorite of all birds. White proso millet is enjoyed by doves and sparrows. Safflower seed is a treat for cardinals, doves and white-throated sparrows. Niger seed is loved by goldfinches, house finches and purple finches. Unsalted peanuts attract woodpeckers, nuthatches, blue jays, and titmice.

Once your bird feeder is up and in operation, consider providing a water source for the birds. A birdbath on the ground is perfect. To keep the water from freezing, purchase a birdbath heater which goes directly into the water, and is plugged into a normal outlet. Provide something for the birds to climb up on if the water is too deep. Again, keep the birdbath clean.

One important aspect of bird feeding is safety for the birds. Place your feeder about 6 feet away from a shrub or tree, so that the birds can fly to the safety of the shrub. The most frequent predators at the feeder are cats.

The other predator is a natural one - hawks. Sharp-shinned and Cooper's hawks play an important ecological role, and they do sometimes eat birds at a feeder. Consider yourself an observer of nature if you see such an event. Keep in mind that all eagles, hawks and owls are protected by Federal law.

One way to keep down the cost of backyard bird feeding is to plant natural foods (native plants) in your garden. Some good flower choices are cosmos, sunflowers, zinnias, poppies, asters, coreopsis, purple coneflower, joe-pye weed, black eyed Susan, goldenrod and sedums.

Excellent berry bearing shrubs include serviceberries, chokecherries, elderberries, blackberries, hollies, dogwood, redberry buckthorn, and roses. Good vine choices include American bittersweet, native honeysuckles and Virginia creepers. Fruit and seed trees to consider are hackberries, red cedars, crabapples,

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THE MASTER GARDENER

Small Town Gardener

Puppy madness

Marianne Willburn

It's 5:11 am. I am standing in the garden watching the ligustrum shiver as a tiny white bullet passes through the undergrowth and flattens the remains of the iris. Rosy-fingered Dawn is still somewhere over the Atlantic Ocean, leaving my pajama-clad frame illuminated solely by the yellow rays of an iron porch lamp. The warm nights have given way to cooler mornings, but I am not weeding. I am not even waking. I am waiting. The seed heads on the Northern sea oats now quake indignantly and I glance at my watch and sigh. Just one morning amongst many in my new role as puppy mother and sleep-deprived masochist.

It is not only me that suffers. My older Labrador, certain of dominance in a one-dog household for over six years, sees his quiet life threatened beyond endurance. Forced to share a water bowl with a cheeky little upstart, his peaceful mornings are interrupted by raucous play, his lazy evenings are now spent guarding his favorite bone from the stratagems and spoils of a Jack Russell Terrorist. We are all learning to adapt.

I've had a few words to say about pets and gardens over the years. No matter how idealized the picture in your head of a contented tabby sitting peacefully on a bench, or a faithful dog gently trailing you as you dead-head a sea of rudbeckia, the day-to-day reality involves dead birds, trampled plants and possibly a tranquilizer prescription. Chain yourself to a puppy and that scenario takes on greater implications – house training, sleepless nights, nibbled slippers...in short, constant surveillance.

There are two full years to get through, as any dog owner will tell you. And faced with the horrendous task ahead, you may take the easy way out, closeting the little monster and yourself in your slate floor kitchen with a bag of treats and a roll of paper towels.

However, the braver among us refuse to be shackled by the demands of puppy ownership and insist on conducting life as usual. In my case, that means life as a gardener, introducing Master Dog to a veritable wonderland of sights, smells and long-forgotten treasures.

In a fully-fenced yard, it is easy to believe that a puppy can't get into too much trouble, but turn your attention away for a few minutes to throw a couple of pots in the basement, or go hunt out that bag of vermiculite you squirreled away last autumn, and you may find him bottoms-up in a groundhog hole, or nosing a gate open, or making a latrine of your new heuchera.

Still, the romantic moments do exist here and there and some of us feel that, however fleeting, those moments are worth the price of a little disorder. Yesterday morning I pulled out a withered bronze euphorbia that had skipped bronze and gone straight to brown. Sitting back on my haunches to contemplate the empty space, I was entertained by my new terrier scenting dirt like a shark scents blood – his entire body launched into the hole, frantically and efficiently digging. This instinct will drive me to the drinks cabinet eventually, but in the interim, I directed him toward a hole I'd started for a golden berberis. A few minutes later, all was excavated and we were both supremely happy.

His parents are groundhog killers by trade, but I dare not let him nose the holes that appear under the slats of my fence, lest he follow them out of my small garden and into those of my neighbors, who have fingers poised righteously over phones set to speed dial Animal Control. Instead, we take long walks down by the river, where he can follow a thousand scents and we can both dream of the day when we sell one of the children and buy that perfect home in the country.

It will not be an easy road. There will be tears. There will be vile acts of unspeakable destruction that involve treasured plants, chairs and Wellington boots. But as my little companion trots by my side in the early evening, and lies down to watch me pot up a tender Mandevilla, I am reminded that there are many things in life that bring us joy that aren't particularly well-advised...such as buying a half-price Zone 10 plant one month before the end of a Zone 7 season. A glutton for punishment you say? Quite possibly. I am a gardener after all.



Pokeweed, considered an unsightly weed by many, produces berries that provide a much-needed source of fat and protein to many birds throughout the winter.

cherries, mountain ashes, tulip tree, spruces and pines.

Don't "clean up" the garden in the fall by removing all the flower seed stalks. The birds will perch and feed on the flower seeds well past Christmas. Consider a second life for your evergreen Christmas tree – put it outside and decorate it with pine cones rolled in peanut butter; garlands of unsalted popcorn and cranberries, and a good dusting of sunflower seed. The birds will love your tree!

Planting – November is a great time to plant balled and burlapped (B & B) trees and plants. Large plants are typically field grown, and therefore, need to be dug and wrapped in burlap to be sent to nurseries. The trees grown this way must be planted during dormancy, but also while the ground can still be dug, making November the perfect time to do so.

If planting a B & B shrub or tree, be sure to dig the hole twice as wide as the ball itself. Also, the hole should only be as deep as the ball of the tree – from the bottom of the ball to the root flare of the plant. It's better to plant a shrub or tree too high than too low. When setting the plant in the hole, use the handle of the shovel and lay it across the hole from edge to edge with the plant in the hole to see if the depth is at the right level. Be sure to take off the burlap, wire basket if it has one, and all twine, especially what is around the trunk of the plant. After removing all burlap, wire, and twine, set the tree in the hole and backfill with the soil that you took out of the hole. There is no need to add any amendments when digging a single hole. Research shows that plants adapt better to the native soils in a single hole than amended soils.

Planning for the Christmas tree

– Often at Christmas time a family decides to buy a live Christmas tree. This is a great idea because that tree can be planted in the yard after the holidays. However, now is the time to dig the hole to prepare for the tree. A live Christmas tree must be watered regularly before coming into the house, while in the house, and after planting in the yard. Remember, it is still alive, and must have water. The best way to handle a live tree is to only have it in the house for about one week, no more than 10 days, in a cool room. If you dig your hole now, it makes the planting of the tree that much easier because the hole is dug before the ground freezes. After digging your hole this month, put the extra soil that was taken out of the hole in a wheelbarrow and store it in the garage or shed until you need it for planting in early January. Place a piece of plywood over the hole so no one trips or falls into the hole. After planting the tree, (follow the same instructions as mentioned above), water it well and watch it grow in the spring!

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



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CIVIL WAR HISTORY

The Thirty Days Campaign

Part 2 - New Yorkers Defending the Keystone and the Old Line State

**John Miller
Emmitsburg Historical Society
Civil War Historian**

As the Battle of Gettysburg raged for three days, the New York State National Guard continued to guard and picket the various networks of roads and mountain gaps leading to Harrisburg. The units in Baltimore kept up their efforts of escorting Confederate prisoners to Federal prison camps, and picketing the network of roads. On July 3rd, the 17th and the 84th NYSNG were the last New York National Guard regiments to enter Baltimore. The 18th NYSNG was the last regiment to enter Harrisburg. By July 3rd, nearly fourteen thousand New York State National Guardsmen were serving in Maryland and in Pennsylvania. As the day closed on July 3rd, their role in the Pennsylvania Campaign would take a heavy toll, testing each man, especially those in Pennsylvania.

On July 4th, those New York State National Guard regiments serving under General Joseph Knipe in Pennsylvania were issued marching orders. They were to move to Carlisle, and from there march

directly into South Mountain via Mount Holly. That afternoon, a severe thunderstorm hit the entire area. Roads were flooded as mountain creeks rose quickly from the rain. As daylight turned into darkness, South Mountain became hideous to the extreme. The men were trying to get to Pine Grove Furnace and block the northern gaps of South Mountain preventing the retreating Confederate army from using that area.

Many men noted that in some cases they had to fell trees over creeks and try to walk over them or in between them from being swept away by the raging current. The men were soaked to the bone and by the time they reached Pine Grove, the Pennsylvania Militia had taken refuge inside the outbuildings, forcing the New Yorkers to sleep outside during the pouring rain.

Not all New York State National Guardsmen suffered as badly as those in General Knipe's Brigade. Several regiments stayed behind at Harrisburg maintaining the forts and garrisons there. To the south at Baltimore, those regiments fared much better, as they continued to garrison the forts.

The next day, General William Smith's Division, of which General Knipe's Brigade was part of, was ordered to Newman's Gap just west of Cashtown. Many



The 7th New York encamped near Baltimore.

bivouacked near Bendersville that night as they began to follow the South Mountain ridge toward their destination. Many of the soldiers had no rations to eat and because of the nature of the torn up roads, the quartermaster and commissary wagons were not able to keep up and were forced to lag behind.

To the south, the 7th New York State National Guard was ordered to Frederick city. The 7th New York State National Guard would eventually take over the Provost command of Frederick. Crude


camps were made in the fields surrounding Monocacy Junction, and the men of the 7th New York State National Guard would picket area roads leading into the city.

By July 6th, Smith's Division moved to Caledonia Furnace and encamped there for the night. The next morning, they were ordered to Waynesboro, PA. They marched to Mont Alto where they encamped for the night. During the day other New York State National Guard units based in Harrisburg began to move to Carlisle. From there they took the rail to Shippensburg.


Arriving there at night, the men of Yates' Brigade were ordered to march by the light of the moon toward Greenville, near Chambersburg.

At Frederick, the 7th New York State National Guard had already begun to see the advance units of the Army of the Potomac. They were hacked by the Union veterans, but for the most part, the 7th New York State National Guard would continue their picketing duties. The next day, the 7th New York State National Guard would be in charge of the Provost duties in Frederick.

As dawn came on July 8th, the



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CIVIL WAR HISTORY

New Yorkers of Smith's Division awoke and began marching to Waynesboro. They would reach the town during the late afternoon where they just missed the rear of the Confederate army and were greeted by members of the Army of the Potomac Sixth Corps. They marched out of town on the Leitersburg Pike and made camp near the Antietam Creek, along the Mason Dixon Line. Yates' Brigade remained stationary during the day.

The next several days, Smith's Division picketed the Emmitsburg and Waynesboro Turnpike as well as other major roads leading into Waynesboro. The men were idle in camp and were not allowed to go into Waynesboro during their down time. Several regiments of New Yorkers were ordered out to observe the retreating Confederate army as they marched toward Hagerstown.

By July 11th, Yates' Brigade made their entrance in Chambersburg and they would encamp there until July 14th, when they were ordered to Greencastle. Smith's Division, located along the Mason Dixon Line received orders to march toward

Boonsboro. The 7th New York State National Guard in Frederick were relieved of Provost duty and continued to picket area roads leading into Frederick.

On July 12th, the New Yorkers took the turnpike that led to Smithsburg. During their march, a frightfully severe thunderstorm struck. As the men took refuge near Cavetown, lightning had struck a shelter tent of the 56th New York State National Guard, killing some and wounding others.

The next morning, the New Yorkers at Cavetown were ordered to march to Boonsboro. Throughout the day, they heard cannonading from the direction of Hagerstown and Williamsport. They reached Boonsboro late in the evening and encamped just outside of town.

On July 14th, Smith's Division was ordered to march toward Williamsport via Beaver Creek. The soldiers within Smith's Division heard rumors of rioting occurring in New York City due to the drafts. Yates' Brigade marched from Chambersburg to Greencastle, where they halted. Those New York

regiments located in Baltimore and Frederick were ordered to board the train and head back to New York to assist in putting down the Draft Riots.

As dawn came on the morning of July 15th, the New Yorkers in Smith's Division were ordered to proceed at once to Frederick, Maryland. They marched through Boonsboro, and Turner's Gap upon South Mountain. By afternoon, they reached Middletown where they crossed the Catocin Mountain via Braddock's Gap. By late evening, Frederick was reached. They had marched about twenty-five miles

from Beaver Creek to Monocacy Junction, where many of the men dropped over from fatigue and exhaustion.

The next morning, many of the soldiers boarded the train and headed toward Baltimore. Many regiments went onto New York City, while several others headed back to Harrisburg. By mid July, the majority of those New York State National Guardsmen were mustered out of U.S. service.

Their exploits during the Pennsylvania Campaign were far from anything they had experienced before. Fast paced marches over long distances, sleeping on the

cold, wet ground during severe thunderstorms. Several regiments managed to skirmish with the Confederates during the days leading up to the Battle of Gettysburg. A few men immediately began to write books about their experiences in Pennsylvania and Maryland. All wanted their story to be told, and the men themselves wanted recognition for what they contributed, in protecting the people during their thirty days' campaign.

To read other articles on the Civil War visit the Historical Society section of Emmitsburg.net.

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HISTORY

Piney Creek Church 250 Years of Continuous Worship

Part 3

Amanda W. Grant

Since 1763, Piney Creek Presbyterian Church members have been worshipping the Lord along Route 134 between Taneytown and Gettysburg. Throughout 2013, the church has been celebrating its 250th anniversary with special church services and festivals, which will culminate on Sunday, November 10 at 6:00 p.m. In celebration of the church's sesquicentennial anniversary in 1938, former church member Miss Anna Galt wrote, "No great achievement, to human eyes, justifies the existence of Piney Creek Church for 175 years . . . but it endeavors to reach out a kindly hand to the community, and after all it would not be an insignificant tribute to be styled the friendly church by the side of the road." Through the provision of God's grace, love, and mercy, Piney Creek hopes to continue to fit this description and to make history. As mentioned in previous issues, from 1763 through the 1919, the church overcame many struggles.

In 1919, Piney Creek was mourning the resignation of a great minister, Reverend Seth Russell Downie, but the congregation continued to move forward as they had through many previous struggles. Reverend G. Wilbur Shipley was installed as the next pastor in 1920 for both Piney Creek and Taneytown Churches under the Baltimore Presbytery, as part of the Presbyterian Church of the U. S. A..

During Shipley's pastorate, session minutes dated for September 12, 1920 reveal the uniqueness of a small country church. When asked to hold an evangelistic meeting, Piney Creek elders felt it unwise, "owing to the lack of a lighting system" and that the proposed date was not "practicable . . . because of the busy season for farmers preventing their attending." Unfortunately, the rural landscape was not the only challenge that Shipley faced.

In spite of the gifts bequeathed to the church by the passing of several members, and the advantageous selling of some of the stocks held by the church, there were still financial hardships. A letter written by the session on February 24, 1925, warned Rev-

erend Shipley that the session was told of possible withdrawals of membership from "members who represent large financial support to the Church." After many meetings of the Piney Creek and Taneytown sessions over finances and membership, Reverend Shipley submitted his resignation. The cause of the resignation or the members' threat to leave is not recorded. After this resignation, session minutes report that the Presbytery asked Piney Creek and Taneytown to join once again with the Emmitsburg congregation in order to create one charge for a minister. After lengthy discussions, the three churches voted to join together, with minutes from March 21, 1926 showing that each of the churches would remain as separate entities but would share the annual salary and benefits of \$2,650.00. On May 25, 1926, Reverend Thomas T. Brown became the pastor of the three.

After "faithfully and successfully" serving the churches for ten years as pastor as recorded in session minutes from April 19, 1936, Reverend Brown retired. During this time, reports



Miss Catherine Hess places the cornerstone of the new social hall at Piney Creek Church. Also pictured are Joseph Reaver, president of the Men's Brotherhood, and Reverend Charles S. Owen.

from the various church groups were favorable. The Women's Missionary Society of the church was active and reported that they met their goals of sending \$40.00 to National Missions and to Foreign Missions the sum of \$42.00 in 1936. They also donated "fruits and vegetables to Home for Aged and Eye, Ear, and Throat Hospital and surgical dressings for [a] hospital in China." The Sunday School reported a positive balance of \$4.40 in the account after all disbursements were made, and the Men's Brotherhood concluded their fiscal year with \$56.49.

On April 22, 1937, Reverend

Irvin N. Morris was installed at a ceremony in Piney Creek Church. Morris would also be the pastor of the three aforementioned churches, and ministers from all around attended the special ceremony at 8:00 p.m. that evening. A little over one year later, Piney Creek celebrated its sesquicentennial anniversary on November 13, 1938 at 9:30 a.m. and throughout the week. Lectures were given by Reverend Mervel Weaver from Frederick Presbyterian Church, and Dr. Walter Nathan, a refugee from Germany, fleeing from Hitler's Nazi regime, who "is an authority in the field of religious

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art." The services also included the singing of hymns and a brief church history. After only a few years, Reverend Morris resigned from the pastorate of the three churches on May 16, 1941.

The session formally placed a call to Reverend Charles S. Owens on February 15, 1942, along with the sessions of Emmitsburg and Taneytown, and installation services were held on April 9, 1942. During this same year, Piney Creek joined in the war effort by taking up a special offering for the War Time Service Fund. Two years later, the Sunday School donated to the Presbyterian Hospitality House in Baltimore which within one year of opening had already worked with 150,00 servicemen and women. The church also sent a Christian publication to each member of the church who was in the armed services, and the Ladies' Missionary Society donated money to the Philippine War Relief effort, receiving a thank-you from the President of the Philippine Republic.

A special gift was also donated during Owens' time as pastor, which is still in use today within the church. A baptismal font, donated in memory of one of the church founders, Matthew Galt, was given by his family members on June 4, 1944. The wooden font has been used in all of the baptismal ceremonies within the church since that time, and stands near the stage of the church as a reminder of those who worked so faithfully within the church so many years before.

The church continued to flourish over the next several years, and on December 11, 1946, at 9:00 a.m. on a Wednesday morning, the marble cornerstone of Piney Creek's Social Hall was laid. Reverend Owens presided at the ceremony and Miss Catherine Hess placed the cornerstone. A time capsule was placed under the cornerstone which included timely newspapers, records of church events, the most recent annual report of the church and more. Included was a description of a 360 year old oak tree which was removed for the new building, and it was believed to have been present at the time when Lord Baltimore was granted the land for Maryland. The Social Hall was finished in 1947, dedicated in 1948, and is still in use today, housing Sunday School classes each week, socials, and other special events for the church.

In December of 1951, Reverend Owens resigned, and the churches' pulpits were filled by supplies until a call was placed for Reverend Gideon E. Galambos. On January 15, 1953, Reverend Galambos, a Czechoslovakian who had escaped persecution from the Communist Regime only a few years earlier, was installed in the Emmitsburg Church. The Reverend's years were not uneventful. The church organ, still in use, was graciously donated in 1953 by Robert A. Stott, a church member and descendent of one of the founders of the church. Not all events during his pastorate were positive, though, and as many churches experience throughout

history, disagreements arose between members of the congregation, the elders, the pastor, and unease between some of the church members and the Baltimore Presbytery caused further strain. Reverend Galambos requested "to dissolve his pastoral relationship" with the three churches in 1956. Several church members continued to

call Piney Creek Church home, but others left to go to neighboring churches in Gettysburg, Taneytown, and Littlestown over the next few years. Sadly, families who had attended the church for generations no longer worshipped together on Sunday mornings.

Part 4 next month

Carroll R. Wivell

Carroll Raymond Wivell, 83, of Emmitsburg died peacefully Monday, October 21, 2013 at York Hospital in York. Born May 26, 1930 in Emmitsburg, he was the son of the late William and Rose Keepers Wivell. He was the husband of the late Mary Six Wivell who died in 1985 and the late Mary Hanes Wivell who died in 2008.

Carroll spent most of his life as a farmer in Frederick County. Upon retiring from farming he worked in maintenance at St. Anthony Shrine Parish in Emmitsburg where he was a parishioner. He enjoyed woodworking, raising birds, playing the dice game "Farkle," working jigsaw puzzles, and spending time with family and friends.

Surviving are foster daughter, Christina Skybyk of Westminster; foster granddaughter, Sarita Marie Simpson and husband Scott of Washington, D.C.; foster great-grandson, Alex Nicholas Peresada; step-granddaughter, Teresa Kendrick of Silver Spring; step great-granddaughters, Amanda and Allison Kendrick; and many nieces



and nephews. He is also remembered by very special niece, Brenda Martins of Emmitsburg. He was predeceased by foster son, Alexander Peresada; step-daughter, Yvonne Millard; sisters, Catherine Newcomer and Mary Ann Straub; and brothers, Albert, John, Clarence and George Wivell.

A Memorial Mass was held at St. Anthony Shrine Parish with the Rev. Lawrence J. Donohoo as celebrant. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Anthony Shrine Parish, 16150 St. Anthony Rd, Emmitsburg, MD, 21727. Online condolences may be expressed to the family at www.myersdurborawfh.com.

Josephine McCleaf

Josephine McCleaf, 96, of Emmitsburg died peacefully Thursday, October 10, at her home surrounded by her loving family. Born September 12, 1917 in Waynesboro, she was the daughter of the late Earl and Mabel Newcomer Welty. She was the wife of the late Albert "Wayne" McCleaf, to whom she was married for 57 years.

After her mother passed away, Josephine left high school to help provide for her younger brother and sisters. She became a waitress and retail clerk and was employed by various local restaurants and businesses throughout the years. After retiring, she helped babysit her grandchildren, whom she always referred to as "her babies." She was always willing to help anyone in the family at any time. She enjoyed working crossword puzzles, reading the Bible and various novels, and watching old westerns and game shows.

Surviving are daughter, Valerie Ryder and husband Dave of Littlestown; son, David McCleaf and wife Terri of Woodsboro; sisters, Annabelle Roof, Sylvia Gardenhour, Helen Kreitz, Lois Rohr, Dorothy Freeman, and Fay Ranck; grandchildren, Bryan Ryder of Emmitsburg, Erin Markin and husband Chris of Cambridge,



Jennifer Ryder of Emmitsburg, and Shaina McCleaf of Frederick; step-granddaughter, April Orlofsky of Columbia; great-grandchildren, Kaia Ryder and Isabel Markin; and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by sisters, Ethel Boyer, Lulu McCarney, and Betty Moore, and brother Earl Welty, Jr.

A funeral service was held at Catocin View Seventh Day Adventist Church, with Pastor Josh Voigt officiating. Interment was at the Emmitsburg Memorial Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Frederick County, P.O. Box 1799, Frederick, MD, 21702 or to Catocin View Seventh Day Adventist Church. Online condolences may be expressed to the family at www.myersdurborawfh.com.

Evelyn Ott



Evelyn Louise Ott, 91, of Emmitsburg died peacefully Monday, September 30, at her home surrounded by her loving family. Born December 13, 1921 in Middletown PA, she was the daughter of the late Albert and Matilda Yingst Moose.

She was the wife of the late Bernard "Bud" Joseph Ott Jr. who died in 1995.

Evelyn was the owner of Ott House Pub & Restaurant, Ott Enterprises and Ott Rentals. She was a communicant of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church in Emmitsburg where she was a member of the Ladies Sodality. She was an active member and former Past President of the VFW Ladies Auxiliary Post 6658. She was also a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She loved spending time with her family and friends, playing Bingo, and traveling, especially to her vacation home in the Outer Banks.

Evelyn adored and was adored by her 9 children, 17 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren. Surviving are sons, David Ott,

Robert Ott and wife Carolyn both of Emmitsburg, Richard Ott and partner David Rybicky of Delray Beach, FL; daughters, Susan Glass and husband Larry, Christine Wilson and husband Robert, Catherine Ott, all of Emmitsburg, and Rosalie Bittle and husband Stephen of Carroll Valley, PA; sister, Christine Moose Shryock of Harrisburg, PA; and brother, Charles S. Moose of Littlestown, PA. She was predeceased by sons Patrick and Bernard Joseph Ott III; brothers, William, John, Leroy, and Richard Moose; and daughter-in-law Jane Ott.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church. Interment was in the New St. Joseph Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, 47 DePaul St, Emmitsburg, or Emmitsburg Volunteer Ambulance Company, P.O. Box 1101, Emmitsburg, MD 21727. Online condolences may be expressed to the family at www.myersdurborawfh.com.

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COLD WAR WARRIORS

Wing Cmdr., Eric Ackermann, GM., R.A.F.

A hero in the shadows, a Cold War SIGINT pioneer

Peter Jackson
Oxford, England

The first part of Eric Ackermann's life story concluded at the end of the Second World War in which he served with great distinction, gaining six campaign medals and the George Medal for gallantry. His war service, important though it was to the nation's war effort, proved to be just a preamble to the next fifteen years during which his contribution was arguably more important though less exciting.

Unlike most, servicemen and women, Eric showed no interest in becoming a civilian again—perhaps he relished the prospect of life in Germany in the early years of the so-called peace. Why go back to war damaged and impoverished Britain when he could do something to thwart the intentions of another enemy bent on replacing Nazi Germany? He had already accomplished much during his four and a half years of war service when life had been exciting and sometimes perilous. He learnt much about electronics in wartime and was eager to apply his new skills to the next challenge, which was not long in coming.

This new enemy was the Soviet Union which quickly made its intentions clear to be as uncooperative as it possibly could be. There were, of course, justifiable reasons for the Soviets to be wary of the west. From the time when the western allies were gracelessly permitted in July 1945 to occupy their pre-determined sectors in Berlin and the final adjustments were made to the borders in their zones in west Germany—entirely to the advantage of the Soviets—it was obvious that there was trouble ahead. The western part of Germany, comprised two-thirds of the country.

The Soviets had engineered the Yalta Conference of February 1945 to ensure that their zone had the largest, single proportion—one third. The other three powers: the United States, the United Kingdom, and belatedly and grudgingly, France, shared the rest. So



the west was on one side of what Winston Churchill, in his speech in Fulton, Missouri, in 1946, called the Iron Curtain. The Soviet Union and its satellites were on the other. The two groups were facing each other across a fortified border. The Soviets were intent on fostering their own very different, political and economic system. They made it clear they intended to destroy their enemy. Churchill's vision of "broad sunlit uplands, as he put it in his 1940 speech at the time of the Battle of Britain, was fading fast.

It took a while, but within two or three years Eric Ackermann was starting to experiment with ways of intercepting Soviet Air Force signals. Keeping his eyes and ears open to what the enemy was about to do, or was already doing had been crucial during the war and the activities of Britain's code-breaking Centre at Bletchley Park is said to have shortened the war by at least a year. If continuing work along the same lines could actually prevent a war, what a wonderful thing that would be. Unfortunately Bletchley Park was closed in 1945 and for a short time the U.K. took its eye off

the ball. Some people were prepared to trust Stalin, others felt that perhaps Communism had something to offer after a terrible war against the Fascist Germany and Italy and, besides... the Soviets had suffered a terrible mauling and unimaginable losses both in terms of manpower and resources. Surely, as they had made, by far, the larger contribution to victory—and they never stopped reminding the west about it. The allies owed them something in return, and if we acknowledged this fact, then a war between the two political blocs would never happen.

We now know that these views were misplaced. Stalin could not be trusted and from 1945 until 1948 was already taking over the countries to the east of Germany as his cordon sanitaire, defending the homeland against the wicked imperialists. Not, of course, that the unlucky inhabitants of these countries gave him permission to do so. They just had to put up with being forcibly incorporated into the Socialist Paradise—a treat they were to enjoy for more than forty years. This grouping of hostile countries was a threat to the west and countering this through the use of electronics means became Eric Ackermann's occupation until the end of his life in 2003.

In February 1946, however, after beginning his experimental work on signals interception, he was interrupted by a curious mission which had nothing to do with his real work. Put simply, he was to move a valuable civilian scientific research establishment from Ried am Innkreis in the American Zone of Austria to the British Zone of Germany. This was not easy in winter on damaged roads, and with valuable equipment and people on board. He was the Convoy Commander and once again proved his mettle and probably enjoyed his last adventure out on his own before reverting to the more static life of a station commander. He duly reached Ried safely, secured the Fraunhofer Institute of Ionospheric Research, its Director and staff of 200, and escorted it and them to the town of Lindau near Göttingen in the shadow of the Harz Mountains.

Following the move, he received a surprise invitation from the C-in-C's office. He viewed this invitation with some trepidation, even fearing that his Air Force career might be over. Because he had appropriated seventy trucks for the mission, that the C-in-C may have needed for other purposes. He went to the C-in-C's office as commanded. An Aide came in during the meeting expecting Eric to be recoiling from his chief's wrath. To his surprise he found him relaxing on the sofa enjoying one of Sir Sholto's cigars.

After his last mission off the leash, as it was, he returned to Obernkirchen to resume his scientific research which had become urgent. The western allies had now accepted the need to re-introduce wartime methods of finding out what the new enemy was doing to undermine the west's security. The Soviet Union, the awkward one amongst the quartet of occupying powers in Germany, was obstructing every move the west tried to make. War seemed imminent and Eric's specialty—signals interception, was to be his most important contribution to the post-war security of his country and beyond.

He had spent 1945 avidly collecting German and Italian radars, signals and other electronic equipment abandoned at the end of the war and this horde became his working tools in his research, when put in charge of the newly formed Air Scientific Research Unit (A.S.R.U.) In 1950, this led to the establishment of the first, R.A.F. ground-based intercept station in Germany. By the mid-1950s there were five additional ground-based sites—including No. 646 Signals Unit that was directly under Eric's command at Obernkirchen. No. 646 S.U. deployed detachments to Berlin, Putlos on the Baltic, Habbaniya in Iraq and Akrotiri in Cyprus as well as one in Austria which was under four-power occupation until 1955.

With promotion to Squadron Lead-

er (Major) in 1949 and Wing Commander (Lieutenant Colonel) in 1954, his rank was now reflecting his increasing responsibilities, though he still had just an honorary commission. Between 1945 and 1960 he developed his expertise with signals interception which kept him in Germany until 1959. At this time, he experimented with the early production of SIGINT—a combination of ELINT and COMINT (Communications Intelligence).

Alongside his demanding professional duties, Eric's domestic life was by now relatively placid after the hectic war years and the challenge of the Fraunhofer expedition. He and his first wife Dorothy had divorced and in 1948 he married Gizella Maria Anna von Schmidt, known as Marianna, a refugee from her home in Hungary, who found work with the British as an interpreter. They had two sons, Peter, born in 1952 and Nicholas, born in 1957. They lived in a large house in Obernkirchen with a big garden, and employed three servants. This was a better lifestyle than officers of his rank normally enjoyed, but Eric was different—he always was. To afford this level of relative luxury he had access to a special (i.e. secret) fund coming directly from the Ministry of Defense and not subject to R.A.F. scrutiny.

He was popular with his subordinates, several of whom have testified that he was not at all "officerish" and was "one of the boys except when, as C.O., he had no choice. He disliked parades and other R.A.F. rituals, and forbade his R.A.F. police from putting anyone on a charge unless the offence involved security. Although he knew how to keep his distance when he had to, he was also generous and did his best to make things as agreeable as he could for those he commanded. Parades were a problem though. One day he arrived back at camp in his car during an important parade—probably the annual, Queen's official birthday parade in June. He got out of his car and was observed wearing a red scarf and brown shoes with his R.A.F.



A radome at RAF Menwith Hill used for ECHELON. Part of a global system for the interception of private and commercial communications, it was created to monitor the military and diplomatic communications of the Soviet Union and its Eastern Bloc allies during the Cold War.

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COLD WAR WARRIORS



The NSA, the only part of the government that actually listens to you, is an outgrowth of Eric's work.

uniform, an eccentric combination. He cheerily waved at the parade commander, shouted "Carry on" and went into his office.

On another occasion he was actually commanding a parade without knowing how to get the men off the parade square. He resorted to asking a Police Corporal to do it for him, which was done by the simple order: "Parade – Dismiss! A half turn to the right and the deed was done. In his defense, Eric could have pointed out that he had received no basic R.A.F. training due to the unusual circumstances of his commission. Totally to his credit, however, was when - at his own expense - he took a group of airmen to a performance of the La Scala Opera that was touring military bases in Germany. He followed the performance with a dinner for his men - all at his personal expense.

By the mid-1950s Eric was becoming an international figure with regular visits to the U.K. and to the United States. He attended inter-service conferences and examples of his American involvement show how influential he now was. In 1955 he attended a joint Anglo-American ELINT Planning conference in London, followed by a visit to the United States. While in Washington he gave lectures on intercept problems and results to the Air Force Office of Intelligence and the National Defense Council.

By now he was becoming a major player in Anglo-American co-operation and his American counterparts regarded him highly. He also frequently traveled throughout the U.K., the U.S., and Germany to attend conferences. He had higher responsibilities than most officers, for which he was paid appropriately. Not from ordinary R.A.F. funds but from a "special fund" whose scrutiny was beyond the reach of the Air Force's auditors.

In 1958 Eric's Signals Unit moved from Obernkirchen to R.A.F. Scharfoldendorf near Hamelin. This R.A.F. base was on a remote hill-top close to the Harz Mountains along the border with East Germany. It was beautiful in summer and bleak and often inaccessible in winter. It had been a gliding school for the Luftwaffe before and during the war.

Eric and his family stayed there until June 1959 when he returned to the United Kingdom after fourteen years in Germany. His new home was the R.A.F. base at Watton in Norfolk. This

was a large flying station, very different from that small place in the woods at Obernkirchen or the hilltop eyrie of Scharfoldendorf. Watton had been an R.A.F. bomber base for the first part of the Second World War, and in 1943 it was handed over to the U.S. 8th Air

Force to continue bombing raids on Germany.

The base was devoted to signals intelligence, using aircraft fitted out with intercept equipment that flew high over eastern bloc territory, out of range of Warsaw Pact anti-aircraft weapons. This was something with which Eric should have been at home, but he never enjoyed his time there. He was uneasy with Officers' Mess rituals and with the parades he had to attend and so, in 1960 he decided to leave the R.A.F. and once again become a full-time, civilian scientist. He was only 40 years old with much to offer, and nothing illustrates his value more than the British Civil Service List of the senior staff in his Air Ministry Department. He appears alphabetically at the top of the list as E.G. Ackermann, G.M. Everyone else had high level university degrees after their names: Eric had no degrees, but he did have his George medal which none of them could match, and his experience and other qualities put him on equal terms with these outstanding scientists.

In 1965 he left the British Civil Service and took up a position as head of

the Military Satellite Communications Group with the Marconi Company, this was part of the U.K.'s Signals Research and Development Establishment (S.R.D.E.), based in Dorset in the south of England. This multi-initialed organization made its presence obvious with a large white radar dome (later shortened to RAYDOME) that had a 40-foot dish. This antenna was used for tracking British and foreign satellites and testing the U.K.'s Skynet's military communications system.

Eric spent two years with the S.R.D.E. before making a surprising move when he accepted a posting to the British Embassy in Washington to continue his work on Skynet. Perhaps, though, it was not all that surprising. He had always loved the U.S.A., had spent much time there and had made many useful contacts in the U.S. military and scientific worlds. The chance to work in the U.S. capital city was obviously too good to miss.

He stayed with the Embassy for five years. Rather than go back to the U.K. when his contract ended, he decided to stay in the United States. His son Peter believes that Eric wanted his sons

to have the benefits of an education in America rather than in Britain. Leaving the Embassy in 1972, he had no difficulty in finding a job and for three years worked for his old employer Marconi, and later the Communications Satellite Corporation (COMSAT), a global telecommunications company.

He worked for COMSAT until the end of his life and was constantly busy both at work and leisure. In 1977 he moved with his family to a farm just outside of Emmitsburg. On 27th April 1986 he died of lung cancer at the age of 66. He had been ill for a year but had told no one, not even his family, until near the end. He is buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Dr. Reginald Jones, Eric's great friend and one of the supreme British scientists of the war years described Eric as: "One of those who made the world tick, sometimes two or even three times as fast as it had ticked previously", a perfect epitaph for a remarkable man and shadow hero of the Cold War.

To read past editions of *Cold War Warriors* visit the *Authors* section of Emmitsburg.net.

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MOM'S TIME OUT

Love and respect

Mary Angel

I am saddened this month as a mother and a wife. I am saddened by how disposable marriage has become in our society. I am saddened at how often I hear the phrase, "The next time I marry, I will..." You can fill in the rest any way you like. I am not talking about joking (My husband and I have certainly joked about marrying for money). I am talking about the mentality that has spread through the younger generations, and becomes more prevalent with each new generation. The mentality that says, "Sure I will give marriage a try, if it doesn't work out this time there is always next time." It is the "all about me" mentality.

I am certainly not referring to people in an abusive or dangerous situation with any of my comments. Also, there are always special circumstances and exceptions to every rule. My problem is the way people are treating their loved ones. If someone has a spouse who does not make them happy they feel they are entitled to leave, or end the marriage. My husband and I have been leading a small group study by Dr. Eggrich which is entitled Love and Respect. It is basic stuff, wives respect your husbands and husbands love your

wives. I believe it is so basic that many couples disregard the importance of these two simple ideas. In the Bible men are called to love their wives the way Christ loves the church and women are called to respect their husbands. Is this the reality of the world we live in? I don't think these two things occur nearly enough. If the husbands of this world loved their wives unconditionally, put their wives before themselves in their thoughts and actions, and did this in front of their children, I believe we would notice a change that would sweep this country and this world we live in. Consequently, if wives would show their husbands respect in their words and deeds, without regard for their husband's actions, there would be a noticeable drop in the divorce rate.

The other night I thought of a wonderful experiment. What if every wife and every husband recorded themselves for a week (alright I said wonderful, not realistic). At the end of the week they went back and saw how they spoke to, acted towards and overall treated their spouse. Then they thought about their children and asked a simple, very impactful, question. Would I want my son or daughter to be treated the way I treated their father/mother. Wow! There have been many mo-

ments when I have said or done things to my husband that weren't super terrible but very disrespectful. Although I wish I could say I never did anything derogatory in front of the kids, but I know that would be wrong. Every time that happens the kids see it, they absorb that experience. Later they might emulate that characteristic or accept it as the way they should be treated.

Before I answer my husband in anger I try to think of how much I loved him on the day we got married. Secondly, I think before I speak. What I mean is I try to avoid those attacking hurtful statements (that you don't necessarily mean, but are out to hurt the other person the way they have hurt you), the ones that can't be taken back. These statements include, but are not limited to, "I wish we had never gotten married", and any statement that used the "D" word (Divorce), and any derogatory statement about love or respect. These are the statements that can eat away at the foundation of a relationship.

Another tool that my husband and I enlist to keep our marriage going is the old fashioned date. Yes, I really mean old fashioned. The husband plans it, the wife gets dressed up for her husband, the kids are left at home, NO ONE else goes with you, and lastly you do not go to the movies.



Some of you might be asking what I have against the movies, and I would tell you nothing. However, the movies are not a place to reconnect with your spouse and get recharged for your relationship. Maybe this is part of the problem; people today want that immediate gratification, the "I deserve to be happy all the time" mentality. I am here to tell you that a relationship, of any kind, is work.

Please do not misunderstand my relationship with my husband. We have made many mistakes in our relationship. We struggled a great deal at the beginning of the relationship, and then when we had our first child it was complete chaos. We also went through what we considered the seven year itch. Neither one of us had an affair or anything like that, but we

down right didn't care for one another. The difference is, instead of letting it fester and deteriorate, we did something about it. There is always help out there. The question is whether or not you are willing to seek it out, and have follow through.

There are no quick fixes to a relationship in turmoil. It can also be said that there isn't one right solution for every relationship either. I know couples who have gone to counselor after counselor until one just worked for them. What if they had said, "We have tried that before" and not gotten to the one that fit their situation. My husband and I often discuss what might have happened if we hadn't done the Love Dare, or Love and Respect, or The Art of Love. With are blessed by thought of friends and family who have sought counseling and come out the other side better for it. Our low points have been made shorter in our eyes by the grace of God and all of these wonderful tools available to all of us. So for your sake, the sake of your husband, and the sake of your children try ONE more time and stick it out.



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BEDTIME STORIES

The Sickly Stag

Amy Wilkenson

There once was a stag who was taken quite ill, he had been sick since he was a lad. He had fever, a headache, and a chill, his overall prognosis was bad. He lived his life sleeping in a clearing, where things were peaceful and safe. No one bothered him or called him names like, degenerate, needy, or waif.

His mother and brother would visit him, bringing him grass and other legumes, And though his family loved him much, he lived a life of gloom. What he really wanted was a friend, someone with whom he could play, who wouldn't care that his legs were weak and his chills made him sway.

When his brother came to visit him next, he voiced his inclination. His brother said, "Stag, I will try to help, but I can offer no consolation." His brother left and set off at once, he was determined to find a mate that would keep the sick stag company so his loneliness might abate.

His brother searched far and wide until he found a pretty deer, He approached her happily and exclaimed, "It is nice to see you here. My brother is a sweet and lovely fellow, though I'm sad to say he's ailing, I'm looking to find him a companion, it is something for which I have been praying."

Brother explained that Stag was ill and was yearning to find a friend, she asked a lot of questions, but agreed to visit him in the end. So, the very next day the doe set out to meet our good friend, Stag. She spent the whole trip talking of herself and took the time to brag about what her best qualities were, the list went on and on, all the vain and egotistical chatter made Brother stag yawn.

They made their way to the clearing, where Stag spent his days. The doe wagged her tail as she walked in, which made Stag's eyebrows raise. She sat close to him and cuddled herself up against his side, it was then that she noticed how well his food stash was supplied.

When she asked to have his food, the stag, he readily agreed, because he was a wholesome fellow, he knew nothing of avarice and greed. Once the doe had eaten her fill, she said it was time for her to leave. She didn't even say good-bye and left poor Stag to grieve.

The following week, Brother arrived to bring Stag his provisions. When he saw poor Stag, hungry and alone he said, "This is not what I envisioned." Stag explained what had happened, and Brother was very cross.

Said he, "I will find you a friend, I will do better to sift through the dross."

So, Brother set off on a journey again, with the intention that he would find, Stag a friend, who would not take advantage and would be loving and kind. After days of searching he stumbled upon a group of friendly looking mice. Even though they were small of stature, he thought they would suffice.

He approached them and said, "You look a friendly group of chaps. My brother is in need of company, I assure you, it is an easy task." The mice decided they would go with Brother back to meet the stag. They had almost made it to Stag when their journey hit a snag.

When they reached the clearing, the leader of the mice stood up and inquired, "How are we to be paid for this? And how much of our time will be required?" "I think you have missed the point of this venture," said Brother with a frown, "I brought you here to be his friends, now go on, get out of town."

Brother sighed and walked away, thinking, "Third time is a charm. I will find my brother a companion friend, there's no cause for alarm." Again he ventured off into the woods, this time determined to discover, a life long mate who would be cordial and help his brother recover.

Brother searched both high and low; he searched for weeks on end. But no matter in how many nooks he checked, he could not find a friend. He trudged his way back to the clearing feeling frustrated and unnerved, that he could not find his brother the friend he coveted and deserved.

What he saw when he reached the clearing both shocked and alarmed him, even though the scene looked nice, he could not help from feeling grim. His brother, Stag, was laying down laughing at the dancing of a little brown squirrel who frolicking around; hopping, skipping, and prancing.

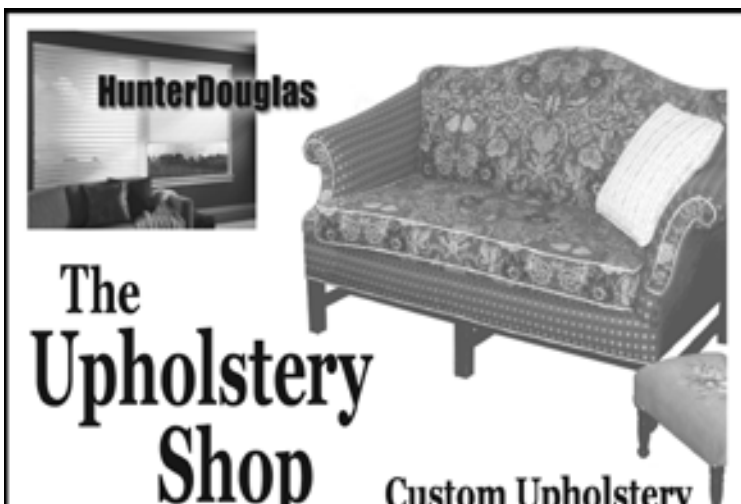
Brother yelled, "Squirrel, you knock that off and march right over here. Explain yourself, what are you doing? And are your intentions sincere?" The squirrel said, "Brother, I am not certain, what I have done to cause you alarm. I promise, I am here because because I am fond of Stag. I will not bring him harm."

"But I have searched the forest wide, in search of someone like you, who would simply be his companion and not think it a job to do. How is it that you just walked on up and decided to be his friend, when no one explained to you the type of condition he is in?"

"My brother stag, you worry too much, for how could I not see, that your brother is unwell when it is plainly in front of me? But, you should know that, ill or well, a true friend will not care, a friend will like you for who you are, not the materials you have to share."

Brother learned a lesson that day; a friend is not something easily found. It is not something you will discover from searching up and down. A friend who someone who shows up in your life at a moment you may not expect, and ends up staying with you there because of mutual loyalty, love, and respect.

Some people may say, when it comes to friends, it's best to have a ton, but as you grow, you will find, of true friends, you'll be lucky to find just one.



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SCHOOL & LIBRARY NEWS

What's new at the library

Erin Dingle
Emmitsburg Branch Library

A generous donation was presented to the Emmitsburg Branch Library last month by the Silver Fancy Garden Club. Members of the club met with Cheryl Dillman, Children's Library Associate and I to offer \$200 to support library programs and needs. The funds will be support this year's 'Holiday Tea' hosted by the Friends of the Emmitsburg Library as well as the purchase of a Puppet Theater. A long tradition in Emmitsburg, the tea is for children and will be held on Dec. 7 at 1:30. Seats at this popular event fill early so be sure to register in advance by visiting our website.

This donation is part of a long history of the Silver Fancy club's support of our library. Currently

there are 18 members. When you visit the library and see the beautiful floral arrangement every month on the Information Desk, all credit goes to the talented club members. And they do so much more.

Organized in 1954, the club is very active in both Emmitsburg and Taneytown and always welcomes new members. The long list of projects they undertake in both communities includes the beautification projects; a Garden Therapy Program for seniors; Junior Gardeners to educate youth about nature and environmentally safe projects and practices. Call Club President Joyce Bruchey at 410-775-7921 to learn how you can be part of this dynamic group as a member. Teens Make Art!

A brand new series of art workshops hosted by Library Associate Cynthia Wintermyer will kick off in November.

Teens Make Art! is monthly series to introduce tweens and teens to a variety of techniques and mediums to create art projects. Registration is limited to ten participants. Register early online or by phone at 301-600-6329. All levels of artistic ability welcomed. All materials will be provided. Each workshop is on a Tuesday starting at 4 p.m. Dates are:

- Nov. 12 – Feed the Birds: Just in time for winter! Make your own bird feeders--complete with bird food.
- Dec. 10- Decorate a Hot Chocolate Mug: Use porcelain pens to decorate a porcelain mug for hot chocolate.
- Jan. 14 - Aboriginal Rock Painting: Explore the ancient Australian art of Aboriginal rock painting and paint your favorite animal, flower or de-

sign on your own rock.

- Feb. 11 - Reimagining Thrift Shop Paintings: Paint monsters, UFO's, fairies and more right on thrift store landscape paintings.

November Programs for Children & Teens

Children's: Festival of Fall Fun, Saturday, Nov. 9 @ 11 am - Join us for crafts and activities that celebrate this special time of year. Gobble up fun as we get wild about turkeys, scarecrows, and the Fall season. Registration Required.

Teens Make Art! Feed the Birds, Tuesday, Nov. 12 @ 4 pm - Just in time for Winter! We will be making our own bird feeders--complete with bird food--from supplies that will be provided. Tweet! Tweet! Registration Required.

Children's: Button Up!, Saturday, Nov. 16 @ 11 am - It's getting cold outside so "Button Up!" and come on out to celebrate National Button Day! Graph, sort, count and create. Make a button tree, design a button, and other fun activities! Registration Required.

All Ages: Make a K'Nex-tion, Tuesday, Nov. 19 from 4-6 pm Join us for an afternoon of LEGO® fun! Build tall buildings, create mysterious scenes and have endless amount of STEM fun with LEGO® bricks at the library! Best for ages 5 and up with an adult.

The library will be closed Nov. 11 in observance of Veterans Day. The Emmitsburg Branch Library is ready to welcome you and your family to take advantage of our collection, resources and programs. Please contact me at edingle@frederickcountymd.gov if you have questions or suggestions regarding library services.

\$12,612 per year

Katie Groth
Frederick County School Board

\$12,612 per year. Do you know what this figure represents? This is the actual cost per student in Frederick County Public Schools (from the most recent audited financial report in 2012). But what does this money actually pay for? The current FCPS budget comprises more than half of the entire budget for Frederick County. Taxpayers and citizens deserve to know how their money is spent to provide an excellent education for our more than 40,000 students.

First, about 30,000 students per day are transported on FCPS yellow buses. The buses cover 38,000 miles per day over roads throughout all of Frederick County, the county with the largest land mass

in Maryland. This costs \$679 per student per year, about 6 cents of every education dollar. The buses are well maintained and Frederick County Public Schools Transportation Dept. has an excellent safety record.

Students arrive each day at clean, modern and safe school buildings. There are more than 60 school buildings in the county.

Operations and maintenance on these buildings cost \$1,432 per student per year, or 11 cents of every education dollar. This pays for all building operations staff as well as the maintenance to keep buildings in good condition and safe for our students.

The largest expenditure in FCPS is for teachers and staff who provide the excellent education that our students receive each

day. This includes teachers and other staff folks who run the office, run the cafeteria, and provide classroom instructional assistance. This includes nearly 3,000 teachers system-wide as well as many instructional assistants in each building. Out of each FCPS education dollar, this group of folks costs 77 cents.

The central office staff of Frederick County Public Schools includes the senior administrative staff, such as the superintendent. There are approximately 150 of these people, many of whom we don't see very often, but they are professionals who provide a high degree of support and training for staff in our schools. Many excellent programs are available to our school district personnel to in turn help them provide the best education to the students in our classrooms. Frederick County pays \$297 per student per year for school administration, or 2 cents of every education dollar. This is the lowest school administration

cost of any of the 24 local school districts in the state of Maryland.

Instructional materials comprise another significant portion of the budget for public education in Frederick County. We spend \$530 per student per year on these materials, or about 4 cents out of every dollar. This includes textbooks, school supplies, white boards, copiers, maps and globes, as well as computers and other instructional technology.

The school system spends about \$233 per student per year for health and student support, or about 2 cents of every dollar. Student health and safety are critical if our students are to be ready to learn when they walk into the classroom each day. Student health and safety are of the highest priority in our school system. Many staff members contribute to student health and safety as part of their jobs. But school health and support personnel are there in each building to ensure our kids are safe and ready to take advantage of the excellent classroom instruction provided to them.

For several years, Frederick County Public Schools has re-

ceived high marks in recognition of excellent financial accounting and reporting. In addition, the school system prides itself on trying to do all it can to make useful financial information available to the public. The Board of Education supports this initiative by stressing transparency in budget deliberations and decision-making. Staff can make any information about the FCPS budget available to anyone for the asking. Contact your school administration or the staff at the central office with questions or concerns about the budget. At the present time, the Board of Education is beginning its preliminary budget deliberation and would welcome citizen input.

Frederick County Public Schools is committed to excellence in public education for every student in the county. This is the promise of public education. Knowing and understanding how much of your tax money is being spent and where the money actually goes is an important part of your responsibility as a citizen. Answering your questions and concerns is an important job of the school system.

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Fairfield Area
School Board

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THE FAIRFIELD SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

Letter to the Editor

It's nearly Election Day, and Fairfield apparently has the only contested school board election in Adams County. So, what qualifies someone to serve?

There are the basic eligibility requirements, such as a citizen of Pennsylvania, of good moral character, at least 18 years old, a resident of the school district for at least a year, not a convicted felon,

and so on. When elected, Board members have a fiduciary responsibility; that is a trust or confidence, to the community. Notably, they do not get paid for the many hours they will work during their 4-year term.

Beyond the desire to serve, voters need to seriously consider those candidates who will represent the citizens of Fairfield.

Have they been involved with the community? Have they attended School Board meetings and expressed active interest in District issues? Do they have special experience or expertise that will be of value to the District?

Fairfield Board candidates have already put up signs and begun delivering campaign positions. Some candidates, for example, would have us believe that being parent of a child in the school sys-

tem is a key qualification for office, as though paying property taxes, being concerned with academic outcomes, being led to serve, and living in the District isn't enough. It may be a mere coincidence, but every Board member voting to increase our property taxes over the past few years has had a child in Fairfield schools.

Make no mistake; all the candidates are fine upstanding citizens. But it's time to change the status quo;

to stop the history of raising property taxes year after year whether needed or not. Votes for Brad Rigler and Walter "Mickey" Barlow will be votes for responsible school governance and no tax increases. Rigler and Barlow are prepared to help Fairfield rise above mediocre SPP scores and deliver career ready graduates.

Mark Greathouse, Member,
Fairfield Area School District Board

From the candidates . . .

Rhonda Myers, Marcy Kepner VanMetre and Lonnie Whitcomb, parents of students who go to the Fairfield Area School District, are running for School Board on November 5. We decided to run because we share a common belief: that the school system is the backbone of our community. It is in the community's best interest for the board to provide students with the best education possible to help them succeed.

We are concerned tax-paying citizens they believe that parents need to be involved helping the school district balance the budget. We intend to ensure financial responsibility while making the best possible decisions concerning the students' education.

We believe it is important that board members know all aspects of the school district, including the mission statement, goals and challenges.

We are all active in the elementary, middle, and high school which makes us well-suited for the task of being on the school board. We know the challenges that the school district faces.

Rhonda Myers, and her husband Andy, have three children in the elementary school and have been living in Liberty Township for over 15 years. Rhonda enjoys helping at the Elementary school and has been a parent volunteer since her children started Kindergarten four years ago. She is the chairperson of numerous PTO events and is involved in many community youth programs. She is an AYSO soccer coach, baseball board member, and helps with KYFL football. She is also a second grade Sunday school teacher at Mother Seton School. Her husband is the KYFL JV football coach and has been a Fairfield Rec League baseball coach for 5 years.

Marcy Kepner VanMetre is a life-long member of the Fairfield community and has known many of the residents all her life. Marcy and her parents are Fairfield graduates. She is a parent of a 10th grade Fairfield student and a 2008 graduate. She has been a parent volunteer for 20 years in the school and also in other community and athletic programs. She served as an elementary PTO officer and has been on the school board for the past four years. Marcy and her family are members of Trinity United Methodist Church in Emmitsburg. Marcy worked in the public and private sector for many years and now is a full time wife and mother allowing her to be a very involved parent, conscientious taxpayer, and devoted member of this community.

Lonny (Lionel) and Amanda Whitcomb have been residents of Fairfield for more than 30 years, and are the



Candidate Rhonda Myers and her daughter, Hannah.

parents of two students currently attending the Middle and High schools. Emily, their daughter, is a senior and the first ever Fairfield School Board Student Representative, and John, their son, is in the 6th grade.

Lonny works as the Director of Risk Management for Snow Time Resorts, including Liberty, Roundtop, and Whitetail Mountain Resorts, as well as the Whitetail Golf

and Carroll Valley Golf Resorts. He is currently serving as a member of the Fairfield School District Steering

Committee, and has volunteered in our local Football, Soccer, Baseball and Basketball youth programs, as well as Scouting and the school's Adventure Club.

Rhonda, Marcy and Lonny are asking for your support this coming election, November 5. Please vote.

Fairfield Area School Board candidate Brad Rigler and his wife Vanessa welcomed their newborn daughter into the world last month. This is the couple's first child.

Ms. Reagan L. Rigler weighed 9 lbs., 3 oz. and measured 21 inches long.

Brad Rigler said, "Vanessa and I want to thank everyone for their

kind words and support. Reagan inspired my campaign to become School Director. Since she arrived, Reagan continues to inspire me in more ways than I could ever imagine."

Rigler said that becoming a father has strengthened his resolve to serve on the Fairfield Area School Board. Rigler said, "Vanessa and I are so proud to call the

Fairfield area home. I want to do my part to help keep our community and its school system strong."

The Fairfield Area School Board recently voted to once again to raise the school tax. Rigler said that constant tax increases end up hurting the community more than helping schools.

"The more our community is allowed to thrive, the more our schools will benefit. Our community needs a reprieve from constant tax increases. FASD taxpayers have seen the school tax go up while enrollment in the school system has gone down. One reason is because the district isn't replenishing its tax base. That's why property owners are paying more and more, but our schools benefit less and less."

"If we provide taxpayers tax relief, then we could better maintain the tax base. That would benefit students and taxpayers alike."

Brad Rigler is a registered Republican but cross-filed to run for the school board. Rigler said, "Our community is comprised of folks from different backgrounds and different stages of life. Everyone deserves a voice in our government. As a School Director I look forward to working with the entire board to serve the entire district. I'm asking for your vote."

FASD Board candidates Walter M. Barlow and Charles Hatter were on hand to congratulate Rigler on becoming a father.



Candidate Brad Rigler and his newborn daughter, Reagan.

Walter "Mickey" Barlow said, "I've lived in this community almost my entire life. As a Fairfield Area School Director my main objective will be to help students become all they can be. Board members need to listen to the voices of our parents and students to bring the district together for the better good of the community. We can do that without raising taxes."

Liberty Twp. resident, Charles Hatter is running in a special election to fill the 2 year term of former FASD Director, Ray

Beaumont. Hatter received the nomination from the Adams County Republican Committee. His step-daughter graduated from Fairfield High School in June.

Hatter said, "I'm running to represent the people of our District and to be a steward of their funds. I am pledging to stop these annual school tax increases. Everyone I know has had to tighten their belts over the past six years and live within their means. It's time the District to do the same."

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FOUR YEARS AT THE MOUNT

This month, we asked our Four Years at the Mount writers to spend an hour in a spot in Emmitsburg and then write about it. We have to admit, we were surprised at what they chose.

Freshman Year

The Jubilee

Leeanne Leary
MSM Class of 2017

We find usefulness in the saying, “Don’t judge a book by its cover” each and every day with people we meet, classes we start, buildings we enter...and sometimes even books. In this case, let’s take a minute and take a deeper look at Jubilee Foods. Jubilee is a typical grocery store with anything and everything a shopper could possibly want inside. However, it has a lot more to offer that can’t be seen at first glance, or maybe not even during a quick trip inside.

As a freshman at Mount St. Mary’s, I’m new to Emmitsburg and am still exploring all of its charming little details. Despite this, I am convinced that discovering Jubilee during my second week here will be my most important find in our town. I started school under the impression that I would have to drive to the Wal-Mart in Gettysburg every time

I wanted anything more than a bag of apples or a box of Cocoa Puffs, so you can imagine my excitement when I learned there was a place within a few minutes that I could go to for an ice cream fix or a case of water. With its initial appeal and its sheer convenience being obvious, I pulled into Jubilee’s parking lot for the first time at around 8 o’clock on a Thursday night and saw a typical small town grocery store. I went inside, got what I needed, and left. It was nice, a little busy, and filled with many Mount students, but nothing really stood out to me as being different than other grocery stores.

The next time I went I had a slightly different experience. I went around noon on a Wednesday and realized there was something undeniably charming about this place in its noontime serenity, before students got out of class and while the atmosphere was still calm. I noticed things I had missed during my first quick trip – the small newspaper distribution boxes out front, the Amer-

ican flag poster on the wall, and the “OPEN” sign blinking in the front window. All of this was more noticeable in the natural calm of a weekday morning, but once again, I got what I needed and left.

It was not until I visited Jubilee on a particular Tuesday morning that I realized the true value the store holds. Instead of entering right away, I decided to stay in my car for a little bit. I was in awe at how much happens outside of the store. I felt like I was witnessing a true “parking lot party.” Jubilee is so much more than a grocery store; it is a community center of its own breed. It brings together the people of Emmitsburg like nothing else. The parking lot, strangely enough, is the perfect depiction of a small town. I didn’t see a single person walk past another without nodding or waving; some probably know each other, but others didn’t. I can’t count the number of conversations I’ve seen at the back of cars while people are unloading groceries—some conversations lasting just a few seconds, and others lasting a few minutes. There are single shoppers, couples, friends, and families. There are children, but mainly adults. The

atmosphere is unique and incredible, and coming from a small town myself, I found it very comforting.

I’ll continue to make the easy trip to Jubilee because I have yet to have an experience that I would call anything but pleasant. Each time I check out I have been greeted and told to have a nice day. The most eye-opening encounter I had while at Jubilee was when I asked my cashier how she was doing, and she responded, “Well I’m wonderful! Nothing to be mad about. Even if there was, that wouldn’t help anyways now would it?” This simple answer showed a distinct knowledge that not many people have, and even fewer would take the time to share. I didn’t know how to respond at the time, but I immediately wanted to be her friend! Folks like that, individuals who can brighten someone’s day, are what really give a small community irreplaceable value.

Walking back outside, I experienced firsthand what I had been witnessing from inside my car. I passed three people on my way out, one who had just stepped out of a “Folly Antiques” van, and two men who were walking in together. I had nev-

er seen these people in my life, but as soon as I looked in their direction, not one of them hesitated to smile and say, “Hello.” In my opinion, it’s the simple things like this that are the best parts of a small town, or in this case, a local grocery store.

Jubilee Foods may seem like just a place to shop with some home-grown food inside and an “OPEN” sign on the outside, but from what I experienced, the people in and around Jubilee make it into so much more. They make it a community center, an experience, and a truly pleasant place to be. Never in my wildest imaginings would I have thought a grocery store – a place typically characterized by busy shoppers and maybe some screaming children – could brighten my day and make me look closer at things all over. At a glance, it is just a simple place, but if you take the time to talk to the shoppers and employees inside, or smile at the people passing in the parking lot, you will see that it has so much to offer the community.

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

Sophomore Year

Annandale Road

Lydia Olsen
MSM Class of 2016

My alarm goes off from my windowsill sounding the start of a new day. With heavy arms, I roll over to turn it off. Pulling up the curtains, I look through my window beside my bed. I can see for miles. The sun behind the mountains is beginning to create a golden light that bounces off the mountains, trees, and buildings in the most captivating way. The colors in the sky create a masterpiece,

a masterpiece that could have only been painted by the hand of God. Surely no beauty can be matched.

I hop out of bed half asleep and go through the routine that has become second nature. With the weather becoming chillier every day, I have to dress accordingly. Once I am covered with layers, I sit down on the floor and put on my shoes, making sure to pull the laces tight. Within minutes I am headed down the four flights of stairs and out the front door. The cold air hits me quickly and I shiver in response. After a few stretches, I walk briskly until I am propelled into a run. My feet carry me across the sidewalks until I reach the edge of campus. I stop to check for cars before stepping off of University Way and onto Annandale Road.

The street seems to greet my feet as soon as they touch like the welcoming of an old friend. The chickens and roosters from the cage to the right call, “Good morning!” out to me as I travel past them. Houses with rooms illuminated contain the mysteries of someone else’s morning routine. The birds sing from the trees as I run past. The branches above me are in different stages of the season. Some are holding onto their colorful leaves for just a little longer while others are already bare. These branches intertwine with each other, making it impossible to know where one tree begins and another ends.

My feet carry me on and I travel farther and farther down the street. The sounds of nature are occasionally interrupted as people rush

out of their homes and close their front doors behind them. With their travel mugs in one hand and their briefcases in the other, they enter their cars and head off day after day. We nod to each other or wave with familiarity and a smile and then we both continue on.

It wasn’t until I looked into it that I realized that Annandale Road was actually named after a family that was very influential in the Emmitsburg community. I had been running down it daily without any contemplation. The information is worth knowing and has given me a greater appreciation of Annandale and Emmitsburg. Here is a brief history and summary of what I learned.

Robert Annan was born in 1742 in Scotland. He migrated to New York in 1761. In 1764, he married Margaret Cochran. William Cochran, Margaret’s father, had bought land that is currently west of Track Road and north of Fairfield, Pennsylvania. Samuel Emmit had purchased the smaller eastern part of this area. Later on, William Emmit and Robert Annan both tried to create towns. Emmit’s new town was named Emmitsburg while Robert’s town was named Annandale. Robert tried to sell some of the lots in Annandale but he was unable to compete with Emmit’s success, and he eventually gave up on trying to turn his land into a town. However, the area still maintains the name and the generations that were created.

In 1831, Robert Lewis Annan was born to Dr. Annan and Elizabeth (Mott) Annan. He grew up to be a doctor and after graduation, he came back to Emmitsburg to practice medicine for the remainder of his life. He helped organize the Emmitsburg Water Company and served the Emmitsburg

community for fifty-two years. He focused on the welfare of the community and was viewed as wise because of his education. He was married twice and lived in a house in the center of Emmitsburg, adjoining his brother Isaac Annan’s house.

Isaac Annan was born in 1833. Isaac went to public school in Emmitsburg and later worked as a clerk in a local dry goods store. After a few years, he became the owner of the same store and was a successful businessman. He renamed the store I. S. Annan & Company. Isaac helped to organize the Annan and Homer Bank in 1882 as the president of the company. He also worked with Robert in organizing the Emmitsburg Water Company, where he worked to provide the community with clean water. During his lifetime, Isaac was extremely well known throughout Emmitsburg. He married Julia Landers. Their first child together was named Edgar L. Annan.

Edgar Annan was born in 1865. He was also a prominent businessman. Edgar was educated in New Windsor, Maryland before giving up his studies. He then began working at Horner & Company in Emmitsburg. He became a cashier and was highly regarded among the Emmitsburg population. He was married in 1884 to Pauline McNair and they had five children.

The history seems to speak for itself and tell the story of a community developing and becoming the beautiful, history-rich town it is today. Annandale Road isn’t just a paved path that winds across the hills. It brings you to or from destinations and becomes a part of your travels. As the tires of your car, the wheels on your bike, or the soles of your shoes touch the pavement,

what is it that they are connecting with? Is it simply a two-sided road divided by a double yellow line? Maybe on the surface that is all it can be. Or maybe it can be and is more than that. We could choose to see it as a path that makes connections. It connects us to other roads that can take us in different directions and lead us to different things. It is a path that can make personal connections. We can use it as a way to connect to the past and to the Annan family, showing appreciation for all that they did for the Emmitsburg community. We can use it as a way to reach out to our neighbors and even to each other.

Too often I think that we all tend to see Mount St. Mary’s as separate from Emmitsburg or Emmitsburg separate from Mount St. Mary’s. By doing this, we miss out on the valuable connections that we could make with each other. Annandale may be just a road, but it acts as a bridge. It is a bridge between the community on campus and the Emmitsburg community as a whole. As we turn down the road and come to that fork, too often we choose a direction as if we were choosing a side. If we stay to the right and continue onto Annandale then we turn our backs onto the Mount St. Mary’s campus. If we turn left and enter the campus, aren’t our backs then turned on Annandale and in a sense on Emmitsburg? It can’t be seen like this for we are one community. Together, we make up the Emmitsburg community as a whole—not as separate parts. We are stronger together; our histories reveal it and our futures rely on it. Annandale unites us.

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AN HOUR IN A FAVORITE SPOT

Junior Year

The Seton Shrine

Kyle Ott
MSM Class of 2015

Part of the appeal of going to Mount St. Mary's is the businesses and areas shared by our university and the town of Emmitsburg. There are so many institutions that bear great memories for both students and townspeople. Whether going to get a quick bit at Subway or stopping by Holy Grounds for a cup of coffee, it is no secret that the Mount and Emmitsburg have a lot of things for which to be thankful. However, it's not just businesses and restaurants that our two worlds share, but also a rich history, specifically involving Elizabeth Ann Seton.

I'll never forget coming to the Mount and hearing stories about Father John Dubois' journey from France to Maryland in search of a safe haven from religious persecution, and the stories about the many famous people who have walked the same

ground and traveled the same wooded trails I had. One of these figures in particular, Mother Seton, a patron of students and education, caught my attention. It was mind blowing to me that a canonized saint has been in the same place I am, and that she harbored the same feelings of love and admiration that I have for my new home. I became aware that there was a beautiful shrine dedicated to Mother Seton in Emmitsburg, The National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton. The building was dedicated not only to telling her life story through artifacts from her lifetime and informational seminars, but also to continuing her work through community service and outreach. It sounded like an amazing place, and I made it my mission to go.

However, freshman year passed and I hadn't had the chance to visit the shrine that I had heard so much about. Like most new college students, I had gotten wrapped up in the myriad of activities that college had to offer me and had put a vis-

it to the shrine on the backburner. I had almost forgotten about that wonderful example of our shared history with Emmitsburg when sophomore year rolled around and I was asked to take part in Campus Ministry's Back from the Dead Cemetery Walk. Every year the Mount's Campus Ministry office runs a free shuttle to the graveyard outside of the Seton Shrine for a Catholic take on the traditional Halloween walk. Rather than be beset by popular monsters and ghouls, participants encounter the spirits of the saints as they travel through the holy graveyard. That year, the Mount's Father Brian Nolan approached me with the offer of a part as the ominous grave-keeper that helped to kick off the walk. I joined, excited at the prospect of being able to not only help a great cause, but also visit the landmark that I had wanted to visit for so long.

As fate would have it, I was going to be closer to the shrine than I thought. The first of the two walks went well enough, despite a slight drizzle and an unusual cold. The students and residents who went through came in a little scared but left with smiles on their faces. By the end of our first run, the rest of the cast, as well as yours truly,

were more than excited to begin our second performance. Then the onslaught of Hurricane Sandy hit and the weather in Maryland took a turn for the worse as driving wind and rain meant that the walk would be staged in the protective confines of the shrine itself. The night came and we turned off the lights, set up a few strategically placed candles, and took our positions inside the shrine.

There was something about the place that seemed to lend a strong purpose to what we were doing, attempting to bring God closer to people in a contemporary way. The way the flickering light seemed to fill the cavernous expanse of the marble chapel, the pictures of the smiling saints hung here and there, the rain pattering on the roof, and the looks of wonder on participants' faces all made for an extraordinary evening in an even more amazing place.

Moments like that make me so happy that we get to share our existence and our little miracles with the town of Emmitsburg. There's a danger inherent in treating the Mount or our town as a single world unto themselves, completely independent of one another. It's hard sometimes

to see our own little worlds as parts of a greater integrated whole, rather than as separate entities. However, sitting there in the shrine, with the shadows dancing on the walls and people from around the area having the time of their lives, it made me realize just how important it is to recognize that we're just part of a greater, shared tradition. So, allow me to end this article a little differently than I end most. Instead of asking that you sit and read with me, I ask that you go out and find some place, whether it's a store, a restaurant, or the spot where you finally did something you've always wanted to do. Go and rediscover what that place means for you and for others. It doesn't have to be something that necessarily connects the Mount to Emmitsburg, just something that takes you out of your own experience and brings you closer to another deeper life. Take your friends or go alone, but whatever you do, open yourself up to the chance that you might discover something new. Until next time, good luck, and happy hunting.

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

Senior Year

Holy Grounds Café

Nicole Jones
MSM Class of 2014

Steam rose from my frothy hot chocolate as the sides of the oversized mug warmed my chilled hands. I sipped at the mug's creamy contents. Mmm, just how I remember it.

The first time I tasted the hot chocolate from Holy Grounds Café was two years ago. Even though I had eaten lunch across the street and driven past it on my way to Jubilee, I had never once noticed the yellow and red letters in the window reading "Holy Grounds Café - Coffee, Pastries, Cold Drinks." A friend and fellow editor of the campus newspaper The Mountain Echo wanted to talk a bit about work over some coffee, which is why I was confused when she parked us out front of the Ott House. As far as I knew, it wasn't much of a coffee joint.

"We're going across the street, silly," Alyssa had said while point-

ing at the small building with three cars filling the spaces out front. I was still slightly confused as the door we walked up to read "St. Philomena Catholic Books and Gifts." That's not exactly what we opened the door to, however. Sure, to my left there were Bibles, icons, and rosaries, but to my right were small, polished round tables and a counter filled with mugs. I was taken aback. How had I been at the Mount for two years and never known about this cozy treasure?

The walls were a warm blue and the menu was displayed in colorful chalk on two black boards and continued in marker on a set of round mirrors behind the counter. Coffee mugs and t-shirts displaying the Holy Grounds logo were displayed alongside a newspaper stand. I'll admit, I was a bit slow at the time and didn't process anything on the menu; I just asked Alyssa what was good there besides the coffee.

I was a little curious that after paying we didn't wait at the counter for our drinks like I was accustomed to at

most coffee shops. Instead, I followed Alyssa's lead and promptly took a seat to chat. We claimed one of the round tables in the corner by the window where we could gaze out onto Main Street traffic. A few minutes later, the lone employee behind the counter walked over with a smile and two oversized mugs that could have passed as small bowls. One steaming sip of rich, creamy hot chocolate later, I was in chocoholic bliss.

Alyssa and I weren't at the café during a very busy hour - I only remember one or two other tables being filled - but it was clear that this quiet little corner was a popular place. People hopped in and out of the bookstore or grabbed a muffin to go. The staff was obviously small but extremely friendly. It was the perfect place to facilitate our conversation. I remember a sign advertising open mic nights the first Friday of every month. What a fun, community building idea, I thought. I wondered how popular the event was and immediately determined I would make the café my regular stomping grounds.

After a little research I discovered that in 1996, this little joint began

solely as a small non-profit bookstore on Emmitsburg's Main Street. After changing hands twice, Bruno and Pam Sielaff came into ownership. The family-owned business has since moved to its current location at 2 West Main Street and expanded to include the Holy Grounds Café. I have not had the pleasure of meeting the Sielaffs, but I am grateful to them for preserving this piece of our community. At the Mount, I'm surrounded by a tradition of religion and faith, but it is a sweet and rare occasion when I find this environment away from school and home. It is part of what makes this little shop so special. It is a connection to more than just a good cup of coffee; it is a connection to people and a community of faith. In this way, it was familiar before I even knew of it.

Now back at my old table in the corner, I glance out the window onto Main Street and can't help but wish that I'd taken the time to follow through on my decision to make this my regular spot just a little sooner than I have. It took me an entire year before I made my second visit to this sweet little shop.

Now it's my senior year and I'm all out of "try-it-next-year's." It's this year or not at all. But I'm here now, and it's exactly how I remember it. The quiet coming and going of customers, the friendly staff and cool blue of the walls, and, of course, the giant mug of hot cocoa - in a year when everything is changing, it's nice to know that some things stay the same.

My recommendation to you, reader, is to take a moment out of your week and visit the Holy Grounds Café if you have not already. If that's not your cup of Joe, then go ahead and stop by that roadside stand you keep meaning to check out or attend that annual street festival you keep meaning to take your friends to. As long as you have the means, there is no point in waiting. Next week, next month, next year will come, but think of all the time you'll have wasted just wishing when you could be doing. Take action and discover a new connection with the world around you. I promise you won't regret it.

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



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THE GRADUATE

The perfect complement

Megan Kinsella
MSM Class of 2013

Every woman has dreams of someday meeting and falling in love with the perfect man. From a young age, girls wonder when Prince Charming will ride into their lives, sweep them off their feet, and take them off into the sunset to live happily ever after. I remember the most popular topic at almost all of my high school sleepovers was “the list.” Every girl has developed “the list” at one point in her life—it’s the list of attributes, personality traits, and physical characteristics that she needs to see in the man that she is going to spend the rest of her life with. The criteria on “the list” is almost always extravagantly impossible for any man to fulfill, and thus dooms both men and women to failure from the very beginning; women setting themselves up for eternal disappointment and men being held to unfair, impossible standards.

During high school, my mom and I took a lot of road trips back and forth from Allentown to Pittsburgh, PA to visit her parents. I looked forward to these car trips so much because for six long hours we would just talk and talk about everything: the future, her childhood, how she met my dad, the state of the world today, God—everything. I remember one great car ride in particular; we were talking about men and women and the difference between Hollywood romance and real-life love. We agreed that our culture today has it all wrong. TV shows and movies portray love as something that just hap-

pens to you, as pure emotional bliss, as perfection and completion. Girl meets guy, they fall in love instantly, and for the rest of their lives they are completely and irreversibly fulfilled by each other. Isn’t that just sickening? It’s not real life!

My mom and I concluded that real life is just “One Step Short of the Fairytale” (mother/daughter best-seller to hit bookstores soon). Men and women can meet, get to know each other, fall very much in love with each other, and live together in love and peace for their whole lives. But, it’s not as simple as Hollywood makes it out to be. Every married couple can attest to the fact that love, while most-often joyful and life-bringing, is difficult. It takes a lot of hard work, time, and energy to foster the truly loving friendship that we are called to have in married life. The “fairytale” can definitely come true, but just not in the way that our culture tells us it will happen.

The subject of love and marriage is on my mind a lot recently, especially this month, because a few weeks ago I got engaged. My fiancée, Mark, and I have been dating for over three years. We met freshman year at the Mount, and started dating at the beginning of our sophomore year. For the first few weeks of our relationship, I was obsessed. Here was this handsome, funny, nice guy, who was the star of the baseball team and one of the most well-liked guys in school, and I had the privilege of dating him. What luck! My life was set and nothing could take away my happiness. He simply completed me. Or so I thought.

Well, a few more weeks went by, and I realized life wasn’t as great as I thought. Mark and I didn’t really know each other. We hadn’t taken the time to truly get to know each other, to develop a true friendship based on self-giving love. We were interested in each other mainly for how the other could fulfill our needs and desires. In Mark, I found emotional happiness and physical closeness. I wanted to feel needed and beautiful and worthy, and a relationship with him gave that to me. After a few months, it got to the point that our relationship was motivated by very selfish desires. I knew that we were only hurting ourselves, but I couldn’t break up with him because I “needed” him in order to feel whole.

Well, he eventually broke up with me (or, as he jokingly claims to this day, it was a “mutual” break-up) and I was devastated. Not necessarily because I didn’t have a boyfriend anymore, but because I had emotionally attached myself to the idea that I could find fulfillment in another human being. I realized how unfair I had been, to both myself and to Mark. I had let myself down because I hoped that he could be my “everything,” and I was being unfair to him because I had impossible expectations for him to fulfill.

After about three months, and a lot of healing and personal growth, Mark and I got back together. We were two new people. For the time that we were broken up, we both individually realized that we had to take control of our own lives before we could give ourselves to each other in a true, loving friend-

ship. Looking back on it now, I know that God broke us up for a reason, and then He brought us back together when He knew we were ready for each other. Instead of expecting each other to fulfill ourselves, we both started to find our identity in something higher.

See, one thing that I found in my relationship with Mark, and that my mom and I talked a lot about during those long, six-hour car trips to Pittsburgh, is that human beings cannot complete each other. We cannot fulfill each other’s every need and desire. We were not created to be able to do that. And if we expect other humans to fulfill us and make us feel complete, we are always going to be disappointed. Human beings are always yearning to find that one thing that will assure us that we are part of something bigger, something better than ourselves. Oftentimes, though, we try to fit round pegs into square holes; we try to fill empty spaces in our hearts with relationships that do not have the capability to fill those spaces. And what is meant to fill those spaces? God. Our loving Creator, our merciful Father. The One who knows us better than we know ourselves, and who has the ability to fulfill every single desire of our hearts.

So, one thing that Mark and I have learned over the past few years, and I know we will continue to learn for the rest of our lives, is that we were made by God to complement each other, not complete each other. Because we are imperfect, limited beings, we are incapable of completing each other. And that is just a fact. If I always expected

to find the perfect, Hollywood Prince Charming, I would always be sadly disappointed. This may sound depressing or pessimistic, but in actuality it is a breath of fresh air! Mark is an amazing man, but not because he is perfect, never makes mistakes, and is tall, dark, and handsome (well, I’ll admit: he qualifies for that last category). Mark is an amazing man because he recognizes that his most noble purpose on this earth is to do everything he can to lead me, his future wife, to Jesus Christ and eternity with God in heaven. Yes, romance and the “feelings” are very important in a relationship, but they are not the most important things. The most important thing is to recognize that we are partners in this quest toward God, who is all things true, all things good, and all things beautiful.

I read a quote recently that fits this topic perfectly: “To love another person in the highest sense of the word is to wish that person the eternal possession of God and to lead them to it.” It is just so true! We are put on this earth to walk with each other toward something higher. All of our relationships—with our parents, siblings, best friends, significant others—are meant to hold us to higher standards and make us better people. While no human being is perfect and does not have the ability to complete anyone else, we can be perfect complements for each other in this life.

Megan graduated from the Mount in May and is now serving as a missionary with FOCUS, the Fellowship of Catholic University Students. Contact her by email (megan.kinsella@focus.org) for more information about FOCUS and her work at ULL.

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Heroin in Emmitsburg

Jack Deatherage, Jr.

DW and I rushed out to the acre, she so quickly after locking the factory she hadn't time to eat a supper. We're late, again, getting the garlic planted. \$103 worth of bought cloves, 5.5 pounds minus the culls and that much and more of our own seed bulbs. (I can't begin to estimate the value of those bits of living wonder. What price the sweat, pain, anger, despair, hope, education and delight they represent?)

I look up from churning the second 100' row and find DW standing gasping at the end of the first. She's raked ground too wet for rototilling as high along the row as she can. I can see the pain she's in. Are we insane? Well she obviously is because after I take the rake from her to rake the row to my satisfaction and drag the teeth along the length of it to level it for planting, she starts pulling weeds! The woman is a wonder. (I'll argue that I don't deserve her loyalty.)

The first row is ready for about 600 bulbs, I begin the second, but DW announces she's done so I return the tiller to its hole and take one last look at the winter garden yet to be planted. Why in the name of any god I can call upon do we do this each fall?

I plant gardens for the same reason people empty bottles of flavored alcohol down their gullets, snort white powders up their noses, inhale toxin laden smoke, or stick needles filled with blissful death in their veins. To escape, just briefly, the pain of life. To momentarily feel as if we're in control. As a gardener/wannabe farmer, I'm perhaps more aware of reality's constant smacking me upside the head than those using drugs as a means of escape. Nature is a heartless god. She may let fools defy Her for a lifetime, but She never lets us escape Her rules, we eventually die as She dictates.

So why have I turned from a decade of perfecting a state of drunkenness, with the occasional side trip into the land of the "evil weed" (marijuana), to torturing myself by way of attempting to grow gardens? More importantly to the topic of this column, why are people killing themselves by way of heroin in spite of all the recent deaths and all the information available about how deadly the drug is?

Well, considering we're forced from a warm, safe womb and plopped into a cold, unknown world where our first reaction is a gasp and a cry of outrage, is it any wonder we spend our lives seeking escape from pain and fear? (This isn't rocket science. I'm hardly the first to write about it.)

A couple generations ago, it was not uncommon to hear

prayers being said in public schools. I remember them. What I don't remember, because I'm not old enough, was the teaching of philosophies and their advocates in public schools. I was vaguely aware of the advocates, though not through my formal schooling. Schooling had changed that much from one generation to the next. Philosophies were deemed irrelevant by someone, for some reason.

During my childhood, I was around people who had some understanding of their purpose for being here. Most of them were Roman Catholics, devout if not articulate in their beliefs. I'm guessing they had found a method of dealing with the pain of life and their fear of such. There are many moments when I wish I could join them in the escape, but their master's teachings have been lost in the religion that grew up among the ignorant, arrogant men who followed him. I'm left to seek freedom elsewhere. At least I'm aware enough to know I should be seeking.

The news of vast ignorance that reaches me these days is staggering. College kids who can't articulate their reasons for being in college, let alone a reason for their drawing breath. (How bizarre that seems to one who graduated high school because it was easier to pass me through than deal with me another year.) From what their teachers tell me, the kids have never been confronted with a philosophical question, let alone been encouraged to think! This fits in sadly with my own observations of the last thirty or so years.

As a people, we've been denied a reason for living. At best, we are offered a seriously flawed philosophy, one proclaimed by our elect and anointed intellectuals as the balm for all our pain and fears. Having been systematically denied access to any other possible philosophy, today's children look into their future and seek a simpler escape. Heroin or any other drug that eases the pain.

I don't know that this current generation can be saved, or even enlightened. Perhaps the next one can be set onto the path if changes are begun now. I don't see that happening though. I see, based on history, three or four generations of deepening, abject misery before the universe sends yet another teacher to show humanity a way out of darkness.

I've been asked to help stop the drug abuse. How ironic as I sit here contemplating a second half glass of Shiraz to ease my own pain. Still, I see the need, though I doubt any will follow.

I recommend a quick dousing in reality. "All life is pain caused by ignorant desire." So said Gautama Buddha, or so it's been claimed. I haven't met the man to ask him if he said that or no.



With the death of a Fairfield youth last month, the local death count due to heroin use now stands at 6 in the past 12 months. How many more need to die before the community wakes up to the issue?

From there I'd read George Orwell's "Animal Farm" followed by a reading of Karl Marx's "Communist Manifesto" (I am stunned by the self-proclaimed socialists who have never read their mas-

ter's opus!) Then back to Orwell and his "1984" (we be there.) Then I'd go with The Teaching Company's "Ethics of Aristotle", the library has all of these works, or can get them.

Would any of these works solve the current problem? Hell no. At best they are a starting point. I'm not sure they'd benefit the clueless parent let alone the totally ignorant child. These works might, at best, lead one to examine and question the current philosophy that has led us to this place. A philosophy that allows no other view. A philosophy that has no objection to self-destruction. A philosophy devoid of what makes the naked ape human.

How sad that in 6,000 years of knowable human history, the best we can do is a sad, twisted socialism that discounts the individual.

I do not weep for the dead and dying. Nor do I laugh at the confusion of their loved ones. No. I plant garlic. I plant because doing so means I believe there will be a tomorrow when I will harvest my efforts.

(This has been the most difficult column I've written. Several times I've quit, once I wrote the editor and told him I had burnt out. I've struggled beyond reason to organize my thoughts and form them so I could make sense of them. I expect nothing to change because of the effort.)

The garden calls.

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Bridgette Nitza-Buwala
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Tom and Madeline Wadja open their farm for all who wish to, "Walk in and enjoy themselves!"

The 6th Annual Foothill Artists Studio Tour is an opportunity for local residents to do just that. Nestled in Fairfield, Pennsylvania on the outskirts of Gettysburg, Willow Pond Farm is preparing to host yet another enticing holiday outing. Those appreciative of nature intertwined with the creativity of art can experience

that along the route of this November tour.

This annual event boasts a drive-through tour featuring various local artists. Visitors will enter at the first floor of the property's 200-year-old barn, pick up an available map, snack on some goodies like jellies, honey, teas, and cookies, and then hop in their vehicles to drive the short route to each station. Come join the excitement on Saturday, November 23 or Sunday, November 24 from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. on both days.

The artists featured include: Rob Stabler, who specializes in woodwork-

ing, Geoff Grant, who specializes in photography, Ann Rupert, who specializes in jewelry and painting, Dorothea Barrick, who specializes in painting, Jack Handshaw, who specializes in pottery, and Sheila Waters, who specializes in calligraphy. Stabler has created and will be selling one-of-a-kind hand-turned bowls and vases. Geoff Grant is a new addition to the team of six artists. Grant photographs both landscapes and other forms in nature. Rupert offers various art forms and will be anxious to share her knowledge with Willow Pond guests. Barrick will present both prints and air paintings, exemplifying her years of experience in the field of art. Handshaw plans to sell glazed pots, vases, mugs and other ceramic items. Waters will continue to share her appreciation for calligraphy to the customers of the Foothill Artists Studio Tour.

All artists are rather conveniently located within a 10-minute drive of Willow Pond Farm. Tom Wadja emphasized, "All artists are from the Fairfield area." This close proximity allows those who enjoyed an individual artist's work to later visit them at their home studios.

The expansive Willow Pond Farm is both a breathtaking and welcoming facility. Therefore, it is the perfect place to advertise these products of natural inspiration. Tom and Madeline Wadja bought the farm in 1994 and made it their home in 1995. In this same year, they began their business. Pennsylvania Certified Organic has certified Willow Pond as an organic farm.

Madeline Wadja explained the motivation for this upcoming event: "We had done an open house and decided there were so many amazing artists in the area, that this would be a

good opportunity to showcase them," she said.

Willow Pond specializes in lavender, having over two acres dedicated to the herb. The company sells many lavender gift sets, which are great to give out during the holiday season. They will even host a lavender printing demonstration at the farm. To find out more about lavender, the Wadjas suggest you visit the Pennsylvania Lavender Festival Website. Aside from lavender, there will be many other plants on sale. Willow Pond Farm grows organic herbs and perennial plants in large quantities.

The Holiday Open House will be enjoyed alongside the Foothill Artist's Studio Tour. Take advantage of all that is offered and experience scents and seasonings specific to the winter months. These novel aromas and spices include fireside, cinnamon, citrus and spice, country apple, cranberry, and holly berry.

Information about the Boarding House Luncheon Series can also be found at Willow Pond Farm during the Foothill Artist's Studio Tour. This series has been referred to as one of their most popular activities. The meals include soup, a main course, sal-

ad and dessert. Each of the four courses is influenced by Madeline Wadja's knack for combining American traditional cuisine, classical French fare, and healthy herbs. Luncheons occurring this month will be held on November 1, 13, and 19.

The Wadjas have offered to send anyone captivated by their business and interest in organic farming an e-newsletter from Willow Pond Farm. These newsletters will include information on the farm's events and products. Recipes for herbal cooking will also be included, highlighting Madeline's passion and experience in the culinary field. If interested, please get in touch with Madeline through the following means:

Reservations are required to attend this upcoming event. You may call Tom and Madeline Wadja at 717-642-6387 or send an email to info@willowpondherbs.com. The Willow Pond Farm address, the first stop on the Foothill Artist's Studio Tour, is 145 Tract Road Fairfield, Pennsylvania 17320.

You can find more information about this annual attraction and various other holiday events at their website, www.willowpondherbs.com.

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ARTS AND FESTIVALS

Simple and clean

Caroline King
MSM Class of 2015

On October 15, Mount Saint Mary's University was lucky enough to welcome Craig Bickhardt to the stage in Knott Auditorium for a concert that was open to the public. Craig Bickhardt is a singer/songwriter who has written for some very big names including: Johnny Cash, Ray Charles, BB King, the Judds, Tony Rice, and Alison Krauss. His music has been featured in several movies. Making his start as an artist after having found an old guitar when he was 14 and teaching himself to play, Bickhardt certainly moved up the musical ladder, going so far as to write and sing in *Tender Mercies*, a country music-themed film starring Robert Duvall. Being lucky enough to attend this concert myself, I was curious to see what a man who wrote for so many big names could bring to the table as a solo musician.

Half a chord into his first song, he had my attention. Two lines into the song, I was texting my friend, "He is amazing," and then promptly turning off my phone. I sent that text at 7:39. He started playing at 7:37. I'm slightly ashamed to admit that my eyes had started to water listening to him play his first song. In a time filled with dub step, auto tune, and harsh electric instruments, this simple acoustic and voice combination was shocking and touching. But most of all, it was intimate. There were no screaming crowds or a bass drowning out the words of the artists like most modern concerts. No flashing rave lights. Just an artist and his stories. Bickhardt introduced himself to us in a modest, unassuming way, using his lyrics and songs to gently invite us to partake in the experience of music with him. It was a personal experience. He worked the stage like a pro, easily slipping between conversing with the crowd and strumming his guitar. He handled the music as an extension of his soul, seeming to know each note produced on an individual level.

Through out the performance, Bickhardt was interactive with the crowd, even going so far as to encourage the crowd to sing along, teasingly ribbing for "Ed," one of the Mount Saint Mary's professors, to take away the bonus points he offered to students who attended the concert, when the crowd of primarily college students was initially somewhat reluctant to sing along. It's safe to say that after that, he got quite an enthusiastic response! The people in the audience were easily heard over the guitar and Bickhardt's voice. The younger crowd seemed responsive to a type of music that they were not generally exposed to, a simple instrument and voice.

The flow of the clean music was

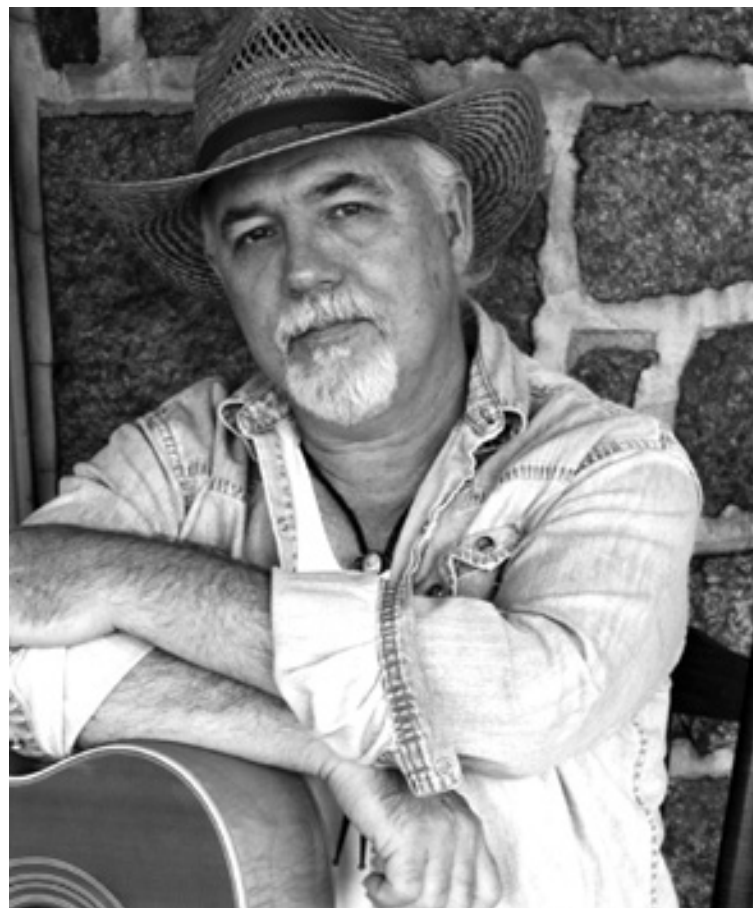
broken only by his occasional sips of water and short stories (a particular favorite of mine was how he almost sent a 19-year-old Garth Brooks to get him a pizza while they were recording). That was, until he announced that he was going to "try something new" and it might be "rough in the beginning." "Six Cans and No Trout" was his experiment of the night. Needless to say, it was perfectly executed. Every note was perfectly sweet and added up to the overall quality of the song. This ballad about fishing not being what it used to be was a mix of being humorous and horrifically upsetting. Based on Bickhardt's own personal experience of having to clean up the shallows of a stream before letting a child play in it, this song speaks of a fisherman lamenting the loss of the good old days. He throws his trash into the lake and wonders why there are no more fish biting. I thought the message of "Six Cans and No Trout" was a complete success, and judging from the response of the crowd, they agreed. It was a shocking look at someone taking a simple everyday action like fishing and taking it completely for granted, doing nothing to preserve it for the future generations. It certainly gave everyone in the audience something extremely real to think about.

Perhaps my favorite song of the entire evening was "This Old House." It was certainly one of the most emotional pieces, written in the perspective of an old family home being packed up as the family prepares to move out. "If this old house were built on memories, I would stand a thousand years." Lyrics like these made it extremely personal. They say good music can touch you; Bickhardt's music didn't so much do that, as it ripped out my heartstrings and

danced on them. I myself was fighting back tears and losing. A quick glance at the audience told me I wasn't alone. When you hear a song like this, it's moving standing alone. But when you hear it coupled with a personal performance, the artist's expression, and the story behind it, a song like this looks you in the eye and really pulls on your emotions.

But it was this level of personal connection that set Bickhardt apart as not just a songwriter, but as a musician of his own right. He shows his talents not just as the writer for musicians like Johnny Cash, but also as the creator of music worth standing on its own. He is an artist capable of creating something extremely real for the audience. It's not an experience you often get from music nowadays.

He spoke to the audience about his journey to becoming a musician. "The sureness wasn't always there. I had to take twelve, fourteen years playing in bars, jumping from the east coast to the west coast. But I had the need to play. If you have that need, you won't give up." As the concert went on and we learned about him through his songs and stories, his music started to change, just slightly. Watching him and knowing things like this about him made it very easy to imagine it: a younger Bickhardt, a guitar, and a smoky bar. The musician belting out songs about little league baseball being "the real game" and bobbing his head in time with his song as he traveled around, just trying to make a buck and get a break. It was completely inspiring to think of the struggle he had to go through in order to end up where he was. He lived up to his lyrics, "May your faith be a flame that won't die in the rain." I personally knew some young aspiring musicians in the crowd who took his stories to heart.



Singer/songwriter Craig Bickhardt

It amazed me how someone could play with so much focus, not only having to pick the guitar and play the notes, but also singing and keep lyrics straight, as well. His foot was even tapping in tempo. It became harder and harder to believe as time went on that the variety of the lyrics and the amazing chord progression all came from the one man performing on the stage. I debated with myself throughout the whole performance: did I like the guitar, the lyrics, or his voice the best? It was neck and neck in a three-way tie. How he managed to coax the range of sound he did from a six-stringed guitar was beyond me. I spent a good half of the concert squinting at the shining strings and trying to count to make sure there were in fact six strings, not twelve. I had to go up to him after the concert to make sure...yes, it was a six-stringed guitar!

If there could be one thing summed up by this article about

Bickhardt's performance, it would be that he is a true artist. Not just through his ability to create music, but also his ability to personalize it. He takes a guitar and a piece of paper and brings his lyrics and notes to life. I don't think a single member in the audience missed the fact that he was creating something meaningful and worthwhile through this concert. Any music that can move you to tears is extremely special. Thanks to YouTube, I've listened to quite a few songs in my lifetime, but I don't think I will forget any of them performed that night. Something about Bickhardt's music is lasting.

If you want to know more about Craig Bickhardt and listen to samples of his music or buy his CDs, his webpage can be found at: www.craigbickhardt.com. More information about Bickhardt's solo albums as well as tour date information and an in-depth bio can also be found on this site.

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<p>The Holidays</p> <p>Holiday Food & Entertaining With Fabric Candles Wed., Nov. 20, 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. \$54 (Nonmembers \$58)</p> <p>Cookies Around The World Sat., Dec. 7, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. \$47 (Nonmembers \$51)</p> <p>Gingerbread Construction Zone Session 1-Adults: Thurs., Nov. 14, 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Session 2-Parents With Children (Age 10 & up) Sat., Nov. 16, 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. \$47 (Nonmembers \$50)</p> <p>Holiday Centerpieces The Thanksgiving Table Mon., Nov. 25, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. \$46 (Nonmembers \$49)</p> <p>Floral Candle Rings & Spheres Wed., Dec. 11, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. \$46 (Nonmembers \$49)</p> <p>"Simply Pretty" Hanging Charms & Ornaments Thurs., Nov. 14, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. or 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. \$35 (Nonmembers \$38)</p> <p>Porcelain Christmas Ornaments Thurs., Nov. 14, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. \$28 (Nonmembers \$31)</p>	<p>Make A Clay Santa Parent & Child Project Fri., Dec. 6, 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. \$35 (Nonmembers \$39)</p> <p>Fused Glass Holiday Decorations Sat., Dec. 7, 12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. \$62 (Nonmembers \$66)</p> <p>Stained Glass Holiday Decorations Sat., Dec. 14, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. \$73 (Nonmembers \$78)</p> <p>Easy Gourmet Weeknight Dinner Mon., Dec. 2, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. \$53 (Nonmembers \$57)</p> <p>Wines For The Seasons - Fall In Tuscany Mon., Nov. 11, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. \$61 (Nonmembers \$64)</p> <p>Sushi Wed., Nov. 13, 5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. \$49 (Nonmembers \$52)</p> <p>Visual</p> <p>Observe And Draw Mondays, Nov. 4, 11, 18 & 25, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. \$85 (Nonmembers \$95)</p> <p>Egg & Tempura Oils Tuesdays, Nov. 5, 12, 19 & 26, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. \$100 (nonmembers \$110)</p> <p>Canvas And Wine - A Fun Night Out! Session 1: Thurs., Nov. 7, 5 - 8:30 p.m. Session 2: Thurs., Dec. 5, 6 - 8:30 p.m. \$45 (Nonmembers \$48)</p>	<p>Writing</p> <p>Making Extra Bucks As A Freelance Writer Thurs., Nov. 7, 14, 21, 6 - 8:00 p.m. \$64 (Nonmembers \$71)</p> <p>Creative Writing Tues., Nov. 5, 12, 19 & 26, 6 - 8 p.m. \$85 (Nonmembers \$95)</p> <p>Jewelry</p> <p>Creative Jewelry - Traditional & Modern Techniques (Ages 16 & Up) Mon., Nov. 18 - Dec. 9, 6 - 8 p.m. \$115 (Nonmembers \$125)</p> <p>Silver Wire Fusing: Make Some Jewelry! Tues., Dec. 3, 6 - 8:30 p.m. \$65 (Nonmembers \$60)</p> <p>Fused Glass Jewelry Sat., Nov. 16, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. \$77 (Nonmembers \$83)</p> <p>Pottery</p> <p>Stoneware Pie Plate Thurs., Nov. 7, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. \$39 (Nonmembers \$42)</p> <p>Glass</p> <p>Fused Glass Magnet Sat., Dec. 7, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. \$46 (Nonmembers \$49)</p>
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CREATIVE WRITING

The top of the turkey trek

Alexandra Tyminski
MSM Class of 2015

The black fuzzy socks with the pumpkins on the sides captured all of my warmth. The white fur on the inside of my green zip-up sweater made me feel so comfy. And the hot apple cider in my mug was soaking warmth into my cold fingertips. The heavy wind was blowing the rain sideways onto the windowpanes, and I couldn't help but be thankful I was inside.

...

A voice was calling my name: "Kara, Kara!" I could feel a gentle nudge on my right shoulder. I reached up to rub my eyes and slightly opened them.

"Kara, are you all there?" the male voice said again. Why wouldn't I be there? I'm clearly listening to you.

"What is going on?" I asked urgently.

"Calm down! I'm just joking, Kara. You fell asleep while we were resting at our final rest stop," Jack said. I could tell it was his voice because of its low sound.

"How long have I been resting? I just had the craziest dream. I was actually in a dry environment! Ha!" I slowly sat up, and I reached back to the kink in my lower back. I must have sat on some type of large shaped branch.

"You were out for about an hour and fifteen minutes! We should get going," he said.

Jack was always anxious when it came to hiking. He always wanted to get to the top of the climbs as fast as

he could. He and I had discovered our similar passion for hiking in college when we became friends. Our fathers actually graduated from the same college in the same year, and coincidentally lived in the same dorm room their freshmen year. Over the years, Jack and I became the best of friends. During our senior year, we promised each other that the gift to ourselves after graduation would be to travel to Europe and take a backpacking trip. So here we are in Cinque Terre, which is composed of five villages in a small region of north-west Italy. It was raining and my feet had blisters on them. My back ached, and to top it all off, we didn't have any more snacks left and I was incredibly hungry.

"Okay Jack, so you want me to take an extra hour long nap?" I jokingly smiled at him and started to pack my things. It took every ounce of my strength to lift myself off the ground. My legs felt like bricks that were pulling me through a big swimming pool. My shirt was sticking to me like a wetsuit I put on 5 hours ago. My hair was filled with mud and dirt, and I couldn't remember the last time I showered. But I was loving every minute of it.

"We only have about 1 more hour until we reach the top of the last climb," Jack said, reassuring me.

"We can do this," I said back to him. I felt like I was back in 6th grade gym class, when I would whisper into my best friend Brittany's ear and say, "The 1 mile test. We can do this."

...

But then, my fatigue hit me again.

"Jack, I just don't know if I can do this anymore. I've never given up before, but this time it's just so hard," I began to complain even more.

"Kara, you've got this. We are almost there. We just passed the sign that said 6 more miles," Jack yelled backwards as he was farther in front of me than I ever expected.

I had hiked an immense amount of miles in the rain before, but nothing like this. This was different. With every step that I took in deep and sticky mud, I could feel my mind wandering.

"Alright, Kara. Listen to Jack. You've got this. You are so close, and you can do this. Think of some positive things right now. Yeah, think positive," I said out loud to myself.

Instantly, I began to think about my home. I thought about what people in America would be doing today. It was Thanksgiving Day in America. So, maybe my mom just put the turkey in the hot 450 degree oven. All fourteen cousins just arrived at my house. Little 6-year-old Rosie probably got herself into the pumpkin pie already. My two older brothers, Evan and Sam, are most likely watching football and discussing how in high school, one of them was always the more athletic one. Dad is outside with the many aunts and uncles, laughing and drinking some type of fall ale. I could hear his beer belly laugh in my head as he would tap me on the shoulder saying, "Why don't you take your little sister inside and help your mom make the mashed potatoes?" I began to feel the corners of my mouth shape into a smile. I was really thankful for my family.

"Hey Kara, good job! Keep coming! Only 3 more miles to go!" Jack said. I could barely hear him as the winds were starting to pick up. I couldn't help but be shocked at how fast the time went by! I still had 3 more miles to go. I could feel my right pinky toe rubbing against my shoe. This time, though, it felt much worse. Only 3 more miles. I started to laugh to myself after realizing that I

only have 3 more miles even though I have already hiked 18. I think my friends would call me crazy. My best friend Brittany is probably at her Aunt Debbie's greeting her cousin's cute little baby. Brittany's brother just pulled up into the driveway with his new girlfriend from college, and everyone is as happy as can be. My best guy friend, David, is probably not having the best day since he isn't a big fan of Thanksgiving. But, he is enjoying spending time with his younger brother, Tom. They won't have the largest Thanksgiving dinner since it is only David, his brother, and his mom, but he will still try to enjoy it. I giggled again, thinking about their reactions when I told them I was even attempting this hike. I love them. I miss them. I'm thankful for them.

"Ouch!" I screamed.

"Are you okay? Kara, are you okay?" Jack said to me from afar.

"Yes, I'm fine. I got a piece of a thorn bush stuck underneath my pants, and I just got pricked! If it wanted to take some blood, it should have just asked! Sheesh!"

Jack rolled his eyes at me. "You're fine! Kara, you are almost there! 4 more miles!"

"Alright, alright," I said. I tried not to get short with Jack.

Well, 2 more miles isn't too bad. Or is it? My lower back pain kept increasing by the second. I wonder what type of person or animal could ever do this type of hike without any pain at all. Maybe my dog, Gus. He was a pretty athletic 90-pound German Shepherd. Actually, the more I thought about it, he probably would never attempt anything like this. Gus, being the dog he is, is most likely at home sprawled out on the family room rug. If my family is eating, he is definitely crowding around the kid's table waiting for little Rosie to drop him pieces of turkey dinner. Thank goodness Gus is around to pick up after us humans!

I looked up and instantly noticed the royal blue sign that pointed to a

high path and it read, "To the Top." "Kara! Kara!" Jack was jumping up and down.

"It's just 1 more mile to the top! Then we can rest!" he shouted.

"I never thought I would see the sign!" I yelled back.

One foot in front of the other. You are almost there, Kara. I just kept pushing myself. You can't give up now.

"Kara, hurry! It's beautiful!"

"I'm coming!" I said. I could feel my pace picking up as I was hiking quicker and quicker. I was just happy it had stopped raining.

When I approached the top, I heard some other voices that were nothing similar to Jack's deep voice. It was a woman's voice.

"Hi, I'm Julie! This is my friend, Alyssa. We are from the United States, as well. Colorado actually," the thin blonde haired woman said.

"Hey there! I'm Jack, and well this is uh..."

"I'm right here Jack! Hi, I'm Kara! Nice to see some Americans around here! What a coincidence that you all are also from America!" I said.

"Yes, that is crazy!" Julie said. Julie and her friend Alyssa looked as if they were serious backpackers as well.

"What brings you two here?" Jack asked them.

"We are just taking the trip for fun! We just graduated from Colorado State University. We have been best friends ever since we met our freshmen year. We were first year roommates, and we decided that after graduation, we would take a huge hiking trip!" answered Alyssa.

"Call it a coincidence or not, but we are actually doing the same thing! Just two really good friends doing some traveling before we start work in the New Year!"

"Wow! That's great. Would you guys care to join us? We packed a pasta meal for our Thanksgiving meal today. It's no turkey, but you two are more than welcome to share a meal and your travels. There is enough food for you!" Julie chimed in.

"Well, I guess we will be here for a while enjoying the view anyway! Thank you!" I said.

Jack and I sat down with Julie and Alyssa. They passed us their leftover penne pasta and meatballs. It was no turkey, but it was delicious. We didn't know them at all, but we shared a common bond: all Americans, all hikers, and all indulging in a Thanksgiving meal together. As I looked over the small Italian village and watched clouds moving through the sky and boats swaying in the water, I thought about what I would be doing if I were at home for Thanksgiving. Probably the same thing I do every year: watching football and cooking. I love both of those things. But, if someone ever told me last year that I would be overlooking an Italian town while sharing a pasta Thanksgiving meal with two strangers from Colorado in my soaking wet clothes, I would probably have said they are crazier than me. But, in that moment, I was thankful to be fully present there.

To read other articles by Alexandra Tyminski visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.

COMMUNITY NOTES

“The Sound of Christmas”

Jean Grebesky
The Majestic Theater

For Elisabeth von Trapp, “the sounds of music” are part of her earliest memories. Born and raised in Vermont, Elisabeth is the granddaughter of the legendary Maria and Baron von Trapp, whose story inspired The Sound of Music. Elisabeth will be performing “The Sounds of Christmas” with the Carolian Brass at the Majestic Theater, Gettysburg on Sunday December 15 at 3:00p.m.

Ring in the holiday season with festive sounds of your favorite seasonal music from classical to sacred to pop. The evening’s highlight will be a medley from The Sound of Music wherein the guitar solo of Edleweiss flows into extraordinary renditions of Stille Nacht.

Singing professionally since childhood, Elisabeth has enthralled audiences from European cathedrals to Washington D.C.’s Kennedy Center. Inspired by her father Werner von Trapp’s guitar playing and singing, Elisabeth has carried on the legacy of the internationally renowned Trapp Family Singers. She began taking piano lessons when she was eight and by the age of

sixteen she was playing guitar and traveling the back roads of New England performing with her siblings at weddings, gospel meetings and town halls. Building on her famed family’s passion for music, Elisabeth has created her own artistic style, at once ethereal and earthy, delicate and powerful. Listeners have likened her to Judy Collins and Loreena McKennitt. Critics have called her voice ... “hauntingly clear,” “joyfully expressive” and “simply beautiful.”


No one leaves an Elisabeth von Trapp performance unchanged ... audiences of all ages are drawn by the promise of her famous name ... awed by the beauty of her voice and musical arrangements ... their hearts touched forever by the astonishing sound of her unique new music.

Tickets are priced at \$51, \$48, \$45 (students/children \$5.00 discount). To purchase tickets, call 717-337-8200, or stop by the Box Office, 25 Carlisle Street, Gettysburg. The Box Office is open Monday through Saturday from Noon until 7:30 p.m. and on Sunday from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Pre-show Dinners available by calling 717-259-9535.

For the show, we are offering Free Parking – Free Shuttle - Park in the Gettysburg College’s Constitutional Parking Lot. Shuttle starts one hour before the performance.

The Majestic Theater at the Jennifer and David LeVan Performing Arts Center is owned and operated by Gettysburg College as a cultural treasure for its campus and the community.





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COOKING WITH LOVE

Thanksgiving

Brooke Hagerty
Chef/Owner Gunner's
Grille at Taneytown

November is not just about Thanksgiving, it is also about the heart of football season and the wonderful tailgate food that goes along with it. Football season always brings back memories of my late father, Gunner. As you may or may not know Gunner was an official in the National Football League from 1976–1987. Football has been an integral part of my life since I was very young. Dad started officiating in Texas when he was stationed in San Antonio, doing Pop Warner ball. When we moved to Maryland he began doing high school ball which led to the college ranks and then eventually the NFL. It was a long ride for him as well as for the entire family. Needless to say there were not many Sunday Suppers in our house from August to January! (And speaking of Sunday Suppers, be sure to check out our three course Sunday Supper at Gunner's Grille at Taneytown)

As I entered adulthood my love of football continued and as my love of food and cooking continued to grow my love of Tailgate food began to grow. The great thing about Tailgate food is that it is so versatile; it is also

great for a fabulous fall picnic or anytime that you just want to relax and enjoy friends and family. After a day of pumpkin picking who isn't ready for a nice hot mug of fresh apple cider (perhaps spiked with the latest adult beverage sensation, Fireball – a cinnamon whiskey).

This month we are going to take a look at great fall recipes that can be used for Tailgate, Picnic, Thanksgiving or anytime you have a gathering. These recipes are all very easy and take under an hour to prepare! First up, Hot Apple Cider!

Fresh Apple Cider is readily available at most corner stands or in grocery stores and is so easily turned into one of my favorite hot beverages. Many stores have Mulling Spice packets available for sale but if you cannot find any they are very easy to make.

Easy Hot Apple Cider

- 1 tablespoon whole allspice
- 1 tablespoon whole cloves
- 3 cinnamon sticks
- Zest of 1 orange (or orange peel with pith removed)
- 2 (1/2-inch thick) slices peeled fresh ginger
- 1/2 gallon organic apple cider or low-sulfide red wine
- If you would like to make "adult" cider simply add a shot of your fa-

vorite whiskey or other adult libation to your individual mug!

Directions

- In a medium saucepan, heat cider or wine over medium-high heat; stir in allspice, cloves, cinnamon, orange zest and ginger.
- Bring to boiling; reduce to a simmer. Cook, stirring occasionally, six to eight minutes or until desired flavor is achieved.
- Strain mixture through a fine mesh sieve; discard solids. Serve warm or piping hot.

Next, we have one of my favorite snacks, Roasted Citrus Nuts. This is one of those "no measurement needed" recipes; it all depends on the size of your crowd and the size of the appetites. Pre-heat your oven to 375 degrees. In a bowl pour in your favorite nuts or mixed nuts (salted is best for this recipe). Using a micro-zester take an orange and zest over top of the nuts. Next, cut your orange in half and squeeze some juice over the nuts. I like to add a tiny bit of chili powder for a little zing. Toss all ingredients and place on a parchment paper lined baking sheet; bake for approximately 10-15 minutes or until aromatic. Nuts can be served warm or room temperature or stored in an airtight container for up to one week. Make this a great hostess gift or party favor by pouring into a ribbon wrapped mason jar with the recipe on a note card.

Who doesn't like bread? Or cheese? Or bacon? Our next recipe gives us all three!

Cheddar and Bacon Loaf

- 16 ounce loaf baguette-style French bread
- 1/28 ounce package shredded sharp cheddar cheese (1 cup)
- 1/2 cup butter, softened
- 1/3 cup cooked bacon pieces
- 2 medium green onions, sliced (1/4 cup)
- 2 teaspoons yellow mustard
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice

Directions

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Use a serrated knife to cut bread crosswise into 1-inch slices, cutting to but not through the bottom crust.
- In a small bowl, stir together cheese, butter, bacon, green onions, mustard, and lemon juice. Spread mixture between slices of bread. Wrap loaf in foil.
- Bake for 10 to 15 minutes or until bread is heated through and cheese is melted.

Grilled Pork Chops

Pork is a favorite anytime of the year but especially in the fall when paired with fresh sage.

Ingredients

- 12 6 ounce boneless pork loin chops, cut 1 inch thick
- 1 tablespoon finely shredded lemon peel

- 3/4 cup lemon juice
- 3/4 cup olive oil
- 1/3 cup finely chopped shallot (1 large)
- 1/3 cup coarse ground mustard
- 1/4 cup snipped fresh sage
- 6 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 teaspoons coarse ground black pepper
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 12 8x1/4-inch-thick wooden skewers (be sure to soak skewers in water so they do not burn)
- Snipped fresh sage (optional)
- Lemon wedges (optional)

Directions

- Place chops in a resealable plastic bag set in a shallow dish. For marinade, in a small bowl whisk together lemon peel, lemon juice, olive oil, shallot, mustard, 1/4 cup sage, the garlic, pepper, and salt. Pour marinade over chops; seal bag. Marinate in the refrigerator for 4 to 6 hours, turning bag occasionally. Drain chops, discarding marinade. Insert a wooden chopstick into a short side of each chop.
- For a charcoal grill, grill chops on the rack of an uncovered grill directly over medium coals for 7 to 9 minutes or until chops are slightly pink in center and juices run clear (160 degrees F), turning once halfway through grilling. For a gas grill, preheat grill. Reduce heat to medium. Place chops on grill rack over heat. Cover and grill as directed. Chops can also be baked at 350 degrees to an internal temperature of 145 degrees (approximately 10-15 minutes).
- If desired, sprinkle with additional fresh sage.

Remember, the most important part of food and beverage is the company you share them with. Give thanks each and every day for those around you. No matter the role they play in your life, they play a role that makes you who you are.



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THE HERBILIST

Lobelia, the thinking herb

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Lobelia, a well-known medicinal herb among herbal healers can be easily found in American meadows. In fact a large variety of species of Lobelia are found throughout the world. Also known as Indian Tobacco, Lobelia has many other names such as Asthma Weed, Bladderpod, Emetic Herb, Gagroot, Pukeweed, Vomit Wort, and Wild Tobacco.

Lobelia is one of my favorite herbs because of its "skill" in healing throughout the history of herbalism. Its flowers and leaves appear so delicate when seen in nature, however, the energy it exudes is not delicate at all. It projects a strength and intelligence unique to this plant, which brings to mind the many medicinal uses that few know about, including the valuable application of its intelligence. Known as the thinking herb by some herbalists, such as the famed Dr. John Christopher, Lobelia added to a formula works in a way as if it is "thinking" of where healing is needed in the body, and then directing other herb ingredients where they are most needed.

Lobelia is known by many herbalists for its value in respiratory healing in part due to its anti-spasmodic actions and its expectorant effects. Traditionally it has been used for asthma, bronchitis, and pneumonia. Native Americans relieved these conditions by smoking Lobelia, which is why it's known as Indian tobacco. Similar benefits to the respiratory system have also been achieved by drinking Lobelia tea, taking it in an encapsulated form, or by tincture drops.

The uses of Lobelia just keep getting better when we take a look the potential benefits to people overcoming addictions. Lobelia contains an alkaloid called lobeline. Lobeline is very similar to nicotine. Lobeline works to block the effects of nicotine, which makes it useful in helping to quit using tobacco products. Lobeline is also known to block the effects of amphetamine and opioids. This action makes it extremely important to the investigation of its uses as a treatment for methamphetamine addiction as well as opiate addiction.

Other traditional uses for Lobelia included its external use in a poultice for boils, bruises, bites and stings, poison ivy rash, and other skin irritations.

In combination with mullein, Lobelia is known throughout the history of herbalism as a healer of the glands. A popular recipe combined three parts mullein and one part Lobelia into a tea, tincture, or capsules. This has been used for issues with glands including the tonsils, sweat glands, lymph nodes, and thyroid.

The actions of Lobelia that are known by herbalists are antispasmodic, emetic, expectorant, nervine, and relaxant. Due to some of its actions Lobelia should be used with caution and may be best used in combination with other herbs. It is important to remember that Lobelia acts as an emetic,

which means that it can induce vomiting. Herbal healers found at times this was a beneficial effect in helping the body purge toxins. However, if the effect of purging was not desired, Lobelia would be combined with capsicum or peppermint. If purging was needed, a moderate amount was effective.

I have used Lobelia for many years in capsule form, herbal tea, and in smoke blends. I have experienced

many of the actions herbalists of the past have claimed of Lobelia. Somewhat a contradiction to its known action as an emetic, I have used a small amount of Lobelia to reduce spasms from excessive vomiting. Keep in mind that caution should be used when experimenting with this plant, but also remember that it's known as the thinking herb... so maybe Lobelia knows best.

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COMPLEMENTARY CORNER

Meditating on the five elements

Renee Lehman

The ancient Chinese observed a cyclical pattern of expression in nature that was used to describe the “Oneness” of the universe (see previous articles on Yin-Yang and the Five Elements). They called these elements found in nature the Five Elements. These Elements or energies are felt to be the prime energetic building blocks from which everything in the material world is composed. So, every living thing and every person is a unique embodiment and combination of these Five elements. The Five Elements are Water, Wood, Fire, Earth, and Metal. Also, each element is related to a season.

Fall is a time when nature’s energy is moving downward and inward. In Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM), the season of Fall is associated with the Metal Element, one of the Five Elements found in nature. The gifts of Fall include letting go and pruning; crisp, dry air that allows us to breathe deeply; acknowledging of nature’s awe; and acknowledging the intrinsic value of everything of creation. How many of the gifts of Fall do you identify with?

Winter (related to the Water Element in TCM), is around the corner waiting to bring you the gifts of the strength of reserves (storage) and endurance (just remember about the hibernating ani-

mals), wisdom, stillness, deep listening (the “quietness” of winter allows us to listen), reflection, and reassurance (Spring will come again!). Many people do not like Winter. Our “adrenaline running” culture tends not to value stillness, quietness, and taking time to rest and reflect. Can you see how the energy of Winter is needed in your life? Can you see yourself needing any of the gifts of Winter?

In fact, there are gifts from each season (and its corresponding Element in TCM) that can be cherished and enjoyed. Fall and Winter are perfect times of the year to sit and reflect/meditate on the life issues and gifts related to each of the Five Elements. The following meditation is a Five Element Meditation to support you as nature’s energy is moving inward into this time of reflection. You may want to record your own voice reading this meditation, and then use the recording to guide you through the meditation.

Five Element Meditation:

Sit with your eyes closed, feet flat on the floor, hands on your lap, and your spine straight. Imagine that there are roots growing deep into the Earth from the bottom of your feet. Also, imagine roots traveling down from the base of your tailbone deep into the Earth. The roots from your feet and tailbone are giving you great stability.

Now draw your attention to the top of your head. Imagine that someone is above you and pulling upward on a string that is attached to your head. Feel your head floating on top of your neck.

Breathe regularly. Focus on your breathing. As you begin to breathe deeply, imagine that you are going down an escalator. You are going down deep inside of yourself.

Now draw your attention to the region above your belly button. Place your hands over this region. Here are the Gallbladder and Liver of the Wood Element. As you breathe, breathe in the color green into this region. The life issue of the Wood Element is managing obstacles to growth with graceful and benevolent planning and decision-making.

- What guidance does the Wood Element have for you today?
- Invite the Wood Element to offer you guidance in creating the vision of your inner world and carrying this vision out into the world.
- You are blessed with the gifts of vision, creativity, courage, hope, and determination from your Wood Element.

Now draw your attention to the region of your chest. Place your hands on your chest. Here are the Heart and Pericardium of the FIRE Element. As you breathe, breathe in the color red into this region. The

life issue of the FIRE Element is being able to maintain joy and express joy appropriately.

- What guidance does the FIRE Element have for you today?
- Invite the FIRE Element to empower you to recognize your pure, true self.
- Also invite the FIRE Element to open your up to your inner-self and to others from a position of strength so that you can communicate appropriately.
- You are blessed with the gifts of joy, compassion, partnership, and warmth from the FIRE Element.

Now draw your attention back to the region above your belly button. Place your hands over this region. Here are the Stomach and Spleen of the Earth Element. As you breathe, breathe in the color yellow into this region. The life issue of the Earth Element is gathering and distributing nourishment without having to work too hard.

- What guidance does the Earth Element have for you today?
- Invite the Earth Element to give you nourishment, personal integrity, and stability during your life.
- You are blessed with the gifts of nourishment, thoughtfulness, empathy, service, and grounding from your Earth Element.

Now draw your attention to the chest and the region below your belly button. Place one hand on your chest and one hand under your belly button. Here are the Lung and Large Intestine of the Metal Element. As you breathe, breathe in the color white into these regions. The life issue of the Metal Element is the balance of gain and loss in our lives.

- What guidance does the Metal Element have for you today?
- Invite the Metal Element to receive all that is pure from the heavens.
- Let go of all the impurities and mundane items of life while still retaining the essence of life.
- You are blessed with the gifts of acknowledgement, respect, and inspiration from your Metal Element.

Now draw your attention to the region below your belly button. Place your hands over this region. Here are the Bladder and Kidney of the Water Element. As you breathe, breathe in the color blue into this region. The life issue of the Water Element is cultivating and using your resources wisely to bring your innermost potential into the world.

- What guidance does the Water Element have for you today?
- Invite the Water Element to store and utilize your energy wisely.
- Let the Water Element empower you to fulfill your destiny in this world.
- You are blessed with the gifts of wisdom, listening, potential, and reassurance from your Water Element.

Place your hands on your lap. Let us again make contact with the Earth through the feet and tailbone. Feel yourself being grounded. Ask your FIVE ELEMENTS to come together into ONENESS. Now slowly open your eyes.

Hold the ONENESS as your move forward throughout your day.

Renee Lehman is a licensed acupuncturist and physical therapist with over 25 years of health care experience. Her office is located at 249B York Street in Gettysburg, PA. She can be reached at 717-752-5728.



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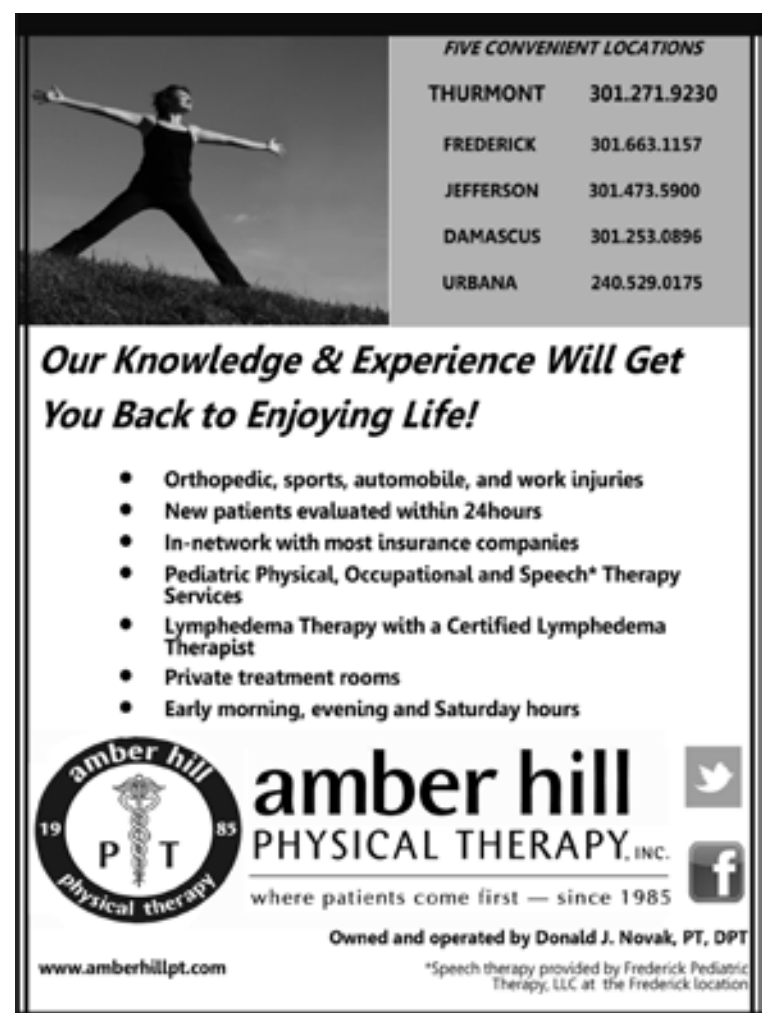
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Keep Moving

The annual Thanksgiving dinner

Linda Stultz
Certified Fitness Trainer/Therapist

Each year I have a request to reprint my Thanksgiving article and each year I add the new information I've learned. I hope this year's Thanksgiving article will give you a new idea to add to your holiday tradition.

The menu for this meal usually remains about the same from year to year. Of course, turkey is the main attraction. Make sure you get a lean turkey that is low in fat. Most of the fat in poultry is in the skin. You need the skin while roasting for a juicy, tender bird, but before you slice it, remove the skin. That will take the temptation away from those folks who tend to tear off a piece when they slip into the kitchen to see how things are going. A way to add a little more spice to the bird is to loosen the skin and inject your favorite

seasonings or herbs. You can also add a little low fat butter for extra flavor.

Dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy, warm bread and dessert are also part of the traditional meal. I'm not saying don't have these favorites; just alter the way they are prepared. Use fat free milk and low fat butter in your mashed potatoes. Even better, try mashed sweet potatoes or mashed cauliflower. Try whole grain bread for the dressing. Whole grains are much healthier than processed white bread and supply added fiber. Gravy is one of the most important parts of this meal. Let your broth set for a while till it forms a solid skim on top. Remove this and you will have broth with much less fat. The gravy still tastes the same, without the fat. Gravy can even be made a day or two early to save you time on the big day. The warm bread can be a variety of different whole grain buns. This way,

everybody gets their favorite kind such as wheat, rye, pumpernickel and now even whole grain white. Add a veggie tray with low fat dip. Cooked seasoned veggies such as squash, carrots and cauliflower are also a great combination if you prefer hot vegetables. One half of your plate should be filled with veggies. Raw vegetables give you the most nutritional value. Have them on the table or the kitchen counter for your family and guests to nibble while the main meal is being prepared.

DESSERT! Some people live for the Thanksgiving Dessert Table. Give yourself a treat. Just look over everything carefully, and decide what you really want. Maybe even sample a few different kinds. Try cutting the slices in half. Watch out for the pumpkin pie. Preparing a small plate of dessert for your guests to take home is also a thoughtful way to let them sample everything, just not all at one time. They can take a little piece of Thanksgiving home to remember for the rest of the holiday weekend. This way you do not have all of that dessert leftover and tempting you. Check into

some small changes in the recipe that will make a big difference in the fat and sugar content of the dessert. Pumpkin is a great way to add that creamy texture to your pies, cakes and cookies, while lowering the fat and raising the protein. Flaxseed meal can also be added to pies and cakes to give your family that added health benefit without them even knowing it is there. Applesauce in place of oil is another helpful, healthy hint. SUGAR is a big ingredient that packs on the pounds. Add a little less sugar to your recipes and you may just discover you didn't need all that the recipe called for anyway. Check out your grocery store's healthy cooking aisle for alternatives to sugar.

Finally, start a new Thanksgiving Tradition. I know people like to watch the football games on Thanksgiving Day but maybe you can talk them into playing a little tag football themselves. Taking a walk after your meal is a great idea. I know how everybody feels after eating a big meal, all the more reason to get moving. Take the whole family for a walk in the brisk, fall air. Share this time and walk off some of those extra pounds

you just consumed. If you can't get the whole family involved, pick a friend or family member that you would like to spend a little extra time with. Share conversation, ideas and just time with them. Maybe after all day together preparing the big Thanksgiving feast you may want to escape by yourself for a nice, quiet, peaceful walk of your own.

Think about giving the gift of health this year. Gift certificates to an exercise program may get a person into a lifetime of health. Get yourself and someone you love into exercising. That is the best thing you can do for yourself and your loved ones. Call me to explore the benefits of an exercise program designed just for you. 717-334-6009.

Enjoy your holiday meal but maybe you could take smaller portions this year and you will feel better. One of my clients always tells me that she took smaller portions at a family event and while others were saying how full they were, she felt just fine and was pleased with herself because she made a conscience choice to eat less.

Fitness Matters

George Puvel
Anytime Fitness Owner

Question: What's best for vegetables—fresh or frozen?

Answer: Vegetables are vegetables. The key here is that you're eating them—be it fresh or frozen. When eating fresh vegetables, choose ones that are in season for enhanced flavor. If choosing to cook your vegetables, remember that the vitamin and mineral content of produce is greatly influenced by high temperatures, exposure to light, and acidity. To maximize the nutritional value of cooked vegetables, here are a couple key recommendations:

Cook your vegetables for as short amount of time as possible. Hallelujah for the microwave!

Minimize the amount of water used to cook vegetables to prevent leaching of nutrients into cooking water.

As winter approaches and farmer's markets become a fleeting memory, so does access to fresh produce. Turning to frozen vegetables is a viable replacement during those cold winter months, as vegetables are flash frozen at their nutrient rich peak. Maximum nutritional value and a lower price (generally) - you can't beat that!

Question: How do you replace white flour with whole-wheat flour in a baking?

Answer: The major motivator for replacing white flour with whole-wheat flour is the obvious nutritional advantage. Whole grains can help lower blood pressure, reduce risk of chronic disease, aid in weight maintenance, and provide additional fiber. So why not bake a little extra healthiness into your favorite foods? Sounds easy, right? Not exactly. Whole-wheat flour behaves very differently in a recipe than

white flour. Therefore, certain adjustments must be made when substituting whole wheat for white. First off, substituting whole-wheat flour for white flour one-to-one is a no go. Whole-wheat flour absorbs much more liquid, so it may be necessary to add more liquid or decrease whole-wheat flour by ¼ cup. Now I must provide this disclaimer - the texture of baked products is altered when whole-wheat flour is used in place of white. When using whole-wheat flour, the product becomes denser. This is because the germ, a component of the wheat that is removed from white flour during milling, inhibits gluten formation. Gluten is a protein that makes extensive networks, assisting baked products in rising. Less gluten = less rise and therefore a less fluffy product. The food industry and sensory scientists have been working for years to success-

fully create a whole-wheat product with the same texture as white flour. We're still waiting! In the meantime, a good way to combat this texture issue is to compromise - use half white flour and half whole-wheat flour. You get the added nutritional benefit, and the product remains edible. You can also try adding a tad bit more baking powder or baking soda (other key players in leavening that baked good).

Question: Short of taking pills, powders, and potions, what else can I do to detox my digestive tract?

Answer: We're coming up on that time of year when want to have a rocking bod, but everything is working against us—Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, etc. What do all these things have in common? They all focus on food (and most times, too much food). Luckily there are a handful of yoga postures that can healthify your gut in no time without the hunger pangs of a juice cleanse. These poses include:

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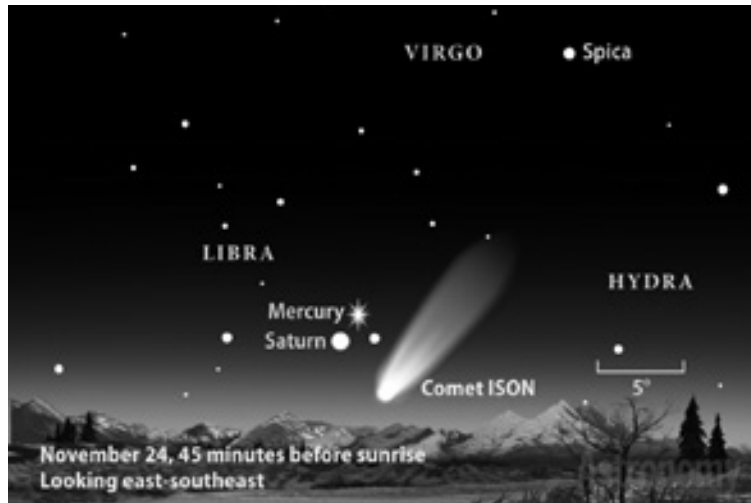
ASTRONOMY

The night sky of November

Professor Wayne Wooten

The moon will be new on November 3rd, with a solar eclipse visible in the south Atlantic and central Africa. This is also the Sunday to “fall back” to Standard Time for the rest of the year. November 5th is the Muslim New Year, 1435 AH, set by the appearance of the crescent moon this evening. The waxing crescent moon passes eight degrees north of brilliant Venus on the evening of November 6th. Venus was at its greatest elongation from the Sun, 47 degrees to the east of it, on November 1st, when it appeared exactly half lit as viewed from Earth. Thus it will be well up in the SW sky, and probably brilliant enough to spot well above the 3 day old crescent moon about 4-5 PM in broad daylight; check them out, especially with a pair of binocs.

The first quarter moon is high overhead at sunset on November 10th. The moon is full, the Frosty Moon, falling on November 17th; it will overpower the Leonid meteor shower, due to peak on the same morning. The waning gibbous moon passes five a degree south of bright Jupiter on November 22nd, with both rising about 10 PM in the NE. The last quarter moon rises about midnight on November 25th, and the waning crescent



When comet ISON whips around the sun on Nov. 28, the comet's night side will suddenly emerge into daylight and be hit with an intense blast of solar heat, leading to a spectacular light show.

passes 5 degrees south of Mars in the dawn on November 27th. The waning crescent moon will be near Spica on the morning of November 29th, when it is possible Comet ISON's tail will be a searchlight beam pointing right at them. Now that would be neat!

Mercury is behind the sun during early November, but reaches greatest elongation of 18 degrees west of the Sun on November 18th. The really interesting grouping comes the next week, when Mercury passes Saturn on November 23rd, at the same time Comet ISON, inbound toward the Thanksgiving day perihelion passage, passes just below the pair in

the dawn. This should be a great photo op!

Venus dominates the evening sky, reaching greatest elongation on November 1st, appearing half lit and 25 “ of arc across. As she overtakes earth in November, she retrogrades back toward the Sun, and approaching us, gets larger in size but a more slender crescent. By November 30th, she is 37” across, but only 30% sunlit crescent, easily resolved with 10X binoculars as a crescent phase.

Mars is in the morning sky, and had Comet ISON drop by in October, with the Mars orbiter HiRISE taking historic photos of the Comet flying by the red planet on October 1st. The Comet is reaching perihelion on November 28th, passing only about a solar diameter from our home star. On the way, the comet should brighten to naked eye visibility by the second week of November. Its sunward path is shown on the sky map here.

Of special notice is the comet's close passage by the bright star Spica (alpha Virginis) on the morning of November 17th; it will be interesting to see if the comet's head has brightened to rival this first magnitude star by then; if so, the com-

et's close pass by the sun in ten days will be spectacular, perhaps bright enough to spot in broad daylight!

As already noted, the comet has a nice grouping with Mercury and Saturn on the mornings of November 23- 24th about 6 AM, with the comet perhaps already brighter than Jupiter! The comet sweeps rapidly around the sun on November 28th, and on November 30th, the comet may display a broad fan shaped tail in the evening twilight a half hour after sunset. It will be at its best, if it does survive the close passage by the sun, low along the horizon in both morning and evening skies in December. More on this next month!

Jupiter dominates the dawn, rising earlier and earlier in the evening as we approach its opposition next January 4th. It is now in the center of Gemini during this month. Any small scope will reveal what Galileo marveled at four hundred years ago; four large moons, all bigger or similar to ours in size, orbit it in a line along Jupiter's equator. Saturn is lost behind the Sun during most of November, but emerges in the dawn to group with Mercury of the fine pass of ISON south of both on November 23-24th in the dawn.

Setting in the southwest is the teapot shape of Sagittarius, which marks the heart of our Milky Way Galaxy, but the best view of our Galaxy lies overhead now. The brightest star of the northern hemisphere, Vega dominates the sky in the northwest. To the northeast of Vega is Deneb, the brightest star of Cygnus the Swan. To the south is Altair, the brightest star of Aquila the Eagle, the third member of the three bright stars that make the Summer Triangle so obvious in the NE these clear autumn evenings.

Overhead the square of Pegasus is a beacon of fall. South of it is the only bright star of Fall, Fomalhaut.

If the southern skies of Fall look sparse, it is because we are looking away from our Galaxy into the depths of intergalactic space. The constellation Cassiopeia makes a striking W, rising in the NE as the Big Dipper sets in the NW. Polaris lies about midway between them. 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.

To the northeast, 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. Check it out on a clear November evening, and see it the gorgon is winking at you. If so, then instead of being as bright as Polaris, Algol fade to be only as bright as kappa Persei, the star just to its south. Look at Perseus' feet for the famed Pleiades cluster to rise, a sure sign of bright winter stars to come. In fact, yellow Capella, a giant star the same temperature and color as our much smaller Sun, rises at 7 PM as November begins along the northeastern horizon. It is the fifth brightest star in the sky, and a beacon of the colorful and bright winter stars to come.

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Farmers' Almanac

“Falling leaves on the grass in the November sun bring more happiness than the daffodils”
—Cyril Connolly (1903-1973)

Mid-Atlantic Weather Watch: Cloudy and cold (1,2,3) with snow in the northern part of the region, rain in the south (4,5,6). Cloudy and cool (7,8,9) with more rain and snow in the east (10,11). Windy with periods of showers, cool (12,13,14,15,16,17) turning cloudy and cold (18,19,20). Snow, mainly in the south (21,22); cloudy and cool (23,24) with showers (25,26,27) with snow and quite stormy (28,29). Windy and much colder (30).

Full Moon: The Full Moon full moon for November occurs on the 17th. Native Americans

called it Dying Grass Moon or Falling Leaf Moon because the colder days and killing frosts have killed the grass and the last leaves are falling from the trees. Some called it Big Wind Moon, because of the high winds this time of year.

Holidays: Election Day falls on Tuesday, November 5th. Remember to exercise your right to be heard. Veteran's Day is celebrated on Monday, November 11th. Celebrate Thanksgiving this year on Thursday, November 28th with family and loved ones and remember the things that we all should be thankful for in our daily lives. Religious holidays observed in November include the Islamic New Year (Wednesday, November 4th) and the Jewish Festival of Lights better known as

Hanukkah (Wednesday, November 27 beginning at sunset)

The Garden: Cut off dead tree limbs before winter storms hit. Cut back faded perennials as well. Place a mulch of leaves or hay around perennials when the temperature falls to near freezing. Attract bright colored birds to your yard by keeping bird feeders full or by spreading out seed frequently on the lawn. Black oil sunflowers are recommended for general feeding. Consider joining Project FeederWatch and be part of the effort to track and count winter birds in your area. Sign up through The Cornell Lab of Ornithology at www.Birds.Cornell.edu/pfw.

J. Gruber's Thought For Today's Living
“A wise man will often rely less on his own judgment and pay respect to the judgment of others.”

COMPUTER Q&A

Social network privacy

Aysë Stenabaugh
Jester's Computer Tutor

It's hard to avoid websites like Facebook or Twitter when nearly everyone you meet uses social networks to stay connected. Many people are afraid to use social networks simply because of the potential lack of privacy it offers. When using these websites keep in mind that you should never say anything online you wouldn't say in public! Websites are always vulnerable to hacking and can have issues or policy changes that diminish your privacy! Here is more information on how to set your privacy settings on Facebook!

Changing who can see what

On Facebook you can set your page and your posts so that only people you are friends with can view your page. You are still able to make public posts when you have something to share with everyone.

To change your Facebook privacy settings you need to click on the small "gear" icon located in the top right corner of the blue bar on the top of any Facebook page. When the drop down menu appears click on "Privacy Settings" Under "Who can see my posts" change the setting to Friends Only if you only want people who you are already connected with on Facebook to see your posts.

Here you can also set who can contact you and who can find you on Facebook. A new important change to Facebook includes the ability to allow search engines to find your Facebook profile. If you do NOT want to allow search engines to find your Facebook page you can turn this feature off by visiting your Facebook Privacy settings page.

Keeping your profile Information Private

In order to make the information you share on your profile such as your about me, current location, birthday, likes, etc. you will have to edit your profile. To do this when you are looking at your newsfeed page (click the Facebook icon in the top left of the page to return to here) you will click on "edit profile" below your profile image on the left side of the page.

Once you reach the "edit profile" page you will notice that information that is publically displayed shows a world symbol beside it. If you click on the world you will have the option to share with friends only, only yourself, as well as other privacy options. Further down the page you will see your favorites and you will have to click the edit icon which looks like a pen writing on the right hand side of each section. You will have the option to hide that section or



often so it can be hard to keep up with all the policy changes. Recently Facebook changes their policy on how users under 18 can post information. Previously they were only allowed to share posts with friends rather than publicly so that anyone could see. Now users under the age of 18 are able to share their posts publicly allowing anyone to view them. Changes were made so that

its policy allowing anyone to be able to search for anyone's page on Facebook. If you have everything set to private they will only be able to search your name and will not be able to see any private posts. There is no way to disable this feature, however you can still change your privacy settings to make everything private deeming it unable to view for anyone who is not already your Facebook friend.

Having trouble learning Facebook?

With the many changes that Facebook undergoes every year it can be difficult to keep up. Jester's Computer Tutor pro-

vides one-on-one technology classes in the local area to help users feel more comfortable and confident when using the computer! If you or someone you know is interested in learning how to use Facebook, or another website, we can help! Visit our website at www.thecomputertutor.info or give us a call at 717-435-7463! If you have a question that you would like to see featured in next months article send it to help@thecomputertutor.info and set the subject line of the email to "ENJ Question".

If you are in need of computer repair please call Jester's Computer Services at 717-642-6611 or send an e-mail to: customerservice@jesterscomputers.com or drop by 5135 Fairfield Road Fairfield.

edit the privacy for that portion of your page.

Facebook could be more competitive with alternative social networking websites which already allowed under-age users to post publically.

Recent Changes to Facebook
 Facebook policies seem to change

Recently Facebook changed

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Beer and Wine tasting at Gateway

Beer, wine and liquor connoisseurs are in for a treat in Nov. & Dec. come the grand opening of a greatly expanded Gateway Liquor in Thurmont. The expanded store will not only play host to the widest section of foreign and domestic beer in the area, but a brand new, state-of-the-art, 860 square foot walk-in beer cooler, which will ensure beer lovers have a never ending supply of their favorite cold beer. The store will also sport an enhanced wine department, featuring the widest selection of foreign and domestic wines, along with a special section featuring wines of local wineries.

One of the principle advantages of the larger store is the ability it affords to host special events such as beer and wine tastings. Beer, wine and liquor tasting will be held throughout the month. During the week of the grand opening in Dec. the store will be tasting something every night. After the grand opening, beer, wine and liquor tasting will continue on Fridays and Saturdays. The events allow customers to sample spirits in a relaxed environment they've looked at over the years, but have not yet tried.

The expanded liquor store will be to the right of the popular Gateway Candyland, as apposed to the present store, which is on the left, a simple 100-foot move. For more information of schedules of tastings, visit the store's Facebook page at facebook.com/GatewayLiquorsMD, or call 301-271-7978.

Nov 1

Christ's Community Church, family outing, "Light the Park," will take place from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Emmitsburg Community Park and will be open to the public. The event is free.

This family event will feature a number of activities for children and families. "Light the Park" will feature food, games, crafts, a Bounce House, Kiddiepillar, Barrel Train rides, a children's movie, "and loads of free fun and fellowship," the pastor stated.

The name for the event, "Light the Park," was derived from the fact that the park will be turning dark around 6:30 p.m., a half hour after the activity has gotten underway. The church also chose the name, he said, "because

we're planning to light the park with something unusual and exciting."

This will be a blessing to the children and families of the community as we have one last outdoor event in preparation for the colder winter weather.

For additional information regarding Christ's Community Church, visit the church web site at www.cccaog.org.

Nov 2

Tom's Creek United Methodist Church's Turkey and Oyster Supper. For more information call 301-447-3171 or visit www.tomscreekumc.org.

Party for the Preserve Community members and Strawberry Hill support-

ers are invited to take the opportunity to socialize as well as join the bidding for many great items that have been donated for this fundraiser. Liberty Mountain Resort, Fairfield. For more information see article on page 1 or visit www.strawberryhill.org.

Nov 3

Emmitsburg Presbyterian Church's Organ Concert and Open House. Dr. Elizabeth Krouse, church organist, will perform works that include Vivaldi/Bach and Vivaldi/Krouse. A reception will follow the concert. Emmitsburg Presbyterian Church is located at 415 Main Street, Emmitsburg.

Nov 5 - 9

53rd International Gift and Rug Festival see article on page 17.

Nov 9

Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Saint Anthony Shrine Parishes's Cash Bash The Cash Bash will be held at Our Lady of Mount Carmel's Parish Center, 103 Church Street, Thurmont. For tickets please call the parish office at 301-447-2367.

Nov 9

Arts and Craft Festival – Local artisans and crafters will offer a diverse selection of items for Christmas, and if they don't have what you want, you can put in an order for the holidays! Items include jewelry, soaps, quilted bags, aprons, wreaths, jellies and jams. Free drawing at the end of the days by each vendor. Thurmont Community Park. For more information call 301-473-6815.

Nov 10

Veteran's appreciation country style all you can eat breakfast buffet at St. Joseph's Church Hall, Taneytown. All present and past military personnel will be honored and thanked for their service to the U.S.A and will receive a \$1.00 discount on their breakfast. They, and/or their family members are invited to bring their military pictures of themselves or their loved one(s) and their military memorabilia for display (Uniforms, equipment, etc.), and, if able, to dress in their military uniform.

Annual "Hands of a Child" Christmas card project, a service activity for children & teens. Create Christmas cards to be placed in food boxes given out by Seton Center and the Emmitsburg Lions Club. Earn community service hours for school, Scouts. Pizza party will follow. Incarnation Church, Emmitsburg. For more information call Susan Allen at 301-447-6891 or email susansings@hotmail.com.

The National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton will hold Stained Glass Sunday, a special education program about the stained glass in the

Basilica. Following the presentation, guests will make their own stained glass art piece under the instruction of Linn Wichowski from Wentz Stained Glass Studio.

Nov 15, 16, 17, 22, 23,

Gettysburg Community Theater presents The Music Man. \$11 reserved seating. Order tickets online at www.GettysburgCommunityTheatre.org. For more information call 717-334-2692.

Nov 16

Fairfield's H3D Softball fastpitch Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser at the Fairfield Fire & EMS Building, Fairfield. We will also have baked goods and raffles. H3D Softball is a girl's fastpitch 18U travel team. We are a new organization and are hoping to grow to include other age groups. We are conducting fundraisers to cover equipment, uniforms, insurance, tournament registration fees and travel expenses. Your commitment to support us is sincerely appreciated by the players, coaches and parents. Advance tickets are available by contacting any player, Tamie Leckemby, at 301-606-5183 or 717-642-6541 or Tami Ulsh at 717-372-6549.

4th Mother Seton Fall Five K Run and Kid Dash, at Waldron Stadium, Mount St Mary's. For more information contact: Bridget McCarthy at bridgemccarthy@hotmail.com, or call Mother Seton School at 301 447 3161.

Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve 'Run Through the Woods'. Anyone interested in running a trail or walking through the woods is invited to participate in a trail 10 mile run; a 10-mile power walk; or a 1-mile trail trot. This fun fall event is designed to offer runners a chance to experience miles of trails in the Blue Ridge Mountains, while giving families the perfect opportunity to enjoy the colorful autumn foliage. Runners and non-runners alike are invited to take part in an opportunity to enjoy nature, food, music, and friends while supporting Adams County's only non-profit environmental education center and nature preserve. For more information regarding this trail run, contact the office at 717-642-5840; email info@strawberryhill.org; or visit www.StrawberryHill.org.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov 16 & 17

Stone Fence Gardens Native American Festival. Storytelling, traditional dance, Pow Wow drumming & open drum circles, petting zoo, craft vendors, bonfire - warm & friendly. For more information visit www.stonefencegarden.net.

Nov 19

150th Anniversary of President Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. This year's Dedication Day ceremony will observe the 150th Anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. The ceremony takes place at 10 a.m. in the Soldiers' National Cemetery.

Pulitzer Prize-winning historian James McPherson will speak at the event, which also features Governor Tom Corbett, a reading of the Gettysburg Address by Lincoln portray-er James Getty, and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services will administer the Oath of Allegiance to sixteen new citizens.

An invitation has been extended to the President of the United States for Dedication Day.

Nov 21

Frederick Community Collage presents the Equinox Brass and Percussion, a brass quartet and percussion duo featuring, will perform on Thursday, November 21 at 8 p.m. in the Jack B. Kussmaul Theater. The group also includes percussionist Dane Krick and FCC faculty artist Greg Herron, and brass players Brian Priebe, David Smith, Seth Horner, and Stuart Smith. Equinox Brass and Percussion perform an eclectic mix of jazz, pop, Broadway, classical, folk songs and modern cham-

ber music. The evening will include such traditional composers for brass quartet as Frackenpohl and Gabrieli and percussion duo repertoire by Steve Reich and Ed Argenziano. The group will also perform works by Earth, Wind and Fire; Tower of Power; Bach; George Gershwin; and Lionel Hampton. Admission is free. For more information call 301-846-2608.

Nov 22

Catoctin Safe & Sane Graduation Committee Wing Night at the Vigilant Hose Company in Emmitsburg. Tickets are \$20.00 per person and includes a meal, wings and beverages. Contact Lisa White for tickets at lmwhite88@msn.com or 240-367-6996 or Laura Imes at imesla@yahoo.com or 301-788-6458.

Nov 22 & 23

Unitarian Universalists of Gettysburg's Holiday Bazaar featuring: New distinctive hand-made gifts at best prices for your Holiday shopping. Gently used hardcover

books, Tasty baked goods. 136 S. Stratton St. Parking available.

Nov 23

Gettysburg Soldiers' National Cemetery 11th Annual Remembrance Illumination. Visit the Cemetery from 5:30-9:30 pm where luminary candles are placed on each Civil War soldier's grave. Soldiers' National Cemetery, 97 Taneytown Road. Gettysburg. For more information call 877-874-2478 or visit www.gettysburgfoundation.org.

Nov 28

5th annual Emmitsburg Wattle Waddle - beginning in the Emmitsburg Community Park behind the Town Library. A 5-mile run through the scenic back roads of Emmitsburg and weaving along the base of College Mountain followed by a free community breakfast. At the conclusion of the breakfast, a 1-mile fun walk through the town will help prepare participants for their Thanksgiving feast with family. Runners in the

5-miler will receive awards by major category and for best Thanksgiving-themed costume. Proceeds benefit Seton Center. For more information and to register, go to www.EmmitsburgTurkeyTrot.com.

Nov 28

Creagerstown's St. John's Luther-

an Church's Annual Thanksgiving Dinner. Parish Hall, 8619 Blacks Mill Road, Creagerstown off rt. 550, 11:00 a.m. til 4:00 p.m. Turkey and Country Ham, served family style with vegetables and dessert, crafts and baked items also for sale, Proceeds will benefit the church.



Choose When You Want To Play!
THURSDAY NIGHTS
 Great Food! Huge Jackpot!
 Doors Open @ 5:30 PM
 Bingo Starts @ 6:45 PM

FAIRFIELD FIRE & EMS
 Follow Rt. 116 To Fairfield
 Turn Onto J. Harry Kane Blvd.

TWILIGHT BINGO
 1st Friday Of Every Month!
 Food! 3 Jackpots! Larger Payouts!
 Doors open @ 5:30 PM
 Bingo starts @ 8 PM



Monday, December 31, 2012
NEW MIDWAY VOL. FIRE CO.
 Doors Open at 5:00 PM
 Buffet at 6:00 PM - Play Starts at 8:00 PM
 Meal Includes: Turkey, Shrimp, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Dressing, Green Beans, Coleslaw, Rolls & Butter, Coffee, Tea And Dessert!

30 Games (\$100 Minimum) **Jackpot** (\$1,000)
Tickets: \$45 (In Advance) **\$50** (At The Door)

12019 Woodsboro Pike, New Midway, MD 21775
 (On Route 194)

For more info or advance tickets call: Mary or Joe Lenhart
301-898-9161 or 301-898-7985

Proceeds Benefit The New Midway Vol. Fire Company & The Frederick County Farm Museum.

OLD FIELD WOODWORKING CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE



SATURDAY, Nov. 23, 2013
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
 Bring a relative! Bring a friend!

CUSTOM-MADE FURNITURE IS OUR SPECIALITY.
 COME SEE WHAT WE CAN CREATE FOR YOU!

John & Kathy Dowling • Theresa Keeney • Jack Cogan
 13333 Graceham Road, Thurmont, MD 21788
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Jubilee foods
Premium
MEATS • SEAFOOD • DELICATESSEN
 EMMITSBURG, MARYLAND

Happy Thanksgiving!
READ THE LABEL


HOW OLD IS THAT FROZEN TURKEY?
NO EXPIRATION DATE? HOW MUCH ADDED SOLUTION?

Fresh turkeys with no additives and no basting ingredients!
Treat your family to the best turkey available for your holiday meal!

Call Today To Place Your Order!

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www.shopjubileefoods.com

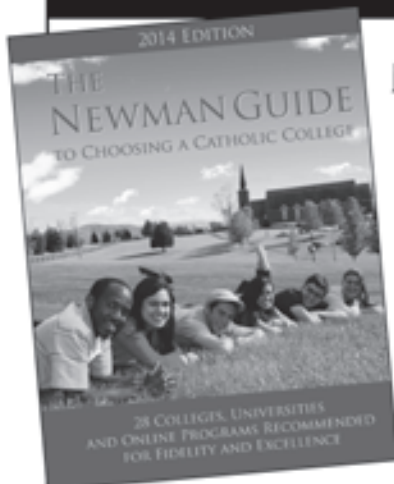
ADAMS COUNTY YORK SPRINGS TURKEY FARM



FRESH YOUNG TURKEY

Buy Local And Support Adams County Turkey Growers!

MOUNT ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY



NEWMAN SOCIETY COLLEGE GUIDE RECOMMENDS THE MOUNT

The Cardinal Newman Society included the Mount in its 2013-2014 *Newman Guide to Choosing a Catholic College*. The Cardinal Newman Society selects colleges for the guide using rigorous standards for academic excellence and fidelity to Catholic teaching.

The *Newman Guide* describes the Mount as "a small private university offering a vibrant athletics, student life, and outdoor recreation program, numerous majors, and a solid common curriculum, the Veritas Program, rooted in the Catholic liberal arts tradition. Students have numerous opportunities to grow socially and spiritually."

"It is an honor to be included in *The Newman Guide*," said University President Thomas H. Powell. "We are a joyfully Catholic university and this recognition highlights the Mount's faithfulness to our Catholic mission, our strong academics, and our dedicated faculty, students and staff who strive to bring our Catholic identity to life."

Published since 2007, *The Newman Guide* recommends 28 colleges, universities and online programs for strength of Catholic identity and academic excellence, with an emphasis on undergraduate education. Primary sections include in-depth information on academics, spiritual life, residence life and student activities. Twenty-two of the recommended colleges are in the United States, while four are English-language instruction programs in other countries, and two programs are online.

"Because every Catholic college is unique, families need more than simple checklists or government-collected data to make decisions," said Patrick J. Reilly, president of The Cardinal Newman Society. "Whereas most other guides rely on the same data, *The Newman Guide* digs deeper and draws upon our 20 years of promoting and defending faithful Catholic education."

The Newman Guide and its updated companion magazine *My Future, My Faith* make searching for and getting advice on faithful Catholic colleges and universities easy. They are both available for free online and to order at TheNewmanGuide.com.

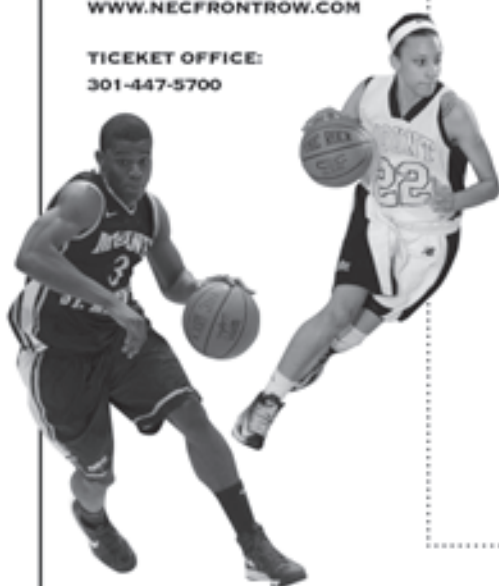
MOUNT MAYHEM IS BACK ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8!

That's when the Mount's men's and women's 2013-14 basketball seasons begin. Join us for the women's home opener against Davidson on November 12, and the men's home opener against American University on November 23.



ALL OF THE MEN'S CONFERENCE GAMES, AND ALL OF THE WOMEN'S HOME GAMES WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE ON NEC FRONT ROW, WWW.NECFRONTROW.COM

TICKET OFFICE:
301-447-5700



2013-14 MEN'S BASKETBALL HOME GAMES

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
NOV. 23	AMERICAN	4 P.M.
NOV. 26	BUCKNELL	7 P.M.
DEC. 4	BINGHAMTON	7 P.M.
DEC. 7	LOYOLA (TV: MID-ATLANTIC SPORTS NETWORK)	2 P.M.
JAN. 11	ST. FRANCIS BROOKLYN *	2 P.M.
JAN. 16	WAGNER *	7 P.M.
JAN. 18	ROBERT MORRIS *	2 P.M.
JAN. 30	FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON * PNC NIGHT	7 P.M.
FEB. 1	LIU BROOKLYN * HOMECOMING	2:30 P.M.
FEB. 13	BRYANT *	7 P.M.
FEB. 27	SACRED HEART *	7 P.M.
MAR. 1	SAINT FRANCIS (PA.) *	2 P.M.

2012-13 WOMEN'S BASKETBALL HOME GAMES

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
NOV. 12	DAVIDSON	7 PM
NOV. 23	CAMPBELL	12 P.M.
DEC. 7	LOYOLA	4:30 P.M.
DEC. 21	MARYLAND-EASTERN SHORE	1 P.M.
JAN. 6	LIU BROOKLYN *	7 P.M.
JAN. 11	SACRED HEART *	4:30 P.M.
JAN. 13	ST. FRANCIS BROOKLYN *	7 P.M.
JAN. 18	WAGNER *	4:30 P.M.
JAN. 25	BRYANT *	1 P.M.
FEB. 1	ROBERT MORRIS * HOMECOMING	5 P.M.
FEB. 3	CENT. CONNECTICUT ST. *	7 P.M.
FEB. 22	FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON *	1 P.M.
FEB. 24	SAINT FRANCIS (PA.) *	7 P.M.

* - NORTHEAST CONFERENCE GAME | ALL DATES AND TIMES ARE TENTATIVE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

BROWN BAG LUNCH CONCERT

Wednesday, Nov. 6
Noon-1 p.m.
Hornig Theater, Delaplaine Fine Arts Center
Enjoy a mid-day concert in the new beautifully renovated Hornig Theatre!



ADULT UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE PROGRAMS OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, Nov. 14
11 a.m.-1 p.m. and 4-6 p.m.
Mount St. Mary's Frederick Campus
5350 Spectrum Drive, Frederick
Learn more about finishing your undergraduate degree or about the graduate degree and graduate certificate programs the Mount offers! The Mount makes it easy to finish your degree!

ORGAN CONCERT WITH CHRISTOPHER HOULIHAN

Thursday, Nov. 14
7 p.m.
Chapel of the Immaculate Conception



Christopher Houlihan has been labeled "gifted" (*New York Times*), "dazzling" (*Wall Street Journal*), and "eloquent... launch[ed on] a major career" (*Los Angeles Times*). He made his orchestral debut with the Hartford Symphony and recorded his first two CDs while still in college, prompting classmates to form the "Houli Fans," a fan base that has continued to grow on Facebook. Houlihan graduated from The Julliard School and later studied at the French National Regional Conservatory in Versailles and earned the "Prix de Perfectionnement" (equivalent to a university artist's diploma in the US). He also served as assistant musician at the American Cathedral in Paris where he had the honor of performing for then President and Mrs. George W. Bush. Photo credit: Ali Winberry

ODE TO ST. CECELIA CONCERT

Tuesday, Nov. 19
7:30 p.m.
Chapel of the Immaculate Conception
Join the Mount's Chapel Choir, Seminary Schola, Gospel Choir, Flute Choir, Lab Band and Chorale for a concert of sacred music honoring St. Cecelia.



CLYBOURNE PARK

Performances: Nov. 21, 22, 23, 8 p.m.
Sun., Nov. 24, 2 p.m.
Hornig Theater, Delaplaine Fine Arts Center
Written in response to Lorraine Hansberry's award winning play *A Raisin in the Sun*, *Clybourne Park* examines race, real estate and aspirations for a better life. The wickedly funny and fiercely provocative play has won nearly every honor the theatre has to give, including the Olivier Award, the Evening Standard Award and the Pulitzer Prize. Tickets are \$7. For more information, call 301-447-5308.

NATIONAL SHRINE GROTTA OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES BEGINS VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

The National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes has a new way for you to share your love of the Grotto — by becoming a Grotto Docent! These volunteers relate the history and legends of the holy grounds to pilgrims while leading one-hour walking tours.

To request more information about the new program, and to be one of the first to sign up, visit www.msmary.edu/grottodocent

