

Emmitsburg NEWS-JOURNAL

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NEWS

Emmitsburg Pursues Energy Efficiency

The town commits to reducing electricity consumption by 15% within five years. **Page 2**

Carroll Valley Plans Gala Fourth

The highlight of this year's event will be a concert provided by the US Army Field Band and Soldiers Chorus. **Page 3**

Thurmont Main Street Program Revitalized

Now in its eighth year, the Main Street program remains the centerpiece of Thurmont's economic development efforts. **Page 4**

COMMENTARY

Pure OnSense

Protests in Turkey and Brazil demonstrate their leaders' differing visions for democracy. **Page 11**

Down Under

Our natural angels—Lincoln had a vision of the future, one he was sure would be better than the one they endured. **Page 11**

ARTICLES

The Pastor's Desk

The cost of freedom—56 men signed the Declaration of Independence knowing full well that they could lose their fortunes, their families, and their very lives. **Page 12**

Book of Days

The legendary history of the Man in the Iron Mask. **Page 13**

In The Country

Spiders! Before you squish that spider, consider these benefits they bring. **Page 17**

Pets Large & Small

Getting your dog's attention! **Page 19**

The Master Gardener

Pollinators: We depend on them visiting our gardens and fields for food production, but they are also quite beautiful to watch. **Page 20**

Civil War History

With all the focus on the Battle of Gettysburg, the Union occupation of Frederick has become simply a footnote in history. **Page 22**

History

A look at Emmitsburg's role in the Battle of Gettysburg. **Page 24**

Cold War Warriors

The scrapping of the Red October by the Russian Navy. **Page 26**

The Arts

An inside look at Thurmont Thespians' upcoming show, "Honk Jr." **Page 36**

JOURNALS

The Retired Ecologist

Inside the real world of nature: the food chain. The fittest, and the luckiest, have the best chance of surviving. **Page 14**

Four Years the Mount

Our writers were asked to write a postcard to a younger version of themselves. While meant for themselves, their advice is timeless. **Page 32**

Creative Writing

Do you remember the first time you saw fireworks? How about the first time you didn't? Our Mount creative writer does. **Page 38**

Complementary Corner

A look at the multitude of paths one can take to create a peaceful heart. **Page 42**

Gettysburg readies for commemoration

We could see the wounded coming in, those that were able to walk, and the cavalry horses coming in riderless. This showed us that something was going on. I think there will be an awful battle very soon.

—Manley Stacey, 111th New York Volunteer Infantry

Gettysburg and the surrounding communities have done all they can to prepare for one of the most significant commemorations being held in conjunction with the 150th anniversary of the American Civil War. The Gettysburg Anniversary Committee planned the four-day event, which will be held on approximately 1,000 acres at the Redding and Entwistle family properties along Table Rock Road.

County Commissioner Randy Phiel said that the 150th commemoration of the 1863 battle has been "called by many an 'Olympic Moment' for Gettysburg and Adams County." He stated that there "is great anticipation, excitement and logistical concerns regarding the commemoration," especially given that tens of thousands of re-enactors and tourists are expected to descend on the rural Adams County roadways and municipalities during the event.

From July 4 through 7, thousands of Civil War re-enactors will



US Marines march around the old fountain on the Square on their way to the 1922 Gettysburg reenactment. The men standing in front of the fountain are Emmitsburg's surviving Civil War veterans. According to news accounts at the time, four were Union veterans (Michael Hoke, James Hosplehorn, John Mentzer and Thomas Frailey), one was a Confederate (George Rider), and the other was unknown. All of Emmitsburg stopped to watch the parade.

converge on the Gettysburg area for what will likely be an unparalleled reenactment of the Battle of Gettysburg, and it is entirely possible that the numbers of soldiers will set a new record for the size of an historical re-enactment in the United States. Phiel told the News-Journal that between 8,000 and 15,000 re-enactors were expected at this year's landmark event, "plus several hundreds of horses and over 100 cannons already registered to participate," and 50,000 to 75,000 spectators are expected to attend the event

over the course of its four days.

The event will consist of a myriad of battle reenactments and period medical, home front, and music demonstrations and presentations, as well as food and merchandise vendors. The event will hold two battle reenactments a day, except on Saturday when there will be three.

The National Park Service is also planning a Pickett's Charge Commemorative March on the battlefield on July 3 at 3 pm, when park rangers lead the march across nearly one mile of

open field. The march begins with the firing of artillery at 3 pm and ends at the High Water Mark, with the playing of echo taps along Cemetery Ridge by buglers in both U.S. and Confederate uniforms.

For additional information on the reenactment, visit the Gettysburg Anniversary Committee website at gettysburgreenactment.com. For additional information on the various NPS events, visit <http://www.nps.gov/gett/planyourvisit/150th-anniversary-index.htm>.

Emmitsburg to host Cal Ripken series

Emmitsburg's youth baseball players will have the chance to defend their home field this month as the town plays host to the 2013 Cal Ripken State Tournament. The tournament for kids age 12 and under will begin on Saturday, July 6, and conclude the next day. The winner of the State round will advance to the Regional Tournament later in July, which will also be held nearby in Waynesboro, Pennsylvania.

Six teams of twelve to fifteen players will participate in the tournament, which could draw a couple hundred family members and other spectators. The teams will be divided into two groups, and the first day of the tournament will be a round robin with each team playing a game against the others in its division. The top two seeds in each division will return to face each other on Sunday, followed by the championship game.

The Ripken Tournament is a lower division of the Babe Ruth League, an international youth baseball and softball organization based in New Jersey. Emmitsburg joined the Cal Ripken League four or five years ago, and

volunteered to host this year's State Tournament, says Jeff Topper, Vice President of Emmitsburg Baseball and Softball, Inc.

The town has risen to the occasion in its preparations to host the event, according to Jeff's mother, Mary, herself a former president of and continuing volunteer with the Emmitsburg league. In addition to assistance from Mayor Donald Briggs, the commissioners also approved the installation of a higher fence to meet the league's regulations. Local businesses pitched in to totally redo the two fields to be used in the tournament, including donating time to put down new sod.

"We are so honored to host the tournament this year," said Mayor Briggs. "Emmitsburg is a wonderful place to share with our guests from across the state, especially when its rich baseball tradition is also involved. Thank you to the tournament organizers and to the dedicated efforts of so many in the community who give of their time, year-in and out, to provide the healthy activity of baseball for our most valuable asset - our children."

A skills competition will kick off



In the early part of the 1900s, Emmitsburg was a regional baseball powerhouse. Baseball games were the focus of almost every public event and were always well attended.

the weekend's events on Friday, July 5 starting at 6 p.m. Opening ceremonies will commence the next morning at 9 a.m., with the first round of games beginning at 10, the second round at 12:30 p.m., and the final games starting between 2 and

3 p.m. More information is available at the Emmitsburg Baseball and Softball league's website at www.ebbsb.com, and you can find a full profile of Emmitsburg's players and their coach, David Wantz, inside this issue on page 41.

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NEWS

Letter to the editor

It is our ongoing mission to maintain, improve and beautify the grounds of the Emmitsburg Memorial Cemetery. While we realize that placing flowers of any kind at the gravesite is a beautiful expression of one's feelings the arti-

ficial flowers become a problem for our grounds keeper. We are asking for removal of any artificial flowers that you may have placed there by June 15.

In reviewing the plot plan of the cemetery property we have found

some sites of owners who have made other plans since the purchase. We are inviting those owners to consider donating or selling back to the cemetery those sites. If you are interested please call 301-447-6464 or e-mail ericg@taneystair.com

Thank you.
The board of the EMC

County adopts 2014 budget

The Frederick Board of County Commissioners approved an Operating Budget of \$516 million for the 2014 fiscal year on June 6. The board also approved a \$69 million Capital Budget for the funding of projects and the fiscal year 2014 – 2019 Capital Improvements Program of approximately \$555 million.

"We have faced many challenges head on and have not wavered when it came to making tough decisions, which we feel will provide a good financial foundation for the incoming new charter government," said Board President Blaine Young. "With the help of our County Manager, Budget Committee and division directors, we have approved an operating budget that required very difficult decisions and thorough evaluation and reductions in every county department. Additionally, we were forced to prepare for the possibility of state cutbacks and the effects of sequestration."

A key element of the approved budget is that the Board addressed the structural deficit in the fire tax fund

by consolidating the Fire Tax District expenses into the General Fund. The result was a recalibrated property tax rate of \$1.064, which is the sum of the \$.936 property tax rate and the \$.128 Urban Fire Tax Rate. Most county residents will see no net change in their taxes as a result of the policy, but taxpayers in the Thurmont area, who used to pay a lower "suburban" fire tax rate will see a 4.8 cent hike.

Though not without controversy, the commissioners voted to fund the Board of Education at a state-required "maintenance of effort" level of \$229 million, including the teachers' pension cost of approximately \$7 million. The state law, which aims to prevent local governments from gouging education to cover other funding shortfalls, has an uneven history of enforcement stretching back to 1984. This is the fifth year that Frederick has "maintained its effort" by meeting or narrowly exceeding the previous year's funding level.

The budget touts \$2 million in department reductions and \$1 million

in savings through elimination of vacant positions. Since 2009, the county workforce has been reduced by 432 positions. There are currently 2,111 filled positions, and the budget included a one percent employee cost-of-living allowance and a step merit (3.5 percent) for Frederick County Government employees.

"Our commitment to our dedicated Frederick County Government employees is also represented in the budget and we want to thank them for continuing to be productive and efficient in light of our countywide belt-tightening with reorganizations and the consolidation of operations," Young said.

"The future is looking brighter for Frederick County based on our decisions to provide tax and regulatory relief for our taxpayers, emphasis on jobs and employment, business-friendly strategic goals, financial decisions that have been affirmed by the excellent ratings by the municipal rating agencies in New York City, senior tax credits, reductions in permits and fees, co-

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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.

operative work with our municipalities and many other strategic plan accomplishments since this board came into office. But, the job isn't done yet and we continue

to welcome feedback as we look to make some final adjustments in the next year or so and fulfill our commitment to the outstanding citizens of this county."

Emmitsburg passes budget, pursues energy grant

The Emmitsburg Board of Commissioners approved the mayor's \$1.6 million budget proposal for the 2014 Fiscal Year with only minor alterations at their June 3 meeting.

In reviewing the budget, Commissioner Patrick Joy located two duplicated expenditures, totaling \$16,000. The Board voted to reallocate a portion of the funds for bleachers and a water line in the town park, and to disburse the rest into the CIP fund for curb gutter, sidewalk, and road improvements.

The Board engaged in a contentious

discussion over how funding for the town square redesign project should be accounted for in the budget, with Commissioner Chris Staiger asking that a vaguely described \$10,000 contribution be reallocated back into the fund balance until a specific use was identified for it. Mayor Briggs and Board President Tim O'Donnell argued to leave the item in place as a sign of the Board's intent to show forward progress on the long-term project. Staiger's motion failed in a 1-4 vote, but the Board went on to unanimous-

ly pass a motion asking the Mayor to come back in August with a revised project budget for the square redesign, including all past and projected future expenditures.

"My biggest concern is the process, and my preference is to have the project presented to us for funding as opposed to just willy-nilly transferring money into buckets when we don't really know what it's going to be spent on," Staiger said after the vote.

The Board approved two ordinances proposed by Commissioner Joy to amend Title 3 of the Town Code relating to the Budget and CIP at the June 17 meeting. The new language allows town departments to exceed their allocated budgets by no more than 5% without prior approval from

the Board. The ordinance also clarifies a working definition for Capital Improvement projects as those having a projected budget of more than \$5,000 and typically spanning several years from planning to completion.

The commissioners also backed two policies declaring the town's intent to achieve reductions in electricity consumption and to increase renewable energy generation in order to become a Maryland Smart Energy Community, a program under the Maryland Energy Administration. The town stands to win a \$37,500 grant upon achieving the designation, which would likely be put towards the installation cost of energy efficiency initiatives like the LED lighting project.

Under the policies, the town will

commit to reducing electricity consumption by 15% within five years, and meeting 20% of local government buildings' electricity demand with renewable energy by 2022. According to Town Manager Dave Haller, the town should be able to meet both requirements within the next two years.

The Frederick County Board of Commissioners recognized Vigilant Hose Company (VHC) member Dale Glass for his years of service to the company and to the Emmitsburg community at their public hearing on June 4. Glass has been with the VHC for 32 years.

Commissioner Kirby Delauter presented Glass with a certificate of appreciation, a pin, and an Ott House Pub t-shirt signed by the Commissioners and other county staff. Delauter said he "just thought that would add a nice twist to it since Dale is pictured on the shirt." The shirt features a cartoon image of a truck and the words 'I Rode the Drunk Bus'.

"The Vigilant Hose Company is very proud of Dale's service and all of the positive comments we receive because of his affiliation with our organization," reads a statement from the VHC.




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Carroll Valley plans July 4th extravaganza

Carroll Valley Borough will be holding its ninth annual July 4th Celebration in Carroll Commons beginning 9 a.m. July 4 and continuing until its conclusion with the evening's fireworks display beginning at 9 p.m.

The event is organized by the July 4th Celebration Planning Committee, a group of volunteers from within and outside Carroll Valley Borough, according to borough Secretary Gayle Marthers.

Since the establishment of the event nine years ago, attendance has grown

to an average of 3,000 individuals from Pennsylvania and surrounding states.

The highlight of this year's event will be a concert provided by the United States Army Field Band and Soldiers Chorus, who will be performing in the evening prior to the fireworks display.

The army band that has given performances from Boston to Baghdad will now be adding Carroll Valley Borough to its repertoire for the first time.

A number of sports-related activities

are planned, beginning at 9 a.m. with a basketball tournament, and will also include a horseshoes tournament, a golf putting competition, and the first annual a T-ball game.

Registration for the horseshoes tournament will take place between 2 and 2:30 p.m. with the tournament being held from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m. The golf putting competition will be held from 3 to 6:30 p.m. Awards for both will be announced at 7:15 p.m.

A car show will be held from 2 to 6 p.m., with awards being an-

nounced at 6:30 p.m.

Other activities for children and adults include free hay rides, provided by William McCleaf, Jr. (McCleaf Farm), slides, obstacle course and a "Freedom Train" barrel-train ride, sponsored by SGI (formally ISP), climbing wall, courtesy of Strawberry Hill, and a zip-line ride. There will be a charge for the zip line and climbing wall, which will cost \$5 per person.

Food vendors will be on-hand for the event, and entertainment will be provided from 2 to 9:45 p.m. by T.C.

Beats Entertainment. There will also be hourly \$100 prize drawings beginning at 3 p.m., with a grand prize drawing for \$1,000 to be held at 9 p.m.

Closing ceremonies will begin with 8:05 p.m., with the United States Army Field Band and Soldiers Chorus performing from 8:15 to 9:45 p.m.

The fireworks display, launched over Carroll Valley Commons from Liberty Mountain, will commence at 9:45 p.m.

Hamiltonban to review vegetation, mosquito issues

The Hamiltonban Township Board of Supervisors will be reviewing the current nuisance regulations concerning trees and other growth to determine if more regulations are needed.

Board Chairman Robert L. Gordon told the board at their June 4 meeting that complaints had been received by the township concerning overgrown brush and trees, especially when such growth potentially blocks line-of-site at roadway intersections.

Gordon also indicted the board

should take a look at situations that could contribute to mosquito habitats that could lead to the spread of West Nile Virus.

The board approved a motion at the June meeting to review the ordinance, in the chairman's words, "possibly to add information regarding West Nile Virus and tree and vegetation overgrowth."

Regarding vegetation blocking roadway line-of-site, Gordon said the township had received recent complaints, especially from school bus drivers, noting that, through

additions to the nuisance ordinance, "we can fix it."

Supervisor Harry Rood noted, "There are a lot of big trees right in the right-of-way" of roads that overhang into the line-of-site, potentially creating a dangerous situation when a vehicle has to see past them to pull out safely onto another roadway.

There is presently nothing in existing township ordinances which address vegetative growth that interferes with highway safety.

There is also nothing in the cur-

rent regulations that addresses issues relating to the potential spread of West Nile Virus, a disease spread predominantly by mosquitos, an insect that relies heavily on standing water or quiet pools to breed.

Debris, such as tires or any container that can hold rain water for any period of time, are frequently used by mosquitos as breeding hot spots.

Coleen N. Reamer, vice-chairman of the board of supervisors, told the News-Journal that the existing nuisance ordinance addresses

removal of abandoned or stockpiled tires from properties, but only as an unsightly debris issue, not because of the West Nile threat.

She said the township will be considering adopting regulations to address eliminating potential mosquito breeding threats based on "state recommendation for language that could be put in to reduce the standing water."

Tests conducted in May across the state found West Nile infected mosquitos in Adams (Straban Township) and Erie counties.

Fairfield inaugurates 1860s walking tour

The Fairfield Sesquicentennial Committee announced June 12 that it officially inaugurated a walking tour of Civil War period sites in Fairfield Borough.

The tours were established as part of Fairfield's commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the American Civil War and the Battle of Fairfield.

The walking tours are self-guided treks, with the tour stops pinpointed and described on a brochure,

produced by the Fairfield Sesquicentennial Committee.

The walking tour brochures can be obtained from Thomas Publications, 3345 Fairfield Road, or by calling (717) 642-6600, or from the Fairfield Borough Office, 108 West Main Street, Fairfield, or by calling the borough office at (717) 642-5640.

The tour consists of 22 stops that observe structures in the borough

that existed during the war, and other sites relating to the 1863 Battle of Fairfield. The tour route was constructed based on research conducted by Timothy H. Smith, a licensed Gettysburg Battlefield guide.

Bus tours of Fairfield's Civil War related sites were also offered by the Fairfield Sesquicentennial Committee during the weekend of June 15. More than 70 individuals were driven around on two buses to see the

various Civil War era homes and buildings that existed during the battle.

The Battle of Fairfield took place on July 3, 1863, as the Battle of Gettysburg continued to rage only eight miles away.

The engagement took place after Confederate General Robert E. Lee ordered several Virginia cavalry units to secure passage of Hagerstown Road, leading to their arriv-

al in Fairfield on a collision course with the 6th U.S. Cavalry.

The U.S. Cavalry was in the process of reconnoitering to verify reports that Confederate wagon trains had been reported in-motion in the area.

The battle produced a decisive Confederate victory just outside the village, with Union forces suffering 232 casualties, which was more than 50 percent of their forces. Confederate casualties consisted of eight killed, 21 wounded, and five missing.

Fairfield area news briefs

Ski Liberty to present plans

Liberty Mountain Resort & Conference Center (aka Ski Liberty) will be presenting their proposal for a significant overhaul of their existing facilities.

According to Edward Kaplan, chairman of the Carroll Valley Borough Planning Commission, Ski Liberty is proposing to expand their present facilities to address capturing a year-round market, rather than focus solely on the ski season.

He said plans could include "tearing down the resort hotel and building a conference center, providing a new irrigation system for the golf course," and converting a circular parking area into an ice rink.

Kaplan said Ski Liberty's plans have actually been on their "drawing table for years."

Ski Liberty is expected to make their presentation at the July 1 meeting of the borough Planning Commission meeting, which begins at 7 p.m.

Shopping center proposal can't be changed

The Hamiltonban Township Board of Supervisors determined at their June 4 meeting that a request to reconsider a part of the plans for Iron Springs Plaza could not be undertaken.

Don Kornfield, representing Henry Garazo, a property owner located

adjacent to the proposed shopping center, asked to board to consider where they had approved the placement of a storm water basin.

Kornfeld stated that if a shift in a road was made during the build-out of the project, it would push the proposed basic too close to Garazo's property.

Attorney Henry Heiser, representing Iron Springs Plaza, told the board that the preliminary plan had been approved by the board in 2011, and

that it was too late in the process to consider any change to the location of the basin.

Police seek help with burglaries

Carroll Valley Borough police Chief Richard L. Hileman, II is requesting assistance from the public with helping police solve three burglaries and two attempts that occurred on April 3 through May 4 2013.

The ongoing investigations include those that occurred in the borough on April 3 on Main Trail, Jacks Mountain Road, and Crocus

Trail, on April 24 on Jacks Mountain Road, on May 4 on Trout Run Trail, and on May 19 on Persimmon Trail.

Police are requesting anyone with information to contact police through Adams County Control at 334-8101. Adams County Crime Stoppers has offered a cash reward of up to \$2,000 for information leading to the solution of the crime.

Also, a Jacks Mountain Road resident will pay an additional reward for any information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for the burglary at their residence.

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NEWS

Fairfield Fire & EMS lauded for excellence

Three Fairfield Fire & EMS emergency medical services members were honored in June for outstanding care by a Maryland hospital.

Fairfield EMS Captain Kip Hamilton said, "We are very pleased and proud to announce that three of our EMS providers, Holly Barnes, Patrick Henry and Zach Sites, who was working as a Wellspan Paramedic on the call, were awarded The Meritus Excellence in Care Award" on June 13.

The award was presented to the three recipients by the Meritus Medical Center in Hagerstown.

"Of all the patient runs that originated in PA last year that transported to Meritus, Holly, Patrick, Zach and the Paramedic on the Maryland State Police helicopter

were selected to receive this award for outstanding patient care," Hamilton noted.

The award is an annual recognition of outstanding EMS care provided by EMS personnel in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by the Maryland medical center.

Hamilton said the three recipients were dispatched for an ill person at the Liberty Mountain Resort who was presenting with "some unusual symptoms."

"Holly and Patrick were quick to suspect that the patient was having a stroke and they asked for a helicopter as the quickest means of transport to the closest stroke center," Hamilton said. "Zach assumed patient care on his arrival at the scene and they had the patient ready to be transferred to

the aircrew."

The EMS captain stated that, "as a direct result of Holly and Patrick's quick thinking, the care provided on the scene by Zach and rapid transport to the stroke center, the patient was able to be treated successfully and has suffered exactly zero complications and has returned to a completely normal, asymptomatic life with their family."

"We are so proud that out of all the patient encounters in Pennsylvania last year that our crew was selected," Hamilton stated. "It says a great deal on not only the level of patient care available to the residents of our community, but the way a paid and volunteer provider were able to work seamlessly together, resulting in the best possible result for their patient."



Thurmont Main Street program revitalized

Less than a month into her new tenure as Thurmont's Main Street program manager, Vickie Grider says one of her first priorities is to reach out to local business owners with a simple question: "How can we help you?"

Now in its eighth year, the Main Street program remains the centerpiece of Thurmont's economic development efforts, but after several years of struggles during the economic downturn and frequent turnover in the program's leadership, Grider is heading an effort to rebuild the program with an emphasis on serving as a provider of information and resources to small businesses in town. Those resources will soon be centralized in a dedicated Main Street office space in the former Thurmont branch library building near the town square, which is currently

being renovated.

"There's something about Main Street that ties the business community together," Grider said. "A lot of towns don't have Main Streets, but it seems to be the backbone of economic development in this country. If Main Street is thriving, is aesthetically nice, the other businesses in town benefit from it as well."

The town's refocusing on the Main Street program has come at the cost of some tension with the Thurmont Economic Development Committee (EDC), an independent organization which in recent years has focused more on organizing public promotional events than on direct business development. At the June 4 meeting of the Thurmont Board of Commissioners, Mayor Martin Burns suggested that the town sever of-

ficial ties with the EDC, citing serious disagreements with some of the group's recent decisions, although he declined to delve into specifics in public.

Meanwhile, the Main Street program has set out to reestablish its presence in town. Since taking office on June 3, Grider has begun reaching out to business owners with a new information packet explaining what the Main Street program is, what it can do for the community, and how they can get involved.

Another initiative is to arrange for regular guest speakers to come to town to give public presentations on government policies affecting small businesses and on general good business practices. The first speaker will be Nick Rudolf from the Maryland Depart-

ment of Housing and Community Development, which runs the Main Street Maryland program, who will discuss the program at a breakfast meeting on July 17 from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. at the Mountain Gate restaurant. Grider says she hopes to bring in speakers from the state government to talk about the Affordable Care Act, as well as experts from the Small Business Administration to discuss topics like how to write effective business plans.

Grider's other projects focus on promoting the town and drawing in tourism. She is currently working on a new brochure that she hopes will catch the eyes of travelers in Gettysburg during its extremely busy tourism season. She is also working with the Thurmont Historical Society and Star-Spangled Tours to establish a guided day tour of attractions in the northern part of the county, and expects to get Emmitsburg involved soon as well.



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One hundred years ago this month

July 4

Streets Oiled

On Monday afternoon under the direction of Streets Commissioner Harry Harner, the streets of the town were oiled. This is a distinct innovation in the caring for the streets of Emmitsburg, and will doubtlessly prove extremely satisfactory and doing away with dust within the town limits.

Florida Car

Among the hundreds of touring cars, which had been in town this week en route to Gettysburg, one was from Pensacola Florida. This is the first sighting of a car from Florida in the town.

Death of a Former Emmitsburgan

On Saturday afternoon, Mr. David Knott died at his home on East Church St., Frederick, of Bright's disease, at age 73 years. Mr. Knott was one of the oldest builders and contractors in the county. He was the son of a late Benedict Knott, a prominent land surveyor and was born in Emmitsburg on August 26, 1840. He graduated from Mount St. Mary's College and for years he followed the vocation of builder and contractor and erected many fine buildings in the county.

July 11

Fires and Storms

On Thursday evening a small fire was discovered at the residence of Mr. Edward Humerick, Gettysburg Street, but was extinguished before any serious damage was done. During the storm last Saturday evening, lightning struck the residence of Mr. John Sebold, on Frederick Street, knocking down the chimney and doing other slight damage.

Hurt While Trying to Start Car

George Wagerman, son of Mr. John Wagerman, met with a painful accident on Thursday afternoon, when his arm was fractured while cranking an automobile. After his arm was set, George told friends he: "should've stuck to horses, as he was never injured tacking them up."

New Store

Cecil Rotering, lately of the firm of Charles Rotering & Sons, who recently purchased a branch store of Shuff & Co., on W. Main St., has gone into business for himself. Mr. Rotering, who has always been among the progressive businessman of town, has stocked his store with gentlemen's furnishings. He reports that business from the outset has been brisk, and that he has every hope for an increase as the season progresses thanks to "Intelligent men shoppers." "Unlike women," Mr. Rotering said, "men know how to spend money wisely."

Firemen's Annual 4th of July Picnic

The annual celebration of the Vigilant Hose Company - The Fireman's Picnic - was held in Fireman's Park. The weather was extremely hot but many persons from out of town were present for the events of the day. By nightfall the heat had lessened and the grounds were crowded.

As is customary, the celebration opened with a parade headed by the Emmitt Cornet Band followed by fireman in uniform. In the line of march were the hose reels and ladder wagons, gaily decorated in red, white, and blue bunting.

The game of baseball between Taneytown and Emmitsburg resulted in a one-sided affair for the visitors on the long end. The score was something like 26 to 2, no one on the Emmitsburg side was sure. Suffergetts and their Prohibitionist allies felt Emmitsburg would have done better had the home team not been serving beer in their dugout during the game.

Throughout the day and at night the various amusements were well patronized. A display of fireworks was given around nine o'clock. Dancing and music held the people until a late hour.

Old Church at Mount St. Mary's Burned

On Friday night, July 4, the old mountain church out at Mount St. Mary's was destroyed by fire. The church, unused for worship for a number of years past, was built by Father Dubois, founder of Mount St. Mary's in 1805.

In 1826 the church was enlarged and it served as a church of the college and the surrounding parish until 1895, when the parish was separated from the college and a new church for its use built a little further down the mountainside. Not long afterwards the college community discontinued the use of the church. Since then, the church has become partially ruined from age.

The old church, however, continue to be a shrine for visitors to the institution. When the centennial of its erection was celebrated in 1905, there was a great gathering of church dignitaries from many parts of the country, and the Pope cabled his blessings from Rome. The church was a brick building, with a white stucco covering. The fire which destroyed it was supposed to have been caused by a toy balloon set up in celebration of the Fourth of July falling upon the roof.

July 18

Clothes Caught in Flywheel of a Gasoline Engine

Charles Harbaugh, who is employed at the knitting mill, met with a painful injury on Mon-

day. The accident occurred just at noon. Mr. Harbaugh was asked to stop the engine. The boy leaned across the engine-which is a compound cylinder gas type-and turned off the batteries, when a steel pin in the friction clutch caught in his clothing and threw him violently to the floor.

It is probably due to the fact that the electricity was turned off that the boy was not fatally injured as the weight of his body prevented the flywheels from carrying him around. The staff hurried to the lad and contacted Drs. Bronner and Jamison, who responded quickly and dressed the wound - a gash on the side of his leg that required 23 stitches to close.

July 25

Fire Near Maxell's Mill

The two-story frame house on the farm of Mr. Charles Michael, near Maxwell's Mill, on the Keysville Road, about four and half miles from Emmitsburg, was destroyed by fire around 11 o'clock Sunday morning. The cause of the fire is not known, but it is supposed to have been caused by the explosion of the gasoline stove. When the fire started, none of the family was home, and when discovered by the neighbors it had too much headway to be stopped, but neighbors succeed in saving most of the furniture and all the surrounding buildings. The loss, which is not that great, was not covered insurance.

Dr. John Glass on the Mexican situation

Dr. John Glass and the strategy board of the War College connected with Harney University has been in consultation for 98 hours on the Mexican situation, and it is thought that when the results of the deliberation is presented to the War and Navy Departments at Washington, a plan will have been reached whereby all trouble on the border will soon be brought to end.

According to the Doctor, It was



According to Gloninger family history, the fire that destroyed the old St. Mary's church started as a result of a paper balloon launched from their home just down the hill from the church. Flames from kerosene-saturated wood heated the air and provided the lift. The balloon was supposed to descend when the flames burnt out, but that didn't always happen. These photos are from James "Ledlie" Gloninger's photo album, which covers the decade from 1910 to 1920.

first proposed to send the armored cruiser and six battleships of the Flat Run fleet, under the command of Admiral Bushman, to the golf. This would have been the ordinary procedure, but after considering the difficulties attending such a move, it was thought best to adopt a more original and secret plan and the following idea will be carried out.

"Seven aero-planes loaded with molasses will be sent to the scene of the action, at the same time 800,000 rounds of Limburger bullets will be distributed to troops from Zora, Four Points, and Popular Ridge, whose regiments will already have reached the heart of Mexico."

The plan is very simple: "The

molasses will be release from the aero-planes, about 100 tons from each machine. This will have the same effect on the enemy as tangle-foot flypaper has on flies. When the opposing forces are rendered incapable of marching or standing erect, Limburger bullets will be discharged at them at a rate of 10,000 a second. Death will be instantaneous due to the smell of the cheese. An important feature of this mode of warfare is that death will be so horrible that no further recruiting will be possible-no one will enlist in the Mexican army."

The read past editions of 100 Year Ago this Month visit the Historical Society section of emmitsburg.net.

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GOVERNMENT—SOUTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

From the Desk of County Commissioner Blaine Young

Yes, there is a vision.

Growth is once again a hot topic in this county, not because we are growing, but because we are planning for prosperity. That's right planning which I thought was a good thing.

I always hear that we didn't plan and we need to do a better job of planning. Well, that is all the county is doing — planning.

Because the numbers speak for themselves, growth is still at all time lows. Even the previous anti-growth Board of County Commissioners agreed that 1,500 residential permits was the appropriate number per year. We should finally break the 1,000 threshold this year — if the economy holds, but this is after a 40-year low in permits. That is right we have been growing at the rate of the 1960s, but the anti-growth people never want you to hear that.

So, you ask is there a vision? Yes, and I will give you mine and will not speak for the other commissioners.

Around 80 percent of our county is not planned for growth. And that's okay. The major opportunities will be in and around our municipalities and especially in and around the City of Frederick.

Another major opportunity for our county is in the southern areas. The Jefferson Tech Park will present an excellent chance for economic development with jobs, commercial, retail and housing. The commissioners slapped the paddles to this dying project and revived it because of these opportunities for our community. The Route 85/Route 355 Corridor is the "Bread Basket" in Frederick County with jobs, jobs, jobs and more jobs. If this attitude was embraced by previous anti-business groups of commissioners, Monocacy Boulevard may not have become a reality.

Former Mayor Jim Grimes recognized this opportunity for the City of Frederick and I was proud to be part of the Board of Alderman that seized that opportunity creating "TIF" tax incre-

ment funding, which is the same tool we are using with Jefferson Tech Park. All you have to do is drive down Monocacy Boulevard to see Jim Grimes' legacy — jobs, jobs and more jobs. More taxpayers, not more taxes.

The future of Frederick County is from the Tech Park to Route 85 and Route 355 to Urbana, Monrovia and New Market. It will set the tone for future generations as it will take decades to complete this vision with proper planning.

Whether people will admit it or not, we are an emerging, dynamic, diverse county. We have something special. It does not have to be protected by stopping growth, but by planning for prosperity for the future.

We are not the Montgomery County of tomorrow. First of all we have around 236,000 residents. Montgomery County has more than 1 million. So, we are around 24 percent of what Montgomery County is, where in the 1950s there

were around 236,000 residents. Over 60 years ago, not 10 years ago.

The majority of people I have met from Montgomery, Prince George's, and Howard counties are very good people and I welcome them as neighbors. I ask them to remember that there are more good people who want to move here who will only strengthen our community — not drag us down.

Frederick County has become a safe haven for those who are looking for an incredible community, with great neighborhoods that is safe, with plenty of open space and with a great school system.

Jobs is the key component we need more than ever — in all industries. The southern areas of Frederick County are ripe for growth when and if the economy rebounds strongly with jobs, well-planned communities, commercial and retail development.

This will include much needed infrastructure such as schools, roads, fire sta-

tions, police substations, water and sewer projects and much needed playing fields.

This is progress that will strengthen our community and it should be embraced as we need to plan for prosperity. I have lived all of my life in this area, and I will not allow my own selfish view stand in the way of what Frederick County could be. That wouldn't be in the best interest of the entire county.

Even though my father and I have very different political views on many issues, this is the same type hurdle he dealt with as mayor of The City of Frederick 40 years ago. But he had a vision.

Look at what the City of Frederick has become — a recognized city nationally. While my vision is more suburban then urban, there is a vision and there is planning for prosperity in Frederick County. However, it will take decades — not days, weeks or months.

Will you be part of what we can be — or part of what we might have been?

From the Desk of Town Commissioner Chris Staiger

I hope everyone is enjoying a nice transition to summer! The days are just about the longest they will be this year, so make the most of them! Many organizations throughout town worked very hard with Commissioner Cliff Sweeney to organize Community Heritage Days around the weekend of June 29th. I'm sure the event was enjoyable for residents and visitors alike. The town pool opened on June 15th with new improvements such as the long awaited splash pad which hopefully improves the day's experience. Town pool parties and concerts in the park will continue throughout the summer season.

The Board of Commissioners' first June meeting focused on approval of the new budget which goes into effect July 1 of this year. Town tax rates will remain the same. The 'General Fund' budget, which finances day to day activities of government, is largely unchanged from the previous year. Where property tax revenue declined last year

due to lower assessments by the state, transfers of income from the county government have increased to fill the gap. You may even see some additional overall tax savings this year as the County Commissioners restructure the "Fire Tax" rate.

The Sewer and Water "Enterprise Funds" operate independently to cover the costs of our sewer and water infrastructure — wells, treatment plants, storage tanks, and the piping to and from your home. These operations are largely funded by your quarterly water and sewer bill. Over the last two years, fees have gone up. The increase in the sewer portion of your bill is necessary to cover the financing of the new sewer plant mandated by the State of Maryland. The increase to the water portion of your bill is necessary to make up for a loss in revenue since overall demand for water has decreased. As the largest users attempt to economize by decreasing their usage, the cost of maintaining

a super-sized system that is necessary to serve them gets divided over the remaining users.

The final major portion of the budget is the "Capital Improvements Plan" or CIP. This fund maintains and distributes monies for long term projects such as road improvements or equipment replacement as well as specific targeted improvements such as the Splash Park at the pool or security cameras at town parks. Expenditures toward the town square's redevelopment have been allocated to, and distributed from, the CIP. This budget year, the Administration has only proposed to allocate a further \$10,000 to the town square project. After some questioning, the town manager was able to offer that the money would be used to cover cost overruns in the design development. The Board of Commissioners is still waiting to receive the final report from the Design Consultant hired last year.

Lastly, Commissioner Pat Joy should

be applauded for writing legislation that more clearly defines controls on General Fund spending by the Administration and the management of the large sums that are maintained in the CIP. This legislation was reviewed and approved by the Board at the second June meeting. Previously, any discrepancies between budgeted and actual General Fund spending have just been resolved in one grand realignment at the end of the budget year. Now, some adjustments may still be nec-

essary at the end of the year, but triggers are in place requiring the Administration to obtain the approval of the Board of Commissioners as soon as any variance begins to exceed five percent of the approved budget.

Finally, as always, please keep an eye out for opportunities to contribute and don't hesitate to share your opinions with your elected officials by sending an e-mail to towncouncil@emmitsburgmd.gov. Sincerely, Chris Staiger

Election Judges Needed For 2013 Election

The Mayor and Board of Commissioners are seeking persons to serve as election judges for the September 24, 2013 Town election. In accordance with the Emmitsburg town Code, judges must be registered and qualified voters and not hold or be a candidate for any other Emmitsburg public office.

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GOVERNMENT—SOUTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

From the Desk of County Commissioner Kirby Delauter

Recently the BoCC passed the RFY 2014 budget for Frederick County. The total appropriations are \$511,448,831.00, yes it's over half a Billion dollars. On the revenue side we have the following categories that make up our funding. Property taxes at \$263,838,803.00, Local income taxes at \$176,363,100. Other local taxes at \$16,962,159.00, Service charges at \$ 8,310,325.00. Other revenues at \$9,800,661.00.

One of the major differences in this year's budget is the consolidation of the fire tax into the general fund. Our previous property tax rate was \$0.936 with separate fire tax districts in Urban /Suburban rates and the new property tax rate is \$1.064 but this includes the Fire rescue service whereas it did not in past budgets. We have actually had a decrease in property tax revenue of \$1.9M due to a decrease in the assessable base, which is

one of the reasons we decided to make this change.

A lot of critics have stated that this Board raised property taxes, I would like to state for the record that is absolutely false. What we have done is roll the old Fire tax into the general fund for several reasons, one being that it gives DFRS more stability in anticipated revenues mostly due to the homestead property tax credit which guards from wild swings in the real estate market thus providing a more stable revenue. The old split rate fire tax did not allow for the homestead property tax credit therefore creating a situation where a market downturn would provide far less revenue but costs still went up which created an extreme situation to provide the same level of service with far less revenue.

The shortfall was always made up by pulling funds from the general fund. My point to the

critics was and still is, that you were paying a higher fire tax than was shown on your property tax bill, you were just being misled into believing Santa Clause was magically making up the difference. As we know there is no Santa Clause so you the taxpayer were paying the bill, you just didn't know it. This Board took on the job of fixing this problem which will now fund the DFRS adequately, while still ensuring that spending is kept in check as well.

As a member of the Budget Committee I was able to give my insight as to the overall budget of the County and provide opinions on how to deal with these issues. My main focus is spending. I always said, even during my campaign that we do not have a revenue problem, we have a spending problem. Once I started looking into it, we not only had a spending problem, we had a major spending prob-

lem. Millions of dollars being spent on vehicles and equipment we didn't need and once you purchase these items you have to put someone in the seat and you have to maintain the unit. The costs explode exponentially.

I have spent the last year going over this with several department heads and the budget committee. Millions of dollars have been cut and millions more reallocated from items we didn't need to areas where we do need to spend more. No budget is perfect but our focus has been to cut unnecessary spending and reallocate taxpayer dollars to where they will do the most good. We didn't need a sewer camera truck so that allocation of \$450,000 could now drop to the bottom line to be given back to the taxpayer or reallocated to areas such as helping Senior Citizens, or providing systemic for the BoE. We are in the process of revamping our fleet mindset to

get more mileage out of vehicles we have and taking high mileage vehicles and transferring them to departments that can utilize them rather than buying new vehicles for all departments. This is a private sector model that will save millions as well without sacrificing services.

I look forward to serving on the budget committee this year as well. This committee is made up of Board President Blaine Young, County Manager Lori Depies, Budget Director Regina Howell, Human Resources Director Mitch Hose, Finance Director Erin White, and myself. This committee works well together looking for areas we can cut unnecessary spending, consolidate services, and reallocate funds where they are needed most. As everyone knows I'm not a fan of Government, but the people serving on this committee are true professionals and it is a pleasure to serve with them.

From the Desk of Emmitsburg Mayor Don Briggs

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times" Charles Dickens mused in his A Tale of Two Cities.

For over thirty years Community Day has been a special event, but this year and henceforth it will take on an expanded meaning in our community. The annual event has been rechristened Community Heritage Day to commemorate events that befell the town 150 years ago.

If the burden of lying in a border state was not enough with the mixed sympathies it brought, suspicions certainly abounded as to the cause of the fire that swept through the east side of town destroying most of the homes in mid June 1863. To that shock one day what appeared to be an endless queue of union soldiers approached the town. With incessant Civil War activity in the area, surely couriers and small detachments passed through from time to time, but now the presence of thousands of men stopped and readied to sequester before moving on to Gettysburg. With what strength and emotions that was left, the fragile self sufficient community hosted the expanded demands for water and food for men and animals alike.

The impact of the war did not stop with the end of the battle at Gettysburg. There would be a number of retreats, pursuits and positioning for counter attacks.

In the town there had to be a heavy shroud of shock and disbelief of what the last three weeks had brought. It's doubtful that "Coping" was even a word and if so what did it mean. Options were confined. There was no FEMA, no federal disaster area relief. There was no time to examine or languish. Time was too dear, only action to serve time's call. From less

sleep to work from, regular family demands to attend, now aiding neighbors amid fear from all levels and directions. The only solace being that with what the next morning brings, that most of the "next" would be less heavy to bear. Confidence fades as the security that predictability brings is shaken. What remains are basic instincts. Was "hope" still there as one of them?

Mr. Dickens, this surely is a strong measure of "the worst of times", where then is the complement, "the best of times"? It has to stir in one's take on "Hope". Was it the "Hope" of Alexander Pope where, "Hope springs eternal"? Would the community reengage with hope in their families and churches to move forward? But being rural farm economy community grounded in capricious nature of weather and seasons they respected the Emily Bronte guarded view of the virtue, "Hope was but a timid friend... Hope - whose whisper would have given Balm to all that frenzied pain - Stretched her wings and soared to heaven: Went and ne'er returned again!"

Emily died early in life of tuberculosis and her suffering probably influenced her views.

To whatever degree hope inspired the community, it with necessity did give rise to action. Rebuild, and recover from its charred remains even amid the war swirling about and the enormity of the unexpected and what the next day could bring. An early example for this action was given by the good sisters of Mother Seton who already called to service at Antietam now tirelessly fed and served the soldiers while here and as destiny would have it

meet some of those served again as wounded and dying after the battle of Gettysburg.

Part of "the best of times" is the resilience of the community and found in the accolade from a scene of Starman, "You are at your best when things are at their worst".

In 2010 a fire again devastated part of the town, this time the old hotel on the square. In the aftermath of the fire our community responded in the manner Emmitsburg always has, to care for victims

and support rebuilding. Within minutes food, water and shelter were found for the victims. Within hours clothing donations were made. In days fund donations were pouring in to address the long term needs of the victims. Within a year all of the fire victims were resettled and given the necessities to move forward with their lives.

Alas thankfully, "the best of times" was here again. Enjoy Community Heritage Day. Happy 4th of July.

Emmitsburg will hold town elections for the Board of Commissioners on September 24, as the terms for Commissioners Patrick Joy and Jim Hoover come to an end.

Hoover's seat was previously held by former Commissioner Glenn Blanchard, who resigned in February. The four remaining commissioners appointed Hoover to serve out the remaining seven months of his 3-year term, but Hoover says he has not yet decided whether to pursue an elected seat on the Council by running in September's election.

According to the town Code, candidates for commissioner seats must file an application with the town clerk no later than 30 days prior to the election. The town is also currently seeking election judges to supervise

the September 24 election. Interested residents who are registered voters and are not candidates for other Emmitsburg public offices may call 301-600-6300, or email townclerk@emmitsburgmd.gov

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GOVERNMENT—NORTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

From the Desk of Carroll Valley Mayor Ron Harris

Hope you are planning to attend the Carroll Valley Borough's 9th Annual July 4th Celebration on Thursday. It starts at 2 pm and ends with a concert by the famous, internationally recognized, United States Army Field Band. On the last musical note played, a twenty-five minute specular fireworks display will be shown on top of Ski Liberty Mountain. Free children rides include Circus City where our young attendees will be able to choose from 3 giant slides or play in one of 2 bounce areas. Others may be attracted to the challenge of our ultimate boot camp obstacle course. The end of the obstacle course has the participant come down a 20 foot super slide. We still have the Carroll Valley Freedom Train. If you are one of the first 300 riders, you will receive a free wooden train whistle. Another favorite for the family is the Farmer McCleaf's Hay Ride through the valley. Don't forget about the Horseshoe Tournament, Hole-in-One Competition, the Car Show and this year, the T-Ball Exhibition at 2 pm. Also this year, for a nominal fee, adults and children ages 6 and up, may want to zip thru the valley. For this ride, you are attached securely to a zip-line and off you go two stories above ground for 100 feet of pure exhilaration. There is so much more. Check it all out by going to www.cjuly4th.com. See you there! I will be that guy taking your picture.

Summer has started which means those heat alerts are going to be broadcast again. There are three types of messages that are sent out to the populace and they are: Excessive Heat Outlook, Excessive Heat Watch and an Excessive Heat Warning/Advisory. An Excessive Heat Outlook is used to indicate that a heat event may develop and the emergency management and public health officials should be prepared. An Excessive Heat Watch means an excessive heat event may occur in the next 12 to 48 hours. Finally, an Excessive Heat Warning/Advisory is issued within 12 hours of the onset of the following criteria: heat index of at least 105° F for more than 3 hours per day for 2 consecutive days, or heat index of more than 115° F for any period of time. Why pay attention? According to the NOAA National Weather Service, the statistical data shows that heat causes more fatalities per year than floods, lightning, tornadoes, and hurricanes combined. What to do? Here are a few tips. Slow down and do not perform any strenuous activities. Drink plenty of water or other non-alcohol fluids even though you may not feel thirsty. If you have problems retaining fluids, consult your physician before increasing your fluid intake. Eat light meals to de-

crease your metabolic heat production. Wear lightweight light-colored clothing. And naturally, try to spend time in an air-conditioned place. Congratulations go out to Austin T. Stroup who on June 23rd received the rank of Eagle Scout. His Eagle Scout Community Service project was building a fitness trail at the Federal Emergency Management Administration/Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, MD. He led his fellow Boy Scouts and other helpers throughout the past summer to complete the quarter mile trail which consists of four (4) health and fitness stations, and totaled over 500 hours of cumulative work. Congratulations to the Carroll Valley Police Department (CVPD). The CVPD received a \$1,000 Community Drug Abuse Prevention Grant from the Office of Pennsylvania Attorney General Kathleen Kane. The money was used to purchase two portable breath testing devices for officers in the field to be used in the detection and apprehension of intoxicated vehicle operators. These devices will also help in the detection and identification of underage alcohol violations. The officers will also be able to better detect when impairment may be the result of drugs and not just alcohol. Thanks is extended to the Adams County Collaborating for Youth's Coalition mem-

bers for their support. Would like to recognize Eileen Grenell, Substance Abuse Prevention Specialist; Camery Brown, Annie Roberts, and Josh Sites who are members of the coalition. Congratulations to three of our EMS providers, Holly Barnes, Patrick Henry and Zach Sites who were awarded the Meritus Excellence in Care Award. It is an annual award that recognizes outstanding EMS care provided by personnel in the state of Pennsylvania by Meritus Medical Center in Hagerstown, Maryland. Of all the patient runs that originated in Pennsylvania last year that transported to Meritus, Holly, Patrick, Zach and the paramedic on the Maryland State Police helicopter were selected to receive this award for outstanding patient care. We all should feel proud that we have such individuals living/working in our community. The Carroll Valley Citizens Association (CVCA) awarded their annual \$1,000 scholarship to Kelly Quealy who is a recent Fairfield High School graduate and resides in the K Section of Carroll Valley. The requirements for this award included high scholastic standing, participation in community, volunteer and church activities as well as school related extracurricular activities such as sports and clubs. Kelly has been accepted by and will shortly attend St. Francis University

located in Cambria County. Congratulations Kelly! At the June 3rd meeting of the Planning Commission, a representative from the Eluma, Inc. presented the proposed changes to Part 6, Section F of the Carroll Valley Borough Zoning ordinance regarding regulations for cluster, townhouse and multi-family dwelling developments. While this amendment is being discussed for the Mallow Tract (107 acres adjacent to Section K), the changes would affect all future development in the Borough. After much discussion, a number of changes were recommended by the commissioners. The new version of the amendment incorporating the recommendations will be reviewed at the next Planning Commission meeting on July 1st at 7:00 p.m. Also at the same meeting, the issue of controlling the growth of grass, weeds, and vegetation on one's property will be addressed. Borough meetings to be held in July are: Planning Commission (July 1st), Finance Committee (July 8th), Council Borough (July 9th), Sewer & Water Authority (July 22nd) and Parks/Recreation (July 24th). Please reduce your driving speed when you are in the Valley. If you have any questions call me at (301) 606-2021 or email me at mayor@carrollvalley.org.



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GOVERNMENT—NORTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

From the Desk of County Commissioner Marty Qually

The Commissioners circulate TGIF notes to the courthouse staff as a way of keeping them informed of events in and around Adams County. This month we thought you would appreciate a rundown of our busy spring schedule and some of the important events that have taken place these past few weeks.

Memorial Day Weekend

Two Commissioners attended the Gettysburg Memorial Parade and program in the National Cemetery. This is one of the oldest programs in the nation. I have attended this program almost all my life. This Gettysburg tradition is a wonderful slice of patriotism and Americana. Governor Corbett was the featured speaker.

Student Civil War Video Presentations

Commissioner Phiel had the pleasure of presenting Adams County Commissioners Proclamations to 260 Gettysburg Middle School students at the Majestic Theater. With the support of Journey Through Hallowed Ground Education Partnership, the students have worked since December with a professional in-house videographer to immerse themselves in the research, creating topic themes, filming at locations, editing the film and inserting credits. The result was six excellent Battle of Gettysburg themed videos created by the students. You can view these 4 minute videos by going to the Journey Through Hallowed Ground website. Many of our younger (and older) residents do not fully appreciate the heritage of our community. These students and the audience now have a bet-

ter understanding. This project and premier certainly helped make those dusty old history books come alive!

IT Update

Mr. Chip Guise has been hired to fill the Technician I position. Chip has been an intern with the Information Technology Department for the past year and has proven to be a valuable asset. Mr. Zach Platts has been hired to fill the Intern position. Zach is majoring in Computer Information Systems at York College.

Election Tuesday

The election went smoothly, although unfortunately, the turnout was disappointingly light. We had 16% turnout as opposed to 68% for the Presidential General Election. Please impart to your family, friends that election of local officials impact our everyday lives significantly.

COG Legislative Forum

We attended the Adams County Council of Governments Legislative Forum. Participants were Senator Alloway, Representative Tallman and Holly Sutphin from Representative Moul's office. Hot topics were transportation funding and improvements, one of the worst bridge repair situations in the nation, games of chance revisions, funding fire departments, 150TH funding and privatizing liquor sales.

Department News

The Public Defender Office move is complete. They have relocated from the Union Square building to the former Human Relations Office next to the

Sheriff's Office in the courthouse. Rural Resources has finally become one with Planning in the Union Square Building. I would like to express the Board's appreciation to our staff affected by the move for their positive outlook and big picture mentality, and for the support staff that worked to get these areas ready for occupancy.

Forums

We held our 6th Commissioners Community Forum, with the topic being the 150TH Anniversary Commemoration. The forum attracted over 100 interested community members, organizations and public officials. Our panel included the Gettysburg Convention & Visitors Bureau, National Park Service, Rabbit Transit, Pennsylvania State Police, County Emergency Services, County Planning and the Board of Commissioners. Topics included traffic, sanitation, water, shuttles, security, size of events and community hospitality. The panel presentations were followed by a forty-five minute Q & A.

Fallen Officer Memorial

All three commissioners attended the Fallen Officer Memorial ceremonies at the 911 Center and Oak Lawn cemetery last Friday morning. The annual memorial and ceremony honors all police officers killed in the line of duty in Adams County since the late 1800's police officers and all over the nation. Thank you to the Sheriff's Department for their vital role in this significant memorial.

Jury Commissioner Decision

At yesterday's public meeting the Board

abolished the position of Jury Commissioner – again. The first abolishment in March was negated by a lawsuit challenging the 2011 enabling legislation. Yesterday's action was a result of the legislature enacting another version to abolish - with some different language.

Adams County Fire Study

The Pennsylvania State Fire Commissioner is worried. He is worried about the condition of the state's volunteer fire fighting force, which has dwindled by about 250,000 members in the past 40 years. "We are beyond sounding the alarm," said Fire Commissioner Edward Mann to a room full of Adams County government and fire department officials at the Adams County 911 Center. "We are beyond hitting the panic button. "The damage over the years to volunteer fire departments might be too great to fix entirely, Mann said, but Adams County is certainly taking a leading step in the right direction. The county released the results of a year-long study about local fire services last month. It was the first study of its kind in the state, Mann said, expressing his wish that every county in Pennsylvania embark on the same. The study was spearheaded by the Adams County Council of Governments and recommends each municipality levy a 0.25 mill fire tax to help with escalating fire protection costs, to ebb the flow of decreasing volunteerism, reduce the need for continuous fundraising efforts, increase volunteer training time and act as a deterrent against the possible astronomical costs of a full time fire service. According to the study if

the municipalities in Adams County were forced to switch to professional fire departments, they would have to levy a 4.25 mil tax in order to cover the additional costs. According to the results of the study, for a resident living on a property valued at \$100,000, this would amount to an extra \$425 in taxes each year, instead of the \$25 that would be expected under the recommended .25 mil tax. The ultimate decision on enactment lies with each of our 34 municipalities in Adams County.

Courthouse Security Exercise

The Sheriff's Department and County Security conducted a joint training exercise in the courthouse last Saturday. They were assisted by several certified trainers and mentors from other agencies that specialize in this type of proactive security training. This is the first in a series of practical exercises to refresh and better prepare our deputies and security personnel for those situations we hope never happen – but too frequently and unexpectedly do happen. Before the next exercise, on Friday August 2nd, all courthouse staff will be thoroughly briefed in July on the exercise - as it will take place in and around the courthouse at the end of the day. A huge shout out to the Sheriff's Department & Security for coordinating this valuable training that is so important to those two departments, our courthouse staff and our residents.

What an exciting time to live in Adams County. Get out there and enjoy all the cultural, recreational, natural, educational and historic opportunities that beautiful Adams County has to offer.

From the Desk of Representative Dan Moul

With the June 30 state budget deadline drawing near, lawmakers are working out the final details on the \$28.3 billion state spending plan. House Bill 1437, which passed in the House on June 12, and is now under consideration in the Senate, does not raise taxes. In fact, it presents a sound course for the taxpaying citizens of Pennsylvania and for the Commonwealth's economic recovery.

The budget bill is based on present law, and therefore does not take into account any costs or savings that may result from pending policy initiatives such as transportation funding, pension reform or liquor privatization legislation. While

the budget proposes to spend \$578 million or 2.1 percent more than the current fiscal year, the increase is less than the rate of inflation. Therefore, the proposal holds the line on state spending while addressing the state's priorities related to education, health and human services, environmental protection, public safety, job creation and government transparency.

Perhaps the most maligned and misunderstood aspect of the budget deals with education funding. There is a lot of misinformation about the state's commitment to education that I will address here.

The fact is that the 2013-14 budget proposes to spend \$8.7 billion on basic education – the highest amount ever. In fact, last year's budget spent a record amount as well. The plan under consideration now would increase state spending for basic education by \$100 million over last year's record spending.

The misinformation stems from confusion over federal stimulus funding that enabled the Rendell administration to reduce the state's contribution to education and backfill with stimulus money. The stimulus was not intended to expand government, but to help relieve the financial pressure on school dis-

tricts in a down economy. Regrettably, it didn't work out that way. While school districts were apprised of the fact that the stimulus was short-term funding and would go away, some still used it to hire staff and create new programs for which future funding was neither committed nor guaranteed.

In his last three budgets, Gov. Ed Rendell reduced the state's share of education funding by \$579 million. By contrast, this year's budget proposal represents a more than \$1 billion increase in state education funding since Gov. Tom Corbett took office. In fact, this year's spending level exceeds even those years

in which stimulus funding was available.

Besides education, the budget provides for an additional 300 state troopers. The budget would also restore funding for programs targeting Tourette syndrome, diabetes, epilepsy, ALS and lupus, and funding for those on the waiting list to receive services for intellectual disabilities. In addition, the plan would provide funding for county conservation districts and increase funding for the Office of Open Records among other things.

As we move closer to the budget deadline, further change can be expected, but rest assured – House leaders are committed to producing a responsible, on-time budget that limits state spending, covers essential services and meets the state's obligations to its citizens.



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COMMENTARY

Words From Winterbilt

Something that just should not be

Shannon Bohrer

A while ago I read an article about a Senate hearing with banking regulators that really interested me. The hearing apparently annoyed some regulators, some conservative financial television shows, a GOP bank lobbyist, the consumer Bankers Association, and a few others. The hearing was with Senators and Bank regulators, not the bankers, so it did seem a little strange that the banks and organizations representing them were annoyed.

It was reported that the question that caused the annoyance came from Elizabeth Warren, the first term Senator from the state of Massachusetts. She questioned why regulators had not prosecuted a bank since the financial crises. Remember, the financial crises started with the housing bubble, which was encouraged by the loan officers, and it was added to with swaps and derivatives, some of which were created by the banks to bet against the bundles of mortgages the banks were selling, which rating firms rated very safe. Senator Warren also stated that the U.S. Attorney's Office prosecutes people all over the country, many times to

make an example. She went on to say "I'm really concerned that too big to fail has become too big for trial." I think an argument could be made that her statements may have validity.

You may recall from previous articles that I have written that I am not fond of big banks, banks that are too big to fail, banks that we as citizens have to bail out, banks that after we bailed them out give large bonuses and increased executive pay. After all, if we really believed in free markets, why did we not let them fail? Remember, it was during the great depression, the one in the 1930's, that almost 5,000 banks did fail, which was played an instrumental role in the depression. At that time, our response to these bank failures was the passage of the Glass-Steagall Act. This act separated investment and commercial banking, which was responsible for a large segment of the bank failures and the great depression. This separation under Glass-Steagall worked well for 66 years and kept us from having another depression, at least from bank failures, or at least until it was repealed.

In 1999, the Financial Service Modernization Act, also called the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, passed, and Con-

gress repealed the Glass-Steagall Act. This removed the regulations barring mergers with banks, securities and insurance companies, and the problems that resulted from the Great Depression. Similar to the Great Depression, in 2008 we experienced a financial collapse that started with a housing bubble that spread to mortgage crises. This was closely followed by problems in the financial markets when investors relied on complex financial instruments. Does this not sound familiar? Since 1933, when Glass-Steagall was passed did we not experience similar problems, until Glass-Steagall was repealed?

I am sure that Congress had a good reason as to why Glass-Steagall was repealed, but I just don't know what it was. Of course after the repeal of Glass-Steagall and the financial collapse in 2008, our Congress passed the Dodd Frank financial reform law. After all, with only four big banks, if any of them fail we could experience real financial problems.

Speaking of financial problems, you may recall that last year JP Morgan Chase was reported to have lost 1.8 billion in their London office. This loss was investigated by our Congress with an-

other hearing. Jamie Dimon, the CEO of JPMorgan Chase, appeared and testified at the hearing. I watched some of the hearings but had to stop because it made me nauseous. He was asked some tough questions, like what he wanted for lunch and if there was anything the Congress could do for him. Mr. Dimon gave the impression that the loss was just "a tempest in a teapot."

However, the loss of 1.8 billion then grew to 2 billion and then grew to 6.2 billion. This was just enough to have an investigation and in March of this year a US Senate subcommittee issued a report. Apparently the financial trading that lost the 6.2 billion was not unusual. In fact, Mr. Dimon had approved this "tempest in a teapot" himself...

At another senate hearing Attorney General Eric Holder inferred that the big banks have been given a pass. He stated that when considering prosecution they are advised that prosecuting the big banks could have a negative impact on our economy. Too big to fail - too big to prosecute, well at least we have the Dodd Frank financial reform law. Well, at least some of it. You see only one third of the proposed rules in Dodd Frank have been implemented. If you put \$20 million into last year's elections, as the four big banks did, you

too can have influence in Congress.

The 6.2 billion that JPMorgan Chase lost was in the "London Whale" trades, which are really industry derivatives, mass betting on bets that have risk to financial institutions. However, JPMorgan had a backup plan. About a week after the US Senate subcommittee's report exposed this information, the House Agriculture Committee was to hold a hearing on seven bills. Some bills that were designed to gut derivatives regulations passed in the Dodd Frank financial reform law. One of the seven was HR992, called the "Swaps Regulatory Improvement Act," which would nullify part of Dodd Frank. If passed, the trading that JPMorgan was involved in that lost 6.2 billion, which was illegal, would have been legal.

It has been said that too many regulations can stifle business and hurt the economy. I am sure that many of you are aware of the Halliburton loophole? This rule exempts oil and gas companies from the requirements of the safe drinking water act while fracking for natural gas. It also allows the operators from not disclosing the chemicals they are using.

A government of the people by the people and for big business, but only if it's good for business. Where's Teddy when you need him?

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

Common Cents

Shadow intelligence

Ralph Murphy

Most who have access to social media have become aware of the recent leaks by Edward Snowden to the British periodical "The Guardian", and "The Washington Post". Snowden, who had been cleared for Top Secret work by the government, had reportedly worked for the Army, CIA and NSA. He had recently joined the Washington-based firm of Booz Allen and Hamilton to work on a highly classified NSA contract. According to Booz Allen he had been on the job about three months in a project office in Hawaii before going public with his admission that he had surrendered large amounts of top secret data after he became angry that he could "snoop on virtually anyone in the world" with his NSA access.

Private contractors receive approximately 70% of the United States' intelligence community's budget. Their role has increased dramatically following the 9/11 terrorist attacks as the government lacked the manpower to directly perform certain, important projects, and "outsourced" them to approved companies that could provide "cleared" employees with the necessary security clearances to handle sensitive, government secrets.

A Senate hearing in 2011 labeled "The Intelligence Community Contractors: Are We Striking the Right Balance?" brought revelations that Senators were concerned about government over-dependence on con-

tractors. Still the "outsourcing" continued.

According to the Director of National Intelligence, James Clapper's office, 4.9 million people have access to "confidential or secret" government information. Included in this number are 1.1 million are non-government contract employees. 1.4 million individuals hold "top secret" clearances that includes 483,000 private sector workers. Most contractors were former government employees who proved valuable to various intelligence-related companies because they already had approved access to classified information. They could earn greater salaries in the private sector if the access level was progressively more difficult to obtain.

There are three primary levels of security recognized by the United States government. "Classified" being the lowest and most common access allows that leaks "could be harmful to national security". The next stage is "Secret" information that "would seriously harm national security" if in the wrong hands and is therefore more difficult to obtain. "Secret" clearances are reviewed every ten years. The highest level of access is "Top Secret" - where the information being handled is described as that which could "gravely harm U.S. safety" if compromised". It can take years to obtain a Top Secret clearance and is one which is updated every five years.

Snowden was cleared for "Top Secret" and the information he boasts of compromising was at this level.

Private sector jobs are appealing to "Green Badgers" (contractors) as the environment is generally more permissive and relaxed, and the pay is much better, than that of regular, government employees or "Blue Badgers". The clearance is provided by the government agency that does the hiring, e.g., if you're a "Green Badger" working on a CIA contract you would have to meet the same standards set for all regular, agency employees.

Most Federal government organizations that do classified work, whether military or civilian, have their own security procedures. They are reluctant to give up control to a multi-agency clearance process. They do, however, agree on basic principles, that require a candidate have a clean, legal record and demonstrate loyalty to the nation and its citizens. Higher level clearance investigations take time (one to two years) and are expensive. Once a person is cleared they are routinely given access to the nation's secrets ... on a strict "need to know" basis.

The security procedures for obtaining a clearance at the largest government agencies are comprehensive and exhaustive. However, it is generally conceded that CIA's process is the most exacting in that it goes deeply into issues that relate to moral fiber and personality. Everyone who works at CIA these days is polygraphed. The FBI does background and credit checks along with a polygraph, and can reportedly be very difficult as well. I never dealt much with NSA, but was told once in an interview that everyone there is polygraphed. Military



Intelligence relies on "lie detectors" as well. At least, I know the Army does, and surely the other branches of the military do as well.

The intelligence world is dealing with the survival and associated well being of our nation. Decisions made by intelligence professionals are routinely "life and death" in nature. A "Blue Badger's" primary reward is the satisfaction of knowing that what you are doing really makes a direct contribution to the nation's security ... even if few will ever know it ... outside of your immediate work circle.

Private contractors will likely be hard hit by the government and the media for permissiveness and ineptitude following the Snowden leaks. Scott Amey of the "Project on Government Oversight" is an early critic as he asserts "It is very difficult to know what contractors are doing and what they are billing for the work, or even whether they should be performing the work at all!"

Snowden somehow managed to obtain a top clearance, was by his own admission making about \$200,000 dollars a year and living in Hawaii while working at an NSA office for Booz Allen. By most standards the

man "had it made". Any fully cleared (i.e. top secret access) person (government or contractor) that is inclined to "snap" in the period following initial clearance and their first "recertification" will show subtle signs of abnormal behavior or thinking which should be noted by co-workers or superiors. It not then ... then certainly at the next, regular polygraph exam at a regular recertification. Snowden's thinking was not detected until he went public with his striking revelations.

There are procedures for expressing concerns or effecting change within the classified, government world short of breaking the law. Whether you agree with Snowden's basic premise of government intrusion or not, he broke the one rule the United States government does not permit- he revealed "Top Secret" data. And this will likely not be forgiven.

Ralph Murphy is a former member of the CIA Headquarters Staff and holds a bachelors degree in Economics from the University of Maryland.

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

Pure OnSense

Occupy the world

Scott Zuke

Summary: Protests in Turkey and Brazil demonstrate their leaders' differing visions for democracy.

The Occupy Wall Street movement feels like a long, long time ago now. The protest camps have long been removed from New York's Zuccotti Park and D.C.'s McPherson Square, although the "99%" rallying cry is still heard from time to time. The movement may have sealed its own fate when it defined itself as a leaderless, multi-issue protest, resulting in a lack of focus and, ultimately, irrelevancy (No one has even updated Occupy D.C.'s Wikipedia page to note that it's been gone for well over a year). Its most enduring legacy appears to be the #Occupy hashtag on Twitter that is often quickly adopted by youth-led protests that pop up around the globe.

One recent entrant, #OccupyGezi, rose to prominence on Twitter to label an outbreak of protests in Istanbul, Turkey, that quickly spread to the country's other major cities in June. In late May a small group of protesters gathered in Gezi Park to rally against government plans to build a shopping mall on top of one of the

city's few green spaces. After an excessively forceful response by police, more people came out to the nearby Taksim Square in support of the protesters, escalating into a large scale movement voicing grievances against the Turkish government and its Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan. After twelve days of the protest, the Square was raided by riot police firing rubber bullets, water cannons, and teargas to disperse the crowd.

Meanwhile in the Western hemisphere, Brazil faced its largest protests in decades as 1 million citizens took to the streets of several cities with a range of complaints including government corruption, poor public services, high taxes, and excessive government spending on preparations for hosting next year's World Cup and the 2016 Summer Olympics. In true 'Occupy' style, the movement is leaderless and has no clear set of demands. Like the demonstrations in Turkey, Brazil's revolt began with an isolated protest (in this case, against an increase in city bus fares) that sparked something much larger after police intervened with excessive force.

If you've been following international news the last few years, a couple of unrelated protests on separate continents hardly raises an eyebrow,

especially since they're more in the mold of the inconsequential Occupy movement than the Arab Spring protests that shook up the Middle East. But what makes these cases interesting is that both countries are fairly successful democracies with strong economies and popular elected leaders.

In a piece about Turkey that could just as well apply to Brazil, William Dobson writes for Slate, "In the last two years, we have become so accustomed to seeing people rise up against their governments (Tunisia, Egypt, Libya, Syria, Yemen, the list goes on) that we expect them to share the same goal—toppling their government. But that's not what most of the people in Taksim Square were clamoring for. They are in no hurry to throw out the system. The truth is that as countries go the system in Turkey has worked pretty well."

Turkey has drawn international praise over the past decade as Erdogan and his Justice and Development Party (Known by its Turkish acronym, AKP) have enacted successful policies that have earned decisive re-elections and approval ratings well above 50%. Brazil's President Dilma Rousseff was just elected in 2010 and is expected to be a strong favorite for reelection in a country that continues to display a vibrant and innovative participatory democracy.

Where the similarities between the two countries and the recent protests break down, however, is in the per-

sonalities and responses of their elected leaders. Brazil's President Rousseff responded sympathetically to the protesters, acknowledging their grievances and vowing to meet with representatives to discuss reform options. Turkey's Prime Minister Erdogan, on the other hand, labeled protesters as terrorists and thugs, blamed them for hurting the economy, and vowed to counter demonstrations with even larger crowds of his own supporters.

Turkey and Brazil demonstrate how democracy is not a single, easily definable concept, but rather comes in different strengths and varieties. Brazil's "participatory democracy" gives citizens ample opportunity to voice concerns even between election cycles. Although still widely popular, Rousseff could face stiff competition in the next election if she fails to show an adequate response to the protests.

Erdogan, on the other hand, has little to fear from the demonstrations, and observes a strict "majoritarian" view of democracy. Under this system, citizens get to vote in free elections, but that's where their invitation to participate ends. The winner of the election leads the country as he sees fit, without regard for minority interests, and Erdogan has been in power so long that he and the AKP have drifted closer to authoritarian style rule. Despite promising to uphold Turkey's secular laws, Erdogan, a devout Muslim, has recently begun invading peoples' private lives by passing restrictions on al-

cohol consumption and arguing that women should bear at least three children. Dobson argues that Erdogan is the authoritarian equivalent of a rock star, even more successful than the late Hugo Chavez in that he has taken on the role of dictator while also winning international acclaim for his democratic reforms and economic policy successes.

It's too early to close the book (or finalize the Wikipedia pages) on "Occupy Gezi" and "Occupy Brazil," but already they may tell us something about democracy in the United States, and why its own Occupy movement failed. Our democratic republican form of government is certainly more majoritarian in nature than Brazil's, or most countries' with a parliamentary form of government, for that matter. Politicians here can, to an extent, ignore protest movements, particularly those that refuse to produce leaders who can seek to build influence within the two-party system. However, unlike Turkey, civic participation extends beyond just voting every couple of years, and we have two (some will say 'arguably') viable choices in parties. A question worth asking, then, will be whether the U.S.'s middle-ground position on this democracy spectrum is the most desirable style of governance.

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

Down Under

Our natural angels

Submitted by Lindsay!
Melbourne, Australia

The mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battlefield and patriot grave to every living heart and heartstone all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature. Abraham Lincoln, March 4, 1861

Lincoln got it right. Memory does become mystic after a time. No one can recall in exact detail what happened to them last month, let alone 5 or 50 years ago. We are left with our highlights, and all else is fuzzy. That doesn't mean our memories are faulty, merely partial; above all, we remember the feelings we had at the time. Were we angry, amused, joyful, awestruck? Yet no one's memory is able to conjure up anything like that at which it was not present, making us rely on the reports of others. And there's the rub: How do we know those reports are accurate and true?

For that we rely on corroboration by many others, who have been there or have had firsthand accounts, sources we trust who have proved their honesty and integrity. And then only when the passage of time confirms the essence of the truth.

But some events stretch out into the future. They are of such import that they become engraved on our collective mind; they are never forgotten, are regarded as turning points in our history. They withstand contrary accounts, naysayers, and become truths that stand apart from the falsehoods that abound. There are not many of these, but the president, quoted above, knew that the outcome of the civil war would be one, would resonate through the centuries, would be a source of both pride and humility, a yardstick for cooperation, a lesson in leadership, and a blueprint for the future.

This had been a war between friends who saw things differently, who put that friendship aside to pursue their own interests, and were prepared to spill the blood of fellow citizens for them. It could be understood, grieved over, and fill the heart with sorrow. But it was within the nation. It was not an attack from outside; no one was invading, bent on winning victory, taking spoils. That has never happened, nor is it likely, but after the second world war the fear of just that became lodged in the heads of pentagon pundits who envisioned not just the loss of trade, but the ascendancy of Russia as the only thing the nation

needed to worry about.

The Red menace was made to loom larger and more terrible than the conflict between the South and the North had ever been. The balance of power was seen to be shifting from the right-thinking, charismatic west (the U.S.) to the warmongering, cruel dictatorship of Russia. Europe was in thrall, South-East Asia was following, and a line had to be drawn before America was surrounded by the blood-red menace and made to worship the hammer and sickle. Vietnam was the domino that must not fall. It mattered not which way that nation was facing, America would stop the reds, stop them cold, and we could all rest safe and secure in our rose-petal beds.

The war was begun. The draft was brought in, every means used to stop the Viet Kong.

But not everyone agreed that this was necessary, good, or wise. That is always the case, but in a democracy those that disagree have the right to say so, have the right to say so vociferously, to demonstrate and to make their point in any peaceful way they can. And they did. Around the world a whole movement sprang up, anti-Vietnam war demonstrators, opposed to the government edicts, opposed to the rightness of that war. The centre of resistance was America. Folk songs became the cry, the barricades of a new French revolution, the voice of outrage. Famous names were out in support, and university students, ever the biggest voice of

opposition, rallied the troops of peace and resistance. The rallies, marches and mass protests went on for nine years, growing in anger, rhetoric, and violence - until a bank guard was shot. By protesters who had decided that peace rallies were going nowhere.

And the unthinkable happened. On May second, 1970, The National Guard were sent to Kent State University in Ohio to control the demonstrations. When the order came to stop the students, they shot and killed four. That sure stopped them, but all hell broke loose. Mass rallies occurred around the nation, the government saw red and refused to consider an end to the war, but failed to see the reality of that event - that what happened was exactly what was happening in Russia. The communists shot dead those that stood out against them. They sent them to gulags, (not the ones named Guantamo, but the idea was the same), because they were a dictatorship. They were evil. And what that action said was that The land of the Brave, the Home of the Free was anything but.

Democracy was out, and in the paranoid world of politics it has remained so, for there is profit in fear, security in weaponry, and certainty in repression. The threat of war, of armies marching, of more terrorist bombings have so coloured the American psyche that it is no longer possible to see it any other way. Remember, however, that for all the hubris over Vietnam, the

war was still lost -something the pentagon prefers to forget. Vietnam, China, Minimar, North Korea - all are still communist; none have invaded America or been linked to overt terrorism, none will be, and the export of American style Democracy will not reach those shores. A country has to be weak and oil rich or strategic to merit that.

Lincoln had a vision of the future, one he was sure would be better than the one they endured. He believed in our natural angels, our better nature, our basic and underlying goodness, and that it would rise to the top when memories of the civil slaughter pierced our conscience. He fought for the ideals of democracy, where everyone was assumed to be innocent until proven guilty. Where dissent was tolerated, enemies were treated with humanity and understanding, patriots were from both sides, and the nation could hold its head high because of it.

I can hear him raging and weeping for our world of today. I can see the look of disgust on his face as he views the hawk led military rulers strutting their stuff, I can see him praying that our better angels will fly once again.

Lindsay, with salutations to Abe - hoping you will join me in honouring him,

From the land down under.

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

THE PASTOR'S DESK

The cost of freedom

Pastor Gary Buchman
Emmitsburg Community
Bible Church

As you read this, July 4th is just a day or two away. July 4th is a special day for our Country. It was on July 4th, 1776 that the final approved version of the Declaration of Independence was drafted. By the way, the declaration for independence from England was made on July 2nd but the document wasn't actually signed until later in August of 1776, but July 4th is the date on the final approved draft of that Declaration of Independence. I know this stuff, because I was born on the 4th of July over 6 decades ago, and I wanted to know more about this day that we celebrate so loudly every year.

Allow me to go back for a moment and look at the Declaration of Independence. Most of us are familiar with the first paragraph or two that speaks of our God-given equality, and our inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. But do you know the last paragraph? Here it is below. It is the last sentence I want to call your attention to.

"We, therefore, the Representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and



Things which Independent States may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor."

56 men would sign their name to this document knowing full well that they could lose their fortunes, their families, and their very lives. Still they signed. Of these 56 men:

- 5 were captured and tortured and died
- 12 had their homes sacked and looted, and burned by the British
- 2 lost sons in the war
- 1 had two sons captured by the British
- 9 would die from either the hardships of war or from bullets

The 4th President, John Quincy Adams said, "Posterity, you will never know how much it has cost my generation to preserve your freedom. I hope you will make good use of it."

As you read this News Journal, you probably already know that on July 4th, 1863, just 70 years after we had won the independence that our forefathers fought for, one God-awful 3 day battle of Americans against Americans had finally ended. The country in and around Gettysburg was quiet as both sides gathered up

their wounded and started burying the dead, and Lee began his retreat back to Virginia. Over 8000 men had died, 27,000 had been wounded, and over 11,000 were captured or missing from those 3 days. That Civil War would see between 620,000, and 700,000 deaths. Over 200,000 would die in battle, and over 400,000 from other causes, like diseases.

Just 5 weeks ago we had a Memorial Day service and we paused to remember that since we declared our independence from England in 1776, somewhere between 1 ¼ and 1 ½ million Americans have donned a uniform for America and died fighting for, or preserving our freedom and our way of life under our constitution, or to make freedom possible for other nations.

While July 4th may be a day of fireworks and parades and celebration, it ought to also be a reminder that Freedom isn't free; it has come with one horrible price tag- the blood of patriots willing to defend and to die for the cause of freedom.

As a Christ Follower, I am reminded as well, on this day, that the grace of God that results in total forgiveness, peace, eternal life and more, though given as a gift, also came at a horrific cost. God the Son had to leave His home in Heaven and don the uniform of Hu-

man flesh and serve humanity and then die on a cross (Mark 10:41). Jesus came to give us freedom. Do you remember His words in John 8:32 and 36? "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." And, again, "Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed." Free from what, the hearers wanted to know. If you are a Christ follower, you know. If not, let me remind you briefly.

Some of us were/are in bondage to sin. We were slaves to our own inherited sin nature. Jesus said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. (John 8:34). The Apostle Paul said, "Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness? 17 But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. (Romans 6:16-17). Our human nature is bent to sin and to be selfish, and self-centered. Sometimes we don't know how to break free from that nature.

Some of us were/are slaves to Stuff. Slaves to possessions. We thought that things equal happiness and so we gather treasures only to find out that we don't really own them, they own us and while things give us some joy, they don't satisfy the longing we have for real security, or satisfaction and that often results in many problems (1 Tim. 6:8-10).

Some of us were/are slaves to Religion. We are shackled by fear and lists of rules to try to please or appease the god of our religion.

Some were/are slaves to the Fear of Death (Heb. 2:14-15). Some are afraid to get on airplanes or boats for fear of death. Some are germ phobic. Maybe they are unsure of what will happen when they die. They don't know if they will make heaven or miss hell. Their slavery causes them to miss a lot of joy in life because of their fears.

There are many more things but this is sufficient to show what Jesus

came to free us from. Do you know what true freedom is? It is the ability to choose who or what you will serve. Jesus gave His blood, His body, His life, so you could be free and to give you the ability to choose to serve God and enjoy the freedom of forgiveness from sin; the freedom of power over your sin nature; the freedom of joy apart from the addiction of stuff, or substances; the freedom from the fear of death knowing that when death occurs, heaven is sure because Jesus paid my sin penalty and set me free. We know that all true Christ followers are assured that there is no more condemnation, but the absolute certainty of eternal life with Jesus in heaven (John 5:24; 10:24-27; Rom. 8:1; 2 Cor. 5:8), because Jesus died to procure your freedom, "It was for freedom that Christ set us free; therefore keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery" (Gal. 6:1). If you continue in my word, you are my disciples indeed and you will know the truth and the truth will make you free." (John 8:31-32)

American citizens, your freedom has come at the cost of nearly 1 ½ million military men and women. Christ-Followers, your freedom has come at the cost of the precious lifeblood of Jesus Christ, the Son of God (1 Peter 1:16).

In your remembrance of the battle of Gettysburg, and in your celebration of this July 4th, why not pause and pray and thank God for the men and women who died for your freedom? And then thank God, that He loved you so much that He would send Jesus to come and die so you could be spiritually and eternally free. May God bless you all with a great July celebration.

If this has spoken to your heart, write to me and tell me, or ask me whatever you want about knowing God or having a relationship with Him, or how to be truly free at pastorgarybuchman@gmail.com, or P.O. Box 1201, Emmitsburg, Md. 21727 or call me at 301-447-6565. Better yet, come and worship with us on Sunday at the Emmitsburg Elementary School at 10:00 A.M.



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BOOK OF DAYS

The Man in the Iron Mask



The 14th of July will ever be a memorable day in French history, as having witnessed, in 1789, the demolition, by the Paris populace, of the grim old fortress identified with the despotism and cruelty of the falling monarchy. It was a typical incident, representing, as it were, the end of a wicked system, but unfortunately not inaugurating the beginning of one milder and better.

Much heroism was shewn by the multitude in their attack upon the Bastille, for the defenders did not readily submit, and had a great advantage behind their lofty walls.

'It was now,' says Lamartine, 'that the mysteries of this state-prison were unveiled—its bolts broken—its iron doors burst open—its dungeons and subterranean cells penetrated—from the gates of the towers to their very deepest foundations and their summits. The iron rings and the chains, rusting in their strong masonry, were pointed out, from which the victims were never released, except to be tortured, to be executed, or to die. On those walls they read the names of prisoners, the dates of their confinement, their griefs and their prayers—miserable men, who had left behind only those poor memorials in their dungeons to attest their prolonged existence and their innocence! It was surprising to find almost all these dungeons empty.

The people ran from one to the other: they penetrated into the most secret recesses and caverns, to carry thither the word of release, and to bring a ray of the free light of heaven to eyes long lost to it; they tore the locks from the heavy doors, and those heavy doors from the hinges; they carried off the heavy keys; all these things were displayed in triumph in the open court. They then broke into the archives, and read the entries of committals. These papers, then ignominiously scattered, were afterwards collected.

They were the annals of arbitrary times, the records of the fears or vengeance of ministers, or of the meaner intrigues of their favourites, here faithfully kept to justify a late exposure and reproach. The people expected to see a spectre come forth from these ruins, to

testify against these iniquities of kings. The Bastille, however, long cleared of all guilt by the gentle spirit of Louis XVI, and by the humane disposition of his ministers, disappointed these gloomy expectations.

The dungeons, the cells, the iron collars, the chains, were only worn-out symbols of antique secret incarcerations, torture, and burials alive. They now represented only recollections of old horrors. These vaults restored to light but seven prisoners—three of whom, gray-headed men, were shut up legitimately, and whom family motives had withdrawn from the judgments of the ordinary courts of law. Tavernier and Withe, two of them, had become insane.

They saw the light of the sun with surprise; and their incurable insanity caused them to be sent to the madhouse of Charenton, a few days after they had enjoyed fresh air and freedom. The third was the Count de Solages, thirty-two years before sent to this prison at his father's request. When restored free to Toulouse, his home, he was recognised by none, and died in poverty. Whether he had been guilty of some crime, or was the victim of oppression, was an inexplicable enigma. The other four prisoners had been confined only four years, and on purely civil grounds. They had forged bills of exchange, and were arrested in Holland on the requisition of the bankers they had defrauded. A royal commission had reported on their cases; but nothing was now listened to against them.

Whatever had been branded by absolute authority, must be innocent in the eyes of the prejudiced people. These seven prisoners of the Bastille became victims—released, caressed, even crowned with laurels, carried in triumph by their liberators like living spoil snatched from the hands of tyranny, they were paraded about the streets, and their sufferings avenged by the people's shouts and tears. The intoxication of the victors broke out against the very stones of the place, and the embrasures, torn from the towers, were soon hurled with indignation into the ditches.

It was asserted at the time, and long afterwards believed—though there was no foundation for the averment—that

the wasted body of the famous state-prisoner, called the Man in the Iron Mask, had been found chained in a lower dungeon, with the awful mask still upon the skull!

Speculations had long been rife among French historians, all tending to elucidate the mystery connected with that celebrated prisoner. By some, it was hinted that he was the twin-brother of Louis XIV, thus frightfully sacrificed to make his senior safe on his throne; others affirmed him to be the English Duke of Monmouth; others, a son of Oliver Cromwell; many, with more reason, inclining to think him a state-prisoner of France, such as the Duke de Beaufort, or the Count de Vermandois. It was reserved for M. Delort, at a comparatively recent period, to penetrate the mystery, and enable the late Lord Dover to compile and publish, in 1825, his True History of this unfortunate man; the facts being gathered from the state archives of France, and documentary evidence of conclusive authority.

It appears that this mysterious prisoner was Count Anthony Matthioli, secretary of state to Charles III, Duke of Mantua, and afterwards to his son Ferdinand, whose debauched habits, and consequent need, laid him open to a bribe from Louis XIV for permission to place an army of occupation in his territory, with a view to establish French influence in Italy.

Matthioli had expressed his readiness to aid the plot; had visited Paris, and had a secret interview with the king, who presented him with a valuable ring and a considerable sum of money; but when the time came for vigorous action, Matthioli, who appears to have been intriguing with the Spanish court for a better bribe, placed all obstacles and delays in the way of France. The French envoy, the Baron Asfeld, was arrested by the Spanish governor of the Milanese; and the French court found that their diplomacy was betrayed. Louis determined to satisfy his wounded pride and frustrated ambition, by taking the most signal vengeance on Matthioli. The unfortunate secretary was entrapped at a secret interview on the frontier, and carried to the French garrison at Pignerol, afterwards to the fortress of Exiles; when his jailer, St. Mars, was appointed governor of the island of St. Marguerite (opposite Cannes), he was immured in the fortress there, and so remained for eleven years. In the autumn of 1698, St. Mars was made governor of the Bastille, and thither Matthioli was conveyed, dying within its gloomy walls on the 19th of November 1703. He had then been twenty-four years

in this rigorous confinement, and had reached the age of sixty-three.

Throughout this long captivity, Louis never shewed him any clemency. The extraordinary precautions against his discovery, and the one which appears to have been afterwards resorted to, of obliging him to wear a mask during his journeys, or when he saw any one, are not wonderful, when we reflect upon the violent breach of the law of nations which had been committed by his imprisonment. Matthioli, at the time of his arrest, was actually the plenipotentiary of the Duke of Mantua for concluding a treaty with the king of France; and for that very sovereign to kidnap him, and confine him in a dungeon, was one of the most flagrant acts of violence that could be committed; one which, if known, would have had the most injurious effects upon the negotiations of Louis with other sovereigns; nay, would probably have indisposed other sovereigns from treating at all with him. The confinement of Matthioli is decidedly one of the deadliest stains that blot the character of Louis XIV.

The prison of Matthioli, in the fortress of St. Marguerite, was built in a row on the scarp of the rocky cliff. The walls are fourteen feet thick; there are three rows of strong iron gratings placed equidistant within the arched window of Matthioli's room, a large apartment with vaulted roof, and no feature to bleak its monotony, except a small fireplace beside the window, and a few shelves above it. The Bay of Cannes, and the beautiful range of the Esterel mountains, may be seen from the window; a lovely view, that must have given but a maddening sense of confinement to the solitary prisoner. It is on record, that his mind was seriously deranged during the early part of his imprisonment; what he became ultimate-

ly, when all hope failed, and a long succession of years deadened his senses, none can know—the secret died with his jailers.

There is a tradition, that he attempted to make his captivity known, by scratching his melancholy tale on a metal dish, and casting it from the window; that it was found by a fisherman of Cannes, who brought it to the governor, St. Mars, thereby jeopardizing his own life or liberty, for he was at once imprisoned, and only liberated on incontestable proof being given of his inability to read. After this, all fishermen were prohibited from casting their nets within a mile of the island. Matthioli was debarred, on pain of death, from speaking to any but his jailer; he was conveyed from one dungeon to the other in a sedan-chair, closely covered with oil-cloth, into which he entered in his cell, where it was fastened so that no one should see him; his jailers nearly smothered him on his journey to St. Marguerite; and afterwards the black mask seems to have been adopted on all occasions of the kind. Lord Dover assures us, that it has been a popular mistake to affirm this famed mask was of iron; that, in reality, it was formed of velvet, strengthened by bands of whalebone, and secured by a padlock behind the head.

The same extraordinary precautions for concealment followed his death that had awaited him in life. The walls of his dungeon were scraped to the stone, and the doors and windows burned, lest any scratch or inscription should betray the secret. His bedding, and all the furniture of the room, were also burned to cinders, then reduced to powder, and thrown into the drains; and all articles of metal melted into an indistinguishable mass. By this means it was hoped that oblivion might surely follow one of the grossest acts of political cruelty in the dark record of history.

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THE (retired) ECOLOGIST

A Biologist's background

Bill Meredith

"When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things."

—I Corinthians 13:11

It was well known in my family that the human voice is soothing to babies, so everyone read stories and nursery rhymes to me long before I could understand speech. As a result, I began talking early, and could understand and speak in sentences when I was two; and I begged everyone in the family to read to me. The stories I liked best had animals in them.

Grandma had a Currier and Ives print of animals entering Noah's Ark, two by two, and I liked to look at it while she read the story from the Bible. She also liked to read from Aesop's Fables; because tales like the Fox and the Grapes or the Dog in the Manger were lessons in morality as well as entertainment. I knew the Peter Rabbit stories by heart, but my favorites stories were about a rabbit named Uncle Wiggly. He lived in a Hollow Stump Bungalow, and he went about the forest community doing Good Deeds to Folks in Need. All the while he was pursued by

two evildoers, Skeezeix (a crow) and Pipsisewa (a rabbit-sized rhinoceros), who wanted to bite his ears off. It seemed perfectly natural to me that those characters wore human clothes and spoke in English. To me, they were real, and for a while I was afraid to go with my Dad to bring in the cows at milking time because there would surely be a rhinoceros wearing blue overalls and a straw hat lurking behind a tree and waiting to do horrible things to us. Knowing that logical explanations were futile at that age, Dad took the manly approach; he got me a pop-gun that shot corks to defend myself. It worked; the Pipsisewa was frightened away the first time I shot at him, and no one in the neighborhood ever saw him again.

Besides the fictional creatures, I was surrounded by real animals. Dad had a book with pictures of all the different breeds of horses, cattle, sheep and pigs, which I memorized. All of our animals had names and human personalities. There was a dog named "Wimpy," because he liked hamburger, and an affectionate kitten that grew into a mean-tempered ogre who liked to hide in the barn and jump on my head when I entered. Our cow, "Old Midget," was a cantankerous Jersey; she was replaced by "Pet," a gentle Guernsey who distinguished herself by having



twin calves. I had a pony named "Brownie," who learned to steal Dad's chewing tobacco from his hip pocket, one of her colts learned to open doors by turning the knob with her teeth. Our pig was named "Guy" because it had a confused expression on its face which reminded my mother of one of our neighbors; to my surprise, Guy turned out to be a girl, and produced several litters of piglets before she finally ended up in our freezer. And there was a baby rabbit from a nest that Dad accidentally destroyed while mowing hay; I kept it in a shoe box, fed it milk with an eyedropper, and recited Uncle Wiggly stories to it. It died after a week or so, and I buried it in the shoe box with a proper funeral that included a sermon about the grief and sense of loss suffered by its mother, wherever she was.

I didn't learn much biology in school; we had science classes, but they were mostly about rocks, dinosaurs, erosion, magnets and such. When I got to High School, the biology course was taught by the football coach. I majored in biology in college because it was easy; I already knew the names of many animals and plants, and the professor was a birdwatcher. The courses were interesting, but the emphasis was on pre-medical

studies; so when I finished college I still assumed animals talked among themselves and solved problems in pretty much the same way I did. But that was soon changed, for when I entered graduate school I met Dr. Leland Taylor.

Dr. Taylor was a small man, nearly 70 years old and slightly stooped, with unruly white hair and a lab jacket nearly as old as he was. He smoked constantly, sometimes lighting a new cigarette before the last one was finished, and occasionally putting a piece of chalk in his mouth by mistake. But he was an excellent teacher. He taught courses in Ecology and Animal Behavior, in a style reminiscent of the storytelling that I had known as a child. Nearly all of the material in his courses was completely new to me; and after 55 years, most of it is still to be found in modern textbooks.

The most surprising idea was in his lecture on anthropomorphism. He defined it as the assumption that animals thought and felt like humans, and he insisted that kind of thinking was the biggest mistake a biologist could make. In the lower animals, he told us, behavior is governed by inherited instincts, and little or no learning is involved. For example, a male praying mantis will continue to mate with the female after she has bitten his head off and eaten it. A robin that has been hatched and reared by hand knows instinctively how to find earthworms, and will build a mud-lined nest even though it has never seen one. Higher animals can learn by trial and error, like the pony that opened doors, but they do not learn by logical reasoning. Dogs can be taught to obey not because they want to please their master, but because their ancestors were pack animals who would be killed by the alpha male if they did not obey him... and so on. These were radical ideas to me, but subsequent learning, including some of my own research, confirmed them. Modern behavioral research has

modified some of them, but in the main they are still considered correct.

Recently I found a website at Cornell University, where a pair of red-tailed hawks have built a nest on a light tower by the athletic field. A camera recorded the hatching of three eggs. The first two chicks hatched on the same day, and as soon as they were dry they began pecking at anything that moved, including each other. This was described as sibling rivalry by many of the people who saw it and sent in their reactions; but it really was just an instinct that enabled them to eat when food was offered by the parents. The third chick hatched three days later, and the others immediately began pecking at it. The father happened to be guarding the nest at the time; he stopped the squabbling by setting down on them, and the pecking stopped. Several observers praised his parental tact and intelligence, but it was clear that they were guilty of Dr. Taylor's "sin of anthropomorphism." The truth was that it had started to rain, and the father was simply following his instinct to shield the chicks from the elements. The chicks' first meal was a garter snake, which their mother tore into small strips that could be placed carefully into their mouths when their uncoordinated pecking missed it. I could understand why some of the observers attributed human feelings of love, gentleness and patience to her, but I knew they were wrong. The biggest and most aggressive chick was always fed first; it pushed its siblings out of the way, and only when it was full did the second chick get fed. The smallest one was always last. Fortunately, this was a good year, and the parents brought in banquets of chipmunks, squirrels, rabbits and pigeons, so there was plenty to go around; but in a leaner year the small one, and perhaps even the middle one would have starved. The instinctive behavior of both the parents and the chicks does not include sympathy, altruism or family love; if it did, in lean years all of the chicks might starve. Instead, it is a pattern to increase the probability that at least one chick will have a chance to survive. Nature works that way all up and down the food chain; the fittest, and the luckiest, have the best chance of surviving.

All three chicks have now left the nest and are hanging around the Cornell campus, being fed by their parents. If they are to survive, they will have to modify their present instinctive behaviors by learning. They attack prey instinctively, but they usually miss; they will have to learn how to catch it efficiently. Recently one of them flew at a squirrel on the lawn and missed it; he sat there (in confusion?) for a while, and then walked right out into the street. He gazed (in bewilderment?) at passing cars, which managed to miss him, and eventually he hopped up on a parked car and began calling for his mother. He will have to learn a lot before winter comes. Less than half of all red-tailed hawks survive their first year.

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IN THE COUNTRY

Monarch madness

Tim Iverson, Naturalist
Cunningham Falls State Park

This “king of the butterflies” is probably the most recognizable and archetypal butterfly around. When crafting a mental image of a butterfly chances are the first thing that pops into your head is the North American Monarch Butterfly. For good reason too! It has been one of the most commonly occurring species for centuries, but that is quickly changing. They’re a hearty little insect that puts up one hell of a fight against all the curve balls that nature can throw its way by using some remarkable adaptations. Even with these tricks up their proverbial sleeves they still have an uphill climb against declining populations.

As with any winged creature these guys are born to fly. In a single year these butterflies will migrate approximately 3,000 miles from Mexico to points North and East, and in some cases northeast. They’re the only insect that migrates these distances to escape the frigid winter months. Just like some of the older human population they move to milder climates to ride out the winter and hibernate in peace. But not all Monarchs will do this, only the fourth generation in a given year will bound homeward on this incredible journey. With four separate stages these intrepid little insects will complete their life cycle.

Every year Monarchs will arise from their winter slumber in Mexican fir forests around February or March. This generation will find and select a mate and begin their exodus back North seeking out places to lay their eggs. From March to April during this journey the Monarchs will lay their eggs on milkweed plants. These eggs (the first stage of the Monarch life cycle) will hatch producing caterpillars (the second stage of the Monarch life cycle) in just a few days. Then they’ll spend about two weeks doing nothing but eating. The toxins

in the milkweed plant build up inside these new caterpillars making them taste foul to potential predators, thus allowing them to avoid getting eaten – which is something all life forms can aspire to. After about two weeks of pure gluttonous feasting the caterpillar is a full grown plump little bug. Finally being satiated the caterpillar will attach itself to the plant leaf or stem using silk and transform into a chrysalis (the third stage of the monarch life cycle). Inside that cocoon a whole lot of change is going on, and in about 10 days the newly changed insect will emerge as a beautiful butterfly (the fourth and final life cycle stage). This Monarch will emerge with bright orange, black, and white colors that scream to potential predators “Hey! I taste really gross because I eat toxic plants, so don’t eat me!” and remarkably it works.

Once this new butterfly emerges from the chrysalis the process begins anew and this butterfly will spend the next six to eight weeks of its life migrating and propagating the species. There are only four generations in a given year, and the fourth and final generation will be born in September or October. This generation is different than the rest though. Unlike the previous generations that die off after about two months this one can live for six to eight months. This generation is responsible for retracing the route south that their great-great grandparents followed north. They instinctively know to begin moving south when the weather begins to cool, and many even find the very same forests and trees that were used by their very own progenitors.

For insect standards this bug is tough as nails. Despite being fairly hardy their once robust populations are dwindling. Monarchs historically covered approximately 50 acres worth of fir forests at wintering sites in Mexico. Based on recent research conducted for the 2011-2012 winter by the WWF-Telcel Alliance and

the Mexican National Commission of Protected Areas it appears a total of nine colonies occupied about seven acres of total forest. A similar study conducted over the 2012-2013 winter showed a sharp decrease of occupying just less than 3 acres of total forest. These are drastic decreases, and there are several factors contributing to these heavy losses

For starters, several years’ worth of natural disasters along their migration routes and in their wintering sites has greatly reduced total population size. In addition, humans have done some meddling as well. Habitat loss from development and new farming techniques in certain regions of the US (I’m looking at you Midwest) have hampered stable populations. The use of new genetically modified crops allows farmers to use new pesticides that have destroyed millions of acres of milkweed (the Monarch’s host plant) according to Chip Taylor, who leads the Monarch conservation group, Monarch Watch, based out of the University of Kansas.

Another obstacle facing the Monarch is the introduction of an invasive European plant, the Black Swallow-Wort. This plant is a relative of the milkweed, and has similar features which attract Monarchs to lay their eggs on this plant. However, even though it is in the same family it is actually toxic for monarch caterpillars and poison these newly hatched larvae. While they do have a few predator birds that have learned to eat these butterflies, and a few specific parasites that attack them they wouldn’t have much of an impact on their own. Compounding these naturally occurring checks-and-balances with severe habitat destruction, the introduction of invasive plants, and severe weather and natural disasters the negative effects have snowballed incredibly fast having drastic effects on the total population.

Of course, there are a few things the average person can do to help! Milkweed



is the host plant for the Monarch butterfly and occurs naturally throughout the continent. Planting more of these in our area and yards will greatly increase the likelihood of regional success. Monarch Watch also hosts a sort of citizen scientist project that allows interested people to sign up for population monitoring. They also provide tiny little stickers that are placed on the wings of the butterfly (when done correctly will not cause any harm or detriment to the bug). These stickers allow researchers in Mexico to see where these butterflies are migrating from, and they will update a website so you can see if your butterflies made it all the way there! MonarchWatch.org has an incredible array of information on what you can do to help from creating “way-stations” for their spring and fall migrations, tagging resources, and more.

I encourage anyone interested in helping rebound the population to look into planting milkweeds and check out the information and resources they offer.

While Monarch butterflies may be the king of the butterflies their throne is not so secure. Through events that are both in and out of our control they face an uncertain future. However, we all have a part to play in affecting what we can. Through some small tangible gestures we may be able to aid in the recovery of this once majestic quintessential butterfly.

To learn what you can do to help Monarchs and other pollinators, read the gardening article on page 20.

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

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IN THE COUNTRY

Nature is beautiful . . .

Kay Deardorff
Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve

. . . at any time of the year. What makes our area such a wonderful place to live? The change of seasons exemplifies the beauty of nature all around us. While I enjoy traveling to various regions to learning the culture and the surroundings, I am always captivated by the native splendor in my own backyard. Personally, I love seeing new life budding in the spring; lush greenery in the summer; orange and red colors in the fall; and a blanket of snow in the winter.

Likewise each month has its own magnificence with many delights. At Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve our mission is to preserve the Swamp Creek watershed and provide environmental education. In so doing we have developed programs that invite the public to participate in various types of nature-based activities. While one may not appeal, another may be just the right fit for you, your family, and/or your friends. The purpose for this article is to inform everyone of some programs on our schedule.

Several of the programs go along with the 150th theme regarding the Gettysburg National Military Park.

These sessions will be held at a location in Gettysburg and will allow the participants to learn more about the natural history of the woodlands and pastures of the Park and how the local flora, fauna, and geology were part of the country's history.

Silent Soldiers: Trees of the Battlefield (July 16th) indicates that many of the majestic trees of the National Military Park are remarkable to regard. Dr. Beth Brantley, of Penn State Mont Alto, will share more about some of these trees and their uses during the Civil War. Learn how to recognize them and which ones present in the 1860s are still alive today!

Insects of the Battlefield (August 30th) allows for Dr. Gary L. Miller, Research Entomologist, to share a wealth of information about the insects of the area, including those that impacted the Civil War soldiers and citizens. Learn how these small species have such a large place in history.

If you are wondering just what that tree is in your backyard, come for our **Summer Tree ID** (July 11th) program. Join us for a hot summer day's walk in the shade of the Strawberry Hill forest! You will become familiar with a dichotomous key to identify at least ten lo-

cal trees by leaves and bark. Participants will receive a tree ID booklet and a "Tree Quest" Fundana!

So you can find your way out of the woods, but can you find your way around within the woods? Then **Backyard Navigation** (July 13th) is just for you! You'll cover lots of ground reading a topographic map with a compass, orienteering, and even attempt to locate some of the 7 hidden geocaches stashes around the Preserve. Be aware, they have been known to be a challenge to find!

Beekeeping for beginners (July 13th & August 24th) are workshops that will help to inspire the first time backyard beekeeper. Attendees will learn about what to look for in a honey super and discuss the filtering process. This is definitely hands-on learning during the honey extraction procedure. At another workshop the topic will be about overwintering the hives and the fall honey flow.

Nature often causes the creative juices to flow. Inspirations will be obvious as you join our presenters for summer or fall projects made from or about natural resources. For example, **Photography** (July 25th) is a great way to capture the beauty of nature. This workshop will cover choosing a subject, camera angles, and natural lighting.

It is possible to create natural works of art with very little to no money. During the **Pressed Flowers** (August 8th) session learn how to press a variety of wild flowers and herbs to create a wall hanging that will be sure to be a topic of conversation at your next gathering.

Drawing (September 28th) is an interesting media that can capture an outdoor scene to be painted lat-



er or added to a nature journal. You can join us for a hands-on, eyes-on workshop to pick up some tips and tricks for your nature drawing techniques.

Have you ever considered how candles were made two hundred years ago? During **Candle Making** (October 24th) you will work on how to make candles that look good enough to eat! Come learn about how candles can be from natural products just like they were in colonial times and the difference between how they were made then and how they are made today. Keep in mind that fall crafts make great hand-made winter gifts!

With gifts and holidays in mind at the end of the year, it will be a perfect time to check out our **Wreath Making** (December 7th) program. Learn to make a "field and forest" wreath made entirely from natural collected materials. Everything will be supplied to make one 10" wreath including cones, nuts, and seed pods. You may also bring any additional decorative items and ribbon. If we have time after class we will go for a walk in the woods! Cider and snacks will also be provided.

If fishing is your thing and you want to pick up some tips about Fly Casting and Tying (August 3rd & November 9th) we have workshops you will want to join. George Hammond, licensed Pennsylvania Fishing Guide from Custom-Tied Flies and Guide Service, will help participants get to know the fly rod, entomology, fly selection, and casting techniques. You'll learn how to tie a nymph, dry fly, wet fly and a streamer. Nothing adds to the fly fishing experience like fooling fish with something that you made with your own hands!

Perhaps you are interested in learning how to **Cook Wild Edibles** (August 22nd). Then you won't want to miss our program with Dr. David Foster, Professor of Biology and Environmental Science, Messiah College, in Grantham, PA who will teach you how to properly cook and store wild plants for present or future use.

As part of South Mountain Outdoors, come learn from local professionals how to interpret the health of your backyard forest, manage invasive species, ask the right questions to conduct a timber harvest, manage deer, and plant the right native species. The Land Owner's Forest Stewardship Seminar (August 31st) will begin with a few hands on presentations and conclude with hiking tour of Strawberry Hill.

Grab a blanket and the kids for a whole family evening under the stars! During **Strawberry Hill Stargazing** (October 5th) you can take advantage of the new moon for maximum star visibility and check out the fall sky constellations after practicing the art of making s'mores. The bonfire will be waiting for you! Participants will receive a "Star Quest" Fundana.

Enjoy an evening for the whole family with the **Flavors of Fall** (October 19th) event. Learn how to make fresh apple cider and apple butter. Join the pumpkin carving contest and try your hand at carving a spooky apple face to take home! Take a "Full Hunter's Moon" hike and learn about some of the legends surrounding the season.

Most of the programs have a non-member's price and a discounted member's price. For further detailed information, times, and registration, go to www.StrawberryHill.org; email us at info@strawberryhill.org; or call the office at 717-642-5840.

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IN THE COUNTRY

Lambing season

Kimberly Brokaw DVM
Walkersville Veterinary Clinic

Most horse people (racing thoroughbreds not included) like to time breeding their horses so that the foals are born late enough into the spring that the weather is warm and pleasant for all. The goal with thoroughbred horses is for an earlier foal out day in order to get a competitive advantage in racing that comes with an extra month's growth. Sheep are usually born earlier in the year by design so that they can be larger when taken to market. So while they have more time to grow before the spring sales, it makes for cold days during lambing time of year. Sheep farmers expect to be out in the barn on cold and rainy nights in early spring. Veterinarians hope to sleep on those nights, knowing that full nights of sleep will be scarce once foaling season begins.

It was five o'clock in the morning when the pager went off. Having been up late the night before with a colic, it was even harder to pull myself out of the warm bed. However, this client was experienced with sheep and lambing. While she had originally acquired the sheep to be part of her children's 4-H projects, as she had continued breeding for the county fairs, and shows, she had come to enjoy sheep farming. Her sheep are well tended and carefully monitored during lambing. When she said she needed help getting the lamb out, I knew she really did and wasn't just over-reacting.

Being a cold March morning, I put on long underwear, and ski pants. I knew that I'd have to take my coat off and would be working in short sleeves in order to be able to get my arms in the sheep to try and deliver the lamb.

When I pulled up the farm, my client had fresh towels and a nice bucket of warm water waiting for me. The sheep was in the barn in a stall deeply bedded with clean straw. My client said she thought the sheep might have actually gone into labor last night but hadn't thought she'd seen real contractions until an hour or so ago. If the sheep had been in labor all night, I wasn't too hopeful that the lamb would be alive. I was grateful that the owner had observed her sheep carefully most of the night. Even if the lamb was dead, the mother would probably survive due to the owner's attentiveness. If a sheep is in labor for many hours without intervention, the sheep and her lambs often do not survive.

I stuck my gloved and lubed arm in and felt a lamb. Its legs were bent backwards, blocking it from being able to get out through the birth canal. The lamb wasn't moving so I was doubtful that it was still living. The nice thing about sheep as opposed to cows, is that

even though they push against me when I'm working in them, they lack the strength a cow has. Also my small wrists and lack of forearm muscles are an attribute when working on sheep as I can reach and manipulate the lambs. When working on cows who are having difficulty birthing, I almost always have to involve the farmer and have him use his physical strength to help me get the calf out. Lambs tend to be much easier for me, as my small wrists become an advantage.

It didn't take much time until I had pushed the lambs head back inside the sheep, grabbed the front legs, lifted them up into the birth canal, and pulled the lamb out, allowing it to flop into the hay. To my surprise the lamb started to breathe. As the owner was toweling off the lamb I reached back in the sheep to check for twins or triplets. A twin was present but also easy to position and pull out.

While no one wants to get out of bed on an early and cold morning, it's always pleasant to see two freshly born lambs, up and nursing. I washed my hands and as I got back in the work truck, I thought about the ease with which I assisted in the delivery. I again found myself saying how much I prefer my middle of the night calls that involve working



on well handled sheep inside of a nice family barn, as opposed to middle of the night, infrequently handled, cows in a muddy field. So many of my middle of the night bad birthing calls begin with animals in extreme conditions, do not end well. The ones that end well remind me of the many reasons I enjoy veterinary medicine.

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



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PETS LARGE AND SMALL

Pit Bulls – “The Lost Dogs”

Jennifer Vanderau
Cumberland Valley
Animal Shelter

I had a conversation via text message with my sister the other week and she asked me if I had read “The Lost Dogs,” the book about the Michael Vick case.

Michael Vick, the NFL star, was the ring-leader in an underground pitbull fighting operation that made international headlines when authorities entered the compound. I’m sure as animal-lovers reading this, you all have many a colorful expletive to describe your feelings when that news story broke.

As do I.

But, I actually don’t want to give that man any more press than he’s already received, so I want to focus on the book and the dogs.

I have not read the book, but after talking with my sister about it, it sounds like it shouldn’t be missed.

Even though she said it was agonizing at times, she found it incredibly worthwhile and eye-opening. One of the biggest facts that caught my attention is that during the “training” sessions for the fighting ring, a lot of Vick’s pitbulls were euthanized because they weren’t aggressive enough. He couldn’t get them to actually want to fight, so he would destroy them.

Take a minute and let the impact of that statement really hit you.

They weren’t aggressive ENOUGH.

They actually DIDN’T want to fight.

Pitbulls, in recent times, have gotten an ugly reputation because of people like Michael Vick. In fact, when I have been out and about at different off-site adoptions, I’ve had people recoil in fear when I bring pitbulls. I’m not even kidding.

At one event, I had a six month old puppy with me and a lady stopped by to say hello. The little four-legged squirt wanted to say hi to everyone, so he greeted her very enthusiastically. She was actually on the floor petting and playing with and cooing at the dog. Oh, she was rolling around and the pup was licking her face.

I remember thinking, now there’s a true dog person. It was really quite adorable.

At one point, she looked up from her spot on the carpet, smiling with joy because that’s what animals bring out in a lot of people and asked, “What kind of dog is he?”

Once I said the word pitbull, her entire demeanor evaporated. She jumped up as though I said the dog had mange and backed away quickly. It was easily one of the saddest things I’ve seen in a long, long time.

Nothing about the dog had changed at all and yet she treated him as though he was a real threat.

I have a volunteer who won’t talk



Yvonne

Yvonne is a three-year-old pit bull who has been at the shelter since January 24, 2012. She hasn’t been adopted simply because of her breed. She’s such a sweet girl and you should see her run! Since she is large and has a lot of energy, we are looking for a family with children over the age of eight and no cats in the home. Do you have the right spot for this sweet baby?

For more information on adopting Yvonne, contact the Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter at 717-263-5791 or visit www.cvas-pets.org.

about the pitbulls at the shelter. Can you imagine this? She has such disdain for the entire breed, she won’t even mention their existence at the Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter.

Forty years ago, the pitbull was actually considered an awesome family pet because the breed is so excellent with children. I’ve actually talked with people who say they wouldn’t want any other breed around their child.

One lady said her toddler loved to use her pitbull as a way to stand up. The dog not only let him, but would follow the little boy around in case his assistance was ever needed.

And yet, so many people today think pitbulls are monsters.

It’s incredibly upsetting to me that the pitbull gets such a bad reputation when apparently – even according to those who would try to fight them – their natural inclination is sweetness.

Yes, the pitbull has jaws that can lock onto prey. Yes, the pitbull is incredibly strong and has muscles that make it look quite ferocious – and if you are the kind of unscrupulous

person who would want to use those traits as nothing more than a way to make a profit, then you could turn the dogs into killers.

Apparently, though, it takes a great deal of effort because not every pitbull will want to attack and kill and maim.

Not every pitbull is bad. Not by a long shot.

At the Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter, some of the dearest dogs we have are pitbulls. They’re often 90-pound lap dogs. They don’t realize they’re really too big to jump up on a chair with you.

In a lot of cases, I would worry about some of the little dogs I’ve met being far more capable of biting than I would a pitbull. I’ve nearly been bitten by the likes of Chi-

huahuas, Pomeranians and Jack Russells, but never a pitbull.

The happy ending of “The Lost Dogs” is that most of the pitbulls confiscated from the Vick compound are doing really well, thanks to the efforts of the rescue groups and individuals who took the time to rehabilitate them.

These poor dogs who had such an unimaginably rough start are now knowing kind words and soft touches and warm beds and affectionate kisses.

It makes my heart feel good to know that.

Pitbulls really are a misunderstood breed and, sadly, often with misunderstanding comes hatred. If more people would really get to know that which they fear, the world would be a much different place.

So for those of us who understand – who’ve been around these sweet dogs and received a slobbery kiss or witnessed their trademark smiles – let’s tell others.

Hopefully with knowledge, time and education we can reach a point where humans will not paint all pitbulls with the same brush and these adorable dogs can be given the chance to show us how wonderful and naturally sweet they truly can be.

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

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- 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.”

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-- Author Unknown



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PETS LARGE AND SMALL

Getting your dog's attention!

Roseann DeLuca
Cold Creek Dog Training

You know how special your relationship is between you and your dog- and maybe you would like it to be even better, so that he listens all the time instead of just sometimes. In order to get him to understand and relate to you in a way that makes you happy (and him as well) you need to relate to your dog, as a dog. OK, I know what you are thinking, "I'm not a dog. How do I relate as a dog?" It's a two-part approach; training is one part and pack management is the other.

The most common question people ask me about dog training is "my dog KNOWS sit, he KNOWS to come when I call him he KNOWS he is not supposed to jump up on people- but he doesn't listen all the time?"

It isn't that the dog doesn't want to listen to you all the time; he just doesn't know he is supposed to listen to you all the time. The missing piece to this puzzle is attention, to be more specific, consistent attention. Attention is at the very foundation on which all training is built. Your dog probably doesn't know how to pay attention to you all the time- so we are going to teach him how to do that through reward and repetition.

When most people think of training they think of teaching a dog to sit, stay, come, etc. That is part of it, but first you have to train your dog to pay attention to you. That makes the commands more meaningful because you have your dog's full attention. But how do you do that with a puppy that is bouncing all over the place?

One of the easiest ways to get a dog's attention is to offer him something that he wants, something that will motivate him to pay attention to you- gives him a reason to want to pay attention to you. This can be food, toys or affection. Figure out what motivates your dog and use it as a tool. I like to use "high value" treats like hot dogs or cheese. Attention should be rewarded before any command during a training session. Once you have the coveted attention anything is possible. Now you just teach the dog what you want him to do.



Troy, the subject of May's pet article, waits attentively with her owner, Audrey Hillman, to show what a former shelter dog can do on a dog agility course.

As easy as this sounds you might not want to try this the first time in a room full of excited guests that want to fawn over your new dog. Go to a "lower distraction" area such as your back yard, or maybe even a room in the house. Some place where the dog can get the idea "hmm, if I look at my master, I get a treat". Reward accordingly which means; if he looks at you (you are not to say anything to the dog to make him look at you) say "good boy!" and give him a piece of food simultaneously so he makes the connection.

"Good boy" becomes a "marker"; which incidentally can be any word you want such as "yes" or "good". It is also good to note; try not to use the dog's name when getting attention since we are going to use his name for other things as training progresses. There is no need to say his name at this point you already do have his attention. After a few repetitions the dog will associate the "marker" "good boy" with a reward and he will keep doing that behavior- because it's a good thing and he gets rewarded.



Jake reaches for a reward from his owner Becky after successfully navigating the agility course.

Once you have a firm foundation of attention in this low distraction area, move to other areas with more distractions and repeat the exercise. He will have new smells and sounds to distract him so it might take a little more effort to reinforce the attention, but your friend will soon get the idea.

After you have a firm foundation of attention in various settings it is time to move on to sit, stay, come, leave it, etc. Through time and repetition your dog will more willingly begin to offer you attention as

your training progresses. So the next time you start asking your dog to sit and he is "ignoring" you, remember he might be missing a piece of the training puzzle- Attention!

For more information about dog training and/or obedience please call 717-339-9862 or visit www.ColdCreekShepherds.com. Cold Creek Dog Training is located at 340 Knight Rd. in Gettysburg.

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THE MASTER GARDENER

Butterflies and other pollinators

Penn State Master Gardeners Sharon Lance, John Shaffer, Martie Young, and University of MD Master Gardener Teresa Gallion

As we learn more and more about our food grows, we realize the importance of the pollinators. Not only do we depend on pollinators visiting our gardens and fields for food production, but they are quite beautiful to watch as well.

Early Plants for Pollinators

Lucky for us there are many insects that pollinate plants. Looking at a chart of bloom periods shows that many trees (river birch, maple, serviceberry, and willow) are pollinated in March; and in April (flowering dogwood, silver bell, tulip poplar and eastern redbud). A few perennials are pollinated in April (sage, lupine, cranesbills, phlox, and crested iris). The pollinators for these early bloomers include bees, flies, beetles, butterflies, and moths. The perennial wildflower, bloodroot, can be pollinated as early as March by bees, beetles, or flies. The river birch is pollinated by wind in March or April. Yes, wind is a major pollinator of evergreen trees and grains—this is



Milkweed is the Monarch butterfly's preferred plant. The greater the supply of Milkweed, the better the chances that Monarchs will proliferate and their population will rebound.

why we are threatened by a diet of oatmeal if we lose our insect pollinators.

Late Plants for Pollinators

If we skip ahead to the fall months, the frequency of pollination lessens but does not end. Both New Jersey tea shrubs and dwarf sumac are pollinated in

September. Perennials yield a larger list: various asters, several sunflowers, and goldenrods. In October some of these same perennials are still being pollinated, and wavy-leaved aster can be pollinated as late as November. In these later months some of the migrating butterflies perform the pollination service



One of the most recognizable butterflies in our area is the Monarch.

along with the usual pollinators.

General Planting Suggestions

To attract more pollinators, try to add plants that provide additional seasons of bloom, create various heights for shelter, and include the host plants. Your garden may look a little messy with dead snags and leaf litter but you are providing food and shelter for all the pollinators. You will find that you enjoy your garden a lot more when you discover an insect previously unknown to you and are able to observe varieties of butterflies and birds that make your garden more exciting.

Butterflies

If we break down the groups of insects that pollinate, not only do the bees get tons of attention, but so do the butterflies. Let's review why butterflies visit a garden. They are searching for the basic necessities of life as they know

it. Food, shelter and comfort are the ingredients needed to attract and maintain these flying flowers. Most adult butterflies need nectar for substance and host plants for the females to lay their eggs upon. The host plants will provide food for the immature caterpillars during the early stages of metamorphosis.

Butterflies need to warm their bodies before they can become active. To do this, they often sit on a reflective surface such as a flat stone, spread their wings, and turn their backs to the sun. Their wings work like solar panels, absorbing the sun's warmth that is then transferred to their bodies. Butterflies like bright sunny areas protected from high winds.

Nectar plants are plants with flowers that produce the sweet fluid that many insects, including butterflies, use as food. Most butterflies must land in order to get to the nectar. They prefer plants having either clusters of short tubular flowers, or flowers with large, flat petals. Butterflies are active from early spring through frost, and having a mix of plants in your garden that flower throughout this entire time will attract them all season long.

The Monarch Butterfly

One of the most recognizable butterflies is the Monarch. This butterfly has specific needs: they need milkweed to survive. There are many varieties of milkweed to choose from. The butterfly weed is a very pretty plant and will reseed itself to cover a large area. Plant in an area in full sun and let it spread. It is a perennial that grows 12-14" and blooms in summer. Once established, it is very drought tolerant and attracts butterflies and bees of all kinds. The Red Milkweed Beetle also enjoys munching on the butterfly weed. Like the Monarch, they are reddish orange and black and are

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THE MASTER GARDENER

Small Town Gardener A garden is only as good as the cook

Marianne Willburn

There is a lot of wasted work in this world. I do much of it myself, so I am certainly not throwing stones at others; but it does tend to beg the question: "Is it time to reassess?"

A couple of weeks ago, I was talking with a friend about her vegetable garden – what she was growing, how it was doing, and what problems she'd had with pests and lack of rain. Overall, things seemed to be going well, but she said something in passing that resonated in the back of my mind and haunted me as I tended my own garden days later.

"I'm really good at the growing," she smiled. "It's just all the harvesting I never seem to get around to."

Sadly, I would hasten a guess that there are more than a few fellow gardeners out there – eyes lowered and heads down in shame – who could echo this statement.

With the first rains of spring, the light is lit within us to get out there, get dirty and get planting. Days are cool, moisture is abundant and winter was horrific – our one and only thought is to chop fresh salsa and sauté green beans until the summer sun sinks low on the horizon.

Then reality comes knocking. Pest populations become overwhelming. Rain is not forthcoming. When you do manage to get yourself out to the vegetables, the mozzies and gnats go to town on your ankles and it feels like you are running an obstacle course to get a decent tomato on the table. Before you know it the beans have gone to seed and you were never able to pick one, much less sauté it.

And I haven't even mentioned the heat yet.

The further the season progresses, the more overwhelmed you feel, especially when you pick up a glossy mag in the supermarket checkout line and hear how Janie Gardenmaster canned six hundred pints of tomatoes in an afternoon and still had time to throw together an informal vegetarian dinner party for eight using produce from her two acre plot. Oh and did she mention the brick greenhouse she's currently building with vintage six-pane windows?

Feeling a trifle inadequate? A few points to consider before we tackle the problem of the harvest:

- Summer is hot, often humid, and definitely humorless - but it happens every year to a garden near you...guaranteed.
- It is self-esteem suicide to read those magazines. They portray lifeSTYLES not life. Keep both hands firmly on the shopping cart and your eyes straight ahead at all times.
- Whether it's wasted work or wasted food, waste is a terrible thing and to be avoided. If you are feeling overwhelmed, you are not alone – but it's time to reassess what you can and can't do and make some constructive changes towards the ultimate goal of living within your ability to cope gracefully and cope well.

We all garden for different reasons, and those reasons will determine the size of our garden, the time we spend on our garden, and what we hope to gain from our garden. So with that in mind...

Realistically assess your needs and your time constraints – Perhaps you are just wishing to supplement grocery produce. In that case, keep the garden small

and well within manageable limits when the going gets tough – for it will. Big gardens equal big heartaches without big amounts of time lavished upon them.

Conversely, if your budget is dependent on your garden stocking your fridge and your pantry, you'll need to focus on your garden as your job. Yet take heart – when you recognize your garden as a priority and treat it as such, your attitude often brightens from the shift in thinking.

Get into a daily routine of light maintenance and harvesting – This is best accomplished in the early morning, before kids, life and work get in the way. Plus, this provides ingredients and inspiration for dinner that evening.

Give away produce to friends who can use it – Far better that you give ten pounds of tomatoes away to someone who could actually use them than let them rot on your sink while you try and find the time to can them. Similarly, don't take veggies that you know you will never use – it just adds to more waste and more guilt.

Learn your lessons from this year and plant appropriately for the next – Maybe you didn't need so many berry canes. Perhaps six kale and ten chard plants will more than adequately deal with your family's need for greens. If you end up with extra garden space, lend it to an apartment-bound friend.

And again, don't read the magazines. No matter how red her tomatoes, I'm willing to bet that Janie Gardenmaster has a first class therapist, a cleaner, and a divorce lawyer on standby. Some things really are too good to be true.

toxic to birds. The coloration is a sign to potential predators that they are poisonous and should be avoided.

You can also plant lots of flowers that contain nectar for the adult butterflies. Some of their favorites are Swamp Milkweed, Common Milkweed, Asters, Joe-Pye Weed, golden rods, Lilac, Red Clover, Tall Ironweed, Azaleas, butterfly bush, sumac, viburnum, alyssum, candytuft, cosmos, marigolds, bee balm, verbena, coneflower, yarrow, zinnia, phlox, daisies, and catmint.

The Hummingbird

Bees and butterflies are considered great pollinators, but so are the hummingbirds, another beautiful creature you should invite to your garden.

Maintaining proper feeding facilities is crucial to keeping hummingbirds coming back year after year. Unlike other bird feeders, the hummingbird feeder is filled with nectar, not birdseed. This type of feeder can be purchased at many retail stores, from bird/gardening catalogs or online. It is better to purchase a feeder that has few parts and will be easy to clean. Because they are very territorial, additional feeders should be hung in locations not visible from existing feeding sites. They should be hung in a semi-shaded area without a lot of foot traffic where you and your family can observe and enjoy the hummingbirds' acrobatic behaviors as they hover for a few seconds and then in a flash, dart backwards, up, down and in all directions.

You can purchase a nectar-type product at a store or make your own at home. A homemade solution is 4 parts water to 1 part granulated sugar. Boil water, add sugar, and stir until dissolved. If some part of your feeder is red, you don't need to add coloring to the sugar water, or you could choose to add a little red food coloring. You will only need to partially fill your feeder in spring before the arrival of the hummingbirds; the unused nectar can be refrigerated for up to 2 weeks. Make sure you have nectar in your feeder at all times because hummingbirds have voracious appetites and will satisfy them elsewhere if your feeder is empty. In the heat of summer the sugar-water mixture can spoil easily, and if that happens, the hummingbirds will not eat the nectar. It is recommended to clean the feeder every 5 to 7 days and more often in mid-summer when the temperature rises and the feeder is more susceptible to mold. Cleaning the feeder is easy. Wash the feeder in hot water; add some vinegar (vinegar helps retard mold) paying special attention to the feeder openings, which are rather small and difficult to clean. A bottlebrush or pipe cleaners work well to clean these tiny areas. Rinse thoroughly and refill.

Hummingbirds are attracted to flowers by their color not their scent because they lack a well-developed sense of smell. They will eat nectar from most flowers but

prefer red, orange or pink flowers such as petunias or butterfly weed. It is also important to have long-blooming plants such as Bergamot and bee balm to provide a continual food source and help keep the hummingbirds returning to your feeder. Because these birds have a long, thin beak and long tongue, it is easy for them to feed from tubular shaped flowers such as trumpet vine. If you have limited ground space outside, consider adding a hanging basket or window box filled with flowers and plants that will draw them to

your garden. Not only are hummingbirds beautiful additions to your garden, they are responsible for pollinating many native plants in the northeastern United States.

As you can see, many creatures contribute to pollination. As an environmental steward, we all should do whatever we can to attract this creatures for a healthy food supply in the future.

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CIVIL WAR HISTORY

The Union occupation of Frederick

John A. Miller
Emmitsburg Historical Society
Civil War Historian

With the threat of Confederate invasion into Maryland and Pennsylvania at hand, President Abraham Lincoln called for 100,000 men from the surrounding states to stand fast and defend the Union. However, that call fell upon deaf ears, and fearing that not enough volunteers would be raised in a timely fashion, Secretary Edwin Stanton appealed to the state of New York for 20,000 men of the National Guard (often called militia) to be sent to Maryland and Pennsylvania. On June 15th, 1863, many of the New York State National Guard regiments answered the call. Among those who received the call first was the 7th New York State National Guard.

The New York State National Guard (S.N.G.) wore uniforms of gray. Upon being ordered out, they were ordered to wear the fatigue uniform which consisted of a cadet gray jacket with black trim on the epaulettes, cuffs and collar. Their kepi was cadet gray with a black band and black cord on the crown. Their trousers were also cadet gray and black stripes running the length of the legs. They were issued accoutrements in

black leather, as well as a leather haversack for rations and a leather knapsack.

When the 7th New York S.N.G. left New York, they were first ordered to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Upon arriving at Philadelphia on June 17th, the 7th New York S.N.G. was quickly ordered, without delay, to Baltimore, Maryland. The soldiers boarded a train and left for Baltimore. Arriving there, they were ordered to Fort Federal Hill and Fort McHenry.

On June 18th, the 7th New York S.N.G. was attached to the Middle Department, under the command of General Robert Schenck, as part of Second Brigade commanded by General William Morris. The next day the companies of the 7th New York S.N.G. began taking on their assignments. Some men proceeded to Fort McHenry while others proceeded to guard Confederate prisoners taken by General Grant out west in transit to Fort Delaware, New Jersey.

With rumors of a Confederate attack on Baltimore, the 7th New York S.N.G. had no time to relax. Companies of men were constantly on picket duty, preparing for the rumored attack, which never happened as the Battle of Gettysburg had begun on July 1st.

By July 4th, the Battle of Gettysburg was over and the Con-



The New York National Guard during their occupation of Frederick.

federate army began its retreat toward the Potomac River. Heavy rains set in during the afternoon and caused roadways to become a quagmire. The next day, the 7th New York S.N.G. was ordered to proceed to Frederick, Maryland without delay. They would be assigned to the Provisional Brigade,

under the command of General Henry Briggs, part of General William French's command. Light marching orders were issued which meant that the men had to cook and prepare three days' rations, carry only the essential items such as one blanket, overcoat, canteen, and haver-

sack. Sixty rounds of ammunition were also issued. The rest of their belongings were ordered into the wagons for transport.

As other regiments arrived at Fort Federal Hill, the 7th New York S.N.G. began boarding the train cars for Frederick city. Arriving at Monocacy Junction, their

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CIVIL WAR HISTORY

camp would be laid out where they would bivouac for the duration of their assignment. The men of the 7th New York S.N.G. enjoyed the rolling hills of the area and were greeted by much enthusiasm. Due to the recent storms, many of the men made crude camps, some in the cars with straw covering the pallets, some slept along the roadside at the junction.

The 7th New York S.N.G. would fully concentrate at Frederick on July 7th and assume picketing duties of the various roads leading to the city. It was noted that Frederick city was a very busy place. Wagons of supplies were moving through, and several hundred Confederate prisoners were being escorted through the streets. However, outside of the city line it was a different story. Large fields of previous encampments were completely deserted. All that remained was the torn up ground and ruts. Hospitals were set up in the city for the wounded pouring in from Gettysburg.

As several of the guardsmen picketed the Emmitsburg Pike, they witnessed thousands of Union soldiers marching into the city, in pursuit of the Confederate army, a repeating scene that would take several days. Union General William French, who was in command of a force at Frederick received word that he was to pull most of his troops out and take command of the Union Third Corps since their command-

er General Daniel Sickles was wounded at Gettysburg.

On July 8th, General William French turned over the city of Frederick to Colonel Marshall Lefferts. Colonel Lefferts was the commanding Colonel of the 7th New York S.N.G. Lieutenant Colonel James Price assumed command of the 7th New York S.N.G. and ordered the 7th New York S.N.G. to picket the various roadways that led into Frederick. These roads were the Emmitsburg Road, Hagerstown Road, Harper's Ferry Road as well as the important Monocacy Junction, which was serving as the major supply route for the Union army. Colonel Lefferts continued to allow Major Henry Cole, commanding Cole's Cavalry, to act as the Provost Marshall.

As more Union veterans marched through the streets of Frederick enroute to intercept Lee's Army near Hagerstown, they noted the appearance of the 7th New York S.N.G. One soldier recalled some heckling and taunts as they marched passed the National Guardsmen. "Don't you want to join the vets?" "Good time to break you in." or, "Where's your umbrella? Too bad for you fellers to stand out and get all wet. We allers goes in when it rains. Ten times as easy to be a vet, as 'tis to be a militiaman."

While the soldiers of the 7th New York S.N.G. were stationed in Frederick, many of the soldiers

dubbed their camp as "Camp Misery." With all the heavy rains that came into the area, the camps themselves became unbearable. No tents to shelter those from the torrential rains left many creating their own ways of keeping dry or trying to stay dry. One of the pleasures of Camp Misery was the hanging of a spy named Richardson. His body hung in camp for three days before official orders were issued by Colonel Lefferts to have the body removed and buried.

The supply wagons of the 7th New York S.N.G. still had not caught up with them since they departed Fort Federal Hill. Once the Union army was gone, food and supplies provided by the city's residents became more plentiful.

With hundreds of troops moving through, the fields had been cut up. Regular army rations were hard to obtain as long as the Army of the Potomac was marching through. Food, milk and egg prices from the local stores were at famine prices. Tempers were at a boiling point with the Union soldiers in gray.

By July 11th, the 7th New York S.N.G. was still stationed at Frederick guarding the roads as well as Monocacy Junction. While on leisure, some of the National Guardsmen took the time to target practice, fish, or bathe, although much depended on the weather conditions. Inspector General Edmund Schriver arrived from Washing-



A Confederate veteran of Picket's Charge, taken at the 1913 Gettysburg reunion by Emmitsburg native James "Ledlie" Gloninger.

ton to take command of Frederick and Colonel Lefferts was relieved to rejoin his regiment.

On July 14th, the 7th New York S.N.G., along with several regiments of New Yorkers were ordered to Baltimore to assist in putting down the New York Draft Riots. The National Guardsmen would enter New York by 1:00 am on July 16th, ending their service in Maryland. By July 21st, the 7th New York S.N.G. was mustered out of US service.

For a brief period in Frederick's Civil War history, New York's most prominent and elite

soldiers guarded, and if necessary, were ready to defend Frederick. Their exploits may not be as exciting as the Battle of Gettysburg, but they do deserve credit in protecting the city and its people. This portion of the campaigns in Maryland and Pennsylvania would be the last time the 7th New York S.N.G. and other regiments of the National Guard saw service during the Civil War.

To read past Civil War articles by John Miller visit the Historical Society section of Emmitsburg.net.

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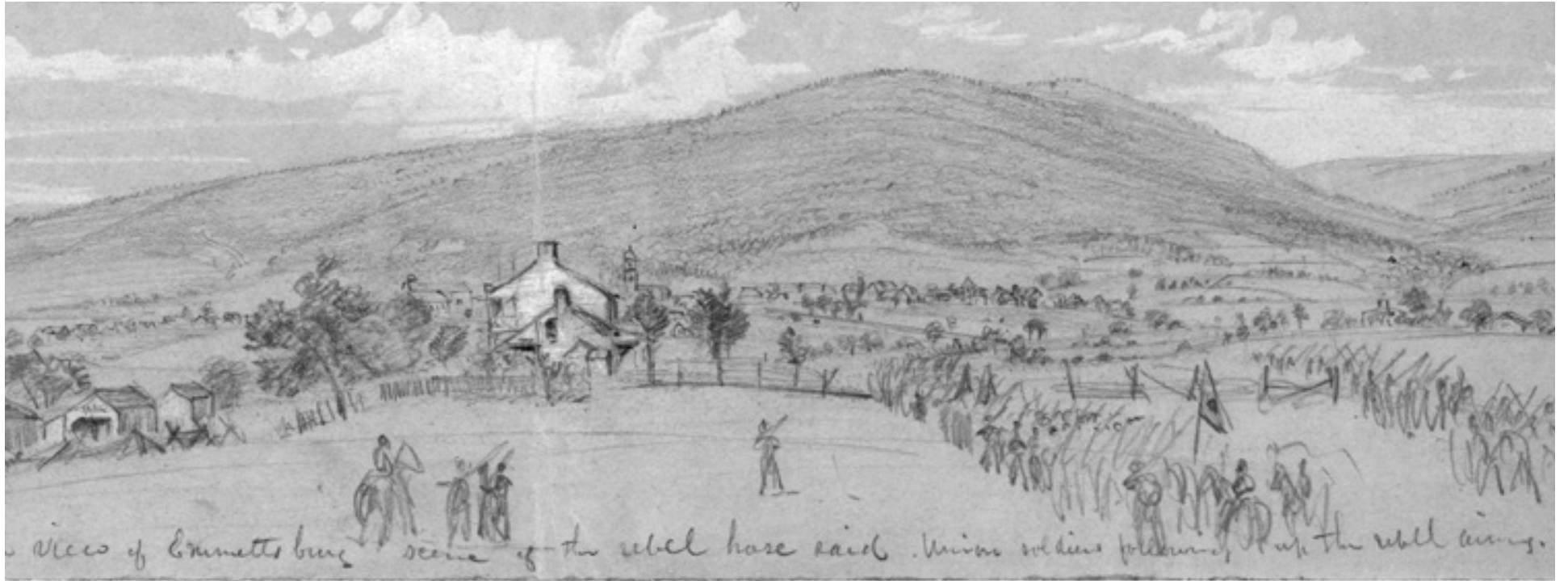
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HISTORY

Emmitsburg's role in the battle



John A. Miller
Civil War Historian
Emmitsburg Historical Society

This year marks the 150th Commemoration of the Battle of Gettysburg and the Pennsylvania Campaign. During the time period, 150 years ago, Emmitsburg residents saw first hand, thousands of Union soldiers enter and occupy the grounds surrounding the town. From the west to the north, thousands of Union soldiers encamped here before heading into battle. Those soldiers were veterans and accustomed to long marches in the heat of the sun, or during heavy downpours of rain. Life was not easy for the Civil War soldier. But they bore it for their cause and their beliefs, with the help of their messmates.

Life for the average Emmitsburg resident was not easy either. Just like the Civil War soldier they endured hardships of their own. By the time the first Union soldier entered into their community, many residents were displaced

from the "Great Fire" that erupted during the night of June 15th. For many of those residents, they lost everything that they had. Within a week and a half, they would endure more hardships, as thousands of Union soldiers would come to occupy the fields surrounding the town.

On June 27th, 1863, Dr. Thomas Moore from Mt. Saint Mary's College recalled seeing the first soldiers in blue marching pass the college and head for Emmitsburg. Among the soldiers he saw were the 5th and the 6th Michigan Cavalry. "They jogged along, four abreast, many of the weary riders leaning forward, sound asleep on the necks of their horses. Many of us sat on the fences along the road watching and listening to their sayings. We naturally looked upon the men as sheep led to the slaughter, and we were not a little surprised when we overheard two of them closing a bargain on horseback with the remark: 'Well, I will settle with you for this after the battle. Will that suit you?' The other party readily assented.

The whole period of life is treated as a certainty, even by men going into battle."

These riders were part of General Joseph Copeland's Michigan Brigade that was now under the command of a young general, General George Armstrong Custer. They encamped on the grounds of St. Joseph's. The young general Custer would greet his command at Emmitsburg, and hired local resident James McClough to guide his brigade.

The next day, more Union soldiers came into town on horseback. These men were part of the Keystone Rangers, Company C of Cole's Cavalry. Many of these men were from Emmitsburg. They had with them several Confederate prisoners. The next day, these men were escorted to Frederick, Maryland.

During the evening of June 29th, General John Reynolds, commanding the left wing of the Army of the Potomac entered Emmitsburg after a hard march from Frederick. The weary soldiers of the First Corps encamped in the fields surrounding St. Joseph's, stretching toward the Emmitt House. Following along another road was the Eleventh Corps, and they would

encamp southwest of Emmitsburg, closer to Mt. Saint Mary's College.

As the evening went on, a practical joker quietly spread a rumor that Mother Superior had invited all of the commissioned officers to a reception, with suitable refreshments, to be held in the main building of the institution. Some of the men actually believed what they heard, and once arriving at the convent, they were quickly surprised to see that it was in total darkness.

A.J. Brown, who recorded his experiences of seeing the Union soldiers wrote: "We were visited by single soldiers, officers, groups, etc., to the amount of some thousands, some for the purpose of seeing old friends and companions."

Upon seeing the St. Joseph's convent, Corporal Adam Muenzenberger of the 26th Wisconsin recalled his experience at Emmitsburg. "We must march like dogs and now that the rainy weather has started the road is pretty bad. We camped a few days at Middleton and then we proceeded to Frederick City. We camped there over night and the next day we marched to Emmitsburg. There we camped on a wet field and this morning we marched two miles nearer the hills

where the St. Joseph's convent is located. We have our camp close beside the convent. Should we stay here for a while - which I doubt - I will receive communion."

Many descriptions regarding the landscape surrounding Emmitsburg were noted by the Union soldiers. Isaac Hall of the 97th New York Infantry recalled: "The broad and smooth road along which they were marching led through a grove, with noble overhanging trees, fresh with large foliage of early summer, and looking through this vista, down a gentle slope, was seen in front the neat and quiet town in the distance. It was a little before sunset, and the weather delightfully serene and mild. The surrounding country had felt none of the miseries of war, and the eager crowds which flocked to the roadside gave evidence in their manner, that troops on the march were a rare spectacle in that region."

Lieutenant William Ballentine of the 82nd Ohio Infantry wrote, "This institution of the Sisters of Charity (whose grounds we are now on) Farm and Buildings (especially the latter) is the finest I ever saw. Nothing in Ohio will compare with it; I was astonished to find such magnificence in such

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HISTORY



Civil War veterans gather at a food tent at the 1913 50th Gettysburg battle reunion.

unteers recalled marching through town. They were greeted by cheering townspeople who waved handkerchiefs, flags, passed out water, cakes and bread. "The commissary wagons were unable to keep anywhere near the troops on this march, and, as a consequence the want of food induced many of the men to leave the ranks and raid on the products of the farms of this rich country."

The young boys of Emmitsburg were excited at seeing the soldiers go marching by. Members of the 12th Massachusetts Volunteers recorded a story about a courageous boy who wanted to be a soldier "An instance of the bravery of a 15 year old Emmitsburg lad named J. W. (C.F.) Wheatley, as Baxter's brigade was marching through Emmitsburg it was followed by the village boys, one of whom continued to the camp at Marsh Creek, where he offered to enlist. His offer, however, was ridiculed, and he was sent away. On the morning of the 1st of July he reappeared, and so earnestly entreated the Colonel of the Twelfth Massachusetts to be allowed to join his regiment, which a captain of one of the companies (Company A) was instructed to take him on trial for a day or two. When the regiment halted near the seminary, the boy was hastily dressed in a suit of blue."

"Afterwards, during the action [at Gettysburg], he fought bravely until a bullet striking his musket split it in two pieces, one of which lodged in his left hand and the other in his left thigh. The boy was taken to the brick church in the town to be cared for, but nothing was afterwards seen or heard of him until July 4th. I saw him for the last time bitterly crying for his mother and sundry of other relatives. He was never mustered into the service, therefore fought as a civilian."

Portions of the Eleventh Corps moved closer to Emmitsburg. During the same time, a division, under the command of General David B. Birney of the Third Corps, was marching in from the direction of Taneytown. They

were ordered to Emmitsburg and began occupying the grounds near St. Joseph's. Colonel Philippe Régis Denis de Keredern de Trobriand wrote about his brief stay at St. Joseph's. "It was on the domain of St. Joseph that I had placed my brigade. A small stream made part of the boundary line. I leave it to you to guess if the good sisters were not excited, on seeing the guns moving along under their windows and the regiments, bristling with bayonets, spreading out through their orchards. Nothing like it had ever troubled the calm of this holy retreat. When I arrived at a gallop in front of the principal door, the doorkeeper, who had ventured a few steps outside, completely lost her head. In her fright, she came near being trampled under foot by the horses of my staff, which she must have taken for the horses of the Apocalypse, if, indeed, there are any horses in the Apocalypse, of which I am not sure."

As Colonel Trobriand entered into the building he noted "We reached the belfry by a narrow and winding staircase. I went first. At the noise of my boots sounding on the steps, a rustling of dresses and murmuring of voices were heard above my head. There were eight or ten young nuns, who had mounted up there to enjoy the extraordinary spectacle of guns in battery, of stacked muskets, of sentinels walking back and

forth with their arms in hand, of soldiers making coffee in the gardens, of horses, ready, saddled, eating their oats under the apple trees; all things of which they had not the least idea. We had cut off their retreat, and they were crowded against the windows, like frightened birds, asking Heaven to send them wings with which to fly away."

As those soldiers bedded down for the night, they could only imagine what was to come the next day. As dawn came on July 1st, no one in the town of Emmitsburg would imagine that a major battle was going to take place at a small country town called Gettysburg, ten miles to the north. As the day wore on, the sounds of musketry and cannon could be heard. As the Eleventh Corps moved out and headed toward Gettysburg, the rest of the Union Third Corps entered town. There, General Daniel Sickles would halt his Corps for a few hours.

After several dispatches came for General Sickles, he began to march toward Gettysburg, leaving behind one brigade of infantry and a battery of artillery. And just like thousands of soldiers before them, they too were ordered to Gettysburg to fight one of the greatest battles of the Civil War.

To read other Civil War articles by John Miller, visit the Historical Society section of Emmitsburg.net

a place, a place I have never heard of before."

There are several accounts of Emmitsburg as it appeared by the Union soldiers. Upon seeing the burned out buildings in Emmitsburg after the fire, William Henry Locke, the Chaplain of the 11th Pennsylvania Infantry noted, "One week ago, the finest half of the town was destroyed by fire, certainly the work of an incendiary but whether a rebel spy, or a home of a rebel sympathizer, does not yet appear."

Major Frederick Winkler served in the 26th Wisconsin Infantry and on General Schurz's staff recalled, "A large portion of the place is in ruins, having been destroyed by fire; expensive buildings of the Catholic Church, convents, etc., occupy very fine grounds on the limits of the place; not far from here too, at the foot of the mountains, there is Saint Mary's College, said to be the oldest college in the country."

Lieutenant William Ballentine of the 82nd Ohio Infantry recalled "About one half of the town

was burnt about two weeks ago. The people think it was done by a resident of the town whom they now have in jail. He is said to be a union man although the town is one of the worst secessionist towns in Maryland. But that was not the reason it was burnt. It was in revenge for some private wrong done by some individual of the town. His store was set on fire and burnt the rest with it."

The next day, June 30th, Dr. Moore recalled, "The Army of the Potomac was truly a beautiful sight" and describes a grand but horrible passing of "the wagons, ambulances, cannons, etc, which were coming early dawn till nightfall. ... They camped around Emmitsburg. Their campfires, as viewed from the college windows, almost led one to imagine that this section for miles had received in one shower all the stars of the heavens."

General John Reynolds ordered the First Corps to march to Marsh Creek, located to the north of Emmitsburg, in Pennsylvania. A soldier of the 121st Pennsylvania Vol-



Visitors to the 1913 reunion walk and ride along Old Emmitsburg Road near the 'Peach Grove' on the battlefield. Note the old trolley line that used to run along the road.



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COLD WAR WARRIORS

The scrapping of the Red October



Typhoon-class SSBN, designated a part of the Akula class by its Soviet builders.

Captain Edmond Pope, USN, Ret.

The Russian Navy recently announced that it would decommission and scrap its last two Typhoon-class ballistic missile submarines by the end of this year. This action will mark the close of a chapter of the Cold War that has seen this submarine featured in books and movies more prominently perhaps than any other submarine in modern history.

The Typhoon is remarkable for a number of reasons, not the least of which is its enormous size; at 48,000 tons, the Typhoon is the largest production submarine ever built; well over twice the tonnage of the U.S. Ohio-class Fleet Ballistic Missile submarines and even matches the size of most WWII aircraft carriers. Actually, the Typhoon is a multitude of heavy pressure hulls contained inside the outer "light" hull: inside the external submarine hull are two large pressure hulls housing propulsion machinery, a smaller command module pressure hull which includes the sail section, and other modules that hold the ballistic missiles, torpedoes and steering machinery. The size and complexity of the Soviet, now Russian, submarine however is what led the Russian Navy to retire the boats; they simply could not afford to maintain them. By its own accounting, the Russian Navy has found that they could build

two new Borey-class ballistic missile submarines which are just coming into service at the same cost of overhauling a single Typhoon boat.

A total of six Typhoon submarines were constructed during the 1980's and all operated out of bases in the Barents Sea (a seventh made it onto the building ways before they ran out of money and it was scrapped before it ever went into the water.) The Typhoon submarines were built to carry 20 submarine-launched ballistic missiles, each capable of carrying 10 independently targetable, nuclear warheads. Each of the Typhoon submarines was thus estimated to be capable of carrying more raw firepower, i.e. megatons, than all of the munitions expended during WWII by all combatants. The new missile developed for this class was believed to be capable of launching at targets while moored at their docks.

The class name given to this submarine by the Soviets is Akula ("Shark" in Russian) while the NATO designator Typhoon is more commonly recognized for this class. The source of the NATO class name remains uncertain, however, it is likely a result of the use of the word "Typhoon" by Premier Leonid Brezhnev in a 1974 speech while describing a new type of nuclear ballistic missile submarine that was then under development.

The Typhoon submarines rare-

ly ventured out into the Atlantic but typically remained in the Barents, Kara, or Arctic seas and were occasionally noted to operate under the Arctic ice cap. This tactic would allow them to surface through the ice during wartime to launch their missiles thus significantly complicating Western efforts to locate and destroy them.

As a result of the information provided to the Soviets by former U.S. Navy Chief Warrant Officer John Walker and his circle of collaborators, the Soviets modified their strategy to what is referred to as the "bastion" operating concept. In addition to other critical information provided the Soviets by Walker's treasonous activity, they discovered how readily the U.S. Navy was capable of tracking and trailing their submarines while remaining undetected themselves. Typically, a bastion area would be partially enclosed by a friendly shoreline, heavily defended by naval mines and monitored by sensors, and subject to rapidly deployed, friendly forces.

The resultant transition to this bastion strategy for their newest ballistic missile submarines also saw a missile upgrade for the older Soviet submarines. Specifically, the Yankee and Delta-class submarines, which were equipped with a more modern and higher accuracy missile system that

allowed them to continue their operations in the open Atlantic, but with far more tactical maneuvers such as the "Crazy Ivan" and other moves looking for any trailing Western submarines.

One unfortunate submarine of the Yankee class, K-219, suffered a catastrophic explosion and fire in an operating area some 700 nautical miles northeast of Bermuda in October 1986. After a leak was detected in one of its missile silos, a fire and explosion resulted from the residue of the liquid-fueled missile. The crew was unable to contain the leak after ejecting the missile into the open ocean. Confusion then ensued when most of the crew boarded a nearby Soviet merchant ship and took the crippled submarine undertow. Naval headquarters in Moscow ordered the crew to reboard the submarine, but it sank in 18,000 feet of water with 6 crew aboard before this could be accomplished. One report that later surfaced in Russia, suggested that the accident was a result of a collision with a U.S. attack submarine. Indeed, the USS Augusta (SSN-710) was ordered to conduct surveillance of the incident but had not been trailing the YANKEE submarine as some reports have suggested. Making such claims appears to be "standard oper-

ating procedure" by some in the Russian Navy but certainly was not the case with K-219.

While the movie version of Tom Clancy's novel "The Hunt for Red October" used the hull form of the Typhoon class submarine, the scenes of the conning tower used in the movie were actually crafted of plywood and placed on a barge for close up shots depicting the Red October departing port.

It is not uncommon for U.S. Department of Defense components to support Hollywood film production and the making of the film "The Hunt for Red October," was one such effort that produced a much more authentic movie than would otherwise have been possible. Submarine Squadron Eleven (COMSUBRON 11) commanded by Commodore Bill Hicks in San Diego, served as the host for support to the Red October film producers. Inside the submarine community, this film was viewed as a response to Naval Aviation's assistance and subsequent notoriety in production of the hit movie "Top Gun".

Early in the preparations for the filming of Red October, a select group of the movie's cast and production crew were treated to a day at sea aboard USS Salt Lake City (SSN-716) to see how a real 688 Los Angeles-class submarine operated. Also, COMSUBRON 11's dry dock was used for those scenes of the sail and hull used in the movie. However, a small problem arose, as the submarine in the dry dock that day was considerably smaller than a Los Angeles-class submarine. As a result, the mockup of the small, mating-vessel that was shown in the dock being fitted on the sub (The USS Dallas in the movie) was proportionally reduced in size so the dimensions would be more accurate. USS Houston (SSN-713) was used to play the role of the fictional USS Dallas in the movie during the exciting emergency surface footage.

The Red October surface shots were taken in Puget Sound, using the mockup of the Typhoon for the sail and topside shots of the crew. The scenes inside Red October and USS Dallas were filmed on sets in Hollywood. In a couple of cases, bit parts in the movie were played by COMSUBRON 11 junior officers. Apparently it was easier to train a naval officer to act than to turn an actor into a naval officer.

Without a doubt - for me, a far more interesting topic is the issue of the silent propulsion system the fictitious Red October submarine was equipped with. It was referred to as "tractor drive," "caterpillar drive," or, more accurately, Magneto Hydrodynamic Drive (MHD) in the movie. I learned during my visits to Russia that this system is not just a figment of author Tom Clancy's creativity or Hollywood's imaginative writers. At one point in my travels, I was given a tour and photos of the Russian system and several Russian institutes discussed its merits with me, including the Krylov Shipbuilding Research Institute in St Petersburg, the Kalu-



K-219, pictured above traveling on the surface after ejecting one of its missiles, sank under 3 miles of water in the Atlantic with 6 crewmembers aboard.



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Captain Bill Hicks with cast members of *The Hunt for Red October* on the pier next to the COMSUBRON 11's dry dock. This photo was taken the day they filmed the dry dock scene.

ga Turbine Works south of Moscow, and the Rubin Design Bureau in St. Petersburg and it's then, well-known chief design engineer Sergei Kovalev (he passed away in 2011).

Most of my Russian contacts viewed the system as yet another blind adventure of Moscow's fascination with high-risk technologies of the Cold War era but they did like the way Hollywood had incorporated the system into their movie. I was still on active duty and working at the Office of Naval Research at this point and would routinely return with dozens, if not more, proposals from my Russian contacts. Returning from that particular visit with photos and a proposal for cooperation in hand, we were indeed curious. After talking to specialists in our organization, we discovered things that most people in the West had forgotten that we had actually worked and shared in this effort with the Russians in the early 1970's under the Nixon-Brezhnev Cooperative Science and Technology program.

The image above is one of several given to me in 1993 which was later shared with a U.S. researcher who had been part of the original U.S.-Soviet working group that designed and set up the facility outside Moscow. Without going into detail, what we learned was that MHD would not serve as a viable propulsion system for submarines as the electrolysis process left a highly visible trail of

minerals and air bubbles in the water that could be easily tracked.

I visited the Kaluga Turbine "Zavod" (plant/works), which lies about 4 hours drive south of Moscow, on several occasions and found it a fascinating mix of the old and new. This is where the design and manufacture of turbine-drive equipment is conducted for the Russian Navy's nuclear powered ships - both surface and submarine. In addition to the large turbine factory, Kaluga is considered home to most of the modern Soviet/Russian astronautics programs. Konstantin Tsiolkovsky is widely credited with many of the very early concepts that later lead to modern aviation and space exploration. His early studies beginning in the 1890's, focused on jet propulsion and helped establish many of the concepts used in today's turbine drive machinery. Much of his early work was so advanced that it was considered more fantasy than reality at the time. The irony of all this revered history, modern day manufacture of critical components for the Russian nuclear submarine force and Hollywood drama struck me the first time I entered the main office complex. In the entry foyer, an aspiring Russian entrepreneur had set up a kiosk with a large banner labeled "American Video". My escort walked me over and made a point of showing me the most popular rental in the kiosk: Tom Clancy's "The Hunt for Red October".

In addition to MHD, I was to discover many types of technology and advanced research that we had shared with the Soviets/Russians and many others that had been stolen. The first truly modern Soviet ballistic missile carrying submarine capable of submerged launch, the Yankee SSBN, was so much like our own USS George Washington-class FBM, that the Soviet boat was frequently referred to as "Little George." In addition to our own traitors such as John Anthony Walker, the Soviet KGB and GRU as well as their client, Warsaw Pact partners had been busy stealing high priority American and Western technologies. The full extent of this espionage was first publicly introduced by the "Farewell" dossier in the early 1980's when Soviet KGB Colonel Vetrov was apprehended and executed in Moscow. Vetrov had provided French intelligence with thousands of documents outlining the extensive program used by Soviet officials to steal western technology. Russian agencies remain actively engaged in this espionage and their latest submarines will most likely carry numerous such advanced technologies. The external view of the BOREY class shows striking similarities to our own Ohio-class FBM.

During one of my visits to St Petersburg, Russia, I purchased one of these models. The actual launch of this submarine only came about 6 years later due to economic difficulties. During my 2000 trial in Moscow, the state prosecutors charged that buying this model from a hobby shop was further "proof" of my espionage!!

The latest addition to the Russian arsenal, the BOREY-class SSBN is now entering operational status and additional units are being funded and built. Named after the Greek God of the cold North Wind, this platform and its new BULAVA (Mace) missile may indeed be a harbinger of winter, or return to Cold War strategy, by Mr. Putin as it replaces the TYPHOON and DELTA class submarines as the Navy's mainstay strategic platform. Currently, only the first unit of this class is operational but a second should become operational in several months and a third will soon begin its sea trials and will



"Typhoon" class SSBN in the background and its replacement, "Borei" (Northwind) SSBN, in the foreground.

enter service sometime in 2014. The first three submarines are fitted with 16 advanced BULAVA submarine-launched ballistic missiles. The next two Borey class submarines are scheduled to be an upgrade that will carry 20 ballistic missiles each.

Putting wind in the sails of this new and advanced platform, on the first of June it was revealed by officials in Moscow that the lead unit of this class of submarine, the Yuriy Dolgoruky, would soon begin patrols out into the open ocean and as far south as the "South Pole." This will represent the return to operations that have not been conducted

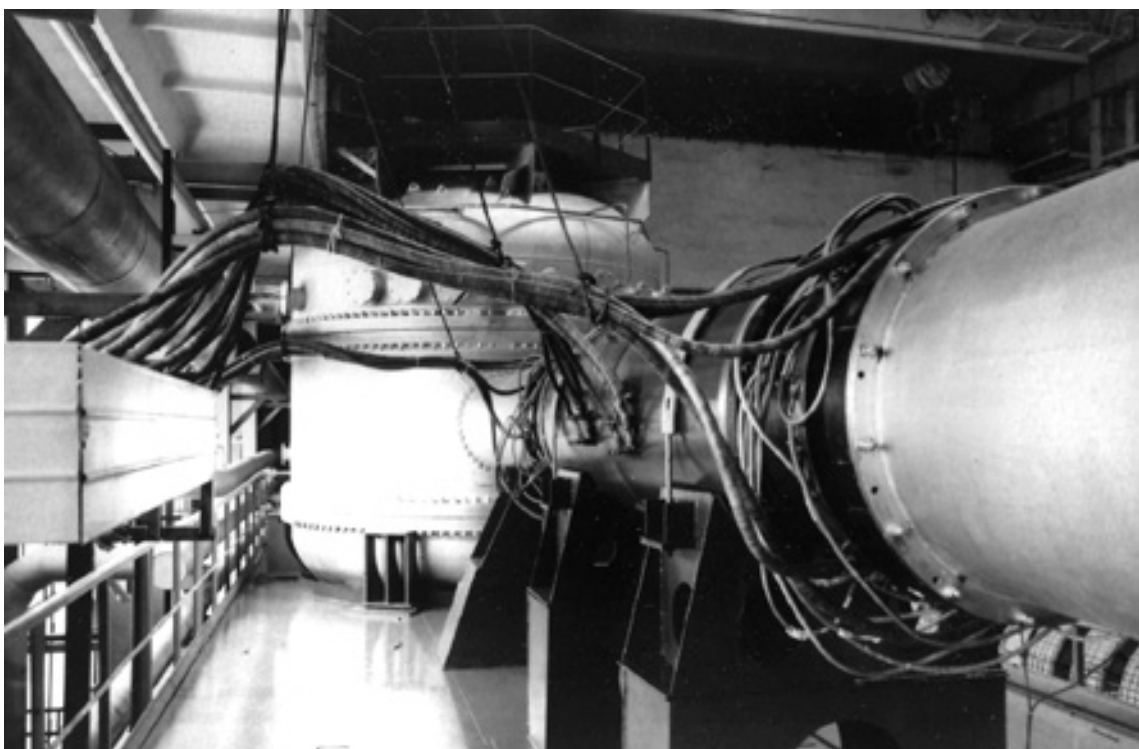
in over twenty years.

Edmond D. Pope is a retired Navy Captain and former Naval Intelligence Officer. Following retirement from the Navy he was employed by Penn State's Applied Research Laboratory. He was accused and convicted of espionage by the Russian government in 2000. More about his adventures in Russia can be found in his book "Torpedoed." Ed Pope currently lives in State College, PA.

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



A scale model of the Russian Borey-class SSBN Yuriy Dolgoruki.



This photo depicts the electromagnetic coil and circulation tubing inside the Russian laboratory, located on the outskirts of Moscow, where the development of MHD was being studied. The coil structure in the middle of this photo is approximately 12 feet tall and the inside of the coil reads: "Made in the U.S.A. by General Electric Corporation."

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MOM'S TIME OUT

Looking back

Mary Angel

I can't believe it has been about a year since I wrote my article about our decision on whether or not to homeschool our children. We eventually came to the conclusion that we would homeschool our oldest. We did so for many reasons which I will get to in a minute. Needless to say it was not an easy decision nor was it one we jumped into lightly. Jump ahead a year into the future and you are back here again with us trying to make the same decision. The difference this time is that we are better educated and slightly more experienced. So this is what we know with a year of experience under our belts.

The first thing that surprised my husband and I are the multitude of reasons why people start homeschooling and with that comes an equally large number of reasons why people choose not to home-

school. For us we decided with our oldest to homeschool because of his upcoming surgery, his struggles with a possible seizure disorder (which at this point is undiagnosed) and the excessive bullying and overwhelming amount of negativity. For our friends the reasons range from wanting to help a child with a special need or disorder to wanting their kids to be able to say the name of Jesus Christ without being reprimanded at school to everything in between. Our friends that do not homeschool have feelings that range from "public school was good enough for me, so it's good enough for my kids" to they need to learn to deal with bullies and difficult people to everything in between. The fact of the matter is that whether to homeschool, send your kids to public or private school or some combination is completely a personal preference. As long as you have your child's best interest at heart and they are receiving a good education that there isn't a wrong answer and no decision

will be perfect 100% of the time.

Over the past year I have done quite a bit of research, looked at an overabundance of curriculums and homeschooling options, even looked into many local private schools, and attended one extremely large homeschool convention in Virginia (WOW was that motivational). In all of this I can honestly say that there has never been a time when my husband and I felt completely sure of our schooling decisions, again because this isn't a case (in my opinion) of making a right or wrong decision, it is about making the best decision for the child and the circumstances we are faced with. I will say however, that after the convention I Virginia my husband was the most for homeschooling he has ever been. At that point in our adventure we came home and prayed about our decision and then talked some more and then prayed some more...do see the pattern. Our next step was to talk to the kids about what we had learned and how they felt about the process and the decision.

Our two youngest, the girls, were extremely excited and announced they can't wait to be homeschooled.

The boys are teetering a little more. Our twelve year old would love to be homeschooled if he is not allowed to date, however if he is allowed to date then he would like to go back to public school. Because, and I quote, "Mom there aren't a lot of girls to date in our living room"! This statement was followed by a large amount of laughter and then a confirmation of how true the statement really was. The Fourteen year old, who has been homeschooled for the last year, asked if he might go back to public school. Not for the education but, because he misses his friends. Now we come to the root of the problem for us.

After homeschooling for a year I am no longer worried about the academics of it. After all, the first year to two years of college is often referred to as glorified high school. I have also read that most high school students entering a four year college need some sort of remediation for a shortcoming in their education thus far. And let's not forget that every summer our kids lose 30% or more of the information they learned the previous year. So as for education I am choosing to think that with the right curriculum we can handle it. It isn't even as simple as socialization of the children that I am worried about, but much more specifically it is the friendships. The friendships that form and last a life time, or at least a childhood, this is what I am

focused on. I totally understand my sons desire to see his friends more. This has been a big part of my husband's and my conversations. We realize that we have to help the kids foster their friendships even more if they are homeschooled. There are going to be weekends when we are tired or just plain don't feel like having company and instead of running with that feeling we are going to need to let the kids have their friends over. We also feel that if we encourage those friendships and their extracurricular activities then homeschooling could be an amazing journey for our whole family. At this point we are definitely homeschooling our girls, but have yet to decide on the boys. I am especially looking forward to this experience; I whole heartedly believe that homeschooling is what you make of it. I truly think that this is our opportunity to make life long memories with our kids and enjoy them while they are young. I am so looking forward to the first aha moment with my girls, that moment when they get something that they have been struggling with and I will be there to see it, I don't believe it gets better than that. These are the moments that I will treasure and I am exciting for the adventure!

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

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BEDTIME STORIES

Serpentine the Snake

Amy Wilkinson



There once was a snake who seemed quite nice, he appeared a decent lad.
But, he had a habit of making friends, then taking everything they had.
He lived in a place that was dry and hot, an area covered in sand.
One scorching day he approached a group of animals and offered to lend a hand.

He said to them, "Alas, I can help you, they call me Serpentine. If you all follow me and do as I say, I'll take you someplace divine. It is a place that is cool and shady, and the water is clear and cold. If you come with me, I'll take you there, but you must do exactly as you're told."

The animals grew excited, he could take them to the home of their dreams.

They did not know that his altruism was just part of his scheme. "Come see what future awaits you," Serpentine said to creatures, "Follow me, I'll show you the way. I'd be happy to be your teacher."

So they all decided to go with him, for they were hoping to find, A place where they could live in comfort, not knowing their trust was blind.

He had promised them cool shade, water and a better life, Where they could live out of the heat with no worries and no strife.

The bears they went without a care, the birds followed without a word.

The prairie dogs all hopped along, and the buffalo left in herds.
The desert toad packed up his things, and the camels followed behind.

The antelope jumped with joy, and the tortoise was slow, but resigned.

Most of the animals that followed him were not a clever crew.
Serpentine had bad intentions, but this was not something they knew.

They followed him for days on end; they crossed over mountains, valleys, and streams.
They became exhausted marching along, under the rays of the hot sunbeams.

When at long last they arrived at their final destination,
The animals all skipped and jumped and leapt in delectation.
For it was true, there was cold water and grass and trees abound,
They splashed in the water, rolled in the grass and skipped across the ground.

When the animals had drank their fill they began to feel fatigued,
Serpentine said, "Go to sleep!" And the animals did concede.
The animals had all trusted him, not a single one had shown a doubt.
They didn't know he had planned to trick them, or what his intentions were about.

You see, Serpentine had conned the creatures,
Because he was fond of the meat they featured.

This was not the first time he had pulled this trick,
For he was sly and smart and slick.
When the animals laid down to rest,
Our Serpentine did what he did best.



He slithered around and planned to eat them.

He planned to eat their claws and paws.
He planned to eat their beaks and cheeks.
He planned to eat the lion and the bear.
He planned to eat the otters and the hare.
He planned to eat the toucan and the snail.
He even planned to eat a giant sperm whale.

He slithered towards a sleeping fawn and opened his wide jaw,
But the deer woke up and leapt away, frightened of what he saw.
The deer cried out, "Serpentine, I thought you were our friend!
You said you'd give us a better life, is this what you intend?
These animals have trusted you, but it was all a trick.
Please go away now, Serpentine, you're making me feel sick."

He slid through the camp, and watched the animals as they slept,
When he thought of the things he planned to do, he broke down and wept.
These animals had trusted him; their lives were in his hands,
Someone needed to protect them and he would take command.

He had made some bad decisions, and what he did was wrong,
But he had finally found a group to which he could belong.
He found a place and curled up right next to a pariah hound,
He was happy to have a place, and pleased that he had found:
You should do unto others as you would have them do to you,
Serpentine had changed his life and was pleased to start off new.




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SCHOOL & LIBRARY NEWS

What's new at the library

Erin Dingle
Emmitsburg Branch Library

Be sure your public library is part of your summer vacation plan this year. Even before you pack your swimsuit and towel, think about the books and music you want to listen to and get it all free at the library through our website, www.fcpl.org. Take some time to visit the website to find out more about Play-Away's, OneClickdigital, Overdrive and Freegal. Here is a quick introduction to these free, family friendly services provided by Frederick County Public Libraries and all you need your library card.

Play-Away View: Taking a road trip? You might want to consider checking out our Play-Away Views for the kids. While you do the driving, little ones will be in the back entertained by the fun self-playing, pre-loaded video player. We have a wide variety of children's titles to choose from in our library catalog.

OneClickdigital: If you are using a device, you can download audio books for adults, young adults, and children through OneClickdigital. Just a few steps and you'll be listening to a summer title as you walk the beach.

Overdrive: Need something for

your e-reader such as a Kindle or Nook? On our website you'll find Overdrive offering both popular fiction and non-fiction eBooks and all you need is your FCPL library card.

Freegal: Add to your music collection for your driving pleasure using Freegal through the library website. Freegal gives you access to hundreds of thousands of songs in the Sony Music catalog. You can download up to 3 songs a week for free with your library card (the weekly counter starts Sunday night at midnight). Three free songs! How cool is that?

If you have questions about how these services work, call us or visit and library staff will walk you through the process if you need help. Call Emmitsburg at 301-447-6329.

And of course we still have plenty of brand new as well as classic books and audio-books for you to enjoy this summer in your own backyard or in far-away places. If you are going on vacation, and want to check out items of the library, did you know that you can ask us for an extended vacation loan period so that your materials so they don't come up overdue while you're out of town? Just remind us when you come to the checkout desk. You can even take movies, the perfect entertainment in your vacation rental house after a day

on the beach or in the woods.

And beyond books, you can have summer fun right in your own hometown because there is so much going on at both the Emmitsburg and Thurmont branches. Summer Reading is in full swing at the library and is for kids and teens of any age. Have you picked up your game board? Kids complete a series of activities on the game board and pick up a prize for each series they complete. Teens log their activities online and are entered into prize drawings for gift cards. Simply registering for Summer Reading enters you into a drawing for the grand prize—a \$300 gift certificate to Great Wolf Lodge plus \$300 spending money. We have many other prizes, too.

When you stop into the library to get your library card and your Summer Reading gameboard, why not check out one of our programs? The Thurmont and Emmitsburg libraries have a ton of fun programs, come in and cool off on a hot summer day. All our programs are free and open to the public. Occasionally a program requires registration. In order to register, call us at 301-447-6329 or register yourself online at www.fcpl.org.

July Programs for Children & Teens at the Emmitsburg Library

Meet Keyote from the Frederick Keys Tuesday, July 9 @ 10:30 am
Meet Keyote from the Frederick Keys at a special storytime! Children all ages with adult

Wild Tales with Wildlife Adventures Saturday, July 13 @ 11:00 am

Literature based program that explores the who, what, and why of storytelling. Rich tales delight children and promote literacy. A few stories told are authored by children. A flock of story starter ideas! Enjoy a Rita's Italian Ice after the show. Children all ages with adult

Meet Splat the Cat Saturday, July 13 @ 12:00 pm

Come meet one of your favorite picture book characters and take

advantage of this "purr"-fect photo op with Splat the Cat! Children all ages with adult LEGO Time Tuesday, July 23 from 3:00-5:00 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.

Dig Into the Past Saturday, July 27 @ 11:00 am

Take a step back in time to learn about fossils, cave paintings and mummies. Create your own cave painting, write your name in car-touche, and make a fossil print. Children all ages with adult. Registration Required.

TEENS: Sea Glass Program Tuesday, July 16 @ 2:00 pm Come ready to get creative and leave with your brand-new one-of-a-kind sea glass creations! Make and take up to 4 sea glass projects. All supplies provided. Refreshments will be served. Registration Required.

Family engagement

Katie Groth, Member
Board of Education of
Frederick County

As I enter my 10th year as a member of the Board of Education of Frederick County, I continue to be committed to our FCPS families and helping to provide them the tools they need to be helpful and effective partners with the school system in the educational success of our children.

I was fortunate to attend an excellent presentation this week by Dr. Steve Constantino, a Virginia school superintendent, who has developed something called "The New Standards for Global Family Engagement." These standards are simple and they are measurable. This means, that if a school or school system decides to adopt the standards, it is possible to lay out a plan using these standards and then track progress toward meeting them. Dr. Constantino presented his ideas and standards to a large group of FCPS school based administrators and staff as well as other administrators, community leaders and school board members. The event was also sponsored by the PTA County Council of Frederick County.

What do we mean by "family engagement?" Dr. Constantino tells us that human beings desire connectedness, meaning that they are social creatures who seek contact

and engagement with others. However, in our society, there are often perceived or actual barriers to becoming connected with one another. When this happens, people tend to disengage. When a child's school experience is negatively impacted by a sense of family disengagement, it can be difficult to remedy the situation. However, it is our responsibility, as school leaders, to identify this problem when it occurs and then to take steps to reach out to families and reconnect with them in positive and constructive ways.

In his presentation this week, Dr. Constantino identified five principles to engage every family. He worked with school and community leaders to find authentic ways to reach out to families in our school communities.

Five Principles for Schools to Engage Every Family:

1. Create a culture that includes every family. This begins with how welcoming we are at school, how we make our families feel comfortable and important.
2. Communicate with and build relationships with every family. Person to person contact is critical here. Get to know all family members and get to know their situations. Communicate school values, beliefs and priorities. Avoid being defensive.
3. Empower every family. Give every family member a sense of importance and a feeling of respon-

sibility for their child's success.

4. Engage every family in decision-making. Ensure that the child's progress in school is a partnership between home and school; frequent communication is critical here.

5. Engage the greater community. Our public schools should be community partnerships. This means more than school staff and families. It should include community groups and the business community. Bring everyone into the schools for events.

Above all, Dr. Constantino urged the school staff and the rest of us to remember that family engagement is a PROCESS, not an EVENT. This requires a daily awareness and an adherence to the principals he describes. These must be in place all the time and assessed frequently for how successful a school community has become at family engagement. We must ask: Is our school meaningful and relevant to our families? The message to parents must be: We value your contributions and we want you to be comfortable coming forward to make those contributions.

A child's life is critically important to all of us – families and community alike. We can and must work together to ensure he or she can be successful. Engaging our families must be a priority for our school system.

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SCHOOL & LIBRARY NEWS

Small town pride

Lynn Tayler

When I was young and single, I dreamed of living in the city. (Which for me meant New York City or possibly Washington D.C.) I loved the hustle and bustle of the crowds, the commuters single-mindedly trekking to their jobs and the tourists crowding around famous landmarks with their cameras. There was always something to do in the city. Clubs, museums, restaurants, theaters, shopping—it's all at your fingertips. And most appealing was the anonymity that comes with being a city-dweller.

Emmitsburg and this area of Frederick County is the opposite of all that. It's the very definition of small-town, and I mean that in the most positive sense. Because now that I'm a mother, and much older and a little wiser, I appreciate that there aren't big crowds everywhere, that people aren't always in a rush to get from point A to point B. I like that trips to the grocery store often run a few minutes longer than they should because I inevitably run into an old acquaintance or a neighbor or the parent of one of my kids' friends. As a young adult, I found the familiarity of my surroundings to be constricting; now, I appreciate them for the comfort and security they give. A small town is an extension of your family, something the big city with its anonymity and indifference can never be.

This community-family connection was the driving force behind sending my children to Mother Seton School. I love that when my children leave home each morning, they are going to a place full of people who know and cherish them. It's amusing to watch my 5-year-old walk down the hall and say hello to everyone, by name, and so casually it's like he's known them his whole life. And when he and his siblings move on from here, I know they'll still consider MSS as more than just their grammar school, but also as a home away from home, as do many of our alumni.

One such alumnus is Billy Kuhn III, who the owner of His Place, Inc. Billy graduated from MSS a number of years ago (I won't say how many!), but he's remained part of our family ever since. For the past four years, Billy has sponsored the His Place Car Show, which raises money for both Mother Seton School and Emmitsburg Osteopathic Primary Care Center. "We wanted to give something back to the community and start something fun," Billy says. He chose to donate proceeds to his alma mater and to the EO-PCC because he appreciates what each does for the community. "I love Dr. Portier and her cause (and) I love the school."

The show really has become a fun tradition. People can enter

cars, hot rods, tuner vehicles, motorcycles, or trucks to be judged based on the interior, exterior, and overall appearance. Awards and plaques are given out, but the event means more than all that. It's a place to take your family, to meet up with your friends, to enjoy the closeness a small community offers. And to see some really cool vehicles, which is a major rallying point. Billy points to a 1934 Henry Ford J with a hemi

cab over the engine and John Hollinger's Old Fire Truck as a couple of the most interesting entrants he's seen. As the wife of a car nut—er, enthusiast—I can attest to how such a unique event can bring people together, creating a bond between even perfect strangers.

I know how much MSS appreciates what Billy does for us, and I'm sure I speak for Dr. Portier as well. And not just for the monetary donation—we

appreciate that Billy has put together something that brings the whole community together and we look forward to this continuing as a community tradition. "Great times were had by all, despite the inclement weather,"

he says. "I'm looking forward to next year's event, which we've scheduled for May 3, 2014. I know the community will give us a great turnout!" We know it too. Because coming together is what small communities do best.



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FOUR YEARS AT THE MOUNT

Editor's Note: This month celebrates the anniversary of the first picture postcard. To commemorate this addition to the writing industry, Four Years at the Mount writers were asked to write a postcard to a younger version of themselves. Unfortunately, the post office couldn't send the letters back in time, so we've placed them here for your enjoyment.

Sophomore Year

Lessons to Learn

Lydia Olsen
MSM Class of 2016

Dear Self,
At five years old I know things might not make sense. Everything seems so confusing. Especially baffling is how to arrange letters to make words. It's challenging, I know, but you will soon learn how they can be organized and how each letter has a specific sound. If ever anything is unclear, make sure you speak up. I hope that you can keep wonder always on your mind. Try striving to learn and to discover. I'm not sure if you know yet, but our world is beautiful and has many great things in store for you.

Remember how everything looks from this height because soon you will grow bigger and see the world differently. Always make sure you run and jump and play all you can. Never outgrow the dollhouse in the living room, the one with multiple bedrooms, a kitchen and working lights, but always remem-

ber to share it. It is the envy of many of your friends. Let me tell you a quick secret before it's too late: Barbie's hair isn't like your hair. It won't grow back. This seems completely illogical, I know, but sadly it is the truth.

As you transition through grades in elementary school, I hope you hold tightly onto all that you learn. Some of the most important things you will ever know are the things you have been taught at the very age you are now: share everything, only run in the halls if no one is watching, laugh until your belly hurts, always say you're sorry when you hurt someone's feelings, and, of course, ice cream is good for you! You are capable of doing anything. Maybe the most pressing issue for you right now is the strangest of them all: all the beautiful colors of the rainbow don't turn into a super beautiful color when mixed together. Who would have guessed?

If I know myself, and I do, I know that you love to talk. Your teachers frequently call you a social butterfly. Though that sounds like a very nice compliment, they are often po-

lately asking you to talk less. Take this as a warning before they have to give you one. Try to hold in all the extremely important things you must tell your best friends until lunchtime. Talking too much while other people are talking quickly leads to losing recess, and in fifth grade they don't just take away a few minutes. They take away the whole thing!

I bet you cannot wait to finish reading *Where the Red Fern Grows*. Even in the future it is still your favorite book. I know it's hard to wait to see what happens in the last few pages, but remember that not all stories have endings that make you happy. It is best to let the sadness roll down your face at home. It is here that mom can tell you that Old Dan and Little Ann had very long and happy lives with Billy Coleman. While she is at it, ask mom to explain the significance of the red fern one more time. It will be that explanation that will make the fern your favorite plant.

Each day your brain is being filled with more and more things that you are learning. Don't worry! There will always be room for new information. Let's just try to keep those super important and meaningful memories in a special box that we will always protect. This

will give us the chance to look back on them when we grow old. The box will get bigger and bigger with all our new experiences, just like you are getting bigger and bigger every day. As you grow, remember that the world is waiting for you. Go discover!

At eleven years old, entering middle school can seem pretty scary. I know you are concerned about riding the bus. Don't be afraid. You'll rarely miss the bus if you are able to run to the bus stop a couple of times. The ride on the bus won't be too long. Sit next to a friend and everything will be okay. When you arrive at school and walk up to those four blue doors, know that behind them lie friendly classmates, great teachers, new schedules, and exciting information. Hold on tight and you will be just fine.

I know your love for school went downhill when geometry was introduced, but try not to get frustrated. You are not the only person who has difficulty finding the area of a rhombus or determining congruent sides on a triangle. Remember to get your calculator before class, and don't forget to thank your older sister for downloading games onto it. Though your high score is incredible, it does not show up on your report card. Make good decisions on what is more important. Obviously, you just need a little Tetris here and there sometimes.

When you get a certificate for making Honor Roll (even with your Tetris playing) and you are allowed to go to the cafeteria for donuts and muffins, pick a donut instead of that muffin you want. I know muffins are your favorite, and they just look so good, but trust me, it is not worth it. Food poisoning will quickly ruin your love for blueberry muffins, and you won't be able to look at them the same way again.

At fifteen years old, entering high school is like walking into a maze. There are so many people going in all different directions, talking quickly, and pushing past you. You are just a freshman in a sea of over 2,000 fish. I know you are wondering where you fit into the mess of everything. It will take some time, but you will figure it out.

Please, don't take on more than you can handle. I know you think that the

more things on your plate the better, but it is not worth it. You'll be stressed way too often, and you won't be able to just have fun. I wish that you would make time to relax instead of constantly being on the go.

I ask that you cherish each moment you spend on the volleyball court or on the lacrosse field with your team members. These will be some of your favorite memories. You will miss them more than you expect. I must warn you, when you are waiting to receive your varsity letter, don't expect something in an envelope with a stamp on it. Although this mistake will bring laughs for a long time to come!

On the most important day of your high school career, take a mental movie of all that is around you. Remember how you can single out your family's voices from the rest of the crowd as they cheer for you. While you are so busy trying not to trip in front of everyone, make sure you lift your arm high enough that the sleeve of your gown doesn't get stuck when you are holding onto the railing!

At eighteen years old, your journey continues at the Mount. I know you are nervous because you don't know anyone, but you will be positively surprised at all the friends you will make. It is hard being away from home and away from everything that is familiar to you. Just know that it will be okay, and in time it won't be as difficult.

Your first year takes some time to settle into, but you will quickly be making memories to lock away in that special box you created so many years ago. Along with the memories you have already saved away, make sure you place inside that box the Mount memories that already mean so much to you. Soon enough, your first year will be over and you will be a sophomore.

I wish that you would study a little more and try to go to the gym more often, but I know you are only beginning to figure everything out. You can only do the best that you can do. Just never forget what I mentioned when you were young: the world is waiting for you. Go discover!

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



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REFLECTIONS ON THE PAST YEAR

Junior Year

Letter to Myself

Kyle Ott
MSM Class of 2015

Like the other Four Year at the Mount writers, I have written a letter to the past, imperfect version of myself, the Kyle that was caught somewhere between two different realities: the independent man I am today, and the nervous, shy young man who ventured out into the world one tentative step at a time.

Dear Past Me,
What is up, dude?! First things first, let's not worry about the specifics as to how you got this letter. We're English men, so let's leave the science stuff to people who are far better at it than us. We may be great at writing, but contemplating the sheer scientific knowledge to understand time travel is far from our wheelhouse. I am not sure the exact time that this letter will reach you, or what you'll be going through by the time you get this. We've been through a lot, you and me. We switched schools together and made a whole new group of friends. In a world of a million different possibilities, dreams, and career paths for us to choose from, we decided that the only thing we wanted to do with

our life was write for a living. We wanted to share the stories we had in our head and in our heart with the entire world. When we put the pen to the page and the words just seem to flow out, it's intoxicating. I know it is easy to get lost in the words, the pages, and the characters. I promise you that the wonderful sensation you get from creating whole new realities when you write will only grow as you do. However, I would caution you to keep one foot in the world you live in and the other in the world you create. Yes, the things that you can come up with are amazing, but believe me when I say that the places you will one day go are far more beautiful than any landscape you could dream up. And the people? The people you meet will surprise you and inspire you in ways you could not yet understand. Believe me when I say that your work and your existence will be richer for having met them.

I know you're probably wondering how we're doing, what we look like, how we sound, the places we've gone, and the things we've done, but I know how much you hate when people spoil the ending. I'll try my very hardest to avoid any of the specifics of our life so far. It suffices to say that

things are going really well for us, better than we had ever hoped for, to be honest. We still love our parents, and our little brother. Overachieving continues to be a favorite pastime, but luckily, by this point in our life, we've managed to turn our desire to succeed into a healthy ambition. At the time of this letter's creation we are currently a 20-year-old junior in college. How sweet is that, dude? More than halfway done with the last phase of our educational career! It's kind of mind blowing for me to think about, so I can only imagine how you feel hearing that you have become so old so quickly (I kid, I kid. We still have many years left in us, God willing).

Now, since I've broached the topic of school, let's talk about college. You think life is cool now? Just wait until you get to the Mount. I know we spend a lot of time thinking about freedom and adventure, and pursuing higher learning will give you the chance for both of those things. If I may, I would like to offer you two pieces of sound advice. First, go and try everything. Second, remain strong in who you are. For the former, leave no stone unturned. We have spent so much of our life crafting an image for ourselves, an identity that we feel comfortable in and one that has served us well. Step beyond that. You will find some amazing relationships and experiences in unexpected places. You will make friends with people who you

would never have given a second glance to earlier in your life. If something seems scary, impossible, and utterly strange, GOOD! Go and try it. Do it, and throw your weight behind it. You have spent enough of your life living a certain way. Please, break the majority of those barriers, and if you wind up on a roof at three in the morning, eating pizza, and looking up at the stars with an eclectic group of companions, you're doing it right.

While it is important for you to experience and grow, I would urge you to heed the second piece of sage advice. The temptations that go along with a brave new world are everywhere, and they are as alluring as they are detrimental to your success. Yes, you should always be open to change, both external and internal. However, before you decide to embark on the road that you have chosen, make sure that you take stock of the things that you hold in the highest esteem. No matter what you gain from going out on a limb, it could never make up for losing sight of the man you are and the man that you want to become. The way to true learning and enlightenment for you—no, for us—lies in balancing our desire for freedom and adventure with the values that make us who we are. Our family, our faith, our commitment to give everything that we are to tasks and not let up until it is finished, and our belief that the world is ultimately a wonderfully amazing place. Those

are tenants that have served us well in the past (and believe me, they are tenants that will serve us well in the future). If you can hold onto those things, then believe me when I tell you that this life is yours to seize.

Anyway, Past Kyle, I've got to go soon. We're still busy almost 24/7 (It's nice that some things will never change regardless of how old you get). We actually have quite a bit to prepare for in the next couple of days, so I need to sleep a little before tomorrow's work begins. I have to say it has been a pleasure getting to talk to you, even if our conversation has been a tad one-sided. If and when you ever get this letter, please understand that I am so excited for you. Our life has been blessed in wonderful ways, my friend, and you have the pleasure of experiencing it all for the first time. Take care of your brother, respect your mother, go to bed and wake up earlier, and emulate dear old Dad. Oh, and speaking of Pops, I want to leave you with a few words that he will say to you later on in life (I promise) but that I feel will do you some good whenever you receive this letter: "Sometimes in life, you've got to take care of you." You're no good to anyone unless you're totally and completely yourself, the best Kyle you can be. Stay strong and keep the faith, brother; you'll come face-to-face with me sooner than you think.

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

Senior Year

Dear Self

Nicole Jones
MSM Class of 2014

Dear Self,
There are some things about life that you should know. I may only be writing this a few years in your future, but I learned a lot in that time. I don't want to spoil the adventure for you, so I can't tell you everything, but there are some general tips I want to give you. Take them or leave them, but know that whether or not you apply them now, you will learn them later.

First, you shouldn't take high school so seriously. It's not the most important thing in life. It's your senior year, so go have fun and be a teenager before responsibilities swoop in to ruin the day. I'm not saying you shouldn't keep your grades up, but put down your fifth book of the week and go hang out with some friends. You work hard and should take the occasional opportunity for fun. You should know that your efforts in school are rewarded with more than just good grades. I won't spoil the surprise, but I know that you'll love it.

No one expects you to be perfect, so stop worrying about trying to be. It is okay to make mistakes. Just relax and don't let fear hold you back from trying and accomplishing new things. That goes for driving, too. I know the respon-

sibility can be scary, but it's one for which you're ready. Besides, a license is a necessity these days, so be brave, take a deep breath, and drive.

Hint: apply to summer jobs before summer actually arrives. They aren't going to be easy to find because businesses most likely want to give positions to people supporting a family before a high school student who just needs gas money, but the jobs are out there. You'll go through dozens of applications. Keep trying and remember to follow up wherever you apply. If an employer hears your voice or has the chance to meet you in person, he is a lot more likely to at least give you an interview. Also, don't be so picky about where you work. The food industry isn't glamorous, but working with the public and in a team setting is good experience for future job opportunities. The tips aren't bad either.

Appreciate your high school friends while you have them. You will fall out of touch with them because college will give you friends that relate to you better. That doesn't change the fact that you've had a lot of fun and made some great memories with your high school buddies. Maybe you should try staying in touch with them a little more after you graduate. You will never be as close with them as you are now, but it doesn't hurt to keep tabs on one another.

Don't give up on your volunteer work at the Carroll County 4-H Therapeutic Riding Program. I know it can be tiring and even frustrating at times, but the end result is always good for you and those you're helping. You are making a difference in someone's life, and I have yet to find something more rewarding. You'll also have an awesome teaching opportunity arise from this.

This will be your last full show season before college, so enjoy all of your horseback riding competitions. I wish you would try to relax a little bit more in the arena; it's supposed to be fun, not stressful. Just try your best and enjoy the challenge. You'll have plenty of other things to stress about later.

Learn how to play the piano again. If you hadn't stopped taking lessons, you may have never tried horseback riding, but now that you ride, take up the ivory keys again too. You don't have to take lessons, just buy a keyboard and a book and teach yourself. As you get older, you will begin to appreciate music even more, and you'll be very glad to know how to play an instrument. An understanding of music will also be important for you to fully enjoy some of the musicians you'll grow to love in college. Remember to explore music on your own and not to rely entirely on what friends and family listen to. There are some incredible artists out there just waiting to be heard.

Try to thank your teachers every once in a while, especially Mr.

Beard and Mrs. Wood. Mr. Beard's hard work gave you a strong foundation in English. I truly believe it is in large part thanks to him that you will go on to do so well in college. Remember as much from his classes as possible. You will use his rules and techniques for every class essay and newspaper article you write. Mrs. Wood largely encouraged your desire to learn languages, something that you'll pursue in college. She also helps you with public speaking. Thank her for that, because it will be very important later in life.

You don't know it yet, but you will want to be a speech pathologist. This doesn't change your current plans. Still go to the Mount. Still major in Communication Studies. You will miss out on so many good things if you replace those four years for a direct route into the major at a different school. The people you will befriend at the Mount are incredible. Olivia Gorman, Maggy Mastin, Lisa Lopez, and David Gayhart. Remember those names and seek them out as soon as possible your freshman year at the Mount. You will need each of their support, advice, and company in the future.

You've always loved to read, so keep a few more dollars in your pocket by befriend the public library. You already have the card, just remember to use it. It'll free up your wallet and bookshelves for those books you absolutely must have. Oh, and don't worry when Borders goes out of business. A new bookstore will take its place.

Go to church whenever you have the chance. Though it may not seem like it now, your faith is important, and you won't always have access to a decent church. Being heavily exposed to religion six days of the week made you burn out a little, but when you go to college you will appreciate everything you've learned. It will help you make some wise decisions, and it will give you answers to questions you never thought you would ask yourself.

Most importantly, treat your parents well. They sacrifice so much for you to go to private schools and give you everything you have, and they ask for nothing in return. Sometimes your teenage attitude gets in the way of remembering this, so you don't always give them the respect they deserve. Just do what is asked of you — it's never a lot. Thank them often and say I love you daily.

I don't expect you to remember all of this, which is of course why I've written it down. Keep this in a safe place and reread it every now and then. Hopefully it will help to make you a better person and help smooth over some of life's little bumps. Know that there isn't anything to be afraid of. Your life is a very blessed one, so be excited for your future because there is a lot to be excited about. Also, know that whatever hardships you may face, you will make it through. This letter is proof enough of that.

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

COMMUNITY NOTES

Meet Middle Creek Nursery

It's possible the idea for Middle Creek Nursery may have been planted in the back of a '54 Buick.

Owners Don and Nancy Vanderau began the nursery with just a few shade houses and a relatively small sales yard in the late 1970s, but technically, the idea for the business started with Don's father.

"When I was a kid, my father worked at Letterkenny but also had a little nursery just outside of Mercersburg and that's really what made me start the business," said Don, a retired chemistry teacher from Gettysburg Senior High School.

His dad actually borrowed a pickup truck to travel to Westminster, Md., for balled and burlapped shrubs -- "which in the trade is known as B&B" Don quipped, in his trademark comical, dry manner.

Oddly enough, the truck broke down in Emmitsburg, Md., maybe 50 feet from the home of his future-wife's uncle.

"That's a little weird, isn't it?" Don questioned, but the scientist in him still concluded it was nothing more than mere coincidence.

Once his dad got the plants home, he'd arrange to sell them

to various people in Mercersburg. Don and his brothers would go with their dad to dig the holes and amazingly, the plants were loaded into the back of "a new, green '54 Buick Century," Don said, shaking his head.

As someone who could be called a car enthusiast, Don "couldn't imagine putting a bunch of B&B shrubs in the back of a new car and hauling them somewhere."

Still, the concept of planting shrubs traveled with him through his life and as he taught students about electrons and valences and atoms and molecules for more than 30 years, he also had thoughts about a nursery.

"I thoroughly enjoyed my years teaching chemistry," Don reminisced. "But I didn't want to wake up one day when I was seventy -- which I am now, wow -- basically having spent my life in a classroom."

When Don married his wife, Nancy, and ended up with 10 acres of land, Middle Creek Nursery seemed like a reasonable dream.

Today, the business includes out buildings and polyhouses for growing plants, as well as spaces for perennials and annuals, and the family-run nursery nestled on

more than 10 acres in south-central Pennsylvania has been going strong for more than 30 years.

Don attributes his success to growing his own plants.

"I produce a lot of my inventory myself, which allows me to cut out the middle man and keep my prices reasonable," he explained. "Plus because it's grown here, it's acclimated to the climate in which it's going to grow."

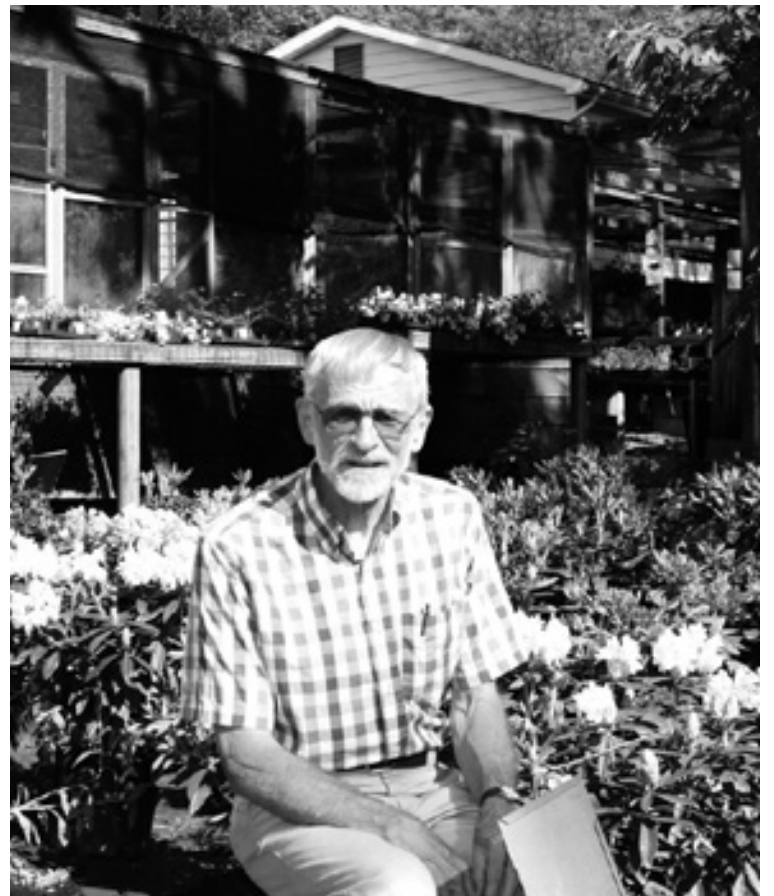
"Nice plants, sensible prices" is Middle Creek Nursery's motto and that, along with Don and Nancy's fun-loving nature, is what brings customers back.

"We like to have a good time when people stop by," said Don. "People just like to come here."

Middle Creek Nursery offers a variety of plants, including annuals in the spring, perennials, evergreen and flowering shrubs, some trees, Japanese maples and a nice line of general nursery stock that is grown on the property, such as arborvitae, azalaes, boxwoods, hollies, hydrangeas, spiraea and spruce.

A complete list of the full inventory can be found on Middle Creek Nursery's website, middlecreeknursery.com.

Like Don said, he keeps his price list on his website because "if



you have reasonable prices, you might as well tell people what it costs so they know up front."

Don figures fair prices and nice quality plants will be what bring people in.

So far, the theory seems to be working.

While a '54 Buick may be tough to find nowadays, the memory is still quite vivid, especially to hear Don tell it, and the product of the experience can be seen in the flowers and trees and laughter and greenery during your next visit to Middle Creek Nursery.

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THE GRADUATE

No longer a student

Kelly Conroy
MSM C'12, MBA C'13

My academic studies may be complete, but I'm determined to always be learning . . . although maybe not until 2 am! Here, I reflect on my experience with Catholic education and its place in our country today.

In June, the President of the United States was speaking to an audience in Belfast, the capital and largest city of Ireland.

Barack Obama said: "If towns remain divided — if Catholics have their schools and buildings and Protestants have theirs, if we can't see ourselves in one another, and fear or resentment are allowed to harden — that too encourages division and discourages cooperation."

Shortly after he said this, Obama discussed segregation and how it led to the Civil War in America. Was Obama comparing Catholic schools to segregation? Was he calling for an end to Catholic schools?

Obama was speaking in Ireland, a place that is volatile to fights between Catholics and Protestants. So perhaps he was just saying that there should not be places, such as schools, which build barriers instead of promoting peace between people with different backgrounds.

Or Obama could be speaking about his dislike for Catholic education and its place in our country.

Whatever the answer, it's a good opportunity to consider the importance of Catholic education. It's at Catholic schools where we can have the freedom to learn what is good and bad — even if that's different than the law. If there are no Catholic schools, then whatever is promoted by the government could be what we learn in public school. And our faith might teach us that the law is not always moral.

Archbishop Gerhard Müller, prefect of the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith, told an audience in Scotland that Catholic education provided a rare place where "intellectual training, moral discipline and religious commitment would come together." During Mass at St Andrew's Cathedral, Glasgow, he said, "The Catholic school is vitally important . . . a critical component of the Church," adding that Catholic education provides young people with a wonderful opportunity to "grow up with Jesus."

I've had the opportunity to attend Mount St. Mary's University for the past four years— three as an undergraduate and one as a graduate student. I majored in Communications and minored in English. At the end of June, I completed my work to earn a Master's in Business Administration. I've experienced first-hand the blessings of Catholic education.

Take for example my experience

competing on the Division I tennis team at the Mount. We competed at a high level by our participation in the Northeast Conference. We played 25 matches over the course of the year, and a couple weekend-long tournaments. We practiced every week day and had weight training and conditioning. It took up a lot of my time at the Mount! But because of the Mount's Catholic identity, I think that my participation on the tennis team helped to mold me into a better Christian.

Every sports team at the Mount has a chaplain from the seminary. The seminarians who were the chaplains for the men's and women's tennis team came to many of our practices and matches. They prayed with us before competitions, and hosted discussion nights on a variety of faith-based topics. They met with us one-on-one and encouraged us in our faith.

Additionally, I participated in the student-athlete Bible studies at the Mount. Every week, we would gather to read Scripture and discuss how the message influenced our life as a student and as an athlete. We would share how the training we experienced in our sports could help us develop a stronger will to become better Christians, and how our life of virtue could make us stronger athletes.

At the Mount, I felt like my intellectual, sports and faith lives were connected. I learned that sports can help us become better versions of ourselves; athletes strive to "form the perfect man, fully mature with the fullness of Christ himself" (Ephesians 4:13). Champions are made on and off the field by being courageous, putting everything on the line, and they are able to keep getting back on their feet. A champion strives for, is drawn to, and seeks excel-

lence in every aspect of their life; this search for excellence gives the athlete a "momentary link to the Other who is perfect" (Pope Benedict XVI).

I learned that I could try to glorify God through my body and acknowledge my talents as gifts from God. St. Paul reminds us: "Whatever you do, do from the heart, for the Lord and not for others" (Colossians 3:23).

That's one of the blessings of Catholic education — one aspect of a person's life doesn't need to be neglected in the development of another. You can grow intellectually, physically, spiritually, and mentally at a Catholic university like the Mount.

Another blessing that I received from my Catholic education was incorporating the faith into the classroom.

I took classes like Philosophy and Theology at the Mount— classes I never planned on taking, but really learned to appreciate. One of my friends came to the Mount and was planning on majoring in Biology and pursuing a degree in physical therapy. After taking two years of core liberal arts classes, she realized that she had more of a passion for these topics than she had realized. She ended up switching her major during the second semester of her junior year, and is so happy with the decision. The Mount helped her to discover where her passion and her vocation lies, not just what career she should pursue.

I remember studying how Catholics are treated in the media in a Mass Communications course, and the real history of Elizabeth I and "Bloody Mary" in a history class. My classmates and I would enter into lively debates about socialism and communism in a Latin American Politics class. We would discuss the Catholic influences in

the works of Shakespeare in an English course.

The Mount's MBA was special in that they really emphasized being an ethical business leader. Our teachers were examples of men and women who made good ethical choices, and were still able to be effective and profitable in their work. One of our core required courses is "Business Ethics." Once, my Business Ethics professor shared about how when he was first hired as a manager in a retail store he witnessed an unfair firing of another employee. My teacher shared what he did in that situation, and what he wished he would have done. It taught me a lot about the proper treatment of employees! I realized that my life as a devout Catholic and my work in business can and should overlap — that I should not have two distinct lives, but that my faith can help me to make good ethical choices, and these ethical choices can fit-in with the virtue that I strive for in living out my faith.

Was everything perfect in my Catholic education? Of course not. Wherever people are, there is imperfection. The point is that we're trying — navigating our way along the path of truth together.

And so, suddenly, my time at the Mount has come to an end . . . at least for now.

It was so sad saying my good-byes. The Mount has been so good to me. I have especially enjoyed learning SO much in the Mount Communications office as the Graduate Assistant this year.

It's really the people who make the place — and I'm going to miss it.

So I'm soaking in the view of the Mount from the tennis courts, the beauty of the paths behind the ARCC, and the bird's eye view of this special place from the Grotto overlook.

Thank goodness I'll only be an hour and a half away for now . . . and I hope to come back again someday.

I am excited to begin work in marketing and publications at the Cardinal Newman Society in August. The Society promotes and defends Catholic higher education and they publish the Newman Guide to Choosing a Catholic College. I read about the Mount in the Newman Guide and wanted to make it my second-home; it's only appropriate that I would go to work for the organization after my studies.

I've only had personal experience with the blessings that come with a Catholic education. I look forward to learning much more about Catholic education, and sharing that and my experiences in the "real world" of life after college with you. I will no longer be the graduate writer, but you will be sure to be entertained and inspired by Megan Kinsella, the new graduate column. She will be sharing about her experiences as a missionary next year. Look for my appearances in the "In My Own Words" section of the Emmitsburg News-Journal.

To read more articles by Kelly, visit the Author's section of emmitsburg.net.



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ARTS

Now playing at the Majestic!

Jean Grubesky

“Epic” indeed is the word for our film line-up this summer, stated Jeffery Gabel, founding executive director of the Majestic Theater. “Thanks to the more than 350 patrons who contributed more than \$160,000 to our successful digital cinema campaign this past year, we’ve purchased a state-of-the-art Panasonic digital light projector, and the images on our giant screen will be twice as bright and sharp as our old digital projector. Better yet, the Panasonic DLP can show Blu-Ray DVDs which is an advanced optical disc format with unprecedented high definition picture qual-

ity. Hollywood has started to restore its classic film library with the Blu-Ray technology so these “epic” films will look nothing short of spectacular.”

“Majestic Movie Memories,” will be on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 in the beautiful historic Majestic Theater in downtown Gettysburg. Each classic film includes a free raffle drawing for valuable prizes, and informative introductions by Mr. Majestic himself, Jeffrey Gabel, founding executive director.

Two big musicals will have you dancing and singing in the aisles starting on July 24, with *American in Paris* (1951) also starring Gene Kelly & Leslie Caron will dazzle you in

this brilliant Technicolor tone poem inspired by the music & lyrics of George & Ira Gershwin. And don’t miss these great actors on August 28, in *Guy & Dolls* (1955), Frank Loesser’s Tony Award-winning musical about a movable crap game starring Marlon Brando & Frank Sinatra at the top of their games.

And of course, we could not forget about the 150th Celebrations with the movie *Gettysburg*, Ron Maxwell’s awe-inspiring re-creation of the Civil War’s most famous battle as it returns to the Majestic Theater -- site of its 1992 world premiere -- to commemorate the battle’s Sesquicentennial on July 3. And, *Fort Apache* (1948) on July

31, will star John Wayne & Henry Fonda in John Ford’s hard-charging, bugle-blowing, sable-rattling tale of the U.S. Calvary.

And finally for some mind-boggling, intriguing plots and thrillers, we have three great features starting on August 7 with *Sullivan’s Travels* (1941) Preston Sturges’ brilliant satire about Depression-era America with memorable performances by Joel McCrea & Veronica Lake. Then on August 14, *The Red Shoes* (1948) is one of the most critically-acclaimed, visually-stunning British films of all-time about the agony & the ecstasy of ballet, love & betrayal. And for some intense entertainment on August 21, *North by Northwest*

(1959) is Alfred Hitchcock’s man-fleeing, dive-bombing, cliff-hanging thriller about mistaken identity starring Cary Grant, Eva Marie Saint & James Mason.

Tickets are priced at \$6 per film. To purchase tickets 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. For more information, visit www.gettysburgmajestic.org.

The Majestic Theater at the Jennifer and David LeVan Performing Arts Center is operated by Gettysburg College as a cultural treasure for its campus and the community.

Thurmont Thespians Present “Honk Jr”

Twenty-four youngsters ages 6 to 13 are hard at work preparing the story of “The Ugly Duckling” complete with music for audiences delight in July – Hans Christian Anderson would be so proud!! Licensed by Musical Theatre International, this is the Junior version of the longer play but has all the ingredients to warm your heart.

There are four cute little ducklings (Erin Miller, Oscar Oravec, Reagan Gilbert, and Sean Puckett.) born to Ida, Amelia Myers, and Drake, Daniel Puckett, with one larger egg about to hatch with something looking quite different. Into this farm yard of water fowl, comes an unusual duckling immediately dubbed “Ugly” played by Raphaela Smaldone. The siblings are horrified, as well as Papa Duck, but Mother loves all her offspring and is proud of his accomplishments in the water, proving he is not a turkey!!

After being cautioned to “Beware of the cat”, Ugly manages to get wiled away by the cat played by Erin Kopit who teaches him about “Playing With Your Food” and ends up losing his way from home when he inadvertently es-

capades from the cat’s clutches by a well placed basketball on the head by children playing in the yard. He stumbles unto a marsh where he meets migrant geese who are ready to fly south and when they do, are shot out of the sky by hunters. Then he discovers a lovely young swan, played by Morgan Blood, tangled in fishing line whom he untangles and meets her parents played by Jared Tauler and Isabella Scott.

The next adventure encompasses a bullfrog played by Nick Miller who insists “Somebody Will Love You, Warts and All”.....followed by a blizzard that transforms the stage as well as Ugly and the moulting is completed as a beautiful swan appears.

This endearing tale is brought to you by children from Thurmont, Frederick, Emmitsburg, Walkersville, Cascade, Brunswick, Urbana and Fairfield. They have spent the summer learning all phases of theatre and will be performing this extravaganza at the American Legion at 8 Park Lane in Thurmont on July 18, 19, 20, 21 and 25, 26, 27, and 28 with curtain at 7:30 and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m.

Watch for them marching in the



Front row: Nicholas Miller, Sean Puckett, Erin Miller, Oscar Oravec, Katelin Bare, Nathan Tauler
Middle row: Morgan Blood, Erin Kopit, Raphaela Smaldone, Amelia Myers, Daniel Puckett
Top row: Emily Williams, Addison Eyler, Hannah Tauler, Jared Tauler, Danelle Bare, Kaitlyn Solich

Fireman’s Parade in their colorful shirts advertising the production.

Call 301-271-7613 for reservations and don’t miss this year’s children’s production of “Honk Jr”.

As an addendum, the Thurmont Thespian teens are preparing a presentation of their own of Shakespeare’s “All’s Well That Ends

Well/abridged” for appearing in the time slot of Monday, July 22, Tuesday the 23rd and Wednesday the 24th on the same set used by “Honk Jr” at the American Legion. Elijah Miller is coming from Florida to direct and it is rumored that Emily Johnson, Rosalyn Smaldone, Veronica Smaldone, Mallory

Donaghue, Andrew Payne, Robin Wivell, Bridey Puvell, and others seen on the teen stage in previous years will be appearing.

Stay tuned for breaking news about this first of its’ kind production by the Thurmont Thespians and mark your calendars now so you don’t miss it.

thurmont thespians
present

HONK!
Jr.

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Saturday, July 20th - 7:30pm
Sunday, July 21th - 2:00pm

Thursday, July 25th - 7:30pm
Friday, July 26th - 7:30pm
Saturday, July 27th - 7:30pm
Sunday, July 28th - 2:00pm

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Theater troupe going "Into The Woods"

Given the popularity of live theater in the area, it is probably no surprise that a new theatrical troupe has been established in the area. The group, Catoctin Mountain Players, was founded by Bruce and Leslie Kelly of Emmitsburg. They are currently producing their first show, Stephen Sondheim's "Into The Woods."

The Kellys know theater. They met when they were both in a show with the Octorian Theater Company in Frederick, nearly thirty years ago. She played Anne Boleyn, he played the Duke of Norfolk and sentenced her to death. But she didn't hold a grudge and married him a year later.

Their three daughters followed in their footsteps, each inheriting the acting bug. Their family's involvement in the drama program at Catoctin High School is one reason the Kellys have undertaken this new project. Per Bruce, "We've gotten so close to the drama kids in the community. They love being involved in theater, and started asking us to produce a show for them."

It wasn't just because the kids kept asking that the Kellys decided to invest so much of their own money and time in this production. According to Leslie, some recent tragic losses of CHS alumni influenced their decision, too. "We were so saddened about the loss of two former students, one of whom did plays with our middle daughter. There aren't a whole lot of activities for local teens, and boredom can sometimes lead to bad situations. Engaging the kids in a big summer project that would keep them busy seemed like a really good idea."

Beth Watson of the Thurmont Thespians has been incredibly supportive of actors of all ages in the area. The Thespians do one musical per summer, rotating years between high school /college aged students, and elementary-aged ones. This year, it was the younger children's turn (they're doing the show Honk in July—see article on opposite page) Teen and young adult actors, who had a great time doing All Shook Up last year, were anxious to have a project as well, and Beth was very helpful when Leslie told her they were thinking of producing one.

Bruce and Leslie also had ideas for how the proceeds from the musical could help the community. All profits derived from ticket sales will be divided equally between the CHS Drama Program and a local wild animal sanctuary. Bruce says, "Our kids have gotten a lot out of the school's drama program and we are excited to be staging our first production in the CHS auditorium. We are also big supporters of the East Coast Exotic Animal Rescue, located right in Fairfield, which does such great work with needy animals. We couldn't think of two groups to whom we'd rather give the profits of this show."

Decision made, the Kellys dove into this new venture. Choosing the right show was a big step. They didn't want to do something with an

enormous cast, but did want a production that would allow every actor a moment in the spotlight. Into The Woods, which the Kellys saw on Broadway during its original run, seemed a perfect solution. The show is an ensemble piece; some roles are bigger than others, but every actor has lines, and most have individual singing parts.

Announcing auditions, which were held at the Thurmont Community Ambulance Service building, they were stunned at the turnout. While many of the cast members are current CHS students or alumni, actors from all over Frederick County tried out. Leslie believes that is because of the musical's immense popularity among the theater crowd. "Anyone who is really into theater knows this show. There are some fabulous roles, and I don't know any drama student who hasn't dreamed of playing Cinderella, the Baker or the Big Bad Wolf. The announcement of Disney's upcoming movie version, starring Johnny Depp and Meryl Streep, has increased the show's name recognition."

Although Into The Woods might sound like a children's production, it is not. The first act takes familiar fairy tales and intertwines them, giving every character their happily ever after—and that act is suitable for young children. But in act two, the audience learns that people should be very careful what they wish for.



First row, l-r, Nora Grider as Cinderella, Megan Fraley as Little Red
Second row: l-r, Cody Gilliam -- costume designer/Cinderella's prince, Megan Kelly as the Baker's Wife, Brent Comer as the Baker

Dark themes interrupt the happy lives, and not all characters survive until the end. Aware that some local families might want to bring young children to see the show, the producers are working on a ticket pricing plan that will allow parents to bring little ones to just the first act.

Although they had to officially establish a "troupe" in order to get the rights to the show from MTI, the Kellys aren't sure whether they will continue beyond this production. Leslie says, "We'd like to be able to stage musicals for teens and young adults in the summers when the Thespi-

ans cannot, but this is an experiment. The truth is, we might not ever do another one. We just know that, right now, we are completely dedicated to helping these talented young actors put on a magnificent production."

Into The Woods will be performed at the Catoctin High School auditorium on August 9th and 10th at 7:00 p.m. and on August 11th at 1:00 p.m. Tickets are \$12.00 for adults, \$10.00 for students and seniors, and \$8.00 for children under 12...but special discounts are being

planned, and the Kellys encourage anyone who's interested to visit their website www.catoctinmountainplayers.org, or write to catoctinmountainplayers@gmail.com for more information. Anyone wishing to learn more about the East Coast Exotic Animal Rescue should visit www.eastcoastrescue.org.

For more information on the concerts, the line-ups, and the background of the artists performing, visit msmary.edu/Summermusic.

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Magic Fairy Houses Ages 10-14 • June 17-21 • 1-4p \$155 (members \$145)	Summer Fun at the Beach Ages 3-5 • July 15-19 • 9-11a \$105 (members \$98)	Acro Dance Ages 8-11 • August 5-9 • 9a-12p \$135 (members \$125)
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CREATIVE WRITING

The first time I never saw fireworks

Alexandra Tyminski
MSM Class of 2015

“Hurry! Hurry! The train is leaving in 2 minutes, ay! We need to get a seat!” Andrew said.

“Calm down mate, we will be fine. It can't be that crowded anyways,” Brett replied.

“It's alright guys, I have done this many times. And so have my friends. We will just have to move quickly past all of these people to make sure we get on the train! We just want to make sure we stay together!” I reassured them.

Oh no, I quietly thought to myself. Our hopes of getting down to the Washington Monument on the 4th of July were not looking too promising. With all of these people, there was no way we would get there in time. The escalator was moving very slowly for some odd reason. One would think that for being in a rush, people would just walk down them. I caught my breath for a moment and began to think about other options. All I could think about was the fact that I was gallivanting in a metro station with a few local friends, two Australians, and one Irishman. Pushing and shoving rushed strangers in a rat race to the metro just to spend 45 minutes on a crowded train to see some fireworks? It wasn't all that fun getting there, but every year I still come back

to take on the crowds, clearly forgetting what it was like the previous years.

“Quick... go!” Peter shouted.

“Jenny, quick! You, Erica, and Simon run to the doors! Score us some seats if you can!” I said to her as we trailed behind a few other strangers.

“Andrew, Brett, and... oh no... where's Peter?” I asked anxiously.

“I don't know, ay! He was just here a bit ago!” Brett said. I couldn't see anything except the doors ahead shutting quickly as Jenny, Erica, and Simon masterfully squeezed through them.

Perfect, I thought. All of my local friends are now headed on the metro to Washington, D.C. with thousands of people there trying to watch the same fireworks as us. And I'm currently stuck with two Aussies and an Irishman who have never experienced America on the 4th of July.

“Um, hey, Emma? That's Peter over there! With his American, blue and red striped hat!” Andrew called out to me.

“Peter, Peter! Over here!”

“Ohhhh, hey guys! I couldn't find you!” Peter said as he shuffled himself over to us.

“Okay, well I sort of have some unfortunate news...”

Andrew glanced at me with some nervous, wide-eyed look.

I began to start off lightly and then it all just rolled out.

“We sort of, well, um, we got separated from my other friends and now we have to wait for another train. And I'm not sure if we are going to get down to the fireworks in time, and I'm just not sure. I don't know, but I have hope that maybe we can make it.”

“Whattttt?” Andrew exclaimed.

“Well, that's alright Emma. We can just wait for the next train,” Brett said. I mouthed to him, “Thank you,” and we all found a bench towards the end of the metro platform.

• • •

“Peter, wake up! It's here!” I said shaking his arm.

“Yes! Finally!” Andrew said with excitement.

We filed onto the train, and we all sat down. Thankfully, I got a window seat, and Andrew took a seat next to me.

“Andrew, don't worry mate or friend or however you say friend. The fireworks don't start for another hour. We will make it! This ride will take about 45 minutes or so. Hopefully there are no metro delays!” I tried to sound hopeful and enthusiastic, but I wasn't sure if Andrew was buying it.

He looked at me and grumbled, “We'll see about that, mate.”

Meanwhile, after everyone was seated, I began to scan the crowd around me. Peter, sitting across from me, was wearing his blue and red striped American flag hat. His big fluffy red hair crept out from underneath the brim. He also sported a royal blue shirt and bright red shorts, although his socks were not white. They were green and orange. I wasn't sure if it was just a rumor that every Irishman loved the colors green and orange, but Peter seemed to prove that point. He was very adventurous and always wanted to try new things. That is probably why he falls asleep wherever you go, because he is always at it and moving around.

I turned my head to the left and noticed Andrew. He was nervously tapping his right foot and his palms were a bit sweaty. I was almost positive it was not because he was nervous about sitting next to me, but rather because he wanted to make sure we got to the fireworks in time. He was wearing a sleeveless red pocket shirt and some white shorts with a deep blue denim shirt on top. He was reserved, but he had a lot of style. He was a nice Australian for sure, but I noticed that he always wanted to be organized.

Diagonally from me sat Brett. Brett was the ultimate laidback person. He was always making sure that Andrew was feeling confident about the new adventure and helping scout out Peter when he dove right into it. Brett was easygoing, and he wore a navy blue shirt and khaki shorts to prove it. He was definitely a more “go with the flow” Australian.

After examining the three foreign exchange students who my mom so graciously hosted this summer, I quickly picked up on the fact that we were not moving. We had not even left the original platform that we just waited on for twenty minutes.

“Well, looks like we aren't moving,



folks,” a tall gray-haired man with a beard said standing in front of us.

Oh, please don't say that. I was hoping that Andrew either had not noticed we didn't move yet or that he assumed we would start going soon.

“Hey, Emma?” Andrew asked.

“Yeah, Andrew what's up?”

“What is the big hype about seeing these fireworks anyways?” he turned to me and said.

I couldn't help but giggle a bit because I wasn't expecting Andrew to be so calm after our tall mysterious new friend just so loudly stated the obvious stationary problem. Brett gave me a shocked look, and I just shrugged my shoulders as I proceeded to answer the question. But then, I stopped and thought about it for a second.

“Emma?” Andrew said again when he realized I was thinking too hard.

“Well, see, I was just thinking about it. And honestly, I don't know,” I said.

Brett smirked and said, “So you're telling me that you don't know why your country celebrates your Independence Day?”

“No, no, no, I'm not saying that! I'm saying that I guess fireworks are just a part of it. It's a part of the big celebration,” I replied.

Peter began to stretch and wake up. He quickly jumped into the conversation without hesitation.

“What's going on? American Independence Day?” He asked.

“Yes, that's what we are talking about. I mean normally, most people just have a barbecue or watch fireworks or celebrate the day our nation became independent. If you must understand it better, in short, we were once a long time ago a part of the British colonies and then we fought for our independence. We conquered; we celebrated because we had become independent,” I stated.

“Do all Americans practice that speech when asked about the 4th of July?” Andrew said, laughing and giving me a hard time.

“Ha! No we don't, but it's something pretty special when you think about the history involved in our Independence Day.”

“I mean think about it guys, we are all independent people within an independent nation that fought for that independence and has kept it ever since,” I said.

“Yeah, it is special, especially because we get to see it firsthand in the States for ourselves!” Peter said enthusiastically.

“Yeah, but I'm sad to say that we may not be able to see the fireworks at this rate. I'm not sure why the rail lines are all messed up. They aren't usually like this. It's always a rush to get there, then

it is really fun for about twenty minutes, and then it is a rush to get back. In some ways, I feel like some people forget why we even go to watch the fireworks,” I paused and looked at them in silence. Peter, Andrew, and Brett looked back at me waiting for me to finish my thought.

“I guess when you are always rushed on some holidays or excited to have a good time or see fireworks, the main reason for the celebration can easily be lost.”

“It happens everywhere, but I guess it sometimes takes asking questions to figure out the importance of a lot of different things,” Brett said.

“Or just a curious foreigner!” Peter commented with a smirk on his face.

“Truthfully, I say that we get off this train and head back home Emma. We went to D.C. last weekend, and if the fireworks are awesome this weekend, then they are awesome. I'll take your word for it. But, maybe we can find some other ones or just hang out,” Andrew suggested.

“You know, I think this whole 4th of July Independence Day talk is gettin' to ya, mate! You're sounding a bit more chilled out like myself. Are you sure the American Independence Day isn't helping you celebrate their independence, but also developing your own?” Brett said, hurling out a loud laughter.

We all laughed, and I realized that even as a joke, that question may have been valid for Andrew. It may have been valid for me as I traveled back to my 4th grade history class and retaught myself the whole point of our Independence Day.

“Yeah, let's get off of here. Besides, they have firecrackers at the shops anyways. We can buy them and hang out while you all pretend to be American on this 4th of July. Then you can sit under the stars and tip off your Australian and Irish hats to the men that fought for my country's independence,” I said.

“Maybe you'll do the same once again, but maybe in a more memorable way and a more relaxed one,” Andrew said nudging my elbow.

I laughed and looked out the metro car window. As we waited for the doors to open, I thought to myself, yeah I finally will. As much as I love 4th of July fireworks, this time I will be able to reflect and peacefully thank those who fought for the chance for us to not only be an independent nation, but also for each of us to have the ability to be an independent person.

To read other articles by Alexandra Tyminski visit the authors section of emmitsburg.net.



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CATOCTIN VOICES

Gettysburg remembered

L. Claire Cantwell

The 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg is taking place in our region with an array of commemorative events. Beginning on or about June 28 and lasting until July 7, there will be parades, speeches, dedications, period dances, reenactments and living history presentations, just to name a few of the activities. Keep in mind the fringe communities affected by this war in our area such as Emmitsburg, Maryland and the Pennsylvania towns of Fairfield and Blue Ridge Summit, for all will offer their unique side of the story with special events. This month's column is devoted to poets then and now, who give their perspective as only a poet can, to this war that grieved, and still grieves, our nation.

Gettysburg, 1863

Constance Trump

A morning mist, like teardrops,
kissed slate silhouettes at break of
day
Riding from the west, on their
quest,
With little left to say.
Buford's steeds thundered through
the fields
Leaving silence on their heels
And blades of grass that bid them
pass
Amidst their graceful sway.

While yonder, with weary march-
ing feet
From Chambersburg in swelter-
ing heat
Rebs paused beneath lush woods of
green
And wondered what the day would
bring.
The Yanks rode hard, the Rebs ad-
vances
Not much was left to happenstance
In Gettysburg each met his prey
And shrieking, slaughtered through
the day
That saw the Rebels sweep the street
And Yankees make a swift retreat
To nearby hills and knolls.

From their vantage point
The Yanks looked down
On quaint, three-story homes of
town
And churches that, transformed to
wards
Were strewn with bloody sheaths
and swords
Of those who rode and those that
marched
At that early morning's dawn.

Two fish hook formed outside of
town
Cemetery Hill was Yankee ground
Rebs faced the Round Tops along
Seminary Ridge
While at the Roger House, not far
away
Young Josephine Miller baked all
day
With heavy heart, warm and true
Hot bread for the boys in blue.

The fight that followed was courage
and grit

In the Valley of Death many were
hit
At sundown when the fire ceased
A bright moon shown an eerie peace
Upon the carnage all around.

Few men slept and many wept
With Bibles resting next to guns
Tin cups by crackling fires lay
As fathers, brothers, sons and kin
Reflected on what might have been
What could have been, what should
have been
That now was lost, at such a cost
Life seemed to be a bitter pill
As dawn's light slowly stroked the
hill.

Many missed their wives and
mothers
Even those who fought their
brothers
For a cause each thought was right
Dreamt of going home that night
Far away from the bleak brigade
And sanguine fields bereft of shade
To awaken to a soft caress
And, perhaps, some distant wel-
come trill
Of a calliope's serenade.

Meanwhile General Lee had a strat-
egy
To destroy the Federal flank
But Meade prevailed and though
he'd failed
Lee by no means shrank.
Heart tinged with sorrow, he
planned the morrow
To strike the Yankee core
He thought for a while, then with a
sad smile
Chose Longstreet for the chore.

Crickets sang, the birds chimed in
At dawn of that third day
As wounded moaned and horses
groaned
Air reeked from flesh decay.
Both sides felt a sense of doom
And longed to end the desperate
gloom.
An attempt to hit before the dawn
Had left the Reds a skelter
And running for the nearest tree
Of rock that offered shelter.

Thirteen thousand Southern soldiers
Formed in precision line parade
At 1:00pm the awful din of artillery
shook the glade
For two hours more the cannons
tore
A path towards Cemetery Ridge
As the mighty line, in one accord
Made peace with whom each
praised as Lord.
The cannonade's cacophony finally
began to quell
And each man knew that was his
cue
To step out through the mouth of
hell.

Pickett's voice through the smoke
arose
High above the fray: "Up men, up
and to your posts
And let no man forget today that
you are from Old Virginia!"
"Virginia, Virginia, Virginia!" his
troops all roared as one

While each presenting bayonet and
shouldering a gun.
Armistead's sword swirled the smoke
And cut a sweeping arch,
"Virginians, for your lands, your
homes,
For your sweethearts, for your wives,
for Virginia
FORWARD, MARCH!"

Black clouds cracked with a ray of
light
As thirteen thousand men of might
Stormed through shrouds of fum-
ing fires
Drummers drumming, flags un-
furled
Swords extended, clenched fists
hurled!
The Yankees saw the Rebel charge
From high upon their ridge
And furiously fought that wall of
men
Who faltered, then came back again
Closing in their ranks
Still advancing on the Yanks.

Hand to hand the Blue and Gray
Fought in such a savage way
That tears are shed until this day.
Then, one by one the guns fell still
The scorched earth caked with
blood
From broken bodies on the ground
Where once the brave had stood.

The rest is history, so they say
Thousands of brave men died that
day
Giving it their very best
In unmarked graves they're laid to
rest.

The Ones whose dreams did not
come true,
The Ones who slept and never
knew
The Ones for whom each valley and
dome
Of the Battlefield
Was now their home.

Constance Trump is an award win-
ning poetess and member of two
poetry societies.

The Irish Brigade

Phil McDonald

Be ever so still, do you feel the chill
As the spirits of the dead pass by?
For on this ground, this hallowed
ground,
They bravely fought and died.

From New York, Massachusetts, and
Pennsylvania
They came to our nation's aid.
These immigrant sons of Ireland
Formed the Irish Brigade.

They fought at the Battle of Get-
tysburg
At the Wheatfield and Stony Hill,
And the legends of their courage
Are remembered still.

In the history of our country
Their story we will tell
Where at the Battle of Gettysburg
Over two hundred of them fell.

Now on this field of battle
Their spirits still remain,
And by their blood and valor
Our nation was united again.

So remember these sons of Erin
And the sacrifice they made,
And say a prayer, and lift a glass
For the men of the Irish Brigade.

(Phil McDonald is a local photogra-
pher and poet retired from the Federal
Emergency Management's Emergency
Management Institute located in Em-
mitsburg, Maryland)

Untitled Poem

Mary E Nealy 1864

And our noble women, the soldier
cries,
As he wipes his sleeve his dimming
eyes,
They send up clothing and food
and books,
And kindest letters and sweetest
looks,
And words of noble and lofty
cheer!
And with these what craven could
think of fear?

It is this that mans us in battle's
hour,
That nerves the arm and gives it
power;
That makes the heart's blood fresh-
er flow,
And gives to the bosom its noblest
glow.
The women we love, the God on
high-
They well know how we bravely do
or die;
God bless our noble women!

They make the bandage, the scrape
the lint,
And they can the fruit with no
thought of stint;

They get up fairs for the soldier
boys,
And buy with the profit then thou-
sand joys.

Their silken dresses are laid away,
To show their luster some oth-
er day;
For calico dresses are good
enough
When the soldier, in shoddy, fares
so rough;

And they keep at home the pre-
cious gold,
For their hearts for ribbons may
not be sold.
They deck their hair with wild-
ing rose,
and for brooches fair truth in each
bosom glows;

The piano practice, the 'broidery
fine,
Are left for a work that is more di-
vine;
For making the soldier clothes so
warm,
And tending the hospitals home
sweet home
God bless, God bless our noble
women!

(Mary E Nealy, b. 1825, was a
published poet and playwright.
She moved to D.C. to be near her
two sons who volunteered for the
Potomac Army. Her sons died after
the war from wounds and the ef-
fects of imprisonment)

Please send your poetry and verse
by the 15th of the month to poetry@
emmitsburg.com All submissions
will be acknowledged, however due
to space constraints, not all will be
published.

(L. Claire Cantwell is a poet and
freelance writer living in the Cato-
ctin mountains of Maryland. She
is a member of the Gettysburg Po-
etry Society)

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COOKING WITH LOVE

It's crab season, hon!

Brooke Hagerty
Chef/Owner Gunner's
Grille at Taneytown

We are fortunate to live in one of the greatest areas for seafood and when I say seafood of course I mean CRABS! The traditional start of the Maryland Chesapeake Bay Crab Season is April 1 but locals will tell you that the real crab season does not begin until July! The first three months of the season the waters are still cold and the crabs do not grow as large; the optimal water temperature for Maryland Blue Crabs to grow is 58 degrees fahrenheit. But once those waters start warming up, the sky is the limit as far as size. Now, numbers are a different thing altogether. The ever increasing human population on Maryland's Eastern Shore has taken a bit of a toll on the local seafood industry; not only affecting crabbing but many local fish seasons as well. The most notable of the fish to be affected is the Rockfish. Rockfish season is only about six months long so trust me when I tell you if you can get it, get it. Rock is one of the best tasting white fish around and the versatility in cooking is unbelievable! I will share with

you later on my recipe for Grilled Fish Tacos with Cucumber Slaw. Back to crabs – with the local supply of crabs being far less than the demand many restaurants and suppliers have looked to our friends from the south to fill our need for the crustacean. The waters of Texas, Louisiana and South Carolina are prime areas for crab growth with warmer temperatures throughout the year. This bodes well for restaurants that want to offer crabs year round. And speaking of crabs year round I would be remiss if I did not mention my favorite locally owned crab house. Rube's Crab Shack, located at 17308 North Seton Avenue in lovely Emmitsburg has some of the best crabs I have ever had. Owner Robin is wonderful as is the entire staff. I love sitting on the back deck with a dozen jumbos and a nice glass of wine. One of the major pluses of getting your crabs at Rube's is that you can all ahead with your arrival time and your crabs will be steaming when you get there! Trust me on this one, call 301.447.4116 and order your crabs today!

This month we will focus on traditional crab recipes; Steamed Crabs, Crab Dip and Maryland

Crab Soup.

What can make a dozen steamed crabs taste even better? Sweet corn and red potatoes! What Marylander do you know that doesn't love all of these delectables? Not only are they delicious but so easy to prepare in this one pot dinner delight! Your toughest questions to answer will be what size crabs and what type of corn. Those are based solely on your own taste buds; I prefer the biggest crabs I can get, sweet white corn and baby red potatoes. There is no formal recipe just guidelines for cooking. First, prepare your crab pot by filling it 1/2 way with water. Add your favorite crab seasoning (Robin from Rube's uses JO Spice and it is perfect as far as I am concerned) to the water and bring to a boil. Meanwhile, cut potatoes into bite size pieces and shuck corn. Add potatoes to the bottom of the pot to boil and then top with the corn. The corn will act as your steam basket for the crabs. Using tongs place your live crabs on top of the corn and season well with your crab seasoning. Cover with a lid for approximately 15 minutes. Remove lid and spread your goodies on newspaper, grab your mallet and enjoy! As for me, no butter needed

for the corn and potatoes the crab and seasoning have done all of the work! Save your crab shells for the Maryland Crab Soup you are going to making below.

Maryland Crab Soup – this is the easiest crab soup you will ever make!

- Reserved shells from your crab, corn and potato feast
- 1 pound crab meat
- Lemon pepper and crab spice to taste
- 2 large carrots, cut into a small dice
- 1 celery head, top and bottom cut off and cut into a small dice
- 1 large Vidalia onion, cut into a small dice
- 2 cans diced tomatoes or 6 grilled local tomatoes (I use a combination of the two)
- 6 baby red potatoes cut into a small dice
- 3 ears grilled corn (corn removed from cob) or 1 bag frozen corn when not in season
- 1/2 green beans cut into bite size pieces
- 2 gallons water
- Combine all ingredients into a pot, bring to a boil and then simmer for two hours. Remove crab shells and serve.

Crab Dip is also a very popular dish and at Gunner's we offer Crab and Artichoke Dip. Made with heavy cream and cream cheese this is not

a diet dish but it is definitely worth a little extra effort at the gym. This recipe is perfect for sharing at pot luck meal or for an evening in the back yard with some friends. Or, if you don't want to make it yourself you can head to Gunner's and have it on our patio!

Crab Dip

- 1 pound cream cheese
- 3/4 cup heavy cream
- 1/4 large Vidalia onion
- 1/4 cup diced red pepper (or any color you choose)
- 1/2 can small can artichoke hearts
- 1/2 pound jumbo lump crab meat
- 3/4 tablespoon Old Bay (or your favorite crab spice)
- Salt and Lemon Pepper to taste
- Shredded Mozzarella Cheese

Combine all ingredients (except crab meat) over medium heat until combined to a creamy consistency. Gently fold in crab meat and place in an oven safe container. Sprinkle with shredded mozzarella and place in a 350 degree oven for approximately 3 minutes or until cheese has melted. Serve with crackers, bread or sliced Granny Smith apples.

As always, if you have an idea for an article or have any questions do not hesitate to contact me at anytime at brooke@gunnersgrille.com or 410.756.1080.



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Emmitsburg's Cal Ripken Team

Kathryn Franke
MSM Class of 2013

Baseball has a special way of creating lasting memories, whether it's the first game you ever attended, looking down from the stadium in awe with peanuts and cotton candy in hand, or the thrill of being at bat and swinging at just that right moment so the ball soars deep into the outfield. Maybe it's watching your sibling finally achieve his or her goal of getting a home run, or just playing catch with your child on a sunny day. Regardless of what memories baseball may evoke for you, it's clear that baseball is a special sport for many people.

Baseball has been dubbed "America's pastime" because it is a defining part of our culture, one that links Americans through hobby and passion. It has the power to bring families, generations, and even strangers together through sport.

The Emmitsburg Little League has been doing just that since its formation in the mid-20th century. The organization has fostered a love of baseball in its athletes since its creation, and that tradition has carried on to today. The league consists of tee ball, baseball, and softball teams for athletes ranging from 4 to 18 years of age. There is a team for anyone who

is interested in getting a taste of what makes this America's sport!

This year, the Emmitsburg Little League is proud to be hosting the 2013 Cal Ripken 12U 46/60 State Tournament from July 6-10th. A skills competition will also be held on July 5th at 6pm. The tournament will be hosting teams from around the state of Maryland, each of which consists of athletes ages 12 and under. The games will be organized using "pool play." Each of the teams will play against "pools" of two other teams until the winning teams are determined, and these teams then advance into the single elimination tournament the next day.

Coach Dave Wantz III is a prime example of how the love of baseball unites generations, and he is a testament to the impact the Emmitsburg Little League has on its athletes and their families. Dave played in the league as a child, and he is now entering his 20th season of coaching with the league. Dave has transitioned from an athlete to a coach, and through coaching he is able to follow his own love of baseball while also introducing it to the next generation.

Dave began coaching in his early 20s, and he is excited to be in such a landmark year with it being his 20th season of coaching. What was interesting to find out about Dave is that he



Front Row (L-R): Nick Reaver, Brett Weatherly, Stevie Wantz, Tristan Grimes, Colten Devilbiss, Hayden Spalding
Second Row (L-R): Dylan Click, Jack Malachowski, Alex Wivell, Timmy Wetzel, Matt Dean, Issiah Wivell, Justin Reaver, Cody Stahley
Back Row (L-R): Manager Dave Wantz, Coach Mark Spalding, Coach TJ Eiker. Not Pictured Coach Doug Renner

actually used to play against the parents of some of the children he coaches now. That really shows how the Emmitsburg Little League has been such a strong part of many Emmitsburg families over the years!

Dave has been lucky enough to coach several of his athletes for three years now. One of these athletes is his nephew, Brett Weatherly. Brett takes the field as pitcher and short-stop. Dave said it has been a great experience coaching his nephew, but he doesn't cut him any slack!

Cousins Nick and Justin Reaver have also been on Dave's roster for the past three years. As mentioned before, Dave went to school with their parents and played ball against them when he himself was a player in the league.

Dave has fourteen athletes on his roster, a combination of two teams from the 11-12 year old bracket. A typical practice for Dave's team includes hitting drills, infield and outfield practice, and pitching practice. The team has also played in some tournaments to help prepare them

for this Cal Ripken State Tournament that they will be hosting this month. Dave is proud to have eight athletes in the tournament who were members of last year's all-star team. His team made it to the state championship last year, so Dave is really looking forward to seeing what his team can do this year. With a coach who has that much experience and passion, I have no doubt that they will have a very successful tournament!

Dave's story is just one of many that have formed from being a part of the Emmitsburg Little League. There are countless athletes and coaches who have dedicated many hours to their teams in preparation for the Cal Ripken State Tournament and the season in general. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend the games and support their local baseball enthusiasts. So bring some peanuts and Cracker Jacks and get ready to see some amazing talent and some great baseball! You won't want to strike out and miss any of the athletic talent that this tournament will bring to Emmitsburg!

For more information about the Emmitsburg Little League program and the upcoming Cal Ripken State Tournament, visit the Emmitsburg Baseball and Softball League's website at www.ebbsb.com.

Baseball success starts with preparation

Ed Lowry

The CBC has competed in multiple statewide and regional tournaments where the skill level and competitive play is elevated. In tournament instances, you could have a ball club represented from Southern Virginia and another representing New York. The collective CBC program has done exceptionally well in tournament play with a winning percentage just over 70%. However, the two younger of the four CBC squads: the U8 and U9 have demonstrated repetitive tournament successes.

The most intriguing part of these two particular squads is that 100% of the players come from the Emmitsburg, Thurmont, Pen Mar, and Fairfield areas. A population pool just north of 10,000 residents. These teams are competing and beating baseball clubs that are pulling from populations of 50,000 residents and beyond. The U9 CBC team managed by Jesse Williams has made it to the championship final in every tournament they have participated in bringing home a trophy in each. The highlight for the U9 squad to date has been finishing 2nd in the Spring Upper Chesapeake Baseball Festival (which is the largest youth baseball tournament in the state of Maryland).

This year, there were over 35 teams in the age bracket representing Maryland, Delaware, and



Catocin Baseball Club's U8 team

Virginia. Collectively, over 300+ teams participated in the tournament through ages 8 to 13. In that same tournament, the U8 CBC advanced to the semi finals of the "A" division of their age bracket. Since the spring tournament, the U9 placed second in both in Ol-

ney's Walk the Plank and the Essex Express Father's Day Classic.

The U8 CBC team has reached the semi finals in all of the tournaments they have participated in, and recently placed 2nd in the Battle of the Bear's Classic in Elizabethtown, PA where some of the

stiffest competition in Central Pennsylvania resides.

Although these accomplishments are impressive coming from a baseball club representing a small population in Northern Frederick County, the teams within CBC are by no mean content. The U8 will close out their season

participating in the Upper Chesapeake Summer Baseball Festival over the weekend of June 29th and 30th, while the U9 will conclude their season in the Ocean City Maryland Beach Blast July 19th through 21st. Regardless of the outcomes, you can rest assure the CBC program will be back at it in January building on these successes, and preparing for even greater success in 2014.

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COMPLEMENTARY CORNER

Being a peaceful presence

Renee Lehman

*“Let there be peace on earth,
and let it begin with me.”*

The lyrics to the song Let There Be Peace on Earth, were written in 1955 by songwriters, Sy Miller and Jill Jackson. This song has been sung in many languages, by many people all over the world since then. In Sy Miller’s words: “This simple thought, ‘Let There Be Peace on Earth, and Let It Begin With Me’ travels heart to heart – gathering in people everywhere who wish to become a note in a song of understanding and peace – peace for all mankind.”(www.jan-leemus.com)

Look at the world today, it may seem as though there is less peace on earth. The 24/7 news programming certainly gives the impression that the world is in a constant state of unrest and turmoil. However, I doubt this to be true. There is plenty of evidence of peace, love, compassion, and understanding that is occurring all around the globe. It just does not produce the type of “drama” that generates ratings and revenue for the networks.

The Chinese philosopher, Lao Tzu (570-490 B.C.), wrote:

*If there is to be peace in the world,
There must be peace in the nations.
If there is to be peace in the nations,
There must be peace in the cities.
If there is to be peace in the cities,
There must be peace between neighbors.
If there is to be peace between neighbors,
There must be peace in the home.
If there is to be peace in the home,
There must be peace in the heart.*

This is basically saying that for there



to be peace in the world, you must have peace in your heart. It all starts with you! Each one of us as individuals is responsible for the peace in our hearts, and therefore, the world. How can this be? You may ask, “How can I be responsible for peace outside of myself?” “How can I be responsible for peace in another part of the world?”

The answer is in the following concepts of ONENESS, and the concept of Macrocosm and Microcosm. ONENESS, the idea that everything is connected to everything else in the Universe, is a basic principle of Traditional Chinese Medicine that has been discussed in many articles over the past few years. Within the body, there is no disease that does not affect other systems within the body. For example, when someone gets nervous, this person may have to urinate more frequently or suddenly get hives on their skin. Everything about you is related on a body/mind/spirit level.

Macrocosm means Universe, whereas, Microcosm means a community that is an epitome of the Universe, (www.merriam-webster.com). They are two aspects of a theory developed by ancient Greek philosophers to describe human beings and their place in the universe. These early thinkers viewed the individual human being as a little world (microcosmos) whose composition and structure corre-

spond to that of the universe, or great world (macrocosmos). There was no concept of an isolated individual self. However, in our current culture, there is an undercurrent of thinking that is based on a belief that we are separate from each other – that you are you, separate from me and the rest of the universe.

In the 17th century, René Descartes suggested a spirit/matter (material) dualism philosophy, which has continued to be the foundation of much Western thought. He suggested that mind and matter (material) were two separate and independent realms. This included that the body works like a machine and it has material properties. The spirit, on the other hand, was described as a nonmaterial. His famous saying, “I think, therefore I exist,” has led us to equate our identity with our mind instead of our whole body/mind/spirit. Paraphrasing Fritjof Capra, author of The Tao of Physics (2000):

“As a consequence, this separation of our body/mind/spirit influenced how we see the “outside” world. We extended this separation

to society which is split into different nations, races, religious groups, political groups, etc. The belief that there are many fragments – in ourselves, our environment, and our society has alienated us from nature and from our fellow human beings. It can be seen as the reason for the present series of social, ecological and cultural crises. It has alienated us from nature and from our fellow human beings.”

So how do we get back to the ONENESS concept? We must realize that the world is organic, it is constantly changing. Nothing is static. Realize that all things are interrelated and connected. That what is happening inside of you (microcosm) is affecting everything outside of you (macrocosm), and vice versa. For there to be peace in the world, there must be peace in your heart.

How do you have peace in your heart? There are so many paths toward creating a peaceful heart. There is no ONE path for everyone. You need to find the path that resonates for you. Yet, I do believe that the following steps are important to consider while creating peace in your life.

1. Seek to be understanding – with yourself and others. Listen to what is truly being said. Can you listen without judgment? Realize that people come from all walks of life and have different life experiences that influence their beliefs.
2. Have compassion – for yourself and others. Be empathic to another person’s situation in

life. “There, but for the grace of God, go I.”

3. Be forgiving – to yourself and others. Holding onto grudges, anger, and other negative emotions just ends up creating disease within ourselves. Let go and move on.
4. Be grateful. Realize that life is full of impermanence. Be thankful and appreciate what you do have. When we focus on the abundance in our lives, we discover a greater capacity for generosity, cheerfulness, and contentment.
5. Spend time in nature.
6. Smile. It opens the heart.
7. Have faith.
8. Accept what is. Why worry about something that all the worrying in the world will not change? Focus on what YOU CAN DO and what YOU CAN CONTROL.
9. Be loving. This begins with you! How can you love someone else if you do not first love yourself? What does this involve? Incorporating the above practices into your daily life.

*If there is light in the soul,
There will be beauty in the person.
If there is beauty in the person,
There will be harmony in the house.
If there is harmony in the house,
There will be order in the nation.
If there is order in the nation,
There will be peace in the world.
- Chinese proverb*

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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FITNESS

Keep Moving

Exercise and Summer Heat

Linda Stultz
Certified Fitness Trainer
Therapist

Last month's article was about summer exercise for kids but I didn't want you to forget about the importance of exercise in the summer for the adults too. The yardwork, gardening and outside activities usually give us a little more exercise in the summer but that shouldn't take the place of your regular workout.

Don't stop exercising because it is hot, just be smart about it. People don't realize how much the heat can affect their internal system. When we sweat, we lose moisture, but we lose a lot more. Most of the time we don't really think about how much our body needs to be hydrated. The body is made up of 70% water. That's

why we can live longer without food than we can without water. By the time we feel thirsty, we are already starting to dehydrate. When we get a glass of water, that replaces the liquid lost in daily activities. In the summer, when we sweat more so we need to drink more. Be sure to replenish your carbs and protein after a workout too. I'm not giving you a pass to eat more, just a healthy snack will do. After all, you just burned off some extra calories and you don't want to pack them right back on.

Before starting your walk, workout or even just a day at the park, have a glass of water. Hydrate your body before it asks for it. Try to drink some water every half-hour or so. Prepare a water jug full of ice to last all day. Make it a fun game for the kids by putting their water in their favorite container or

get them a water bottle like mom or dad's. Most of my clients don't like water. I prefer plain water but if you would like you can add some lemon or your favorite flavoring, just watch the calories. You can also buy the flavored water. Water is one of the most important parts of my nutrition plan and should be one of the most important items on your daily diet.

You should continue to exercise as usual during the summer months, but remember to drink lots of water and plan your exercise according to the temperature outside. Always remember to use sun screen. The sun gets stronger and hotter in the summer and sometimes we don't realize just how quickly it can burn our skin. Try to walk in the early morning, late afternoon or evening. If possible, exercise in an air-conditioned place or a shaded area. We know it gets hot outside in the summer but just take a minute to think about how you can keep up your exercise routine by adjusting a few things. Be aware



of what your body is telling you. You may be more fatigued in hot weather, so don't push yourself as hard. Your body knows just how much it can take and it will take no more. Hydrating your body and giving it proper nutrition will help you through those workouts. Just remember that doing a little each day is better than doing nothing at all.

If you don't do any exercise, now is the time to start. Summer days are longer and may give you the extra time you were looking

for. Early risers can go for a walk or run before work. I find that a great way to start the day. Some people would rather be out in the evening and this is a great way to wind down from the day's stress and activities. Whatever time you choose is fine. The important thing is to get started.

This article is short, but to the point. Exercise, but be smart about it.

If you have any questions, please call me at 717-334-6009.

Fitness Matters

Expert answers to your health and wellness questions

George Puvel
Anytime Fitness Owner

Question: My wife thinks she'll get big and bulky if she starts lifting weights with me. How do I convince her otherwise?

Answer: This comes up all the time, and it's one of the biggest myths out there. First of all, women simply don't have the proper hormonal balance to put on large amounts of muscle tissue. Secondly, even if they did have the right physiology, it would take some serious training to do it. Getting bigger muscles requires high-volume workouts (lots of sets and reps) and a pretty high intensity as well. Picking up a few weights here and there isn't a recipe for building mass—it's what you do and how you do it that really makes the difference. Remind your wife that weight training programs can always be tailored to specific goals, so if she doesn't want to put on large amounts of muscle, that's just fine. Generally speaking, a full-body circuit with higher rep ranges a few days per week would work well if she's just looking to tone up or maintain her current level of muscle tissue. If she wants to get an individualized program based on her goals, look for a qualified personal trainer in your area.

Question: I train for a lot of endurance events and I'm getting tired of the same old sports drinks. Are there any alternatives that would work just as well?

Answer: Absolutely! There are many other engineered sports nutrition products that are designed

for consumption during training sessions and races. Gels are a popular choice and so are Sharkies, Sports Beans, Clif Shot Bloks, and Cytomax Energy Drops. All of these essentially function in the same way, and provide carbohydrate for energy and some much-needed electrolytes. Some may include other ingredients as well, including caffeine. Your best bet is to experiment with several options during your training to find out what's most palatable and well tolerated. It's also important to remember that these products are very concentrated, so they need to

be consumed with plenty of water to help with the digestive process. If you fail to do this, you'll likely end up with gastrointestinal distress, and no one wants that in the midst of a training session or race. Lastly, let's not forget about good ol' solid food. Some people perform really well consuming bananas and pretzels. The issue here is finding something that's both easy to carry and will keep well throughout your event. Good luck!

About the author: George Puvel is the Club Owner. To submit a question for future articles, please contact the author at ThurmontMD@anytimefitness.com.

To submit a question for future articles, please contact the author at ThurmontMD@anytimefitness.com.

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ASTRONOMY

The night sky of July

Professor Wayne Wooten

For July, the Moon will be a waning crescent in the morning sky during the first week, and then new on July 8th. The waxing crescent moon passes six degrees south of Venus on July 10th; note the nice binocular view of the Beehive cluster, M-44, between Venus and the Moon this evening! The first quarter moon passes just three degrees south of Saturn on July 16th. The Full Moon is on July 22nd, and is called the Hay or Thunder Moon in Native American tradition. The last quarter moon is on July 29th, rising about midnight.

Venus dominates the western evening sky in July, but Mercury and Jupiter are now lost in the sun's glare. Through the telescope, Venus is a small gibbous disk, still on the far side of the sun. Its disk is bright but featureless, as we only see the top of its sulfuric acid cloud deck from earth visually. It passes 1.1 degrees north of bright Regulus in Leo on the evening of July 22nd.

Mars is moving rapidly eastward in the dawn sky, and overtakes Jupiter on July 22nd. It does not reach opposition for good telescopic observing until about a year from now.

Saturn is well placed for evening viewing in the southern sky after sunset. The rings are open up to 17 degrees, and a telescopic treat to be savored at our public gazes. It's large moon Titan is as big as the planet Mercury, and is visible in most any telescope. Three middle sized moons, Rhea, Tethys, and



M-6 and M-7, just to the left of the Scorpion's tail as they appear in binoculars

Dione, are all about half as big as our own moon, and visible in scopes six inches or larger in aperture.

Overhead, the Big Dipper rides high at sunset, but falls lower in NW each evening. Good scouts know to take its leading pointers north to Polaris, the famed Pole Star. For us, it sits 30 degrees (our latitude) high in the north, while the rotating earth beneath makes all the other celestial bodies spin around it from east to west.

If you drop south from the bowl

of the Big Dipper, Leo the Lion is in the SW. Note the Egyptian Sphinx is based on the shape of this Lion in the sky. Taking the arc in the Dipper's handle, we "arc" SE to bright orange Arcturus, the brightest star of Spring. Cooler than our yellow Sun, and much

poorer in heavy elements, some believe its strange motion reveals it to be an invading star from another smaller galaxy, now colliding with the Milky Way in Sagittarius in the summer sky. Moving almost perpendicular to the plane of our Milky Way, Arcturus was the first star in the sky where its proper motion across the historic sky was noted, by Edmund Halley.

Spike south to Spica, the hot blue star in Virgo, then curve to Corvus the Crow, a four sided grouping. Saturn lies in Virgo's eastern feet this July. North of Corvus, in the arms of Virgo, is where our large scopes will show members of the Virgo Supercluster, a swarm of over a thousand galaxies about 50 million light years distant.

To the east, Hercules is well up, with the nice globular cluster M-13 marked on your sky map and visible in binocs. The brightest star of the northern hemisphere, Vega (from Carl Sagan's novel and movie, "Contact"), rises in the NE as twilight deepens. Twice as hot as our Sun, it appears blue-white, like most bright stars.

Northeast of Lyra is Cygnus, the Swan, flying down the Milky Way. Its bright star Deneb, at the top of the "northern cross" is one of the luminaries of the Galaxy, about 50,000 times more luminous than our Sun and around 3,000 light years distant. Under dark skies, note the "Great Rift", a dark nebula in front of our solar system as we re-

volve around the core of the Milky Way in the Galactic Year of 250 million of our own years.

To the east, Altair is the third bright star of the summer triangle. It lies in Aquila the Eagle, and is much closer than Deneb; like Vega, it lies within about 25 light years of our Sun. Use your binocs to pick up many clusters in this rich region of our own Cygnus spiral arm rising now in the east.

To the south, Antares is well up at sunset in Scorpius. It appears reddish (its Greek name means rival of Ares or Mars to the Latins) because it is half as hot as our yellow Sun; it is bright because it is a bloated red supergiant, big enough to swallow up our solar system all the way out to Saturn's orbit! Scorpius is the brightest constellation in the sky, with 13 stars brighter than the pole star Polaris! Note the fine naked eye clusters M-6 and M-7, just to the left of the Scorpion's tail. Our photo for this month shows the two clusters as they appear in binoculars.

Just a little east of the Scorpion's tail is the teapot shape of Sagittarius, which lies toward the center of the Milky Way. From a dark sky site, you can pick out the fine stellar nursery, M-8, the Lagoon Nebula, like a cloud of steam coming out of the teapot's spout. The fine globular cluster M-22 sits just NE of the star in the lid with binocs, and resolves well with any scope 4" aperture or larger.

Farmers' Almanac

Mid-Atlantic Weather Watch: Showers in the northern part of the region, STORMS in the south (1,2,3); fair and hot (4,5,6) with STORMS but much cooler temperatures (7,8). Fair and very warm (9,10) with more STORMS, some severe (11,12). Hazy, hot, and humid (13,14,15) with scattered STORMS (16,17). Fair and hot again (18,19,20,21). Remnants of a tropical storm (22,23). Hot and humid weather returns (25,26,27,28) with the threat of an Atlantic hurricane (29,30,31).

Tornado Watch: The Almanack sees significant tornado activity for the Mid-Atlantic Region in July (the 7th through the 12th, the 20th to the 23rd, and on 29th, 30th, and 31st.

Full Moon: Native Americans had names for every moon that helped them to characterize weather, planting, and hunting conditions for their particular geographical region. July's Full Moon, which occurs on July 22nd, has had many names attributed to it. The most common are Thunder Moon because of the increased number of thunderstorms, some quite severe, that plagued many regions during this month, Buck Moon due the rapid growth of antlers on young bucks in July, Ripe Corn Moon because of the appearance of young corn on the stalks, and Hay Moon since hay tended to ripen as well.

Special Notes: The Dog Days of Summer begin on Wednesday, July 3rd

so get ready for some hot, hazy, and humid days. On this most famous day in United States History, July 4th, in 1776, the Continental Congress passed a resolution saying, "these United Colonies are, and of right, ought to be, free and independent states".

Holidays: Celebrate the 4th safely. If planning to be outdoors for an extended period of time (boating, swimming, sports, etc.), remember to take along sunscreen with a rating of at least SPF 15 or higher. Apply frequently to yourself and children especially if swimming or perspiring. Enjoy the day! If planning a cookout, check out the grill thoroughly and every aspect of its operation when you replace the propane tank. Check all hoses, couplings, gauges, and the burner jets for undue wear, malfunction, or clogs. Be sure that all of the grill surfaces are well-scrubbed and clean of any grease. Not only will this prevent a fire but it will greatly improve the taste of the food you're grilling.

The Garden: Continue to keep the garden adequately watered (that is, if July's forecasted wet weather is not enough!). Expect plants to do well with all of the extra rain in July. Be sure that all tall annuals and perennials are securely staked so that they will remain upright during the afternoon thunderstorms that are so common for this time of year. Tick-proof your yard this summer. Deer are likely to bring ticks into your space so plant species that deer do not eat like the thorny barberry, bugleweed, forsythia, foxglove, and most needle-leaved conifers. If you have to divide plants, give them a chance to recover from having their roots disturbed by keeping them in the shade for at least a week. Always remember that when working outside in hot sun for any prolonged period of time, be sure to take salt tablets, drink plenty of water, and take frequent breaks in the shade.

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COMPUTER Q&A

When to upgrade and when to buy

Aysë Jester
Jester's Computer Tutor

There are many reasons why you may want to consider upgrading your computer instead of buying a new one. If there is life left in your current machine you may be surprised how much of a difference upgrading some of the hardware can do. It is possible that your hardware is doing just fine; the software may need some attention. Upgrading your computer is generally less expensive than buying a new computer and in some cases can prevent you from having to reload your existing software. In other situations where the hardware or software is just not worth replacing you may be better off looking into a new or refurbished computer. Whichever situation you are facing read on to help determine if your computer is worth upgrading or how to begin your search for a new or refurbished computer.

How old is your machine? Is it worth upgrading?

If your computer is running a Microsoft Windows operating systems prior to Windows XP (DOS) Windows 95, Windows 98 Windows ME, or Windows 2000), it is very unlikely that the hardware in the system will be able to support any newer software. Much of the hardware that was used in the past is no longer manufactured, therefore it is likely that only used parts would be available. Any parts you are able to replace will not come close to the speed of hardware that is available today.

If your PC system is running Windows XP, you may want to consider upgrading to Windows 7 to avoid losing Microsoft's support including security updates which will discontinue in April of 2014. If you do decide to upgrade your operating system, it is likely that you may need to upgrade some hardware in your computer as well.

What can be upgraded to make my computer run faster?

If your computer is running slow there are several reasons for the sluggishness. One cause could be that you do not have enough resources available for the computer run correctly causing slowness and potential freezing. If you are receiving an error about system resources or virtual memory you may just need to upgrade the memory in your computer. It is also possible that your processor and/or memory are being used up by software that should not be using as much as it is. Many things can cause this including broken software, bad hardware, and viruses. In any case it is always best to have a professional give you suggestions after they take a look at your computer.

If my computer has a problem is it worth repairing or should I just go for a new computer?

Sometimes the solution to the problem is piece of faulty hardware conflicting with normal processes. Other times software may be the cause of the problem and your computer may just need to be updated and cleaned-up. Unless your computer has special or hard to find parts, has persistent un-diagnosable problems, has serious system failure or damage you may find repair to be a viable option. Good professional repair technicians will assess the damage and recommend either replacing fault hardware or replacing the entire system. Some things that should be considered are life expectancy for the remaining hardware. You should weigh not only the difference in cost between upgrading or replacing parts and a new computer but also the difference of quality and speed that the two options present.

How do I know what kind of computer to get if I decide to replace mine?

It can be difficult to trust companies when deciding what to buy when making such a large purchase decision. You may be surprised to find that you can get better customer service and deals at smaller businesses if you look around. No matter where you go it is best to do some research on your needs before

going out to shop. There are plenty of buying guides to be found online to help you think about what your needs and wants are to make an informed decision.

If you or someone you know needs help with learning how to use a PC computer, mobile technology, web de-

sign, or graphic design you can contact Jester's Computer Tutor for help! You can also visit our website at www.thecomputertutor.info or like us on Facebook to receive free tips and tricks! You can contact the tutor via email at help@thecomputertutor.info or by phone at (717) HELP-4-ME or (717) 435-7463

If you are in need of PC computer repair or services please visit Jester's Computer Services located at 5135 Fairfield Road, Fairfield, PA.

You can reach Jester's Computer Services by phone at (717) 642-6611 or send an email to: customerservice@jesterscomputers.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesdays

•Adams County Master Gardener's Garden Chats. Learn how to grow native plants from the very best. For more information call their Gardening Guru - Mary Ann Ryan, at 717-334-6271

•Mount St. Mary's Jazz at the Fountain. See back page for schedule of bands.

July 1

•150th Anniversary of the Battle of Hanover - coinciding with the town's 250th anniversary, events are planned to highlight the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Hanover which took place on July 2, 1863. For more information visit www.hanover2013.com

•Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve's The Landscape and Rocks of the Gettysburg National Military Park. for more information see page 16.

July 1, 2 & 3

•Gettysburg National Park's 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg. A series of special National Park Service Ranger conducted Battle Walks and real-time programs that follow the course of the battle over 3 days. For more information call 717-339-2161 or visit www.nps.gov/gett

July 2

•Annual Battle of Hunterstown Commemoration - A Reflection of History Event. Understand the impact that the battle of Hunterstown had on the battle taking place in Gettysburg just

a few miles away. Take a special walking tour of the battle sites, engage with living history and understand the full story of the battles during the Gettysburg campaign. For more information visit www.hunterstown1863.com.

July 3

•Gettysburg's Independence Day Parade. This special parade honoring the town's independence from the three day battle will highlight the history of Gettysburg and celebrate this special place with marching bands, living history and more. Downtown Gettysburg. For more information call 717-334-6274 or visit www.gettysburg.travel.

July 4, 5, 6 & 7

•Gettysburg 150th National Civil War Battle Reenactment. An all-day family event. The gates open at 8:30 a.m., each day will include two exciting battles, field demonstrations, live mortar fire demonstrations, two activities tents with continuous living history programs, and a living history village with all-day activities. Visitors are invited to shop in the very impressive "Sutler Row" where they will discover period-style clothing and wares or walk through the military camps to experience 1860's military life and talk to these living historians. For more information visit www.gettysburgreenactment.com or by calling the Gettysburg Anniversary Committee at 717-338-1525.

July 11

•Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve's Summer Tree ID at the Preserve. For more information see page 16.

July 13

•Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve's Backcountry Navigation at the Preserve. For more information see page 16.

•Adams County Arts Council's CenturyLink Gettysburg Cook-off—North vs South" at Gateway Gettysburg. The event will feature food competitions in a variety of categories with cash prizes and awards along with a wide variety of music, art, crafters, food vendors, antique car show, Cornhole competition, kids zone, and a few other surprises. The battle will feature a BBQ Skirmish sanctioned by the Kansas City BBQ Society with competitors competing in Pork, Chicken, Beef Brisket, and Rib categories and will include three People's Choice competitions featuring pulled pork, hot and spicy wings, and barbecue wings. All events will have professional, amateur, and restaurant divisions for competitors. For more information visit www.adamsarts.org.

July 16

•Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve's Silent Soldiers: Trees of the Battlefield. For more information see page 16.

July 20

•Mt. Tabor Church of Rocky Ridge

will hold a festival at Mt. Tabor Park, home of the BIG SLIDE. Come enjoy good home-cooked food: Soup, Sandwiches, Iced Tea and Ice Cream & Peaches beginning at 4:00 p.m. Also enjoy games including BINGO. Music by "Compromise" from 6 - 9 p.m. Come join us in Christian Fellowship - surely a good time for everyone of all ages.

•14th Annual Adams County Irish Festival - Produced and presented by the Irish Heritage Foundation of Gettysburg. Held rain or shine, the festival offers family fun for all with Irish music, dancers, food, Irish gift vendors and more in a shady outdoor park setting. Gettysburg Moose Lodge Park, 100 Moose Road, Gettysburg. For more information call 717-632-8755 or visit www.adamscountyirishfestival.com.

•Blue Ridge Summit, PA: Annual Blue Ridge Summit Free Library Ice Cream Social held rain or shine on the adjacent plaza green. Come out, browse through the thousands of used books on sale during the day, stroll through the plaza, see the numerous attractions: living histories; kids games; face painting; artists and art work; fire truck rides; entertainment all day long; good food and drinks served all day and of course, Ice Cream by Antietam Dairy. For additional information phone 717-642-5645 or email jacksmtn@embarqmail.com.

•Vigilant Hose Co. crab feed, for tickets call 301-447-2728 or stop by the fire hall and see any member

July 20 & 21

•4th Annual Gettysburg 19th Century Base Ball Tournament. Come see what a 19th Century base ball (yes, it used to be two words) match was like before million dollar contracts, television and gloves! Featuring clubs from all over the United States who will compete for the tournament championship using the same style uniforms and equipment and playing by the same rules and customs as were used in 1864. Family fun for everyone. Hickory Hollow Horse Farm, 301 Crooked Creek Road, Gettysburg. Fans coming out to the free event will not only witness base ball as it was played in 1864, but there may also be special guests in attendance - in the past, President Lincoln, General Grant, General Lee and a whole host of Gettysburg Civilians have attended to watch the games and show you what life was like outside of the War in 1864. Bring your own chairs and blanket as well as a picnic lunch or enjoy some of our concessions that will be available. For more information call 717-334-0349 or visit www.gettysburgbaseballfestival.com

July 21

•St. John's Lutheran Churches Concert on The Lawn, Old Country, Blue Grass and Gospel. 8619 Blacks Mill Road, Creagerstown, featuring, "Fiends Creek Pickers" Free Hot Dogs and drinks. Bring lawn chairs and blankets for on the ground.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

July 28
 •10th Annual Old-Fashioned Corn-Fest Great food and entertainment for the entire family!!! The Historic Round Barn and Round Barn Farm Market, 298 Cashtown Road, Biglerville.
 Enjoy Corn Roasted in the husk over an apple-wood fire, BBQ Chicken, Pulled Pork, Peach Sun-

daes, Apple Dumplings, and More!!! Free entertainment provided. Hay wagon rides around the farm, as well as free games and activities for children will be available.
 •Free Parking/No Admission Fee. Food will begin at 11:30am and entertainment will begin at noon. For more info call 717-334-1984 or visit www.RoundBarnGettysburg.com.

Hollabaugh Bros. Fruit Farm & Market Celebrates Gettysburg's 150th with Daily Events

Hollabaugh Bros. Fruit Farm & Market will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg with daily themed events for families. All events are free and open to the public, with no registration required, unless otherwise noted. These events are family-friendly, with many particularly geared for children. You'll also have the opportunity to about soldier rations and sample hardtack and other period foods every day during the big celebration.

Come on down to the farm and learn about life during Civil War times, enjoy some good music and food, and celebrate summer!

July 1 – Horseradish is not for Horses – Come watch a period demonstration of how horseradish was made during the 1800s. Local student Hannah Menges will show you how, and you can even sample some of the freshly made condiment.

July 2 – Remembering Lincoln at Gettysburg – Pull up a chair and listen to Sarah Cook Myers

(brought to life by local historian Deb McCauslin) recount her experiences with President Abraham Lincoln at Gettysburg.

July 3 – Read, Learn, Grow – This is part of our on-going summer series for children (ages 3-9 preferred) to spend time on the farm, read a book, learn about farming, and participate in a craft activity. Choose either 9:30 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. The cost is \$5 per child and includes all materials for the activity.

July 4 – North/South Bakers' Battle -- It's a Penny War! North/South Baker's Battle: Mrs. Lincoln's White Cake (Soup Kitchen) vs. General Lee's Orange Lemon Cake (SCCAP). You sample and vote for your favorite with your pennies (or any other amount you wish to donate to a good cause). The money raised will go to the winning cake's charity, plus you'll get the period recipes to take home! This event takes place until the market closes at 3:00 p.m., or until we run out of cake!

July 5 – A Child's Life in 1863: Games and More (advance registration requested but not required) For one hour we'll pretend we live in 1865 and play games that children played back then. You may be

surprised just how things have really not changed all that much (minus the Play Stations and smart phones!)

July 6 – The Big Squeeze: Make and Sample Lemonade 1863-style – Join us to roll some lemons, squeeze the juice, and make a delicious, refreshing summer treat.

July 7 – Tom Jolin in Concert – Come on over and hear local folk musician Tom Jolin play from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

About Hollabaugh Bros. Fruit Farm & Market: We're a family owned and operated (four generations) fruit and vegetable farm with a fabulous retail farm market in Biglerville, filled with fun for the whole family! We grow all kinds of fruits and vegetables, including apples, pears, peaches, nectarines, apricots, asian pears, blueberries, raspberries, asparagus, corn, tomatoes, strawberries, and plums, just to name a few! For more information call Hollabaugh Bros. Farm Market, call Ellie Hollabaugh at 717-677-9494 or visit www.hollabaughbros.com. Hollabaugh Bros. Fruit Farm & Market is located at 945 Carlisle Road, Biglerville, PA 17307

Join Us For Our 10th Annual CornFest Sunday, July 28th
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MOUNT ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY

ANNOUNCING PARTNERSHIP WITH UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF NURSING



"This exciting partnership will help nurses reach their educational goals of a dual degree."

Mount St. Mary's University School of Natural Science and Mathematics is expanding opportunities for nursing students by partnering with the University of Maryland's School Of Nursing (UMSON).

The recently signed agreement provides students with the opportunity to earn two undergraduate degrees in just over five years — one in biology from the Mount and a second in nursing from the University of Maryland. Students participating in the program are required to complete three academic years at the Mount and five semesters at the University of Maryland.

"The articulation agreement with the University of Maryland successfully combines the Mount's strong liberal arts curriculum with the health care knowledge and clinical experiences students can only obtain from a hospital-affiliated nursing program," says Jennifer Staiger, Ph.D, chair of the Mount's Science Department.

"This exciting partnership will help nurses reach their educational goals of a dual degree," said UMSON Dean, Jane M. Kirschling, Ph.D., RN, FAAN. "We are pleased to extend our nursing program to include Mount St. Mary's University as part of the University of Maryland School of Nursing's commitment to quality health care in this region and the state. This innovative agreement will also support education mobility and facilitate the seamless transfer of academic credit between our schools."

The partnership is similar to an existing agreement the Mount currently has with Shenandoah University in Winchester, VA. It is anticipated that these programs may enroll as many as 20-30 students annually.

For more information, visit www.msmary.edu/nursing

Summer at the Mount— A Bright Place to Be!



At Mount St. Mary's University, we believe having fun and learning go hand in hand. Light up your summer with one of our engaging programs:

4TH ANNUAL SCRIPTURE INSTITUTE | July 9-11

Join members of the Mount's Theology Department for an engaging exploration of scripture and prayer. Includes study, reflection and more, plus the option to stay overnight at Mount St. Mary's Seminary.

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE CAMP | July 15-19 OR July 22-26 (Ages 11-13)

Looking for some major adventure for your active child this summer? The Mount's amazing Outdoor Adventures program provides a week of the best outdoor sports the area has to offer! Rock climbing, caving, canoeing, hiking, and more, all led by our professionally trained staff. Equipment and transportation to all activity sites included. Space is very limited, so sign up early.

GRANDPARENTS UNIVERSITY | July 18-19 (Ages 8 through 108!)

Grandparents and their grandchildren choose a "major" and attend hands-on classes taught by Mount St. Mary's faculty. Make memories for a lifetime as you share stories, learn, and have fun together!

PROJECT DISCOVERY: ROBOTICS CAMP | July 22-August 2 (Students entering grades 4-6)

Camp is held at St. John Regional Catholic School in Frederick, MD. Learn to use Lego Mindstorms™ and design robots to solve problems. Students will learn basic programming the first week, then use that knowledge to solve problems in a series of robotics challenges the second week. This exciting program develops and promotes Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) education. Program includes a supervised lunch and recreation break each day.

For more information on Mount Summer programs:
www.msmary.edu/summer | 301.447.8329 | summer@msmary.edu

WEDNESDAYS AT THE FOUNTAIN MUSIC SERIES

Our Wednesdays at the Fountain music series is back! Join us for free concerts every Wednesday from 8-10 p.m. throughout the summer. We'll see you at the McGowan Center fountain! See the full series schedule online, www.msmary.edu/summertime

Elijah Jamal Balbed - Jazz Saxophone

July 10, 8-10 p.m.

Saxophonist and composer Elijah Jamal Balbed is a native of Washington, D.C. Elijah attended Howard University under the direction of Fred Irby and Charlie Young, and now performs music full time. Washington City Paper named him Best New Jazz Musician in 2010. That same year he was selected to be in D.C.'s only resident big band, the Bohemian Caverns Jazz Orchestra (BCJO). Elijah is currently a member of the BCJO, Donvonte McCoy's Quintet, the Chuck Brown Tribute Band, and performs along the east coast with his own group. To learn more and hear sample music visit www.elijahjambalbed.com



AlyCat - Pop Quartet

July 17, 8-10 p.m.

AlyCat's unique new fusion of dance beats and songs sets them apart from other jam bands. The music is a hybrid of electronic and organic instruments infused with dance beats and funky bass. The forceful gospel-like vocals will hypnotize you with sweet harmonies and provoking lyrics. To learn more and hear sample music visit www.alycatonline.com

Paul Austerlitz Quartet - Jazz and World Music

July 24, 8-10 p.m.

Reed player, composer, and ethnomusicologist Paul Austerlitz combines his background as an ethnomusicologist specializing in Afro-Caribbean music with his creative work as a jazz musician. As an instrumentalist, Austerlitz has dedicated himself to mastering the bass and contrabass clarinets. He also plays soprano clarinet and tenor saxophone. As a composer, Austerlitz weaves his backgrounds in jazz and ethnomusicology, producing works that incorporate the music that he researches. He has been especially active in blending Latin and Caribbean music from the Dominican Republic and elsewhere with free forms of jazz. To learn more and hear sample music visit www.paulausterlitz.org



Eric Byrd Trio - Jazz, Soul, Rhythm and Blues

July 31, 8-10 p.m.

The Eric Byrd Trio are musicians whose vision is to glorify the age of traditional jazz while providing an energetic and modern approach to standards and original compositions at the same time. As true ambassadors of jazz, the Eric Byrd Trio have performed internationally for over 10 years. With several studio albums released, the EBT has enjoyed immense popularity and recognition from fans and government officials alike. To learn more and hear sample music visit www.ericbyrd.com

For a complete list of events at the Mount visit www.msmary.edu/calendar