

# Emmitsburg NEWS-JOURNAL

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## New board takes lead on Rt. 15 Scenic Byway

February 20 marked the inaugural meeting of the Maryland Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Scenic Byway Advisory Board at the Mason and Dixon Discovery Center. The group, composed of representatives from across Frederick County with backgrounds in tourism, marketing, history and business, will meet regularly to help set the course for the development of the portion of the byway that runs along Route 15, bisecting Frederick County from the Mason Dixon line down to Point of Rocks.

"The effort is aimed at tourism and economic development, encouraging some of the many visitors that use this roadway when traveling to major tourist destinations to stop in the small towns and historic sites in Frederick County," said Chris Haugh, Scenic Byway & Special Projects Manager for the Tourism Council of Frederick County, who led the meeting.

The 38-mile section of road, also called the Catoctin Mountain Highway, was originally designated as a National Scenic Byway in 2005 by the America's Byways

program under the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration. The program aims to preserve and enhance selected roads in the country that feature architectural, cultural, historic, and scenic qualities.

The route includes sites ranging from the C&O Canal National Historical Park and former B&O Railroad sites in Point of Rocks and Brunswick, to the towns of Thurmont and Emmitsburg, Monocacy National Battlefield, Cunningham Falls State Park and Catoctin Mountain Park. Catoctin Furnace, located south of Thurmont, emblazons the Maryland byway's logo.

In 2009 the route was expanded to run 180 miles from Gettysburg down to Monticello, VA., and was redesignated as the Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Scenic Byway. The longer route holds more historic sites than any other in the country, including points of interest relating to the War of 1812, Civil War, and U.S. presidential history.

Local members on the new Ad-

visory Board from the north county area include Mel Poole, from the Catoctin Mountain Park, Bob Black of Catoctin Mountain Orchard, Elizabeth Prongas of the Catoctin Forest Alliance, Rob Judge, from the Seton Shrine, John Howard of Emmitsburg, David Yoder, Supervisor Mason and Dixon Welcome Center, and Mike Hillman, the managing editor of this paper. Emmitsburg Town Planner Susan Cipperly will also serve on the Board as an ex-officio member.

The members will soon begin splitting into sub-committees to focus on specific areas, such as marketing, recreation, historic preservation, and seeking alternative funding sources, which has become increasingly important since the economic downturn has made federal funding more difficult to come by.

Although the byway program has a low profile among some locals, it has been influential in subtle ways to guide the development and appearance of businesses along the roads, such as the new Wegman's grocery store in Fred-



erick. "Roadside character is very important to underscore our tourism marketing message," Haugh said, noting that county and municipal planners can refer to that larger vision when calling for more aesthetic considerations on roadway building projects and commercial properties.

## Commissioners discuss 'State of Adams County'

Adams County Commissioners Randy Phiel, Jim Martin, and Marty Qually held a forum February 13 at the Fairfield Fire & EMS firehouse to present the "State of Adams County."

The three commissioners reviewed their accomplishment made last year, and stated their objectives for the current year.

Attendees braved a sudden snow and rain event to hear what the commissioners had to say about the previous year's accomplishments and what lies ahead for the balance of this year.

Even before assuming office, the new board began establishing a basic set of goals they wanted to see accomplished beginning the day they were to be sworn-in.

Those goals they all agreed on included:

- promoting fiscal responsibility;
- improving communication with residents and government staff;
- promoting economic development; and
- upgrading the 911 radio system.

Regarding promoting fiscal responsibility in 2012, the commissioners passed a county bud-

get without a tax increase, established a budgetary surplus, and enhanced a county contingency fund, raising the then-existing amount of \$7,000 up to \$250,000 to address emergency and other critical, unanticipated spending needs.

Improved communications have come in the form of establishing a county staff newsletter, holding local public forums, and meeting regularly with staff and county court representatives.

Promoting economic growth in the county during 2012 included getting county agencies to partner with each other on planning and related projects they may have in common, and, when it comes to tourism, "focus on the whole county...not just concentrating on Gettysburg."

Upgrading the 911 radio system continued to progress in 2012, after efforts appeared to have "stalled" before the new commissioners took office. Given the projected costs, Phiel said, "We are hopeful there will be some grant money out there that will come our way."

During the current year, the commissioners stated they were committed to improving upon all of the accomplishments of



Commissioners Jim Martin, Randy Phiel, and Marty Qually

2012, plus exploring other terrain, such as ending ceasing to rent property for county use and consider buying facilities instead, taking on the prevailing wage issue as it related to government projects, developing a different approach to agricultural land preservation, bringing-in broad band radio to attract business that rely on that system, and replacing the "antiquated" county computer system.

2012 represented their first year of office for the three commissioner. Phiel, in describing the three-man "takeover," said, "We walked into office with a whole lot of issues we feel we have tackled or begun to have tackled."

The Adams County commissioners will continue to address the need to upgrade a county-wide 911 radio system, fiscal responsibility, and work on economic development during 2013.

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## NEWS

## Burglaries lead to uptick in local crime rate

A rash of break-ins and burglaries targeted several Emmitsburg businesses in January and early February, resulting in damaged property and stolen cash. According to sheriff's office spokeswoman Cpl. Jennifer Bailey, the number of incidents marked a "slight increase in activity," above what is expected for Emmitsburg in a typical month.

On January 16 police responded to a burglary in progress at a concession stand near the Antique Mall. The suspect fled before the deputy arrived, and there was minor property damage at the scene. On January 22 there was a forced entry through the back door of Stavros Pizza resulting in the theft of an undisclosed amount of cash

from a register.

Liberty Manufacturing on Creamery Road was hit twice, first on January 19 when a window was broken and the interior files and desks were searched, but nothing was stolen. The same building was broken into again on February 2, but this time money was stolen from an adjoining business.

"Two arrests have been made, and I believe there is further investigation and more charging documents coming," said Dfc. Mike Eyler of the Frederick County Sheriff's Office, delivering a police report at the February 18 meeting of the Emmitsburg Town Council, although he did not elaborate on which crimes they were connected with.

The Frederick News-Post reported in early February that one of the suspects, Christopher M. Hurtt, of Emmitsburg was charged with second and fourth degree burglary, theft, and malicious destruction of property after being connected to the break-in at Liberty Manufacturing. Hurtt admitted to burglarizing the building with the help of a friend, and attempting to cash in about \$1,000 of stolen coins at the Weis Market in Thurmont.

In addition to the burglaries there were six thefts, three cases of fraud, and three incidents of destruction of property in January. On January 16 a metal light pole was knocked down by a car on Academy Ct. causing an estimated \$2,100 in damages, according to the sheriff's office. Tire tracks led the investigating deputy to the residence of the driver, who was charged the fees for replacement.

## Hoover appointed to Town Council

The Emmitsburg Board of Commissioners appointed former Mayor Jim Hoover to the Board in a special meeting on Monday, Feb. 11. Hoover was sworn in at the Council's regular meeting on Feb. 18, and will serve out the remaining seven months of the term previously held by Glenn Blanchard, who resigned on Feb. 6, citing health issues.

The special meeting was called to discuss the process of filling the vacant seat and to seek legal guidance on how and when it needed to be done. Town Attorney John Clapp explained that the town's Charter was written in language that suggests the Board is obligated to fill such vacancies, but it does not mention any timeline for doing so.


Commissioners Tim O'Donnell and Chris Sweeney later referred to the mandatory sense of the Charter in urging the Board to appoint a new member that night. Chris Staiger and Patrick Joy favored forgoing any appointment until September's election, or until more people in the community had a chance to express interest or share their views on the replacement process.

A motion to leave the seat vacant until the next election was defeated after the vote resulted in a tie. Staiger then motioned to appoint former Commissioner Denise Etris, citing a precedent of selecting appointees from among those who most recently lost an election for the vacant position. Etris, who fell short of winning reelection in 2010,

was the most recent runner-up for the Board of Commissioners, as subsequent elections have been run unopposed. Staiger's motion failed to receive a second, however, even though the precedent itself was not explicitly rejected.

Two more motions, one proposed by Sweeney to delay the appointment until March, and another by O'Donnell to appoint Jennifer Miller, also failed to receive a second. An hour into the meeting, there appeared to be an impasse, until Staiger motioned to appoint Jim Hoover.

Hoover, who had served as Emmitsburg's mayor for nearly ten years, was defeated by current Mayor Donald Briggs in 2011, making him the most recent runner-up in an election, just not for a commissioner seat.



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Commissioner Joy seconded the motion, which passed in a unanimous vote.

After the meeting, the Commissioners agreed that the meeting revealed issues with the process of filling vacancies that should be addressed, but that the end result was generally positive.

"I was impressed by my fellow board members' efforts to see this task through to the end," said Commissioner O'Donnell. "It is

clear we each had different ideas about the process, but we were able to arrive at a reasonable compromise given the nature of the Charter's language, both specific and vague."

Patrick Joy has already drafted an ordinance for the Charter in hopes of clarifying the process of filling vacancies in the future, and will present it for discussion at the Town Council meeting on March 4.

## Town square revitalization moves forward

Visions of a renewed Town Square in Emmitsburg came into focus at the February meetings of the Town Council as computer renderings presented a fly-through view of how the area would appear after implementing proposed changes to improve pedestrian safety, traffic congestion, and the overall aesthetics of the town's central intersection.

At the Council's February 4 meeting, Seth Harry of Seth Harry and Associates, which was contracted to develop the plans for the redesign, presented

a couple plans that included relocated crosswalks, curved benches and planters, decorative brick piers, a clock, and an optional fountain, among other items.

Comments from the public, including several owners of businesses in and near the square, were overwhelmingly in favor of the proposals, and reflected appreciation for how local stakeholders have been engaged throughout the planning process.

Mayor Don Briggs set the long-term development of Downtown Frederick

as an example of the importance of getting everyone fully on-board with the project, which he hopes will make Emmitsburg a "destination place to come to, not a place that you go through" on the way somewhere else. He added that, "In order to get a return, you have to invest money."

The scope of the financial investment was the subject of the February 18 meeting, at which Town Planner Susan Cipperly presented itemized cost estimates for the proposals. The basic set of improvements to the square come to an estimated \$379,000, but the addition of elements such as an analog clock, fountain, improvements to the traffic signals, and new signage bring

the total estimate to over \$460,000.

Cipperly informed the Board that the next step is to commission a full set of construction drawings, which will cost \$37,000. She noted that the town could apply for a grant from the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority to cover both the plans and new way-finding signage, bringing the cost to the town down to \$23,900.

The Board unanimously passed a motion by Commissioner Chris Staiger to direct the staff to pursue the grant, and to transfer the necessary money into the Capital Improvement Plan fund.

Staiger urged close attention to the mounting cost of the project and the

need to continue moving forward. "The town is already in for almost \$45,000 that we've spent," he said. "We need to know where we're going with this."

Briggs and a couple members of the public voiced support for opening a bidding process for certain elements of the Square so that individuals and businesses could invest to have their names printed on the clock, the fountain, bricks or other surfaces. The Board and town staff will consider many potential sources for funding from both private investments and competitive grants as the project moves forward.

Among the issues that will need to be revisited in the future is traffic management. Seth Harry's plans call for an "all-stop" phase of the traffic signals to improve safety for pedestrians at crosswalks, but the Maryland State Highway Administration warns that this could snarl traffic during peak hours, earning the intersection a failing grade rather than a barely passing one. Harry downplayed the finding, saying it was based on a model that may overestimate future traffic trends.

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# Borough Hall options pursued

The Carroll Valley Borough Building Working Group will be seeking options to deal with a Borough Hall the mayor once described as “falling apart.”

Borough Mayor Ronald J. Harris told the Borough Council at their February 12 meeting that the working group has developed a list of options regarding how to deal with the aging town office.

The local government and police have been housed in the building at located at 5685 Fair-

field Road for “25 years at least,” Harris said.

The working group has identified four major options regarding the fate of the borough building, and will be putting a bid proposal out for a contractor to review each option and determine the viability and feasibility of each, and the time frames involved.

The four options to be assessed include:

- Renovation of the existing building;

- Construction of a new town office in Carroll Valley Commons, accompanied with the demolition or refurbishment the existing structure;
- Construction of a new town office in the Ranch Section of the borough; and
- Purchase a building which already exists in the borough and refurbish it to the needs of the government and law enforcement.

Harris said the working group hopes to have the assessment com-

pleted in time to present to the council at their march meeting.

The building initially housed a snack bar in the 1960s, which had reportedly been initially constructed in association with a putt-putt golf course, according to Harris.

The borough, which was incorporated in 1974, acquired the snack bar and made it their borough office in 1977. In 1987, the building was expanded to include the public meeting room. However, an initial expansion may have also occurred

earlier and might have included the main hallway, bathrooms and the police squad room.

Harris previously presented the council with photographs revealing damage to the structure caused by weather and age that has accrued over time, which included roof leakage.

The council, by unanimous consent, agreed to establish a building committee at their October 2012 meeting to evaluate options regarding what could be done to address existing and potential future damages.

# Water Street stone house to get makeover

An early, “stone house” located on Water Street in Fairfield Borough is facing a makeover, once the property owner and borough can sort out borough code issues associated with the property.

Potential plans for the old house, which is at least 19th Century and possible older, was presented to the Fairfield Borough Planning Commission at their February 11 meeting by architect Allen Beckett, representing the property owners.

The house and property in

question, owned by Gerard and Kathleen Michaels, is at 10 Water Street. The old home has been unoccupied for some time, but there is also a modular structure on the same lot which serves as an occupied residence.

The old, unoccupied house found itself on the borough’s radar when it began to show signs of disrepair, according to Land & Sea Services, LLC., the firm that manages the borough’s code enforcement.

Beckett told the planning commission that owner Michaels

wants to save the home, but “doesn’t really have a concept,” and was seeking input from the commission members as to the course they would like to see pursued when it comes to renovating the building.

“I think it could be a really attractive building if done right,” Beckett said. “My vision is to make it look like it did back in the day.”

But the path to restoration may not be so smooth, beginning with addressing the fact that a second residence has been sited

on the property, an issue in and of itself. As a result of this and other issues, Robert Thaeler, planner with county Office of Planning and development, said, “There is a substantial list of variances that would have to be granted” to allow the project to proceed.

The commission took no formal action on the issue, and the proponents of the project will continue to work towards addressing regulatory concerns in order to complete the renovation.

Robert Dayhoff, Jr. building and construction code official

with Land & Sea Services, said the state of disrepair of the old stone house constituted “demolition of a property by neglect” under the law, which entails essentially allowing a building to fall apart through lack of maintenance.

The roof had developed a hole in it, window glass was missing and not boarded over, and vegetation was permitted to reach a point where it could endanger the integrity of the foundation, he said. As a result, the property owners were cited after being notified of the borough’s concerns.

# Hamiltonban adopts “official township” map

The Hamiltonban Township Board of Supervisors voted unanimously at their February 5 meeting to adopt an “official township map” as part of an ordinance to provide for recreation and open space.

Board Chairman Robert Gordon stated he was told by the county Office of Planning and Development that the production of the map and its accompanying ordinance was the first such completed, municipal effort in Adams County.

“It was quite an effort,” Gordon said.

The primary purpose of the map is “to provide for the recreational and open space needs of the

community, and to facilitate the subdivision of land and the retention of open space.”

The map explicitly identifies existing public lands, conserved lands, and recreation resources, and “proposed rights-of-way for recreation trails, greenways, and other lands identified for public use.”

Board Vice Chairman Coleen Reamer said the map was prepared by four students of Shippensburg College under the guidance of Geography and Earth Science Professor George Pomeroy. Pomeroy also serves as the director of Shippensburg University’s Center of Land

The initial proposal to produce an official township map was made in 2008 when the township was approached by the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to have Hamiltonban Township create an official map to include greenways and recreation areas as part of the state agency’s South Mountain Conservation Landscape Initiative.

In 2011 the supervisors approached Shippensburg University to assist in preparing a map. The

university allocated four students to “work out a trail system and determine how we could connect our green spaces” in order to generate a map as part of the students’ class project.

The project entailed little expense beyond administrative costs, since the students worked on the map as part of a course project, and planner Robert Thaeler, county Office of Planning and Development, worked on the ordinance as part of their

existing contract with the township, Reamer stated.

The township Planning Commission also reviewed and approved the final product.

Reamer said one of the next steps to be taken regarding the map package is to approach Fairfield Borough to see if they would adopt a similar map to ensure connectivity between trails and possible historic areas.




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# NEWS

## Remembering Josh Bollinger

Josh Bollinger's death on February 2 at the age of 49 left the communities of Fairfield and Emmitsburg in mourning for one their most prominent business owners and philanthropists. He was the president of Bollinger Construction Inc., which recently celebrated 20 years of business, as well as Bollinger Homes, LLC, East Park Automotive, Inc., and T&M Crane Rentals, Inc., all located in Emmitsburg. The businesses employ 40 staff, including several of his family members, as well as 250 subcontractors.

As Donald Briggs recounts in this issue, Bollinger was known for his love of sports and his service to the community as a coach and donor to the baseball and football teams in Fairfield. He

started coaching when his sons were old enough to play, but continued even after they moved on. Josh's own achievements in high school football were chronicled by Stan Goldberg of the Frederick News-Post, who noted that Bollinger was named the News-Post Defensive Player of the Year in 1980, a "benchmark" year in which Frederick County football teams emerged as some of the best in the state.

Longtime friend and current Frederick County Commissioner Kirby Delauter recounts his years playing alongside Bollinger in youth and high school level football, remembering him as, "A guy that by most standards wasn't the biggest or the strongest, but his tough mental attitude gave

him an edge and took him to a level most players never reach." Delauter added, "In business it wasn't much different. His work ethic and no nonsense attitude brought his business to the forefront in a very short time." Delauter's business is located across the street from Bollinger's on Creamery Way in Emmitsburg.

Bollinger's company donated the work and materials to construct the pavilion in Emmitsburg's community park, which bears a plaque in honor of his late father, Thomas. In addition to being remembered as a great father himself, Josh was also someone who would go out of his way to help others in town who were in difficult situations by finding them employment and accom-

modating their special needs. He was also a generous supporter of this and other local newspapers. Among his surviving extended family, most of whom live nearby, are his mother, Rosie, sons, Matthew and Thomas, sisters Tracie and Samantha, and brother Zach.

The funeral service was held at Elias Evangelical Lutheran Church, where Josh was baptized. Pastor Jon Greenstone said that the number of guests who attended the service was one of the largest crowds ever assembled in the church. "I don't know how many folks remained outside the church door for the whole service, standing in the cold February air," Greenstone said. "What I do know is that it was moving to witness the depth of support for Josh's family and a tribute to Josh's influence in the community."



See Mayor Briggs' tribute to Josh Bollinger on page 6. See Josh's obituary on page 25.

## Rocky Ridge Auxiliary Honors Betty Mumma

At Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company's annual banquet, Auxiliary President Betty Ann Mumma gave a short history of the Auxiliary, which was formed in January of 1955. "We are small but mighty," she said of the group.

She acknowledged the Auxiliary's 2012 officers: Nancy Summers (vice president), Bonnie Sanders (secretary), Emily Grant (assistant secretary), Betty Lee Mumma (treasurer), Helen Burrier (assistant treasurer), Emily Sixx (chaplain), Libby Myers (assistant chaplain), and Linda Northrup (historian).

Betty Ann honored Betty Lee Mumma for 40 years of service (1972-2012) in the Treasurer's position. Betty Lee has prepared and reported 480 treasurer's reports for 480 meetings - not to mention, the hundreds of checks drawn to pay hundreds of bills and hundreds of trips to the bank to make those deposits. She has a precise, individualized approach to counting and recording every cent, Betty Ann said.

Betty Lee performs more than just the treasurer's responsibilities for the Auxiliary. She also sends out get-well and sympathy cards from the fire com-

pany and takes her turn running for groceries for weekly bingo food. She has also donated innumerable cakes and pies to Fire Company and Auxiliary events. "She will continue with her support," said Mumma, "and we were very proud and happy to be able to present her with this service award."

In addition to Betty Lee Mumma's award, a service was held at the banquet to honor two valuable Auxiliary members who passed away in 2012.

Emily Valentine Sixx was in attendance when the Charter members organized in 1955. Emily spent her en-

tire life of 82 years in Rocky Ridge. The Auxiliary was honored to have her serve as their Chaplain from 1983 - 2012.

Blanche Duple Sayler was a longtime member of the Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company Auxiliary. Being a very helpful, community-minded person, she was always willing to help in any way, whether it be donation of pies or making a monetary gift to compensate.

Both of these ladies will certainly be missed by the Auxiliary and the community.



Betty Ann Mumma hugs Betty Lee Mumma after presenting her an award for 40 years of service

## Subway reopens after renovation

For patrons of the Subway restaurant in Emmitsburg, the slogan "Eat Fresh" now applies not only to the food, but also to the store itself after undergoing its first renovation in over a decade. Improvements include a full redesign of the interior decoration, as well as changes to how customers move through the line and new refrigeration units to improve efficiency and storage.

"The new design is intended to replicate the feel of being in Tuscany," said Lyn Biller, wife of Dean Biller, who owns and oper-

ates the franchises in both Emmitsburg and Thurmont. The new decor includes brick wall-paper, crown molding, new artwork, and new tables and chairs.

This is the first renovation done at the Emmitsburg location since the Billers purchased it in 2002. The store closed in November and reopened at the end of January. With the remodel complete, they hope to increase their operating staff from 8-10 people to 15.

"Business has steadily increased in recent years, even throughout the recession," Biller said. "The

remodel will hopefully increase the general efficiency of the store and improve the overall customer experience." She adds that the business climate in Emmitsburg is great, and that the town is supportive of small businesses. "The town still has a bit of an 'old world' feel, which is hard to come by these days!"

Although the store is located just off of Route 15, the Billers, like other local business owners, have closely followed the development of plans to improve the Town Square. "Some things must change



with the times," Lyn said, "and if Emmitsburg can have better traffic flow, etc., then it certainly could be a good thing." While the Town

Council continues to work on the plans for the square, at least one store is ahead of the curve in putting a fresh face on Emmitsburg.

<p><b>Bud Light Platinum</b> 12 PAK BOTTLES \$12<sup>49</sup></p>	<p><i>Happy St. Patrick's Day!</i> <i>March 17th!</i></p>	<p><b>Coors Light</b> 28 PAK Bottles \$19<sup>49</sup></p>
<p><b>Miller Light &amp; Coors Light</b> 36 PAK CANS WHILE SUPPLY LASTS!</p>	<p><b>Black Velvet</b> 1.75 Litre BOTTLE \$10<sup>99</sup> For The Month Of March Only!</p>	<p><i>Largest Selection Of Wines In The Area!</i> Every Saturday &amp; Sunday - Wine Tasting <i>Make Valentine's Day Extra Special!</i> <i>Come In &amp; Choose The Perfect Wine For Your Sweetheart!</i> Don't Forget Our Beer Tasting Every Friday!</p>
<p>★★★★ TUESDAY SAVINGS ★★★★★ <b>Wine or Liquor</b> <b>SAVE 10%</b> ON PURCHASES OF \$40 OR MORE CASH ONLY 7% DISCOUNT ON CREDIT CARD PURCHASES</p>	<p><b>Paul's Pit Stop</b> DISCOUNT BEER, WINE &amp; LIQUOR 150 South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, MD 21727 <b>301-447-6262</b> Monday-Thursday 9 am-10 pm, Friday &amp; Saturday 9 am-11 pm, Sunday 11-8 pm</p>	<p>★★★★ COUPON ★★★★★ <b>Keystone Light</b> 30 PAK CANS \$13<sup>99</sup> WITH COUPON MUST PRESENT COUPON LIMIT 5</p>

# One hundred years ago this month

## March 7

### Arrests for Swearing

Four young men were brought before Mayor Rowe on Tuesday. The charge was of using profane language in the Corporation and insulting Officer Dukehart. Fines were imposed.

### Woman Shoots Neighbor

On a warrant sworn out by Mrs. Erin Mitchell, charging that her neighbor attempted to shoot her with a revolver, Mrs. C. Ridge was arrested and hauled before Justice of the Peace Shuff on Saturday, as the result of a quarrel between the two, growing out of a childish difference between the offspring of the Ridge and Mitchell families.

Both mothers became interested in the dispute of their children and took up the quarrels. When neighborly relations were virtually suspended it is claimed by Mrs. Mitchell that Mrs. Ridge fired a shot from a revolver at her, but missed.

Mrs. Ridge was placed under arrest by Deputy Sheriff Rowe and brought before the Justice of the Peace who, after hearing the case held her at the sum of \$300 bail for the action of the grand jury.

Both Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Ridge, staunch opponents of the current women's suffrage movement stated that their wives actions was proof that women were not mature enough to be trusted with the right to vote, let alone guns.

### New Blacksmith Shop for Zora

Mr. Roy Wagerman who has been working with a firm of J. T. Hayes and Son for some time will take up the blacksmith trade at Zora, in a short time.

### Plan to Oil the Atlantic

Pouring oil on the troubled waters will be much more than a metaphor if a plan offered by the United States Hydrographic Office is carried out. Its serious proposal is to keep the path between New York and the northern European ports well oiled, so that the waves may be kept down and passengers may cross in perfect comfort and safety.

The Hydrographic Office knows a lot about waves and claims that nothing is so bad for them as oil. Moreover, oil spreads quickly and thinly over the water, and hence the calming can be done at small expense.

A quart of cheap petroleum and hour from each ship would, they say, do the work in decent weather, and \$25 a trip ought to cover it easily. With big liners constantly passing, the oil carried away by the ocean current would be restored without delay, ensuring the ocean routes stay well oiled.

### Death of Margaret and Thelma Miller

On Tuesday Mary Margaret Miller, wife of Russell Miller, died near Rocky Ridge. Her age was 19 years and three months. She is survived by her husband and one child, Elizabeth.

The following day, Thelma Miller, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Miller, of Rocky Ridge, died. The

child had taken ill the day before. The cause of death was an attack a spinal meningitis.

## March 14

### Post Office Moved

The local post office has been changed from the regular location to temporary headquarters in the display room of Mr. Zimmerman's furniture establishment, formerly the Annan Building, and at different times in the past history the home of the Emmitsburg post office. The transfer was made on Monday night. This was rendered necessary so that extensive improvements could be made to the permanent quarters, which will not only provide more convenience for the public but will greatly improve the facilities for handling and distributing the mail.

The need of better post office facilities for Emmitsburg has long been recognized, as it is a well-established fact that Emmitsburg handles more mail than any town its size in Maryland.

### Runaways

Several runaways occurred on Sunday. A horse driven by Mrs. Guise frightened at an automobile in the square and the buggy struck a post, damaging the shafts. Both Mrs. Guise and her horse escaped injury.

Another runaway occurred on the Gettysburg Road, when a horse belonging to Mrs. Charles Topper became frightened and threw the occupants of the carriage to the ground. No one was seriously injured.

One startling incident took place on President's Wilson return to the White House after his inauguration. A cavalryman's horse reared towards the President's carriage, and at one point it looked like it might plant its feet on it. A dozen troopers rushed the grab the bridle, while the President calmly leaned out the window and patted the freighted animal on the neck.

### Record-Breaking Farm Sale

Undoubtedly, the highest prices ever paid for livestock at a public sale in this neighborhood in recent years, were those obtained at that of Mr. Ross Baker, who intending to move to Emmitsburg, sold at Freedom Township, 2 miles north of Emmitsburg, on Tuesday, livestock and farm implements.

The sale amounted to \$3,369 and attendance was estimated at 1,000. A coming three-year-old horse was sold for \$220, while the highest price paid for a cow was \$87. A Holstein bull, eight months old, went for \$43.50. A sow brought \$53.50.

These are without exception the highest prices ever given for livestock at public sale in this section, and speak well for the condition in which Mr. Baker kept the stock.

### Scarlet Fever At Fairplay

During the past week a number of cases of scarlet fever have developed among children living near Fairplay, just across the line, and as a result Moritz's School at that place has been ordered closed. The families in which the disease is so far reported are those of Mr. John Eyer,

Mr. Scott McNair, Mr. George Herr, and Mr. Lesley Kennelli.

## March 21

### Death of Julia Annan

Mrs. Julia Annan, widow of the late Isaac S. Annan, died at 'Craggystone', her residence in Emmitsburg on Tuesday morning. For a long time Mrs. Annan had not been in good health, but it was not until very recently that her illness reached an acute stage.

Born in 1840, Mrs. Annan married the late Isaac Annan, the pioneer banker of Emmitsburg and one of the most prominent businessmen in Frederick County, in 1864, and moved to Emmitsburg where she resided until her death. Funeral services were held at her home 'Craggystone' on Thursday.

### Improvements

Mr. James McGreevey has installed a new pool table in the Elder building.

Mr. Egger Annan is having the woodwork of his residence repainted.

Mr. Albert Adelsburger is moving his livery operation from the Emmitt House to the large table adjoining the Hotel Spangler.

Mr. Edwin Chrismer is having a new roof put on his shop on Frederick Street.

The Emmitsburg Railroad Company has improved her freight yards by grading, which adds much to the general appearance.

Mr. Albert Adelsburger has opened offices in the front of Spangler's opera house, in connection with his livery business.

The Patterson Brothers have given notice they intend to enlarge their barn on the Byers' place purchased several years ago from the state of Mrs. Byers. This farm is situated about half a mile west of Emmitsburg.

### Hotel Slagle to Relocate

The Emmitt House has been leased by Mr. Lawrence Mondorff and that well-known hostelry will shortly become the new home of the Hotel Slagle, of which Mr. Mondorff is the proprietor. The property which Mr. Mondorff will vacate has been rented by Mr. George Pitinger, of Waynesboro, who will assume proprietorship on May first.



"Craggystone," the old Annan family mansion, as it appears today. See the January issue to see how the mansion looked in its prime, and the February issue for how it looked after being rebuilt after a fire in the 1920s.

Preparatory to Mr. Mondorff occupation of the Emmitt House, Mrs. Slagle, manager of Hotel Slagle, will take charge of the new location and had everything ready by time possession is given.

### Tax Notice

The Burgess and Commissioners of Emmitsburg have notified that they expect me to have all the taxes due for the fiscal year ending May 5, 1913 collected by that date. I hereby notify all taxpayers who have not yet paid their taxes that they have five days I will begin servicing notices to be followed at once by distraint and said taxes will bear interest from January 1, 1913. Kindly pay these taxes once and save cost. - E. F. Brown, Tax Collector.

## March 28

### Status of Post Office

It is expected that the new post office room, which is being equipped with furniture and fixtures of the most modern kind, will be open to the public by April 1. When completed the Emmitsburg post office will be one of the most up-to-date in the state.

Everything has been provided for the comfort and convenience of patrons and the local Postmaster hopes that in this attractively fitted and furnished quarters perfect order will

be maintained at all times and that's smoking, which is most objectionable to ladies, will not be indulged in. The government does not countenance loafing or boisterous conduct in or about his post offices nor will it permit the obstruction of the approaches to its property.

### Fires in Emmitsburg

The people of Emmitsburg were greatly startled by fire which broke out on Monday night in the chimney of the house occupied by Mr. John Harner on East Main Street. The Vigilant Hose Company immediately answer the alarm and by their excellent work the fire was extinguished. Little damage was done.

Another fire broke out on Tuesday morning in the chimney of Mrs. Dorothy Neck, but the fire was extinguished without the help of the fire company.

### Another Runaway

On Thursday as Mr. and Mrs. LeMoane were driving from Thurmont, their horse became frightened and demolished the carriage. Neither the occupants nor the animal were injured. An automobile was set to convey them to Emmitsburg.

To read past editions of 100 Years 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 Town Commissioner Chris Staiger

Well, happy March everyone! I hope the groundhog is right and spring comes sooner rather than later. That full tank of gas in the snow blower will keep just fine... I'll leave the potentially bigger news stories, such as the departure of Commissioner Glenn Blanchard and the appointment of former Mayor Jim Hoover to take his place, for others to cover in this issue of the paper. There were some important "money" discussions that took place in February and I would like to focus on those instead.

The possibility of replacing standard light bulbs (in streetlights and at town buildings) with high efficiency LED fixtures has been floating around for a number of years. From time to time, samples were

tried throughout town but no real traction was ever achieved. Mayor Don Briggs breathed some new life into the effort later last year, developing a proposal in partnership with an acquaintance met in Frederick to implement the swap with a \$112,000 budget. Fortunately for the taxpayer, we are not allowed to just 'pick the winners' without putting these projects out for competitive bid. This is a requirement of the town ordinances we elected officials (and town staff for that matter...) are sworn to uphold.

Therefore, back in December, the Board required that the proper process be followed. The results were reported by the town manager at the mid February meeting: a revised project cost of only \$77,000 represent-

ing a savings of over THIRTY PERCENT from the Mayor's original proposal. Even better news: the money spent should be recouped in three years via reduced electricity consumption and lower repair and replacement costs. After that time, the savings will continue to boost town revenue, resulting in the same amount of savings as \$0.02 of property tax income.

The "Process" that your town government follows is important - especially in the context of the second big project discussed in February: the financial costs of the town square redesign project. I'll rely on the details of the design being covered in other areas and focus mainly on the financing considerations here.

The town has already dedicated \$20,000 in cash (plus an equivalent amount of grant money) to fund the design project. For this we have received a design concept plan that meets most of our goals. I think an outside partner was critical to create a fresh start and a fresh perspective. To turn this plan into viable con-

struction drawings requires the commitment of an additional \$23,000 in cash (plus, once again, an equivalent amount of grant funding). The Board has chosen to allocate this initial \$43,000 in cash contributions from our "Fund Balance" which represents our accumulated savings over the last decade for lack of a better term.

At the mid February meeting the construction estimates were finally revealed; improvements to the immediate town square area are estimated at \$460,000. A further \$155,000 is estimated for additional features located at key points on East and West Main Street. Once again, I am hoping you have the opportunity to view artist renderings on other pages of this issue! The reality is that these improvements will probably be pursued in stages over some period of time.

While the COSTS of the program were presented, the Board received no specific recommendations from the Mayor and town staff on how this project might be funded. With completion of the construction drawings, developing a budget

would be the next logical step. While the exact path has not yet been charted, I felt it was reasonable to suggest that no elements be undertaken without 55% grant or donation funding. This would roughly follow the pattern of our previous spending, drive public and private partnership, and reduce the cash cost of the immediate town square improvements to a more manageable \$200,000 in town funds over an undefined period of time.

So where do we go from here? My understanding is that with the completion of the construction drawings we will have the documentation necessary to apply for grant funding. The town may solicit contributions from private individuals and community groups for specific project elements. And we should all, as a group, try to determine an order of progression. As always, please keep an eye out for opportunities to contribute and don't hesitate to share your opinions with your elected official by sending an e-mail to [towncouncil@emmitsburgmd.gov](mailto:towncouncil@emmitsburgmd.gov).

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P23570R16		\$125	LT28575R16	D	\$174
LT23585R16	E	\$146	P24565R17		\$138
LT24575R16	E	\$153	P26570R17		\$148
P24575R16		\$127	LT26570R17	E	\$172

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17565R14	\$68	20560R15	\$81
17570R14	\$70	20565R15	\$83
18565R14	\$71	20560R16	\$86
18570R14	\$72	21560R16	\$88
19570R14	\$77	21565R16	\$94
20570R14	\$80	22560R16	\$91
18560R15	\$77	20550R16	\$94
18565R15	\$75	20555R16	\$84
19560R15	\$78	22550R16	\$93

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# GOVERNMENT—SOUTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

## From the Desk of County Commissioner Blaine Young

If you are like me, until recently you thought the word “sequester” described what judges do to juries in high profile criminal trials. Well, we have a whole new definition now. And, in my book, it just amounts to more horrifyingly bad governing in Washington.

It all started a couple of years ago when Congress and the president could not agree on a package of revenues and spending cuts to go along with yet another increase in our debt limit. So, in their infinite wisdom, they decided to schedule a round of massive (but not across-the-board) spending cuts that would kick in if no broader deal was reached. It wasn't so, and here we are.

It was thought at the time by the geniuses in Washington that the sequester would be so devastating to our economy that no president and congressmen and senators (especially newly elected ones) would ever sit idly by and allow it to occur.

Wrong again.

Flash back to the first of this year. With the “fiscal cliff” looming, Republicans were in a bind. If nothing was done, every American faced a significant tax increase. So they made a deal by which taxes went up on some of us, but not all. The liberals cheered from the cheap seats.

Now, the shoe is on the other foot. This time, if nothing happens, the result will be budget cuts, not tax hikes. As bad as the cuts may be, and particularly in this region, Republicans seem willing to let the Democrats stew for a while even if it means sequester.

President Barack Obama and his liberal pals, still flush with their electoral success, don't seem to be taking the Republicans seriously. But I think they have miscalculated this time, and we may be in for a protracted game of chicken – with the nation and its citizens the loser.

When I was a child, in a situation such as this, Ronald Reagan would invite Tip O'Neill over to the White House and over bourbon and Irish whiskey and a story from the president, they would work out something for the good of the country. We don't have that kind of leadership anymore. And under our antiquated, broken two-party system, we probably never will again.

The incompetence and downright irresponsibility of our so called “national leaders” continues to astound me. A few years ago the president appointed a commission headed by former Wyoming Republican Sen. Alan Simpson and former White House Chief of Staff and Democrat Erskin Bowles. By all accounts this group worked very hard and came up with a plan that was designed to tackle the deficit through a combination of revenue enhancements and spending cuts. A lot of us disagreed

with some aspects of the plan. That was intentional. It was not designed to be fully embraced by everyone, but was designed as a compromise in which everyone could find something they liked and assuredly something they didn't like. That is what a compromise is.

The president and the Congress received the report, thanked Mr. Simpson and Mr. Bowles, and threw it in the trash can. End of discussion.

Now my complaint is not with the fact that the report was rejected. My complaint is that the incompetents running our government did not even give it a thorough review and discussion, and let us make up our own minds. They saw too many things in it that would upset key political constituencies, and therefore feared for their jobs if they even hinted that they might embrace something as ambitious and far reaching as the Simpson-Bowles plan. It was just another ex-

ample of legislators and a president who are more interested in preserving their jobs than in preserving our nation.

I don't know about you, but I've never been more down on our federal government. I have a hard time looking my children in the eye and telling them they will have a chance for a happy and productive life as citizens of the United States.

We might be the first generation who has ever been in the position of not being able to tell our children that their future looks bright and rosy, because they live in the greatest nation in the world. They do, but people in Washington today are trying to destroy it.

*“Government is like a baby. An alimentary canal with a big appetite at one end and no sense of responsibility at the other.”*

—President Ronald Reagan

## From the Desk of Emmitsburg Mayor Don Briggs

Elias Church, many times you've held the community gathered to respectfully say goodbye. Old as the experience is for you, it's always new for the generations attending. Last week one generation in particular caught my attention; the young men who played football for Josh. Noticeably was the loss in their eyes. Their coach was gone. The one and same who pushed and taught them during those hot August preseason sessions; juggled his private life and business schedule to make practices and games; and, paced up and down the sideline “coaching them up” by challenging and exhorting.

I knew Josh as a businessman, a self made businessman. Humor always lined our conversations or transactions.

More recently we would run into each other at the gas station on Sunday mornings. More memorably a year and a half ago at his company's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary party when walking across the parking lot toward each other and in a still stunned reaction to the economy he said “well, I got my tools back on” and I said “well, me too” then laughing and shaking hands. It was his understated, upbeat resigned and healthy, “whatever it takes” attitude that welcomed.

At the service, seeing the young men and knowing Josh's lifelong commitment to football, it was what the sportswriter Grantland Rice penned 80 years ago that kept coming to mind.

It was after Notre Dame's 13-7 victory over Army on Oc-

tober 18, 1924, that Rice wrote probably the most famous passage of sports journalism:

*“Outlined against a blue, gray October sky the Four Horsemen rode again. In dramatic lore they are known as famine, pestilence, destruction and death. These are only aliases. Their real names are: Stuhldreher, Miller, Crowley and Layden. They formed the crest of the South Bend cyclone before which another fighting Army team was swept over the precipice at the Polo Grounds this afternoon as 55,000 spectators peered down upon the bewildering panorama spread out upon the green plain below.”*

On a blue, gray day one of Emmitsburg's “Horsemen” rode away, but left behind is what he

had taught his players and the rest of us. Set your goals - family first, enjoy hard work and the commitment to it. For Josh and to his players remember,

*“For when the One Great Scorer comes to mark*

*against your name He writes—not that you won or lost—but how you played the Game.”*

*—Grantland Rice 1908 “Alumnus Football”*

### JOB NOTICE

#### American Operations Corporation

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## GOVERNMENT—NORTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

# From the Desk of Carroll Valley Mayor Ron Harris

The Carroll Valley Police Department under the command of Police Chief Richard L. Hileman reported to Carroll Valley Borough Council that the Department responded to 2234 calls for service, a 1.1% increase over 2011. Calls for service are incidents requiring a police response and do not include vehicle stops or other routine duties. The 2234 calls for service resulted in 221 Uniform Crime Reports or UCRs. A UCR is crime as defined by the FBI and categorized into Part 1 and Part 2 Offenses.

Part 1 are homicide, forcible rape, robbery, assault, burglary, theft and arson and Part 2 are everything else except traffic offenses like stop signs or speeding. Part 1 offenses decreased about 5% and Part 2 decreased 15%. Ignoring seasonal ski thefts, overall crime decreased 15% overall. The Police Department cleared (solved by arrest or other means) 56% of the

Part 1 crimes. The state averaged just 29% cleared in 2011 (most recent statewide figures available). Carroll Valley Police cleared 93% more than the state average. 80% of Part 2 crimes were cleared compared to 58% state-wide.

### How safe are we?

The state-wide rural crime rate for 2011 was 18.9 Part 1 and 40.6 Part 2 crimes per 1,000 residents. Our 2012 Part 1 is 18.1 crimes per 1,000 (3% less) and Part 2 is 25.5 crimes per 1,000 (37% less) respectively. In 2011, we had about 26% less crime overall than similar rural areas in the state. Police issued 757 traffic, non-traffic and ordinance citations in 2012 including 345 for speeding, 372 for other traffic, 2 for ordinances, 16 under-age alcohol and 22 for criminal violations.

August 2012 marked the seventh annual National Night Out observance in Carroll Val-

ley. More than 30 community groups, organizations and individuals presented and more than 485 adults and children were in attendance. The Good Samaritan Lodge #336, Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania of Gettysburg fingerprinted and videoed approximately 63 children as part of the Child Identification Program. If you would like to view the video presentation that Chief Hileman gave, go to facebook.com/cvpolice. We all can be proud of the service provided by our Carroll Valley Police Department.

### Fire & EMS service

Based on my conversation with those who manage the firehouse, the Fairfield Fire & EMS needs your support by volunteering your time to help out in fund raising events, by volunteering your time in responding to an emergency if qualified or by volunteering your advice on

how the fire company can continue to remain a volunteer service. Every Tuesday evening is training night at the fire company. If you have a moment, stop in. Talk to them.

### Upcoming Meetings

Remember to mark your calendar for March 4<sup>th</sup> to attend the Planning Commission meeting. Eluma, Inc., the developer, who owns the 107-acre wooded tract, known as the Mallow Tract, is planning to give a presentation to the Planning Commission. It was scheduled for last month; however, Eluma Inc. notified the Borough they needed more time to prepare their PowerPoint presentation that visually shows their development concept for the wooded property across from Ski Liberty.

The Borough will be holding the following meetings in March: Planning Commission (Mon-Mar 4<sup>th</sup>); Public Safety

Committee (Mon-Mar 11<sup>th</sup>); Borough Council (Tues-Mar 12<sup>th</sup>); and Parks and Recreation Committee (Wed-Mar 27<sup>th</sup>). If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by email at mayor@carrollvalley.org or by cell at (301) 606-2021.

### Carroll Valley Citizens Association

The Carroll Valley Citizens Association (CVCA) is hosting two events: the Mayor and Manager Dinner on March 15<sup>th</sup> and the Children's Egg Hunt on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Egg Hunt will start at 2 p.m. in the Carroll Valley Commons. There will be four age hunting groups. The groups are 2 and under; 3 to 4 will be released next; 5 to 7 following and finally, 8 to 10. The rain date is March 30<sup>th</sup>. Go to the CVCA website for more details.

Please slow down while driving in the Valley!

## Dayton seeks GOP nomination for Adams County Sheriff's race

Adams County, Penn. – A second contender for the position of Adams County Sheriff has announced his intention to seek the GOP nomination.

Brian Dayton, 41, of Mount Joy Township, has formally announced his intention to run for the sheriff's office.

During a recent interview, Dayton highlighted some improvements that he believes are critical for the law enforcement agency.

"We can do many things to increase the operational effectiveness of the Sheriff's Office. For instance, we can improve

our abilities to collaborate law enforcement efforts with other agencies here in the county by building strong partnerships with our local colleagues in law enforcement." Dayton said.

"And of course, we will do this while keeping in mind that the community is the most important stakeholder. It's imperative that we foster strong, sustainable communities by providing services which give the greatest return on the taxpayers' investment," added Dayton.

Dayton, a John Hopkins University graduate, holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Police Exec-

utive Leadership. Although new to politics, Dayton is no stranger to law enforcement. He is a career law enforcement officer and is currently a Sergeant in the Baltimore Police Department.

"I am bringing more than 23 years of law enforcement experience to the Sheriff's Office. During my career I have had the opportunity to work in patrol, specialized investigations and large scale operations where I supervised over 40 officers," Dayton said.

Dayton was first involved in law enforcement in 1988 when he became a Military Policeman

for the United States Army. That experience confirmed Dayton's future in law enforcement. Since then he has served the public as a uniformed patrol officer, as a Detective in criminal investigations, as a Sergeant, and as Sergeant in charge of a major metropolitan standards unit.

Dayton has gathered an extensive background in very specialized training, from both fugitive and narcotics investigations to terrorism and human trafficking.

"As Sheriff, job one on day one will be addressing the large volume of outstanding arrest warrants in Adams County. This is a serious public safety issue," said Dayton.

Dayton served for 11 years on the nationally acclaimed Warrant Apprehension Task Force, assisting his team in serving warrants on thousands of criminals, from minor offenders to dangerous murderers.

"During the first year of the unit's creation we increased war-



rant service by 544.4%." Dayton said.

Dayton has been married for 19 years and has one son. He and his family have lived in Mount Joy Township since 2006. He belongs to American Legion Post 202 in Gettysburg and is a member of the National Rifle Association.

To learn more about Brian, visit his website at [www.electdayton.com](http://www.electdayton.com) or call 717-398-8144.

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<p><b>Fairfield Fire and EMS</b> Adams County Company 2</p>	
<p><b>Wanted</b> <b>Business Manager</b> Fairfield Community Fire Co.</p>	
<p>Applicants must have an understanding of accounting procedures and related software with a management background. Applicants may send a resume or request a full job description by mail. Send resumes/requests to: Fairfield Fire and EMS, Att. Gayle Marthers, Treasurer, P.O. Box 587, Fairfield, PA 17320.</p>	
<p><b>Please...No Phone Inquiries</b></p>	



## GOVERNMENT—NORTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

# From the Desk of County Commissioner Randy Phiel

It is hard to believe that one year has flown by and this new Adams County Board of Commissioners is now well into their second year. We finished the year with a 2012 budget surplus; and a healthy and fiscally responsible 2013 budget with no tax increase, a reasonable contingency line item plus a new capital improvement line item to help fund our counties future. We pulled the trigger on the 911 Radio project that is on track and under budget. We enhanced internal communications with our staff, and have utilized the media and commissioners community forums to make us accessible and to keep our residents informed.

So far we have been to East Berlin, Littlestown, Buchanan Valley, Ardenstville, Fairfield/Carroll Valley and are soon headed to Conewago/McSherrystown. We consolidated the Planning and Tax Services Departments for increased efficiency and service and are looking at other departments for efficiency. The County IT system was antiquated, overwhelmed and in danger of losing information if it crashed with no backup. New equipment, servers and fiber optics ei-

ther have been installed or are in the process of being installed to overcome a multitude of IT issues. We are almost ready to roll out a new web site that will better serve our staff and residents.

We also recognize that capital improvement planning is a critical necessity for effectively and efficiently planning services to our residents and space management. We are looking to shift from paying high rents in leased buildings that are not designed to meet our specific needs, to fiscally sensible county owned structures that are built for specific present and future needs.

Positive economic numbers after years of recession and stagnation suggest that our economy is improving slowly. The Adams County Commissioners have rolled up their sleeves and have made a healthy commitment to the Adams County Economic Development Corporation and the Adams County Industrial Development Authority. We just approved supporting the Industrial Development Authority, enabling them to purchase and demo what is known as the RED-DI or Gettysburg Station project on North Stratton Street in Gettysburg.

The project has been languishing

as an eyesore and blight for ten years. Besides our support allowing \$1M of grant funding for this project to be released from the state, having a building lot ready to build on and the right partners around the table, greatly enhances the opportunity for the desired final result of job creation, improved tax base and economic stimulus for our county. Along with Senator Alloway, we are also supporting making the five remaining lots at the Adams County Commerce Center more compatible for development and sale. The funding for the improved site preparation, will make the land more attractive to realtors and potential developers. Senator Alloway has secured grant funding for that initiative.

Looking back after one year, there is no doubt that our close working relationship with our State Legislators has been significant, beneficial and refreshing. Senator Alloway, Representative Moul, and Representative Tallman are frequent visitors to the Commissioner's Office and we communicate and go to events with them frequently. It is very clear that our common goal is simple: benefit the residents of Adams County. The results of this relationship

is very tangible when it comes to legislation and grant funding. That has been evident - and I believe will continue to be evident with this spirit of cooperation.

This year promises to be a once in a lifetime event year in Adams County. Because of the 150TH Battle Anniversary, there will be a multitude of events, large and small, throughout the year. The eyes of the nation and the world are upon us. CNN Travel has designated us the #5 Top Travel destination in the world for 2013.

There are too many announced events to name; but some of the highlights will be In early July we have the NPS 150TH Battle Anniversary events, Gettysburg College and Lutheran Seminary events, a Prelude Living History Weekend at the Seminary, Reenactments, Bike Week and a 150TH Country Music Tribute concert. In mid-September, Adams County is hosting the National Medal of Honor Convention with several high profile events. November events include the 150TH Anniversary of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address (Dedication Day) and Remembrance Day Weekend. There is significant specula-

tion there could be a Presidential visit for Dedication Day.

It disappoints me to hear many Adams Countians proclaiming they will not be anywhere near the events - or even in Adams County for those events. They are getting out of town. I would ask those residents to reconsider. You know the saying that sometimes we do not appreciate what we have in our backyard. This is a great opportunity to get out there and experience all the natural, historical, recreation and cultural opportunities that our beautiful county has to offer. Also, I would ask you to remember that we have guests coming from all over the United States and from around the world. Relate this to when you go on a trip or vacation. A little patience, a kind word, directions and a smile will go a long way toward a lasting positive impression of our community.

For a complete up to date listing of this year's events go to the Gettysburg Convention & Visitor Bureau 150TH website at [www.gettysburgtravel/150/event.asp](http://www.gettysburgtravel/150/event.asp)

Best wishes to you for a safe, healthy and enjoyable year!

# From the Desk of State Representative Dan Moul

The House Appropriations Committee is in the midst of its annual budget hearings on Gov. Tom Corbett's proposed \$28.4 billion spending plan for fiscal year 2013-14. Over a period of three weeks, officials of more than 30 state departments, agencies and other entities that receive state funding will come before the committee to answer questions and make their case for a share of this year's budget.

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) updated the committee on its progress in implementing the Natural Gas Vehicle program. My amendments to the bill authorizing natural gas impact fees in Pennsylvania set aside \$20 million for the grant program, which encourages the conversion of busses and fleet vehicles to natural gas. DEP Secretary Mi-

chael Krancer testified his agency has received 84 applications for the first wave of grants.

Officials from the Department of Revenue testified before the committee about the continued phase-out of the Capitol Stock and Franchise Tax. On the jobs front, the state's Independent Fiscal Office estimates that Pennsylvania will add 69,000 jobs this year and 78,000 more next year. Hearings will continue through March 7. For more information on the budget, visit [www.RepMoul.com](http://www.RepMoul.com).

The House recently passed legislation to control the level of public debt for projects funded by the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP). The program offers grants for the acquisition and construction of regional economic, cultural, civic and

historical improvement projects with a focus on job creation. Since RACP was established in 1999, its debt ceiling has increased six times. House Bill 493 decreases the debt ceiling from its current \$4.05 billion to \$3.45 billion, an immediate reduction of \$600 million. The bill now heads to the state Senate for consideration.

The House approved a measure to extend the state's Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) through 2015. Established in 1992, CHIP provides coverage to more than 188,000 uninsured Pennsylvania children and teens not eligible for or enrolled in Medical Assistance, including about 2,300 in Adams County and 3,300 in Franklin County. The program will expire at the end of this year without legislative action. House Bill 108 is now on

its way to the Senate for consideration. For more information about CHIP, go to [www.RepMoul.com](http://www.RepMoul.com).

As vice chairman of the House Children and Youth Committee, I was pleased to see swift action in the House on recommendations included in a recent report by the Task Force on Child Protection. The House passed legislation to create a reliable funding stream for Child Advocacy Centers throughout the state; a bill making it a crime to intimidate or retaliate against a witness, victim or reporter of child abuse; a bill enhancing penalties for adults who physically attack or harm minors, and two other measures that govern the disclosure of certain information to aid courts in protecting children from abuse. The legislation now goes to the state Senate.

I will conclude with a success story on efforts to fight waste, fraud and abuse in Pennsylvania's welfare system. Welfare reform legislation, which became law in the last legislative session, included language aimed at preventing fraud before it starts. Under Act 22 of 2011, when someone applies for public assistance in Pennsylvania, the Department of Public Welfare (DPW) is required to check the Social Security number of the applicant against 19 different electronic databases to determine whether the applicant is eligible to receive public assistance. In Pennsylvania, it is illegal for anyone to receive unemployment benefits while incarcerated. Yet, in January, about 1,000 prison inmates who applied for the benefits were blocked by the system, saving taxpayers about \$6 million.

# Fairfield resident announces candidacy for County Treasurer



Republican, Robert Jackson officially announced his intention today to run for the Adams County Treasurer. Jackson was joined by his wife Joan, as he made the announcement to a packed house of supporters at

"The Book & Table," in Fairfield. Jackson told supporters that "Adams has a tough road ahead in view of pending budget cuts at the Federal and State levels and the effect they will have on County funding." He promised to bring a "fresh set of eyes to the Treasurer's office, in order to keep Adams County on the right track."

Bob was elected to the Liberty Township Board of Supervisors after serving as Township Auditor. Bob is also a member of the Children and Youth Advisory Board, the Adams County Radio Project and the Assessment Appeal Board. "Rather than sitting back and viewing with alarm I believe it is important for each of

us to participate to the maximum extent possible in promoting responsible government." Jackson said.

Prior to his public service, Jackson spent more than 40 years in the private sector working in both large and small companies, all of which were facing severe financial problems. "Budgets, cost control, financial accounting, and financing were part of my responsibility particularly in later years. I believe this financial experience can be put to good use in the County Treasurer's Office." Jackson said.

Bob earned his undergraduate degree from Yale before earning an MBA from Harvard. He is currently an Adjunct Professor of

Business Management at HACC. "I enjoy passing along to the younger generation some of the lessons learned from many years of business experience."

Fairfield Mayor, Robert Stanley endorsed Jackson, by saying that "based on his (Jackson's) experience and background,

Jackson would make an excellent Treasurer for Adams County."

As part of his campaign, Bob wants to be accessible to voters. He invites them to contact him by email: [contact@electjackson.com](mailto:contact@electjackson.com), phone: 717-642-9886, or through his website: [www.electjackson.com](http://www.electjackson.com).

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## COMMENTARY

# Words From Winterbilt

## Our beliefs can sometimes conflict— with our own beliefs

Shannon Bohrer

I was with a friend, Mike, and we were driving to Frederick. We stopped at a traffic light and Mike was looking to his right when he commented that they should enforce the law. To our right was another vehicle that was very annoying because of the music (it was really just noise) emanating from it. Mike is a bit of a curmudgeon, not unlike me, and he is prone to make judgments— judgments that are not often wrong. However, in this instance, he was not correct. With my background in law enforcement, I felt the need to correct his perceptions. I replied that, yes there are noise laws, but the noise coming from this vehicle was lower than many trucks. A short distance down the road Mike commented again, this time about another perceived vehicle violation. I again responded and assured Mike that what he observed was not illegal. Mike continued examining his surroundings and from time to time he would explain to me why something was not right and how it should be corrected. Mike is a good man, and sometimes his

vision of the world is just different than mine.

A short while later I said, “You know what’s wrong with this country?” When Mike looked at me I commented that there were too many government regulations. He smiled, voiced his agreement with me, and repeated that there were too many government regulations. Of course, as we drove, he continued to point out all of the things that he believed needed government regulations and/or oversight. There is no doubt that he believes that many of our problems require laws, government rules, regulations and/or oversight. Conversely, there is no doubt that he thinks there are too many government regulations. Is it just him, or do we all think that way? Or maybe sometimes, we side with both beliefs.

A common trait of the human being, my wife would say particularly males, is that they often make judgments and offer solutions about problems or things that they know very little about. It is my belief that we all do this – it is just a matter of the degree. A problem with this trait, or gift as some think of it, is

that not all problems have simple causes or solutions. Of course, if most of the problems we faced had simple causes and solutions, they might already be solved and therefore the problem would not exist. But with the problems we do have, we often seem to have strong opinions, and sometimes our own opinions are in conflict. How can someone think we need more regulations and at the same time think we have too much government?

I was thinking about this issue when I was in the company a co-worker, Eddie. I explained to Eddie what had occurred when I was with Mike. Eddie knows Mike and his response was simple: Mike is old and he just likes to complain, and since he complains so much he does not realize that there is sometimes a conflict with his positions. While this did somewhat describe Mike, as well as many other people, I thought maybe this is Eddie’s simple solution to a complex problem.

After a few moments of silence, Eddie started talking about the proposed gun ban. The more he talked, the louder his voice became. From my perspective, it

was very obvious he was agitated. He believes that banning guns won’t stop anything, and it would take away our second amendment right. I would say it would be a fair assessment that Eddie has very strong beliefs about the issue. He went on for several minutes justifying his position, explaining the history of the world as it relates to freedom and the right to bear arms. He said with great emphasis – that every time a free society is willing to give up one of its rights – it is also giving up its freedom. I replied that it was Abraham Lincoln that said “America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves.” Eddie smiled, probably believing that I was in full agreement with him.

After a few moments I asked Eddie if he remembered the “Patriot Act,” the federal law that was passed after 9/11. Eddie said nothing and had a slightly puzzled look on his face. I stated that it was passed after the 9/11 attack and the complaint about the “Patriot Act” was that it stepped on the 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment, spit on the 4<sup>th</sup>, kicked the 5<sup>th</sup> down the road, and suspended Habeas Corpus.

I added that Habeas Corpus was then officially suspended in 2006, when another law was enacted that required all terrorists to be tried in Military tribunals. Eddie responded, saying that as long as you are not a terrorist you have nothing to worry about, and why should our constitutional rights apply to terrorists? Eddie appeared deep in thought for several moments and then said: besides how many innocent people have you heard about that have been arrested under the “Patriot Act?” My response was that I have never heard of any innocent person being arrested under the “Patriot Act,” and then I added that there was no way of knowing, anyway.

Thinking about this conversation, I came to the conclusion that if someone has no attachment to an act or event, they don’t care. Conversely, the stronger the attachment, the more they do care about it. Then again, maybe we don’t want to believe something if it conflicts with what we believe to be the truth. Or, maybe we want simple solutions to complex problems. Or maybe some people just like to complain. I do find it strange that some people don’t see some opinions they have as sometimes being in conflict with other opinions they also hold.

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

# Common Cents

## Japan- land of the rising debt

Ralph Murphy

According to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, Japan’s debt to annual, domestic-production-ratio in 2012 was 228%. The highest in the world. That is, the national debt was a debilitating burden to the Japanese economy when compared to a single year’s domestic production. To be more specific – in 2012, the Japanese economy generated 5.87 trillion dollars worth of domestic goods and services for a population of 127.9 million. This meant that the nation owed its creditors over 13 trillion dollars.

The U.S., by comparison, owes foreign and domestic lenders a national debt of 16.3 trillion dollars. However, this debt is spread over a much larger population of 314 million people. Our domestic economy generated 15.09 trillion dollars in 2012. That is 24.35% of the world’s output. This debt is horrendous, but Japan’s per capita debt is far worse.

How did Japan get into such a debt situation, and can it work its way out of it? The answers are elusive and have resulted in political turmoil for Japan. Recent elections swept the LDP (Liberal Democratic Party) back into power after a brief rule by the DPJ (Democratic Party of Japan) that failed to heal the na-

tion’s economy. Japan has suffered four major recessions since 1991 – including the one that the nation is currently battling.

A brief review of history shows Japan’s post war economy similar in important ways to that of the United States’. Both have an independent central bank – ours the Federal Reserve – theirs the Bank of Japan. The U.S. and Japan also have taxed and borrowed heavily in the post-war period to fund social programs. Japan has spent relatively little on military hardware that is limited by the Japanese Constitution. But, the Japanese did enjoy a boom in real estate and stocks that crashed badly in the 1980’s and 1990’s leading to what is called the “lost decades”. This led to an examination of the funding sources responsible for the collapse and a production mindset that allowed for a “safety net” to provide greater stability.

The “safety net” is unique to the Japanese mentality in that the people trusted the Ministry of Finance and BoJ (Bank of Japan) to arrange for small banks to be acquired by large ones in the event they became insolvent. This arrangement seemed to work well, and was backed by a Deposit Insurance Corporation, created in 1971 that is similar to the U.S. FDIC. The Japanese Deposit Insurance Corporation was lightly funded because it was seldom used.

It did, however collapse spectacularly when the “bubble economy” burst in the 1980’s. Most people invested their money in the government-owned 24,700 office, Post Service Agency. This was renamed in 2003 as the Japan Post Holdings Co., that offered higher interest yields than conventional banks, and attracted more money. It also crashed and was bailed out by itself – the Japanese government.

The Japanese people had confidence in their Ministry of Finance and the Bank of Japan with the Post Office bank performing banking, lending, and insurance functions. It employed one third of all Japanese government employees and held 2.1 trillion dollars in savings accounts. It also held another 1.2 trillion in “kampo” (Chinese, herbal medicine) services, and owned 25% of all household assets in Japan. All this, while retaining one fifth of the government’s debt in the form of bonds. It was so popular and “protected” that, in 2005 – then Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi ran on a plank to privatize the Japan Post Office, and won. Private banks reportedly resent the “cozy” relationship the Post Office has with itself (i.e. the government), but they cannot do much about it.

The privatization of Japan Post bank was put on hold in 2010 after internal bickering between the DPJ

and LDP. The DPJ caved in to the majority wishes of its members and the PNP (Peoples National Party) to keep the Banking Post Office in government hands.

Once the largest economic entity in the world, the Japan Post Bank was ranked by Forbes magazine as the 13th biggest in 2012. As of October of last year the MoF (Ministry of Finance) remains a 100% shareholder of the company, although the LDP Prime Minister Shinzo Abe won last year’s election and plans to sell a third of its shares – ostensibly to fund earthquake and associated tsunami disaster relief. This is expected to raise 87 billion dollars by 2015 if it passes.

The new government under Shinzo Abe is pursuing desperate measures to defeat deflation and restore public confidence in the shattered economy. Abe has threatened to take over the BoJ. This is a move that is akin to the U.S. President taking over the Federal Reserve Board. Abe actually has domestic support for this measure. He has tried to devalue the yen against the dollar. His administration is even suggesting that the U.S. strengthen its currency. Both measures are designed to boost Japanese exports. Minister Abe is even dabbling with a bit of old fashioned Keynesian, pump-priming through the purchase of factories and machinery valued at over 10 billion dollars. That figure, of course, is dwarfed by the overall, Japanese, national debt of 1 quadrillion yen (13 trillion dollars). The government may

be trying to use failed measures from the past but, under entirely, new circumstances

If Abe is successful in pumping more yen into the Japanese economy, it could turn out to be an inflationary rather than deflationary measure. It could wipe out savings and creditor investments. But, a weakened yen would boost exports in the short run – before disgruntled manufacturers flock elsewhere or wait out the expected, debt tsunami.

Japan’s aging population currently entertains one of the highest social services outlays in the world. They have the world’s biggest Post Office-bank that has contributed to its mind boggling debt. There is also the misguided infrastructure spending of the 1980s and 1990s. What the U.S. media likes to call “bridges to nowhere”. This and repercussions from the real estate boom-bust has left the Japanese government holding the debt.

The world will closely watch to see if Japan can find a solution to its debt problem – one that could be otherwise applied elsewhere. The nation imports commodities and exports manufactured goods, so default would probably be rough on the relatively few exporters to that market, but the world would likely survive the implosion.

Not so Japan – that has now been labeled “the land of the rising debt”!

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

# Pure OnSense

## Eyes on the sky

Scott Zuke

In February The Guardian newspaper reported that a group of academics, advocacy groups, and Nobel laureates has gathered to launch the "Stop the Killer Robots" campaign, to pressure the international community to draft a global treaty against autonomous weapons. These would include drones currently in development that could, without human controllers, identify and strike targeted individuals anywhere in the world. It still sounds a bit like science fiction, but it's a natural outgrowth of the wider public dialogue about rapid advances in drone technology, and whether stricter policy is needed to reign in their increasing use at home and abroad.

In Plato's dialogue, *The Republic*, a character named Glaucon tells the story of Gyges (GUY-jeez), a young man who found a magic ring and discovered that wearing it made him invisible. As soon as he learned of the power, Gyges immediately succumbed to selfish desires, using it to seduce the king's wife, enlist her help in killing the king, and seizing the crown for himself.

Glaucon fears that the parable re-

veals an inherent vulnerability in all people: "No one, it seems, would be so incorruptible that he would stay on the path of justice, or bring himself to keep away from other people's possessions and not touch them, when he could take whatever he wanted from the marketplace with impunity, go into people's houses and have sex with anyone he wished, kill or release from prison anyone he wished, and do all the other things that would make him like a god among humans... This is strong evidence that no one is just willingly, but only when compelled."

Today, critics of the Obama Administration share the same fear when it comes to the use of drones. Under Presidents Bush and Obama the use of drones in counter-terrorism operations in places like Pakistan, Afghanistan, Yemen and Somalia have been a kind of public secret: we know that they are being used frequently, to the extent that stories about which al Qaeda leader was just killed seem to blend into each other day to day, yet the White House has maintained a no comment policy, and many details are still being kept tightly under wraps for security reasons. The public has

afforded the government wide latitude in its operations against al Qaeda and other terrorist groups for years, but recently the tide of opinion has shifted towards wondering if the Administration has worn the Ring of Top Secrecy a little too long for comfort.

Rosa Brooks, of *Foreign Policy* magazine, argues that when used for foreign operations, armed drones effectively lower the financial, political, and human cost of resorting to deadly force, making them an irresistible temptation for an Administration trying to balance the public's war weariness with its demands for prevention of terrorist attacks. They also open risky paths for the Executive Branch to circumvent Congressional approval for lethal strikes, and set a poor example for other countries that aren't all that far behind in developing drone capabilities themselves. "The real question isn't whether U.S. drone strikes are 'legal,'" Brooks writes. "The real question is: Do we really want to live in a world in which the U.S. government's justification for killing is so malleable?"

A recently leaked Department of Justice white paper that explains the legal justification for using drones to conduct targeted killing of U.S. citizens in foreign countries under limited circumstances drew a flurry of criticism from libertarian and civil liberties groups, calling it a violation of Constitutional rights.

The Administration has argued fiercely that it follows strict procedures and conducts thorough deliberation before ordering the use of drones in such situations, but the fear of deadly abuse of power has spurred louder demands for transparency and greater legal regulation of drones in combat.

Those worries have carried over into a developing debate over the domestic use of drones as well. Senator Rand Paul pledged in February to delay the confirmation of John Brennan to head the CIA until he received a promise from the Administration that drones would not be used to kill Americans on U.S. soil. "We're talking about someone eating at a cafe in Boston, or New York, and a Hellfire missile comes raining in on them," Paul said on Fox News. His concern is comically unfounded and meant more to get attention than anything else, but it does illustrate the lack of a fully fleshed-out legal framework regulating the use of drones in U.S. airspace.

Domestically, drones have mainly been used as cheaper alternatives to helicopters for such things as surveying land, monitoring forest fires or U.S. borders, and providing reconnaissance for police so that they could enter an area safely. According to the crowd of dystopian alarmists, however, we're on the verge of a massive surveillance state, in which all of us will be un-

der the constant eye of a domestic drone network.

Like most conspiracy theories, this fear relies on a belief that government officials are much more interested in average citizens than they really are, and have vastly more capacity to gather, analyze, and act upon data than they actually do, but there are valid privacy issues that remain to be dealt with through legislation and jurisprudence. The FAA is currently working on establishing safety protocols as drones are being incorporated into domestic airspace, and they could potentially be tasked with addressing property and privacy issues as well.

So far the public discussion about drones ranges from debates over ethics and the morality of remote killing, to rhetorical races to the bottom of slippery slopes, where peoples' worst fears are drawn from Hollywood and science fiction. Like the ring of Gyges, drones present us with a new technological capability that could draw us down a dark path. But there is remedy in the law. The law is how we strip away impunity and enforce accountability, and that's why it is important that the president follows through on his promise, made in the State of the Union, to improve transparency in our drone usage and policy.

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

# Down Under

## Futuring

Submitted by Lindsay!  
Melbourne, Australia

*"The present is us just catching up to the future"*

—The Author, 1952

Many years ago I donned a pair of spectacles used in psychology classes to show that what one saw was not always what was expected. After putting them on you could see nothing but the floor and the shoes you wore, and you were then asked to walk out the door - and you knew were that was. But, with nothing to guide you save the position of your feet and the pattern on the plain brown carpet, it proved very difficult. Impossible, almost, because there was no straight passageway to the door, so unless you forgot the things you were seeing and went for the things you could hear and feel you fell over chairs, banged your head on protruding shelves, and generally made a fool of yourself. Voices from a corridor and a waft of heated air eventually led me to the door, and to some jeering from my supposed friends.

That's not so strange, but so much of what we see today is only a part of reality, a part that someone else wants us to see and believe is the whole, because if we can be led to that part of reality it can be sold on, and they make

money. Lots of it. That 'someone else' is any on the search engines we use to surf the net. We go looking for whatever - information, gossip, stock market prices - and that is recorded, probably somewhere in the cloud, and sold back to the proprietors of the search engine. It's not long before you are getting messages as to what others like you like, because they know where you are most likely to go, and they want to retain your preference to search with them. That's knowledge they can and do sell to a purveyor of things in your preferred area. That, as Francis Bacon said, is power. Not only that, but the ease with which we are magically led toward supporting opinion, similarities, and reassurances that we are not alone is habit forming. Having our habits reinforced makes us feel good, being told we are on the path to our destination gives us confidence, and being nudged toward buying from a particular seller is harmless - isn't it?

When we think about this dispassionately, just how much do we truly know? If we rely on the internet for our news and information, then the answer is probably very little. We have lots of information, more data than we can possibly utilize, but we actually know less and less. To know something we have to test it: Give a child a drum

and a spoon and it's not long before we all know that banging the drum with the spoon makes noise. Now show another child a video of that and all they learn is that a drum makes a noise when banged by someone else. They have to assume it will do the same for them. Our lives are built around trying things - for ourselves. Or not, if we know for sure that they are probably too dangerous.

If we go along with what we like on Facebook and its equivalents, we only know what our friends like, not what our non-friends like - because we will not get to read any of their blogs. In fact, we will be wearing my glasses, but believing that what we see is all there is, or at least all there is that is worth knowing, worth bothering about. We will be living in a world of filtered truths, given what we say we want, and not what we need, unaware of the myriad number of things that can cause us to fall, cause our community and even our country to get into both stupid and lethal situations.

And all that time we know, really know and understand the facts: President Obama is a Muslim, abortion is a criminal act, smoking dope is harmless, all non-whites are the enemy, the best protection is a gun. In fact, we could be told the world is flat and we'd accept it. We are, in fact, being turned into little experts and little politicians. Remember the old definitions? An expert is someone who gets to know more and more about less and less - until he knows everything about nothing;

a politician is someone who gets to know less and less about more and more until he knows nothing about everything.

That's not you? Oh, sorry, it must be your neighbour.

The internet news services make us experts, as these days it knows what we want to see and shows us everything related to that, but does not show us what we also need to see, because that might make us feel uncomfortable, whereupon we do the unthinkable and change services. Twitter and face book style congregations keep us together, learning about each other's minor miraculous moves and tiny trembling twitches, keeping us pumped on celeb and wannabes, learning more trivia than sanity can withstand - but at least it is junk of our own choice, not some faceless editor or reporter who tells us what they want us to know.

That's how it was, and for all the bias that might have been built into such a system, at least we could glimpse a story that might pique our curiosity. That's really the price we pay for convenience: the withering of curiosity, the round table family arguments, the verbal stoushes that stimulated thought and taught us the rudiments of logic.

Just as we do not bring our children up on sweets and fats, (not if we have any sense, that is), so we cannot expect our minds to stay healthy, reactive to the bizarre, able to test for lying and misdirection if we only get what we want. These is so much out



there that we have to be selective, don't we? Yes, we do, but we also need to be adventurous, aware we don't know, prepared to be shocked and to trip over the hard, inconvenient ideas and stories that are outside our preferred comfort zones.

I called this article futuring because it suggests getting ready to live in the future. It's already different. It is always different. We need to be on our toes, and we cannot do that if we are so fat with fractoids, (not my word, it's Eli Pariser's. Borrowed without permission), those bits of information that keep on being the same no matter how far we explore them, that we die of clogged thought arteries. You know, the things fatheads have.

Please, go read 'The Filter Bubble' by Mr. Pariser. It's like breathing mountain air, drinking spring water, and enlarging the question marks that hopefully are already in your mind.

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

## THE PASTOR'S DESK

# Learn how to die and you learn how to live

Pastor Gary Buchman  
Emmitsburg Community  
Bible Church

Several months ago, while looking through some used books at a thrift store, I came across a book called, *Tuesday's With Morrie*, by Mitch Albom (a bargain for 25 cents). That book sat on my shelf for months until one day when the weather was bad and it seemed like a good day to grab a cup of coffee and a good book so, I picked up *Tuesday's With Morrie* and I couldn't put it down. It's an easy read and a good book.

The book is a true story about Morrie Swartz, a sociology professor who, in his sixties is diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis ALS, a brutal and unforgiving disease of the neurological system that is always fatal; there is no cure. Morrie's optimistic approach to this disease makes national news and he is featured on Night Line with Ted Koppel. It was on this show that one of Morrie Swartz's favorite students acclaimed sports writer, Mitch Albom sees his old professor and begins to visit him on a regular basis-every Tuesday.

It is in dying that the old professor teaches his greatest lessons to one of his fondest students. One of them, I believe summarizes the book. It is found on page 83 and spoken by Morrie, "When you realize you are going to die, you see everything much differently." He sighed, "Learn how to die, and you learn how to live."

Let me ask you a question. What difference would it make if you knew that this would be your last Easter, or last birthday, or last anniversary? What if you knew that you would never see Christmas 2013, what difference would it make in how you lived? Perhaps only those with a terminal illness think about. Take a minute and let that question sink in a little.

Now write your answers down somewhere and look at them often.

- Would you make a bucket list of all the things you want to experience before you die?
- Would you develop a deeper relationship with God? Read the Bible more, pray more, tell others about Jesus?
- Would you seek people that you need to forgive and people that you need to seek forgiveness from?
- Would you hug those you love more, or say, "I love you," more?
- Would you be kinder, or give more to charity?
- Would you watch TV less and sunsets more?
- What things would seem less urgent and what things would be more important?
- Would you focus more on your senses; that is, would you savor the flavor of chocolate, or coffee more? Would you take the time to drink in the smell of flowers or your wife's perfume (or husband's after shave)? Would you appreciate the art work of a child or the touch of a hand? I wonder if Tim McGraw read *Tuesday's With Morrie*, when he was writing the song, Live Like You Were Dying (it's a good song)?

None of us know if ALS will hit us this year, or a car, or a heart attack. None of us know if the Doctor will tell us the dreaded C word. But we do know that something is coming, we just don't know when. Hebrews 9:27 reminds us that we all have an appointment to keep when it says, "And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment." I remember a similar quote by an unknown source that said, "No one is prepared to live until they are prepared to die."

From the time we are born, we are being prepared to live. We are taught how to become self-suffi-

cient (feeding our selves, tying our shoes, and going potty), we are given an education, we make career choices, we choose life partners, we invest for our futures, and we prepare for retirement, but, it seems to me that few prepare themselves for the inevitable day of their death. Many choose to not think about it. The thought of dying can be frightening. What happens to us when we die? Is there a heaven, or a hell and a just God that we have to appear before, or do we just cease to exist? If there is a heaven or a hell, what is the criteria for gaining the one and avoiding the other? How do we know if they exist? Has anyone ever come back to tell us? The answer to that last question is, 'Yes!' Someone has come back to tell us. His name is Jesus. The reason for Jesus' life, death, and return from the dead, was help you to live like you were dying.

As one who has more days behind him that he has ahead of him, allow me to give you some free advice as to how to live like you were dying. I will use the writings of the Apostle Paul from his second letter to the church at Corinth. In 2 Corinthians 4:14, 16-19, "knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you.... Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal."

First, Receive God's gift of eternal life. This month as you think about Lent, Good Friday, and Easter, remember that Jesus came to die in your place; that is, He died paying the penalty for your sins which is



death, not the stopping of the brain waves but the separation from God that your sins have earned you. Jesus paid your debt and offers you forgiveness and eternal life as a gift. "The wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord," (Rom. 6:23 cp. John 3:16). Paul received the gift in Acts 9 and because Jesus paid His penalty and gave the gift which includes forgiveness and eternal life, he knew that when death occurs, Jesus would raise Him up to eternal life (4:14). The gift is free and given to you, when you repent of your sins and by faith receive Jesus as your Savior and Lord (Romans 10:9-13).

Second, Take the time to keep the soul healthy. Verse 16 says, "Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day." Once you hit somewhere around 40, you will notice, there will be less hair, poorer vision, a little arthritis, a few wrinkles begin to appear, and you can't run the mile under 5 minutes any more. The body is beginning to run down. No matter what we do to keep it active we can't stop the aging process. But the mind and soul is a different story, it can still be renewed. Watch less TV and read more books. Read the Bible, meditate on it's contents; it will nourish your soul and give you stability no matter what happens to the body, so says Psalm 1.

Third, Think about down-sizing. Paul says, that, "the things we see are temporary, but the things we don't see are eternal". Do you realize that everything you are working so hard for to possess will someday be the items at your children's yard sale, or will end up at the thrift store, or landfill? Your children will only keep a few keepsakes and you can't

take them with you; a storm like Sandy can take it all away in a moment of time. This is why Jesus told us to not lay up treasure on earth, but to lay it up in heaven (Matt. 6:19-21). Life would be less stressful if there was less to stress over. Wouldn't it be better if all of us, like Morrie, would live like we are going to die?

Fourth and Finally, Focus on the Finish Line. This passage reminds us that our bodies are temporary, our problems and pains are temporary, our possessions are temporary, and our time here is temporary, but what God has planned and promised for you is eternal and worth all that we had to endure. Life is like a race, and it doesn't end until you cross the finish line. Ahh, but at the finish line of life, there will be Jesus (who can't wait to see you, John 17:24), your loved ones that chose to follow Jesus (1 Thess 4:13-18), God will have a new body for you that is like Jesus' own glorious body (Phil. 3:20; 2 Cor. 5:1-5). This body will never again be sick, or grow old, or experience pain (Rev. 21:4-7); and you will enjoy God and His pleasures for ever (Psalm 16:11). There, at the finish line, is the place Jesus has personally prepared and reserved just for you (John 14:1-3; 1 Peter 1:3-5). Morrie said, "When you realize you are going to die, you see everything much differently...Learn how to die, and you learn how to live."

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. [pastorgarybuchman@gmail.com](mailto:pastorgarybuchman@gmail.com), 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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# Conclave: relaying the Keys of the Kingdom

Megan Kinsella  
MSM Class of 2013

I remember it perfectly: I was in Mrs. Herman's seventh grade English class. We were engrossed in the ever-interesting subject of diagramming sentences when the announcement came over the school loud speakers. Mrs. Herman enthusiastically turned on the television and scanned for CNN. We watched as the black smoke turn to white, and cheers erupted through the hallways of St. Thomas More School. A new pope had been elected at last!

Today, we are faced with a similar situation as happened eight years ago, when Blessed Pope John Paul II passed away, and the Cardinals of the world elected Joseph Ratzinger to the office of Pope. As most of you know, Pope Benedict XVI (Ratzinger) is resigning his position effective February 28, in which case the Cardinals will once again convene in Vatican City to elect a new Pope—a process known as conclave. As a senior at the Mount, I can say with confidence that the conclave in Rome has the full attention of myself, my classmates, professors, and our school community as a whole. I would like to share with you all, members of the Emmitsburg community, who are so greatly a part of our lives here at the Mount, just why this is such a momentous event for us as a school, town, country, and even the whole world. The conclave is a very interesting, historical, and deeply religious tradition that deserves much attention, and I will do my best to paint its picture for you.

Let me begin by briefly explaining a Church process called "Apostolic Succession." During His ministry here on earth, Jesus gave the Keys to the Kingdom of Heaven to his greatest apostle, Peter. Matthew 16:18-19 says, "And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the powers of death shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." These verses are seeping with symbolism that, when seen in light of Jewish tradition, will help us better understand exactly what Jesus meant. In ancient Israel, whenever a king was away from his kingdom, he would give his keys to his prime minister. The prime minister would act in the king's place while he was away, and when the king returned, the prime minister would return his keys, and thus his power. By giving Peter the Keys to the Kingdom, Jesus elected him the first Pope of His Church on earth, in turn giving him the power to lead the kingdom while Jesus was away. With the power given to them by Jesus, early Church fathers hand-selected priests, bishops, and popes to carry on their mission and con-

tinue spreading the faith after they died. In truth, despite corruption, discord, and over 2,000 years, this system of Apostolic Succession has ensured an unbroken line of popes, dating all the way back to 33 AD.

For the first thousand years after Jesus instituted His Church, there was no set system for electing popes. Despite widespread persecution, the Church continued to grow and spread throughout the world, and leaders continued passing their Apostolic power through the generations. During the Middle Ages, greed and power-lust were sometimes motivation for the selection of popes: emperors would oftentimes pull rank over Church officials and select their own man for the job or affluent monarchies would elect family members. In 1059, however, the Church regained power of the process and it became an official deliberation period in which only Cardinals were invited to partake.

The origin of the conclave system that Cardinals follow today dates back to the 13th century. When Pope Clement IV died in 1268, France was in the process of invading Italy. With an equal number of French and Italian Cardinals at the time, the conclave was understandably divided. After nearly three years of deliberation, the Cardinals agreed on September 1, 1271 that Tebaldo Visconti would be the new Pope. After taking office, Visconti (Pope Gregory X) reformed the process of papal elections to avoid such tension in the future, thus creating our modern day conclave.

Conclave, which means "to lock with a key," is the assembly of the

College of Cardinals for the selection of the new Pope. On or soon after March 15 of this year, 117 Cardinals will gather and be locked together in the Domus Sanctae Marthae—built in Vatican City specifically for the purpose of papal conclave—where they will stay for the duration of the affair. In the Sistine Chapel, they will pray, discern, and vote for one amongst their numbers to become the next Pope. The conclave is extremely confidential, and the Cardinals are prohibited from all contact with the outside world, including reading newspapers, watching television, and listening to the radio. This withdrawal from the world allows the Cardinals both seclusion for prayerful discernment, and the peaceful quiet they need in order to hear the Holy Spirit moving in their hearts, guiding them during such a monumental task.

The Pope must be elected by at least a 2/3 majority vote. Voting will start on the first day of conclave, and will continue for three days, at which point if the new Pope has not yet been elected, they will take a 24-hour break for more prayer and discussion. Then, it is back to voting. During each voting session, the Cardinals write the name of the man he has discerned should be Pope on a ballot, and deposits it into a box on the altar of the Chapel. If the voting does not result in a 2/3 majority, the ballots are taken to the fireplace and burned, along with damp straw. This creates black smoke that signals to the outside world that a decision has not yet been made. The conclave contin-



ues in this manner until the new Pope is elected, in which case the black smoke turns to white when the ballots are burned. "Habemus Papam!" ("We have a Pope!") is announced to the waiting crowd in St. Peter's Square, and he appears to give his first blessing as our the Pope, the newest keeper of the Keys of Heaven.

It is possible that we could have a new Pope as early as March 15,

but there is no way of predicting how long the conclave will last. This time of waiting may be disconcerting. However, we trust that Pope Benedict, in leaving the seat of Peter, has acted in the best interest of the Body of Christ. And so we wait, knowing that the Lord safely holds the Keys of Heaven for a time, while His earthly steward is prepared to take them up once more.

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## THE (retired) ECOLOGIST

# The mad mice of March

Bill Meredith

*"... and thick and fast they came at last, and more and more and more...." Lewis Carroll: "The Walrus and the Carpenter."*

Until last Wednesday, this had been an unremarkable winter here in the west end of Emmitsburg. Temperatures have been a bit below average, but not excessively cold; precipitation has been close to average, and the few dustings of snow we've had are nothing like the blizzards that tormented other parts of the country. A few stinkbugs have sneaked into the house through holes in the vent pipe of the clothes dryer and other such crevices, but they aren't as bad as last year. Outside the kitchen window, the usual 12 or 15 species of birds that are always at the feeder have been joined occasionally by a sapsucker, a brown creeper, and a pair of red-breasted nuthatches; but visitors from farther north, like purple finches, pine siskins and white-crowned sparrows, have yet to appear.

I had been starting each day by sitting at the kitchen table

and peacefully contemplating the ordinariness of things until, one day in mid-February, it occurred to me that there were no mice in the house. One of the first things they teach you in Ecology School is that, when you notice something unusual, you should always ask "Why?", so I started thinking about it. I had already noticed that there weren't as many squirrels as usual this winter; the black squirrels that entertained us last year moved down the street half a block, and the old squirrel that had become so adept at pilfering my sunflower seeds must have either died or moved away to assisted living, so I postulated that maybe this was just a bad year for rodents in general. That hypothesis didn't actually explain anything, but since the second lesson of Ecology is that you should eliminate the obvious answers before looking for more complicated ones, I allowed myself the pleasure of being satisfied with it. After all, I am retired.

The peaceful, if somewhat boring, routine of life at our house was enlivened last Wednesday when our daughter, Melinda, came to visit from Minnesota. We were having lunch in the kitchen



Trust us - this photo is a lot better than the photo Bill sent us of the two mice in a trap.

when she gave a politely restrained yelp, accompanied by a gracefully executed jump, and announced that a mouse had just run past her. I had noticed previously that a gray blur occasionally flashed along the baseboard in that area, but I am accustomed to seeing things that aren't there because of a combination of cataracts and floaters in my eyes; so I assured her that she must have imagined it because we have no mice this winter. She accepted this in the best tradition of the Dutiful Daughter, but the next day she said she heard bumps and scratching sounds coming from the cabinet by the sink. My wife and I both listened, but we heard nothing. Melinda said the noise was getting louder, and must be caused by something at least the size of a squirrel, or possibly even a raccoon, so my wife sent me to get my hearing aid. I still heard nothing, but by that time she seemed to be getting into the spirit of things and said she heard scratchy sounds coming from vicinity of the ice-maker in the refrigerator. I knew the ice-maker had been broken for the past couple of years, but I had the tact and foresight not to remind her

of that. It seemed a wiser strategy would be to make a show of force, so I went to the basement and dug out our collection of mousetraps.

My wife was spreading peanut butter on stalks of celery at the time, so I borrowed a spoonful, spread it liberally on several traps, and set them in places where I would have been sure to explore if I were a mouse. We then went on to more inviting pursuits and forgot about the noises and the traps until the following morning, when one of them went off accidentally. Thus reminded, we ran the trap-line in the best frontiersman style, and found all of the traps undisturbed, until I remembered that I had put one in the cupboard under the sink. When we looked there, the trap was gone. My wife immediately concluded that a giant rat had eaten the trap, bait and all, and we should call the National Guard, or at least the local Animal Control Department; however, cooler heads prevailed, and I worked up courage enough to look behind some of the containers of cleaning fluids. We found the trap lying upside-down behind a box of Brillo pads. Apparently it had gone off with unanticipated enthusiasm

and flipped itself into the air when it was tripped. Instead of a giant rat, it contained two small mice.

After things calmed down and the excitement of the successful hunt had abated, I attempted to reconstruct the scene of the crime. The two mice obviously were teenagers, out after hours looking for excitement when they came upon the alluring scent of peanut butter. The release mechanism of the trap, having been unused for a long time, must have been stiff, for all of the bait was gone; the mice must have been licking off the last residue of it when the trap finally went off. That explanation was a triumph worthy of Hercule Poirot, and I had hopes that it would be the end of the matter; but before the day was over Melinda had repeated the yelp-jump maneuver twice, embellishing it with some comments that she must have learned since she moved to Minnesota. Consequently, my wife made it clear that a state of war existed. It was us or them.

If there must be war, I suppose this is a good time for it. March was named in honor of Mars, the Roman God of War; in Italy, back in those days, March was the time when the weather began to get warm enough for armies to march. And so I have mustered all of the traps I could find and deployed them strategically throughout the house, with hopes that an armistice may be declared before anyone brings small children to visit us. In the meanwhile, I have opened negotiations with the young Cooper's hawk that has been hanging around the yard, making mainly futile passes at the small birds on the feeders. I'm willing to offer him a warm place to stay for a few days if he is willing to change his diet to mice. Melinda suggested yesterday that it might be less messy to get a cat, but I have drawn the line there.

To read past editions of *The (retired) Ecologist*, visit the *Authors* section of [Emmitsburg.net](http://Emmitsburg.net).



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IN THE COUNTRY

# Behind the Maple Scene

**Kay Deardorff**  
**Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve**

It's snowing! Now the sun is shining! Oh look, it's snowing again! As I am writing this article, I watch as the clouds roll in and the gray day turns white with snow blowing through the trees. Then the sun reappears only to give way to another snow squall. Just yesterday, I noticed crocuses blooming and daffodils peeking through the soil's crust. These are the things that we can see this time of the year. The days can get warm enough to remind us that spring is just around the corner. Then the nights are so cold that we need to throw an extra log onto the fire.

But there are things happening in nature that we cannot see. The maple trees have sap flowing as the temperatures fluctuate from about 20° F overnight to approximately 40° F during the day. Essentially, the life source of the tree is preparing to nurture new growth for the upcoming spring.

During the beginning of the sap flow, it is an ideal time for the backyard hobbyist to tap trees; collect sap; and boil it down to sweet, syrupy goodness for his breakfast delight.

Today, we don't take the approach of our Native American predecessors and toss a tomahawk into the bark of a nearby maple tree and then wait for the sap to ooze from the wound. With experience comes increased knowledge, and we now know we must look for a tree that's just the right size and use the proper tools to capture the naturally sweet maple flavor.

In order to ensure minimal damage, the standard tree size should be at least 10 inches in diameter. Tapping the tree consists of drilling a 7/16" hole 1½ to 2" deep and inserting a plastic, wood, or steel spile. Sap can be collected in the traditional method using buckets. Most metal taps have a small hook, from which a bucket may be hung. This extracts only about 10% of the sap produced by a tree each year. Each tap yields an average of 10 gallons of sap per season: that yields about

one quart of syrup. About 30 - 55 gallons of sap are evaporated to make one gallon of syrup.

Another method of gathering sap is by using plastic tubing or 1 gallon jugs. This tubing can be connected to the plastic taps. When tubing is used, in commercial operations, a vacuum pump is often connected to the tubing to improve sap collections on cloudy days.

A sugar shack is where the sap is boiled into maple syrup in an evaporator. Sap breaks down quickly, and so it should be boiled into syrup the same day it is collected. Evaporation that is too fast or too slow can affect the color and the flavor of the syrup. The syrup is finished when it is exactly 4 degrees above the boiling point of water, which is 212° F.

But how would you find that perfect tree for the best results? Here are some facts to look for when searching for the best producer. Sugar maple sap has the highest sugar content of all maple trees. In the summer and fall you can identify the tree by its leaves that are 3-5 inches wide; 5-lobed; bright green upper surface and a paler green lower surface. The leaf on the flag of Canada is a sugar maple leaf. The leaves are located opposite one another as opposed to many other trees with an alternate leaf pattern. In the winter look at the bark of a sugar maple which is smooth and gray on young trees up to 4-8 inches. Older trees have developed furrows and ultimately long, irregular, thick vertical plates that appear to peel from the trunk in a vertical direction, but are in fact very strongly attached. The bark on the lower trunk also often appears to look somewhat twisted around the base. The younger upper branches will have smoother bark.

Black maple trees are also used even though the sugar content is less than the sugar maple. Find them by noting the similar leaf, but usually 3-lobed and is thicker. It often appears to be drooping. Likewise, the bark is similar to the sugar maple, but usually darker and more deeply grooved or furrowed.

If no sugar or black maples are available, you might locate a red maple.



Maple sugaring swings into high gear in March at Strawberry Hill.

Its 2-6 inch wide leaves are 3-lobed. There are small sharp teeth along the margin and mature leaves have a whitish appearance underneath. Young trees have a smooth, light gray bark when they are only 4-8 inches in diameter. When they have reached the mature size for tapping they will have gray or black ridges and ultimately narrow scaly plates. Red maples are the most common maple in this area and the bulk of the maple trees on the Preserve.

Finally, you may find silver maple trees to produce the sap you need for maple syrup. However more work will be involved with the collection of the sap as well as more time in the evaporation process since the sugar content in the sap is much lower than the sugar maple trees.

Every year, Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve, near Fairfield, presents the only maple sugaring program in the region that allows participants to have a hands-on experience with all facets of the sugaring process. During this 90-minute program, attendees learn the history of maple sugaring and then are led to the forest where they select a tree, drill into it, hang a sap bucket, collect sap and watch fresh sap being cooked down into syrup before their very eyes. As soon as the syrup is ready,

participants have a chance to taste the finished product.

Strawberry Hill demonstrates the entire process to school classes, home schools, organized groups, Boy and Girl Scout troops, and the general public. The program is suitable for all ages. It's educational, fun, and a wholesome family activity. After participating in the program, participants will have all the knowledge needed to do sugaring in their own backyard. There will also be maple syrup for sale as well as maple collecting kits.

You won't want to miss Strawberry Hill's pancake breakfast on Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> being held at Camp Eder, located at 914 Mount Hope Road, just a mile from the Preserve. Enjoy pancakes, eggs, and sausage while listening to local vocalist and guitarist, Greg Daskivich. You may want to sign up to learn about the maple sugaring process while you are there. 90-minute programs are offered hourly from 9:00 am through 3:00 pm.

If your schedule only allows for a maple sugaring tour, you will want to consider a visit to Camp Eder on Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> hosted by Strawberry Hill. Call ahead to coordinate your visits. Come out and experience the magic of the maple trees this winter. It's an experience you won't soon forget!

To learn more about Strawberry Hill visit their website at [www.strawberryhill.org](http://www.strawberryhill.org).

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## IN THE COUNTRY

# View hallooo!

**Tim Iverson**  
**Seasonal Naturalist**  
**Cunningham Falls State park**

“The Fox went out on a chilly night. He prayed for the moon to give him light for he had many a mile to go that night before he reached the town-o... He ran till he came to the farmer’s pen the ducks and the geese were kept therein. He said a couple of you are gonna grease my chin before I leave this town-o... He grabbed the great goose by the neck. He threw a duck across his back and he didn’t mind the quack, quack and the legs all danglin’ down-o... Well the old gray woman jumped out of bed. Out of the window she popped her head, cryin’ John, John the great goose is gone the Fox is on the town-o...”

That’s a small excerpt of lyrics from a song called “The Fox” by a popular bluegrass band, Nickel Creek. The song illustrates a contentious history between farmers and foxes, more or less from the foxes’ perspective. The fox is an integral part of the ecosystem, and has been for centuries vilified in both literature and sport.

Maryland is lucky to call two species of fox its own, the gray and

the red. Both the Gray Fox and the Red Fox are native to Maryland. Similar, yet distinct; each covers a separate niche. The Red Fox is quite resilient and adaptable. This fox is fond of open fields, wetlands, wooded lots, and is increasingly being found thriving in major metropolitan areas. Truly not being too proud to turn its slender nose up at an easy meal there are an estimated 10,000 living in London, as of 2006. The Red Fox does just as well, if not better, in an urban environment via scavenging than it’s more rural counterparts. About a year ago I saw a red fox bounding across the street just outside the Shady Grove Metro station! The Red Fox is truly an omnivore, known to eat small rodents, fruits, grasses, reptiles, birds, invertebrates, and more. This fox is a generalist, and can make do with many types of potential surroundings. However, not all species are so tolerant of urban encroachment.

The Gray Fox was once the most common fox in the eastern United States. It prefers dense forest, and is actually capable of climbing trees! With retractable claws it can scramble up trees to avoid potential predators and obtain food hiding in the forest canopy. This fox

is more intolerant of urbanization, and will be located primarily in rural areas. Numbers for this species of fox are beginning to dwindle due to the ever increasing loss of habitat, and displacement from other predators, such as coyotes. The main threat to this species though is man.

Dating back centuries fox hunting has been a popular past time. In the 4<sup>th</sup> century BCE Alexander the Great is known to have hunted foxes. The Persians thought that hunting fox was part of “a cultured man’s education” and encouraged killing them because they were vermin and distracted the dogs from the hares. This notion carried forward through the Romans into the Dark and Middle Ages in Europe. Eventually, they lost their appeal as strictly parasitic pests and grew into a stately game.

By the end of the 1600’s England had been carved into distinct fox hunting territories with fox hunting clubs growing up around these lands. The cry “view halloo” could often be heard by fox hunters once the fox had been spotted out in the open. The hunting tradition carried on into the new American colonies where American tobacco farmers in Virginia and Maryland promoted the merits of hunting



**Red Foxes, once hunted to near extinction in this area, are making a comeback.**

the two species offered here:

The grays furnished more fun, the reds more excitement. The grays did not run so far, but usually kept near home, going in a circuit of six or eight miles. ‘An old red,’ generally so called irrespective of age, as a tribute to his prowess, might lead the dogs all day, and end by losing them as evening fell, after taking them a dead stretch for thirty miles. The capture of a gray was what men boasted of; a chase after ‘an old red’ was what they ‘yarned’ about.

This excerpt from The American Turf Register from around 1830 crystallizes the perspective from the time. Subsequently, the sport was banned in Scotland in 2002, and England and Wales in 2004 for being cruel and unnecessary. The notion of the fox as a noble pursuit soon lost hold as the farm culture dominated the new American economy.

Fox proved to be quite a problem for farmers who raise various forms of livestock, and continue to do so. By and large lambs are the target of livestock predation. In Australia this is a particular problem. There are various methods of controlling such issues, most of which can be handled in a non-lethal manner to the fox. Erecting perimeter fences sealed with mesh or wire netting will generally solve the problem. Poisoning methods are extremely common, but pose significant risks to pets, livestock, potential fox predators, and other wildlife. Baiting and relocation are also extremely effective methods of predator control when dealing with fox issues, but these solutions were not always so common.

To many in the past, and still many in the present, fox are vilified. They are treated as vermin, and as such ought to be exterminated is the thought process. While what a fox may need to do in order to survive can cause economic damage to people extermination should not be the first conclusion jumped to. Fox serve a vital role in the overall ecology and health of an ecosystem. Often times when livestock or property is compromised a predator species is singled out and hunted without much confirmation. The best solution to prevent predatory animals is to secure any valuables that may be lost by predation prior to anything else. When you take any members of an intricate web out of the equation things get unbalanced. It’s uncertain what the future may hold for the Gray and Red Fox, but through appropriate land management techniques and human interaction they can continue to remain a sly, yet beautiful presence among our fields and even our cities!

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# Russian flower

Jack Deatherage, Jr.

“What’s this say?” I kneel and lift a kilo of what I think is flour from a bottom shelf in the Russian deli in Pikesville so the Mad One can see it. (Prior to getting serious about bread building, I only knew of kilos in terms of marijuana and cocaine. It’s odd how one learns about the metric system, Japanese motorcycles and local drug dealers.)

“Flour.” She’s impatient to move deeper into the store where she can get her 15 or 20 pounds of Bulgarian white cheese in brine, not the Greek feta I mistakenly called it once.

“Wheat.” She anticipates my next question.

“You need to learn Russian.” She snaps and leaves me puzzling over the various bags of supposed flour.

I decide I like the pictures on two of the bags. I’m able to determine, without the Bulgarian’s help, that one bag held a kilo of flour and the other 2 kilos. After placing the flour, and several cans of sardines and sprats in the communal cart, I announce I’m going to the Russian music/book store a couple doors farther along the shopping strip. Cousin Luke decides to tag along, possibly to keep me out of trouble, but just as likely to laugh at me; which he does about one minute after I start looking at music CDs. They are mostly covered with Cyrillic script.

A young woman approaches me and begins speaking in what I assume is Russian. A dozen responses pop into my head, but what comes out is babble.

“Uhh... I’m uhhh... Urrrr... Ummm, I... only speak English... and I don’t do that very well... urrr... in spite of having lived here all my life.”

She laughs. “Okay. If you need help with anything, just ask.” Her heavily accented English is flawless.

I hear several women laughing behind me. Luke’s deeper chuckle among them. With a smile and a shrug, I move along to the books.

Luke tells me he thinks the women were laughing at my beard, something about the czar’s scribes being peasants with long beards. Evidently, the peasants couldn’t read Russian either, but could copy the written word. I chuckle at the comparison. Having been compared to Charlie Manson, Fidel Castro and Osama, I don’t mind being compared to a scribe.

We study the books arrayed before us, fascinated by the bold colors of their covers, or I am. There is something about the cover designs that, even without the Cyrillic titles, I’d know the designers were not Americans. I open a few books and smile at the pictures hidden within. I like books with pictures, lots of pictures. Pictures ease the struggle of reading.

Luke points to a red book depicting a casually dressed man holding a skun goat by its hind leg. “Is that the cookbook Simona said you were interested in?”

I smile. It is. “The clerk said Simona could translate it for me, but Simo-

na said she didn’t like me that much.” We laugh. I don’t touch the book. I want it and touching it will lead me to buying it.

“You need to learn to read Russian Jack.”

That is exactly why I won’t handle that book again. I recall vividly an afternoon on an Air Force base near Pensacola FL when I was exploring the house we lived in and chanced upon a paperback book Dad had been reading the day before. “Skeleton Men of Jupiter” by Edgar Rice Burroughs. I was 4 years old and found books, at least those with pictures, fascinating. Skeleton Men had no pictures though, just the weird symbols that seemed to hold my parents spellbound, but did nothing for me no matter how long I sat and studied them. (Two years later, in a public library on the edge of Columbus OH, I would have some grasp of what those symbols meant, but would stand puzzled before the library’s collection of Greek tomes with their odd symbols, and the understanding that once more my ignorance was keeping knowledge from me.) Cyrillic, no matter what language it represents, brings back that intense feeling of puzzlement and more than a little frustration.

My high school French teacher (just before he told me to get out of his class) said he couldn’t teach me (or the rest of the class) French if we didn’t understand English. Not being particularly bright, I’m guessing that learning Russian would also require my

learning English?

I shudder at the thought of learning English and Russian. The Mad One would insist I learn Bulgarian, and as I have in-laws who are more comfortable with Spanish, I’d be expected to learn that too.

Worse than learning several other languages would be having to write grammatically correct sentences. I’m always puzzled when my computer’s grammar program informs me I can’t end a sentence with a preposition? The hell I can’t. I’m an idiot. I can babble any way I please! Besides, I don’t know what a preposition is. Nor do I care.

We move around the store to a section of children’s books. The covers suggest I might recognize the stories within, but Luke merely smiles when I open a book and ask him if my guesses are correct. We recite together, “You need to learn to read Russian Jack.”

I learned to growl from listening to my dad (retired after 20 years in the USAF) and a male Rottweiler I met in Homestead FL. I growl as I move along the aisle and consider whether I need to know what is in these books badly enough to learn Russian. We find some more cookbooks. One has a picture of bread on the cover. Bingo! I know darn well I can use Google “translate” to work out a bread recipe!

Flipping through the book I begin to lose heart. I recognize the pictures as cakes, pies and other baked goods I’ve no interest in. The few actual bread recipes don’t look particularly promising and Luke, after a quick



read over my shoulder announces the recipes far beneath those I use now. With a sigh I shelve the book.

Evening finds us gathered at Luke and the Mad One’s house. Their Lithuanian friend is visiting and various distilled liquids are being raised and downed. The Lithuanian comments that a few more thimbles of the exalted liquid and she’ll be speaking many languages.

Luke grins at me. “Maybe you should try some slivovitz. It might help you speak Russian.”

I pass. I can’t even say slivovitz.

Later yet, I sit at the computer with a kilo bag of flour trying to find the Cyrillic letters on the monitor’s virtual keyboard. □□□□ is FLOUR, □□□□□□ is protein. And I quit. My head hurts.

To sooth my culture shock, I made a couple loaves of bread using the kilo

bag of Russian flour. Normally, when I stumble upon something as delightful as what I lifted from the oven I call the Mad One and hurry to share with her. Not this time. DW and I have been swooning over this bread for two days. I’m tempted to tell the Mad One, “You need to learn to make bread.”

Her response would be a smile. “So Jack, you know how to make the cucumber soup? You can ferment whole heads of cabbage so you have plenty of leaves for stuffing? Of course you know how to make my mom’s potato soup? And I’m sure you’ve mastered the lamb recipes I’ve used when you bring us leg of lamb?”

Now, where did I leave that Russian alphabet chart?

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## PETS LARGE AND SMALL

# How quickly life can change

Jennifer Vanderau  
Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter

He never realized how quickly life could change. Was it really only last night that he slept in bed beside mom?

Now, he's just really confused. The humans are talking, using words like car accident and drunk driver and he doesn't get it. He remembers them all from holiday visits, but he's not sure why they're here and mom's not.

There are arguments. About who will take him. About where he'll go. He figures when mom comes back, she'll explain that he's not going anywhere without her. They're inseparable, you see, he and his mom.

They go for walks together, she takes him to the dog park, she kisses his nose every night and says "sleep tight, sweet boy." They wake up snuggled together and she says she doesn't know what she'd do without him.

It's not until he's in a kennel at the Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter that he realizes he might have to figure out what he will do without her.

The nights are kind of scary. It's quiet, but easy to sense the fear in

the shelter. He knows he's not the only one who doesn't want to be here. There's so much sadness here.

He misses his mama something awful -- the smell of her perfume, the soft touches she always gave him, the kind words and tone she would use when she spoke to him.

It's not that the people at the shelter aren't nice -- quite the contrary -- it's just he really believed he'd found his soulmate with his mom and now she's gone and he just wants her back.

He would trade everything he knows just to get her back.

His days become pretty routine -- wake up when staff arrives, eat his breakfast, watch for volunteers to walk him, say hello to some people in the public and go to bed when the lights go out.

It's a random Tuesday when he sees him. A gentleman alone, and there's something about him, a spark that says they understand each other, that they're both looking to fill an empty place. He takes him for a walk and it's really nice, makes his heart flutter in a way it hasn't since his mama went away.

Something pangs when the gentleman leaves, a feeling that he really wants to go with him -- that he should go with him, that they

belong together. He's kind of amazed when he finds out he filled out papers to adopt him and takes him home a few days later.

His new home is nice -- he gets lots of attention and a warm place to sleep and after a while, when he settles in, he really thinks that he could be happy here.

He still loves his mama and misses her sometimes, but his new dad is so nice and he's grateful that he got a second chance.

Sometimes, when he's in his bed late at night, he'll think to himself, "goodnight, mama, wherever you are" and he's sure -- really deep down in his bones certain -- that he'll see her again and they'll be together.

His first mama will always have a special place in his heart, but until the time when he can be by her side again, he's going to kiss and play with and adore his new dad and feel really lucky that he got to be loved, really loved and cared for, by so many people in this lifetime.

\* \* \* \*

This story is written as a tribute for a dear German Shepherd who came to us a few weeks ago. Her human mama was killed in a car accident -- hit by a drunk driver.

I took some literary liberties with the story, so I changed it a bit -- gender and some details -- but you could tell when the dog came to us she was grieving. She had a look of sadness about her. It never really left.

She was always quiet and calm, very dignified in her mourning. And she had those incredibly deep brown eyes that spoke volumes.

Her story and stay at CVAS touched a lot of hearts.

The sweet girl got adopted a few days ago by a single gentleman who fell in love with her. He waited through three other applicants to get her -- she just didn't work out with the other two. If ever there was a meant-to-be tale, this one fits the bill.

We're all hoping she can start a new



Sierra is a 5-year-old pitbull who is the sweetest girl. She intimidates people because of her size and looks, but don't let this lovebug fool you. She's really just a big mushball. She loves to love and takes treats really sweetly. She's not that great around other dogs and because of her strength, we recommend she is adopted into a home with children 8 & older and without cats. Sierra is looking for someone to take a chance on her misunderstood breed.



You can just tell by petting Pepper that this boy will add a lot of fun to your life! He's a 3-month-old black kitten with curious green eyes. His brother, Salt, has already been adopted, so Pepper is looking for his forever home. He loves to play and make little, high-pitched murring sounds when you talk to him. You have to come meet this squirt.

life and once again find the happiness she knew with her first mama.

We wish nothing but the best for everyone involved and our thoughts go out to all who lost so much in a moment so careless.

Jennifer Vanderau is the Director of Communications for the Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter and can

be reached at [cvascomm@cvas-pets.org](mailto:cvascomm@cvas-pets.org). The shelter accepts both monetary and pet supply donations. For more information, call the shelter at 263-5791 or visit the website [www.cvas-pets.org](http://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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Instead, go find an unloved dog, one whose life has held no joy or hope and give MY place to HIM.

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

-- Author Unknown

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PETS LARGE AND SMALL

# Cream of tartar

**Kimberly Brokaw DVM**  
Walkersville Veterinary Clinic

I am frequently amused by some of the folk remedies that people use at home to treat their horses. While some of the remedies are extremely bizarre, I have also encountered some remedies that can be effective. One might think that the stranger remedies would be found in back woods areas of Frederick county, but I have actually found the more peculiar remedies among racehorse owners. It seems that almost everything found in the kitchen cabinet is therapeutic in some owners' minds. I've seen owners put honey on wounds as well as feed it to the horse to treat allergies. Cider vinegar has been used for treating arthritis and bladder stones (it allegedly prevents calcium build-up in the joints and bladder.) I've also seen owners feeding bananas to increase the energy level of a slow horse. While none of those remedies strike me as harmful, I can't help but question the efficacy.

One of the most peculiar remedies I encountered was through my interactions with a standardbred racer. This owner, similar to one of my quarter horse clients, liked to work with chestnut horses as he found them to be more fiery and high spirited. He had elected not to castrate Big Red as the testosterone gave him the added benefit of extra muscle and attitude as compared to a gelding. He told me that Secretariat, a chestnut stallion, was arguably one of the best athletes to exist and that his "Big Red" could be too. Unfortunately the testosterone also made the stallion more difficult to handle and at times dangerous.

When a stallion becomes unmanageable (or preferably before they become unmanageable), they are frequently castrated. However, in this situation the owner wanted Red to keep his testosterone for that racing edge. While injectable testosterone is available for

veterinary use, it is not permitted for racing and will make a gelding fail his drug test. Some owners will ask veterinarians to only castrate one testicle. However I will not do this for two reasons. One it can cause confusion for future owners as they may think the horse is a ridgeling (cryptorchid) and two it doesn't significantly change the level circulating testosterone so the horse is still difficult to handle.

Red's owner was continuing to train and prepare Red for racing. While he was very pleased with the talent Red showed on the track he was getting concerned about his handleability. After several times of the stallion running off and flipping the sulky (the two wheeled cart used in harness racing), he called me to discuss other options to calm Red down. While I was able to provide him with numerous options he could use during training, I cautioned him that most of the medications I was suggesting would cause the stallion to fail his drug test. Red's owner decided to have me come out to the farm to examine Red and see if there was a medical reason for his feisty nature such as stomach ulcers or mild lameness.

When I arrived at the farm, Red was in a stall. His owner was standing beside the big stallion singing to him. While I've heard of many people who sing to their

horses to keep them calm, usually the singers are bad and off-key. In this case, Red's owner actually had a great voice. He was singing old country songs and sounded just like George Jones. As surprised as I was to discover that my client was a great singer, I was more surprised to discover that it actually seemed to work. Red was calm and easy to deal with for the examination. I had the owner jog him up and down the aisle-way of the barn. I performed flexion tests. Throughout the entire exam the owner sang and the horse was at his side, behaving like a gentleman. After the exam, I told Red's owner that I thought the behavior was likely due to being a stallion and not a medical reason. Castration was discussed, as was herbal tranquilizers, pregnant mare hormone shots and having the owner continuously sing George Jones into his horse's ear. None were deemed practical options.

A couple of weeks after my visit to Red's farm, I received a call from the owner. He wanted to try giving the horse Cream of Tartar. Apparently someone had told him that it would "thin the semen and calm an overly excitable stallion" and it wouldn't make him fail his drug test. I told him that I couldn't see how that would be effective but I also did not think it would be harmful to the horse. As for the proper dosage, I told him his guess was as good as mine. Eventual-



ly a dose of 1 tablespoon twice daily was settled upon.

About 2 months later I ran into the owner at the grocery store. His arm was in a cast and his face was horribly bruised. He told me that Red had gotten too rambunctious and ran off and flipped the sulky and he had been flown by helicopter to shock trauma. He agreed the cream of tartar had not worked and it was time to castrate the horse. An appointment was made and Red was castrated. The last time I spoke with the owner, he told me that Red was doing well and training nicely. He said Red had lost that edginess that gave him the advantage in harness racing, but he had to admit

the horse was much more tractable and easier to work with.

People frequently ask me about trying various home remedies and herbal products to treat their horse. I'm asked which ones work and if it is harmful to their horse. One of my favorite questions that I get asked is "what's the worst that could happen." My answer used to be that the horse wouldn't get better. Now my answer is it could not work and you could be taken by helicopter to shock trauma.

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



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# THE MASTER GARDENER

## Early spring garden chores

Annette Ipsan  
Frederick County  
Master Gardener

Mary Ann Ryan  
Penn State Extension  
Consumer Horticulture

All of us are anxious to see bulbs sprouting, buds unfurling and color splashed throughout the garden. And yes, even though it is a bit early to get your hands in the dirt, there is plenty you can do to gear up for the gardening season.

March is a great month for trimming and tidying. Now is when you should cut back your ornamental grasses. Hand pruners do a good job on smaller clumps, but hedge trimmers are handy for larger clumps. Hold or tie the old growth with twine and cut the grass 6" or so inches from the ground. Compost the old growth and look for new, green shoots to appear in a few weeks.

Most roses appreciate a good pruning now, too. Consult a good rose book for the best methods to trim your type of rose since timing and methods vary widely with individual cultivars. Floribunda, hybrid tea, climbing, shrub and miniature roses all have different care guidelines.

Many trees and shrubs can be pruned in March, too. Fruit trees, evergreens, many deciduous trees, raspberry canes, grapevines and more can all be trimmed and shaped before new growth begins. Armed with good hand pruners, loppers and a pruning saw, you can tackle all but the biggest of jobs. One of your best tools is a good pruning book that will give you specific techniques for trimming the plants in your yard.

But before you pick up the pruning tools, consider the reasons you're pruning. Is it because everyone else prunes, or winter damage, or size control? Hopefully, it's not the first reason. Many people have come into the extension office asking about pruning, and when asked why, they say it's because they thought they were supposed to.... wrong reason! Hopefully you're not pruning for size control, because with proper planning and selection of plants, you have already chosen the correct plant for a particular location.

However, many times we inherit other's mistakes, and we do have to do some size control. When pruning deciduous trees or shrubs, there are specific steps you should take. First, don't top! This only induces terminal buds to pop and you end



When pruning, make sure you cut branches as close to the 'knuckle' as you can.

up with a hot mess at the top of the tree due to all the sprouts that you encouraged through topping.

Cut out any dead, diseased or dying wood. Any broken branches should be cut out to an outward facing bud. Any crisscrossing branches should be next. Then step back from the plant and look. Often times, that is just about enough to reduce the size of your plant. If not, cut terminals down to outward facing buds or branches. This will encourage just one bud to become the terminal on that branch, as opposed to many

as does happen with topping.

Just like deciduous shrubs, if there has been damage to an evergreen plant due to ice, snow or maybe deer, cutting out the damaged pieces is a sure bet. However, evergreen shrubs and trees have a different set of rules than deciduous plants, which is determined by the genus, for instance, pine, fir, chameacypress, or arborvitae. Some evergreens only have terminal growth, like pines, so if you shear to old wood you have just killed your plant.

This Penn State publication

<http://pubs.cas.psu.edu/FreePubs/pdfs/AGRS95.pdf> will give you all the ins and out of pruning evergreens as well as deciduous shrubs. Check it out.

Your compost pile should be heating up! Be sure to turn it and get it ready for mulching those gardens! And don't forget your perennial beds. If you're like me, I keep my seed heads on the plants throughout the winter for the birds. But clean up time is now! Start cutting back the plants that you left standing for winter interest. By now you've probably noticed the first green swirls of new growth on your 'Autumn Joy' sedum, so you can cut off the spent flowers. The birds have picked clean the seeds from your purple coneflower and liatris, so those attractive seed heads can get snipped off, too.

Get a jump on the season by edging and weeding your beds. By digging and teasing out weeds now when they are small, you save yourself countless hours of weeding in the summer heat. Cutting in a neat edge on your garden beds also slows weeds' progress and gives your landscape a neat, professional appearance.

Now is the time to start watering trees and shrubs that you planted in the fall. Newly planted trees and shrubs need supplemental watering for a full year to stay healthy, grow good roots and flower well. As soon as you see new leaves appear, start watering. A slow, steady watering is best. Try using a hose on a slow trickle or a soaker hose to water deeply and well.

Here's something to keep in mind. We have all season to keep up with weeding, watering and planting. Sometimes, this time of year, we just need to enjoy early spring as nature wants us to. In March, early bulbs like Iris reticulata and snow drops are just peeking through the ground. If you had an opportunity to plant them last spring, be sure not to miss them!

You may be lucky enough to find some witchhazel blooming. If so, it's probably not the native species, as Hamamelis virginiana would have bloomed in the November - early December time frame, after leaf drop. Hamamelis x intermedia 'Arnold Promise' would be the one

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# THE MASTER GARDENER

## Small Town Gardener Once more unto the breach

Marianne Willburn

The first big clear up of the year began last weekend.

It started in the morning as I opened the bedroom curtains to find a pair of house finches chattering away upon my porch roof. The male had three or four twigs in his beak and had clearly never been told not to talk with his mouth full. They wrangled with each other for a few minutes, discussing the neighborhood, the views, the schools and off-street parking, but he eventually won the argument, taking his bride to look at a prime spot in the climbing rose. The sun was coming up, the temperatures were well on this side of respectability, and all this feathered activity motivated me to get my own house in order – my garden house that is.

I tread with a careful step this time of year. On the one hand, 'the lark at heaven's gate sings and Phoebus 'gins arise,' but on the other hand, weather is one of the greatest uncertainties in a gardener's book of uncertainties, and I am not immune to the superstition that I may be tempting fate. Plant some peas – expect deep snow; uncover the swaddled hypericum – expect temperatures to drop to record lows for the season. Mother Nature likes a laugh just as much as the next guy. So, I instead ignored the exciting for the mundane, turning my hand to the raking and the pruning.

First on the list, an awkward Manhattan Euonymus, once pretty and petite; now grown gangly and bitter by crushing snows and freeze-drying winds. I pulled out the shears, intending to trim, but realized that broken branches, unsightly holes and a front and center position in the border meant a complete overhaul was in order. I considered the possibility of limbing it up to create a little evergreen 'tree' in the border, and then considered the probability that I

might make a dog's breakfast of the whole endeavor. After staring at it for a full ten minutes, wondering 'do I dare and do I dare?' I armed myself with loppers and went into the belly of the beast. Twenty minutes later, the beast was once again a beauty, I'd cleared out a lovely area for some shade-loving dicentra, and I'd discovered six layered plants rooting in the soil beneath. Just goes to show, 'He who dares, wins.'

The ladder was required for my next horticultural stunt. Twenty feet of ladder to be precise. Each year at this time I ask myself why I spend countless hours and endure innumerable scratches tending a Paul's Himalayan Musk rose scrambling up the south side of the house. However, in three short months I get my answer: unbelievable bloom and intoxicating fragrance. Makes every scratch, every wobble of the ladder, and even an aching hand worth it.

After many years, the form and structure of this giant has been established, and with a little work – timed perfectly – it is now possible to maintain it without losing my mind in a sea of twenty foot lateral canes. Later, the grandiflora, two David Austins and two climbers got their annual cutback, and I went after the sprawling rugosa with fire in my eyes.

Roses sorted.

Maintaining a list of priorities at this time of year is crucial when tacking garden projects. There is no point in rebuilding the tomato bed in the first days of February when you haven't any tomatoes to plant until May, and re-gravelling the paths comes in a distinct second to hard pruning the lavender walk before the little guys have a chance to start their spring growth. For the most part I stick to my list even though it is very tempting to let the domino effect of little jobs change the grand order of things. Once you get distracted, the jobs multiply exponentially, and before you know it, you are making a

hypertufa trough for your sedums when you are meant to be on your knees seeding poppies.

Stay focused. There will be time for all. And, as T.S. Eliot's immortal Mr. Prufrock once said, "... time yet for a hundred indecisions, and for a hundred visions and revisions, before the taking of toast and tea."

you could catch now.

Other shrubs to enjoy: pussy willows, Salix discolor, with their fuzzy buds are very attractive this time of year. Camelia, a shrub with glossy leaves and rose-like flowers, would be blooming now as well. This shrub has typically been a plant for a more southern area, but there are newer varieties that have been introduced that are proven hardy to zone 6. Varieties like 'April Blush', 'April Kiss' and 'April Remembered' are all considered cold hardy.

March also brings garden workshops and seminars. Check with your local extension office to see what's coming up. Here in Adams County, we are in the midst of our Edible Gardening series, but you should mark your calendar for events like our Spring Gardening Day on Saturday, May 4 at the Agricultural and Natural Resource Center from 9am -1pm is an event worth planning to attend. Perennials, heirloom vegetables and herbs will be for sale. We will have a gar-

den yard sale where you can pick up garden tools, books and pots for cheap! Also educational activities will be available.

Check our website at <http://extension.psu.edu/adams> to learn more about upcoming events in our region. Go to <http://frederick.umd.edu/MG/index.cfm> for information below the Mason-Dixon.

A pre-season check is a great idea this time of the year. Are your garden tools ready for the busy gardening season? Check them and fix, sharpen or replace them as necessary. Take a stroll around your yard. Did rabbits, mice or deer damage any plants? Do any need to be repaired or replaced? Start a list for your garden center. Flip through your garden journal and start a list of "must do" projects. By the time your list is done, spring will be here in full swing and you'll be reaching for that glass of lemonade!

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## CIVIL WAR HISTORY

# Gettysburg: 150 years in the making

John A. Miller  
Emmitsburg Civil War Historian

## Part One

July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013, will mark the day 150 years ago that the Battle of Gettysburg started. The Battle of Gettysburg was an important battle in the American Civil War, and is one of the major turning points of the American Civil War. Since 150 years to the day the battle started, it's hard to imagine what it was like during those three days in July. But yet, after the Civil War, veterans from both the blue and the gray would return to this Civil War battlefield. Reflections of days gone by, talks about the hard times and soldier life, and seeing old friends from other units that fought together. And yes, those same reenactments that many thousands of people will go see are rooted when those veterans returned to Gettysburg.

Gettysburg was an important battle, so much so, that within a month after the battle plans were created to preserve the battlefield. This is when Attorney David McConaughy created the Gettysburg Battlefield Memorial Association. On April 30, 1864, the GBMA became the official preservation organization of the battlefield when Pennsylvania legislation gave its approval for a memorial landscape at Gettysburg. The GBMA then created the guidelines for the placements of all memorials, monuments, and markers that would eventually be erected upon the battlefield.

As the war came to a close, the first unofficial reunion took place in 1865, when members of the 50th Pennsylvania Infantry encamped on Culp's Hill for the Soldiers' National Monument cornerstone ceremony. Four years later, Attorney McConaughy, organized the first veterans' reunion at Gettysburg. In 1878, the Grand Army of the Republic held their encampment at Gettysburg which featured several activities

including hayrides, sack races, band concerts, balloon ascensions, picnics, and dances. This was also the year that the first memorials were placed on the ground. The first, marking the area where General Strong Vincent was mortally wounded, and the second marked the spot where Colonel Fred Taylor fell. A year later, the survivors of the 2nd Massachusetts Infantry erected the first regimental monument.

During the latter part of the 1800's more monuments were erected upon the Gettysburg Battlefield by Union units that fought there. By 1882, the GBMA had exhausted their preservation funds, as 280 acres had been preserved. During the same year, several ex-Confederate officers were invited to Gettysburg to share information on troop positions. In 1885, as preservation continued, President Grover Cleveland attended the First Corps reunion, and was given a battlefield tour after his visit to the Gettysburg National Cemetery.

In 1886, twenty-three years after the Battle of Gettysburg, survivors of Confederate General George Pickett's Division attended the reunion. During this important part of Gettysburg history, Union veterans were marking out positions and needed help with those they fought against. The New York Times wrote: "Now they are come together as friends and as citizens of a common country, having no resentments and cherishing no animosities."

In 1887, the US Congress appropriated funding to use to mark out various US Regulars. Since the GBMA's charter was limited to the Union positions, no real efforts were made to include the Army of Northern Virginia and their role there.

By July of 1888, the Quarter-Centenary of the Battle of Gettysburg had arrived. Twenty-five years had gone by since the battle. Almost twenty-five years of healing between the veteran soldiers of the blue and grey.



President Woodrow Wilson surrounded by a veteran guard at the 50th Gettysburg anniversary.

This commemoration also included several monuments being erected upon the battlefield. During this commemoration, there were enough veterans to recreate Pickett's Charge. The Confederate veterans actually rode in carriages across the field until they came to the stone wall, where they shook hands with those formerly of the Union army.

In 1889, the GBMA petitioned members of Congress to authorize land purchases where the Confederate army was located during the three day battle. This petition also included marking the Confederate positions where those divisions, brigades and regiments fought. In 1892, plans were approved to convert Meade's headquarters into a museum featuring artifacts from the battle.

The year of 1893 brought several threats to the preservation of the Gettysburg Battlefield, and because of this the Gettysburg Battlefield Commission was created. By 1895, legislation establishing the Gettysburg National Military Park had become Federal law. This law also provided the Park Commission with complete control of the battlefield. The lands owned by the GBMA were transferred over to the Park Commission. A major threat to the battlefield had been the electric trolley. The plans

were to run a line deep into the battlefield which included Devil's Den. The Circuit Court favored the trolley company. However, the case was overturned in 1896, by the Supreme Court when the Gettysburg National Military Park was enacted by law a year earlier suggesting that preservation was part of their responsibilities for its creation.

An actual park was underway, complete with roadways, and itinerary tablets to mark various positions of both the Union Army of the Potomac and the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia. The War Department renewed their effort to preserve and mark Confederate battle lines. It was now important for the veterans of both armies who fought at Gettysburg to come together if Gettysburg was going to be part of their legacy.

In 1895, several tour guides were making a living on by providing tourists guided tours of the battlefield. By 1913, several complaints were issued by the public. As a result, the War Department began to regulate tour guides. Only those who were licensed would be permitted to give tours charging a fee. Soon a roster was issued for 100 licensed guides. In 1928, regulations for a guide uniform were approved, as well as business cards to be given to the public.

The year 1913, marked the 50<sup>th</sup> Commemoration of the Battle of Gettysburg. From July 1<sup>st</sup> through July 4<sup>th</sup>, thousands of Civil War veterans embarked on the town of Gettysburg. On June 28<sup>th</sup>, the New York Herald wrote: "Today fifty thousand veterans of the great War are moving on to take peaceful possession of the field where the ardor of youth they strove in such deadly conflict. No better evidence of healing of the nation's wounds could be offered than the spectacle of men of the Grand Army and of the Confederacy striking hands on the spot where they made history."

During the Commemoration, many governors and veteran organizations spoke. Many activities were planned, and a recreation of the Pickett's Charge was reenacted by 120 veterans of Pickett's Division, and 180 veterans from the Philadelphia Brigade. The Confederate veterans charged over 100 feet of ground to the wall and shook hands with the Union veterans. The US military, boy

scouts, and Red Cross were on hand to aide those ageing veterans. Wool blankets were handed out and over 650,000 meals were served.

On July 4<sup>th</sup>, President Woodrow Wilson spoke at the Gettysburg reunion. In his address, he said: "How complete the union has become and how dear to all of us, how unquestioned, how benign and majestic, as State after State has been added to this, our great family of free men! How handsome the vigor, the maturity, the might of the great Nation we love with undivided hearts; how full of large and confident promise that a life will be wrought out that will crown its strength with gracious justice and with a happy welfare that will touch all alike with deep contentment! We are debtors to those fifty crowned years; they have made us heirs to a mighty heritage."

Fifty years had passed since the battle and during the early 1900's, these veterans who fought against each other during the three day battle were now part of a whole Union. They were not viewed as anything but Americans. As the Fiftieth Commemoration came to a close, preservation efforts of the Gettysburg Battlefield continued.

In 1922, the third remaining commissioner of the Park Commission had passed away and with that, the first superintendent's position was born with Emmor B. Cope holding that title until his death in 1927. Cope was also the last remaining commissioner of the Park Commission.

1916 marked the year when the National Park Service was created. As early as 1923, attempts were made to have land owned by the war department transferred to the National Park Service. Those attempts had failed. It wasn't until 1933, when the Gettysburg National Military Park was transferred over to the Department of Interior and administered by the National Park Service. This transfer occurred when President Theodore Roosevelt issued Executive Order 6166 which allowed the transfer of National Cemeteries and Battlefield Parks to the National Park Service.

To read more articles on the Civil War visit the Historical Society section of [Emmitsburg.net](http://Emmitsburg.net).

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CIVIL WAR HISTORY

# 150th Gettysburg reenactment update

**Brian Gesuero**

**Commander Confederate Forces**

**Allen Baldwin**

**Commander Union Forces**

On Feb 15, the second organizational meeting for the 150th Gettysburg Anniversary National Civil War Battle Reenactment took place in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Represented the Confederate and Union Armies, and the Gettysburg Anniversary Committee, community event organizers.

The scope and significance of the 150th Gettysburg National Civil War Reenactment, on July 4, 5, 6, & 7, demands an unusually high level of planning and organization. Even though planning for this event began at the Gettysburg 145th Reenactment, and the site is almost prepped and ready to go, it is important to discuss hundreds of logistical and battlefield details. This national reenactment has been sanctioned by the Pennsylvania State Legislature as the official 150TH civil war reenactment in Pennsylvania. As the most anticipated, largest and most significant 150th Civil War Reenactment in America, respected and supported by the community, visitors, and the majority of Reenactors, it is important to be down to the details at

this point - and not just beginning the planning process.

At this time, the 150th Gettysburg National Civil War Reenactment has well over 7,000 Reenactors registered and is pushing rapidly toward 8,000. More than 130 cannons are already signed up and registered - with 10 of the cannons being horse-drawn. This amount of artillery is unusual and very significant. It is probably the most cannons ever at one event. To have 10 horse drawn artillery units is very unique. Approximately 400 cavalry is also anticipated.

The meeting began with introductions of the Federal, Confederate, and GAC staffs. Every Division and Branch command was well represented. After the introductions a brief overview was given regarding the June 29 & 30 150TH Gettysburg Prelude Event of living history and skirmishes at the Gettysburg Lutheran Theological Seminary. Included was the Saturday afternoon Cavalry skirmish at Hunterstown. This will provide two great opportunities for those that are coming to town early for the 150th Gettysburg; or those that want to drop in for the day to experience a once in a life time reenacting experience and opportunity at this extremely historic venue.

Logistics for the National Reenactment are well underway. Many events

tell you that they have good logistics. Well, the GAC delivers. Everything was discussed from the onsite registration process for the different branches; port a johns, wood, hay, water, ice, to the dedicated and committed 24/7 EMS and Fire protection. The infrastructure is in place and has proven itself. The GAC has the equipment and resources to take care of the Reenactor. These excellent and well planned logistics and proven history of well supported events are the reason that the permitting process was not a major undertaking for the 150th Gettysburg Anniversary National Civil War Battle Reenactment.

Stan Daywalt, a Reenactor of over 50 years, provided closing comments by addressing the attendees and speaking about our need to uphold our standards and police our own ranks. Stan was a participant in the 100th Anniversary Battle of Gettysburg in 1963, as well as several of the larger anniversary events that followed. It was good to hear his perspective on what Reenactors are doing right, as well as what we need to improve. One area that has improved is the line of communication from event hosts and commanders down to the men in the ranks. Our maps, scenarios, schedules, etc, are all on the GAC public website for anyone to review.



The 150th Gettysburg Anniversary National Civil War Battle Reenactment is truly a team effort from start to finish. Everyone in attendance was excited about their ability to have a say in how we run this event. The level of enthusiasm is incredible. One Confederate Reenactor wrote "For the first time in my 25 years of reenacting, the organizers of a "National" event reached out to the reenacting community and asked for their input. The Commanding Generals are to be commended on your love of the hobby, and your dedication to the Reenactor. I heard nothing but good remarks and comments coming from the others in attendance. I personally had the chance to see old friends and make many more new ones, even some Yankees. I for one

have never been this excited to be part of such a great event." I think this says it all.

With current registration numbers reaching closing in on 8000, it is obvious that this is the event Reenactors are choosing to attend. With this kind of enthusiasm, this kind of teamwork "by Reenactors, for Reenactors," this kind of turnout from the reenacting community, and by far the best logistical infrastructure of any reenactment, the 150th Gettysburg Anniversary National Civil War Battle Reenactment, on July 4, 5, 6 & 7 will be an event that we will be proud of and always remember. For more information, for reenactor registration, or to purchase tickets go to [www.gettysburgreenactment.com](http://www.gettysburgreenactment.com) or call 717-338-1525.

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# HISTORY

## Glimpses of Fairfield Area's Past

### Interesting Facts About Early Times

Part 3 of many

#### Travel And Transportation

The smaller creeks and rivers in southwestern Adams County were not noted as waterways of communication and travel, but instead supported the mills which ground the grain and sawed the logs into lumber. Most travel was afoot or by horseback. By the 1750's some roads began to appear allowing wagons to haul grain to the mills and markets and also providing better means of transportation for the settlers. The roads were often the expansion of the dirt paths and trails established by the Indians and early traders and settlers. One road or path from Gettysburg headed southwest to Fairfield and then south and west to Waynesboro, and finally south to the Cumberland Gap. The newly developed roads aided not only travelers but also the settlers. Crops could be moved to market and mill with greater ease and the settlers could attend church.

Perhaps the best way to portray the development of a road network would to here quote some of the early roads of Hamiltonban Township - York county records to describe the petitions of the settlers for improvements in their roads.

#### The Fairfield Post Office

The Fairfield Post Office eminently qualifies for Bicentennial interest having been established under the administration of President George Washington in 1766.

The Postmaster General at that time was Joseph Habersham who deemed it proper "to establish a post Office at Millerstown, which is a place of some business, for the accommodation of the inhabitants of that place and neighborhood to send to Gettysburg, the nearest Post Office for their letters." He appointed William Taylor the first postmaster.

The Post Office name was

changed in 1798 when the village of Millerstown became known as Fairfield. It was a very small post office until 1822 when Maria Furnace started operations, industries expanded, churches were built and an influx of new residents gave impetus to the town.

Most of the early postmasters had other occupations - being a postmaster was just a sideline and not a full time job as it is today. The first postmaster was the tavern keeper; postmasters Musselman and Neely were partners in a store business" with the post office located in their store. This building still stands on Main Street today.

There have been times in Fairfield when postmasters' lives have been placed in jeopardy. John B. Paxton, for instance, was serving his second term as a Lincoln appointee when the Civil War broke out. During the conflict in the Gettysburg area he and two other Fairfield men were taken as prisoners. It was reported that in 1862, J.E.B. Stuart with 1200 confederate horsemen passed through Fairfield and took the three men prisoners, who were then incarcerated in the dread Libby Prison in Richmond, Virginia for six months.

The early postmasters received very little financial compensation. It is recorded that Ezra Blythe who served from 1811 to 1827 was paid a total of 918.16 per year. In the ensuing years wages have been raised so that they are commensurate with government salaries.

The following is a list of Fairfield postmasters and the dates of appointment:

- William Taylor - April 1796
- James Brice - October 1800
- John McGinley - July 1801
- Ezra Blythe - April 1811
- William Johnston - November 1827
- Michael Lawver - June 1838
- John McCleary - April 1841
- Jacob Brinkerhoff - Novem-

ber 1845/June 1853

- Hugh D. Heagy - March 1849
- John B. Paxton - May 1850/ March 1861
- Charles M. Robinson - May 1859
- John W. Sullivan - March 1867
- John M. Musselman - March 1870/February 1889
- J. Upton Neely - August 1885/October 1893
- John C. Shertzer - May 1889
- James M. Moore - November 1897
- Horace S. Neely - July 1914
- Russell C. McCleaf - December 1916
- Howard L. Harbaugh - September 1921
- George M. Neely - March 1935
- J. Walter Kugler - May 1947
- John W. Beach - June 1954
- Paul C. McGlaughlin - November 1959
- C. Thomas Steinberger - September 1961

Over the years there have been several post office buildings, the present brick structure being erected in 1967.

The first rural route in Fairfield was established in 1900, the second in 1915. From time to time there have been additions and deletions from the routes as communities grew or declined. In August 1975 the greater portion of the new Borough of Carroll Valley was added, bringing the number served by the Fairfield Post Office to 4,000. Now the rural carriers traverse over 100 miles a day.

As Fairfield grows and develops, so will the local post office grow to serve its needs. It is one of the most popular places in the town where everybody meets everybody with a friendly "good morning."

#### The Way It Was

With little to support him in creature comfort, the early settler to the Pennsylvania-Maryland bor-



der area pushed forward from the sea into the forests, on foot o" with the help of his horse, cow or ox. Sometimes by his side worked his wife, intrepid and hearty, and sometimes he traveled in a group. He carried all his worldly goods with him, bringing also the salt and iron cooking pots which were elementary and essential. His only tools were his ax, his wedge and his maul.

Always wary of the Indians, with rifle at hand, his immediate necessity was shelter. This he might accomplish by gathering long grasses which he supported across y-shaped poles, and in their drying gave temporary shelter. When at last he was "under roof" he had no smoothed floors, for no planes were available, and his bed was a platform built upon upright poles attached by a board to the cabin wall.

His clothes hung from wooden pegs, his windows were oiled hide or a board which let down against the weather. The slight illumination which pierced the darkness came from fat lamps or dry rushes stuck into the chinks. He used his hunting knife at the table as silverware as well as for gutting. Gourds, flat wooden chargers, spoons made of horn or wood - these were his table settings.

Perhaps he may have come from Europe as an indentured servant. Perhaps he indentured himself, and even his family, to work off his passage. He might have been sentenced to prison in Europe for a crime such as arson of fields or dwellings, and to facilitate his release he had to pay for the damage he had done. For this he would often advertise to sell himself, escap-

ing the tyranny in Europe, receiving a trip to the colonies where he would then work off his passage, a system known as "paying an indenture." This system, while often allowing cruel and barbarous treatment aboard ship, still worked, and thus most of the indentured farm labor of colonial times was a voluntary one. These hardy souls who made it through their early sufferings gave Pennsylvania a strain of some of its most successful farmers' An Act of Assembly in 1705 provided that at the request of their creditors, the county court was empowered to sell debtors who were not married and under 53 years of age for a term not to exceed seven years. Married debtors over the age of 46 could not be sold for five years. This was repealed in 1729, but revived in part in 1730, but again repealed in 1800. The harsh debt laws were abated a bit after the Revolution, but both imprisonment and servitude for debt was not deleted until July 12, 1842, when an Act of Assembly halted this practice. An instance of the rigid indenture law is that of an Irishman who served valiantly in the Revolution, but still had to return to his master to fulfill his term of indenture.

Death was an ever-present fact of life. Often graves were marked by nothing more than a flat fieldstone. Ann Wheeler Elder, whose husband later sold land to William Cochran of Carroll's Tract, died of consumption in her 34th year. Leaving behind her five children, this early pioneer mother was buried below Emmitsburg in 1739. The vehicle of her interment was a hallowed-out chestnut tree, for there were no planes to

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smooth the boards for her coffin. However, her tree was sufficiently protective, for about 100 years later, the tree, with Ann tucked inside, was reburied near the now destroyed Clairvoux property.

An early Pennsylvanian left behind this account.

"The few seeds that I was able to plant the first year yielded us little produce. We however raised some half-grown potatoes, some turnips, and soft corn, with we made out to live, without suffering, until theft next spring at planting time when I planted all the seeds that I had elf; and when I finished planting, we had nothing to eat but leeks, cow cabbage and milk. We lived on leeks and cow cabbage as long as they kept green - about six weeks... during the three winter months it snowed 70 days. I sold one yoke of my oxen in the fall, and the other yoke I wintered on browse; but in the spring one ox died and the

other I sold to procure food for my family, and was not destitute of a team, and had nothing other than my own hands to depend upon to clear my lands and raise provisions. We wore out all our shoes the first year. We had no way to get more - no money, nothing to sell, and but little to eat - and were in dreadful distress for the want of the necessities of life. I was obliged to work and travel in the woods barefooted. After a while our clothes were worn out. Our family increased, and the children were nearly naked. I had a broken slate brought from Jersey shore. I sold that...and bought two fawn skins, of which my wife made a petticoat for Mary; and Mary wore the petticoat until she outgrew it; then Rhoda took it till she outgrew it; then Susan had it till she outgrew it; then it fell to Abigail, and she wore it out."

Part 4 next month



To read more articles on local history visit the Historical Society section of Emmitsburg.net.

## Emmitsburg high school memories

High School plays directed by Mrs. Jones. Our class presented "Spooks and Spasms." - Carolyn Welker Wastler, class of 1960

The senior play "Sound of Music" - Harry Hahn, Jr., class of 1966

Mr. Wood teaching us to square dance. Class of 1966 was the first class to do a musical for their senior play. - Susan Free, class of 1966

Folk dancing at Baker Park, May Day festivities, Mr. Wood's square dancing, monthly record hops, basketball at States (1961 or 1962?), Fashion Show. - Charles Kline, Bessie Flory, Lona Frock, Nancy Glass, class of 1963

I loved playing sports at Old EHS - soccer, basketball, and baseball. Taking part in All School Plays. - Randy Valentine, class of 1961

Smoking in the boiler room with Mr. Woods who was the vice-principal and shop teacher, Home Ec with Mrs. Remavage, and having a sandwich and coffee when I should have been in class. - Pete Tokar, class of 1960

May Pole dancing and going to Frederick for a day of dancing. Making a sit-upon and going to Rocky Ridge Park. - Frances Saylor Angleberger,

class of 1960

Good times smoking in the Furnace Room with the teachers, dancing in the old auditorium at lunch time, Remember all the good times going back and forth to basketball games - class of 1954

Lots of good memories: first class to go 12 years, Winning girls basketball team in the county - 1950, first class to have a German Exchange student named Heinz Wagner - Hazel Keilholtz Stonesifer, class of 1950

Talking about Biology class - some of us remember dissecting a frog and some of us don't - class of 1967

Mrs. Jones gave me an "F", Patrol trip to Washington - Who saw the zoo? - Ron Kelly, class of 1954

I remember in Mrs. Remavage's class we made Baked Alaska for the shop class. They told me to put the thing in the refrigerator; and I did. When time came to serve it, it was melted. They didn't tell me to put it in the freezer. I got teased for weeks after that, especially since I had won the Betty Crocker Award for Home Ec based only on a test, not on any practical skills. - Janet Springer, class of 1958.

Harriet Hahn would go to EHS Principal - Professor Jones home on Sunday afternoons during the winter months to get his keys to the EHS. This way we could get into

the gym to play basketball with our classmates. Do you think that could be done in Frederick County today? I don't think so! Another good reason why the Old EHS was very special. Randy E. Valentine

### EHS Alumni Association Offers Scholarships

The Emmitsburg High School Alumni Association is accepting scholarship applications. Scholarships in the amount of one thousand dollars will be awarded in May to deserving students. Any Catocin High School senior or CHS graduate who is enrolled in an institute of higher learning is eligible if he/she resides in the Emmitsburg Elementary School district. This includes Emmitsburg 21727, Rocky Ridge 21788, and Taneytown 21787 (Taneytown boundary is determined by Bridgeport on Route 140). Applicants may apply each year as long as they are enrolled in an institute of higher learning.

Selection is based on having a 3.0 or higher grade point average, being a full time student, presenting two letters of recommendation, and pursuing higher education (technical school, four-year college, or community college).

Applications may be obtained by contacting guidance department at Catocin High School (240-236-8100 Ext. 2) or calling Joyce Bruchey, historian of EHSAA (410-775-7921). All applications must be received by May 15, 2011.

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### Catherine Kessler

Catherine Regina Kessler, 95, of Emmitsburg, MD died Thursday, January 31, 2013 at Gettysburg Hospital Center in Gettysburg, PA. Born December 30, 1917 in Emmitsburg, she was the daughter of the late James and Mary Bowling Kessler.

Catherine worked as a secretary for the Daughters of Charity in Emmitsburg for 25 years. She was a communicant of St. Joseph Catholic Church. She enjoyed reading, gardening, and helping others. She loved babies and enjoyed spending time with family, especially her many nieces and nephews.

Surviving are sister, Genevieve Neal of Emmitsburg;

brother, Donald Kessler of Gettysburg, PA; and many nieces & nephews. She was predeceased by sisters, Mary Kessler, Dorothy Goulden, and Frances Lewis, and brothers, Leonard and Guy Kessler.

A Memorial Mass was held Tuesday, February 5, 2013 at St. Joseph Catholic Church with the Rev. John J. Holliday, C.M. serving as celebrant. Inurnment was at the New St. Joseph Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Joseph Catholic Church, 47 DePaul St, Emmitsburg, MD, 21727. Online condolences may be expressed to the family at www.myersdurborawfh.com.

### Josh Brian Bollinger

Josh Brian Bollinger, age 49, of Fairfield, Pennsylvania, died on Saturday, February 2, 2013 in West Virginia.

Born May 13, 1963 in Gettysburg, PA, he was the son of Rosemary (Turner) Bollinger of Fairfield and the late Thomas T. Bollinger.

He was the owner and president of Bollinger Construction Inc., Bollinger Homes, LLC, East Park Automotive, Inc., and T & M Crane Rentals, Inc. in Emmitsburg.

Surviving are sons, Matthew I. Bollinger and Thomas T. Bollinger both of Fairfield; sisters, Tracie A. Canby and husband Todd of BelAir, Md., Samantha B. Golibart and husband Mark of Fairfield; brother, Zach E. Bollinger and wife Erica of Fairfield; nieces and nephews, Logan T. and Dalton J. Canby, Emma E. and Mark T. Golibart, Kayleigh R. and Makenzie A. Bollinger.

Funeral Services will be held at



11:00 a.m., on Thursday, February 7, 2013 at Elias Evangelical Lutheran Church, 100 W. North Street, Emmitsburg, with the Rev. Jon R. Greenstone officiating. Interment will follow in Emmitsburg Memorial Cemetery. The family will receive friends immediately following the interment in the parish hall of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Emmitsburg.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the charity of one's choice. Online condolences may be expressed to the family at www.myersdurborawfh.com.

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All published obituaries are also placed in the Historical Society's on-line archives at no additional cost. To read past obituaries, visit [www.emmitsburg.net/history](http://www.emmitsburg.net/history).

## COLD WAR WARRIORS

## The silent service during the Cold War

Captain William Hicks, USN Ret.

Part 3

Submarine Squadron Engineer,  
New London Connecticut

Submarine Squadron Two (SUBRON 2) was located at the Submarine Base New London, Groton CT. The squadron consisted of three Divisions—two with 6 or 7 diesel submarines each and one with five disparate, nuclear ships. The Nuclear Division had been formed a couple months before my arrival and I was the first nuclear qualified Squadron Engineer at SUBRON 2. When I arrived, the nuclear ships included: USS Nautilus, SSN 571, the first nuclear submarine and much the worse for the years of wear; USS Skate SSN 578, the first unit of the class that included Sargo. Skate had also been operated hard and was ready for overhaul; USS Narwhal SSN 671 (an SSN with a unique, one of a kind reactor plant that operated with natural circulation for improved noise reduction); USS Archerfish SSN 678 which had just completed new construction and was soon transferred out of SUBRON 2 and replaced by USS Tullibee SSN 597 which was a small ASW submarine with a unique reactor and electric-drive, propulsion plant and the first, large ball, bow-mounted sonar;

The final nuclear unit of SUBRON 2 was designated Submarine NR1- a small nuclear powered deep submersible which operated with 3 officers and 8 enlisted operators. As a result, I was the Squadron Engineer for five going on seven different reactor plants and several units that had special importance to Admiral Rickover that meant we received more than our share of "help". The diesel submarines were veterans of WWII that had received



significant upgrades such as additional batteries, enhanced sonar and weapons systems, and submerged snorkel capability. They also had a lot of miles under their keels and were a different kind of maintenance challenge.

**Duties of a Squadron Engineer**

My responsibilities as Squadron Engineer were in three basic areas: Maintenance of the assigned submarines. I acted as an interface between the ships and the Intermediate Maintenance Activity (IMA) that for SUBRON 2 was the Submarine Base. I also acted as advisor and source of information for the ships commanding officers and engineers. From my position I had access to technical resources that were not readily available to the ships. I also had my previous experience as a ship engineer to draw from.

My second area or responsibility involved training and oversight with emphasis on nuclear propulsion plant operations. I went to sea with the ships during training periods to assist with keeping up the crew's operational proficiency. I also conducted inspections and surveillance both in port and at sea.

Finally, I was qualified and acted as the squadron duty officer who had a bit of everything for which the squadron staff was responsible from operational orders to weapons movements to engineering casualties and maintenance progress. Every duty day

was different and each was a challenge. The most significant difference to me between my responsibilities as a Squadron Engineer and a ship's engineer was that in the Squadron I dealt with the challenging issues and hard problems and generally could avoid the minutiae of day to day ship operations. The hours were also a bit less, but I still spent time at sea, and when a problem arose, I was frequently at the base late into the night.

**Transfer of WWII Subs to Foreign Navies**

I will now discuss some of the more interesting events and activities in which I was involved during my three years (10/71-10/74) as the Squadron Engineer of SUBRON 2.

The defense budget was shrinking to accommodate the post-Vietnam period and the nuclear submarine force was expanding with new construction deliveries, such that it was necessary to downsize the diesel submarine force through decommissioning.

The first step was for the Bureau of Inspection and Survey (INSURV) to inspect the submarines with the minimum standard for the inspection being nuclear propulsion which obviously all the diesel submarines failed and were recommended for removal from the active force. Almost without exception, the INSURV report commented on the excellent material condition of each submarine they were recommending to be scrapped. This situation opened the way for transfer of these submarines to friendly foreign navies.

During my time at CSS 2 we decommissioned and transferred 14 diesel submarines to foreign navies. This resulted in many memorable and interesting stories. The nations that received the submarines included Turkey, Greece, Italy, Spain, Brazil, Taiwan, Venezuela, and possibly some others. We frequently had more than one foreign crew at the Submarine Base at the same time. At one point there was a Greek Crew on one side of a pier and a Turkish Crew on the other. Someone posted a sign at the

head of the pier: Cyprus. However, the crews did not mind and showed no animosity towards each other.

The sequence for the transfers followed a predictable pattern. The decision would be made to decommission the submarine and a foreign recipient would be identified in Washington. Dates would be set and the foreign crew would arrive in New London to become familiar with the ship

and possibly receive training at the Submarine School. After an appropriate period that differed depending on the experience of the receiving crew and other diplomatic decisions with which we had no input, the submarine was decommissioned by the U.S. Navy and immediately commissioned into the foreign navy—usually with significant ceremony including the presence of senior, foreign military and diplomatic personnel.

Following commissioning into the foreign navy, we assigned a Military Training Team (MTT) to the submarine to assist the crew in gaining competence in submarine operations. The MTT usually consisted of about 6-10 enlisted ex-crew members and one officer who had served on the submarine at the time of decommissioning. The MTT duration of service depended on the experience and competence of the new crew and the desires of the receiving nation. The durations extended from weeks in the neighborhood of New London to months ending when the submarine had transited to its home country. The MTT teams had many adventures including attempts to submerge with hatches open to observing standards of discipline that were more severe than permitted by the US Navy. In the case of the Taiwan submarine, the term "Chinese fire drill" took on new meaning.



Captain William Hicks, USN Ret.

As the Squadron Engineer, I had limited contact and responsibility with the foreign crews and MTT teams. My one area of responsibility involved maintenance both before and after the transfer. Maintenance before was our responsibility and the foreign navy was anxious that all required maintenance be completed prior to their accepting responsibility for the submarine. This resulted in several tense, late-night efforts to get the job done before the turnover date. Following the transfer, the maintenance could be done by our IMA, but must be paid for by the foreign navy. In one interesting situation, a unit was in New London longer than usual awaiting assignment to a shipyard for major maintenance. The commanding officer had a long list of maintenance task he wanted us to do prior to his arrival at the shipyard. In order to fund the maintenance, he had a cigar box full of US Currency in his stateroom. Several days a week, one of my assistants would meet with the captain; discuss the jobs he wanted done; agree on the price for the work and parts and payment in cash would occur. The cash was transferred to the Squadron Supply Officer for deposit into U.S. Navy accounts.

**WWII Submarine Disposal**

The diesel submarines were approaching the end of their useful life and the availability of parts to maintain them was a challenge.



Turkish sailors man the rail aboard the Hizarreis (S-342) ex- USS Gudgeon (SS-567) at the conclusion of the transfer ceremony.

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# COLD WAR WARRIORS

Following WW II, a number of diesel submarine reserve units were established in various ports that included a diesel submarine that was used for training of the reserve crews. The reserve submarines never went to sea, but selected systems remained operational and were exercised and maintained by the reserve units.

the submarines, but most of the items remained on the ship until a need was identified at which time they were removed—usually by the crew that wanted the material. We attempted to keep track of the material we salvaged including the value.

At the end of two years, we had documented over \$2 million

submarine. NR1's propulsion was provided by two external electric motors that provided a capability for speeds of only a couple of knots which was adequate for deep submergence research but not very effective for transit. Thus, NR 1 was always towed or ferried from port to the area of operation.

was under the only access hatch and between the shutdown reactor operator (SRO) and the exit hatch. NR1 rapidly filled with smoke and noxious gas. The SRO had air - fed breathing capability and reported that he was not in immediate jeopardy. He remained at his station monitoring the shutdown reactor.

Since the fire was in the battery well, water could not be used. CO2 fire extinguishers were the choice. We expended all the CO2 extinguishers we could get at Submarine Base and requested additional from State Pier. The CO2 was cooling the battery well, but the fire was not extinguished since it was being maintained by the battery contents without need for external oxygen. It appeared the only option was to let it burn out by consuming all the available fuel in the battery. Concern was raised when it became apparent that the NR1 air supply could not continue to support the SRO indefinitely. This caused a call to a ship at the next pier to string an air hose from their air breathing system to NR1.

Once that was accomplished, the situation was sustainable, but until the fire burned out and the level of contamination in the air could be determined, the SRO had to stay in the air-line mask. With the ability to cool the battery well with the CO2 extinguishers, it was possible to relieve the SRO. After about six hours, the fire burned out and the planning began for the recovery.

NR1 was supported by the Electric Boat Shipyard where it was built and by an electronics vendor who had provided the research and sensor equipment on the ship. Both organizations as well as resources at the Submarine Base were brought into the effort to plan and execute the recovery from the fire. Because of the interest from Admiral Rickover, the effort received more emphasis and energy than might have been appropriate for a research vessel.

The assessment following the NR1 fire identified the obvious. That the battery required replacement and the battery - well required repairs. The surprise finding was the high level of mercury contamination on every surface inside NR1.

Mercury is prohibited on submarines due to the corrosive effect on some of the submarine seawater - system materials. However, there had been a waiver from that requirement when it was determined that trace amounts of mercury were required in the silver alkaline battery. During the fire, the mercury in the battery had vaporized and subsequently deposited on all materials and surfaces. Airborne mercury was also a hazard to the crew if ingested at above nominal? threshold amounts. Investigation found that the mercury was absorbed in insulation and coated all surfaces. Removal could be accomplished by wiping the accessible surfaces but to remove the remaining mercury, it was determined that heat could be used to evaporate the mercury which could be removed by changing the air.

A cleaning facility for the electronic drawers and modules as well as removable components was established in an unused building. The entire submarine was brought to an elevated temperature and air exchanged to remove mercury from within the hull. The cleanup seemed to be on track. During this event, I learned a lot about things I had never considered. There were few options in portable instrumentation to measure low levels of atmospheric mercury. Iodized activated charcoal would remove airborne mercury, but that was not an item available within the supply system and there was no way to place it into the NR1 ventilation system. Ultimately, we got the battery replaced, most of the mercury removed, and enough iodized charcoal ventilation units installed to keep the atmospheric mercury levels low enough for crew safety. Especially for future, extended periods of submerged operations. NR1 was ready for sea again. Coming up in next article - USS Tullibee collision in rough seas; challenge of maintaining early nuclear submarines; 1972 Arab-Israeli War challenges; Zumwalt era, new uniforms and racial-sensitivity training; Orders to be Prospective Executive Officer and Commissioning of USS Philadelphia (SSN 690).

*To read past Cold War Warrior articles visit the Historical Society section of Emmitsburg.net.*



Sadly, most diesel submarines were scrapped for their metal, but a few lucky ones, like the USS Bowfin, still serve on as floating museums - a tribute to the "sewer-pipe sailors" who proudly served on them.

About 1970, the decision was made to scrap the reserve submarines. The active submarine force was given the opportunity to enter the discussion regarding how the scrapping should be handled. Some of the submarines to be scrapped were similar to those we were operating. All the submarines still had many of their spare parts aboard.

The outcome for CSS 2 was that we took custody of two reserve submarines and removed the spare parts from several others. Thus we had a source of repair parts and components to assist in maintaining our operating submarines. This mitigated two problems: the cost of maintaining our diesel fleet and the availability of spare parts and components. This became known as our "strip ship operation".

The submarines we stripped were the ex USS Carp SS 338 and ex USS Croaker SS 246. We used temporary-duty and medical hold submarine sailors to man and manage the "strip ship operation". We took over a warehouse on the Submarine Base to store and inventory the spare parts. Some items were removed from

in savings, but more importantly we provided parts that were no longer available in the supply system. The effort was critical to the readiness of our diesel submarines during the last couple years of their operations. It should also be acknowledged that while we made an effort to ensure that the parts were compatible and of consistent quality certification with the submarines upon which they were being installed, we did have a few "ah shucks" moments like when one crew decided to replace a hatch from a "strip ship" only to determine that while it looked compatible - when they submerged it leaked. That event caused a tightening of the quality evaluation and documentation when we were dealing with hull or seawater integrity items.

"Strip ship" was not an endeavor for which my nuclear training and experience prepared me, but along with my staff, we made it work and made it successful.

### Nuclear Deep Submersible Research Submarine

Submarine Number 1, a.k.a. NR1 was a small, nuclear powered deep submersible research

For routine operations, NR1 was towed by a submarine rescue ship (ASR). Later, the ASR was replaced by a commercial surface towing craft. For more secure transportation, NR1 could be towed by a submerged submarine which required some unique modifications to the towing submarine and some skillful, submerged maneuvers to connect the tow. Finally, NR1 could be ferried on an amphibious transport that also required some unique and skillful maneuvers and reactor operations.

NR1 was of particular interest to Admiral Rickover, so we had lots of help and interest in its routine operations and maintenance. NR1 had a unique, silver-alkaline battery design with more power-density that required unique procedures to charge and maintain it. One night following a routine battery charge, I got a call at home that suggested I return to the base since there was a fire aboard NR1. The fire was in the battery compartment that



NR1 - Deep submersible research submarine.



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## MOM'S TIME OUT

# Read to your kids!

Mary Angle

The other night I was reading a bed time story to my girls when I realized what a special time it was for them. After I read a little longer I realized that reading to my girls was a special time for me as well. Some of my fondest memories are times when I have read with my kids or even more amazing is when they read to me. Sometimes I don't think parents, me included, realize how important and how special reading with your kids can be. It is one of the most amazing things you can introduce your kids to.

From the minute they were born I have always read my kids a story at bed time. For the first two, the boys, the book was "Goodnight Moon", by Margaret Wise Brown. For the girls it was "Time For Bed" by Mem Fox. I am tearing up just thinking about these books. Every night, no matter which child or which book, I would sit in my rocking chair and they would climb up in my lap. When they got too big for the rocker we would cuddle on their bed and I would read the book. After a while they would start reciting the book with me. They were not yet old enough to read, but we had read it so of-

ten that they had it memorized. I would quite frequently offer other reading choices, but they always picked "their" book. As they got older they realized that if they went to bed a few minutes earlier we could read more than one book. It took much longer than I would have guessed for them to outgrow those board books. Even when we were reading other, more mature, books they still wanted to start with their board books.

When my oldest started school, he struggled with reading. He didn't like it and it was an argument to get it done for homework. It wasn't until he started second grade that he discovered a book series that he loved, "Captain Underpants". I had tried every book series the library and Scholastic had to offer. He wasn't interested in any of them. Then one day he came home from school on a day when they went to visit the library and in his hand was the first in the "Captain Underpants" series of books. The next morning he came to the breakfast table with the book in tow. After he was done eating he stood up excitedly and yelled I'm finished!! I of course asked which chapter and was shocked to find out that he meant the whole book!! I

couldn't have been more excited for him and more proud of him. He has been an avid reader ever since. So much so that when he gets in trouble as a teenager we have to take away books as a big punishment. He has graduated from "Captain Underpants", to "Diary of a Wimpy Kid", to a few Sci Fi series and now he has a Kindle with all of the classics on it. He is being homeschooled this year and we have been enjoying great conversations about the stories he has been reading, from "The Most Dangerous Game" to "To Kill a Mockingbird". These are times I will never forget.

For each child it was a different series that grabbed them, and for the youngest who just started kindergarten she hasn't gotten to that point yet. But, boy is she excited when she reads to me from her leveled readers. The other benefit she has of being the youngest of four is that she has a house full of people to read to her whenever the mood strikes. She is also enjoying the bed time chapters that I read to her and her sister every evening. We have been reading a chapter, or maybe two, of the "Junie B Jones" series of books. My third grader was introduced to these in school and loves to read them. Recently Junie B was getting ready to



lose her first tooth and as we read I could see my youngest smiling ear to ear as she wiggled her lose tooth with her tongue. Not only were the girls enjoying the story but it also led us to discuss the similarities between the book and her current circumstance. This is great fun and I love that my kids are the ones introducing me to new books. Having boys and girls I am introduced to the most wonderful diversity of books.

As for my youngest son, he still hasn't gotten bitten by the reading bug. He is a math guy and truly struggles with reading and gaining even the slightest interest in a book. In the third grade, not unlike my daughter, he discovered the "Weird School" books. He loved the rhyming and the funny stories so much that he asked my mom to get him some for his birthday. Luckily she came for a visit and forgot her book so she grabbed one of his "Weird School" books to fall asleep with. She loved them so much that she read all we had

and was easily able to find him more for his birthday. We all laughed when she asked if she could borrow them when he was finished with them. Now that he is in middle school he will every once in a great while find a book that really grabs him. Right now they are reading "Tuck Everlasting" and he comes home every day bursting to tell me what happened in the story that day. The enthusiasm absolutely warms my heart.

I still have those original board books, I still love those books, and just between you and me...I still read those books. There is nothing better you can do for your child's education than read to them from the very beginning. Remember though, it is never too late to start. Introduce your kids to books, whether it be board books, novels, comics, or anything else they might be interested in, just get them started. They will grow to love books and you will make some wonderful memories to last you a lifetime.

## Emmitsburg Elementary School Pre-K and Kindergarten Registration

Do you have a child who will be age 4 or 5 on or before September 1, 2013 and you live in the Emmitsburg area? If so, it is time to register your child for Pre-K and Kindergarten at Emmitsburg Elementary School. Registration will begin on Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup> and continue daily from 9:00 to 3:00, each day that schools are open. If you are registering for Pre-K, you will need to bring

the child's birth certificate, proof of residency, proof of immunizations and income documentation to be copied and included in the child's registration file. If you are registering for Kindergarten, please bring the child's birth certificate, proof of residency, and proof of immunizations. The following documents may be used to provide proof of residency: lease agreement, utility bill (electric, water, gas) or a tax bill. Income documentation that is

requested for Pre-Kindergarten registration can be any one of the following: three consecutive pay stubs from the past six months, a W2 form showing the prior year's earnings, a letter from an employer or social services agency (on letterhead) stating the applicant's family income, or foster care documentation. If you have any questions or need more information, please call 240-236-1750 and ask for Ms. Golightly.



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# The adventures of Tacey Brox

Amy T. Wilkinson



Tacey Brox was a small red fox. His home was at the edge of a wood. He lived in the ground and he ate what he found and slept in a bed, just like you or I should. He had a mother and father, a sister and brother, an uncle and grandfather too. He had a white fluffy tail, four black legs, and two eyes of the deepest blue.

One day, in the spring, as he lay in the sun, a sparrow flew to him. It perched in a tree and whistled a song and looked down from its place on the limb. "Tacey," it trilled as it turned its small head, "Why are you looking so blue?" "Are you sick? Are you sad? Are you lonely or mad? What is the matter with you?"

"My life is stuck," said Tacey as he turned to the bird, "I feel like I'm in a rut." "I've lived here so long, it's time to move on, but it seems like the doors are all shut." "You can't think that way," the sparrow replied as it flew up and away. "You can make your own doors and be happy with life, or you can sit here complaining all day."

"He's right," thought Tacey as he sat up tall, "I can't just sit here and pout." He thought and he thought of what he could do and an idea started to sprout. "I know what to do, I'll go through the woods and live on the other side. It will be quite the journey and it will be tough but if I fail, at least I have tried."

Tacey ran straight back home and gathered his things; he wanted to set out at once. He knew not how large the forest was, the journey, perhaps, could take months. He entered the woods with a spring in his step; he let out a skip and a bound. His heart filled with joy as he playfully leapt and ran across the soft ground.

Then, with no warning, he slid to a stop, because there in his track stood a strange looking bird with a belly of grey, a long neck and a head that was black. "What are you?" asked Tacey and the bird replied, "Young fox, please, don't be obtuse." It lengthened its neck and rattled its wings and exclaimed, "I am a goose."

"It's a pleasure to meet you," Tacey began, but before he could say one more word,

The goose flapped its wings, getting dust in his eyes, and poor Tacey's vision was blurred. Tacey turned and he ran, this way and that, as fast as his legs could bear, And it was while he was running with his eyes tightly shut that he crashed headlong into a hare.

Now the hare, he was knocked clean off his feet, he hit the ground with a thud. His ears flopped to one side, his whiskers were bent, and his tail was covered in mud. "I'm sorry," yelped Tacey as he jumped to the hare, "I wasn't watching where I ran." The hare looked at Tacey, cocked his head to one side and began to develop a plan.

Then the hare staggered, forward and back, he threw himself down in the dirt, He let out a cough and a moan and a groan and exclaimed, "Help me! I'm hurt!" Tacey didn't know the hare was up to no good, that he was a trickster, a fraud, and a thief. That hare had been all over the woods causing nothing but trouble and grief.

Three days later Tacey was still with the hare, doing his bidding and gathering him food. After two weeks there, the little fox began to believe that he was being used. He went to the hare and said, "I must leave. I can't stay here, don't you see? I am moving my life to the other side of the woods and it is time I looked after me."

The hare threw a tantrum, he pounded his fists; he screamed and kicked his feet. Still, Tacey left, for he had decided that this chapter of his life was now complete. You see, there are times in our life we might find a person we think is a friend, And maybe they are or maybe they're not; we only know truly in the end. So, off Tacey started on his journey again, this time, he hoped, with no distraction. After hours of walking, he saw an animal trapped in a bush and sprang forward into action. It was a young deer, Tacey saw, as he stood by its side as it struggled and kicked in fear. He spoke calmly and softly and said to the fawn, "It's ok, I'll help you, I'm here."



Tacey began to chew the bush; he gnawed through thorns, branches, and vines. After hours of working, the fawn was freed. He was shaken and scared, but was fine. "You saved me," the deer said as he got to his feet, "Thank you, that was a kind deed." "You're welcome," said Tacey, for he knew that in life, there is always time to help someone in need.



Tacey turned and he started off again, feeling down-trodden, tired, and sore. But what he saw next stopped him dead in his tracks, his excitement fully restored. For far up ahead, at a break in the trees, he could see light shining through; He had made it to the end of the woods and was excited to begin anew.

Now this tale has moral, for isn't it grand, what a difference you can cause just by lending a hand? What a change we could make if only we would start to treat others with kindness, compassion, and heart.

## About the author:

Amy Wilkinson graduated from Hood College with a Bachelor's Degree in Law and Society. She now lives in Frederick, Maryland.

Amy began writing and telling stories at a very young age. Starting with daily journals at around 8 years of age, she later progressed to fiction and poetry, never putting her pen down for more than a few hours. A nature and animal lover, essayist, and poet, Amy Wilkinson sets many of her stories in a forest or other outdoor setting. Much of her material for children focuses on various themes of life cycle, coming of age, morality, and individual interaction, issues frequently seen through the everyday lives of her woodland creatures. Her bedtime stories balance equal parts of lively prose with topics for parent/child discussions. Amy's column will be a regular feature in future editions of the paper.

Austin Beach created the illustrations for this bedtime story. A graduate of Urbana High School, Austin is a current Frederick Community College student studying Art. Austin has been drawing since before he could walk, but he did not begin learning other traditional mediums until high school when he began taking art classes. He has worked in most mediums including but not limited to oil paints, watercolor paints, pastels, ink pen, charcoal, pencil, and digital media. In addition, he has worked with many mixed media projects, clay, and found objects. Austin's subject matter has included landscapes, figure studies, portraits, whimsical illustrations, and fantasy related scenes and characters among other things.

In addition to art, Austin has worked with numerous advocacy-oriented organizations in Frederick and has been recognized as an emerging leader by Vice President Biden for founding and becoming Executive Director for a local non-profit organization. He can be reached for other commissioned work via Facebook at Facebook.com/Austin-BeachArtist.

## SCHOOL & LIBRARY NEWS

# New experiences, new resources

## What's new at your library

**Erin Dingle, Administrator**  
**Thurmont Regional Library/  
 Emmitsburg Branch Library**  
 edingle@frederickcountymd.gov  
 Library Website: [www.fcpl.org](http://www.fcpl.org)

### 'Saving is Smart' Pa\$\$port Poster Contest

The community's Pa\$\$port to Wealth financial literacy initiative kicks off on April 6 with the author Jeff Yeager, aka "The Ultimate Cheapskate" appearing free at Mount St. Mary's University Knott Auditorium. But students in 3-12 grade can get involved now by entering the Saving is Smart poster contest. Entry forms are available at both Emmitsburg and Thurmont Libraries. Cash prizes up \$75 will be awarded. Deadline is March 18 to enter so get your markers and paintbrushes busy and drop those beautiful posters off soon.

### Annual Friends of the Library Plant Exchange

The plant exchange is a springtime tradition in Emmitsburg. This year, plan to pick up some new and interesting plants on Saturday, May 11 from 10

am until noon in front of the library. You can either bring a plant and take a plant or you can purchase plants. All funds support the Friends of the Emmitsburg Branch Library. The Friends are 'growing' this event and are adding more activities. This year, there will also be Flower Power face painting for the kids, gardening demonstrations from the local Master Gardeners and a chance to win a basket full of gardening goodies. Plants should be brought to the library by 9:45 am or if you would like to donate but can't make it, bring plants on Thursday, May 9. Community organizations and businesses related to gardening and nature can contact me if they would like to participate.

### Teen Services at the Library

Regular visitors to the Emmitsburg Branch Library will discover that long-time staff member, Stephanie Long, is no longer at the branch. A big congratulations goes out to Stephanie for two things. She recently obtained her Master of Library and Information Science degree from Clarion University and she was promoted to be a full-time Librarian at the C. Burr Artz Li-

brary in Frederick. Stephanie hosted exciting programs for teens during her time in Emmitsburg and her Murder Mystery events were a particular favorite. Due to this staffing change, there will not be a Teen Services staff member assigned to Emmitsburg but that doesn't mean teens will be ignored. Teen programs will still be held at both Emmitsburg and Thurmont Branches and all area tweens and teens are welcome to participate at both branches. Keep an eye on the website for what's coming. The library is seeking ideas about how we can better serve the teen population and I'd particularly like to hear from kids ages 11-18 about what types of library activities they'd support at our branch.

### Great Highland Bagpipe Concert at the Thurmont Library

Thanks to everyone who picked up their ticket to the Celtic Concert at Mount St. Mary's University. The tickets were gone within four days. This is the little concert that grew and grew and is now so popular, a ticketing system became necessary. The library will be sponsoring the concert again next

year so plan to pick your ticket up early if you didn't get one this year. The good news is that you can still hear Celtic music right at the Thurmont Regional Library on Saturday, March 16 at 11 am. Enjoy the sound of Great Highland bagpipes with Patrick Willock. He'll share the history of bagpipes and will divulge how bagpipes actually work and of course he'll share beautiful bagpipe songs, too

Your local Emmitsburg library is connected to the community and is ready to welcome you and your family. Contact me via email at [edingle@frederickcountymd.gov](mailto:edingle@frederickcountymd.gov) to help with the plant exchange, tell me your thoughts about teen services or just let me know how we're doing. I look forward to hearing from you.

### Free Programs for Kids & Teens Register at [www.fcpl.org](http://www.fcpl.org).

Read Across America Day with Dr. Seuss Children's Program Saturday, March 2 @ 11:00 am Celebrate Read Across America Day with stories and activities inspired by the legendary Dr. Seuss. Registration required.

### Food for Thought: Pasta Party Children's Program Saturday, March 9 @ 11:00 am

Follow our story book hero-Spaghetti Eddie, learn some fun facts about pasta, and enjoy pasta inspired crafts. Snacks will be served. Registration required.

### American Girl Caroline™: A Girl's Life in War Children's Program

Wednesday, March 27 @ 4:00 pm Bring your own American Girl™ or other doll and join us for an afternoon of discovery. Ages 6-11. Presented by staff from the Rose Hill Manor Park & Children's Museum. Registration required.

### Coffee Sleeves Craft Teen Program Thursday, March 28 @ 4:00 pm

Coffee sleeves aren't just for coffee anymore. See what you can make with yours. Registration required.

### Bunny Bonanza Children's Program

Saturday, March 30 @ 11:00 am Hop on in for Spring related games and activities. Registration required.

I invite you to contact me anytime with suggestions and comments. Just email me at [edingle@frederickcountymd.gov](mailto:edingle@frederickcountymd.gov).

# Read to children!

**Katie Groth**  
**Frederick County Board of Education**

"I am Sam. Sam I am." Thus begins one of the most beloved of children's books, "Green Eggs and Ham." It was written by Theodor Geisel, better known by generations of children and parents as

"Dr. Seuss." His birthday each year is celebrated by – guess what? Reading! March is "Read Across America" month in Frederick County Public Schools!

I began reading to my children when they were infants. As a speech and language pathologist, I was very

aware of the literature that indicated that you should start reading to children from birth. For instance, do you know that the human ear is completely formed at birth? Why not start then? Babies can listen to a story, even though they don't understand the language at first. But that is, after all, how language is learned – through experience with it as a tool for interaction or just because children like imitating what they hear.

Soon, you notice that a baby will try to focus his or her eyes on something you put in front of them, especially if it is accompanied by a sound. We all have done this with children – the fire truck and the siren; the dog and the barking sound; the cow and the "moo." This is the early stage of learning to read. In fact, there are those that say the first stage of language development is the birth cry.

Reading to children is pure joy. No criticisms, no tantrums, no arguments. Just one-on-one enjoyment for reader and child. If there

is more than one child, so much the better!

Research has shown that children who are read to are more likely to become good readers themselves. Children who are exposed to print materials at home come to school ready to learn to read – in fact, most are very excited to be able to learn to read. This is especially true if there is a real enjoyment of reading demonstrated at home. I remember the joy I felt when my daughter read to ME for the first time. And then she wanted to read to her little brother, too. Now her son, my grandson, can read to me, too. (He is 11, but he still wants ME to read the Sesame Street classic "The Monster at the End of This Book.") That is the way it works when the love of reading passes on from one generation to the next. When my daughter was 13, we took turns reading chapters of "Trumpet of the Swans." It was an experience neither of us will ever forget!

Most of us now have access to a public library. Even if we have good books at home, it never hurts to enlarge a child's interests, and no

place is better for that than the local public library. The wonders of the world start to seem like a reality for children who learn to read maps, read dictionaries, and read books with pictures of animals, other places and other people. Of course, it is inevitable that children will learn to access information on line, but oh! How much easier it is for children to do that when they are good readers. There just isn't any argument about that. Make sure your child or grandchild gets his or her own library card as soon as they can sign their name!

This year in Frederick County Public Schools, we commemorate Dr. Seuss's 109<sup>th</sup> birthday in March with "Read Across America". Please consider volunteering to read in a school near you. There is nothing nicer than reading to a group of enthusiastic and attentive children who hang on every word you read to them! I have a favorite book that I bring with me when I read to children in schools. It is called "Oh! The Places You'll Go." This is also a Dr. Seuss classic that has a meaningful message for children and adults of all ages. I even read it at a high school graduation once! If you would like someone to help you find a school and sign you up, you can contact Casey Keyser at FCPS. She is a teacher at Liberty Elementary School, but she is coordinating the "Read Across America" volunteers for our county schools. You can reach her at [Casey.Keyser@fcps.org](mailto:Casey.Keyser@fcps.org). She will appreciate hearing from community members. I guarantee that if you do this, the children will love it and you will be so much the richer for the experience!

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# The Witches of Belvoir



On the 11th of March 1618-19, two women named Margaret and Philippa Flower, were burnt at Lincoln for the alleged crime of witchcraft. With their mother, Joan Flower, they had been confidential servants of the Earl and Countess of Rutland, at Belvoir Castle. Dissatisfaction with their employers seems to have gradually seduced these three women into the practice of hidden arts in order to obtain revenge. According to their own confession, they had entered into communion with familiar spirits, by which they were assisted in their wicked designs.

Joan Flower, the mother, had hers in the bodily form of a cat, which she called Rutterkin. They used to get the hair of a member of the family and burn it: they would steal one of his gloves and plunge it in boiling water, or rub it on the back of Rutterkin, in order to effect bodily harm to

its owner. They would also use frightful imprecations of wrath and malice towards the objects of their hatred. In these ways they were believed to have accomplished the death of Lord Ross, the Earl of Rutland's son, besides inflicting frightful sicknesses upon other members of the family.

It was long before the earl and countess, who were an amiable couple, suspected any harm in these servants, although we are told that for some years there was a manifest change in the countenance of the mother, a diabolic expression being assumed. At length, at Christmas, 1618, the noble pair became convinced that they were the victims of a hellish plot, and the three women were apprehended, taken to Lincoln jail, and examined. The mother loudly protested innocence, and, calling for bread and butter, wished it might choke her if she were guilty of the offences laid to her

charge. Immediately, taking a piece into her mouth, she fell down dead, probably, as we may allowably conjecture, overpowered by consciousness of the contrariety between these protestations and the guilty design which she had entertained in her mind.

Margaret Flower, on being examined, acknowledged that she had stolen the glove of the young heir of the family, and given it to her mother, who stroked Rutterkin with it, dipped it in hot water, and pricked it: whereupon Lord Ross fell ill and suffered extremely. In order to prevent Lord and Lady Rutland from having any more children, they had taken some feathers from their bed, and a pair of gloves, which they boiled in water, mingled with a little blood. In all these particulars, Philippa corroborated her sister. Both women admitted that they had familiar spirits, which came and sucked them at various parts of their bodies: and they also described visions of devils in various forms which they had had from time to time.

Associated with the Flowers in their horrible practices were three other women, of the like grade in life,—Anne Baker, of Bottesford; Joan Willmott, of Goodby; and Ellen Greene, of Stathorne, all in the county of Leicester, whose confessions were to much the same purpose. Each had her own familiar spirits to assist in working out her malignant designs against her neighbours.

That of Joan Willmott was called Pretty. It had been blown into her mouth by her master, William Berry, in the form of a fairy, and immediately after came forth again and stood on the floor in the shape of a woman, to whom she forthwith promised that her soul should be enlisted in the infernal service. On one occasion, at Joan Flower's house, she saw two spirits, one like an owl, the other like a rat, one of which sucked her under the ear. This woman, however, protested that, for her part, she only employed her spirit in inquiring after the health of persons whom she had undertaken to cure.

Greene confessed to having had a meeting with Willmott in the woods, when the latter called two spirits into their company, one like a kitten, the other like a mole, which, on her being left alone, mounted on her shoulders and sucked her under the ears. She had then sent them to bewitch a man and woman who had reviled her, and who, accordingly, died within a fortnight. Anne Baker seems to have been more of a visionary than any of the rest. She once saw a hand, and heard a voice from the air: she had been visited with a

flash of fire: all of them ordinary occurrences in the annals of hallucination. She also had a spirit, but, as she alleged, a beneficent one, in the form of a white dog.

From the frontispiece of a contemporary pamphlet giving an account of this group of witches, we transfer a homely picture of Baker, Willmott, and Greene, attended each by her familiar spirit. The entire publication is reprinted in Nichols's Leicestershire.

The examinations of these wretched women were taken by magistrates of rank and credit, and when the judges came to Lincoln the two surviving Flowers were duly tried, and on their own confessions condemned to death by the Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, Sir Henry Hobbett.

## Ludovick Muggleton

### March 12

A time of extraordinary religious fervour is sure to produce its monsters, even as the hot mud of the Nile was fabled to do by Lucretius. Several arose amidst the dreadful sectarian contentings of the period of the civil war, and scarcely any more preposterous than Ludovick Muggleton, who is said to have been a working tailor, wholly devoid of education. About 1651, when this man was between forty and fifty years of age, he and a brother in trade, named Reeves, announced themselves as the two last witnesses of God that would ever be appointed on earth: professed a prophetic gift, and pretended to have been invested with an exclusive power over the gates of heaven and hell. When Reeves died, Muggleton continued to set himself forth in this character, affecting to bless those who respectfully listened to him,

and cursing all who scoffed at him, assuming, in short, to have the final destiny of man, woman, and child entirely in his own hand.

By ravings in speech and print, he acquired a considerable number of followers, chiefly women, and became at length such a nuisance, that the public authorities resolved, if possible, to put him down. His trial at the Old Bailey, January 17th, 1677, ended in his being sentenced to stand in the pillory on three days in three several parts of London, and to pay a fine of £500, or be kept in jail in failure of payment. His books were at the same time ordered to be publicly burnt. All this severity Muggleton outlived twenty years, dying at length at the age of ninety, and leaving a sect behind him, called from him Muggletonians.

It would serve to little good purpose to go farther into the history of this wretched fanatic. One anecdote, however, may be related of him. It happened on a day, when Muggleton was in his cursing mood, that he very energetically devoted to the infernal deities a gentleman who had given him some cause of offence. The gentleman immediately drew his sword, and placing its point at the cursing prophet's breast, demanded that the anathemas just pronounced should be reversed upon pain of instant death. Muggleton, who had no relish for a martyrdom of this kind, assumed his blessing capacity, and gave the fiery gentleman the fullest satisfaction.

There is no mention of Muggletonians in the official report of the census of 1851, though it included about a dozen small sects, under various uncouth denominations. As late as 1846, some of Muggleton's incomprehensible rhapsodies were reprinted and published, it is sincerely to be hoped for the last time.

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## FOUR YEARS AT THE MOUNT

This month, the Four Years at the Mount writers received their first “homework assignment” from their Managing Editor. They were asked to watch the movie *Good Night and Good Luck*, which highlights the events leading up to a 1958 speech by the award-winning news-journalist Edward R. Murrow. In his speech, Murrow warned, “there is a great and perhaps decisive battle to be fought against ignorance, intolerance and indifference,” and that television, which was just then emerging and replacing newspaper and radio as the primary means by which people got their news, was being squandered for the sake of entertainment.

Their assignment was to reflect upon Murrow’s warning and consider whether his concerns are as relevant today as they were when he issued his speech in 1958. Most importantly, they were to discover what they can do individually to, in Murrow’s words, “exalt the importance of ideas and information.”

### Freshman Year

#### More than meets the eye

Lydia Olsen  
MSM Class of 2016

After watching *Good Night and Good Luck* and analyzing Edward R. Murrow’s speech, I came away with an understanding that Murrow was, at the time, discouraged with the technology of television. He was fearful of how it would impact society. He was convinced that technology would make people even more complacent about the world around them. Fifty-five years following Murrow’s speech show that he had some insight into the future of the world regarding our use of technology, but in my opinion, the opposite of his prediction can be seen.

In my generation, we are never satisfied with basic information. If there is more to be learned, then we actively seek it. There now is the term, “Google it” because of our constant quest for knowledge, and we are never limited in our pursuit. Murrow believed that technology had the potential to tempt us to sit back and be lazy.

Yet, technology has come to yield the reverse outcome in many cases. Technology allows us to have access to more research and more opportunities for knowledge. In seconds, we can access more resources than a life without technology would give us in years.

Murrow is concerned with the idea that technology’s purposes fit in one of two categories. Imagine it like a scale. On one side, the purposes (of television in Murrow’s case and technology in mine) are for entertainment, amusement, and “insulation” from the stresses of the outside world. This is the side that Murrow considered technology to be categorized. The other side of the scale is where technology’s purposes are to teach, illuminate, and “inspire.” When considering these purposes of technology, I began to evaluate the technology around me to determine in which side of the scale I would place each item. I began to question into which category something like sports would fit.

My thoughts then turned to the

Olympics, the worldwide sporting event that is incredibly competitive. My initial thoughts were that the Olympics would fall onto the side of the scale Murrow thought technology would neglect. The side that teaches, illuminates, and “inspires.” The Olympics are a huge source of education. The opening ceremonies reveal cultural history about the host country and also about each country participating. It is educational to hear and see people from over a hundred different countries wearing outfits that represent their culture and having their number of athletes reflective of their population size. The Olympics also teach us that anything is possible and, once again, that determination creates a path to success. The Olympics illuminate the various cultural norms of other societies and even bring light to certain problems or concerns within a country if they are prevalent at the time.

The most noticeable characteristic is that the Olympics are inspirational, to say the least. I find it very hard to believe that anyone could watch the United States’ women’s gymnastics team win gold medals and not get goose bumps and be tempted and inspired that they could successful-

ly land a cartwheel or even a backflip. Likewise, regardless of his first race, I would refuse to believe that any American, and especially a Marylander, would say they were not honored, proud, and inspired by Michael Phelps’ smile and his final splash when he became the most decorated Olympian in history.

The technology of television also allowed me to become even more inspired by Maryland track star, Matthew Centrowitz. Matt and I attended the same high school and at that time, we lived roughly ten minutes away from each other. When it became known that Matt was going to go to the Olympics, signs were made and the term, “Centronation” evolved. Few things are more inspirational than knowing that someone who grew up just like you, will one day (I am convinced) win an Olympic gold medal. Evidently, the Olympics do fill the side Murrow thought television would abandon.

Though, the Olympics also can fit into the entertainment, amusement, and “insulation” side as well. When considering the opening ceremonies, although they can be seen as educational, they are also designed to be fully entertain-

ing and amusing. The host country spends immense amounts of time and money trying to capture the world’s attention. The Olympics also allow for insulation because they create an escape from reality, just like football.

After examining Murrow’s speech, I have decided to refute the idea that society has become complacent and indifferent because of the use of technology. Technology, television in specific, is not just “wires and lights behind a box,” as Murrow describes. It is so much more than that. Without technology, we wouldn’t have immediate access to sports. We could not watch the Super Bowl unless we had tickets, and we could not witness triumph in the Olympics either. Technology is an enabler, not an inhibitor. It is the balance of both sides of the scale working together and that is the way it should be. It gives us all of these characteristics that Murrow claimed technology would produce simultaneously, and we are left to decide the fate and influence of technology. It does not decide for us.

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

### Sophomore Year

#### An ever-shrinking world

Kyle Ott  
MSM Class of 2015

“It’s a Small World After All.” It’s strange that the current state of the world in which we live could be summed up by the words of a Disney song. As strange as it may seem, we live in a world that has a plethora of technological innovations that continue to shape our lives, but in many ways these tools are just being used for entertainment. In the movie *Good Night and Good Luck*, Edward Murrow made a speech warning us of the ways that the technology we love so much can be abused. While liv-

ing here at Mount St. Mary’s amid all of these new technological innovations, it’s hard not to think back to that prophetic speech and reflect on how technology is working to bring us closer together, but it ironically setting us farther apart at the same time.

On the one hand, the innovations of our time have had some extraordinarily positive effects on the way we live. The optimist in me simply can’t begin observing the negative impacts without looking at the benefits. Perhaps the most amazing gift technology has given us is the gift of accessible communication. Before our time,

concepts of things like “the long distance relationship” or a “video conference” were relatively unknown. With our phones, we can call or send a message to any person we have ever known, take film videos or pictures, or access the World Wide Web. Facebook has replaced the old-fashioned idea of a physical photo album with a digital collection that holds every picture we would ever need, sometimes even containing something akin to family movies. Resources like these have been incredible blessings to me and also to many people I know.

Last semester I reaped the benefits of access to online communication. While surfing Facebook and doing my best to put off work for the night, an old friend of mine from high school sent me a message. I had not seen or heard from him in almost a year and half. Our busy schedules made it difficult to keep in touch. My career working with the Office of Residence Life at Mount St. Mary’s University and his budding college career in Pittsburgh kept us apart. Within minutes, we were talking and reminiscing about old times as if we had never lost contact. After a few seconds (that’s the speed of the Internet in action, folks!), we planned a day for the two of us to meet up, watch a movie, and catch up on each other’s lives.

However, despite the ways that technology brings us together, it has done more than its fair share

of tearing us apart. Especially here at a college campus, I come face to face with the many ways that we let these innovations that were meant to serve us, conquer us instead. When I am at lunch with my friends, I cannot help but cringe when people bring out their phones during lunch and merely text away while their friends and significant others carry on an entire conversation right next to them, yet worlds away. I walk by the computer lab near Patriot Hall or the library and I see people typing furiously, updating Twitter and Facebook with a devout fervor that can be incredibly unsettling, while at the same time there are piles of books sitting next to them.

Even I have found myself guilty of this technological convenience from time to time. I can’t deny that it is so incredibly nice to communicate with my girlfriend in Virginia while I’m sitting with my friends in Patriot. Or to turn on Facebook and let a 15-minute break run over into an hour long one.

I do not believe by any means that we should overlook the benefits that we have gained through such amazing developments. The ability to talk to anyone anywhere has made life incredibly easier for so many people. However, I can’t help but look around at my friends and fellow students and wonder what we have given up in the exchange. Yes, our ability to communicate has become instantaneous and risen to a global scale, however

our proclivity for one on one “face time” seems to have dropped. The ability to push a button and suddenly have access to everyone we know has proven to be amazing in helping everyone from scattered extended families to long distance lovers keep in contact and maintain a presence in each other’s lives.

But gone are the time-honored traditions of our culture like the love-letter or the care package; they are often replaced with emails and text messages that are indeed faster, but feel just a little bit cold. Books, the last remaining bastion of written literature, seem to be displaced by e-readers and tablets, proving that we can now do practically everything with a computer. Even the spoken word is now open for attack by the electronic world. Text phrases like “lol” and “brb” continually find their way into the common lexicon. All this points to a world rapidly changing, a world that favors the fast, convenient and impersonal over the slower but more intimate means of communication.

While the world around us continues to develop, I encourage you to think about the kinds of things you may be leaving behind in favor for your cell phone or laptop. There is an incredibly exciting world out there, and while you may be “plugged in,” you may also be missing out. After all, who doesn’t want to sit and read for a while?

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

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## GOOD NIGHT AND GOOD LUCK

## Junior Year

## Facebook vs. face-to-face

Nicole Jones  
MSM Class of 2014

When I sat down with my fellow writers to watch Good Night and Good Luck, I'll admit that I was initially fairly bored. As I continued to watch, it slowly dawned on me how dedicated Edward Murrow was to his profession. He saw a new development in his journalistic expertise and felt that it wasn't being used to the best advantage – and he did something about it. To me, that was the most prominent message that this movie portrayed: to stand up for what you believe is right. As Murrow said, we cannot be a people who are afraid “to write, to associate, to speak, and to defend the causes that were for the moment unpopular.” If you want to see a change in your world, you have to create it yourself.

For me, this process begins by evaluating how prominent the problem I see in others is in my own life. In this case, how much time is spent using technology to communicate instead of having in-person social interactions?

Like most modern young people, I am guilty of owning a computer, television, cell phone, and mp3 player. In between classes and homework I respond to emails, check my Facebook, call home, text friends, listen to music, or watch a TV show. While I see

no harm in spending time to relax like this in the midst of my otherwise busy day, I know I am just as guilty of over-indulging in these things, especially during the weekends.

How many times in the week have you seen, “How r u 2day?” on your cell phone or computer screen? Naturally some of these messages are from people you may not be able to easily visit, but how often are they from a friend you could easily spend some time with in person? Every time we choose cyber messaging over social interaction, we gain the speed and efficiency of modern technology, but we may be losing much more in our personal relationships.

This is proven true in my own life. My best friend is notorious for being glued to her iPhone's screen. It doesn't matter if she actually needs to call someone or not. I have held entire one-sided conversations with her as she scrolls down her Facebook wall; this often results in my having to repeat my entire conversation. I've often pointed this problem out to her, explaining that she's being rude and inconsiderate, but her behavior has inexplicably remained the same. Is what I'm telling her really less interesting or important than the cat picture in her news feed?

This is not to say that technology

does not have its place in the world of communication and socialization. Blogs, social-networking sites, emails, text messages – all of these things are beneficial to keeping in touch with friends and family that may be too far away to visit and are conducive to fast business practices. But when you truly want to get to know someone, emails and Facebook profiles just don't cut it. I say this not only as a sociable individual, but also as a journalist.

More and more often I am finding writers for the campus paper, The Mountain Echo, relying upon email to not only contact, but also complete entire interviews with their sources. Perhaps even more disconcerting is the fact that I, the managing editor for the Echo, am just as guilty of this.

Ideally, a journalist is able to sit down with a source and have a quick interview, even if it is only a quote or two in passing. When these interviews become predominantly via email, the journalist begins to sacrifice to quality of his or her work.

While the convenience of email is undeniable – being able to answer in one's own time and having a hard copy of the original quotes – it lacks the interaction a live interview allows. Responses in email often become more academic and calculated in form. While it is nice to have a precise response, it removes a significant amount of the emotion from the equation. As journalists, emotion is exactly what we want to capture, as it helps the audience relate and understand our message and how it is af-

fecting the world around them. Email also removes the potential for follow-up questions by breaking the natural flow of a conversation and replacing it with a stiff question-and-answer format that requires no improvisation from the journalist or the source.

The same is true when using technology to interact with friends.

Technology has diminished the natural desire for face-to-face interaction. Socializing has been reduced to a watered-down version of the real thing because our computers and cell phones are more convenient than a lunch date during our busy week. As a result, we lose those subtle nuances that technology fails to convey – facial expressions, gestures and movement, pitch, tone, inflection, sarcasm – the list goes on. We've tried to compensate for this through the use of emoticons, but does a little yellow smiley-face really compare to the actual person's smile? In my opinion, no, it doesn't. Every time an emoticon is used, someone has failed to see the whiteness of the other person's teeth, the way his or her eyes crinkle, lips curl and large dimples appear on his or her cheeks. Someone has failed to hear the high-pitched squeal of his or her friend's “LOL” or been unable to enjoy the humor of actually watching someone “ROTFL.” Human interaction is more than just acronyms; it stimulates all five of our senses while a text message only engages one.

As a journalist, these are the kinds of interactions and emotions that we look for in our sources. Unfortunately, it is

now also everything Echo writers are losing through their email interviews. As the editor, I feel that it is my responsibility to combat this, but I've found that encouragement is not enough to motivate my writers to get off their email accounts and out the door. My next step is investing in digital voice recorders for the staff – a happy compromise. Writers must still meet face-to-face for an interview, but will have a reliable record or what was said in order to maintain accurate quotes.

As for my social life, I'm making a point of taking trips off of campus every weekend with my friends, even if it's just to go grocery shopping together. I may also implement a new rule for some of my text-loving buddies – leave your cell phone on the table. First person to answer their phone has to buy dinner. Perhaps a little conniving, but it's a way of making my point while still having fun.

Edward Murrow understood that technology was only as great as man made it; otherwise it became “merely wires and lights in a box.” So as we enjoy our iPads, Kindles, HPs, and BlackBerrys, let us not forget that there is no real substitution for a proper conversation. Just because you can keep in touch entirely with technology, doesn't mean you should. I encourage you to take some time this week and share a cup of coffee with a friend; you may just learn more about them in those 30-minutes than their Facebook profile has told you all year.

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

## Senior Year

## Instruct and inspire

Samantha Strub  
MSM Class of 2013

After watching Good Night and Good Luck, I was saddened by Murrow's startling words about the direction our nation is going if we do not challenge the intellectual minds of the public. I was shocked that Murrow was so adamant that if our nation continues to allow distraction and pleasure to govern our time, our comfortable and complacent lifestyle will collapse upon itself. I could not bring myself to believe Murrow's words because it seemed depressing to me.

As I reflected on this, I was shocked that I was falling victim to the world of entertainment—not necessarily turning on the television, but turning on the radio or Pandora. I use the music as background sound to distract myself from the things around me. It is a distraction to have my headphones in and my attention focused on the screen in front of me. I hardly ever turn on the radio for an educational program; it's all for a distraction. The screen in front of me goes with me everywhere. I always have an assignment to do, but more than likely, another tab will be up with Facebook or Twitter beckoning my attention, tempting me with the lure of pleasure, distraction and entertainment.

Then I got to thinking about Murrow's words, “history is what we make of it.” Take a moment and reflect on these powerful words. They made me think of the saying, “Life is what we

make of it.” People have goals for their lives. They know where they want to be and the wise ones plan and take actions to achieve those goals. They are making their life meaningful. Everyone will pursue a different approach to attain the end that they desire, but each approach involves action in order to succeed. No matter the profession, it involves action to achieve the desired end. If someone wants to become a nurse, they know they have to become a Clinical Medical Assistant, get a degree, complete practicums, and pass the final test. The same principle can be applied to someone who wants to be a teacher. Those who are studying education know they have to get a degree, complete internships and portfolios, and pass the final test. They know that it will be demanding and challenging, but they are willing to dedicate themselves to this course of action because of the desired end result.

Murrow wanted to inspire a nation into action. It might make people uncomfortable, but in order to create real change you have to encourage others and engage their intellectual abilities in order to motivate and inspire them to act. History is what we make of it—it is a call to action. What are you going to do? How will you change?

My response to this call was “ideas and information,” a phrase which struck me numerous times in Murrow's speech as he highlighted the importance of challenging the public with these concepts. My reflecting brought me to thinking about the profession that I have been pursuing for the past four years: teaching. I have been working toward attain-

ing my degree in order to educate the minds of the youth. I have been striving for the education that will enable me to challenge the youth with “ideas and information.” I was amazed with the connection between Murrow's quest and my own. I want to instruct and inspire students. I want to instruct them in the wonders of English. I want to give them information. I want to challenge their thinking and push them onto higher-level thinking. I want to empower them to pursue their greatest potential. I want to inspire them into believing that they can do anything that they put their minds to. I want to inspire ideas in them and in turn, have their ideas inspire me.

I have felt the call to action that Murrow stressed without realizing it. I want to make people think and reflect. I want to call on the intellectual side of youth in the same way that Murrow called on the intellectual side of broadcasters and the general public. I want to challenge the youth with literature. I want to teach them life lessons through literature that will instruct and inspire them. I want to make the future generations think about the meaning of that literature and why it is important to them. I want to make literature practical and come alive for each and every student.

There is more to it than just feeling the call to action; it's about following through. I was able to put this calling to challenge the minds of the youth into action through my internship. Hopefully this fall I will be able to put it into action even further with a full-time teaching job. As I assigned tests and quizzes to my student, I could tell that they were beginning to absorb the material I was teaching. It made my heart melt to grade my students' work and have them

complete it flawlessly. While it was important to see the positive results of my efforts, when my students fell short I felt a passionate desire to assist them in any way possible for them to succeed.

I know I challenged them because I would have deep intellectual conversations with my students about the literature topics discussed in class as well as topics that we never discussed in class. It was wonderful and reassuring to me to listen to the future of America think and reflect critically. There were always the students I had difficulty connecting with, and I felt the deep need to find a way to challenge them to reflect deeper on the concepts presented. That continual push to challenge my students intellectually is a constant challenge for me.

I know I inspired them because I would have long conversations about literature with certain students who wanted to read everything that they could get their hands on. If I recommended a book, they would return soon after with the book in their hands, wanting to discuss the first two chapters with me. Students were asking me for advice about situations both inside and outside of school. They came to me as a confidant. I know I made a positive impression on them because I have received emails from my students telling me how school is going, asking me about my classes, updating me on the topics they asked me for advice about and telling me how much they miss me. It is incredibly touching and a sign to me that I'm truly living out my calling to instruct and inspire.

It is wonderful and reassuring to know that I'm beginning my teaching career on a positive note; however, I'm nowhere close to being the per-

fect teacher. There is always something that I need to work on. I will continue to improve myself in order to better challenge, instruct and inspire my students to live up to their fullest potential and to, in the words of Murrow go out and “instruct and inspire with ideas and information.”

Murrow's analysis of technology is reflective of my aspirations to be a teacher; if we challenge ourselves and others by inspiring thought and knowledge, we can use the tools we are given to make a positive impact on the world.

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

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## MOUNT SPORTS

# Little league team, big league mentors

Elizabeth Puleo  
MSM Class of 2013

In the today's world, athletes are looked up to by their fans and admired for their talents; they are role models for many people. Unfortunately, some athletes can fall into the idea that because they are gifted in a sport, they can get away with whatever they want or act selfishly, not considering those around them. However, it is refreshing when an athlete or a team steps out of the spotlight and gives back to the community.

I personally grew up loving Cal Ripken, Jr. To this day, I know very few people who don't like him. Even if you aren't an Orioles fan or a baseball fan, you have to admit that he is a pretty amazing man. What I love most about Cal is his personality and character. Don't get me wrong, he is a great player and will always be my favorite, but it is his actions off the field that make him such a fantastic human being. I was lucky enough to meet Cal when I was younger. My dad had Lou Gehrig's disease and passed away in 2000. It was because of my dad that I met "the Iron Man." If you don't know your baseball facts, the year my family met Cal was the same year he broke Lou Gehrig's record of most consecutive games played.

After writing several letters to Cal,

my mom was able to arrange a meeting with him before a game. My brothers love Cal and the Orioles. Needless to say, they were in absolute awe to meet one of their heroes. I know I have mentioned earlier that I'm a Pittsburgh Steelers fan, but when it comes to baseball, I bleed orange and black. I love my O's and even at six years old, I knew Cal was a truly remarkable human. He spoke to my family like we were the only people standing in the room and didn't even seem rushed by the fact that he had a game to play in thirty minutes. He even wrestled around with my brothers and because I was so short, he even got on his knees to talk to me. Two years later, I became very sick as a result of cancer and had to fly to California to see doctors. Cal heard of this news somehow and paid for my parents and I to fly out and back. Three years later, my dad passed away. The week after his death, my mom went to check the mail and in the mail was a condolence card from Cal Ripken, Jr. What an incredible man! He is an example of an athlete that truly cares about the community and only wants to give back.

Cal and his brother, Bill Ripken, established Ripken Baseball, which consists of several minor leagues including the Aberdeen Ironbirds. They are the host to many coaching clinics, and help to spread the love of the game.

The two also help out with the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation in memory of their father. The mission of the foundation is to help disadvantaged youth across the country by teaching them life lessons, the value of hard work, and teamwork through baseball.

When someone such as an athlete helps out the community, it speaks volumes about the kind of person they are. Mount St. Mary's is proud to have many athletes who are willing to volunteer their free time to others. Senior Karl Lamont and sophomore Ben Smallenbroek are great examples of this. They are both members of the Mount's baseball team. Unfortunately, because of injuries, neither can play and figured they would put their talent to good use by helping out with the Emmitsburg Little League. According to Lamont, they were throwing the ball around one night when they met one of the coaches from the Emmitsburg Little League. The three talked about college baseball and how it differs from high school and little league baseball. They started talking about the little league program and how it offers so many great opportunities for the kids to succeed. After the



Karl Lamont enjoys working with Emmitsburg Little League and passing down his knowledge of baseball.

conversation, both players said if they ever needed anything, they would be willing to help out with the kids. The coach made sure to keep it touch with them and they have been involved with the program ever since.

When I asked what made them want to help out with the kids, Lamont responded for both of them when he said, "Growing up when we played little league, we were very fortunate to have great coaches who cared about us and about the game of baseball. For this reason we felt that we wanted to take that experience and give it back to the kids." A fact I didn't

realize until I was assigned this article is that last year, the team made it very far in the state playoffs. That is pretty impressive! There are definitely some young, talented athletes in Emmitsburg who are very passionate about baseball. "We wanted to try and help them in any way that we can so they can advance even farther this year and represent their program and the town of Emmitsburg, hopefully in a state championship game," Smallenbroek commented.

Smallenbroek started playing tee-ball at an early age and eventually went on to pitch for South Maryland Little League. His dad, Dan Smallenbroek, was usually one of the assistant coaches for the team he played on and helped Smallenbroek become the player he is today. It is because of his own experience that he believes it is important to help future generations and share his love for baseball. "I would definitely love to pursue a career in coaching," expressed Smallenbroek. "Having my father coach me every year in Little League makes me want to do the same for my kids if they want to pursue a career in baseball. Also, just being able to help kids out in a sport that I love to play is the best feeling because it gives me the ability to take what I have learned over the years and pass those skills on to the kids."

Lamont says he fell in love with baseball around eight years old and realized that this was something he wanted to commit to playing beyond high school. "I was lucky to have good coaches who helped me get better. That's one of the reasons I wanted to volunteer with Emmitsburg Little League, because they deserve good coaches and a chance to have success on the baseball field."

Much like Smallenbroek, Lamont said he would definitely consider coaching his own team one day. "It's been fun working with the kids and teaching them the things that I know. I have also learned things from them." Lamont added that his favorite part of coaching them is seeing how they take the little suggestions you make, like correcting their batting stance, and then use those suggestions to improve their game.

Karl Lamont and Ben Smallenbroek are talented athletes who are willing to spread their knowledge and love of baseball. Volunteering their free time to help coach Emmitsburg Little League shows that they are not only great baseball players, but also fantastic human beings.

To read other articles by Elizabeth Puleo, visit the Authors section of [emmitsburg.net](http://emmitsburg.net).

## Emmitsburg league news

Opening Day is set for April 6, 2013

Registration for Junior League Boys Ages 13-15 has been extended to March 15, 2013 - registration forms and online registrations are available at [www.ebbsb.com](http://www.ebbsb.com)

Emmitsburg will be hosting the 2013 Cal Ripken 12U 46-60 State Tournament July 6-10. We are looking for volunteers to help make this a successful tournament for the league and the Town of Emmitsburg, for more information contact Bryan Devillbiss at 301-742-0711

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12U Major Giants - TJ Eiker  
12U Major Orioles - Ed Bitondo  
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10U All Star Team - Rick Oleszczuk  
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18U Redwings - Mike Kastner  
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<b>Mar. 22-23</b>	- Karma Sharkz
<b>Mar. 29-30</b>	- TBA

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# On the leadership of resignation

Kelly Conroy  
MSM Class of 2012

When Pope Benedict XVI made a visit to the United States in late April of 2008, my family loaded into our mini-van with the tickets that we had been fortunate enough to obtain from our diocese to attend Mass with the Pope, and began our 15-hour drive from Florida to Washington, D.C. I was so excited. It was like getting to see my favorite celebrity – Catholic version.

While we were in D.C., my family took advantage of all of the typical tourist attractions, but we also made a little side trip.

The spring of 2008 was my junior year of high school. I was attending a small, Catholic high school in Tallahassee, FL and was involved in service and sports, and was just starting to think about college. My parents had given me the Newman Guide to Choosing a Catholic College and I found Mount St. Mary's – a Catholic school with a Division One tennis team. The more I read, the more I loved the Mount, and the Pope's visit offered me the perfect opportunity to visit the campus.

My siblings might have complained a little bit about driving over an hour from D.C. to check out "some school in Maryland that Kelly's crazy about," but I was determined. I scheduled a campus tour and even found out that the tennis team was playing a match the day I planned on visiting – perfect.

Well, the Holy Spirit had a plan for Pope Benedict XVI being named Pope . . . and maybe one eentsy, tweensy, so small you barely know it exists, part of that was bringing me to the Mount.

"For I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." Jeremiah 29:11.

I had started to love the Mount in my research, but I fell in love when I visited campus. I've been happy here ever since. I suppose I owe a thank you to the Pope – Thank you, Pope Benedict XVI, for visiting Washington, D.C. in 2008!

Fast-forward 5 years from the time Benedict XVI visited the U.S. and nearly 8 years after he was elected Pope, and on Feb. 11, 2013, the news of the Pope renouncing his position as Pope was heard.

Part of his statement reads: "After having repeatedly examined my conscience before God, I have come to the certainty that my strengths, due to an advanced age, are no longer suited to an adequate exercise of the Petrine ministry. I am well aware that this ministry, due to its essential spiritual nature, must be carried out not only with words and deeds, but no less with prayer and suffering. However, in today's world, subject to so many rapid changes and shaken by questions of deep relevance for the life of faith, in order to govern the barque of St. Peter and proclaim the Gospel, both strength of mind and body are necessary, strength which, in the last few months, has deteriorated in me to the extent that I have had to recognize my incapacity to adequately fulfill the ministry entrusted to me."

There are over one billion Catholics worldwide and the announcement mostly produced one response: surprise. The Pope caught us off-guard! Most of us didn't even know that a Pope could resign; the last Pope to resign was Pope Gregory XII nearly 600 years ago.

After letting the news soak in, it seemed to make sense. It was just another way that the Pope was doing what was best for the Church.

Benedict XVI was at the Second Vatican Council as an expert advisor to one of Europe's most influential bishops. He was a theologian and a professor. He gave up teaching to become a bishop and then a cardinal. He was one of Pope John Paul II's close friends and trusted advisor. He wrote encyclicals on God is Love (Deus Caritas Est) and Saved by Hope (Spe Salvi) in addition to other writings including his Jesus of Nazareth series.

Benedict XVI radiated his love for Christ and preached the Gospel. He had more people attend his weekly Wednesday audiences than those of Pope John Paul II! It's obvious that Benedict XVI is a man with a serious commitment to prayer and he served the Church with great adherence to truth and charity. It looks like I have no choice but to give up Benedict XVI for Lent – but I will miss him!

As a Master's business student, I spend a lot of time talking about management in my courses. We discuss the qualities of being a good

leader, such as authenticity, humility, and compassion. Good leaders know about themselves – how they handle conflict, how they work in a team, and their personal preferences. A good leader uses this knowledge to his or her advantage. The leader should practice putting skills into play so that they can use the right preference at the right time. For example, a leader might realize that he or she tends to always focus on the task at hand and neglect human relations with the other employees. A good leader would take concrete steps to develop human relations and sometimes put the task at hand second in the priority list.

Pope Benedict XVI lived a life of authenticity. He is a quiet, reserved man who is an excellent teacher. He lived out the values of the Catholic faith, and preached them without wavering. He was the head of over one billion Catholics worldwide, and tried to reach out to various parts of the world. Was he perfect? No. There will never be a perfect Pope because humans aren't perfect. However, Benedict XVI certainly strived to do his best to share the message of Christ and lead the Church.

Benedict XVI's renouncement of the Bishop of Rome, the successor of Peter, was just one more sign of

great leadership. If Benedict XVI's health had continued to decline, the Pope's secretary would have had to help more with the governing. Benedict XVI showed great humility in that he didn't keep holding onto the title for himself. He truly wants what's best for the Church – and he believes that means electing a new pope. As a leader, he also spent much time prayerfully considering his decision. He did not make a rash decision, but rather he based his choice upon careful rational and prayerful consideration.

The Pope's decision is a challenge to all other leaders – are you doing what is best for others in your organization? If all leaders had the selflessness of the Pope, companies might not engage in greedy, competitive infighting. A leader sets the tone for his or her organization. If all leaders had the humility of the Pope, companies might be more focused on the service or good they are providing rather than individual merits. If all leaders had the patience to make well thought-out decisions, the company would probably benefit in the long run.

Pope Benedict XVI is also a good leader because he knows that

his work does not end with the renouncement of his title. He will spend his remaining years in prayer for the Church. Indeed, the work of a true leader never ends.

The prayers of Benedict XVI will be a blessing for the Church as she prepares for the next pontiff.

So much about Benedict XVI is still not known by many Catholics – that he loved cats and playing the piano, and more important things:

On April 29, 2009, Benedict XVI stopped at the town of L'Aquila and visited the tomb of an obscure medieval pope named St. Celestine V (1215-1296). The Pope placed his pallium, a symbol of the pope's Episcopal authority as bishop of Rome, and left it on the top of Celestine's tomb. Fifteen months later, on July 4, 2010, Benedict traveled to pray at the relics of the same saint.

In the year 1294, Father Pietro Angelerio, a devout and holy priest, was elected as Pope Celestine V, somewhat against his will, when he was 79 years old, and renounced the papacy just five months later. And now Pope Benedict XVI has chosen to follow in the footsteps of this saint – to become a saint himself.

*Some information drawn from Scott Hahn's articles on the National Catholic Register.*

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## ARTS / CRAFTS

# Back the Alley

Walking through the property with our realtor the first time, one of us was in awe of the potential and the other was in shock that we were continuing upstairs... Erica and I, Joey Bolin were looking to move our business Back the Alley from its first location to a new one on Main Street in the Center of Fairfield. I knew it was what our business needed to keep it viable and not just another statistic. We felt that a new more visible location would be beneficial to people being aware we were even in town. It took lots of hard work and the generosity of some wonderful people (who were more than willing to be our private investors, as we knew we were in no position to go to the banks) to secure the property and to start the daunting task of renovating.

With the much appreciated help of family, we were able to demo and put the store together in just 6 weeks! We removed walls and under layers of paneling, drywall, framing and finally plaster and lathe we found what we were looking for...original logs that were in pretty good shape to boot. Once cleaned up and revitalized with a coat of polyurethane, the logs looked great. So did the floor we uncovered 6 inches below what we originally saw during the walk through. Any areas not log we covered with knotty pine boards to continue the country charm the house

already had. It turned out better than we ever thought it could have!

A fresh coat of a colonial green paint on the outside grabbed the attention of many passers-by. Knowing the whole plan ourselves, we knew that the green would go wonderfully with the soon to come black accents such as the freshly painted roof, gutters, downspouts and shutters. Along with some much needed landscaping, we also constructed garden center benches and fencing to make a shopping area outside for seasonal items.

Accessing the upstairs proved too difficult to open it up for retail, so the wheels turned and brain-storming began. It was not in our original plans to live in this property. However the charm of the store and knowing the potential for a convenient and beautiful living area was enticing. We then needed an outside entrance to the upstairs. The deck that now graces the side of the house was constructed providing outside living area for our family and a dry retail area underneath. Aside from being beautiful, it also needed to be functional and utilize the space to its maximum. There isn't much here on our 1/2 acre property that doesn't maximize space and its usefulness. We pride ourselves in being creative and resourceful.

That resourcefulness and creativity shows in our products and our prices. We try to make as much as possi-

ble ourselves and strive to find deals to pass along a good price for quality products. Focusing on one-of-a-kinds and uniqueness, we have a store that doesn't look like any other. Sure we carry lots of country items and flowers that you are familiar with but we try to put our spin on them and care for plants better than most chain stores.

This year has been challenging for us as there has been many one-time expenses that have exhausted our resources. We are looking forward to another year with fewer expenses and more creating! We truly believe in our dream and are not scared to make sacrifices to ensure we are successful in the long run. The move to town has been challenging for our family but we are blessed to have them all together. We have in some ways grown closer together as a family and love to see our children get involved in the business.

Not only has our family been wonderful during this past year but the community of Fairfield and the surrounding area has been uplifting and tremendously supportive. We see so many familiar faces now and they are happy to see us too. Growing up in Fairfield, we love to hear the stories from other residents of what buildings used to look like and the history of the town. Who knows maybe one day they will be talking about us. We hope we are creating an asset for the town to enjoy for many years to come.

Some of our offerings are; a seasonal outdoor Garden Center with annuals, perennials, select trees and shrubs, and aquatics. We add pumpkins, mums



and asters as well as straw bales and corn stalks for fall decorating. Then we bring in a variety of Christmas trees and make our own fresh wreaths for the Christmas season.

Indoors we have potted plants following the seasons such as African violets, dish gardens, forced bulbs, poinsettias and other blooming plants.

Fresh cut flowers and arrangements are offered for everyday pickup and for special occasions such as weddings, funerals, birthdays, banquets, churches, and anything in-between. We like to think out of the box when making arrangements too so we can offer some unique items to "wow" the recipient. We have done weddings bouquets from simple country inspired ones to elaborate and elegant ones and even a renaissance themed event. Make an appointment to talk details or stop in to pick up a fresh bouquet ready to go.

We have lots of country décor for inside and out. We make new and repurpose furniture too. Our décor includes

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Back the Alley also offers Design and Installation services for your landscaping needs. With 20 years in the horticulture field, Joey can offer you specialized services to meet your individual needs and requests. We are now booking for the spring of 2013. You may make an appointment or stop in to talk to us.

We are a family on a budget who know what it is like to try to do a lot with a little. We are realistic with our prices. We are not like some places in a big city where people are overcharged for what they are provided. Let us show you what we can do for you!

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## Thurmont Thespians present "Gray Gardens"

Artistic Director of the Thurmont Thespians, Beth Royer Watson will be directing the area premiere of "Grey Gardens" at the Thurmont American Legion Auditorium opening Friday March 15 and playing for two weekends thru March 24. The musical is based on a 2009 HBO movie of the same name starring Jessica Lange and Drew Barrymore. There will be six performances in all - Fridays and Saturday evenings, March 15 and 16 as well as 22 and 23 at 8:00 o'clock and two Sunday matinees on March 17 and 24 at 2:00 o'clock. There will also be one Cozy Restaurant catered dinner theatre performance on Saturday, March 23 beginning at 6:30 o'clock with cash bar. Tickets for all performances and the Dinner Theatre may

be reserved by calling Ms. Urian at 301-271-7613. Admission is \$15.00 for all shows except the March 23 Dinner/Theatre combo which is \$35.00

"Grey Gardens-the Musical". It is set in the luxurious mansion home of Edith Bouvier Beale and her daughter Edie in Easthampton, NY, both as it was in the summer of 1941 and as it came to be in 1973. Edith Bouvier Beale was the aunt to Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy and her daughter Edie was once near-engaged to Lt. Joseph P. Kennedy Jr., the oldest brother of President John F. Kennedy and Naval aviator who was subsequently killed in WW II in 1944.

The starring roles of Edith and Edie Bouvier Beale will be played

in the first act by Christine Nigida of Fairfield and Bridey Puvell of Thurmont and by Eileen Winston of Thurmont and Kelli Donaghe of Woodsboro in the second act, which takes place 34 years later. Also featured in the cast are Ben Mathis of Thurmont as Lt. Joseph P. Kennedy Jr., Bill Collins of Thurmont in the dual roles of Major Bouvier and Norman Vincent Peale, Matt Albright of Hagerstown in the role of Gould, a piano instructor, Samantha Nigida of Fairfield, PA in the role of Jackie Bouvier and Raphaela Smaldone of Emmitsburg in the role of Lee Bouvier. Michele Driver of Thurmont plays the Beale housemaid, Miss Brooks and Joseph Puvell of Thurmont completes the cast as the Beale gardener and errand boy, Jerry.

"Grey Gardens" premiered on Broadway in 2010 with Book by Doug Wright and music by Scott Frankel and lyrics by Michael Korie. Critics dubbed it one of the best original musicals in years and said the score is a meticulously fashioned piece of musical theater that gains in depth the more you listen to it. "Bloom with creativity". "Hilarious and heartbreaking at the same time" "bold, haunting and hypnotic" were some of the reviewers comments.

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# Modern art

Kathryn Franke  
MSM Class of 2013

This month, the Mount students who write for the newspaper were asked to watch the movie, *Good Night and Good Luck* and then write our articles in response to it. The movie highlights a speech by Edward R. Murrow in 1958 that focuses on the role of technology, primarily television and radio, and how society has manipulated their uses for the sole purpose of entertainment rather than education.

Murrow describes technology as powerful “instruments of mass communication” that are underutilized because of an unwarranted fear of controversy from the general public. Murrow assures us that when “evidence on a controversial subject is fairly and calmly presented, the public recognizes it for what it is—an effort to illuminate rather than to agitate.” Instead of just settling for material that is pleasing to all, it is important to challenge the viewer for the benefit of the individual and of society as a whole.

Technology is undoubtedly an influential aspect of society, because technology in itself reflects the progression of man in terms of education and capability, but Murrow reminds us that we build traditions and create precedents for ourselves every day. As a result, it is important that we keep our greater good in mind when we use these tools. Rather than “constantly striving to reach the largest possible audience for everything,” we should focus on using the tools of technology to improve our own intellect and stay aware of the happenings in the world around us. It is the quality that should be most important, not the quantity.

After watching the movie, I immediately knew the approach I wanted to take to this month's article.

Art has evolved with the times, and some may even say that it has been ahead of the times. This is directly represented by the concept of art movements. Realism, Impressionism, Cubism, Art Nouveau, Dada, Pop Art, Surrealism, Romanticism... the list goes on and on. The defining characteristics of art movements are often directly correlated with the customs and values of society at that given time. Art movements are generated by challenging what is commonly accepted and inspiring innovative ways of thinking.

But as art keeps up with the times, it is important that it not be consumed by the times. In his speech, Murrow explains that in order for technology to progress, it must ironically reverse. Because technology had become so misused over the years, Murrow thought the impact technology had on society would be greater by reverting back to the purpose for which it was originally used: education. In a world where art is such a forward-thinking field, I think it is important to remember its foundation. Although technology can indeed be beneficial by increasing the

breadth and reach of many works of art, it should be used as a supplement to the physical artwork, not as the sole means by which to access the art.

Of course there have been developments in art with the addition of graphic design, digital prints, digital photo manipulation, etc. This is a prime example of how art has developed with technology, but there are a few things about technology that I feel have inhibited the overall progress of art.

Murrow's speech is directed toward radio and television, but as time has progressed since his speech, technology has advanced to include the Internet, smartphones, reading tablets, etc. Nowadays, you can access millions of works of art just by logging onto your computers. The concept of going to a museum to physically experience works of art is foreign to many people, because they have access to such a large wealth of information at their fingertips. Why go to another city, state, or country to see a work of art when all you have to do is go on your computer and visit the countless search engines available to you that can spit out the information in seconds?

In reality, it is not about just viewing the artwork; it is about experiencing it.

There is a sort of miscommunication that results from viewing artwork solely on the computer. Looking at a digital photograph of a painting, whether the painting is hundreds of years old or was just made yesterday, takes away from the physical presence of the artwork itself. It also affects how we experience and view the art. The texture, the scale, the vivid colors, and the message depicted in the piece can be lost in translation. The brushstrokes of artwork so often play a large role in conveying the artist's emotion, and an online image can only do so much to match that.

A written description of a work can give you a general sense of what the experience would be like, but it does not compare to what that experience would be like in person. The size of artwork is typically posted along with the image, but it is really only a number until you actually see the large painting looming in front of you or the small, detailed work that hangs right before your eyes. Pretty much anything can now be condensed to a jpeg format, but the impact and message of the work should not be condensed along with it.

Now, this high access to artwork through technology does of course have a positive effect, also. I was lucky enough to travel to Vienna with faculty and students from the Mount this past summer and visit the Belvedere, but not everyone is able to do that, so being able to see the works of art that are displayed there online is a wonderful thing. After all, some access is better than no access. When used properly, the Internet can bring a wealth of knowledge to people who may not be exposed to it under typical circumstances.

Technology has even influenced the job market when it comes to the art



Art enthusiasts discuss a painting that was displayed in a recent art exhibit at the Mount.

world. In today's society, digital portfolios often replace the big black portfolios that used to be carted around by artists to showcase their work. I can attest to this because I personally have an art website ([www.kathrynfranke.com](http://www.kathrynfranke.com)) that was created with the purpose of being listed in job applications and résumés, and it has been a great way to condense some of my best work into a common location. Despite its convenience, however, there is still part of me that wishes I could show the original artwork to everyone who views the webpage, just because the experience of viewing the artwork is so different than viewing just a digital image of it.

How many times have you found yourself assuring someone that a story you just told doesn't even do it justice? This is the same concept.

I experienced this firsthand with the national juried art show that I planned along with a fellow student, which was held at the Mount during the months of January and February. For the jurying process, we had the artists send in up to three digital images of artwork that they wanted to submit for our consideration. Because the artists were from all around the nation, we had to select the artwork based on the images themselves so the artists would not have to ship the works across the country without even knowing if the work would be accepted.

After deciding on the works that we wanted to accept into the show, we notified the artists and they then shipped their works to us here at the Mount. By the end of the planning process for the show, we thought we knew their artwork like the backs of our hands. Based on the images the artists sent us, we had written a collaborative essay about the artwork and how it reflected our show's theme, *The Natural World: A Postmodern Perspective*. However, when we received the artwork and finally got to see it in person, we were amazed at how much more fulfilling the experience was. After analyzing the works for months, we didn't think there would be any difference between our expectations and the physical works themselves.

When we received the art, we fell in love with it even more and had an even stronger connection to it. Seeing the intricacy in each piece, the care and

attention that went into each decision the artist made, and the way the elements of the pieces worked together to create an impression on the viewer was such a rewarding experience. We, who had already studied the works intensely, learned so much more about the art after seeing it there in front of us.

At the opening of our show, it was wonderful to see the number of people who spent extended amounts of time in front of each piece. People who have not had much experience with visiting galleries went out of their way to tell us how much they got out of the show, and many listed their favorite pieces and went on to research that artist even further after the show.

Even after planning and hanging the show with my friend, I still go back to the gallery exhibit quite often to get another perspective on the artwork in the show. Each time, I notice something different, something that had previously gone unnoticed. Art keeps giving back each time you examine it, and the same piece can mean something completely different to any given person. That subjectivity is what makes art so fascinating, and it is something that everyone should be able to experience firsthand.

In *Good Night and Good Luck*,

Murrow explains, “the media of mass communications in a given country reflect the political, economic and social climate in which they flourish” and the “hard, unyielding realities of the world in which we live.” Technology can “teach...illuminate...and even inspire” as long as “humans are determined to use it to those ends.”

So, too, does art.

Art is an appeal to the senses. It is a form of expression, a depiction of thought and opinion. Art is not meant to be something that is looked at for a fleeting moment. There is so much depth and content that can be discovered through art as long as you enable yourself and others to have that experience. We cannot let modern art be constrained to just the computer screen. I encourage you all to use technology as a supplement to art rather than a substitute for it. Visit a gallery or museum; go to a local art show; create your own original art. Use technology to research and expand your knowledge, but don't limit yourself to just using those tools. To get the full effect of a work of art, you should not just view it; you should experience it.

To read past articles from Kathryn Franke visit the authors section of [emmitsburg.net](http://emmitsburg.net).

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## CREATIVE WRITERS

# Time with others is time well spent

Alexandra Tyminski  
MSM Class of 2015

Rinnnnnnnnng. Rinnnnnnng. “Can someone get the door?” I asked.

“Just let it go,” Abby barked from afar. “We never bothered to knock in school!”

“Come move in here, ladies. We have so much to catch up on,” Danielle said, motioning with her hand to take a seat.

“I can’t believe that we were able to get together again!” Kate said.

“Yeah, it is hard to believe we all had a weekend to visit. It’s nice to be reunited in our college town,” I said.

Abby’s round glasses were still in place on her face like a few years ago. Kate was still getting her same blonde highlights, while Clara spent most of her weekends with a book and coffee. Becca always had some simple-looking outfit on, and Danielle’s red curly hair was certainly still hard to miss.

“So, how are everyone’s lives going?” Kate asked.

“It is going well for the most part. I got a telephone installed in my house,” Becca said. Becca always dove into interesting topics right away.

“Oh yeah, Clara got it as well. How do you guys like it?” I was curious, considering I didn’t have one installed yet.

“I don’t know. To be completely honest, I just think it allows an excuse for not visiting people!” Clara exclaimed.

“I mean, if something is important, shouldn’t they come over and tell you themselves?”

“Do you think we will forget how to write if we start to use the phone instead?” Kate said while chuckling.

I listened intently to my friends bantering back and forth. It did raise some good questions about technology though.

“I don’t know; a phone could be helpful in a way. It took us a couple weeks to organize this get-together by letter. In fact, I just got a letter from Brenna the other day saying she was sad she couldn’t make it.” Kate informed us.

“At least she wrote to tell you,” Abby said.

“Yeah, but now she can just call us and let us know,” I said. I couldn’t tell if my friends caught on to my point.

“The point is that phone could be used for good...or bad,” I felt as if I was pondering over the phone too much, but everyone seemed engaged.

“I’m not saying it is bad. I’m just nervous.”

“I have a reason to be nervous; what if I don’t get any letters now?” Becca said.

“Actually, I was just looking through my old letters from the college years. Take a look.”

Clara brought over a small, rusted box. It was clearly heavy based on the way she struggled to lift it.

“I remember writing to Sam back in freshmen year, but it was so hard. We never saw each other. Anyways, I was cleaning out my storage closet the other day, and I found these tucked away in the back,” Clara said.

“Do you mind if I have a look?” I asked.

“Not at all.”

I scanned the top of the letter and immediately noticed the date at the top, 1922. It felt so funny looking through Clara’s old letters. Sam was probably out married to another woman with one kid, maybe two, or maybe none. But, wherever he was, it didn’t matter. I was still holding the letter he wrote to one of my best friends years ago. My fingers ran up and down the edge of the white paper. It was so light, and for an instant, I couldn’t imagine a world without a physical letter, a world without physical communication.

...

She came storming through the garage door and threw her backpack on the ground. Her shoes were kicked off within seconds, and I barely had time to talk to her before she went straight for the phone.

“Oh, hey there Emma. How was school? How was practice? I was thinking that maybe we could go out for dinner tonight after your dad gets home from work,” I said.

“Hey, Mom! Yeah, well that is fine and all, but I really wanted to call Beth first. She wasn’t at school today so I was going to call and see how she was feeling,” Emma replied.

“Well, just make sure it isn’t going to take too long. Can it possibly wait until tomorrow?”

“It won’t take that long. I promise mom. Just please let me call her,” she begged.

“Okay, that’s fine, but make sure you wear something nice to dinner because we are going to visit your grandma beforehand,” I said politely.

“But, I’m starving, and Dad probably will be too. Can we just call grandma when we get home from dinner tonight?” Emma shot me a look of desperation.

Emma began to dial the numbers on the phone, and I couldn’t help but notice the face of the phone in her hand. The numbers on the phone made a weird-looking allusion, and it appeared to have an almost devious smile. I could not help but think I was crazy. I shook my head and realized that I might just need some fresh air. I walked outside to get the mail and reached inside of the box.

“Well, that’s not anything new,” I said while swiping through the mail. The older neighbors wrote to us weekly asking for us to come over for afternoon tea, but I think they often forgot that we had to work all day, every day.

“Oh my gosh!” I found myself speaking out loud and then calmed myself down. Inside the usual pile of junk mail that filled my mailbox daily was a letter from my old friend Clara with a postmark from Africa.

As I strolled back to the house, I began to read the long letter in front of me. She was in Nigeria. She had



left the states a few years ago to do some service work there. It had been ages since I received a letter from her. I sat in silence as I read.

“Mom, are you okay?” Emma asked.

“Oh yes, I’m fine. I just got a letter from my old classmate Clara! She’s in Africa!”

Without giving it a second’s thought, I picked up the phone and dialed Kate’s number. I thought to myself, “This is big news. We all had lost touch with Clara and we have been wondering where she had gone and how she has been!”

“Kate? Hey there! You’ll never guess who I heard from...”

“Who?!” Kate said. I could tell she was a bit anxious and had no idea what I was talking about.

“Clara! Clara wrote me a letter. She is doing well, and she wants me to pass on the word to you guys that she is coming back to visit in a few months and that we should all get together.”

“Wow! That is awesome. I’m so glad! What fun that will be. We

haven’t had a Saturday catch-up in years!”

“I know! But anyways, how have you been? I said.

“Everything is going great. Brian and I just got settled into a new house and...” Kate said, beginning to ramble.

While listening to Kate, I took the phone away from my ear and examined its texture and style. The phone looked different to me this time. Then I realized how glad I was that I was able to chat with Kate on the phone, but how much nicer it would be to see her in person. My daughter never got to experience the days of letters, but I always wonder if she did, would her perspective be different? Would she desire to visit her grandma more than just occasionally calling her on the phone?

I flashed back to the first get-together of all my college friends at Clara’s house many years ago and discovered that for me, time with others was time well spent.

To read other articles by Alexandra Tyminski visit the Authors section of [emmitsburg.net](http://emmitsburg.net).



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## COOKING WITH LOVE

# Crock pot recipes!

**Brooke Hagerty**  
**Chef/Owner Gunner's**  
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[www.gunnersgrille.com](http://www.gunnersgrille.com)

As promised, this month we will focus on Crock Pot recipes. Who doesn't have fond memories of coming home from school or work to the scrumptious smells of Crock Pot Cooking! When I sat down to compose this month's article I started thinking about where exactly did the slow cooking thought process come from. So I did a little research and found some information on the subject.

Slow cooking started hundreds of years ago, as early as the first days of the invention of the iron pot. People would slow cook but shad to stir throughout the day. Iron pots were also dug into the coals for breads and such. Slow cooking works wonders to break down tougher cuts of meats, dried beans and hard to digest root vegetables. The slow cooking of meats breaks down the collagen and fibers creating an increased nutritional value and the beans and root vegetables soften to aide in digestion.

The original Crock Pot was known as the Beanery All Purpose Cooker and was invented in the 1950's by Naxon Utilities Corporation of Chicago. The first pot was ceramic surrounded by metal with heating elements on the inside and was intended for the cooking of baked beans.

In 1970 Naxon was bought out by Rival and the Beanery was reinvented as the Crock Pot. During the 1970s, more women were joining the workforce, and the Crock Pot helped them manage to feed their families as well. It was easy enough to fill it before they left for work and be able to come home to a hot meal.

The Crock Pot has evolved in many ways over the years. Today's models have removable inserts (which comes in handy during cleaning - remember trying not to get the cord wet?), various settings and timers! The also come in varying sizes so cooking for one (which is my case) is just as easy as cooking for an entire family.

Crock Pot cooking is the perfect way to cook for busy families and singles alike and the

beauty of the crock pot is the amazing smells you walk into after a long day! I also love that you can just toss everything in and at the end you have a succulent dinner.....add a salad and voila, a complete meal!

With St. Patrick's Day right around the corner Corned Beef and Cabbage is a must for most of us. I know it has always been one of my favorites. I love adding carrots and potatoes as well as turnips; they kick the flavors to a whole new place in your mouth. The other ingredient I add is vegetable stock. The stock, again, adds another dimension to the dish. The following recipe feeds 6-8 people

- 2 pound corned beef brisket (with herb package), rinsed
- 1 large or 2 small green cabbage heads, shredded
- 1 pound baby red potatoes, cut into bite size pieces
- 2 large carrots, cut into bite size pieces
- 1/2 pound turnips, cut into bite size pieces
- 2 -3 cups vegetable stock
- 2 bay leaves, 1 tablespoon lemon pepper and a few pinches of your favorite salt



Take 1/2 of your vegetables and cover the bottom of your Crock Pot, layer corned beef with contents of the herb package, layer remaining vegetables on top and pour vegetable stock on top. Cover and place pot on high for 5-7 hours or medium for 6-8 hours.

Desserts can also be cooked in the Crock Pot. I have not personally tried to do this but I did find a recipe that sounds quite yummy and very easy. Please try it and let me know how it turns out! You can e-mail me at [brooke@gunnersgrille.com](mailto:brooke@gunnersgrille.com) or call me directly at Gunner's Grille at Taneytown, 410.756.1080.

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup light brown sugar
- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon

- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1 pinch salt
- 1/2 cup butter, cut into pieces
- 1 cup chopped walnuts
- 1/3 cup white sugar, or to taste
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 6 cups apples - peeled, cored and chopped
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice

Mix flour, brown sugar, 1/2 cup of white sugar, 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon, nutmeg, and salt together in a bowl. Combine butter with the flour mixture using fingers or a fork until coarse crumbs form. Stir in walnuts and set aside.

Whisk together 1/3 cup sugar, cornstarch, ginger, and 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon. Place the apples in a slow cooker, stir in the cornstarch mixture; toss with lemon juice. Sprinkle the walnut crumb topping on top. Cover and cook on High for 2 hours or Low for 4 hours, until apples are tender. Partially uncover the slow cooker to allow the topping to harden, about 1 hour.

If ever you have questions regarding any recipes or articles please do not hesitate to contact me. Also, if you have a favorite recipe that you'd like to share or have a request for an article or I would love to hear from you! HAPPY EATING!

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## IN MY OWN WORDS

# End times?

Nick Pane

The populace of Chelyabinsk, Russia received quite the wake-up call last month when a meteor traveling at incredibly high speeds exploded across the Siberian sky. According to various sources, the meteor entered Earth's atmosphere on Friday, February 15 just before 9:30 a.m. local time. The meteor was initially believed to only be about the size of a bus, but later reports confirmed that it was actually much larger, weighing about 10,000 tons - good for being the biggest object to hit Earth in 100 years. More than 1,000 people were injured and numerous buildings were damaged from the amount of energy released from the blast.

While Chelyabinsk is located in a relatively remote area of Russia, the rest of the world had a pretty good view of the meteor strike as well. Russia is a country notorious for the use of dash cams due to the high amount of corruption within law enforcement, making them all but a necessity for motorists. As a result, we had front-row seats to the spectacle that was this giant meteor blazing across the sky. Some of the footage included a blinding light over a roundabout, people being knocked over from inside buildings, and doors and windows getting blown out.

It was all a very fascinating thing to behold, but only seeing it from afar, we can only imagine how scary it must have been for the people of Chelyabinsk to witness. It's a scary thing to think about a meteor exploding over your city, and considering that there were no reported deaths is definitely a pleasant surprise. What was surprising was the amount of coverage the event seemed to receive given its newsworthiness.

If you recall, my February article (The Dumbing Down of America) discussed the state of television today, and talked about how Edward R. Murrow predicted the direction television was going in back in the 1950's. Murrow's show covered the biggest stories and provided the facts, but he

worried that television was beginning to reflect the traits of American society. I bring this up because certain aspects of the meteor coverage, at least in my opinion, were improperly handled, and Murrow surely would have had a problem with it.

One thing that Murrow would have taken issue with was the initial report regarding the size of the meteor. At first, it was believed that the meteor was no bigger than a school bus that weighed roughly 10 tons. Later that night, scientists released new information that they had acquired, confirming that the meteor was actually three times as large as the first approximation, and weighed closer to 10,000 tons. Talk about readings being a little bit off. I commented on this issue in that same February article, suggesting that journalism today is all about being first and not necessarily right, and this story just exemplifies that claim. It is likely that someone in the media got word of the early reports about how big the meteor was, and without doing enough research to ensure that the numbers were correct, they decided to report on the story using numbers that turned out to be completely off. I suppose you would expect scientists to have the technology to give a much more accurate reading on the meteor, but my point still stands that someone went ahead and reported those numbers to the public.

I also think Murrow would have been surprised at how the meteor was covered by some news outlets. I couldn't help but notice that the story itself didn't seem to be receiving the amount of attention it deserved. For example, CNN's website had the story covered as one of its featured stories, but it was grouped together in the "In The News" section with the likes of the cruise ship accidents and Oscar Pistorius, among other things. Personally, I just feel like a story about a meteor crashing into Earth and doing the amount of damage that it did should stand out as the exclusive story, especially when the other stories were ongoing at this point.

It felt like the meteor was being thrown together with other stories as if it didn't merit more coverage, especially when there was so much footage available thanks to the dash cams. Coupled with the fact that so many people were caught up with the "end of the world" speculation back in December, you would think that the meteor would have received more exclusive coverage.

People are obsessed with the idea of the world ending. Whether it is from a natural disaster of catastrophic proportions, a war, or a random prophecy made up by some loon in a cult, it seems that an incalculable number of people believe they will see the world end in their lifetime. In fact, The Christian Science Monitor reported that half of the readers of one Russian newspaper believed that the meteor could have been a divine symbol, a UFO, or an attack from the United States. If you type "Chelyabinsk Meteor" into Google's search engine, four of the articles on the first page have something in them about the meteor possibly being something else. A fifth article questions whether the meteor brought a deadly virus to the planet.

The end of the world spinoff that stories like these receive is absolutely ridiculous, yet people are infatuated with the idea. There is even a National Geographic show called "Doomsday Preppers", which documents and follows the lives of people who have lost all sanity. These "preppers" truly believe that the end of the world is a legitimate possibility, and viewers get to see the great lengths that these peo-



The Chelyabinsk Meteor drew comparisons with an incident in 1908, when a meteorite is thought to have.

ple go to to ensure their survival in the event of something catastrophic taking place. I can't believe that there are enough people with this type of mindset to have a show about it, and events such as the meteor just gives these people more material to capitalize on, and sway the opinions of anyone dumb enough to listen to them.

While preppers may seem harmless, and good fodder for mindless TV shows, there is a downside to their philosophy - Nancy Lanza, the mother of the Sandy Hook Elementary shooter, was reportedly a prepper. She collected guns and taught her children to shoot, partially because she believed that an economic collapse was likely. One can only wonder what the future of those 22 kids would have been had like if Mrs. Lanza's life had been governed by

more important things.

For anyone that still needs reassurance, the object that entered Earth's atmosphere and exploded roughly 15 miles above Chelyabinsk, was a meteor and nothing more. We should be focusing more about how fortunate the town is, because an explosion of that magnitude could have done significantly more damage. In no way does this meteor have anything to do with the end of the world, although not everyone will believe that. I can only imagine what the "preppers" are currently saying - and what adjustments they are making to their bunkers below the ground while the rest of us continue to go on with our lives above ground.

To read past articles by Nick Pane visit the Authors section of [emmitsburg.net](http://emmitsburg.net).

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## COMPLEMENTARY CORNER

# Being a responsible driver

Renee Lehman

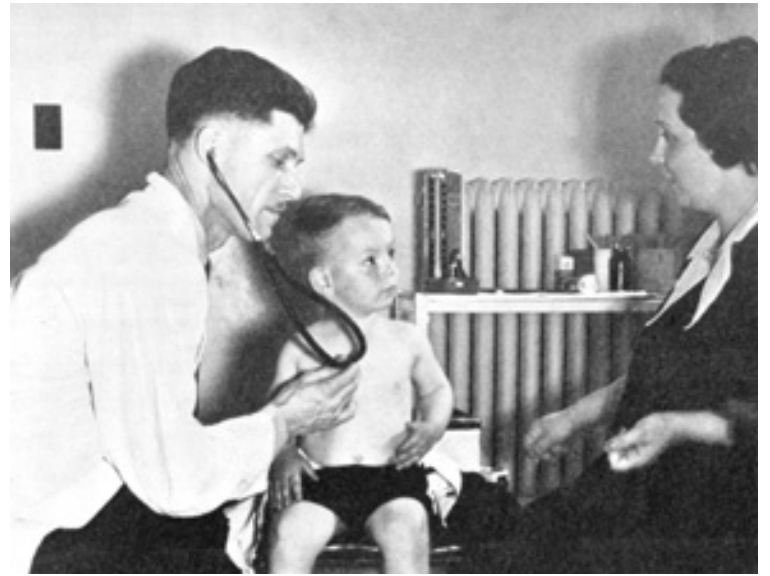
Did you know that the United States spends more than any other country on healthcare (\$8000 per person/year), but ranks 27<sup>th</sup> out of 34 in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) member countries. Meanwhile, Japan, spends \$2,878 per person/year (about \$5,000 less than the USA), and has the highest life expectancy among developed nations. Also, the average cost of healthcare per person/year (per capita) is \$3000 for the rest of the developing world (www.oecd.org). The mission of the OECD is to promote policies that will improve the economic and social well-being of people around the world.

Spending a great deal on health care does not result in a healthi-

er population. Of the 34 OECD member countries, only three that spent the most per person, have citizens that live the longest (see table). Increased health care spending does not always result in better treatment. Often, in countries that spend more, people are opting for expensive tests and elective procedures that drive up costs. Many proponents of public health care tend to blame the U.S.'s highly privatized system as the reason for such high costs. However, according to the OECD, a number of factors influence the spending on healthcare: 1) How medical services are used: Expensive diagnostic procedures and elective surgeries, like MRI scans and corrective knee surgeries, drive up costs. 2) High costs of drugs: In the U.S., drug costs are more than \$950 per capita (the larg-

est amount when compared to the other OECD member countries). 3) Poor health-related behaviors: Excessive alcohol consumption, tobacco use, poor nutrition, and poor exercise, increase health problems.

Our current healthcare model is a "Disease care" model. You go to the doctor or seek medical advice when you are sick. It is a great system for acute illness and trauma. However, this model doesn't promote wellness and prevention of disease. Eighty percent of our chronic illnesses (diabetes, heart disease, and obesity to name a few) are not effectively addressed by our current "Disease care" model of healthcare. Why, you may ask? It is because these diseases are largely preventable and even reversible by changing diet and lifestyle. Yes, treatment of these and oth-



ER! Our mind and consciousness represents the DRIVER!

Consider the following example: If two people were given the same model car, and one drove it recklessly, while the other drove it with more care, wouldn't you think that the latter car would be more like new after 10 years? The parts would've been maintained better, and the car would potentially last longer. You may not know how to do all of the maintenance yourself, so you take it to a qualified service station to work on it. Along with the maintenance done to your car, you, the DRIVER, learn things from the qualified service person that will extend the life of your car, improve your gas mileage, and keep your car looking great. You need DRIVER'S EDUCATION to be a responsible DRIVER!

Now, when we are born, we have this one body, mind, and spirit to live our entire life with. Why would you take care of it in any way less than you would your car? Quality in, quality out. No one else can do this for you. You must choose it. These choices do not necessarily involve high tech innovations. Simple, low tech, and low cost choices can make a huge impact on our lives.

For example, ten years ago the Diabetes Prevention Program Research Group published a study in the New England Journal of Medicine that showed that lifestyle changes were better than drugs at preventing diabetes and the complications from diabetes (peripheral neuropathy, blindness, heart attack, stroke, and kidney failure), and at a fraction of the cost! Already 1/3 of all Americans are diabetic or pre-diabetic. By 2020, it is predict-

ed that more than 1/2 of all Americans will have diabetes or be pre-diabetic if the current trend go unabated (United Health Group, 2011). This was ten years ago! We need to get to the root of what is causing the rise in diabetes in the U.S., instead of just treating the disease with medications. We need to make changes in our lifestyle!

Would you drive your car when the CHECK ENGINE light is on? Would you tape a piece of paper over the CHECK ENGINE light so that you wouldn't see it? As the DRIVER of your body, deal with things when they are small. Don't put a "band-aid" on your symptoms. Get to the root of the symptoms. Seek out the help of a professional to guide you as you begin to focus on self - care for your own wellness.


In some upcoming articles, you will have the opportunity to attend DRIVER'S EDUCATION classes to assist you in becoming a more responsible DRIVER of your "CAR" (HEALTH).

Finally, Healthy Adams County and Partners will be presenting a free screening of the documentary, Escape Fire, on Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at the Majestic Theater in Gettysburg, PA. Doors open at 6:30pm. Film begins at 7:00pm. Panel discussion to follow, and I am on the panel. Call 717-337-8200 to reserve your free tickets.

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.

The Ten Countries that Spent the most on Healthcare (2012)  
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

Country (Ranked in order)	Total expenditure on health per capita	Expenditure as % of GDP	Life expectancy
1. USA	\$8,000	17.4% (the most)	78.2 years (27 <sup>th</sup> highest)
2. Norway	\$5,352	9.6% (16 <sup>th</sup> most)	81.0 years (10 <sup>th</sup> highest)
3. Switzerland	\$5,344	11.6% (5 <sup>th</sup> most)	82.3 years (2 <sup>nd</sup> highest)
4. Netherlands	\$4,914	12% (2 <sup>nd</sup> most)	80.6 years (14 <sup>th</sup> highest)
5. Luxembourg	\$4,808	7.8% (7 <sup>th</sup> least)	80.7 years (tied for 12 <sup>th</sup> highest)
6. Canada	\$4,478	11.3% (7 <sup>th</sup> most)	80.7 years (tied for 12 <sup>th</sup> highest)
7. Denmark	\$4,348	11.5% (6 <sup>th</sup> most)	79.0 years (25 <sup>th</sup> highest)
8. Austria	\$4,298	11% (8 <sup>th</sup> most)	80.4 years (16 <sup>th</sup> highest)
9. Germany	\$4,218	11.6% (4 <sup>th</sup> most)	80.3 years (18 <sup>th</sup> highest)
10. France	\$3,978	11.8% (3 <sup>rd</sup> most)	81.5 years (8 <sup>th</sup> highest)




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er chronic diseases account for 75% of our healthcare costs, and yet they are preventable or even reversible!!! (Dean Ornish, MD, the founder and president of the non-profit Preventive Medicine Research Institute in Sausalito, California; and Clinical Professor of Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco).

There is a different model that involves health promotion and disease prevention, and encourages us to become active in our own healing. It is up to each one of us to learn how to maintain and protect our body's potential to heal itself. Bruce Lipton, PhD, author of Biology of Belief, in an interview, used the analogy that the body is like a car, and that the health professionals are like an auto repair person. So, a body part can be "fixed," just like when a part in a car becomes broken. However, this does not look at how our "parts" actually work and become "broken." What happens that causes our body "part" to become broken? The DRIVER has been taken out of the situation! We are the DRIV-

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# Keep Moving

## Mood-boosting activities for long winter days

**Linda Stultz**  
**Certified Fitness Trainer/**  
**Therapist**

Sometimes long, cloudy, cold winter days can seem overwhelming. Don't let these days get you down and in a rut. Think of things that you enjoy and find a way to use these activities to enhance your life.

Did you know that exercise will boost your endorphins? Endorphins in your brain are generated by exercise and help you feel happier and have more energy. Exercise is sometimes suggested by doctors to help with depression. Patients who start an exercise program, join an aerobic or zumba class or join a gym may see a difference in a short period of time.

Not only does the exercise get your endorphins working again, it also gives you a sense of pride that you are taking action to help yourself feel better and get back to enjoying your life. Eating a healthy diet will also help get your body

back to functioning on an even field. Green leafy vegetables and bright colored foods such as red and orange peppers, tomatoes and oranges are tasty ways to give your body the nutrients you need while enjoying the foods you like. Drink plenty of water to keep your body hydrated.

The body is about 70% water and drinking enough water to keep our organs and muscles working the way they should is sometimes hard for some people. Many of my clients are not water drinkers when they come to me but I do my best to make drinking water an important part of their day. I also hope they will learn to enjoy drinking water because it is so important to a healthy functioning body.

We hear so many ways of getting the fluid our body needs that it is confusing. Some nutritionists tell us that we can drink coffee or tea and still get the amount of water we need while others say coffee and tea have caffeine and will de-

hydrate you. I'm still out on this decision and I try to get my clients to drink plain or flavored water. Drinking other beverages will just add to the water you are already drinking.

Healthy food and keeping hydrated goes right along with exercise for a body that feels good. Winter can take its toll on our health if we don't take control of our life first and keep ourselves in shape. Everyone thinks of starting in the spring when it gets warm outside. Take a walk in the brisk, cool air and you will feel refreshed and energized when you get finished.

Talk to your doctor if you have any health concerns that may be affected by cold weather, otherwise try a short walk and see how you feel. Don't wait till the warm weather gets here. We still have a few months of winter, take advantage of this time to slowly prepare for the outside work that awaits you. Your body will thank you for starting to stretch, walk and keep your joints moving this winter because you will feel less aches and pains when that work time comes.

You can even do some of that spring house cleaning on these dreary days and you will be ahead of the game when spring gets here. The house will be cleaned



and you can enjoy the outdoors more and still have the satisfaction of knowing that the house chores are taken care of. Whatever exercise or activity you decide is the one for you, take it slow and work up to the pace that challenges you without completely exhausting you. Your body needs to be challenged and kept moving to maintain its top healthy capacity. Your mind also

needs to be worked to keep your brain sharp and clear. Use these last few months of winter to prepare for the activities that warm weather brings. You will also be happier when you are doing all you can to stay healthy. Meeting friends will help them and you physically, mentally and socially while getting through the gray days of winter. Keep Moving every day!

# Fitness Matters

**George Puvel**  
**Anytime Fitness Owner**

Question: If I get sick, will loading up on Vitamin C help me get better sooner?

Answer: This question is coming at a great time, and many people will start to worry about how much vitamin C they are consuming when they feel an illness coming on. For the most part, studies have shown little to no benefit. Consuming extra vitamin C after you're already showing signs and symptoms of an illness will not help you recover faster. However, for those that consume the proper amount of vitamin C regularly, this may help reduce the duration of a cold by about a day, and they may have fewer symptoms than a person not meeting their daily requirement. Unfortunately, relatively high doses of 1-2 grams may be needed to elicit these very mild benefits, so is it really worth it in the end? Keep in mind, the RDA for women is 75 gms per day and 90 gms per day for men. Vitamin C can be found in acidic foods such as oranges, strawberries, kiwis, and also in green, leafy vegetables.

Question: I have taken some time off from the gym and gained some extra weight, not to mention the fact that I feel a bit weaker. Did all my muscle just turn to fat?

Answer: This is a great question and all too often it may seem like this is actually happening when people stop working out. However, muscle and fat are two completely different types of body tissue. Neither can simply turn into the

other. When people stop working out for long periods, food intake should decrease because if you're not expending as many calories, you certainly don't need to consume as many calories. It's important to remember that the muscles in your body are active tissues that are constantly using energy even when you're sedentary. This means the more muscle you have, the more calories you need. The opposite is true as well. Unfortunately, when workouts decline, people often consume the same amounts of food that they had been when they were working out. These

extra calories are stored in your body as adipose tissue (body fat). If you make a conscious effort to consume fewer calories when you stop working out, then you should be able to avoid the added pounds.

Question: Foods seem to be so high in salt these days, and I'm aware of the dangers of hypertension, heart disease, and stroke. Can you please clarify the amount of sodium I should be consuming daily?

Answer: You're right—salt is everywhere. Processed foods are the main culprit, but the increased reliance on fast foods and restaurant meals are problematic as well.

To add to the confusion, people often have trouble differentiating between sodium and salt. Salt is actually 40% sodium, so when discussing recommendations, we need to be clear about what we're talking about. The current Dietary Guidelines for Americans recommends less than 2,300 milligrams of sodium per day (about 1 teaspoon of salt). On the other hand, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) recommends 1,500 milligrams of sodium per day (about 2/3 teaspoon of salt), and they set the tolerable upper intake level at 2,300 milligrams. It's clear that your intake should fall somewhere between these two ranges, or even less, but it's actually quite difficult to keep your sodium level as low as 1500 milligrams

per day. In fact, the IOM points out that 95% of American men and 75% of American women consume sodium in excess of the tolerable upper limit—not good news for those of us looking to avoid chronic disease as we get older. In order to keep your sodium intake in check, you need to eat plenty of fruits and vegetables, and make sure you buy foods that are fresh and unprocessed. And don't forget to avoid adding salt at the dinner table as well.

About the author: George Puvel is the Club Owner. To submit a question for future articles, please contact the author at [ThurmontMD@anytimefitness.com](mailto:ThurmontMD@anytimefitness.com).

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## ASTRONOMY

# The night sky of March

Professor Wayne Wooten

For March 2013, the Moon will be just south of Saturn at waning gibbous on March first, rising about 9 PM. The last quarter moon rises about midnight on March 4th. Sunday, March 10th finds us springing forward to CDT. It is also perihelion for Comet PANSTARRS, which may be prominent in the evening skies for the rest of the month as it passes closest to the sun and travels almost due north into our evening skies. More on that later! The new moon occurs on March 11th, and it will be interesting to see if the comet and waxing crescent moon are both visible just after sunset in west on March 12th. The moon passes 1.5 degrees south of Jupiter on March 18th, and is first quarter the following night. The Spring or Ver-

nal Equinox occurs at 6:01 AM CDT on March 20th. The Full Moon, the Grass Moon, occurs on March 27th. The waning gibbous moon passes 3.4 degrees south of Saturn on March 29th. Sunday, March 31st is Easter Sunday, early this year since the Paschal Full Moon occurred just after the Vernal Equinox, and the following Sunday is traditionally Easter Sunday.

It is a poor month to be observing the planets. Mercury, Venus, and Mars all lie too close to the sun for easy observing in March. Venus reaches superior conjunction, behind the Sun, on March 29th. Jupiter is bright and high overhead in Taurus at sunset as March begins, and now back in direct motion, moves eastward above the bright star Aldebaran by midmonth. Small scopes reveal its four large Galilean Moons, and

larger scopes show the belts and zones on the giant planet's disk, as well as the Great Red Spot, and even shadow transits as the moons pass in front of Jupiter and casting their shadows on the planet's rapidly rotating cloud tops. Finally, Saturn is still in the morning sky in Virgo, but will come to opposition in the evening sky on April 28th, so those who stay up late can observe it rising in the east about 10 PM in mid March, and about 9 PM at the end of the month.

Hopefully Comet PANSTARRS will become as bright as Comet Hale-Bopp did in the March and April skies of 1997. The finder chart is for the latitude of Pensacola, and shows the comet in evening twilight, about an hour after sunset from March 12-22. The comet's tail will be pointing away from the Sun, and the dust tail trailing to the left as the comet rounds the sun. The brightness or magnitude of the comet is quite unpredictable, and it may be brighter or fainter than in my chart, but the comet's position should be about right based on its now well established orbit. If it is as bright as first magnitude next to the crescent moon on March 12, as shown here, it will be a fine photo opportunity for anyone with a digital camera, tripod mounted, set in night shot mode. Even at second or third magnitude later in the month, its tail should be a nice object to observe with binoculars for the rest of March and into April. But an even brighter comet is heading toward us in 2013 as well. Some expect Comet ISON in the December morning skies to become the best and brightest comet seen by anyone alive today. So let's hope that PANSTARRS is a nice opening act for an even greater spectacle later this year!

The constellation Cassiopeia makes a striking W in the NW. South of Cassiopeia is Andromeda's hero, Perseus. Between him and Cassiopeia is the fine Double Cluster, faintly visible with the naked eye and two fine binocular objects in the same field. Perseus contains the famed eclipsing binary star Algol, where the Arabs imagined

the eye of the gorgon Medusa would lie. It fades to a third its normal brightness for six out of every 70 hours, as a larger but cooler orange giant covers about 80% of the smaller but hotter and thus brighter companion as seen from Earth. At Perseus' feet for the famed Pleiades cluster; they lie about 400 light years distant, and over 250 stars are members of this fine group. East of the seven sisters is the V of stars marking the face of Taurus the Bull, with bright orange Aldebaran as his eye. The V of stars is the Hyades cluster, older than the blue Pleiades, but about half their distance. Yellow Capella, a giant star the same temperature and color as our much smaller Sun, dominates the overhead sky in the northwest. It is part of the pentagon on stars making up Auriga, the Charioteer (think Ben Hur). Several nice binocular Messier open clusters are found in the winter milky way here. East of Auriga, the twins, Castor and Pollux highlight the Gemini; it is directly above us as darkness falls in early March. UWF alumni can associate the pair with Jason and the Golden Fleece legend, for they were the first two Argonauts to sign up on his crew of adventurers.

South of Gemini, Orion is the most familiar winter constellation, dominating the southern sky at dusk. The reddish supergiant Betelgeuse marks his eastern shoulder, while blue-white supergiant Rigel stands opposite on his west knee. Just south of the belt, hanging like a sword downward, is M-42, the Great Nebula of Orion, an outstanding binocular and telescopic stellar nursery. The bright diamond of four stars that light it up are the trapezium cluster, one of the finest sights in a telescope.

In the east are the hunter's two faithful companions, Canis major and minor. Procyon is the bright star in the little dog, and rises minutes before Sirius, the brightest star in the sky. Sirius dominates the SE sky as darkness falls. At 8 light years distance, Sirius is the closest star we can easily see with the naked eye from West Florida.

When Sirius is highest, along our

southern horizon look for the second brightest star, Canopus, getting just above the horizon and sparkling like an exquisite diamond as the turbulent winter air twists and turns this shaft of starlight, after a trip of about 200 years!

To the northeast, look for the bowl of the Big Dipper rising, with the top two stars, the pointers, giving you a line to find Polaris, the Pole Star. Look for Mizar-Alcor, a nice naked eye double star, in the bend of the big dipper's handle, rising by 7 PM at the start of March. If you take the pointers of the Big Dipper's bowl to the south, you are guided instead to the head of Leo the Lion rising in the east, looking much like the profile of the famed Sphinx. The bright star at the Lion's heart is Regulus, the "regal star". The folk wisdom that "March comes in like a Lion" probably refers to the head of Leo rising just after sunset in early March.

If you follow the handle of the Big Dipper to the south, by 9 PM you will be able to "arc to Arcturus", the brightest star of Spring and distinctly orange in color. Its color is an indication of its uniqueness. Its large speed and direction through the Milky Way suggests it was not formed with our Galaxy, but is a recent capture from the Sagittarius Dwarf Galaxy, a smaller satellite galaxy now being assimilated by our huge spiral galaxy. Many of its lost stars, like Arcturus, follow a band across the sky at about a 70 degree angle to our galactic plane. Arcturus is at the tail of kite shaped Bootes, the celestial bear driver chasing the two bears from his flocks.

By 9 PM, many more galaxies will be following as the Virgo Supercluster, just above Saturn now, rises in the east. This huge cluster of over a thousand galaxies is centered about 60 million light years away. The brightest star of Virgo, Spica, lies just east of the center of the cluster, and its rise just after sunset marks the time of year for spring planting in folklore. Time to get your peas in the ground. ...

March goes out like a lamb, not just from Easter tradition, but because Aries the Ram is setting in the west by the end of March. Many of our sayings and traditions have astronomical origins.

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## Farmers' Almanac

Mid-Atlantic Weather Watch: Snow in the northern part of the region, showers in the south (1,2,3,4) turning cloudy and windy (5,6,7,8,9,10,11). Rain with some snow in the north (12,13,14,15); fair and colder (16,17) with more snow and stormy weather with rain in the south (18,19). Fair and cold (20,21,22,23,24,25,26) with yet more snow or rain in the south (27,28) turning windy and quite cold (29,30,31).

Full Moon: March's Full Moon will occur on March 27th. Many Native American Tribes called it Sap Moon because the sap would start to rise and run at this time throughout the region. It also has been known Worm Moon because March's warmer temperatures often softened the earth just enough to allow earthworms

to begin burrowing out of the ground.

Special Notes: The Vernal Equinox will occur on Wednesday, March 20th and signals the arrival of Spring. Maryland Day falls on Monday, March 25th in 2013 and commemorates the landing of Cecil Calvert, the second Lord Baltimore and the first colonists on St. Clement's Island in 1634. The Maryland colonists held a special ceremony to give thanks for their safe arrival on that day. The king gave the colony to the Calvert family as a gift, on the conditions that the king was paid an annual rent of two arrowheads and that the colony must be named after his wife, Queen Henrietta Maria. It was called "Mary-Land" or Maryland, as it is known today. The celebration to commemorate this historic event

began in Maryland schools in 1903 and it was made an official state holiday in 1916. The day is traditionally celebrated with three days of fun, interactive, and educational programs, March 22nd, March 23rd, and 24th in and around the Annapolis and the So. Anne Arundel County areas. And don't forget to set your clocks one hour ahead when Daylight Savings starts on Sunday, March 10th at 2:00 AM EST.

The Garden: Get started early if the weather allows. As soon as your compost pile thaws, start to turn it with a fork as best you can. March is prime time for feeding shrubs and perennials that bloom in the Summer months. Try and plant your peas on St. Patrick's Day. For best selection, consider buying Summer bulbs like gladiola, cannas, irises, dahlias and lilies but wait until mid to late April to plant.

# Clean-up for your computer

Aysë Stenabaugh  
Jester's Computer Tutor

Many times computers will lock up, bog down, or just plain don't work right. Some people assume that they need a new computer without ever considering regular maintenance. We recommend a clean up once a year. Here at Jester's Computer Services we offer a clean-up special twice a year, Spring Clean-Up, (March) & fall, (September) to promote the importance of computer maintenance. Below is a list of what we do in a cleanup and why we do it to keep your computer running optimally.

What is a computer virus?

A computer virus is a computer program that can copy itself and infect a computer. The term "virus" is also commonly but erroneously used to refer to other types of malware, adware, and spyware programs that do not have the reproductive ability. A true virus can only spread from one computer to another (in some form of executable code) when its host is taken to the target computer; for instance because a user sent it over a network, on the Internet, or carried it on a removable medium such as a CD, or USB drive.

### Adware, Spyware, and Virus removal

Even if you are running an antivirus program, most computers that come into our shop have several viruses. Your antivirus may be doing a good job, but programs that you legitimately install may have bad software bundled along with it. Your antivirus will not stop you from installing software that you agree to install. Also, you may be running antivirus but it may not have protection against adware, spyware, or the worst of all: Root kits. Leaving viruses and other bad software on your system can be extremely dangerous.

Viruses left on computers have the possibility of:

- Using up valuable system resources causing your computer to slow significantly.
- Logging your keystrokes and passwords.
- Taking over your system and sending out spam.
- Causing system crashes and blue screens.
- Erasing all personal and system data leaving the hard drive blank.
- Wiping out your desktop icons.
- Corrupting the operating system.

### What about all those temporary files?

Programs create temporary files primarily for backup purposes. Many programs, such as those included with Microsoft Office, will save a temporary version of a file every few minutes while the original file is open. Then if you have not saved

the file and the program unexpectedly crashes or the computer shuts down, there will be a temporary file that was recently saved. Temp files are typically deleted automatically when the program is closed normally, but if the program quits unexpectedly, the temp files are not deleted.

### Remove all temporary internet files

Over time surfing the internet causes an accumulation of temporary internet files. While your web browser has the ability to clean out these files, it doesn't do a very good job of getting all temporary files.

Cleaning your temporary internet files can

- Save space on your hard drive.
- Help ensure you are viewing the most recent version of web-sites.

### I didn't install that!

Many programs are designed to start automatically when Windows starts. Software manufacturers often set their programs to open in the background, where you can't see them running, so they'll open right away when you click their icons. That's helpful for programs you use a lot, but for programs you rarely or never use, this wastes precious memory and slows down the time it takes Windows to finish booting up.

### Turn off programs that run in the background

You may notice that anytime you install a program it either asks you if you would like the program to load when the computer starts, or the program runs automatically when the computer starts up. Many times programs run in the background, which are not visible without viewing your task manager. The majority of the time computers have many unnecessary programs running when the computer boots.

Turning off programs that run in the background will:

- Lower the amount of time it takes to start the computer up.
- Allow you to be able to use the computer faster when it boots.
- Free up resources, speeding up the computer.

### Why are there so many updates and which ones do I need?

Most of us are aware of the little pop ups we get while on the computer asking us to make important updates. While they only take a few minutes to complete, many of us are guilty of postponing them or just ignoring them completely. But keeping up with these computer updates is actually very important when it comes to having a healthy computer. Here is a look at why computer updates are so important. One of the biggest and most im-



portant reasons why keeping up with computer updates is so important is because they help to keep our computer secure. While they may not directly say so, a lot of these updates have to do with updating our security software and ensuring our

computers are kept safe from any possible threats. Not updating or postponing these security updates can leave your computer vulnerable to things such as malware or computer viruses that can go in and steal important information.

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# Mike Woodham the reupholsterer

## Why reupholster?

Mike Woodhams

Food for thought: Why reupholster that old, worn living room chair? Imagine past that time worn skin to what it could be. You can see the value of giving it a new life. Perhaps it has sentimental value and has been handed down through the fami-

ly. Maybe you envision more of a custom look for your piece that buying new cannot provide. Or you may be concerned about the environment, looking to re-use and recycle.

There are many great advantages to reupholstery over the purchase of a new chair. You have a much larger selection



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of fabric, not just a few choices at a furniture store. Shopping for fabric can be done in your home, where it can be matched up with the décor of the room. Pieces can be customized to suit your personal taste and individual comfort level. Further more,

you won't be contributing to our landfills.

Let us take a brief look at what goes into reupholstering a chair.

Once you have made your fabric selection the chair is picked up and brought to my workshop. All the old fabric is re-

moved. The frame is checked, repaired and re-glued wherever needed.

I then turn my attention to the bottom.

Spring bottoms are retied and re-padded with high quality materials. The fabric is then cut out to size and style of the piece. It is then sewn into the seat deck, inside back, inside arms and outside using a special heavy duty sewing machine with a welt foot.

I start with re-constructing the chair deck, which is sewn in by hand. Inside arms are next, being padded out smooth. The back is put in, keeping in mind to match fabric pattern vertically and horizontally. Then the outsides are added.

Next the cushion is cut to fit the new seat, taking care to size it correctly with the amount of loft it will receive. It is sewn, new cushion fill is cut out of foam and wrapped in Dacron, and the cover is filled. A dust cover is then applied to the bottom of the chair to protect it.



In some cases, a skirt is cut, lined, sewn and attached at the base to clear carpet or a hardwood floor. I then touch up all wood surfaces.

The chair is either delivered, or can be picked up at my shop. This process is uniquely styled to each and every piece of furniture I upholster. Look at the photos of a wing chair I recently upholstered in a tavern check.

The first "Before" shot is the piece as I received it and as it was being used in a home.

The second "After" photo shows a brand new chair that has been transformed, revealing its beautiful classic lines. Having been given a second chance, it will now provide the owner with many more years of comfort.

If you have any upholstery needs contact Mike Woodham at 410-596-1935.

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# UPCOMING EVENTS

**FRIDAYS**

St Anthony Shrine & Our Lady of Mt. Carmel's "All You Can Eat" Fish Bakes Fridays. \$10/adults, \$5/children 4-12, Free 3 and Under. For more information call 301-447-2367.

St. Francis Xavier Parish's second annual Lenten Fish Frys at Xavier Center, 465 Table Rock Road, Gettysburg. For more information call 717-334-4048.

**March 1**

Catocton High School Safe & Sane' Crab Cake Dinner at the Vigilant Hose Co.

**March 2**

Elias Lutheran Church's Annual Ham, Turkey and Roast Beef Supper with Spring Bazaar. For more information call 301-447-6239.

**March 2 & 3**

Maple Sugaring at Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve. See article on Page 16 for more details Or call 717-642-5840 or visit www.strawberryhill.org.

**March 6 & 20**

Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve' Welcome to Our Neighbor Woods. An excellent opportunity for preschool-aged children to explore the wonders of nature on a bi-monthly basis. Created especially for budding naturalists. For more information visit www.strawberryhill.org or call 717-642-5840.

**March 8**

Elias Lutheran Church The Basement Coffee House Featuring Silver Lining Band. A Teen Ministry, but everyone's welcome and it's Free! Bring a friend and come on down. For more information call 301-447-6239,

**March 9**

Christ's Community Church's Easter Bazaar. Kids get a Easter picture, They can enjoy a scavenger hunt, and enjoy a kids craft for a suggested donation. Bake sale, homemade soup and silent auction. 303 W. Lincoln Ave. Emmitsburg. For more information call 717-321-5522 or visit www.cccaog.org.

**March 10**

Our Lady of Mount Carmel "All-You-Can Eat" Country Breakfast. For more information call 301-447-2367.

**March 16**

Fifth Annual Mountaintop Community Spring Fair at the Blue Ridge Mountain Fire and Rescue Co., Blue Ridge Summit. For more informa-

tion call 717-642-5645 .

Taneytown Lion's Club's 2013 Spring All You Can Eat Country style pancake breakfast. Taneytown Fire Department's Carnival Grounds on Memorial Drive. This breakfast will benefit the many Lion's programs, including Taneytown Little League & community sports programs For more information call 410-751-1977.

**March 17, 23, 24**

Cunningham Fall State Park's Orienteering classes. Please make your reservation by calling the Visitor Center at (301) 663-9388.

**March 19**

Mother Seton School Science Fair. Check out the Science Fair, where students put forth their most interesting and creative scientific projects. For more information. 301-447-3161 or visit www.mothersetonschool.org.

**March 21**

Creagerstown St. John's Lutheran Church's Slippery Pot-Pie & Schultz's Deli Sandwich Sale For more call 301-898-5167.

**March 22 & 23**

Graceham Moravian Church's Turkey and Oyster Supper at the church, 8231-A Rocky Ridge Road. For more information call the church at 301-271-2379.

**March 23**

The Blue Ridge Summit Free Library annual Story Hour and Easter Egg Hunt for Kids from the ages of 1 to 12. Ca-

dette Girl Scout Troop 80882 will be assisting in the morning's activities.

**March 24**

Annual Knights of Columbus Easter Egg Hunt, Emmitsburg Community Park, ballfield #3. For more information call 717-642-1247

For more details on these and other events visit the Upcoming Events section of Emmitsburg.net.

**JAY C. GRAFF MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Saturday April 13, 2013 1:30 PM \$100  
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[www.facebook.com/groups/JayCGraffMemorial](http://www.facebook.com/groups/JayCGraffMemorial)




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# MOUNT ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY

## MILLER FAMILY PROVIDES LEAD GIFT FOR NATIONAL SHRINE GROTTO VISITORS CENTER



Emmitsburg, Maryland – It was a night that changed Richard P. Miller's life forever. In 1974, Miller, then a senior at Mount St. Mary's, was driving back to campus after working a double shift as a waiter at a local restaurant. But he never made it back.

Miller was involved in a horrific accident that night along a secluded back road — trapped beneath his overturned car for more than three hours. As he waited for help to arrive, he drifted in and out of consciousness. During moments when his thoughts were clear, he began taking stock of his life. "I saw the world around me differently," says Miller, who faced a long and arduous recovery. "I was so grateful I was a student at a school like the Mount, where people care and support and encourage one another."

To this day, the Mount and the National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes on campus hold special memories for Miller — who proposed to his wife, Mary Lee, there 38 years ago — and the couple, along with daughters Kristen and Heather, are frequent visitors to the national shrine. Recently, the University received the lead gift from the Miller family to name the visitors center currently under construction at the Grotto.

"The Grotto is a place of healing, prayer and serenity," Miller said. "It is a place where we have always found comfort in times of need, a place where we feel very close to the Blessed Mother and a very special place to pray."

When it opens to the public in June, the Richard and Mary Lee Miller Family Visitors Center will serve more than 400,000 visitors who visit the Grotto each year. The 4,000-square-foot facility will house administrative offices, a gallery, gift shop, and museum depicting the history of the Grotto — the oldest known American replica of the Lourdes Shrine in France.

"The generosity of the Miller family enhances not only the historic landscape of our blessed Grotto but also creates a glorious space for the community," said University President Thomas H. Powell. "We thank Richard and Mary Lee for their gift and their on-going commitment to the Mount."

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Instant Admissions Saturday

Saturday, March 2, 9 a.m.-Noon  
Frederick Campus, 5350 Spectrum Drive  
Join us for breakfast and meet one-on-one with an academic advisor. Bring your official or unofficial transcripts and you may be able to be apply to the University on the spot! For more information visit — [www.msmary.edu/instantadmission](http://www.msmary.edu/instantadmission)

### Celtic Concert: Enter the Haggis

Thursday, March 7, 7 p.m. Knott Auditorium  
Frederick County Public Libraries Emmitsburg and Thurmont Branches, in partnership with the C. Burr Artz Trust, The Town of Emmitsburg and Mount St. Mary's, presents a Celtic concert featuring Enter the Haggis, the popular roots rock band from Toronto. Concert is free but tickets are required. Visit [www.fcpl.org](http://www.fcpl.org) for more information.



### Simple Scores

Thursday, March 14, 7:30 p.m., Mount Café  
Guest artist D. Edward Davis and Mount faculty member Dr. Mark Carlson will present a program of music drawn from musical scores that any audience can understand. The scores will be projected while the performers turn the scores into music! Join our guest, faculty and students in the informal setting of the Mount Café. Free Admission

### Faculty Concert

Saturday, March 16, 7:30 p.m., Knott Auditorium  
Mount music faculty Dr. Mark Carlson will present portions of an exciting new work being written by composer D. Edward Davis. This special performance of "passing lands," a concert-length "one man show" for euphonium player and electronics incorporates elements of monologue and theater and concludes a short residency by the composer. The performer and composer will introduce the piece and give a glimpse of their creative process. Free Admission

### Saint Hildegard of Bingen

Monday, March 18, 7-9 p.m., Knott Auditorium  
Opera Singer Linn Maxwell brings to light the extraordinary life of Saint Hildegard in her one-woman play, Hildegard of Bingen and the Living Light. Saint Hildegard was a 12th century German writer, composer and prophet. On May 10, 2012 she was canonized and on October 7, 2012, she was named a Doctor of the Church by Pope Benedict XVI.



### Spring Mainstage Production: The Eumenides

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, March 21-23, 8 p.m.  
Sunday, March 24, 2 p.m.  
Lynne & Joseph Horning Theater, Delaplaine Fine Arts Center  
The concluding play of the only surviving Greek tragic trilogy, The Eumenides presents the trial of Orestes for the murder of his mother, Clytemnestra. That is not all that is at stake in the play, however, as the outcome of Orestes' trial will affect all of Greek civilization. Athena must choose—find Orestes innocent and acknowledge blood lust and revenge as acceptable, or find him guilty and condemn a fragile peace to possible destruction. Tickets \$7.

### Eastern Connecticut State University Chamber Singers

Saturday, March 23, 7:30 p.m.,  
Chapel of the Immaculate Conception  
Join us for a concert by this wonderfully talented chamber choir (with whom our own Chorale toured Montreal in 2012!) in the beautiful setting of the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception

### Piccadilly Circus

Sunday, March 24, Knott Arena  
Shows at 1 p.m., 3:30 p.m. and 6 p.m.  
Piccadilly Circus brings their new amazing show called BLAMMO! You'll see Cossack Warriors on horseback, the famous White Tiger Spectacular, the Motorcycle Nitro Gladiators race around the Giant Steel Globe, families can visit the free petting zoo and bottle feed baby camels, plus daring aerialists, contortionists, jugglers, acrobats and clowns. For more information and to buy tickets, visit [www.thefuncircus.com](http://www.thefuncircus.com)



### Simon Gabriel Bruté Student Art Exhibition

Exhibition: March 6-April 18  
Opening Reception: Tuesday, March 26, 5-7 p.m.  
Williams Art Gallery, Delaplaine Fine Arts Center  
The Simon Gabriel Bruté Student Art Exhibition is an annual juried event open to all current students at the Mount. This exhibition encompasses all mediums including painting, printmaking/drawing/design, mixed media/sculpture, and book arts.

### Mid-Semester Concert

Wednesday, March 26, 7:30 p.m., Knott Auditorium

## JOIN US FOR EASTER WEEKEND SERVICES AT THE NATIONAL SHRINE GROTTO OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

### Good Friday (Friday, March 29)

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Confessions  
Noon Stations of the Cross (Outdoors)  
1 p.m. Homily on The Seven Last Words of Christ  
3 p.m. Liturgy of Good Friday—Music by Jan Sadowski and A Cappella Cattolica



### Easter Sunday (Sunday, March 31)

7:30 a.m. Mass  
Noon Mass



## Information Sessions

Attend one of the following sessions to learn how you can finish your undergraduate degree or earn a master's at the Mount's Frederick Campus. Programs are designed for working adults with accelerated evening classes offered year-round.

March 13, 5-7 pm  
MBA & MHA

March 14, 5-7 pm  
Government Contracting

March 18, 5-7 pm  
Criminal Justice

March 20, 5-7 pm  
MED & MAT

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