

Emmitsburg NEWS-JOURNAL

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

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Rosensteel inducted into VHC Hall of Fame

The 134th Annual Banquet of the Vigilant Hose Company (VHC) was held on January 6 at the VHC Activities Building. Each year the VHC selects one member to receive the company's highest award: the Hall of Fame Award. This award is presented to an individual who has made lasting contributions to the department, community and the region. In January Robert Rosensteel, Jr. was inducted into the VHC's Hall of Fame.

This year marked the first time the Hall of Fame Award has been given to two individuals within the same family. Rosensteel's father, Robert Rosensteel, Sr., was inducted into the VHC's Hall of Fame in 2009. Rosensteel's son, Derek, is an active fire officer with the VHC department and serves as a career firefighter with Frederick County Fire & Rescue.

Rosensteel, Jr. has been an active and dedicated member since joining the department in August 1982. He earned the Chief's Award in 1998 and 2002 and was honored as the Outstanding Member of the Year in 2001. During his time in the department, Rosensteel has served on numerous committees

and positions including the Small Equipment Committee for Rescue Squad 6, VHC Assistant Secretary in 1998 and 1999, an operations Lieutenant from 1998 through 2003 and again from 2012 through 2014, Captain in 2001 and 2005, Assistant Chief in 2002 and Chief from 2004 through 2006.

While serving on the Small Equipment Committee, Rosensteel was a leader in an industry breakthrough when he began using the Internet to exchange photos with the vehicle's manufacturer. This was the first time that a fire department in the United States received all onboard tools and equipment at its station and labeled every item while also training its personnel on proper use. Rosensteel oversaw the transportation of the equipment to the manufacturer who mounted everything on the unit. The experience was so successful that the manufacturer offered this capability to other customers, which was a first in large apparatus construction anywhere.

Another great accomplishment was the initiation of the "I Am Responding" alerting technology for the VHC department. This is



VHC's 2018 Hall of Fame Award recipient Bob Rosensteel, Jr. and his father, Bob Rosensteel, Sr. who received the award in 2009.

an important tool for providing emergency messaging and general information to VHC personnel. This system played an instrumental role in the early moments of two devastating fires in Emmitsburg in December 2015, when normal countywide emergency communications systems experienced two critical failures that resulted in a lack of notification to neighboring communities. 'I Am Responding' alerted VHC personnel within seconds.

Not only was Rosensteel an active member of the VHC, but he was also an active responding member of the Emmitsburg Volunteer Ambulance Company. He re-wrote all Map Books used onboard every

vehicle, which included hydrant and water supply locations, unusual street addresses and accessibility challenges, as well as building sprinkler and standpipe connection locations. Rosensteel's design for graphics also came into play with the outward appearance, including striping, color scheme, numbering and logos, of emergency vehicles. His designs are presently being used on Ambulances 68 and 69.

Considered one of the VHC's most technically competent members in its history, Rosensteel served with distinction for many years, and his dedication and service to the department will always be looked upon with the highest regard.

Mount Hope Maple Madness coming soon

These cold winter days practically call for hot off the griddle pancakes smothered in fresh, warm maple syrup for hearty weekend breakfasts. Partner these delicious pancakes with local craft vendors and maple sugaring tours and you've got a morning full of fun for the whole family. Mount Hope Maple Madness has finally arrived!

Contrary to popular belief, the first sign of spring is not the appearance of a robin, but is noted as the running of sap through Maple trees, and currently Maple sugaring is kicking into high gear in this area. This year, Maple Madness will take place during the weekends of February 24 and March 3.

This annual event is a very important part of Strawberry Hill's year at the Preserve. The pancake breakfast helps to raise money for the environmental education programs, and offers an opportunity to open up one of the most popular group programs to individuals and families. Strawberry Hill serves more than 6,000 school children annually, providing important hands-on learning experiences. They work hard to keep field trip fees low enough to be accessible by

public schools, and fundraisers like Mount Hope Maple Madness are a means to that goal.

As always, the Pancake Breakfast at Camp Eder is offered between 7:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.; the cost for an adult is \$8, \$4 for a child, and children under 3 eat for free. After breakfast, visitors can visit local art and craft vendors, then take a maple sugaring tour at Strawberry Hill from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Tours leave Camp Eder, located at 914 Mount Hope Road, Fairfield, every 45 minutes, with the last tour leaving at 12 p.m. The cost is \$8 for an adult and \$5 for children. A "sweet deal" package is offered which includes breakfast and a tour. Tickets for this package are \$12 for adults and \$7 for children.

Mount Hope Maple Madness began more than a decade ago as a small pancake breakfast to raise money for environmental education. Over the years Strawberry Hill has been able to develop their maple-sugaring program and build a strong connection with Camp Eder and as a result, the pancake breakfast has grown into a festival that serves hundreds of visitors each day. Be sure to stop by and enjoy a



Once again February and March will bring maple syrup festivals to Adams and Frederick Counties.

delicious and fun-filled morning!

If you won't be able to make Mount Hope Maple Madness, don't fret because you can attend the 48th Annual Maple Syrup Festival right across the Maryland line in Frederick County. This event is held March 10 - 11 and 17 - 18. The festival takes place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Houck Lake Area of Cunningham Falls State Park. Food will be served including pancakes,

sausage, sausage sandwiches and hot dogs and Maple syrup products will be sold. A maple syrup making demonstration will start every hour and continue throughout the day. Kids can enjoy free games, stories and crafts in a large, heated tent and local bands will provide live music. All money collected at the festival weekends goes to the Friends of Cunningham Falls State Park to support the park.

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EMMITSBURG NEWS

Town discusses storm water pollution efforts

At the end of last year, the Emmitsburg Town Council was briefed on the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS-4) permit issued by the State of Maryland for municipalities to protect and improve water quality in their local streams. The permit is intended to reduce and eliminate storm water pollution into the Chesapeake Bay. The MS-4 permit creates guidelines for the municipalities involved but requires ongoing, continued reporting and documentation by towns and municipalities in order to remain in compliance with the permit.

The MS-4 permit operates as a point-based system. The first phase of the program includes the documentation of activities implemented by the town that fall into the following categories: Public Education and Outreach, Public Involvement and Participation, Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination, Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Control, Post Construc-

tion Management, Pollution and Good Housekeeping. Municipalities earn points by implementing programs and activities that comply with the preceding list.

Last year, the town received points for activities such as: selling compost bins, having a Green Team, completing the Emmitsburg Comprehensive Plan, and offering free literature to residents on storm water management, just to name a few. In the future, the town plans on having Town staff take Maryland Department of the Environment's Responsible Personnel Certification, collaborating with Frederick County on construction management practices, providing a summary of storm water pond maintenance, documenting good housekeeping practices, and verifying a pollution prevention plan.

In the next phase of the program, the Town will need to undertake projects to reduce the amount of impervious area in the town, and/or reduce the amount

of storm water runoff. The Town may need to hire engineers in this phase of compliance to help determine and assess the proper avenues to reduce storm water pollution. In the meantime, the town can conduct projects such as planting trees, providing inspection training for staff, conducting ordinance changes to allow alternative types of paving materials, and inspecting storm water ponds and storm water inlets. As activities are planned, there will be a need for volunteers in the community.

For now, a tree planting initiative is in the works and further information and dates will be provided as they are announced. Planting trees can help reduce the amount of storm water pollution, the erosion of streams, and improve the water quality in local streams. The town will be asking for volunteers on this project in the future, so those who may be interested should keep an eye out for volunteer postings.

\$133,751 FY17 budget transfers approved

Emmitsburg Board of Commissioners discussed the allocation of overflow revenue from the FY17 budget to capital projects in the FY18 budget during the January meeting. The town had additional revenue funds in the amount of \$133,751 in the FY17 general funds, and needed to be moved to capital projects funds for FY18. Of the estimated \$165,000 worth of projects that need to be completed, town staff recommended a potential break down of fund transfers to ongoing and new projects in 2018.

Town Manager Cathy Willets suggested a \$66,300 transfer for the reconstruction of the community pool. The pool renovation was initially estimated to cost \$424,000, but there are additional costs that have been incurred throughout the renovation. These costs include: the installation of lights inside the pool, the repair

of the underground spring that was found during demolition, the construction of an additional wall in the pump room and additional electrical work due to the corrosion of the current electrical panels. In addition, the town has to make some repairs that fall outside the pool reconstruction in order to be allowed to open the pool. These repairs include: a new roof over the pool house, which costs approximately \$17,000, the installation of a new exhaust fan, extending the height of the fence that borders Christ Community Church, and fixing the retaining wall along West Lincoln. Good news is that the pool contractor, Make N' Waves, informed town staff that the pool is actually ahead of schedule for May completion, just in time for the summer season.

Approximately \$17,000 was recommended to be allocated to the

dog park, which currently only has \$4,890 worth of funds remaining. As Willets explained, the initial projected cost of the dog park was not truly realistic, so the town wasn't able to apply for sufficient grant funds to help minimize the costs. Items that still need to be funded include: mulch to cover the entire area (\$6,000), concrete pads at the entrance of the gates to comply with ADA accessibility, signage (\$1,000), benches (\$5,200), three pet waste stations (\$1,300), the installation of the water line to the dog park (\$3,300), two dog drinking fountains (\$4,000) and a leash post. Willets told the Board that the initial fundraising effort only brought in about \$1,500, but town staff will be making a second push at fundraising in hopes of procuring additional donations. If the town raises significant funds through their fundraising effort, the leftover money in this fund can be moved elsewhere at a later time.

Other projects include maintenance and minor road projects such as the \$15,000 construction of an extension to the salt shed in town, repairing the potholes that run along Paul's Pit Stop, which will cost \$5,500, painting and future maintenance costs for the town's rental house on 140 South Seton (\$6,526), and the \$4,500

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water damage repair to the maintenance office on 22 East Main Street. Willets also suggested the Board set aside \$8,500 for a project still in the works which may turn one of the narrow alleys on East Main Street into a sidewalk allowing pedestrian access to the new Seton Center. This project is a future budget item that will be discussed in the upcoming months, but for now, the \$8,500 was set aside for this fund. Additionally, \$10,000 was

allocated to the GIS program specifically for mapping storm drains, outfalls and storm water management ponds. This mapping is one of the items the town must adhere to in order to keep in compliance with the MS-4 permit.

The Board voted to allocate all funds as suggested, only stipulating that staff hold off on purchasing the leash post and only purchase four benches for the dog park.

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FAIRFIELD/CARROLL VALLEY NEWS

Liberty “reorganizes,” but remains the same

Liberty Township voted to re-appoint the same people to a majority of the township positions during the January Board of Supervisors re-organizational meeting. Residents have been asking for change in the township, and this meeting could have provided an opportunity to do so, but Supervisors chose to maintain the same people in their respective positions for the 2018 year.

John Bostek was re-appointed President of the Board and Robert Jackson was re-appointed to the Vice President position. All three Supervisors unanimously voted in support of these appointments. Current Secretary Wendy Peck was re-appointed to the com-

combined position of Secretary and Treasurer while Supervisor Jackson was appointed as the alternate for this position. Residents have been questioning the legitimacy of keeping these duties combined, and have been asking the Board to separate them, after seeing the mayhem created by past Secretary/Treasurer LeeEsta Shafer. Supervisor Jackson said that the township would have to hire an additional employee if they were to split the duties, and the Board felt as though they didn't have the financial means to do so right now. Peck was also appointed as the Chief Administrative Officer for pension plans.

Brian Arentz was re-appointed as

Roadmaster, and Mickey Barlow was re-appointed as the part-time road crew member. Police Chief Brand Briggs was re-appointed to his position as well. The Township chose to continue with the services of Land & Sea for zoning services, KPI Technology for Engineering services, York Adams Tax Bureau for the tax-collecting agency, and Smith Elliot Kearns & Company for auditing services.

The new appointment made during the meeting was Solicitor John Lisko of Waynesboro. Lisko was appointed in replacement of prior Solicitor John Phillips, who resigned from his position in the fall. Lisko was appointed as Solicitor across the different township

Committees and the Board of Supervisors, while Zachary Mills was appointed as the alternate Solicitor. The brand new Citizens Advisory Committee also received its first three appointments: Cindy Arentz, Sherri Kipe and Bob McCalhost. There are still two positions open on the committee for anyone who may be interested.

Later in the meeting, residents questioned the new Solicitor about the forensic audit. Residents want to make sure the stolen monies will continue to be pursued. “So much money was misappropriated and the public is disappointed that it's going to be swept under the rug allowing LeeEsta to get away with it,” stated resident Donna

Powers. Residents want to be ensured that they will receive updates when they become available. Lisko noted that he wasn't sure what the Board's decision was in concern to pursuing the stolen money, however, he wanted the Board to be cautious when speaking about it for fear of potential litigation if they should say too much.

As it currently stands, the township has filed a bond against the bond company, who are in the process of reviewing it. If the bond company doesn't choose to pursue it, the decision will come back to the township to decide if they wish to file a claim against LeeEsta. Barlow and Jackson both agreed that they wish to get as much of the township's money back as possible. For now, they have to wait on the bond company's decision before going forward.

Carroll Valley sees decrease in crime rate

Carroll Valley Borough's Police Chief Richard Hileman was proud to report that crime in Carroll Valley saw an overall decrease in 2017.

In 2017 the police department responded to 2,213 calls to service. He noted this as an 8.1% decrease in call volume from last year. Of the calls that were received, a majority related to residents calling for information, either to report suspicious people or activity, or just notifying the police about a concern. Other calls included animal complaints,

alarms, warrant searches and assistance to fire and EMS emergencies. Of these calls, there were 148 uniform crime reports, which was a 22% decrease from prior years. Of these crime reports, 80 were filed as part 1, which is a 25% decrease from last year, and the remaining 68 reports were filed as part 2 minor offenses, showing a 19% decrease. Twenty-four of the part 1 offenses occurred at Ski Liberty.

The police report also showed that the criminal clearance rate for major crimes in the Carroll Valley Po-

lice Department is 55%, which is well over the state average of 32%. If the Ski Liberty offenses were taken out of the equation, then the department is actually seeing a 71% clearance rate for major instances. As explained by Chief Hileman, crime related occurrences that take place at Ski Liberty almost always involve a visitor from outside Carroll Valley committing crime, and then vacating the Borough.

706 citations, both traffic and non-traffic, were issued in 2017. This is a 19% decrease from 2016.

Of these citations, 271 were traffic related, which is 26% lower than the year prior.

In other Carroll Valley news, Borough Manager David Hazlett asked the Council to approve the contract for a new office at the Sewer Treatment Facility. The current office and laboratory has been slowly deteriorating, however, Borough staff were hoping to get the trailer through the winter. Unfortunately, one of the pipes burst and caused the entire floor to become unstable and dangerous.

Hazlett presented the Council with a twelve-month contract to rent an office from ModSpace. The contract is for \$4,326.92, which is approximately \$280 per month, but does not include the cost for electrician fees to connect the electric to the office. The money would be coming out of the sewer funds, so an adjustment will need to be made to the spending funds for this department in the near future. However, this would be a short-term solution to a problem that needs immediate attention.

Council unanimously voted to approve the contract as presented noting the unknown additional cost of electrician fees.

Hickory Bridge may see summer completion

The Hickory Bridge Road Bridge has been in need of repair for years, and may now finally see its rehab this summer.

The bridge, which lies on both Franklin and Hamiltonban townships, initially received attention in 2013, when both townships entered into an agreement to split the costs of having an engineering study completed. The initial cost of repairs ranged from \$26,600 - \$36,934, but all proposals were turned down. Three years later another study was done and the estimated cost ranged from \$93,000 - \$116,000. The project was bid out at that time, but only one bid was received, and it was well over the estimated cost, coming in at \$149,000.

Both townships rejected the single bid, regrouped and came up with

three viable options. They could do the project in-house, and bid for materials, they could re-bid the project again in the fall in hopes of receiving more bidders at a potentially lower cost, or they could build a different style bridge. At the time, both townships discussed that completing the project in-house would be doable and could be cost effective. However, Brandon Guiher, the Project Engineer, recommended the project be bid out again in the fall to see what kind of response it may receive.

After bidding the project out again this past fall, both townships received more responses, but all still came in over the original estimated cost. The lowest bid received was \$137,706, and in December, Hamiltonban Township voted to accept the bid, pending Franklin Township's approval.

Franklin Township Supervisors proposed constructing a box culvert at an approximate cost of \$95,785. This project would not be done in-house, but would be outsourced to another company. Hamiltonban Township Supervisors agreed that they would not wish to see the project done in-house due to staff shortages and liability concerns. The finished bridge would be a two-lane bridge that would span about twenty-four feet in width and would need to have new guardrails installed. The new bridge would be completed faster than the originally proposed bridge plan, ideally only taking about five weeks to complete. Both boards agreed that the ideal timeline for completion of this project would be this summer, after school is out of session.

Hamiltonban Township Solici-

tor Matthew Battersby recommended Franklin Township draw up an inter-municipal agreement to be brought back to Hamiltonban in the near fu-

ture. A formal scope of services and engineer fees were also requested. The approval of the \$137,706 bid by CriLon Corp. was rescinded by Hamiltonban Township, and Franklin Township formally rejected the bid.

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THURMONT NEWS

Thurmont forms Addiction Commission

Thurmont recently formed a Drug Commission that is geared toward helping with the opioid and addiction problem Thurmont is facing. Of course, Thurmont is not alone, as many small towns locally, and across the country are struggling with an increase in opioid addiction problems. Thurmont Commissioner Martin Burns decided it was time to form an official commission that would help combat this issue.

The idea of forming a commission of this kind came after Burns attended an addiction program at Catocin High School in April, which was followed by a meeting about a week later. During these meetings, Burns noted that he heard and saw individuals who used the loss of their loved ones to establish outreach and programs. As observed, each individual wanted to honor his or her loved one who lost the battle with addiction in-

stead of creating a singular organization to address the problem. With this in mind, Burns moved to create a group that would meet to discuss and work on ideas to help with the opioid crisis.

Burns took this idea back to the Mayor and Board of Commissioners later in April, and in May asked them to establish an Addiction Commission, which would be fully sanctioned by the town. By forming this Commission, the group gained instant "credibility" as a town entity that would allow them to channel ideas, apply for grants, represent the town and its residents and assist other groups. The formation of the Commission was supported 100% by the Mayor and Board of Commissioners.

The first meeting of the Addiction Commission was held on August 10. Of the residents who stepped up to serve on this commission, some were

already involved in other addiction groups, some lost family and friends to addiction, and others had never been involved in a group of this kind or witnessed addiction. Current members include: Chairman, Jay Churchill, PhD.; Co-Chairman and Chairman of the Prevention & Outreach Pillar, Mike Randall; youth representative, Gage Randall; Chairman of the Education & Awareness Pillar, Ed Schildt; Chairman of the Support & Recovery Pillar, Myra Derbyshire, PhD.; Rachel Hubbard; and town liaison Commissioner Burns.

Within the Commission there are three Pillars (Education & Awareness, Support & Recovery, and Prevention & Outreach), each of which have monthly meetings and under their individual pillar address the issues and bring those to the TAC monthly meeting for guidance and discussion. Members of the Com-

mission hope to use their knowledge, skills, talents and passion to bring addiction awareness to everyone. Losing loved ones to addiction can happen to anyone, so it's important for everyone to understand what signs to look for, where to go if help is needed, and where to receive support for those who are seeking it.

The Commission has already held the first Narcan training in Thurmont. Approximately 20-30 people were trained and then took free doses home. Burns mentioned that it is his goal to have a dose of Narcan in every home because it truly is lifesaving. Narcan immediately reverses the effect of an opioid overdose by blocking the receptors in the brain. With the epidemic growing, it is important to provide families with the knowledge and resources to help combat the problem.

Monthly Addiction Commission meetings are held on the sec-

ond Thursdays of each month at 6 p.m. at the Thurmont town hall. The next Education & Awareness pillar meeting will be held on February 15 at the Thurmont Carnival Grounds, but for a full listing of meeting dates, email educationpillarTAC@gmail.com. The next Prevention & Outreach pillar meeting is on February 19 at 6:30 p.m. at the Thurmont Library. For more information on future meetings, email preventionpillarTAC@gmail.com. The Support & Recovery pillar will be scheduling a date to meet towards the end of February at the Thurmont Library. For more information on this pillar, email recoverypillartac@gmail.com.

All residents interested in attending meetings are welcome to join. For more information about the Addiction Commission, visit <https://www.facebook.com/ThurmontAddictionCommission/>.

Thurmont news-briefs...

Mayor Pro-tem elected

The Thurmont Board of Commissioners voted to appoint a Mayor Pro-tem during the January Town Board of Commissioners meeting. The role of Mayor Pro-tem is to serve as the presiding officer during Board of Commissioners meeting exclusively; the appointed Commissioner does not have the authority of the Mayor out-

side of the meetings. The Pro-tem takes the place of the Mayor if he should be sick or otherwise incapacitated for an extended period of time.

Commissioner Bill Buehrer served in this position for the past four years, and was nominated again this year. However, Commissioner Wes Hamrick, who has not served in this role

yet, was also nominated and ultimately received the unanimous vote. He will serve as Mayor Pro-tem for the next term. "I know you'll do a great job," said Mayor Kinnaird in response to Hamrick's appointment.

Board discusses potential County CIP's

During the January 9 Town

meeting, Commissioners discussed prospective Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) for the upcoming fiscal year. Last year was the first year Thurmont participated, and was fortunate enough to receive a \$100,000 budget line item for the Moser Road sidewalk project. This project replaced the sidewalks from Frederick Road to the Thurmont Regional Library.

Thurmont's Chief Administrative Officer, Jim Humerick, noted that the Frederick Road Bridge is in need of some repair. An inspection was completed last year and the estimated cost for the repair to the bridge is \$32,000. Some of the work to this bridge can be completed in house, but Humerick still recommended submitting the project for county assistance.

Mayor John Kinnaird made mention of Carroll Street improvements that could be made. Carroll Street is in desperate need of new blacktop, and seeing as this road provides heavy truck access to Route 15, it could pose as a good possibility for county funding. Commissioner Martin Burns cited concern that Carroll Street improvements may appear as a town municipal problem, and the coun-

ty may view this as lacking interest outside Thurmont. Instead, Burns suggested the Board consider finishing the curb and gutter in front of the Library. As it stands right now, without the curb and gutter, the project appears unfinished, and even though this may not be a financially large project, it may be worthwhile.

Nu-Way Cleaners comes to Thurmont

On January 20 a ribbon cutting was held for the newest business in Thurmont, Nu-Way Cleaners. Located at 12 East Main Street beside Thurmont Bar & Grill, Nu-Way Cleaners offers home pick-up and drop-off service along with an onsite seamstress. Nu-Way Cleaners is offering a January through March Special: 3 for 2 Special on any dry cleaning. The least expensive item is free. This special does not apply to rush orders, leather, or household items. They can be reached at 240-288-7163 for pick-up, delivery, or for questions on alterations and repair. Nu-Way Cleaners currently has locations at Ft. Detrick, and in Greencastle, Chambersburg, Carlisle, and two locations in Waynesboro. Thurmont is proud to have their business now located in town.

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100 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

February 1918

February 1

Emmitsburg Had Its Share

Like other towns in the county that were snowbound during the past week, Emmitsburg has had its share of trouble. No mail left or was received at the local Post Office for two days as the Emmitsburg Road was drifted in; state and county roads were banked high with snow; sidewalks were practically impassable for hours, and leaking roofs were the rule rather than the exception. The storm was generally the same throughout the county, and similar, if not worse, conditions prevailed and regular traffic was suspended.

Snow and the extreme cold weather have brought game birds and rabbits into the borough limits looking for food. Partridges have come into town stables in search of grain, and many rabbits have gotten their morning and evening meals from kindly disposed housewives.

Topper And Huston Arrive In France

Mr. Charles Topper received word this week from his son, Quincy Topper, that he had safely arrived in France. Mr. Topper enlisted in the regular Army last April. The letter stated that he had reached the other side somehow during the holidays and that he was well. Mrs. Thomas Rowe has received word that her son, First Lieut. Miles Houston has arrived safely in France. Lieut. Houston has recently been transferred to the aviation Corps as an observer.

New Dentist For Emmitsburg

Responding to the intense demand for a resident dentist in Emmitsburg - Dr. Softon having given up his practice - Dr. Sweeney, DDS, of Baltimore, has decided to locate here. Dr. Sweeney was in Emmitsburg last week making tentative arrangements and expects to be here on February 18. Later on, if the practice warrants it, he will take up his residence and open a permanent office.

New Church At Mount St. Mary's

With the \$60,000 provided for Mount St. Mary's College in the will of the late Dr. Charles Hoffman, it is understood that the college authorities will build a new church in the spring. Relatives contested Dr. Hoffman and the court upheld for the plaintiffs. However, the Court of Appeals overruled the lower court and awarded the sum to the college in accordance with the intent of the Testator.

February 8

Cut Wood To Save Coal

In view of the serious coal shortage, the State Fuel Administrator has appointed a Wood Fuel Committee to stimulate firewood production and urged the increased use of wood. The Fuel Administration is of the opinion that in all probability the coal shortage will be as serious next winter as it is now, and there is every reason why the farmer and woodlot owner should provide a full supply of firewood now for next winter's use. There is not enough coal to go around, and the communities which are within reach of wood supplies will be expected to use wood whenever possible and save coal for the industries and larger cities where wood cannot be used.

Serious Accident

On Sunday night, while Mrs. McClellan Wills and Mr. John Clark were sledding, the horse that they were driving became frightened in front of the home of Mr. Jacob Freeze, throwing the occupants from the sleigh. Mrs. Wills was thrown against a post fence with considerable force; her forehead was badly cut and bruised. Mr. Clark escaped without injury. The damage to the sled was slight. The horse, however, was severely injured and Dr. Brokaw was called to look at it. He decided the best course of action was to shoot it, which he promptly did.

Damage Done By Melting Snow

Owing to the heavy snows, which have fallen this winter and the melting of ice on the roofs, much damage has been done to properties. It would be difficult to make any estimate of the losses because of the inability to ascertain the number of buildings affected.

Deaths

Jacob Lewis Troxel, a well-known resident of the county, died at his home at Graceham from paralysis having suffered a stroke about three weeks ago from which he never regained consciousness. He was aged 70 years. Mr. Troxel was born near Graceham and spent his entire life in that vicinity.

Mrs. John McGlaughlin died suddenly at her home in Fairfield on Monday. She had just come into the house with an arm full of wood. As she laid it down, she fell over. Death was almost instantaneous. She was aged 75 years.

Blizzard Brings Worst Cold Spell Of The Season

The blizzard that prevailed Sunday night, all day Monday and continued until Tuesday night was the worst cold spell of the season. No trains left Emmitsburg from Monday until Tuesday. A train on the Emmitsburg Road between Motter's Station and Rocky Ridge was caught in a drift Monday morning and was unable to move until Wednesday evening and then it required the aid of the two Western Maryland engines and 30 men to shovel the tracks open. On Tuesday morning the thermometer registered 7° below zero. The state road leading from Emmitsburg to Thurmont was blockaded for about 1 1/2 miles from Emmitsburg, the banks of snow being about ten feet deep.

February 15

Red Cross Secures Emerald Hall

Notice is hereby given that the local Red Cross unit has secured the Emerald Hall for the use of its members. The hall will be open on Monday, Wednesday and Fri-



Next time you complain about how long it takes to get the roads cleared, be thankful you didn't live in 1918 when the roads were cleared by hand!

day afternoons after two o'clock of each week for the purpose of distributing work. The place will be properly heated so that members can spend their time pleasantly and profitably.

Emmitsburg Boys Promoted

Announcement was received in Emmitsburg recently, concerning the promotion of Lewis Stoner, George Wagnerman, and Webb Felix to the rank of First Private. These young men are members of the 115th United States infantry entry station at Camp McClellan in Alabama.

Dentistry

It has been my intention to open an office in Emmitsburg in the near future; I wish to notify my friends and the public that I will be prepared to do all kinds of dental surgery using the best and latest methods. Full sets of teeth - \$6, guaranteed 10 years - \$8. Gold and porcelain crowns - \$4 to \$5. Crowns and bridgework - \$3 to \$4. Gold and porcelain fillings - \$1 to \$2. All other fillings \$.50. Extracting by the use of local anesthetics \$.25. Signed, Dr. O'Toole.

February 22

Streets Have Been Cleaned

A decidedly clean appearance has been given to the streets of Emmitsburg. On Wednesday, the Mayor superintended the wash-

ing of the ice and snow off the Square, Frederick Street and the crossings.

Flittings Are Taking Place

The fact that spring is fast approaching is evidenced by the number of "flittings" already taking place. Most every day this week wagon loads of household furniture have been passing through the town. Mr. and Mrs. Peter Bollinger, of near Maxwell's Mill, moved into the Gillelan property on E. Main St. on Wednesday.

Entertained At Valentine Party

The home of Dr. and Mrs. Sef-ton of Thurmont was the scene of a festive occasion on last Thursday evening when twenty-two of this season's most charming lads and lassies gathered to do honor to the old St. Valentine. The house was very artistically decorated with hundreds of cards the color scheme being red and white. The girls in their pretty gowns, the boys with their bright smiling faces giving a brilliancy to the setting that will not soon be forgotten by anyone who had the pleasure of being a guest. Games, cards, music and dancing were involved in and the delightful refreshments both in color and design carried out the homage paid to St. Valentine.

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

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Tony Little and Jane Moore would like to welcome Sarah Joy Prieur to Real Estate Teams, LLC. Sarah was born and raised in Frederick County and has served the public in several management positions. Sarah is looking forward to working with YOU and is excited to start her new career in real estate with Tony & Jane.

Call Sarah at 240-549-2900 or email her at sarahjoy3413@gmail.com today.

Don't Settle For Less Get A Little-Moore info on buying and selling your next home.

FROM THE DESK OF . . .

County Council President Bud Otis

Over the past few months, it has become crystal clear to me that personal values, principles and determination are critically important when faced with various levels of opposition.

I have been very consistent in my efforts over the past three years to listen to the public on the assorted issues which come before the Frederick County Council. It is imperative to absorb information from different sources – pros and cons from the

public, our county staff, attorneys and subject matter experts. It is a source of humility in listening to all viewpoints as there are nuances to concerns that other perspectives help me more comprehensively understand. It allows me the opportunity to be objective once my personal research has been done and stakeholder points are considered.

This public service position is very serious to me. I was elected to serve all residents of Frederick County – not just

those who are the most vocal. It becomes personal only when rude attacks are levied against me without even asking my understanding of an issue or basis for my concerns and decisions.

I take criticism with the mindset to understand the rationale of that person's view. My perspective may or may not change after reaching an evaluation of the other person's criticism.

I came from a background which included an upbringing on a farm, a pastor as a father, becoming a CEO of an international business, and working for Congress. Many times throughout this journey differing opinions have been able to enlighten me to ideas never before considered. Open minds are listening ears. God gave us two ears and one mouth expecting us to listen twice as much as we speak. Times now indicate that it is ever more crucial to listen. When we have different opinions, it is my

perspective to listen.

In the end, after all materials and data are considered, I may or may not agree. However the person may behave, it is – in my opinion – an opportunity for respect. Respect for the opposing view. That being said, it has been my posture to respect that individual, regardless of position, and to keep civil and dignified behavior. However, I have also realized that un-based criticism to simply offend, does not lend itself to being a valid argument.

In the past several weeks I have come under vehement attack for my position as part of the majority of the Council to table a couple of the County Executive's bills. In asking for more time to evaluate impacts from these two bills, I have also been accused of betraying my supporters. Please note that my perspective and purpose remains the same. I am a public servant.

The current situation before the County Council – bills which affect revenue generation – I see as parts of a puzzle. I had been waiting to receive an anticipated Impact Fee Bill – which would have completed the puzzle. Gratefully, in a phone conversation with CE Gardner on Thursday, 1.18.18, she assured me she had no plans to bring forth any Impact Fee Bill.

Therefore, I will bring these bills, the DRRA and School Construction Fees to a public hearing, and continue the legislative process.

I come from a generation and belief system that considers "compromise" a good word. That seems not the case in our times now. However, it is critical to good agreements, contracts and legislation. And, I will continue to work with many people to craft and move the best legislation forward for our citizens. We're all in this together.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out. I'd love to hear from you. BOtis@frederickcountymd.gov or 301-600-1101.



Frederick County Government Boards and Commissions Volunteer Opportunities

The Frederick County Executive invites interested persons to volunteer their time to serve on several boards and commissions that include the Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board, Parks and Recreation Commission, Public Library Board, Sustainability Commission and many others. To view a complete listing of the boards and commissions, please visit Frederick County Government's website at www.frederickcountymd.gov/boards.

If interested in serving, send a letter of interest indicating the specific board/commission of interest and a current resume by regular mail or e-mail (no facsimiles) to the attention of:

Mrs. Joyce M. Grossnickle
Office of the County Executive
Winchester Hall - 12 East Church Street
Frederick, Maryland 21701

301-600-1102. E-mail: fcgboards@FrederickCountyMD.gov

Please include current contact information in the documentation submitted (home, work, and cell telephone numbers, home mailing address, and e-mail address). Letters of interest and resumes must be received by 4 p.m. on Friday, February 23, 2018. Frederick County Government does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability in employment or the provision of services.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Frederick County Ethics Commission

The Frederick County Executive is soliciting letters of interest from individuals to fill three (3) seats on the seven-member Frederick County Ethics Commission ("Commission").

The Commission publishes advisory opinions on the Ethics Law and the Public Ethics Law and administers the application of these laws to Frederick County officials and employees, and others who are subject to the laws' provisions. The Commission also decides complaints alleging violation of the Ethics Law and exercises responsibility for enforcement of the lobbying provisions in the Ethics Law and the Public Ethics Law. For more information about the Commission, including the Ethics Law and Standing Operating Procedures, visit www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/ethics.

The Commission meets on the second Wednesday of each month during the evening, as needed. Other Qualifications and Requirements include:

- Ability to understand and apply the Ethics Law, including the lobbying provisions in the Ethics Law, and the Public Ethics Law to a variety of factual situations;
- General familiarity with the structure and work of the county government; and
- Understanding of general ethical principles applicable to governmental entities.

Persons having a desire to serve in this capacity must be residents and registered voters of Frederick County.

If interested in serving, please send a letter of interest and a current resume by regular mail to the Office of the County Attorney, 12 East Church Street, Frederick, Maryland 21701 (Attention: Ms. Kim Long) or by e-mail (please no facsimiles) to ECNomComm@FrederickCountyMD.gov. Remember to include current contact information in the documentation submitted e.g., home, work, and cell telephone numbers, home mailing address, and e-mail address.

*Letters of interest and resumes must be received by
4 p.m. on Friday, February 23, 2018.*

Frederick County Government does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability in employment or the provision of services.

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For more to see and do in Frederick County, call 800-999-3613 or visit www.VisitFrederick.org

GOVERNMENT—SOUTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

County Executive Jan Gardner

Everyone hates sitting in traffic! If you've driven on US 15 through the City of Frederick during rush hour, you have probably experienced backups and delays. This section of US 15 is one of the most congested in the state of Maryland with all the interchanges failing during both morning and afternoon peak hours.

Most of the roads that need improvement to address congestion and capacity issues are state and federal highways rather than county or municipal roadways. These interstates and primary highways are part of the federal highway system and are managed by state highway. It is our job as local leaders to advocate to our state and federal partners for needed road improvements.

Every year, the County submits a list of its top priority transportation projects to the State Secretary of Transportation so these state and federal projects can be funded in the state transportation budget.

This year, we are seeking construction funding to widen US 15 from I-70 to MD 26 as our top construction priority so we can address traffic congestion, improve access to jobs, and help local residents get around town. Our municipal leaders and delegation members agree. This project has already gone through preliminary planning and is part way through design and engineering.

Other priorities include seeking design and engineering funding to widen MD 85 from the bridge over Balleger Creek to Guilford Drive; and seeking project planning to widen MD 194 from MD 26 to Walkersville High School. These projects will address safety and capacity issues.

The list of highway and transit projects is long. Municipal mayors in Thurmont and Emmitsburg are lobbying for more rural transit and shuttle service. There is also a growing demand for Paratransit services to take seniors to medical appointments. The state has not increased funding for this service for over 15 years!

A draft of the Annual Transportation Priorities Review, including the full list of projects, can be found online at www.FrederickCountyMD.gov.

Now, is the time for you to weigh in. What major road or transit projects do you think are needed most? I am holding a Transportation Town Hall on Thursday, February 8th, to hear your ideas and opinions before finalizing the County's Transportation Priorities. You can attend at Winchester Hall at 7 p.m. or watch and comment live on YouTube at <https://tinyurl.com/FCTransportation>. You can also ask your questions through my Facebook page, @JanGardnerExec. Democracy in Action!

Most people agree that good gov-

ernment depends on open and transparent government and good public processes. As a person who first got involved in county government as a citizen participating in the public process, I have always placed a high value on the ability of citizens to participate and make a difference.

I have and will continue to strongly voice opposition to the work of government happening in secret meetings behind closed doors. Citizens can count on me to insist on good public processes. I have engaged citizens in every major initiative I have introduced and have citizen steering committees with a diversity of stakeholders to shape balanced and forward moving public policy. These efforts have delivered results.

To say the least, I was profoundly disappointed when four members of the County Council voted to table two bills I initiated related to responsible growth management. These bills were introduced in August of 2017, have been subject to workshops, and deserve an opportunity for public hearing so the citizens and stakeholders of the county can weigh in.

How we grow and where we grow as a community is important to everyone who lives here. Citizens are rightfully concerned about congested roads, overcrowded schools, and the bad development deals approved by the prior administration. These deals

have shifted a significant infrastructure and cost burden to existing residents. I am working hard to address these complex issues and deal with the hand we have been dealt.

Shutting citizens out of the public debate is simply wrong. Our constitution begins with the words "we the people" because our government was shaped to function best when all of us are represented. While developers are stakeholders and should have a seat at the table, so should residents who care about the impacts of residential growth on our schools, transportation system, the environment, and our quality of life.

Citizens are right to be concerned when council members introduce bills written by and for the building industry. Should any industry write their own rules? Will this protect the best interest and the public good?

I am convinced that we can do better. We can compromise and build consensus but this can only happen through a public process that creates a level playing field for all stakeholders and interests to participate. That is what a good public process accomplishes.

Citizens should urge council members who voted to shut them out of the public process to reconsider my bills and let public hearings proceed before my bills die from lack of action within 90 days. After hearing from all interested citizens and stakeholders, consensus and compromise can be shaped. I en-

courage citizens to ask Council Members Chmelik, Otis, Delauter and Shreve to let your voices be heard.

Livable Frederick Open Houses

Livable Frederick is a new and innovative approach to planning for the future. This plan starts with a shared community vision and then looks at how we can best achieve it. For the first time, the county was able to utilize computer modeling to project the outcome of the choices we make now into the future. We evaluated four growth models and took the best choices from each option to develop a plan that will accommodate people, more jobs so more people can work without leaving the county, and will preserve and protect our agricultural areas, our rich history, and maintain our rural and small town quality of life.

The County is hosting five outreach meetings to gather community input and to explain Livable Frederick. The first was held in Brunswick last week. I encourage you to attend one of the four upcoming outreach meetings so you can help to shape the future of Frederick County. These meetings are planned for Thursday, Feb. 15, at 7 p.m. at Catoctin High School.

Livable Frederick is a re-set, a new beginning. Together, we can develop a plan to shape our future, grow better, and preserve our high quality of life and the things we value and love about Frederick County.

Let your voice be heard!

County Council Candidate Justin Kiska

The county budget season is once again upon us and next month County Executive Gardner will unveil her proposed Fiscal Year 2019 Operating Budget. It's expected that the budget will be a little higher than FY18's \$582 million, but the exact revenue numbers aren't in yet. Even if the increase is only about 2%, which was the increase in the state's budget, that would put Frederick County's budget at just under \$600 million.

Unlike the federal government, the county's budget must be balanced and there cannot be a government shut-down. Why the U.S. Congress cannot follow the same rules as states and local governments is a discussion for another time. But in this county, the Frederick County Charter clearly lays

out the budget process and its timetable from beginning to end.

The local level is where taxpayers tend to have the best view of how our tax dollars are being spent. Things like snow removal, trash pickup, and policing, for the most part, are all funded and handled by local municipalities.

That being the case, it is extremely important that the local elected officials be held accountable for how they spend our tax dollars. This is why checks and balances are so very important. However, in Frederick County, there's only a very weak balance when it comes to checking the County Executive's budget authority.

As it currently stands, the County Executive is responsible for pre-

paring the budget and presenting it to the County Council for approval. The County Executive decides how much money is spent on each budget item. If the Council wants to make any changes though, the only thing members can do is *decrease* spending on budget items. This is all spelled out in Article 6, Section 5 of the county's Charter and this puts a great deal of power in the hands of the County Executive, whoever that may be.

Since 2014, I have been calling for an amendment to the Charter, dealing specifically with the budget process. Under my proposal, the County Council would now also be able to *increase* funding for budget items. Of course, to make any change to the budget, there would need to be a ma-

majority of the Council members in favor of the alteration, but it takes the spending power out of the hands of just one individual.

On principle, I don't like advocating for more people to have the power to spend taxpayers' money, but at the same time, it is more dangerous for only one person to have that power; especially when the members of the Council were elected by the people of the county to look out for their best interests. My proposing this amendment is all to provide the necessary checks and balances in our government.

This amendment could very well open the door for negotiations on the budget from the very beginning with a give and take between the Council and the Executive so that when the full budget is unveiled, it already has the support it needs for approval. It allows for a more collaborative budget process.

I know in this campaign, talking about the budget process isn't exactly

"sexy," but it is important. Most people don't care how a budget is put together. They just want to make sure the streets get plowed after it snows, potholes get filled in a timely manner, and their children have good teachers. How these things get taken care of is for policy wonks like me.

What people do need to think about is the type of person they want in Winchester Hall putting the budget together on their behalf. Budgeting takes long hours and the ability to make tough decisions – decisions that might not always be popular. That's where leadership comes in. Not being afraid to make the tough decisions, being willing to look at all the facts, and having the ability to come up with creative solutions.

This is just one of the reasons I am running for the County Council. As a business owner and the former leader of a community organization, I am ready to put my skills to work for the people of Frederick County. If you're interested in learning more about where I stand on the issues, please take a moment and visit JustinKiska.com.

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FROM THE DESK OF...

Carroll Valley Mayor Ron Harris

Are you a football fan? Pennsylvanians have a stake in the 52nd Super Bowl game this year. Philadelphia Eagles play the New England Patriots on February 4th in Minneapolis, MN. February 13th is "Fat Tuesday" which is the day before Ash Wednesday and the last day of Mardi Gras. It was the custom of the German immigrants who settled in Pennsylvania to use up all the fat in their house prior to Lent by making the fastnacht. It is a square doughnut without a hole, fried in fat. Hope you enjoy your fried cakes.

The following day is February 14th, a day to take pause to remember loved ones. Fathers, Uncles, Grandfathers, you are invited to spend a semi-formal evening full of music, dancing, food, and fun with the special girl in your life. Mark your calendar for the 4th Annual Daddy Daughter Dance – Love You to the Moon & Back scheduled for Saturday February 17th 6 to 9:30 p.m. at the Fairfield Fire & EMS Banquet Hall. Cost is \$35 per couple and \$10 for each additional child. Seating is limited. Pre-resignation is required. For more information, email carrollvalleyevents@gmail.com or call 717-642-8269. You can purchase tickets online either by launching your Facebook account; search for Carroll Valley Parks & Recreation; click the "Love You to the Moon & Back" icon and then,

click "Tickets Available". Or, you can go to www.eventbrite.com. Type in the search text box 'Love You to the Moon & Back' and then, click on Tickets. Hope to see you there! I will be the guy with the camera. It is a fantastic event!

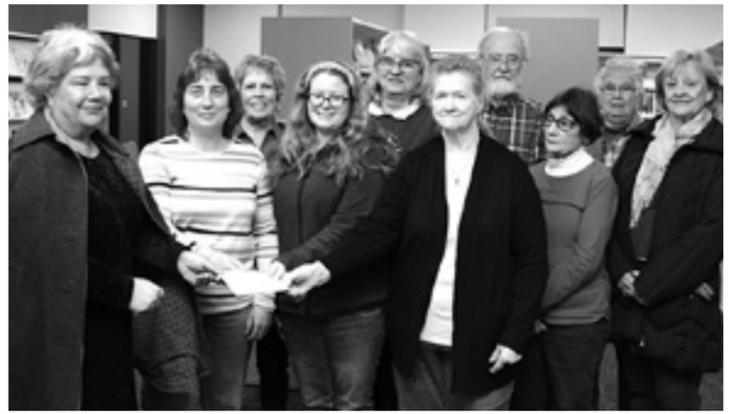
Volunteering means something different to everyone that gets involved in local government. The simplest definition is "an individual that becomes part of something without any expectation of receiving anything in return." I just know without the selflessness of our residents we could not accomplish many of the tasks that have made Carroll Valley a quality place to live and raise a family. The Carroll Valley Borough is currently looking for resident volunteers to fill vacancies on several boards/committees.

There is one vacancy on the Planning Commission; one vacancy (alternate) on the Zoning Hearing Board and one vacancy on the Sewer & Water Authority. Please consider offering your skills and talents to have a positive influence on our community by volunteering to serve. Contact the Borough Manager Dave Hazlett or the Assistant Borough Manager/Secretary Gayle Marthers at 717-642-8269. If you are not interested in becoming a committee/council member but willing to help with a particular event such as the Fishing Derby, Easter Egg Hunt,

Movie Night Out or other borough events, please make the call. We can really use the help.

At the December 2017 meeting of the Carroll Valley Garden Club, membership decided to disband after 25 years of service to the Carroll Valley and Fairfield communities. The Garden Club was involved in many beautification activities. They planted and maintained two flower gardens in Carroll Valley Commons/Park. The Garden Club added shrubs and trees, complete with label markers along the walking trail. Residents who were interested in sponsoring a tree or plant would work with the Garden Club. Members also planted and maintained the flower boxes in front of the Fairfield Town Hall. To increase the bluebird population in our area, members installed and maintained bluebird houses throughout Carroll Valley.

During the summer months, the Garden Club selected local gardens of merit and a "Garden of the Month" sign was displayed on the resident's property. In cooperation with the Carroll Valley Citizens Association, the Club decorated the Carroll Valley Commons/Park for the Christmas holidays and provided refreshment for the tree lighting ceremony and the arrival of Santa. As part of the dissolving process, the Club donated their existing funds to three community entities: Adams County Library



Accepting checks from the Carroll Valley Garden Club President **Jale Dalton** were **Sherrie DeMartino** of the Adams County Library System - Carroll Valley Branch for the Children's Section, **Elizabeth Ryan** of the Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve, and **Dot Warrenfelz** of the Fairfield Food Pantry.

– Carroll Valley Branch, the Fairfield Food Pantry and the Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve. Each received a check in excess of \$500. I would like to thank the Carroll Valley Garden Club members for their gift of 25 years of outstanding service that created such a beautiful environment for our residents to enjoy.

Adams County Library – Carroll Valley. Experiencing stress? You may want to visit the library on Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm to increase your strength (both mind & body) by joining fellow residents as they practice "Yoga at the Library." Cooking your pleasure? Well, choose your favorite "comfort food" recipe. Prepare the food item at home and bring your creation and the recipe on Monday, February 12th at 6:30 p.m. and dine with other gourmet chefs sharing recipes and food preparation tips. If you need some recipe sugges-

tions, check out AtoZ World Food for recipes from around the world! I have been invited to give a lecture on Monday February 19th at 6:00 pm. The topic is "Computer System Concepts." This introduction will be followed by a series of free interactive classes on Microsoft Word and Excel.

The Borough will be holding the following meetings in February: Planning Commission (Monday – Feb 5th), Borough Council (Tuesday – Feb 13th), Public Safety Committee (Monday – Feb 26th) and Parks/ Recreation Committee (Wednesday – Feb 28th). The Borough Office will be closed on Monday – Feb 19th for Presidents Day. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by email at Mayor-RonHarris@comcast.net or by cell at 301-606-2021. Be careful driving on the trails. We need to slow down. Watch out for ice especially at night.

State Representative Dan Moul

At a recent Capitol news conference, I joined several of my House colleagues and statewide business leaders in announcing a package of bills designed to rein in overregulation that is discouraging businesses from locating in Pennsylvania, and adversely affecting jobs and the state's economy.

Pennsylvania currently has more than 153,000 state regulations affecting every industry in the Commonwealth. I often question why

any business would want to locate here with all of the regulations and red tape that they must wade through. The real kicker is that these regulations are made, carried out and enforced by people who are not elected to office, are unknown to the general public and are not required to answer for their decisions. They sit in big office buildings and make decisions that are every bit as enforceable as any law that we pass here in the

state Legislature, yet they are seldom held accountable for those decisions and the results that follow.

More recently, regulations have been used by state departments and agencies as a means of circumventing the Legislature when an administration's goals cannot be achieved through the normal legislative process. This is an abuse of the regulatory process, and our regulatory reform package seeks to put an end to these abuses.

The legislative package, which was recently unveiled, would address unnecessary, excessive or duplicative regulations, and put the power back in the hands of elected officials who can be held accountable and must answer to the citizens they represent. Specifically, the bills would:

- Give the Legislature the ability to initiate the repeal of any state regulation in effect.
- Establish an Independent Office of the Repealer to undertake an ongoing review of existing regulations.
- Require legislative approval

of an economically significant regulation.

- Make the permitting process more transparent.
- Require each agency to better educate the regulated community regarding implementation of any new regulation and its requirements.
- Improve the regulatory culture so the application of existing laws is collaborative, not punitive.

It is no secret that I have taken issue with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for overstepping its authority and imposing onerous fines, fees and penalties on various municipalities and property owners throughout the Commonwealth and here in Adams County. Punitive actions by DEP have cost Pennsylvania taxpayers thousands of dollars and have come at a great cost to the businesses – large and small – that employ the majority of our citizens.

I am also sponsoring House Resolution 284, which would ask Congress to repeal an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) program that places costly and burdensome

storm water mandates on growing municipalities, such as those in Adams County. I am also seeking to end the unchecked financial and regulatory abuses by the Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC), an interstate compact that includes Pennsylvania, Maryland and New York. The SRBC requires extensive testing, monitoring and data collection for water wells, costing municipalities and their taxpayers tens to hundreds of thousands of dollars to become compliant. It imposes heavy financial burdens on municipalities while sitting on its own surplus of nearly \$70 million, and it continues to receive state funding. I recently initiated action that cut the SRBC's state allocation in half in this year's budget, and further cuts may be forthcoming.

The House State Government Committee has held several public hearings to gather information concerning state regulations and the impact they have had on the state's economy and our ability to keep family-sustaining jobs in the Commonwealth. Among the conclusions in a report of its findings from these hearings is the assertion that Pennsylvania's Regulatory Review Act does not give the Legislature any authority to repeal a regulation without the governor's approval. As a result, regulations have been piling up for decades. The reform legislation that was recently unveiled aims to untangle the overregulation that has been strangling our jobs and economic growth. To see the committee's 2017-18 Regulatory Overreach Report, visit www.RepMoul.com

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GOVERNMENT—NORTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

County Commissioner Marty Qually

In 2012 when Jim Martin, Randy Phiel, and I took office we heard from many county residents that they felt “left out” of County government. Mostly, this was a concern from communities on the outskirts of the County. We completely understood, and since taking office have added Commissioner evening forums to our schedule. The forums have become a great opportunity to have discussions about important issues and they afford the public a chance to meet with us in the evenings, instead of taking time out of their day to attend our weekly morning meetings. We have already started vetting some ideas and have scheduled our first forum of the year, but we are always looking for more topics, so if you have an idea not listed below, do not hesitate to contact us.

We hope to have an update on the challenges facing of our volunteer fire departments. A few years ago the Council of Government, along with the Adams County Volunteer Emergency Services Association and our County Planning office, work on a fire study. This study outlined the volunteer recruitment challenges, services area demands, and budgetary constraints facing our fire departments. Based upon this study some municipalities implemented a dedicated fire tax to supplement local fire company budgets. It may be time for an update on this situation. Volunteer fire companies are too important to the fabric of our community and for our safety to lose, so we all need to learn how we can help them survive.

Along with volunteer fire companies, we all need to learn more about ambulance services in our community. To the average resident, it seems simple, dial 9-1-1 and an ambulance will arrive. So long as they arrive, the details of this vital service are lost in the more pressing need for immediate healthcare. I have a basic understanding of how these details matter, but I know that I am not alone in the need to gain a better understanding. Hopefully, the complicated topic makes the cut and we can help the public learn more about how ambulance services are provide throughout our communities.

Over the past few years Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) regulations have begun to perplex local officials and homeowners alike. No one likes over-regulations, but at the same time we all want to enjoy clean water. Certain municipalities in Adams County are now finding ways to come into compliance, so that that storm water runoff from roads and parking lots is not polluting our creeks and ponds. We hope to have a forum with local municipal and conservation experts to help us understand how residents can assist government in maintaining the quality of waterways in the County.

Lastly, we hope to hold a forum on the cable franchise fees paid by cable providers to our local governments. No this is not a glamorous topic, but honestly it is important to local governments. Large cable companies are constantly trying to find ways to take power away from municipalities and their right to regulate when and where cable lines are run. Local governments also rely on the funding provided through their franchise fees. For every dollar lost to large cable companies, there is another tax dollar that residents have to cough up. This forum will focus on educating local officials on how they can stand up to large corporations and exercise their legal rights.

We have already scheduled our first forum, which will be about the Spotted Lanternfly. It will be held at the Adams County Natural Resources building on Old Harrisburg road on March 27th from 6:30 until 8 p.m.. Penn State extension staff are currently gathering a panel of local experts to lead this presentation to the public. Most residents have not heard about this new invasive insect and hopefully you never see one. While the fruit industry in Adams County is fully aware of this new pest and efforts are already underway to secure State and Federal funds to combat this pest, we need homeowners to also be on the lookout. Below is some information from the Pa Department of Agriculture. For more detail use this link. www.agriculture.pa.gov

The Spotted Lanternfly is an

invasive plant hopper and has been discovered in Berks County, Pennsylvania. It is native to China, India, Vietnam, and introduced to Korea where it has become a major pest. This insect has the potential to greatly impact the grape, hops and logging industries. Early detection is vital for the protection of Pennsylvania businesses and agriculture.

There is currently a quarantine in eastern counties of Pa, but as close as Lebanon and Lancaster Counties. Basically, the quarantine limits the movement of wood, brush, and certain agricultural and landscaping items. Since we are outside of the quarantine area, what is important here is that we be vigilant in

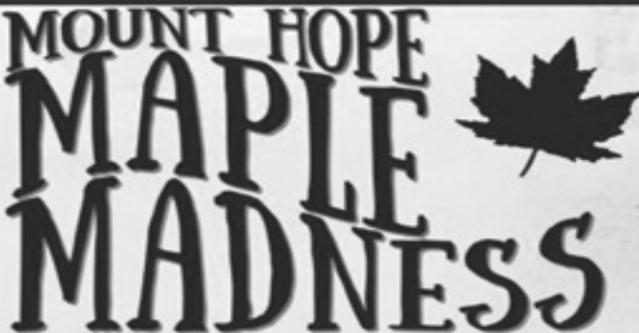
identifying any of these pests. If you suspect that you have seen one of these, please contact our local Penn State Extension office at, 717-334-4216.

The Spotted Lanternfly adult is approximately 1” long and 1/2” wide at rest. The forewing is grey with black spots and the wings tips are reticulated black blocks outlined in grey. The hind wings have contrasting patches of red and black with a white band. The legs and head are black; the abdomen is yellow with broad black bands. Immature stages are black with white spots, and develop red patches as they grow.

Trees, such as tree of heaven and willow, will develop weeping wounds. These wounds will leave a greyish or black trail along the

trunk. This sap will attract other insects to feed, notably wasps and ants. In late fall, adults will lay egg masses on host trees and nearby smooth surfaces like stone, outdoor furniture, vehicles, and structures. Newly laid egg masses have a grey mud-like covering which can take on a dry cracked appearance over time. Old egg masses appear as rows of 30-50 brownish seed-like deposits in 4-7 columns on the trunk, roughly an inch long.

This year our forums cover a broad array of topics, no one more important than the next. Once we have a finalized list, we will make sure to make it available to the public. We also may have room for a few more topics, so do not hesitate to contact me with your ideas. As always I am available at 717-339-6514 or martyqually@gmail.com.



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THE BOOK OF DAYS

The Resurrectionist



February 12

It is indeed a startling chapter in the history of civilization, which is supplied by the methods formerly resorted to by anatomical teachers, for the purpose of obtaining subjects for dissection. From the year 1800 until the alteration of the law in 1832, the Resurrectionists, or 'body-snatchers,' were almost the only sources of this supply: they were persons generally of the worst character, if we accept the watchmen of that time, who were set to guard the burial-grounds, all of whom received a regular percentage on the sum obtained by the Resurrectionists.

The public were, for many years, aware of church-yards being robbed; it was known to be affected with wonderful rapidity and dexterity; but the modus was never fathomed by the public, and, curiously enough, no accidental circumstance occurred to furnish the explanation; even the members of the medical profession, with very few exceptions, were kept in ignorance of it, so careful were the Resurrectionists to remove all traces of their mode of working after the completion of their task.

It was generally supposed that the body-snatcher, in exhuming a body, first proceeded, as a novice would have done, to remove all the earth with which the grave had been recently filled; and having at length arrived at the coffin, that he then, with proper implements, forced off the lid, and so removed the body. This would have occupied considerable time, and rendered the body-snatchers proportionately more liable to detection. To avoid this, they only cleared away the earth above the head of the coffin, taking care to leave that which covered the other end as far as possible undisturbed.

As soon as about one-third of the coffin was thus exposed, they forced a very strong crowbar, made of a peculiar form for the purpose, between the end of the coffin and the lid, by using the lever as one of

the first order, and they generally pressed up without much difficulty. It usually happened, at this stage of the proceedings, that the superincumbent weight of the earth on the other portion of the coffin-lid caused it to be snapped across at a distance of about one-third of its length from the end.

As soon as this had been affected, the body was drawn out, the death-gear removed from it, and replaced in the coffin, and finally the body was tied up and placed in its receptacle, to be conveyed to its destination. By this means, in the case of a shallow grave of loose earth, free from stones, the Resurrectionist would remove a body in a quarter of an hour. Silence was essential for the safety of the Resurrectionists; and in gravelly soils they had a peculiar mode of flinging out the earth, in order to prevent the rattling of the stones against the iron spade.

As soon as the body was raised, it was generally placed in a sack, and then carried to a hackney-coach or spring-cart, usually the latter. When bodies were sent from the country to the metropolis, they were generally packed in hat-crates, or in the casks in which hardwares are sent. Sometimes the subject, instead of being deposited in a sack, was laid on a large square green baize cloth, the four corners of which were tied together, so as to enclose the body. It was not directly conveyed to any dissecting room, but was generally deposited in some half-built house, or other convenient building, until the following day. The body-snatcher would then, dressed as a porter, swing the load over his shoulders, and often, even in broad daylight, carry it to its place of destination through the most crowded streets of the metropolis.

At other times, the students would receive the bodies at their own houses, and convey them in a hackney-coach to the dissecting-rooms, the coachman being well paid for his job. Sometimes the driver was exorbitant in his

demands, and was somewhat ingenious in enforcing them: a pupil who was conveying a body by coach to his hospital was astonished by finding himself in front of the Bow-street police-office, when the coachman, tapping at the front window, said to the affrighted youth, 'Sir, my fare to so-and-so is a guinea, unless you wish to be put down here.' The reply, without any hesitation, was, 'Quite right, my man; drive on.'

At the commencement of a new session at the hospitals, the leading Resurrectionists might be seen looking out for lecturers; and 'fifty pounds down, and nine guineas a body,' was often acceded to; the former being the opening fee from each school promised an exclusive supply. The competition for subjects, in which the exhumators pretended to get up between the differ-

ent schools, sometimes raised the prices so exorbitantly as to leave scarcely any remuneration for the lecturers. In some cases twenty pounds have been given for a single subject, in healthy seasons.

The competition occasionally led to revolting scenes of riot. Two Resurrectionists, having gained access to a private burial-ground by bribing the gravedigger, sometimes brought away six bodies in one night. Two other exhumators, hearing of this prosperity, threatened to expose the gravedigger if he did not admit them to share his plunder; but he was beforehand with them, and pointed them out to a public house full of labourers, as body-snatchers come to bribe him to let them steal from his ground.

The indignant people rushed to the burial-ground, broke open the gates, dug up the graves, and finding in them empty coffins, seized the grave-digger, threw him into one of the deepest excavations, began shoveling the

earth over him, and would have buried him alive, but for the activity of the constables.

Such outrages as these, and the general indignation, which arose from them, having interrupted the supply of bodies, other stratagems were resorted to. The Resurrectionists, by associating with the lower class of undertakers, obtained possession of the bodies of the poor that were taken to their establishments several days before interment, and often a clergyman read the funeral service over a coffin filled with brick-bats, or another substitute for the stolen body.

Nevertheless, so useful were the services of the regular Resurrectionists, that when they got into trouble, the surgeons made great exertions in their favour, and advanced large sums of money to keep them out of jail, or support them during imprisonment.

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

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COMMENTARY

Words From Winterbult

Where do you get your news?

Shannon Bohrer

"The only security of all is in a free press."

—Thomas Jefferson

It's February, one of my favorite months of each year. Our founding fathers, several of which were born in February, created this country that has endured foreign wars, our own civil war, economic collapses and other internal differences. There has been a lot said of late about the current acrimony and how our democracy is being tested. February is a good month to reflect on the wisdom of former Presidents about our differences. Their words and advice could be valuable.

A lot of our current differences are related to what we know, what we believe and how we perceive our government and our elected leaders. The term "fake news" is very popular with many sides pointing in the opposite direction. Our leaders decry that their opposition is lying and that major news outlets are full of fake news. A large problem with this perspective is that most news (not all of it) on major news networks — is not fake. It may not be the news you like, or want, but most of the major news networks reporting are based on factual information. Certainly some news programs display biases, some liberal and some conservative, but that does not make them fake.

I have questioned people about

this topic of "fake news" and many respond that the news networks cannot tell the truth. In response I always asked, "Then where do you get your news?" Sometimes I get quizzical looks, sometimes I get "radio" and sometimes I am asked "Why do you asked this?"

I do find it strange that so many of our founding fathers spoke about the need for a free press and how that relates to our free country, and yet today we have politicians and talking heads that decry the corruption of our free press. To blame a free press with corruption and creating fake news is a strategy for fascism. 'Don't believe the government and don't believe the press, but believe me.' That was Hitler's message.

While we are told that we should not believe the press, it is our free press that ensures all of our freedoms and holds those in power accountable. That is not to say you should believe everything the press says or prints, you should be a sceptic and question the news. Sometimes news stories do have a slant that may not fit your beliefs. Sometimes the news is not fake, but just an opinion with which we do not agree.

"Our liberty depends on the freedom of the press, and that cannot be limited without being lost"

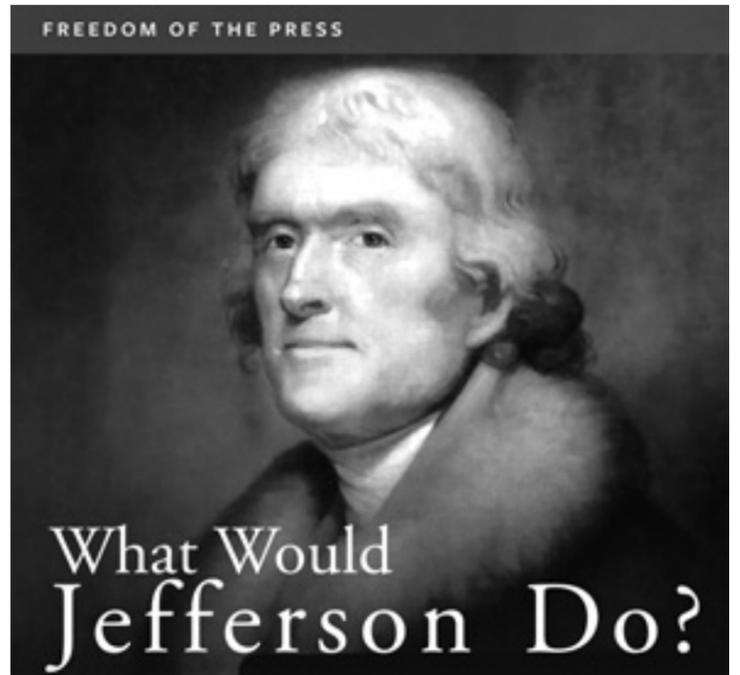
—Thomas Jefferson

Several years ago, President Putin invaded Ukraine. It was a violent invasion of a sovereign coun-

try by a larger neighbor; Russia. The world decried the invasion — and the United States created sanctions against Russia. One of the major news networks, reporting on this event, stated that "Putin was a real leader, not like our president, Obama." I was sort of shocked that a major news network would think that a dictator that invades sovereign countries kills its opposition leaders and killed members of the press, was a real leader. But — they have a right to free speech and they have a right to their opinion, not matter how wrong it was. Opinions are not necessarily fake news, but their intent to impugn President Obama was obvious.

"If the freedom of speech is taken away then dumb and silent we may be led, like sheep to the slaughter." — George Washington

Recently the same news network that talked glowingly about Putin has accused the FBI of being politically motivated trying to unseat this president. The network made a comparison of the FBI to the Russian KGB. Again, this is an opinion and they have a right to their opinion. However, in defense of the FBI, they are a premier law enforcement agency that is respected around the world. That is my opinion. Fact; the KGB has been responsible for the killing of hundreds of thousands of people, dissidents, reporters and anyone that questioned the leaders authority. The KGB never protected citizens'



rights, but the FBI has and continues to do so.

Saying that President Obama was not an American citizen was frequently talked about by the same news network. That was not an opinion — that was fake news. After the President's birth certificate was released the network continued to question the president's birth place — knowing the truth. Our current President also questioned the former President's birth place, doing so for over six years. That was fake news.

The term "Fake News" is used by those in power to discredit and hide reality — the reality being the truth. The "Fake News" has fostered numerous conspiracy theories, who can forget "Pizza Gate." It has added to our differences or different perspectives. From my perspective, the problem is not that the purveyors of fake news exist. The

real problem is that the purveyors of fake news now run the government.

Creating fake news that divides us and covers the truth, also known as alternative facts, and then decrying the real news when the facts are reported — can only last so long. We may not like the news we hear, but without it — our freedoms will diminish over time.

"Freedom of conscience, of education, or speech, of assembly are among the very fundamentals of democracy and all of them would be nullified should freedom of the press ever be successfully challenged." — Franklin D. Roosevelt

So, where do you get your news?

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

Common Cents

An Olympic glimmer on the horizon

Patrick Hiller

North Korea and South Korea Stepping Down the Escalation Ladder

The world is weeks away from the PyeonChang 2018 Winter Olympics in South Korea. My friends in South Korea have already bought tickets for multiple events. What a wonderful opportunity for the parents to expose their two boys to displays of athletic skills and friendly competition between nations in the Olympic spirit.

All is good, except for the fear of nuclear war triggered by impulsive leaders in North Korea and the United States. Recent rare talks between North and South Korea give us a glimmer of hope that the Olympic spirit transcends the games into politics. Pierre de Coubertin, the founder of the modern Olympic games is quoted saying that "the most important thing is not to win, but to take part." This is even more important in the current conflict between North Korea and South Korea. The most important part is not to agree on everything, but to talk.

The Olympics offer a unique

moment to de-escalate tensions and promote peace on the Korean Peninsula. The first talks already led to agreements on North Korea sending a delegation to the Olympics, to hold talks on lowering tension along the border, and to reopen a military hotline. Any small step away from the brink of war deserves support from all nations and civil society. Conflict resolution professionals always look for openings in intractable conflicts such as this one. The opportunities of direct dialog between Koreans need to be realistically addressed.

First, non-Koreans should let Koreans talk. The Koreans are the experts on their interests and needs. The U.S. especially should take a back seat, making support for continued Korean-led diplomacy clear. President Trump has already tweeted support, which is helpful but fragile. With a single belligerent tweet, the President could derail the entire effort. It is therefore important for peace advocacy groups, legislators, and the American public to voice their support for diplomacy over war.

Second, even the smallest successes are in fact big ones. The mere cir-

cumstance that after about two years of not meeting, high-level delegations from both sides came together is a win. However, this is not the time to expect grand concessions, like North Korea suddenly halting its nuclear weapons program.

This is the time to positively acknowledge both Koreas successfully stepping away from the brink of war, which could have gone nuclear with the involvement of the United States. These small beginnings have already reduced immediate tensions and open pathways to long-term improvements around broader issues such as a North Korean nuclear freeze, the suspension of military exercises by the U.S. and South Korea, the official end of the Korean war, the withdrawal of U.S. troops from the region, and long-term reconciliation efforts between the two nations.

Third, beware of spoilers. The Korean conflict is complex, enduring and influenced by the pressures and dynamics of geopolitics. There will always be individuals and groups trying to undermine constructive steps. As soon as the Korean-Korean talks were even mentioned, critics accused Kim

Jong-Un of trying to "drive a wedge between South Korea and the U.S." in order to weaken international pressure and sanctions on the North. Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and former United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon from South Korea draw the picture of a dangerous North Korea and demand that its denuclearization is the key talking point.

The basic principles of successful dialog historically suggest that talking without preconditions is the most likely way to gain traction among the conflicting parties. Lastly, the current support for dialog by U.S. President Trump might be undone with a tweet. We cannot dismiss the possibility that a demonized North Korea provides a needed diversion from poor performance and low approval ratings. It is therefore important to continuously point to the necessary small and positive steps.

No one knows what the outcome of the current positive small steps and will be. Destructive spoilers can accuse diplomacy advocates of giving a free pass to the North Korean nuclear weapons program and human rights abuses. Somewhat more moderate voices might refuse to acknowledge diplomacy as an effective tool to lower current tensions. Moving out of a large-scale conflict like this one takes a long time and many more small steps will be nec-

essary before any bigger issues can be addressed. Setbacks are also to be expected. What should be obvious though, is the fact that the long duration and the uncertainties of diplomacy are always preferable to the certain horror of war.

Last year, President Trump's threat of "fire and fury" over North Korea marked an escalation just short of war. The talks between the two Koreas in the context of the Olympics are a positive pivot away from fire and fury and toward the hopeful light of an Olympian torch. In the conflict's trajectory, we are looking at a crucial point— are we moving toward new and even greater escalation or are we stepping onto a constructive path with realistic expectations?

Let the Koreans talk. As a nation the U.S. has done enough damage, as Americans we can make sure that our country is supportive now and beyond the Olympics. This mantra should ring in the ears of our elected officials: Americans support diplomacy over war. Then I can tell my friends in Korea that we have tried to make sure that their teenage boys can visit the Olympic Winter Games and then go back to school without worrying about nuclear war.

Patrick. T. Hiller, Ph.D., is Director of the War Prevention Initiative of the Jubitz Family Foundation.

The American Mind

Hollywood needs to look in the mirror

William Hillman

Am I the only one who sees the irony of Hollywood elitists pointing their fingers at the country and blaming its own sexual violence problems on us?

Oprah Winfrey's speech at the Golden Globe Awards was, at best, misdirected. Her blanket condemnation of American males was ignorant. Instead of looking into the camera and condemning middle Americans watching on TV, she should have been addressing those seated right in front of her.

Many of the ills of society can be laid at the feet of the left and those in control of the messages that the media bombards us with each day.

The left has been very good at accepting this behavior among its own ranks while condemning it in others. It has just come out the Hillary Clinton protected a member of her campaign staff who was a sexual predator and was harassing lower level members of her staff during the same time she was condemning candidate Trump for use of what I would refer to as, "hurty words".

"A senior adviser to Hillary Clinton's 2008 presidential campaign who was accused of repeatedly sexually harassing a young subordinate was kept on the campaign at Mrs. Clinton's request." – The New York Times, Jan 26, 2018

One of my all-time favorite movies is 'The Philadelphia Story' with Katharine Hepburn and Jimmy Stewart. In the movie, the character played by Katharine Hep-

burn asked why Macaulay Conner (played by Jimmy Stewart), did not take advantage of her when she was vulnerable from having too much Champagne and threw herself at him. Macaulay notes he could have taken advantage of the moment, but she'd been drinking and "there are rules about that." Scenes like that would end up on the cutting room floor in almost any movie in the last 50 years.

The greatest asset of a gentleman is the control he has of his emotions and his respect for others.

The history of people abusing power over others predates history. Society has evolved traditions to limit these abuses and will always struggle with this. The founding fathers understood this when they formed the federal government, by dividing power. My father understood this when, as a young man, he explained to me the "rules of proximity".

The current outing of Hollywood and political abusers is just the latest, added to the lists of priests, coaches, scout leaders, teachers, politicians (again), doctors, lawyers, police, and even judges.

Since the 1960's, Hollywood has done its best to normalize deviant behavior and destroy the esteem of gentlemanly behavior. Macaulay Conner's definition of a gentleman was replaced over time by James Bond types who taught us that, when a woman says "no", she really wants the man to force himself on her until she surrenders, melts in his arms, and says "yes".

Gentlemen in movies are a breed

on the extinction list. Tom Hank's character in movies like, "Sleepless in Seattle", "You've Got Mail", and a few other romantic comedies may be the last of their kind.

When it does not suit their purpose, Hollywood likes to pretend they have no effect on behavior and public opinion. Remember how insulted the music industry was when Tipper Gore called them out during the Congressional meetings for promoting and glamorizing violence?

During those hearings Susan Baker testified that, "There certainly are many causes for these ills in our society, but it is our contention that the pervasive messages aimed at children which promote and glorify suicide, rape, sadomasochism, and so on, have to be numbered among the contributing factors." Tipper Gore asked record companies to voluntarily "place a warning label on music products inappropriate for younger children due to explicit sexual or violent lyrics."

The music industry went nuts, calling it censorship. Much of the opposition argument was that music is just music, it cannot make kids rape, or kill, or control their behavior.

Movies, television, and the other forms of media often make the same claim when they are accused of promoting and normalizing violence. At the same time, companies spend 72 billion dollars each year on messaging that makes you buy their products. These companies are not just throwing their money around. They have the research and history that

shows their money is invested wisely. They know that repetitive exposure to a message can affect how people perceive the world and act.

Hollywood, and media of all types need the public to pay attention. Classical style stories have a limited reach. But movies, songs, and shows that can get the adrenalin running sell tickets and albums. Violence is the biggest ticket seller. The problem with a media based on sensationalism is that the public gets quickly immune so the dosage needs to keep increasing.

"Portrayals of sex and sexual relationships are prevalent in mainstream media. Analyses estimate that sexual content appears in approximately 85% of major motion pictures (Jamieson, More, Lee, Busse, & Romer, 2008), 82% of television programs (Fisher, Hill, Grube, & Gruber, 2004), 59% of music videos (Turner, 2011), and 37% of music lyrics (Primack, Gold, Schwarz, & Dalton, 2008)". We are bombarded by these messages. For those who have been profiting to act the victim is the biggest hypocrisy of all.

Keira Knightley has made an astute point about Hollywood rape culture. The actress told Variety, "I don't really do films set in the modern day because the female characters nearly always get raped."

Hollywood acted surprised and appalled by the actions of Harvey Weinstein, Bill Cosby, and Kevin Spacey while its acclaimed HBO show, Game of Thrones, takes great care to film violent, grotesque rape scenes.

Actors like Matt Damon denounce violence but he has spent a lot of time onscreen with guns in his hand. He is a hard-core leftist

and has spoken out for gun control while promoting guns and violence on screen and reaping the financial gains that come with being an A-list actor.

In the Kill Bill films, Uma Thurman's character killed thousands of people. These movies glamorize violence and murder like no other - with the noted exception of Django Unchained. Uma Thurman then comes out in favor of gun control. She has the nerve to lecture law abiding people about gun control.

If Hollywood and media celebrities really want to do something about violence and "rape culture", they have the power. Start making movies with characters who are true gentlemen and ladies. Refuse to take roles in movies that promote sexual aggression, and glorify violence. Stop giving awards to singers like Eminem, who has a long history of advocating for violence against women, degrading gay people, and rapping about his desire to rape women.

Hollywood and the country are seeing the results of the progressive's attack of the moral foundation of the country. Boys are taught to "get in touch with their feelings" rather than learn how to control them. And when they do act out, they're told it's not their fault. It's no wonder when they become older, they're unable to control their urges and feel no responsibility for their actions. The Golden Rule is disappearing from the secularized society and replaced with the mantra of the sexual revolution, "if it feels good, then do it."

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Down Under Hoodwinked

Lindsay Coker
Melbourne, Australia

*Untaught the noble end of glorious truth,
Bred to deceive even from their earliest youth.*

—Anne Ingram, the Gentleman's magazine, 1736

You may think that the word 'lie' has passed its use-by-date. True, the introduction of alternate facts, fake news, plainly untrue tweets, social media posts in favour of murder and torture would have turned us off any desire to sort fact from fiction, to feel confident that two plus two would still equal four tomorrow, and for us to stop believing anything we couldn't prove to our own satisfaction.

But lies like these are just a façade, the public face of a campaign to ensure that truth remains buried forever. It's a new method in an old campaign, one that has been going on for hundreds of years. Its history can be traced back to the rise of the European merchant class who, drawing on the example of the guilds, saw that their power and wealth rested on

bringing the state to their aid, to lead them to believe that their popularity and success depended on the rise of the merchant class, who would in turn manipulate things so the politicians could remain in power.

Governments were not slow to see that they were right, and in turn devised ways to sell this to the populace: Jobs, first of all, meant prosperity for the worker; assured supply meant satisfaction for the consumer; growth meant their children would have employment. Standards of living, a term that had not been invented until then, would be raised, and democracy proven to be the best and only system.

Enter the father of political economy, Adam Smith. Hailed as the hero of economic theory, his Wealth of Nations was a thousand page block buster that very few of his contemporaries read, and those that did took from it the things that seemed to support their views - exactly the same thing that happens today. Seeing the merchant class was better educated than most of the politicians, it was their take on it that led to today's western world

where profit and power rule.

In order to do that, the reality and the truth had to be disguised and inverted. This was never stated, of course, and it was not even assumed because the merchant class only knew one truth - theirs. That there might be more was inconceivable. Some in the government opposition believed there was, but when in power themselves they saw the value of unfettered trade, the revenue it created, the source of wealth for colonisation, industry, expansion and war. The consequences were never studied, discussed or known - how could they be? Alternate ways of governing had been tried - caliphates, 'benign' dictatorships, but it was not until 1917 that one powerful enough to reverse the status quo in the west came into being. Communism, rule by the people. The folly of that idea didn't take long to expose. The People are no more astute or clever than they were two hundred years before, and when a megalomaniac forced his way into the top job it took the combined efforts of private enterprise to oust him.

The origins of this godlike authority began with the establishment of the East India Company in 1600, which, by 1760 had developed into, in Smith's words, 'The Mercantile System', meaning trade was monopolised, with one company or group

having sole rights for those products or goods. This expanded to many other merchants, allowing them to buy at prices no one else could achieve, to restrict supply and control prices. This led to a new definition of capitalism, (which had existed for at least three centuries, having supplanted serfdom), where capital was concentrated in the hands of a few, and conglomerates came into being.

This was the opposite of Smith's treatise. He certainly believed in trade, but not at the expense of the general population. It was the astuteness of the traders that countered this when it was pointed out: Their aim was, the said 'The Common Good'. That when they profited so did the common man. He had job that paid good money, goods and comforts to buy, and a country to be proud of. That they would be drafted to fight wars that benefited the traders was blanked out, and governments developed smarter and smarter ways of hiding the reality. The worker developed their own systems of getting a bigger piece of the pie, trade unions going quite a way into reducing slave conditions, but they were no match for an increasingly technological society so that today mercantile power is so great that it dictates policy, especially in America and its vassal states - which includes us here in Australia.

And it is here that the current administration has arrived. The mantra of world trade, of free enterprise, of trading blocks is so much part of culture and policy that it is immovable. It is the agenda of your president as he plays games of brinkmanship, of congress as it passes more wealth making deals, including massive tax cuts to the biggest businesses, of robbing the poor to help the rich, and it is the reason for the stagnation of wages and decline of the middle class.

Adam Smith was convinced that such accumulation of power would continue, and that the only remedy would have to come from a government that was prepared to re-establish the community of people, to be brave and capable enough to allow all citizens to be free from economic slavery, to be transform 'shareholder value' to be public value. He would be appalled by today's power elites, to rule by the arms industry, to the demeaning of people whose only aim is to live peaceably and in harmony with their neighbours.

He had not counted on the generations of power that turned lies to truth and slavery to salvation.

Lindsay, Pining for pre-merchant days in Melbourne, Australia.

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

THE (retired) ECOLOGIST

The problem that won't go away

Bill Meredith

"It's a Jumble out there."

—Randy Newman (misspelled on purpose)

If you live long enough and still are able to think, you come to a point where you realize it is time to start getting rid of things. This is both obvious and logical but, as they used to say, it aint easy. Twenty years ago when I retired, two walls of my office at home were covered with bookshelves. I don't know how many books I had, but they filled the shelves and they were neatly arranged by subject and author. In my office at the college were a lot more books, plus 40 years of subscriptions to scientific journals and files of student records and committee work. All of that had to come home. You will not be surprised to learn that much of it is still in boxes on the floor of the office and in the basement. (Caution... don't ask my wife about this unless you have at least an hour to spare.)

Over these 20 years of retirement my wife and I have had many interesting theoretical discussions over the relative merits of clearing up the mess, without actually reaching a conclusion and doing anything about it. However, recently I was reminded that in years to come the only thing future generations of descendants will know about me is what a mess I left behind. And so when the New Year arrived, I resolved to make a start at it.

In the good old days, it would have been simpler; I could have just carried boxes of old files out into the back yard and set fire to them, like my parents and grandparents did when things accumulated. There was a certain satisfaction to that; you could do it on a cool summer evening and sit there in a lawn chair and watch the

smoke carry everything up to heaven where God would assign some penitent angel to decide whether each piece of paper was worth keeping. You could even roast marshmallows while you watched....

But you can't do things like that any more. So, last week I took a deep breath and opened the top drawer of the filing cabinet. One of the first files I pulled out was the record of a committee I served on in the 1960s, and when I opened the folder, among the yellowing pages was a flood of nostalgia. The first thing that struck me was that of the eight people on the committee, I am the only one still living. So did it really matter? Who could possibly care? That was over 50 years ago! These are just pieces of paper... they're ancient history now... we have more important things to deal with... but wait.

The committee had been formed to propose a revision of our Core Curriculum. It was in response to a national trend that had begun about five years earlier when the Space Program started. When Sputnik went up in 1957, the country's first reaction was like Henry-Penny: "The sky is falling! We're in a race with the Russians! ...and they're winning!" The national panic eased a little after John Glenn's space flight, but there was growing national concern about keeping our educational programs ahead of the Russians. The Cold War was real. Colleges all over the country began reviewing their curricula, and there was a national debate on how much more emphasis should be put on science, math and technology.

The committee worked on it all summer; we proposed changing some of the graduation requirements, adding some new courses, and changing or eliminating some old ones. The college accepted our

proposal. But the problem didn't go away; it just changed a bit, and it came back again a few years later. In fact, it kept coming back; by the time I retired, I had worked on it with at least four more committees. Few people realized it then, but the country... in fact, the whole world... was entering a Paradigm Shift.

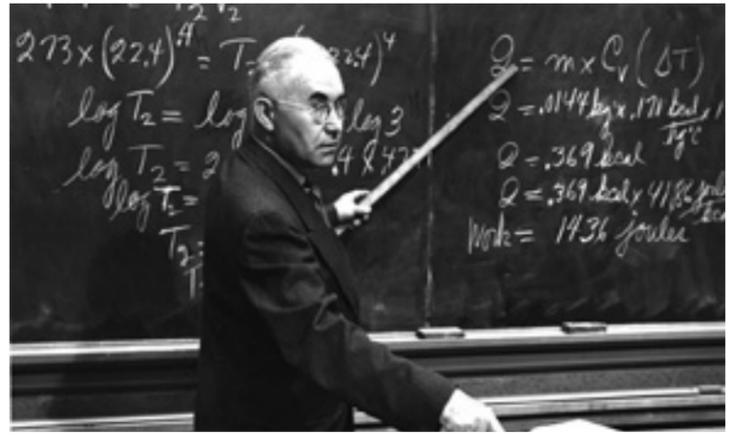
I was just starting on my doctoral studies then; I had been teaching only five years. I was pretty naïve about the history of my profession, so working on that committee was an educational experience. I found that the problem of what colleges should teach is an ancient question that goes back at least to the 11th Century when the first universities were founded. Basically, it asks whether colleges should emphasize training students for specific careers, or should they emphasize teaching students to think, question and understand things?

The first piece of paper in my old folder was a clipping from the national journal, Science. Slightly paraphrased, it said:

Traditionally in our culture the bachelor's degree is the last chance students have to be taught anything outside their professional field, and an opportunity to select their major field. It is a disservice to the students to teach in college the technical skills of any single profession.

This was written in 1964 by a man named Martin Brilliant, who worked for the Management-Consulting firm of Booz-Allen. "An appropriate name," I thought, "but when he works for a firm like that, why does he think colleges should emphasize Liberal Arts instead of technical training?" I didn't understand then, because I didn't know about Paradigm Shifts yet. Now... well, I'm still trying to learn.

A Paradigm is a unifying idea that we use to explain several re-



Current research indicates that passive learning (online courses) is not as effective as active learning that takes place in traditional classrooms.

lated things. As time goes by we often find that this explanation doesn't work as well as it used to, and eventually we have to shift to a new paradigm. In this case, it concerned the way we communicate. Historically, you can trace it from yodeling and smoke signals from mountaintops, to trumpets and warhorns, to written messages bearing wax imprints of a stamp, to telephones and radios, to tweets on a pocket computer. The last on the list sounds silly, but in the past 20 years it has become available to more than half of the world's population... and it has changed the way we think about education.

The Liberal Arts Education was almost universal among colleges until the 1940s. Students took an array of courses in history, literature, fine arts, modern languages, natural and social sciences; and from these, as well as a few subjects like accounting, they were expected to select a major field that would prepare them for a career. After the War, the GI Bill encouraged veterans to go to college; they were older and more mature, and often had already chosen careers, so colleges were encouraged to exempt them from some of the Liberal Arts courses, based on their travels and wartime experiences.

A demand developed for more emphasis on career training, and institutions which offered specialized curricula for careers and required

few or no Liberal Arts courses began to appear; and then, in the early '80s when desktop computers became available, on-line courses appeared. Many of them were legitimate, but others were not acceptable by colleges that were accredited to give Bachelor's degrees. Now, it is possible to get a Bachelor's degree in which all of the courses were taken on the internet.

Theoretically, I see no reason why a particular course could not be just as rigorous on the internet as one taught in a classroom. However, I believe the experience of sitting in front of a live teacher, asking questions and debating with fellow students is vital to developing the mind, and I do not see how this can be achieved by sitting alone before a computer with the TV on, music blasting, and a cell phone tweeting. College-age students are neither smarter nor dumber than they always have been; but without education in the Liberal Arts areas and the ability to reason, question, and judge the value of the information before them, they are easily misled. And they will stay that way as they grow into adulthood. Easily led? Look around you.

Please excuse me now... I have to get back to my office and deal with those old folders....

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IN THE COUNTRY

A is for alligator

Tim Iverson, Naturalist

Everglades National Park is the largest subtropical wilderness in the country. Visitors come from all over of the country, and even the world, to explore its 1.5 million acres. One of the most common things visitors ask is, "Where can I see alligators?" The American alligator is synonymous with Florida, and provokes a "Land of the Lost" or dinosaur-esque feeling when you see one. They could be considered a living fossil as alligators have been around for some 200 million years, actually outliving their dinosaur counterparts. Alligators are visually impressive too, as North America's largest reptile, measuring up to 15 feet, they command your attention. However they weren't always so revered.

The American alligator can be found throughout the southeastern United States. Alligators primarily live in freshwater swamps, marshes, rivers, and lakes. They can only tolerate saltwater for short periods of time. Although occasionally they are found in brackish water around mangrove swamps, despite the fact that lack the salt-secreting gland found in crocodiles. Alligators burrow dens out of the muck and mud at the bottom of bodies of water. They use these dens for shelter when winter temperatures get too cold or water when conditions get too dry. However, even outside their dens they can tolerate short periods of freezing conditions. During the winter dry season alligators will modify their habitat by fur-

ther excavating these "alligator holes," which provide a refuge for other animals during dry periods.

Adult male alligators occasionally reach 13 to 15 feet in length. Whereas, females top out at approximately 10 feet. The snout of an alligator is characteristically broad, although the shape can vary slightly among populations and individuals. Juvenile alligators sport bright yellow cross-bands against black skin, which provides excellent camouflage. The yellow banding fades away as the juveniles mature. Juveniles eat a wide variety of small invertebrates, particularly insects, as well as small fish and frogs. The adult diet typically consists of fish, turtles, small mammals, birds, and reptiles, including small alligators. Feeding activity is governed by water temperature. Alligators will stop foraging if the temperature drops below 68 degrees Fahrenheit. The color of adult alligators varies with habitat and can be olive, brown, gray, or nearly black, with a creamy underside. Algae-laden waters produce greener skin, while tannic acid from overhanging trees can produce darker skin.

Females reach sexual maturity at approximately 6 feet in length. Springtime courtship rituals are complex and can last for several hours. Males attract mates by making loud bellowing noises and performing head-slaps against the water. Female alligators choose nest sites above the water level to reduce the chance of flooding, which would kill most eggs within 12 hours of submergence.

Once completed nests are about 3.5 feet high and 7 feet wide. Females will remain near the nest during the incubation period, which averages 60 days. When danger threatens, she will rapidly return to the nest to protect her eggs. The sex of the hatchling depends on the temperature during development. Eggs that incubate at temperatures ranging from 90 to 93 degrees Fahrenheit hatch as males, while those that incubate from 82 to 86 degrees hatch as females. Intermediate temperature ranges yield a mix of both male and female hatchlings.

When an alligator emerges from an egg the hatchling cries out. When the mother hears this she opens up the nest and begins carrying the hatchlings to the water. She carries 8 to 10 hatchlings at a time in her mouth, pulling her tongue down to make a pouch in which they sit. When she gets to the water, she opens her jaws and shakes her head gently from side to side, encouraging the hatchlings to swim out. The juveniles group up in pods that may include hatchlings from other nests and remain close to the mother typically as long as one year, but sometimes for two or even three years. This social system provides protection, during their most vulnerable life stage, from predators such as raccoons, large fish, birds, and even other alligators—mostly large, dominant males. Nearby females respond swiftly to calls from hatchlings facing impending danger. Hatchlings grow rapidly, especially during their first four years, sometimes averaging more than 1 foot of growth for each year of life.

Alligators are an important part of the Everglades ecosystem and are considered a keystone species of the park. The nesting activity of female alligators is important for the creation of peat soil. Several turtle species, such as the Florida Red-Bellied turtle, incubate their eggs inside both active and old/abandoned alligator nests. Water remains in alligator holes throughout the year except during severe drought conditions. As the dry season approach-



The American alligator is synonymous with Florida, and provokes a "Land of the Lost" or dinosaur-esque feeling when you see one.

es and water dries up from other areas within the Everglades, the retained water causes alligator holes to become a refuge for a variety of wildlife. Although these animals become easy prey for alligators and other predators, the value of the refuge outweighs the risk. Human conflicts with alligators are uncommon, but can be serious. Education and awareness is the best long-term way to avoid future incidents. Most alligator attacks on humans are attributed to the illegal feeding of alligators, which makes them bolder, less wary of humans, and more likely to attack instead of flee.

Alligator populations dwindled significantly as a result of hunting and habitat loss, causing the American alligator to be placed on the Endangered Species List in 1967, a law that preceded the Endangered Species Act of 1973. However, illegal poaching continued into the 1970's. Their belly skin was prized for high quality leather. As a result, extinction

may have been possible. The number of alligators only rebounded when alligator farms opened, easing the pressure on wild populations. Populations have dramatically improved and alligators were removed the endangered species list in 1987.

As an apex predator and keystone species they help shape the environment and the other creatures that live within it. While visitors may revel in their sight, it's best to admire from a distance. Alligators are now abundant throughout the state, but especially so within the interior of the Everglades National Park. This perennial millennial has bounced back from near-extinction level populations, signaling success for the 200 million year old prehistoric reptile. Fortunately, their success means we can keep saying, "See ya later, Alligator," for a little while longer.

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REAL SCIENCE

What exactly is science?

Michael Rosenthal

Our previous discussions of a number of topics, including acupuncture, UFOs, and Big-foot pose the more general question, “what exactly is science?” Harvard astronomer Avi Loeb summed it up well in a recent statement: “Science isn’t a matter of belief; it’s a matter of evidence.” Until firm evidence is discovered that stands up to scientific scrutiny, it is not appropriate to say that something is true. People really want to believe that UFOs represent visitors from other planets in our vast universe. It is not unreasonable to believe that with the size of the universe we on Earth are not alone. But, until evidence is found that firmly proves that the observations we’ve made are due to extraterrestrial visitors, we cannot say that we have been visited by aliens. Thus far, no such proof exists. Loeb said, “Deciding what’s likely ahead of time limits the possibilities. It’s worth putting ideas out there and letting the data be the judge.”

How about acupuncture? The previously discussed fact that Johns Hopkins University Medical Services is now offering acupuncture is a striking point. There

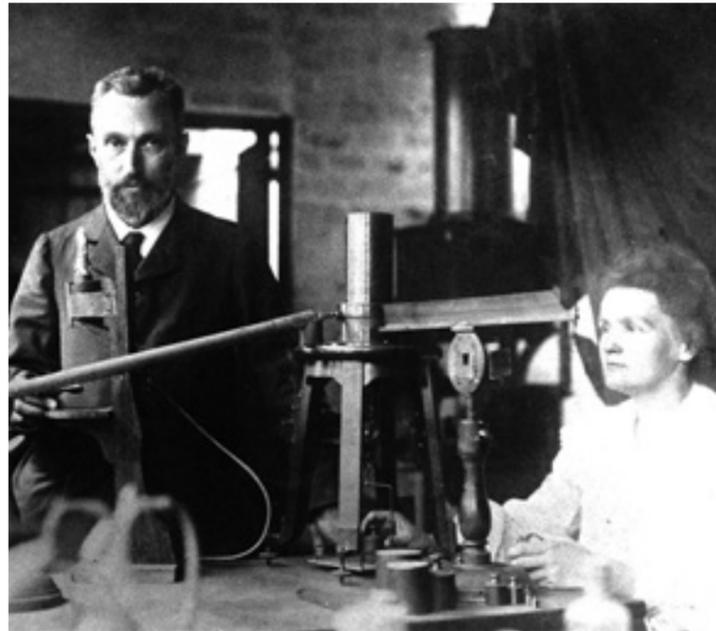
is no scientifically accepted explanation for acupuncture relieving pain; so we cannot be sure it is not the Placebo Effect. Thus, we must continue to seek evidence about how it works in the human body to try to better understand the science behind the effect.

After a long career in science education in colleges, I’ve given a lot of thought to what makes a person want to become a scientist. Of course, I ponder my own motivations. From childhood, I was drawn to science, at least in part because it was so concrete, reproducible, and provable in its facts. Now, all these years later, I still feel the same way. I always liked the fact that phenomena were reproducible and explainable. I felt the arts were for fun, but science was serious as a career. In my years of teaching chemistry I looked for the mindset in beginning students, and I came to have good accuracy as to which of them was a scientific thinker and was likely to achieve a successful scientific career, and which of them needed to choose a different career path.

Since some students bloomed later than others, I always tried to not make my judgment too soon, but by the end of first-year chemistry, I could usually tell who was

a scientific thinker and who was not. My colleague and I used to joke that we would print cards with directions to the sociology department to give to some students at the end of the year for those students, ambitious and bright as they may be, but who were not scientific thinkers. I always said to my students that they should seek the intersection between what they loved and what they were good at learning and doing, and follow that path to a career. That is one of the reasons I so favor a liberal arts and sciences education that does not demand a commitment to specialization before introducing the student to a variety of disciplines.

Now let’s apply this discussion to something more recent and specific. It was reported recently that a 61 year-old California man planned to launch himself 1,800 feet in a home-made scrap metal rocket to prove the earth was flat. As it turned out, he had to postpone his flight since he was unable to get permission from a federal agency to conduct the experiment on federal land. He thus planned to make his launch in an unincorporated community in the Mojave Desert along Route 66. The flight was planned to be a mile long



Marie Curie exemplified what it meant to be a scientist. She was a physicist and chemist who conducted pioneering research on radioactivity. She was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize, the first person and only woman to win twice, and the only person to win a Nobel Prize in two different sciences.

at 500 miles/hour, and was announced to be his first step in his flat-earth program, and from that he would prove the world is a disc.

Unlike controversial subjects there is no scientific doubt, proven in many, many ways that the earth is a sphere. Could this man really be serious in his professed belief? The idea of the earth being flat is not new. There have been believers and organizations for several hundred years that believe in and promote the idea that the earth is flat. Some are religiously connected. But there is absolutely no scientific evidence to support this notion, and all scientific evidence thus far supports the earth being a globe.

One of the clearly pseudo-science notions in our society is the use of homeopathic drugs. Homeopathy, of which we have written previously, is based on an 18th century idea that substances that cause disease symptoms can, in very small doses, cure the same symptoms. Modern medicine (science!), backed up by numerous studies, has disproved the central tenets of homeopathy, and has shown that homeopathic remedies are worthless at best and harmful at worst. Under U.S. law, homeopathic remedies are required to meet the same approval rules as other drugs; however, a 1988 policy of “enforcement discretion” has allowed homeopathic remedies to be marketed without FDA approval.

Though the FDA is not yet moving toward an approval requirement for these products, they are planning on looking harder at those drugs that might be a health risk. What moved the FDA to start to worry about these drugs? More than a year ago homeopathic teething tablets and gels were found to contain belladonna, a toxic substance also known as deadly nightshade, of which the foliage and berries are toxic when ingested. There is controversy over its use; it has been in

use for medicinal and recreational purpose for centuries, and is legal in some parts of the world. You may read the Wikipedia entry and decide for yourself, but I wouldn’t get near it!

What prompted the FDA concern is that these teething tablets were linked to 400 injuries and to death in 10 children. The level of belladonna in them was found to be too high. Homeopathy has grown into a \$3 billion dollar industry, but in my mind, it is indeed at best ineffective and at worst dangerous. Britain has taken action to stop physicians from prescribing homeopathic drugs, where they are described by Britain’s National Health Service as “at best a placebo.”

As I have said in previous Real Science articles, I would not take any drug that does not have FDA approval.

To close, let’s examine some news about horoscopes. Astrology has been with us for a very long time. I remember an astrology column in my hometown newspaper when I was growing up in Ohio. Newspapers in New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, and Philadelphia still produce astrology columns, even daily horoscopes. Astrology goes back to ancient Babylon, 4,000 years ago, and is about a century old in newspapers and magazines. Horoscopes, some say, give people a sense of security, and as one writer put it, a spiritual touchstone. But there are those who really believe. There is a My Path Astrology School in New York. We pass astrologers and fortune tellers in many places in our travels, and their presence indicates that there are real believers, not just those who are seeking amusement.

I’m sorry, but there is absolutely no scientific evidence to support astrology.

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THE VILLAGE IDIOT

Brain spasms

Jack Deatherage, Jr.

I had a brain spasm this morning. (DW lives in dread of these rare events, but I find them absolutely fascinating! Especially because of their rarity.) I was thinking about the next Village Idiot column, Russian winter hats trimmed in purposeful fur, and green nightcrawlers when “pop” goes my brain (though it could have been a sinus shift). MAGGOTS! I can run an experiment in collecting and raising maggots as fish bait!

DW got very excited about the idea. Really, she did.

We managed to put out the several fires she ignited with that Balor evil eye thing she’s got going when I trip one of her triggers. I suppose had I stood still while she focused the flaming beam of discharge from her mad-eye on me there would have been one fire to deal with, but I wouldn’t have been able to help her extinguish it. We were both surprised at how quick and nimble I can be when my pants burst into flames.

Her screaming “Stand still!” excited the dogs as well, though they smartly fled to cooler parts of the house. The poor cat (arrogant creature that he is) walked through the blast zone nonchalantly and will eventually grow most of his hair back. To prevent a future eruption I’m taking a page from the politically correct playbook and will only refer to maggots by the less offensive term - fly grubs.

Anyhow, that mundane stuff isn’t of interest. Back to the spasm!

The first time I took notice of fly grubs as fish baits was in a fishing catalog. I could order a bucket of fly grubs, even get them in various colors, and keep them in the fridge until I needed them. Mom had a thing about fish baits in her fridge so I never pursued the idea. (It must be a female thing ‘cause years later DW had a small fit over finding nightcrawlers in her freezer. Though Middle Sister didn’t have a problem eating a cured pig shoulder that spent time in a fridge drawer with night crawlers, so who can tell with women.)

I later heard of using fly grubs to catch fish from a guy I met in Florida who’d grown up in PA. He said they’d shoot groundhogs on the farm and tie the carcasses to a tree limb overhanging a pond or creek. Flies visited and layed their eggs. (Yes, I know “layed” is an archaic form of “laid”. And I’m an archaic form of idiot, so there!) Eggs hatched, fly grubs fed and eventually fell into the water. Fish got used to feeding on fly grubs under the overhanging limb and the farm boys cast their baits to where they knew the fish would be waiting. (A form of farm “recycling” long established before any industrial/government agencies got involved in the natural process- which is another column, or several.)

DW has a thing about me collecting roadkill and transporting it in any of our vehicles, so I’ve never tried the hanging-a-corpse-in-a-tree method of feeding fish. Women.

Years ago, while keeping hundreds

of African fish in the living room, I read an article on how to collect fly eggs and grow fly grubs out to useful size without stinking up the house or freaking out the females. (I’m still skeptical about not freaking out the females, but ready to give the method a try.) Of course I’ve long since lost the article and will happily try to recall what the method was by way of experimenting!

I know rotting meat was involved. As was a jar, a bit of water, a rubber band and a colored bandanna. The meat and water were placed in the jar, the bandanna covered the mouth of the jar and the band secured it so the flies couldn’t get to the rotting meat. The jar was to be placed somewhere in the yard where its fragrance wouldn’t disturb passing DWs, or non-adventurous/non-scientific types in general. The goal was to attract those fat flies that seek out rotting flesh in the assumption they evolve from fatter maggots... urr fly grubs. The bandanna kept them from laying eggs on the meat and it’s darker color would allow the eggs to be easily seen.

While the egg collector was collecting eggs a second jar was supposed to be readied to feed the fly grubs when they hatched out. Here’s where the real experiment comes to play. I have only the vaguest idea of what the food was. I know it wasn’t rotting anything because the goal was to control the fragrance (the fly grubs would be grown in the house after all) and keep the future fish food as bacteria free as possible!

It sticks in memory that a gelatin-based food was made, but what was added to it escapes me. I’m

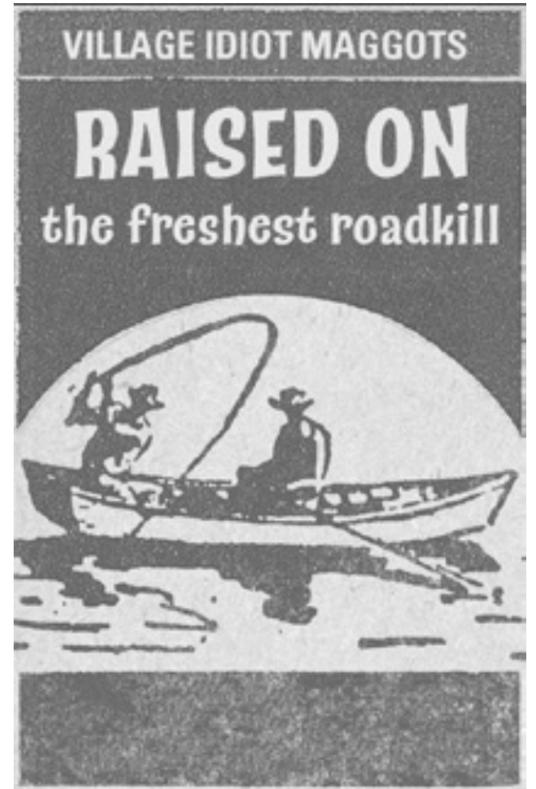
thinking a beef bouillon cube was dissolved in water, mixed with a gelatin packet and allowed to set. The egg-encrusted bandanna would be removed from the collection jar and flipped so the eggs were over the gelatin and the tiny fly grubs would fall onto their food source as they hatched. As the grubs progress to maturity they would be placed in a fridge to slow the growth and hopefully hold them at the proper stage for using as fish bait. (Allowing the fly grubs to pupate and become flies would definitely set the one-eyed DW on full Balor mode.)

DW remains... skeptical- yeah, that word will work- she will come around once I explain how I’ll use the mag- urr fly grubs. Tattoo Don, pillar of the community and I discovered a white crappie pond this past summer and we’re suddenly crappie enthusiasts! Will fly grubs attract crappie? Hell if I know, but as long as DW thinks they might I’ll play that card so I can experiment with magge- urr fly grub farming! (Cooking some of the crappie I froze this autumn might go some ways to getting her on board with grub farm-

ing. But good grief! I labored to catch them, suffered fin pricks while scaling them and had to wash fish guts out of my beard. The least she can do is cook them.)

Don doesn’t have a problem with using grubs as bait if they catch fish. If they catch crappie he’s definitely all in with my raising fly grubs, though he didn’t volunteer to keep the grubs in his fridge. Some fishing buddies are like that. Then again, his DW may not be as amiable as my sweet, kind, understanding, mellow, gentle souled DW.

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



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PETS

I don't want to be alone anymore

Michael Hilman

For three years 'Black Cat,' a local feral, has lived at the bottom of a hill on our farm. Over the years I've built several enclosures to protect her from the elements. The first year, I closed off one end of the coop in the fence line and filled it with hay so she could snuggle down on frigid winter nights. This worked until the temperature dropped into the single digits, at which time Black Cat headed off to parts unknown – to seek someplace warmer.

The following spring she returned; however, she was a bit worse for the wear, but she was back. That summer I took the time to really weather proof the coop, but despite my best efforts, when winter descended with all its fury, Black Cat once again disappeared. While we hoped that she had simply retreated to a warmer spot, it was hard not to wonder if she had been attacked, injured, or if she had frozen to death. After all, as far as we could tell, Black Cat was old, and sooner or later the cold was going to take her.

This summer, Black Cat really began to show signs of aging. While the previous summers she would spend her days hunting along the tree line, this summer her days were spent sleeping in the sun. An ear infection that impaired her hearing had taken its effect and slowed her down even more. Her eyes, which had never really been bright, began to show signs of cataracts. It was clear to my wife and I that time was not on Black Cat's side.

Over the years, Black Cat had come to accept our daily visits where her food and water bowls were refilled. As she grew more used to us,

she began to accept the occasional pet, which eventually became long, gentle scratches. As this winter descended, I added to Black Cat's choices of habitat - two cat houses, both large enough for her to climb into, but at the same time, small enough to retain her body heat. Filled with hay, it was my hope she could snuggle down into them and stay warmer than she could in the coop.

Seeking to harness the warmth of the sun, I modified one of the cat houses by replacing the front with Plexiglas. This allowed the sun to shine in on her in the morning. Needless to say, she quite approved and this quickly became her favorite spot. It was not uncommon to find her there in the middle of the day, curled up, sound asleep. Being hard of hearing, I would reach in and gently wake her to let her know her food had arrived. While it was warmer inside the box than outside, it was only warm when the morning sun was shining directly in. Once the afternoon arrived, it was cold.

Desperate to give her more warmth I built her a kitty solarium. With three sides made of thick Plexiglas she had the warmth of the sun all day long. Once again she indicated her approval by quickly moving in. She seemed quite happy. Of course, the solarium didn't help at night, so I made a few more upgrades to the coop to weather proof it. I then crossed my fingers in hopes that she would make it through the winter.

While my efforts focused on improving her living conditions, my wife's efforts focused on improving Black Cat's health.

It was in the early fall that my wife noticed her water bowl full of dirt in the morning. At first she thought it

was the result of a raccoon, but we soon discovered that it was a result of Black Cat pawing at her water bowl. This set off alarm bells in my wife's head. "I think we have a problem," she told me one night. "Black Cat's behavior of playing with the water is a classic sign of renal failure."

Renal failure, for those who may not know, is one of the chief causes of death in older cats. Having lost one too many already, we knew the disease's progression and it wasn't pretty. It could be managed for a time, but all you could do was buy a cat a few months, maybe a year. Being feral, however, most of the management options my wife had successfully used in the past were not open to Black Cat. Her food was changed to a formula that was more supportive of her kidneys. Other than that, about all we could do was make sure she had as much clean water as we could, which meant multiple trips a day to refill her water bowl.

We never really minded our visits to Black Cat. They always gave us a reason to slow down and take a pause from our busy days. But I have to admit, when the weather turned cold at the end of the year, I found it harder and harder to spend time with her. To make matters worse, the bitter cold snap meant Black Cat's water would constantly freeze – sometimes within a half hour of being refilled. While we could ensure she had water during the day, at night, Black Cat went without drinkable water. It worried us, but there was little we could do.

Then, the Christmas polar freeze hit, and things went from bad to worse.

Black Cat withdrew into her coop trying to stay as warm as she could. While she would venture out when we showed up, she quickly retreated after gulping down some food and warm water. Gone were the long sits and chats. Now it was just a fight to keep her alive.

That all changed on New Years Day.

It was late in the afternoon and I was making my last run to refill Black Cat's water bowl. The wind was howling and my exposed skin was burning. I had no intention of sitting and chatting with Black Cat. My goal was to simply refill the water



Someone had carelessly abandoned Black Cat as if she was garbage, but now that cruelty was going to be washed away and she was going to get the life that she deserved.

bowl and head back to the warmth of the fire in my study.

When I got to the coop, Black Cat failed to appear. After a quick check of the other two houses, I found them empty. I panicked. I walked through the woods calling for her, all the while knowing that since she was deaf, my calls were only being wasted. But at least my calls made me feel like I was doing something.

For half an hour I searched, but there was no sign of Black Cat. I checked the coop and her houses again in the hopes I a simply missed her – I had not. With my body now shaking in cold, I hunched over and walked back up the hill to my house – a sense of dread filled me. The night was predicted to be the coldest yet, and I feared Black Cat would not survive to see the morning sun.

As I climbed the fence next to the house, my thoughts were on how

I would tell my wife Black Cat was missing. But then I heard a cry and looked up to see a totally confused and shivering Black Cat sitting next to the back door.

Of course, my first reaction was one of joy – Black Cat was alive! Then the joy was replaced with the thought of, "what do I do now?"

In the three years we have taken care of her, Black Cat had not ventured more than 50 feet up the hill. Yet on this night she had walked well over 600 feet in a direction in which she had no idea what awaited her!

Why she headed up the hill, we will never know. Maybe it was because over the years she had come to associate us coming down the hill with food, company and love. Every time we went to feed her, she would always be sitting looking up the hill awaiting us.

That night however she opted not to wait for us, but took matters into

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

To a poor and lonely stray I'd give:

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

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

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

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

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

-- Author Unknown

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her own paws, setting out on her own in our direction in what I can only assume was hopes of finding warmth and safety. How she managed to do it is beyond me. But I believe my wife is correct in her belief that God intervened and guided her, as he guides all of us.

With the sun now set, taking Black Cat back down to the bottom of the hill was now out of the question. Having made the trek once to the house, we had no assurance that she would not try it again during the night. If she did, she would surely die. So the decision was made she was staying for at least the night.

Fortunately, we had never really 'unrigged' the barn from when "Q," our last feral, had moved in two years ago. So, we quickly went about setting Black Cat up in the two-story carpenter shed. Having just replaced the doors and windows in the building, it was air tight – now all we needed was to add some heat – which was easy.

Years ago, we had set up a cushioned chair that looked out a southern window and placed, much to the pleasure of the barn cats, a heated cat bed on the chair. It didn't put out a lot of heat, but at this stage, anything was better than nothing.

I grabbed some heavy horse blankets and positioned them to make a tent over the chair, effectively creating a fully enclosed cave for Black Cat. I next grabbed a space heater and set it up in the tent. Within minutes, the inside of the tent was toasty and warm.

I placed Black Cat into the tent. As I did, she looked up at me and blinked her eyes, as if to say "thank you", before closing them and falling asleep. Later that evening I went in and checked on her. She made no movement at all when I shined a light in. I gently touched her to make sure she was still alive. She didn't open her eyes, but instead, let out a loud purr and wiggled her toes.

That night, we all slept well.

The next morning I found Black Cat still asleep. Clearly the cold of the past few days had taken a toll on her, so I let her sleep. We checked in on her every few hours, refilling her always-empty water bowl each time, which told us that she was occasionally coming out to drink and eat. That afternoon, I spread a thick layer of hay on the floor. Sooner or later we knew she was going to recover enough that



Black Cat on her heated bed in her heated enclosure. That first evening when I checked in on her she made no movement at all. I gently touched her to make sure she was still alive. She didn't open her eyes, but instead, simply let out a loud purr.

she would want to walk about. At least with a bed of hay, she could lay in it and still be warm.

Once we knew she was safe and recovering from the exposure to the cold, the conversation turned to "what to do next?"

For the past year we had talked about trapping her and having her vetted. It was obvious that now was as good a time as ever. Our primary concern was to find out what was driving her thirst issues. If she were in renal failure, then tests would show how far advanced it was. Our biggest fear was that they would show she was in the final stages, which given the onset of winter, meant we might have to put her down.

On the third day, Black Cat, for probably the first time since she had been spayed as a kitten, went to the vet. She was a perfect lady they said. Even better, she got a clean bill of health. No signs of renal failure, no diabetes, and all of her blood work looked good. She was running a slight temperature however, for which she was given a long lasting antibiotic shot, and she received a full set of vaccinations as well as a microchip and an official file with her name on it. So, like it or not, she was now officially ours.

While she was at the vet, I took the time to build her a proper 'shelter.' An old piece of Styrofoam insulation formed the roof and sides, and the space heater was repositioned for maximum efficiency, which an appreciative Black Cat was more than happy

to enjoy when she returned from her big adventure to the vet's office.

That evening, with the temperature plummeting and the wind howling, I braved the elements to check on Black Cat. Using a black light, I shined it into her tent. Had she been down at the bottom of the hill, she would have had to be curled up like a ball to conserve heat, but that was a different time and different life. Now she was free to stretch out to capture all the warmth of the heating pad. As I watched, I could see her wiggle her toes. She was fast asleep, but there was no doubt that her dream was a happy one.

That evening, as I lay in bed listening to the wind howl outside, all I could think of was how happy I was that all our animals were inside, safe and warm. I always felt bad that Black Cat had been excluded from that thought over the last few years – but not anymore.

I have no idea how this story will eventually end. There are a lot of hurdles that have yet to be overcome – namely getting Black Cat introduced and accepted by the two boys who currently claim dominion over the barn. But as I reminded them that night, as they were snuggled onto their own heated cat beds in their well-heated tack room; they too were once homeless and someone gave them a chance. Now they needed to give Black Cat her chance to finally have a home she could call her own, friends to play with, and people to love and be loved by.

Epilogue

Three days after this story was written, Black Cat died.

My wife found her in the morning on the ground, next to her water and food bowl. The first thought was that she had died; Black Cat's eyes were open and sunken in, and there were no signs of breathing. Yet, upon touching her, Black Cat stirred and started to purr.

My wife picked her up off the cold floor and placed her in the sun. She sat with Black Cat, Black Cat appeared to rally from the dead—afraid to leave lest Black Cat should die, afraid not to leave, as she knew time was critical for Black Cat and she needed to get her to the vet.

"While Black Cat never fully came back to normal, she did know it was me who was petting her," said my wife. Hoping against hope that Black Cat was stable, she headed into the house to call the vet. Five minutes later she returned with a cat carrier only to find Black Cat had died.

While the end came as a shock to us, deep down we knew something had been wrong with Black Cat for months. While the visit to the vet the week before had resulted in a bill of good health, we had arranged for a more detailed workup the following week to get to the bottom of underlying issues we had been seeing, issues that blood tests and a general physical would not detect.

Unfortunately for Black Cat, the tests would come too late. Her body simply gave out.

Her death gave us pause to reflect upon the nature of the animals with whom we share our lives. We no longer believe Black Cat's journey to our back door on New Year's Day was a fluke. We think Black Cat knew she was in trouble, and

she did what any of us would do, seek out those she trusted to help her. She knew that love, kindness and companionship came from the top of the hill – so up the hill she went.

Her instincts were right. We did not turn her away, but helped her. We decided that she would no longer be feral, and even had gone so far as to order her a collar and a nametag. Black Cat was finally going to have a true home once again. Someone had carelessly abandoned her earlier in her life, a cruelty that was going to be washed away. So finally was going to get the life she deserved.

While I'm sad Black Cat did not live to enjoy the new life we were preparing for her, I find solace in the thought that we made her last three years happy ones. While we will miss sitting with her every morning and night, she will never be forgotten.

We had always feared Black Cat would die a horrible death alone somewhere in the woods and never be found. Instead, she passed peacefully. Her last act was to purr for the person she loved most. Her last thought was of being touched by the person who loved her most. If anyone needed any proof of divine intent, I can think of nothing better.

Black Cat's body was cremated and her ashes were placed next to all those who had shared their lives with us, and a picture now hangs on the wall, along all the others.

For a simple feral cat, she touched us deeply and reminded us what it meant to be human, and for that, we thank her.

To read other articles by Michael Hillman visit the authors section of Emmitsburg.net.

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THE MASTER GARDENER

The Spotted Lanternfly

Emelie Swackhamer and Chuck Gill Penn State Extension

Lycorma delicatula, commonly known as the Spotted Lanternfly (SLF), is a new invasive insect that has spread throughout southeastern Pennsylvania since its discovery in Berks County in 2014. Although the insect has not yet been found in this part of the state, it's very close - Lancaster County is the closest quarantined county - and it is just a matter of time before they are seen in south central PA and northern MD. The quarantine regulates or limits the movement of plants, plant-based materials and outdoor household items out of the quarantine area unless certain conditions are met. SLF presents a significant threat to Pennsylvania agriculture, including the grape, tree-fruit, hardwood and nursery industries, which collectively are worth nearly \$18 billion to the state's economy. Homeowners also could sustain damage to high-value ornamentals in their landscape.

Native to China, India, Japan and Vietnam, the spotted lanternfly does not attack fruit or foliage. Rather, it uses its piercing-sucking mouthparts to feed on the woody parts of plants — such as tree trunks or branches and grape vines — where it excretes a substance known as honeydew and inflicts wounds that weep with sap. The honeydew and sap can attract other insects and provide a medium for growth of fungi, such as sooty

mold, which covers leaf surfaces and can stunt growth. Plants with heavy infestations may not survive.

SLF eggs hatch in May. There are four instars (immature stages) of this insect. In the first three instars the insect nymphs are black with white spots. In the fourth instar, the nymphs are red and black with white spots, and the adult has wings, with red underwings that only show when the insect is in flight. These adults appear in July and, although winged, they are not strong flyers, but great jumpers.

Are there any natural enemies of the spotted lanternfly?

Birds don't seem to like to eat them, and researchers have not found predatory or parasitic insects that are making a great impact on the population yet. Over time, natural enemies often do find invasive insect species, but for now this does not seem to be happening on a level that is making a difference.

Things to consider before you purchase an insecticide

In some infested properties there are thousands of spotted lanternflies and many of them are very high up in trees. It will be difficult to reach the insects with a small can of spray or even a backpack sprayer. In this case you might consider hiring a professional tree care service to do the application.

Also, when the canopy of a tree is sprayed, the insecticide can come into contact with beneficial insects including pollinators and other creatures. People are looking for more specific approaches to pest management to minimize off-tar-

get exposure. This type of strategy is known as Integrated Pest Management (IPM). The PDA has been using an IPM strategy for spotted lanternfly infestations, and landowners may consider using the same IPM strategy on their properties, or hiring a professional service to do it.

IPM strategy for the Spotted Lanternfly

Locate *Ailanthus altissima* (Tree of Heaven) trees on the site. For reasons not understood, spotted lanternfly seem to prefer some individual tree-of-heavens to others. Try to identify the specific trees that are most attractive to the insects, based on how many are feeding on them.

Destroy approximately 90% of these trees, leaving only a few that are most attractive to the insect. They will serve as "trap" trees. It is recommended that you try to kill all the female tree-of-heavens, because they produce seed and contribute to the spread of this invasive tree. Be careful handling tree-of-heaven wood, leaves and branches. Chemicals in the sap of this tree can cause headaches, nausea and possible heart problems. Wear gloves and protect yourself from exposure.

When you cut down tree-of-heavens, they will sprout profusely from the stumps and can grow back in a few years. Because they regenerate so easily, it is recommended that you treat the stumps with an herbicide to kill them and prevent them from sprouting new shoots.

Herbicides that are labelled for this use usually contain one of the



The Spotted Lanternfly has not been found in southern Adams County or northern Maryland yet, but it has been found close by in Lancaster County. *photo credit PA Department of Agriculture.

following active ingredients: triclopyr, dicamba, imazapyr or glyphosate. Use the herbicide carefully and according to directions on the label. Alternative methods for using herbicides to kill tree-of-heaven include foliar sprays, basal bark applications and a method called frill application or "hack and squirt." The Penn State Extension publication, *Herbicides and Forest Vegetation Management*, has more information about these methods. Whichever method you choose, remember that you will have dead trees, which may eventually have to be removed.

Treat the remaining tree-of-heavens with a systemic insecticide that will move throughout the tree. The insecticide must be applied according to the label and at the right time of year for the trees to absorb it. When spotted lanternflies feed on correctly treated trees, they will die. Systemic insecticides that are labelled to treat ornamental trees

usually contain the active ingredients dinotefuran or imidacloprid. The PDA is using dinotefuran in their IPM strategy.

Treating only a few trap trees with a systemic product can reduce the amount of insecticide released into the environment and may help conserve beneficial insects.

Avoid spreading the spotted lanternfly

It is important for landowners in the affected area to avoid spreading the spotted lanternfly. Avoid parking or storing things under trees in infested areas.

The female SLF often lays eggs on objects that are under the trees she is feeding on. You should try to change your habits about where you park. Park vehicles in open fields, away from tree lines, or in a closed garage if possible. You should not store things that you might need to move to outside of the quarantined area under infested trees. These things include firewood, tools, construction supplies, equipment, or any other solid object.

If you visit a quarantined area, inspect all items that will be leaving with you from the quarantined area.

You should remove and destroy any SLF that you find before you move the item. Also check all vehicles, trailers, campers and equipment including around windshield wipers, grills, wheel wells, and truck beds. Inspect plant material, woody debris, lawn furniture, construction supplies, tools, and all solid objects. Remove SLF manually or use a pressure washer. You can destroy mobile stages of SLF mechanically by crushing them. Destroy eggs by smashing them or scraping them into a container of rubbing alcohol.

If you find a spotted lanternfly in a municipality where it is not known to exist

You should try to capture it and put it into a vial filled with alcohol to kill and preserve it, or at least take a good picture of it. Report it to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA) by emailing to: badbug@pa.gov or call the Invasive Species Hotline at 1-866-253-7189. Your discovery could add additional municipalities to the quarantined area.

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THE MASTER GARDENER

Frederick County Master Gardener 2018 training class forming now!

If you love plants—growing them, studying them, and talking about them – you can put your passion for plants to good use and make new friends by becoming a Master Gardener! The Master Gardener program turns avid (and aspiring) gardeners into expert gardeners who share their knowledge through community greening efforts, plant clinics, and a variety of outreach programs.

An important part of being a Master Gardener is contributing to the community. In their first year, Master Gardeners volunteer 40-hours to educate the people of Frederick County about effective and sustainable horticultural practices that build healthy gardens, landscapes and communities. Volunteer opportunities are extensive. Master Gardeners host “Ask a Master Gardener” Plant Clinics - identifying plants, plant diseases, and insects found in and around homes.

They also share environmentally beneficial landscaping methods through the Demonstration Garden; the Grow It - Eat It program, the Bay-Wise program and via Seminars and Workshops. They host a booth at the Great Frederick Fair and speak to many community groups. Master Gardeners love to share gardening ideas with our seniors via therapeutic horticulture programs; and with youth via gardening projects and judging

training. Master Gardeners write articles for local newspapers, and support greening efforts throughout the region.

Frederick County Master Gardeners base their knowledge on their own experience as gardeners, as well as through both classroom and hands-on training provided by the University of Maryland Extension horticultural educators. Master Gardeners continue to receive training at monthly meetings, statewide training programs organized by the Home and Garden Information Center, and on field trips.

Training Classes for 2018 begin February 6, on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., and continue through March and April, on Tuesdays from 9 am – 3 pm. Participants will be required to view lessons on-line prior to some classes, as well as attend at least 75% of the classes. Instructors are University of Maryland professionals, Master Gardeners, and other experts in their fields.

If all this sounds appealing and you are a Frederick County resident, visit the Master Gardeners website at <http://extension.umd.edu/frederick-county/> for more information. Cost for the training is \$225. To enroll, write to Susan Trice, MG Coordinator, at strice@umd.edu, as soon as possible to begin the application process. We invite you to join us!

Adams County annual tree seedling sale

Native bareroot seedlings, transplants and containerized trees and shrubs may now be ordered from the Adams County Conservation District (ACCD) for its 2018 Tree Seedling Sale. Pick up date is Thursday April 19 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the pole building behind the Ag Center on 670 Old Harrisburg Road, Gettysburg.

The District tries to balance its offerings for the homeowner as well as the larger landowner and those in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program or CREP. We look for native offerings that are larger sizes and the best prices. New this year is the two-gallon containerized Arrowwood Southern Viburnum (*Viburnum dentatum*). Bareroot hardwoods are pin oak, swamp white oak, river birch, red osier dogwood, sugar maple and the persimmon, for which we have had numerous

requests. The evergreens (seedlings and transplants) are Eastern white pine (transplants only) and Norway spruce (both seedlings and transplants).

Bluebird and bat boxes will not be available for pre-order through the tree sale but they are available at the District office throughout the year. A limited amount of rain barrels may also be available for purchase on the day of pickup for \$50; however, you may also purchase them throughout the year at the District.

Interested in ordering or have questions? Please contact the ACCD at 717-334-0636, email shull@adamscounty.us, or visit us at www.adamscounty.us in Events and Meetings and print out an order form/brochure. You will need to either mail or drop off your order form, along with your check payable to the ACCD by March 30th for all orders.

Small Town Gardener

Sprouts! A winter garden right in your kitchen

Marianne Willburn

Many activities we perform in this life (and which Mothers might never consider) are undertaken simply because we saw them modeled for us as children or young adults. Exposure to these skills helped us understand that they were far from magical, and that we were most likely capable of doing them ourselves at some point.

One of these ‘magical’ activities which I never thought magical until I met others who did, is to sprout seeds on my countertop for sandwiches, salads, and just about anything else I make around here. Sprouts are an incredibly rich source of vitamins and minerals and allow you to have a fresh source of greens growing in your kitchen 365 days a year. It simply doesn't get more local than that.

I can thank my seventies-era mom for the know-how. She always had a Mason jar of sprouts growing on the windowsill, and to this day one of my favorite lunches is her freshly made tuna sandwich with carrots, celery, onions and a huge heap of sprouts adding tang and crunch to mayonnaise-y whole wheat.

If you've never sprouted (or even thought of sprouting) seeds, but buy them at the store or enjoy a sprout-filled sandwich at a local hipster café, you are my target audience. Believe me when I say:

- It is not magic.
- It is not dangerous.
- You can do it.

The sprouting process at its most simplistic –

- Soak two tablespoons of organic seeds in a bowl for eight hours.
- Dump them into a container that drains efficiently.
- Rinse them twice a day with fresh water and let them drain.
- When they are big enough after 4-5 days, rinse them of their hulls in a large bowl and store them in the fridge in a lidded mason jar with a paper towel inside.
- Enjoy them for the next week or until they run out.

Sprouting equipment

Up until recently, I always used a quart jar topped with plastic lids (Sprout-Ease Econo-Sprouter Toppers Set/Amazon). It is an inexpensive and easy way to get started and, judging from my track record, to keep sprouting for a couple decades.

I have also been pretty basic in my choice of seeds. Alfalfa and mung bean seeds provided for all of our needs (be they sandwich, salad or stir fry), and whilst the hipper world around me dabbled with spicy daikon or the purple legs of amaranth, I was content to remain retro in

this respect.

Then recently, my head was turned by the sprouting section in the Botanical Interests seed catalog and the [practically frame-able] botanical prints that illustrate their seed packets. I began to think outside the jar.

Salad and sandwich mixes...those purple legs of amaranth...protein-packed lentils and nutty sunflower seed crunch. Why not branch out? After a trade show, I was fortunate enough to be sent one of their clever two-level sprouters and suddenly, things got even easier.

Now I find myself in a tough position. Yes, a Mason jar is cheaper, but the convenience of this sprouter is exceptional. The two trays sit above a draining tray, so you don't have to remember to remove the sprouter from the sink after draining. The trays are covered with a diffuser, which not only lets the rinsing water evenly percolate through the two trays, but also retains humidity which the seeds require.

Each tray comes with a divider which means that you can technically grow four types of sprouts at one time, or like me, stagger my seed sprouting by a couple days and have two crops growing in the same space.

For those that have never tried sprouting, it's a great way to start, and the choice of seed and seed mixes is wonderful. Sadly, at this point you can't buy seeds in bulk from Botanical Interests, but it's a great way to try a lot of wonderful organic varieties while you buy your garden seeds and hone in on what makes your menus come alive.

Once you see how easy it is to grow and store them, and how useful they are in helping you keep fresh greens in your kitchen, I'd also recommend sproutpeople.org for bulk seeds and seed mixes, sprouting information and particularly, for their well-written treatise on “the politics of sprouts.”

But aren't sprouts dangerous?

Which brings me to my last point – foodborne illness and sprouts. Sadly, people remember headlines, no matter how dimly, and the general public rarely goes any deeper into the issue. When it comes to sprouts, they should.

I have been sprouting organic seeds for over twenty years now and have never had a problem with unhealthy bacteria. I start with high quality organic seeds (which have never been linked to food-borne illness and which are stringently tested for pathogenic bacteria), use common sense hygienic practices when rinsing, and obviously would never store or eat sprouts that have gone bad or moldy.

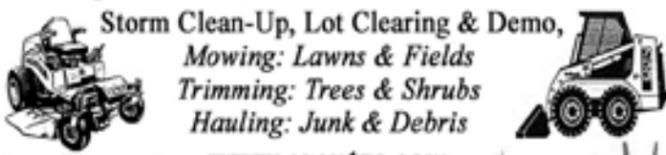
Of course, there are methods for further disinfecting your seeds if you must, but they take the joy and ease right out of the whole process. Personally I'd be running for the nearest grocery store by the end of that ordeal. (If I for one minute thought that doing so would ensure a foodborne illness-free existence...spinach or Caesar salad anyone?)

Cue the crunch

While growing your own food is not magic, the ability to transform a few grams of seeds into fresh nutritious greens in less than five days in your kitchen is the closest you'll probably ever come to it. I urge you to try this delicious, painless way to inject a bit of health into your diet, and start modeling a new skill for other people – young and old – in your life.

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

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FIRE COMPANY AWARD BANQUETS

Vigilant Hose Company



President Frank Davis and Chief Chad Umbel presenting the Member of the Year Award to Dave Zentz.



President Davis awarding the Hall of Fame Award to Bob Rosensteel Jr.



Women's Auxiliary Officers: Front (L-R): Mandy Ryder, Joyce Glass, Jo Ann Boyd, Sharel Boyle, Tina Ryder; Back (L-R): Jennifer Boyd and Katie Davis.



Operational Officers and Fire Police: Front (L-R): Chad Umbel, Jimmy Click, Josh Brotherton, Alex McKenna, Derek Rosensteel; Back (L-R): Doug Yingling, Marc Piermatteo, Amber Zimmerman, Chad Zimmerman, Tom Vaughn, Steve Orndorff, Sam Cool.



Chief Chad Umbel presenting the Chief's Award to Cliff Shriner.



Ed Little was presented with a fire helmet shield for his support of the VHC and Ambulance CO. merger transition.



(seated, L-R): Frank Davis, Dave Stonesifer, Steve Valentine, Tom Ward, Steve Hollinger, Bill Boyd, and Fr. Charlie Krieg (standing): Pam Bolin, Pam Ellison, Doug Orner, Tim Clarke, Mary Lou Little, Carl White, Elyssa Cool, Randy Myers, Dave Zentz.

Administrative Officers for 2018

President: Frank Davis
 Vice President: David Stonesifer
 Secretary: Steve Valentine
 Assistant Secretary: Thomas Ward
 Treasurer: Steve Hollinger
 Assistant Treasurer: William Boyd
 Chaplain: Fr. Charlie Krieg

Line Officers 2018

Chief: Chad Umbel
 Deputy Chief: James Click
 Assistant Chief: Joshua Brotherton
 Captain: Alex McKenna
 Lieutenant: Derek Rosensteel
 Lieutenant: Douglas Yingling
 Lieutenant: Marc Piermatteo
 EMS Captain: Amber Zimmerman
 EMS Lieutenant: Chad Zimmerman

Auxiliary Officers for 2018

President: Tina Ryder
 Vice President: Sharel Boyle
 Treasurer: Jo Ann Boyd
 Secretary: Joyce Glass
 Financial Secretary: Mandy Ryder
 Co-Historians: Jennifer Boyd & Katie Davis

Fire Police for 2018

Captain: Tom Vaughn
 1st Lieutenant: Stephen Orndorff
 2nd Lieutenant: Samuel Cool

Board of Directors

Pam Bolin, Timothy Clark, Elyssa Cool, Pam Ellison, Mary Lou Little, Randy Myers, Douglas Orner, Carl White, David Zentz and Carl White

Rocky Ridge Fire Company



Administrative Officers: Front (L-R): Dale Kline, Dennis Mathias, Paulette Mathias and Christina Hurley. Back (L-R): Betty Ann Mumma, Donald Kaas, Bernard Wivell, Bonny Hurley, Rev. Jim Russell, Penny Stonesifer, Robert Eyler, Joseph Youngerman.



Bernard Wivell was the recipient of a 45 year member pin.



Alan Hurley received the President's Award for his superior leadership of the Rocky Ridge Fire Company.

Administrative Officers for 2018

President: Dale Kline
 Vice President: Dennis Mathias
 Secretary: Paulette Mathias
 Asst. Treasurer: Christina Hurley
 Treasurer: Bernard R. Wivell
 Asst. Treasurer: Bonny Hurley
 Chaplain: Pastor Jim Russell

Board of Directors

Wesley Burrier
 Robert Eyler
 Donald Kaas Jr
 Andy Mathias
 Betty Ann Mumma
 Penny Stonesifer
 Joseph Youngerman

Line Officers for 2018

Chief: Alan Hurley
 1st Asst. Chief: Larry Humerick Jr.
 2nd Asst. Chief: Kevin Albaugh
 Captain: Jim Rice

Auxiliary Officers for 2018

Auxiliary President: Betty Ann Mumma

Vice President: Nancy Summers
 Secretary: Bonnie Sanders
 Asst. Secretary: Kay Ensor
 Treasurer: Betty L Mumma
 Asst. Treasurer: Helen Burrier
 Chaplain: Pat Riggs
 Asst. Chaplain: Nancy Baker
 Historian: Linda Northrup

FIRE COMPANY AWARD BANQUETS

Harney Fire Company



Harney's Auxiliary: (Front L-R): Juanita Fream, Cristina Rodgers, Louise Strickhouser, Michelle Vaughn, Ellen Rodgers. Back (L-R): Loretta Bowers, Barb Miller, Beth Bowers, Macy Vaughn, Theresa Ridinger and Shirley Waybright.



Mary Jane Waybright - one of the pillars of the Harney Fire Company.



Installation of Officers: President Jim Waybright, Trustees Lee Bowers and Kendall Bowers, Treasurer Leonard Bowers, County Delegate Travis Dutterer, Vice President Charlie Blocher, Secretary Richard Yingling, Recording Secretary Bobby Baughman, Trustee Brad Waybright, and Chaplain Jennings Martin.



Top responder for 2017 Kendall Bowers flanked by President Jim Waybright and his father Leonard Bowers.



Long time Harney Fire Company members Charlie Miller and Author Ridinger.

Harney Fire Company Officers for 2018

President: Jim Waybright
 Vice President: Charlie Blocher
 Secretary: Richard Yingling
 Activity Treasurer: Leonard Bowers
 Utility Treasurer: Gene Curfman
 Chief: Donald Yingling Jr.
 Recording sect: Bobby Baughman
 Chaplain: Jenings Martin

Trustees: Lee Bowers, Kendall Bowers and Brad Waybright
County Delegates: Richard Yingling and Travis Dutterer

Top Ten Responders for 2017

- 1 - Kendall Bowers
- 2 - Donald Yingling Sr.
- 3 - Donald Yingling Jr.
- 4 - Bobby Baughman
- 5 - Lee Bowers
- 6 - Jonathan Harman
- 7 (tie) - Richard Strickhouser
- 7 (tie) - Jimmy Yingling
- 8 - Matt Nye
- 9 - Paul Rea
- 10 - Joel Yingling



Julie and Milton Knouse with son Maverick.



Junior members of the Rocky Ridge Fire Company - Rocky Ridge has one of the more active Junior programs in the County.



Line officer: Jim Rice - Captain. Kevin Albaugh - 2nd Asst. Chief, Larry Humerick Jr. - 1st Asst. Chief, Alan Hurley - Chief.



The Rocky Ridge Auxiliary - a 'backbone' of the Rocky Ridge Fire Company.



Matt Moser receiving the Charles Mumma Firefighter of the Year Award from Linda Northrup.

HEALTH NOTES

Beating the winter blues

Kelsey Shupe
Frederick Memorial Hospital

As the days get shorter and the evenings grow darker, you may find yourself feeling more tired, cranky, or more unhappy or depressed than usual. If you're feeling down in the dumps this time of year and can't quite explain why, there's a reason—you may be experiencing 'SAD' or Seasonal Affective Disorder.

According to the American Academy of Family Physicians, about 1 to 4 percent of people in the U.S. experience Seasonal Affective Disorder, or SAD—and another 10 to 20 percent may have mild cases of SAD. Sometimes referred to as the winter blues or winter depression, SAD is a real condition that can affect anyone, including those who have not previously experienced symptoms of depression.

Here's everything you need to know to cope with Seasonal Affective Disorder.

What is Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD)?

The National Institute of Mental Health (NIH) defines SAD as a "type of depression that comes and goes with the seasons, typically starting in the late fall and early winter, and going away during the spring and summer months. Depressive episodes linked to the summer can occur, but are much less common than winter episodes of SAD."

The signs and symptoms of SAD include:

- Feeling anxious, grumpy, moody, or sad
- Loss of interest in activities you once enjoyed
- Low energy
- Overeating and/or weight gain
- Craving carbs, like bread and pasta
- Sleeping more but still feeling tired
- Social anxiety and/or withdrawal
- Trouble concentrating

Anyone can get SAD, but it's more common in:

- Women, diagnosed four times more often than men, according to the NIH
- People who live far from the equator, where daylight hours are shorter in the winter
- People between 15 and 55 years old
- People with a family history of Seasonal Affective Disorder
- People with depression or bipolar disorder

The causes of SAD are relatively unknown, but medical researchers have found some key biological factors. For example, people with SAD may have trouble regulating one of the key neurotransmitters involved in stabilizing mood—serotonin. People with SAD may produce less vitamin D, which plays a role in serotonin activity, or overproduce the hormone melatonin, which regulates sleep, leaving them feeling sleepier and more lethargic in winter.

When Should I See a Doctor?

While it's sometimes hard to tell the difference between SAD and other types of depression, your doctor may diagnose you with SAD if:

- You have been depressed during the same season and have improved when the seasons changed for at least two years in a row.
- Your symptoms align with those that often occur with SAD.
- A close relative—a brother, sister, or parent—has had SAD.

If you have any of the symptoms or risk factors listed above, consider scheduling an appointment with your primary care physician immediately.

How Can I Combat SAD?

After you've been diagnosed with SAD, your doctor may prescribe one of four major types of treatment (or a combination of these):

1. Light Therapy - One of the main treatments for SAD since the '80s, light therapy is believed to work by resetting your biological clock. The idea is that light therapy replaces the diminished sunshine during fall and winter using daily exposure to bright, artificial lights.

Light boxes use fluorescent lights that are brighter than indoor lights but not as bright as sunlight. SAD sufferers may feel relief of symptoms by sitting in front of the light box for 30 minutes to one hour in the morning, on a daily basis until spring. You can also sit in front of the light box while you read, eat, work, or watch TV.

2. Medication - Antidepressants are often prescribed to people with SAD. The most common ones are selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs), like paroxetine (Paxil) and sertraline (Zoloft). Other antidepressants include bupropion (Wellbutrin) and venlafaxine (Effexor).

3. Talk to a Professional - Counseling may also be helpful or recommended by your doctor. During therapy sessions, you will learn more about SAD and its effects, how to manage your own symptoms, and how to prevent it from reoccurring next year. You'll identify negative thoughts and replace them with more positive ones, and identify activities that are engaging and enjoyable to help you cope with winter.

4. Vitamin D - Evidence for vitamin D supplementation is mixed—some studies suggest it may be as effective as light therapy, while others suggest there is zero effect on SAD symptoms. Your primary care physician can help you decide if vitamin D supplements are an appropriate form of treatment for you. You should not take these supplements without consulting a doctor first.

What Options are Available?

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Kick your SAD to the curb this winter—call 240-215-6310 or visit monocacyhealthpartners.org today.

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

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Donnie Yingling - 38 years of community service

After 38 years, Donnie Yingling will be stepping down as Chief of the Harney Fire Department. Chief Yingling's decision, which he admitted was a hard one, was in part due to health complications he has been experiencing over the past several months. On January 20, the Harney Volunteer Fire Company held its annual award banquet – but this year, it really was a celebration of Chief Yingling's dedication not only to the Fire Company, but to the Harney community as a whole.

In his time as Chief, Yingling has made the Company one of the most respected in Maryland. Because of Yingling's leadership, Harney's Fire Company has long been considered one of the most reliable in Frederick, Carroll, and Adams Counties. The Harney Fire Company is known for their well-trained personnel as well as their top-notch equipment and apparatus. As he begins his retirement, Yingling will be sorely missed by many in the area, but everyone wishes him every success in his retirement.

Chief Yingling first became interested in the Harney Fire Company at a very young age. He grew up just a half mile away from the Harney Fire Hall and was very active in the community. Unfortunately, in his youth, his family's place of business caught fire, and responding firemen ran out of water and, despite trying their best, were unable to contain the flames. Yingling commented that this experience sparked his interest in the fire company. He ultimately joined the department when he was just sixteen years old. "My father died when I was eleven," Yingling said, "I got some good direction from the people at the fire company." Yingling spent a few years as President before deciding to run for the position of Chief in the yearly elections.

When he was just seventeen years old, Yingling met his future wife at a roller skating event after a Sunday School class. Linda Yingling commented that she has always supported her husband and is proud of the dedication he has for the Harney Fire Company. It was his first love. She also added that her husband stays up to date on certifications and new requirements within the fire company,

even taking online classes to ensure his knowledge is kept current.

As a result of his certifications, Yingling became the first EMT in Harney many years ago. Chief Yingling's son, David Yingling, commented that everyone knows his dad as the "Old Man" and that wherever he goes, all know whom his father is. Ultimately, he said that he would not be the person he is today if it wasn't for the guidance from his father. Despite all of his individual accomplishments, Yingling emphasized that it was a "we thing" and that "we did it, together."

Wayne Powell, former chief of the Emmitsburg Vigilant Hose Company, spoke highly of Chief Yingling and his service. "Chief Yingling was a consummate professional for his immediate community as well as to all neighboring fire departments," Powell commented. "His ability to anticipate things that could hinder operations or become a serious threat to the health and well-being of firefighters is legendary, plus his keen abilities have always been relied upon when the worst is unfolding."

Powell went on to say that Chief Yingling is loved, day in and day out, by those he serves and those that he commands. "Vigilant Hose Company fire officers and firefighters alike have always known that just by his presence 'Chief 11' brings about a 'calm during the storm' at emergency scenes day and night." Powell added, "While our VHC friendship with him will endure, his presence on the fire ground will be sorely missed. The men and women of the VHC wish his every success in retirement."

Brothers Lee and Leonard Bowers have been involved with the Harney Fire Department for over 30 years. Lee has been a trustee for 32 years, while Leonard has been the treasurer for 31 years. Both fondly recalled two highlights of Chief Yingling's journey: when the fire company went to Baltimore to help protect the Pope during his visit to the United States in 1994, and another time in 1995 when Yingling's team helped to haul water to the site of the West Virginia tire fire. They also commented that Yingling was an inventor, creating a Silo Probe to help with farm fires. His innovation made his company the "go to" for silo fires.

Yingling also served on many committees during his time as Chief and helped organize feeds and fundraisers. Lee commented that the Chief was a great people person, a good talker, and leader, always had good morale, and joked often. Leonard added that everyone joked when the Chief got a smart phone; they didn't think he needed it because he was already smart. In the end, they both echoed that he would be missed dearly, but everyone hopes that the Chief will continue to stay involved.

Many others offered fond memories of Chief Yingling as well. Kendall Bowers, the youngest fireman in the company, shared a memory about a time when the company was on a call and were putting supplies back in the truck. The truck started to drive away without them, but Chief Yingling was able to get their attention and get them to come back. Louise Strickhouser, a 60-year member of the Ladies Auxiliary, added that he was an "outstanding member of the community."

Yingling was also praised by Charlie Blocher, Vice President for the past fourteen years and Bob Baughman, Recording Secretary, as a great leader. He is a "no nonsense, good leader who stays current on everything, is capable of making good decisions quickly, and always protects his guys," stated Blocher. Numerous people are amazed at the time commitment made by the Chief. Richard Yingling, the Chief's cousin and the company's secretary, believed that Yingling was very conscientious about his job, ensuring that if anything went wrong it was fixed.

At the award banquet Chief Yingling was honored with a plaque commemorating his service from Jim Waybright, who has served as the President of the company for 30 years. "Chief Yingling leads by example," Waybright commented, "he is a great guy who runs a great company and is the 'go to' guy for improvements." Waybright added that Yingling's favorite saying was "Let's not make this emergency our emergency." While honored, Chief Yingling was quick to point out that he was only one of many in the Fire Company and its ongoing success belongs to them all.

Yingling also received a procla-



Chief Yingling was quick to point out that he was only one of the many who have dedicated countless hours to the Harney Fire Company and its ongoing success belongs to them all.

mation from Stephen Wantz, Carroll County Commissioner, honoring him for his many years of service. Wantz commended Yingling for how calm he always was, no matter how big the emergency may have been. He also mentioned that Chief Yingling was the most knowledgeable guy he knew

about water supply and how to get water out of ponds and streams.

Wantz finished by saying that Yingling was a "great friend, great mentor, and great Chief." Yingling's time and dedication to the Harney Fire Company will always be valued, respected and honored.

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WWI NEWS REPORTS FROM THE FRONT

“The Western front is now the war”



With Russia officially out of the war, the focus finally shifted to the Western Front where an untested American Army awaited its fate.

February 1

Germans Torturing Prisoners To Get Information

American officers at the front have come into possession of documents, said to have been taken from Germans, which deal with the treatment to be accorded to prisoners. The documents say all prisoners, after being captured, are to be kept in cages for four days, without food, and compelled to stand at all times. After four days only small quantities of food are to be given. American officers expressed the belief that the order resulted from the difficulties that the Germans are experiencing in extracting information from American prisoners.

Exchanged Italian prisoners, who have just arrived from Austrian concentration camps, told almost unbelievable cruelty practiced against prisoners, particularly the Serbs. The Serbs are not permitted to receive any care parcels, are expected to work twenty hours a day, and are beaten if they do not comply. When in their cages, the keepers throw them scraps of bread, carrots and turnips as their sole subsistence. The prisoners are not given access to doctors and have no sanitation facilities. As a result of these conditions, upwards of 30,000 to 40,000 Serbs have died from starvation. The Italians say that they received a loaf of bread daily for division among eight men. Conditions are so terrible, the prisoners say, that they will result in not more than one third of the Italian prisoners coming back alive.

Conditions In American Trenches

Conditions continue to be quiet in the American sector because of the fog, which has showed no signs of abating. Beyond a few shots from both sides that register targets, there was very little artillery firing. There is virtually no infantry activity.

A dense fog which has rolled in over

the American sector has enabled both American and enemy patrols to work freely. The American patrols, unmolested, inspected the enemy wire defenses and made some other discoveries of importance. Owing to the fog, aerial and artillery observation is impossible.

Meanwhile, mail has been delivered daily to our boys in the trenches. Letters for the return mail to the United States are coming out with equal regularity. So, if relatives and friends back home get letters with mud smeared on them, or written on mud smeared paper, they will know that it is more than likely that these messages were pieced together where the Americans and enemy guns roar intermittently through day and night.

Army censors say that for the most part the men now in the trenches write to their mothers. The general tone of such letters, which indicates the high morale of the men on the line, is: “don’t worry about me; I’m all right, the food is good and I’m feeling fine.”

American troops in trenches on the French front at one place are only 60 feet from the German line. In another place, a mild ground separates the opposing positions. At this point, however, there are a number of paths and neither side apparently desires to occupy the water-covered ground.

The American trenches are all in, more or less marshy ground, making the use of “duckboards” necessary at all times, except when the trench water and mud are frozen. The trenches were shallow when the Americans moved in, but since then they have been deepened.

In every dugout the soldiers work almost constantly at the pumps keeping out the water that seeps in. But the watery conditions are unfavorable for trench rats, and few of them are seen. One unit spent more than a week in the line before seeing a rat, and he apparently was in a hurry to get someplace where the ground was drier.

The scene at night is thrilling and

inspiring. On the firing platforms the men stand near their rifles. Others splashed through the trenches sometimes slipping from the duckboards into waters above their knees. If the position is near the enemy lines, hardly a word is ever spoken and when a word is necessary it is spoken in a whisper. Far away to one side of the position a white stream shoots up into the sky and breaks into white balls that throw a light as if from powerful electric batteries. The reflections show wire entanglements and scrubbing brushes on the hills nearby, and then the lights die out.

All the while there is the intermittent roar of guns and a whistle as of express trains as project those of differing caliber go rushing over the American trenches seeking a German target. The American soldiers have become so accustomed to such sounds that now they apparently pay no attention to them. Every now and then, the sound of a shell explosion is audible, but most of the time the artillery targets at night are too far back from the trenches to hear the project explode.

Every man at all times has his eyes open for two kinds of colored rockets. One is green and the other is red. The first means asphyxiating gas and the other calls for a barrage. The green light to the men in the line means more than anything else, for in a gas attack they know that their allies often depend upon the speed in which the gas masks are adjusted after the alarm is given.

February 8

U.S. Troop Transport Sunk

The Canard liner *Tuscania*, carrying 2,179 officers and men of the 32nd National Guard Division, lies at the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean. At least 168 soldiers are missing.

The boat was hit at 5:45 Tuesday evening on the port side and she immediately commenced lowering lifeboats. The *Tuscania* remained afloat two hours after being torpedoed. The soldiers were lined up on the deck waiting for the boats. Unfortunately, many jumped overboard.

The condition of some of the survivors was pitiable. Many had cast aside all their clothes and had been swimming about for two hours before being rescued. The position of the liner, off the coast of Ireland, was such that numbers of British patrol ships were able to rush to her side, therefore minimizing the losses.

Reports gave no details of how the transport fell in with the submarine, but it was regarded that the ship stumbled on the submarine rather than the disaster being the first shot in the much-advertised German offensive against a line of American troops and supplies.

The process of conveying has become almost routine through practice of both the British and American Navies. A screen of destroyers or other swift craft travels ahead of a convoy fleet. The destroyers are spread out over considerable area. It is known that virtually all the German U-boats are equipped with listening devices of considerable range, so the approach of the destroyers be-

come known to the U-boat commander even before the vessels themselves were cited.

Fear of debt bombs would drive the U-boat below, to lurk motionless at some depth, until the sound of the destroyers or powers has faded out, showing that they have passed. The U-boat probably would come to the surface then to explore.

Navy officials say that the one chance against which absolute caution will not guard against, is that the submarine will come up in the passing of the approaching transport, updating the site that will turn her to train her torpedo tubes by compass and again submerge. When the listening device shows that a ship is within range, a torpedo could be fired by the submarine while still submerged. Sometimes, under the laws of chance, it might find its mark, and this may have happened with the *Tuscania*.

In Paris By April, Hindenburg Boasts

Advertisement of what Germany is planning to do on the Western front, before American military power can be put into the conflict, continues to be a conspicuous feature of the German newspapers.

During a recent conference at Berlin, at which Field Marshal von Hindenburg received the editors of 30 German newspapers to discuss the food situation with them, the editors told von Hindenburg that by next May there may be no food in Germany. “My reply is,” said the Field Marshal, “that by next April I will be in Paris.”

“The next six months will be the deciding factor,” said one German paper. The Central Powers will concentrate their whole strains on the Western front for a decisive blow. French soil, those fertile, foraging fields which have already suffered so cruelly and have drunk such rivers of blood, will be the scene of a final struggle which will far suppress the fiercest struggles of the past year.

All eyes are now focused on the west, awaiting the greatest battle of the war which all expect to begin there. According to one German of-

ficer, the blow is ready to fall whenever Hindenburg gives the word. “Our troops on the Western front are beginning to realize that the days of trench warfare are almost at an end. Our rear is free and we have the reserves at our disposal. The great below cannot fall. Where and when? The enemy leaders are asking themselves these questions. The reply is, “wherever and whenever Hindenburg wishes. We know that he would choose the time and place and will lead to victory.”

February 15

Bodies Of 126 American Troops Recovered

The latest figures available on the *Tuscania* disaster showed that 2,235 have been saved. The bodies of 126 American troops have been recovered, and 101 are still missing. There is little hope that additional survivors will be found. Trawlers that cruised about the scene and along the coast report that they had discovered no additional bodies.

Between 200 American soldiers from the *Tuscania* arrived in Belfast on Friday. They were met at the Royal way station by a Battalion of the Royal Irish Regiment, headed by the regimental band, which escorted them to temporary quarters. Crowds of citizens assembled in the streets and greeted the Americans with enthusiasm.

Meanwhile, German newspapers are gloating over the psychological effect, which they expect the sinking of the *Tuscania* must produce in America. The papers believed the event must unfailingly dampen the spirit of Americans: “American vessels, some with munitions and perhaps a small number of soldiers, have been sunk before, but so far, we know this is the first case of a big transport with a considerable number of troops aboard falling victim to one of our U-boats. As such vessels must be conveyed with great care, our U-boat achievement is all the more remarkable and gratifying. This will not be the last large Transport sunk. More will come.”



The Germans hoped that the sinking of the *Tuscania* would give America a taste of the losses to come, and in doing so, cause her to reconsider her support for the allies.

FEBRUARY 1918



With Russia out of the war, the Germans had hoped to gain access to the grain reserves of the Ukraine to quell growing discontent over food rationing at home. Unfortunately, Ukraine's grain reserves had all but evaporated, leaving Germany with nothing to show for its three-year effort.

German And Ukrainians Sign Peace Pact

A peace agreement has been signed by the representatives of the central powers and Ukrainian government. The Bolsheviks have said that they will not recognize the peace agreement as they do not recognize the independence of the Ukraine. Since it declared independence a month ago, the Bolsheviks have been attempting to overthrow the Ukrainian government and establish a Soldiers and Workmen's Counsel as the governing authority in Ukraine.

When the peace negotiations at Brest-Litovsk began, the Bolsheviks consented to the mission of Ukrainian delegation but subsequently discovered that the Ukrainians were carrying on secret negotiations with the Germans and Austrians. They thereupon repudiated the Ukrainians and sent new delegates, representing the Bolshevik regime in the Ukraine to the peace negotiations. The Germans and Austrians, however, declined to recognize the new delegates.

Bells were rung in Berlin and there was rejoicing at Vienna over the conclusion of a separate peace with the Ukrainians. This is due to the fact that it removes a menace to Austria's frontier and raises expectations of relief of the food situation from Ukraine's grain reserves.

It is rumored that the Central Powers have offered military assistance to the Ukrainians in overcoming the Bolshevik invasion. One of the first results of the new peace has been a German ultimatum aimed at forcing Romania to take a similar step, and clearly German policy is being devoted to using Ukrainians as a lever for bringing pressure to bear on Leon Trotsky.

Russia Declares War At End, Orders Troops On All Fronts To Quit

Russia has declared the state of war to be at an end and has ordered the demobilization of Russian forces on all fronts. The President of the Russian delegation at the Brest-Litovsk peace negotiations stated that while Russia was desisting from signing a formal peace treaty, the state of war, he declared, that existed between Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria and Turkey was at an end. The Bolshevik capitulation was received in Petrograd with profound disgust and shame uttered by serious and intelligent people.

How Russia's complete withdrawal from the war will affect the Allies cannot be accurately estimated at this time, despite the fact that on paper the Rus-

sian collapse would seem to give the Germans a great numerical superiority of troops on the Western front.

However, the 147 Austrian, German and Bulgarian divisions on the Russian front are regarded as already having been stripped of their effectiveness, as the best troops have been transferred to the Western front. In addition, Germany would be obliged to keep some of those divisions in the vast conquered territory for garrison purposes.

The fact that 1.5 million German prisoners will be freed to return to Germany is regarded with no alarm at all. Military men say they could not quickly be re-organized into efficient military units. The general opinion here is that Germany would be more interested in keeping the prisoners in Russia rather than risk having them carry Bolshevik doctrine back to Germany.

Diplomatic observers say Germany is confronted with a most difficult and unprecedented problem as a result of the declaration that Russia has abandoned hostilities, without the signing of a peace treaty. The refusal of the Russians to sign any treaties will leave the Center Powers without any legal claim to their possessions. German and Austrian tenure will rest entirely upon the assertion of force, without recognition of international law.

Should Germany and Austria resolve to refuse to recognize the Bolshevik decree terminating the war, their armies would be in the position of killing an unresisting and unarmed people. The one clear thing about the whole situation from a military point of view is that the struggle has narrowed down to the Western front. The final test of arms is to come on that front.

February 22

Germany Renews Advance Into Russia

Germany has resolved to renew military activities against Russia. This decision was reached at a conference at Imperial headquarters. The "no war, but no peace" plan of Leon Trotsky, the Bolshevik foreign minister, was rejected at the conference. Dispatches say that the Germans take the view that Trotsky's declaration, though it did not end the war, automatically ended the armistice. The Germans, therefore, consider that they have a free hand and mean to use the opportunity.

This does not necessarily mean that Germany will march on Petrograd, but more probably that they will support the Ukraine by force of arms. It is declared that this is all part of Germany's scheme for breaking up the former Russian Empire, with a view of extending her own power as an influence over the new states of whom it is posing as protector. The Bolsheviks have been moving troops against the Ukrainians, and the Central Powers do not intend to allow themselves to be robbed of the fruits of their peace treaty with the Ukrainians.

Yesterday, German forces on the Russian front advanced to the north-east and east.

In pushing their campaign swiftly on the long front, the Germans' movement has taken the form of a crescent, with its convex face towards the heart of Russia. Minsk, which was occupied Wednesday by German troops, is at the extreme eastern curve of the wave.

Wild rumors are circulating in Petrograd that the Germans will be in possession of the Russian capital within two weeks and that large hordes of rifles and ammunition kept in secret within the city will be used by the 4,000 German prisoners, concentrated here when the great day comes and cooperation between the eastern armies of the Central Powers and German prisoners will seal the fate of the city.

The German advance into Russia is not the march of a conqueror, for have they met any serious opposition? The comparatively rapid progress is ascribed to the fact that the Germans found a clear passage. The Germans are making their own pace and collecting immense stores of weapons, emissions, food and other valuable property, which has disorganized Russian armies abandoned in their hurried flight.

In response to the German advance, the Bolshevik government, again, has changed its tactics and ordered opposition be given to the German army now sweeping eastward into the heart of great Russia. "All Russians are summoned to the defense of their country" stated a proclamation, signed by Premier Lenine. Commissioners appealed to soldiers to destroy railways and provisions and compel the bourgeois to dig trenches under penalty of death.

The change in the Bolsheviks' policy to one of surrender surprised both their enemies and friends and threw their supporters into confusion. Whatever happens it is regarded as probable that the Germans will stiffen the peace terms offered at Brest-Litovsk.

Allies Prepare For German Thrust In Western Front

The great German offensive on the Western front is expected to begin. By all accounts, the main thrust will be made on the sector between Arras and St. Quentin. The plans of the German high command are complete, and, after many weeks of intense training of assault troops, the Germans are ready to make the supreme and final effort, which has been advertised so widely in the past weeks.

Tanks and a new mysterious gas will be employed by the enemy in an attempt to break through the Allied line. Other attacks will be delivered further south. These facts have become known through captured German prisoners.



Fresh from their victory over Russia, the confident Germans had assembled almost two million men for their 'final' assault on the Western Front and predicted they would be in Paris by the end of March.

Field Marshal von Hindenburg and General von Ludendorff appear to have realized that the old methods of attacks, in which a long bombardment is employed, are too well known to produce the results desired. Accordingly, the German troops are being told that surprise attacks, such as were used in Galicia last summer, at Riga, and again on the Italian front, will be tried against the Allies on the Western front.

German officers have told their troops that tanks and a new gas are to be used, leaving the infantry little to do but to walk through the gas and consolidate the positions captured. The German high command expects that few of the Allied troops who survived the effect of the tanks, the gas and the bombardment, and that fresh German infantry will overcome speedily any resistance offered and captured positions.

Despite these assurances, German troops are frankly skeptical, and are undertaking their task with enthusiasm, according to prisoners. They feel they are going to be thrown into battle to be used as cannon fodder and do not relish the prospect.

It is said that Gen. Ludendorff recently addressed a body of infantry and ask how many men were willing to fight to the finish. Only five non-commissioned officers and privates stepped forward. The others declared their desire for early peace by arrangement. German officers, on the other hand,

appear to have the conviction they will be able to break through by means of their secret attacks.

Figures supplied by the French general staff give an exact notion of the numbers, which the Germans are to use in the coming attack. French figures show that the Germans have on the line in the West about 113 divisions and behind it, as a strategic reserve, about half as many – giving the Germans about 1,250,000 troops on the line and 750,000 behind it. The Germans have moved some 25 divisions, upwards of 300,000 men, from the Russian to the Western front in the last three months.

On the other hand, the French and British have one million each on the line or in reserve. In addition, the United States is reported to have about 300,000 men in France, all of which may be used sometime during the present year.

As to the Austrian troops, the French officials state that very few, if any, Austrian troops can be expected on the Western front, where Germany is to strike. Most of her men are now stationed on the Italian front, and the balance of her troops are needed to garrison Galicia, Romania and her own and conquered districts, where the population is either disloyal or in rebellion.

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

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HISTORY

The History of Emmitsburg

James Helman
 Edited by the Emmitsburg
 Historical Society

Part 11

Fires

In connection with the engines and introduction of water will note a few of the most destructive fires: The Otter Hotel burned in 1845; it was the oldest house standing on the Square; it stood where E. E. Zimmerman's house stands. The Elder & Taney barn, stood in the Lutheran hitching ground, it burned in 1848; the cornice of the steeple caught fire from it; the chances of the church burning were great, as there was not sufficient force to throw the water up so high from the engine, men were at the bell; water was passed through the steeple to them, they flooded the roof, throwing the empty buckets to the ground, but all to no purpose; when all hope was gone James Gallagher volunteered to cut the cornice away; they placed a rope around his body to support him, he stepped on the roof, cut the cornice, it fell, thus the steeple was saved.

The great fire occurred June 15th, 1863; it originated in the livery stable of Guthrie & Beam, consuming over fifty buildings in all; the fire commenced at eleven o'clock in the night, did not get it under control until seven in the morning; the hotel was the last to burn. Saving the house of Decklemyer saved the upper portion of the town. People in the country heard the church bells ring; some came within a mile of town, looking at the blazing houses, but feared to come in, as they thought the rebel army had fired it, as they had done in Chambersburg. Word was sent to the College after midnight, when Rev. John McClosky called all the larger boys and hands together, bringing them in to assist; they came in time, as the citizens were tired; they worked manfully at the engine and in supplying water. Oh, the desolation a fire makes; most of the people lost their all, and never recovered. Money was sent from the cities to aid the poor. Think of it, forty-three years since that fire. The Presbyterian Church was burned August 28th, 1902.

Hill North of Town

The oldest residents can remember when it was called Robinson's Hill; who was Robinson? Philip Nunemaker had the honor of having it called after him next; he had lived in town as early as 1808; no doubt he purchased the property from Robinson. Nunemaker died in 1849; his widow remained on this property a few years, when Henry Faller bought it. Since which time it has been known as Faller's Hill. Now that John Sebold owns the property, justly following the precedents of the past, it is Sebold's Hill.

Painters

This occupation has not always been one alone, usually it was connected with some other calling; cabinet makers and chair makers followed painting also, until Manning came here before 1850 and painted St. Joseph's, and Jacob S. Gelwicks also made it a business. While Samuel Wilhide, Blackford Campbell and Barnabas Riley were chair makers; later Geo. Gelwicks, John Adelsberger and James Gelwicks.

Grave Diggers

An old custom; the neighbors volunteered to dig the graves when interment were on the farms or in the country cemeteries. In town, the early grave diggers were; John Logan, 1811, Tonie Bones, Thomas Buttler, Sebastian Adelsberger, Jacob Duphorn, Jacob Favourite, Thos. Butler, John Welty, John Glass. Their work today requires them to dig the grave four and a half to five feet deep. Many graves were not dug over three feet; for sanitary purposes this was changed, and justly,



The great fire of Emmitsburg, which occurred June 15th, 1863, originated in the livery stable of Guthrie & Beam and destroyed over half of the town.

as the gasses arising from decaying bodies have made close proximity to some graves unpleasant. In 1811 John Logan received \$3 for digging graves.

Along in the eighteen hundred and thirties a man named Markey committed a crime for which he was sent to the penitentiary in Harbaughs Valley. Mr. Newey was his principal accuser; after serving his term he left Baltimore, coming through Emmitsburg in the evening; stopping at Black's tavern for a drink, he proceeded to the mountain to take revenge upon Newey. Newey had butchered that day; after night put the fire out and retired. Markey had lain in sight of the house watching; at midnight he broke the door open with an axe. Mr. Tressler, Mrs. Newey's father, slept downstairs; Markey killed him; Newey came down to meet

the same fate; also Mrs. Newey and the children; he carried away with him a vest, watch and few articles. The news was printed in a Frederick paper; a few days later a policeman sat in the General Wayne in Baltimore reading the account; he heard steps of a man as he entered the back room; he knew from the description this was the man; he arrested him; he had the watch on his person; he was tried and hung in Frederick.

Fulling Mill

The Fulling Mill on Middle Creek was carried on by Nathaniel Grayson for years prior to 1840; in the fifties Joseph Culbertson manufactured cloth blankets and yarns until after the Civil War - in 1871 John Peoples was conducting the mill; after him Charles Deeg. It was aban-



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HISTORY / OBITUARIES

done for lack of customers and torn down in the eighties.

Items of Interest

Copying from an old ledger dated 1811 to 1812 I find the following items of interest: A Negro, Pol, sold for \$267.67 April 9th, 1812, to Wm. Moreland. The following articles were sold at prices named: Lodging in hotel and gill of whiskey, 12 cents; coffee, 25 cents; turpentine, 50 cents pint; one gill rum, 12.5 cents; flour, \$7.50; gallon whiskey, \$1.12.5; bacon, 12.5 cents; brown sugar, 13 cents; loaf sugar, 25 cents; flaxseed oil, \$1.12.5; brandy sling, 12.5 cents; salt, 12.5 cents quart; nails, 12.5 cents pound; butter, 14 cents; oats, 62.5 cents; 6 chickens for 53 cents, 1 gallon of ill whiskey, 6.5 cents; half lottery ticket on Susquehanna Valley, 68.25 cents.

Old Mrs. Moreland sold her homemade linen to Hughes' store for 40, 47 and 62 cents per yard; selling May, 1811, 483 yards at 62 cents, 90 days credit; calico sold for 45 cents per yard, glass tumblers 25 cents, each, brandy and wine \$2. The itinerant shoemaker charged 40 cents per pair for making shoes; by digging Mrs. Granger's grave, \$3; women hired out at \$3 per month; making pairs of breeches, 83 cents; making coats, \$1; making slips, 37.5 cents; jacket, 83 cents; whiting, 12.5 cents pound. Iron sold for 7 cents per pound, making nails four dollars per thousand; all nails were made by hand in 1811. Vinegar, 50 cents per gallon; salt, \$1. 25 bushel; 8 by 10 glass panes, 11 cents a piece; fur hat, \$3; tinplate stoves, \$18; sole leather, 40 cents per pound; one gallon of ill whisky and dinner at Eagle Hotel, 31.25 cents. (The death of Catharine George entailed the following expense 1811: John Row, coffin, \$8; digging grave, \$3; 1 pair stockings, James Hughs, \$1; Margaret Mintie, eight days attendance, \$6; 4 pounds candles, \$1). Dutch cheese, 9 cents; unbleached muslin, 45 cents yard; one pound of brimstone, 12.5 cents; shoeing horse, 31.25 cents per shoe; flour of sulphur, 80 cents per pound;

Alfred C. Hahn



Alfred C. Hahn, formally of Emmitsburg, passed away Nov 7. He was the loving father of Cindy, Pam, Nancy, Karen and the loving

postage, 40 cents per ounce. John Devoy, tailor, 1812, charged \$3.33 to make a suit of clothes.

Runaway Slaves

During the days of slavery many Negroes, slaves in Virginia and Maryland, ran away from their masters, their object was to enter Pennsylvania at the nearest point. Many came through Emmitsburg; some thought our town was in Pennsylvania, others, more knowing ones, avoided the town, knowing there were Negro catchers, as they were called, white men who watched for these escaping slaves for the reward; it ranged from \$50 to \$500. A few were arrested in the town; as a general rule they gained their freedom once they arrived here. As many as a dozen would travel together, armed with clubs and pistols. It was dangerous to attempt to arrest such a body. Slaves have escaped from their owners here.

Felix Taney and Dr. James Shorb each had quite a number to run away; others a few. We were too near the Mason and Dixon line for slavery to exist. It was only by the kindest treatment they could be kept. The free black people living here, and we always had more free than slave, were helpers of these absconding slaves; some of them were very loud in denounc-

grandfather to all of his eight grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents Clarence and Carrie Hahn and his brothers Lewis and Clyde. Surviving sisters Mary, Carrie and Shirley. He was a self-employed plumber. He was a Master Mason. Our father was a wonderful dad. If you were lucky to cross paths with him you would not forget this kindhearted man. A memorial service will be held at Emmitsburg's Elias Evangelical Lutheran Church on February 3 at 10 a.m.

ing the Negro catchers, amongst the number Roderick Dorsey, who lived on the street up town. James McCullough got up the following trick on Roderick: He blacked his face and dressed in old clothes; arrangements were made for the boys, large and small, to run him up town, to take shelter with Roderick, which he did; as soon as he entered the house and told who he was (a runaway) Roderick closed the door. McCullough crept under the bed. Soon the boys were outside yelling a runaway in Dorsey's house. McCullough rose up, upsetting the bed and escaped through the back door, the boys opened the front door and filed through the house after McCullough, this raised Roderick's wrath.

Trees on the Streets

This locality was called Poplar Grove, which tells us poplar trees grew here. No doubt the streets in early time were shaded by poplar trees. As late as 1850 poplar trees as thick as a flour barrel stood in front of Grover's house (now Chas. Zeek), in front of John Barry, a row in front of Dr. Taney's house; at different places in the town single trees stood, also locust trees as large; one in front of Mary Knox's house, Joseph Moritz and many others, showing locust was the second setting of shade trees. Around

Denise Eileen Etris



Denise Eileen Etris, 67, of Emmitsburg, died Monday, January 22 at Frederick Memorial Hospital following a brief illness.

Born September 22, 1950 in Philadelphia, she was the daughter of the late William J. and Gladys Lillian Etris.

Denise worked for last 15 years as a manager in medical affairs in the pharmaceutical industry. She was a former registered nurse and had a master's degree in Anthro-

pology from American University. Denise was a longtime member and past president of Emmitsburg Lion's Club and was actively involved with the vision program. She was a former Emmitsburg Town Commissioner where she served on various committees.

Denise was the last of her immediate family. She is survived by her longtime friend, Helene Edwards of Emmitsburg; and her beloved cat, Luna Blue.

Services will be private and at a later date.

If desired, donations may be made to Emmitsburg Lion's Club, Box 1182, Emmitsburg, MD 21727.

Arrangements are with Stauffer Funeral Home, Thurmont, and Stauffer Crematory, Inc. Expressions of sympathy may be shared with the family at www.staufferfuneralhome.com.

the ground of the Lutheran church were locust trees.

Mulberry came in about 1850. The town had trees almost from end to end of mulberry. One man said you could sit in the sun until the mulberry leaves come and you hunt the sun when the mulberry sheds its leaves; it was true. Later the Buckeye and the present poplar were planted. After the fire, P. Smith planted cherry trees along the lot now Henry Harner's. It was a feast

for the children. A cherry tree stood in front of the lot where John Jackson lives, long ago. A large locust tree stood in front of Mrs. Blair's house long ago. The locusts were as long as bananas and fine eating, so the boys said, though very insipid. A few mulberry trees stood along the streets that bore delicious fruit. How eagerly they were watched for fear they should become too ripe.

Part 12 next month

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We are digitizing all the old Emmitsburg Chronicles and Carroll Records. Unfortunately some of the bound copies of issues have been lent out over the years and are missing. If you have one of the bound copies we will pay cash to purchase them.

Individual copies of the Emmitsburg Chronicles and Carroll Record - readable and intact are also wanted.

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MOM'S TIME OUT

A blessing in disguise

Mary Angel

This will truly be one of the hardest topics I will discuss with all of you. Sometimes being a mom is extremely difficult, even heartbreaking. When your kids hurt you hurt for them, when your husband hurts you hurt for him. Sometime in life you all hurt at the same time and that can be the most devastating.

In January my mother-in-law passed away after a rapidly progressing form of dementia ravaged the amazing lady we once knew. After hearing the battle that many people watched go through for decades with the disease, we would probably be considered lucky. My mother-in-law lived for 16 months after her diagnosis it was a very shocking 16 months. Every time we turned around her

Early on we had to take her license when we found out she had scared all of our kids with her driving, gotten many tickets, and stopped in the middle of the road confused where she was or where she was going. It was a mere four months from diagnosis and she had lost 75 percent of her words. We sat helplessly playing reluctant charades at Sunday family dinner as she attempted to speak a short sentence. The simplest of words lost traveling from her thoughts to her mouth. We watched as she became more and more frustrated with herself and as

time progressed with our inability to read her mind.

Another three months passed and she could no longer live alone. Even though she lived right next door it was unsafe for her to be alone. After much prayer and discussion we offered to move her in with us. She was elated and I believe maybe relieved, as we had toured several assisted living facilities in planning for the future.

At the time it was hard to see past the sadness. It was very difficult to live with the daily suffering, mood swings, and trials. Her hyper focus was both amazing and frustrating to say the least. When she decided she was going to do something (no matter how dangerous) she was going to do it. When she decided she wanted her 5:00 wine at 3:00 she would do whatever it took to get that wine, from nagging, to sneaking, to manipulating a child. If there was one conversation we had with our children from the minute she was diagnosed to the day she died it was, "It is the disease not Grandma".

To watch someone you respect and love deteriorate before your eyes is something no one should have to go through. In her time living at our house she lost the rest of her speech except for "yes" and "no". There came a time (very quickly), as I stated, five months into her living with us when we had to make the very tough decision to move her into an assisted living facility. We did not take this decision

lightly, but had to take our children's well-being into consideration. We had many conversations before she moved in about some of the behaviors that would require her to no longer live with us. This small step made in the beginning was one of the most important things we did.

The move was filled with tears and relief and guilt. It turned out to be a blessing in disguise. She took very little time to make herself right at home in the facility. You could say she ran the roost. She would spend a good portion of her day sitting in the furthest seat out front of the main building watching everyone come and go. She said "yes" to everyone who greeted her, partially to be polite and partially because she was reduced to only her two words. She enjoyed tapping on the birdcage in the lobby. She usually tapped right next to the sign that said, "Please do not tap on the glass".

They felt she was displaying unsafe behavior and should be moved to a more secure wing in the facility. They explained that she was attempting to get into the kitchen and utility areas and had begun to start yelling at people. We totally understood and agreed. They moved her the week before Christmas. Since the transition was difficult we were asked not to visit for a bit while she got acclimated to the new area and routine. We went to visit between Christmas and New Years and I

was pretty sure she didn't recognize me (that was exceptionally difficult).

After the New Year her condition went down hill rapidly. On a Friday, that I will never forget, I got a call saying her condition was "guarded" and that she had fluid retention and a rattling in her chest. My husband was going up the next day for a visit, so being the naïve person I am I asked if my mother-in-law would feel up to a visit. The nurse suggested we come that evening if at all possible. After being hit with that ton of bricks I finally understood, although I was in shock. My

husband and I went that evening and he went back with his brother in the morning. Saturday evening my husband took two of our kids up to say good bye. When they got out of the car my 13 year old daughter looked up at the stars and said, "Dad, I think God is telling me that Grandma is already with Granddad in Heaven." Two seconds later the phone rang and the facility told my husband she had just passed.

She was an amazing woman, she lived an amazing life, she loved Jesus, she left us too early, and we are blessed that she didn't suffer long!

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



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Heading South?

Kay Hollabaugh

Our family farm corporation is located 9 miles north of Gettysburg on Route 34. The farm sits on about 500 acres, but only about 350 acres are actively "farmed". The balance of the land is consumed with ponds (11), farm homes, barns and similar structures, and wood land. To say that we don't utilize all 500 would be an error. The ponds are used for irrigation purposes, the farm homes are inhabited by family members and/or employees, the out buildings are filled with everything agricultural imaginable (tractors, sprayers, bins, ladders, crates, maintenance equipment) and the woodland is harvested periodically for use in our bin-building enterprise. I like to think we are really good stewards OF that land – because we are!

But what are we doing now? Are we on an island somewhere, enjoying the winter months? Ah, I can dream! For those of us in the office, we are doing now what we do the rest of the year – paying bills, ordering supplies, attending continuing educational sessions. We are planning for the 2018 season – including the daunting task of interviewing potential employees. We lost 2 key managers at the end of December, as well as a hand full of market staff. We are working on evaluations and doing end of year tax work.

Our production team (which currently numbers about 10 full time guys) has already begun the very labor-intensive job of pruning all of our trees. We prune apple trees during the coldest months, as they are less susceptible to freeze damage from tender open tissue – as opposed to peach and pear trees. All of our trees are pruned by hand – yes, your read that correctly – by hand – and apple trees alone number about 75,000 trees. When you add in the apricots, peaches, plums and pears, over 100,000 trees are pruned by our very skilled production team – by hand – every year. I cannot give them enough accolades, as they are out almost regardless of the weather. On extremely bitter (or snowy) days, they work in one of

our barns that is converted to a repair shop. During this time, they would be fixing containers, maintaining equipment and/or prepping things to be used in the spring. They are a hardy, valuable group of men!

The owners of our business are catching up on everything that piled up on our desks from September through November! We are reviewing insurance policies, figuring out health insurance, meeting with our accounting firm. There truly never IS a down time, although I will say that the winter months are much more forgiving. We can come in at 8 and leave at 4:30 – knowing that there's no fruit to harvest!

Since we've just come off of near record lows for a very long time, I believe I'll share some favorite soup recipes this month. For me? Cold, winter days are synonymous with a hot bowl of soup, a crusty loaf of bread and maybe an apple crisp for dessert – severed with vanilla ice cream, of course! The recipes submitted are those of our family, friends and/or employees. I hope you enjoy them!

Baked Potato Soup

Ingredients:

- 6 lg. russet potatoes, peeled
- 1 cup of shredded sharp cheddar and cut into 1/2 inch cubes
- 3 tablespoons of chopped fresh chives
- 1 lg. onion, chopped
- 1 (8 oz.) container of sour cream
- 3 (13 oz.) cans of chicken broth cream (optional)
- Roasted garlic
- 4 bacon strips (cooked)
- 1/4 cup of butter crumbled
- 2 1/2 tsp. salt shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 1/4 tsp. freshly ground pepper
- 1 cup of whipping cream or half-and-half

Cooking directions: Combine potatoes, onion, chicken broth, butter, salt, and pepper in a 5 qt. slow cooker. Cover and cook on high 4 hours or on low 8 hours or until potatoes are tender. Mash mixture until potatoes are

coarsely chopped and soup is slightly thickened; stir in cream, cheese, and chives. Top with sour cream, if desired, and sprinkle with bacon and cheddar cheese before serving.

Cream Of Asparagus Soup

Ingredients:

- 2 tablespoons of butter or margarine
- 1/4 tsp. pepper
- 1/4 cup of diced onions
- 2 cups of milk
- 2 tablespoons of flour
- 1 cup of chicken stock
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 2 cups of asparagus chopped

Cooking directions: Melt butter and sauté onion until clear. Add flour, salt, and pepper. Add milk and chicken stock. Cook and stir until it boils and thickens. Cook asparagus in a small amount of water. Drain and add to sauce. Blend until texture is as smooth as you like. Garnish with grated cheddar cheese.

White Bean Chicken Chili

Ingredients:

- 1 lb. boneless chicken breast
- 1 tsp. cumin cubed
- 2 cans (15 oz. ea.) white beans
- 1/2 tsp. salt rinsed and drained
- 1/4 tsp. pepper
- 3 cups of chicken broth
- 2 table spoons of olive oil
- 1 1/2 cups of shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 med. onion, chopped
- 4 oz. cream cheese
- 4 garlic cloves, minced
- 1/2 cup of heavy cream
- 1 jalapeño pepper chopped
- 2 tsp dried oregano
- Minced fresh cilantro

Cooking directions: Sprinkle chicken with salt and pepper. In a large skillet over medium

heat, brown chicken in oil. Stir in the onion, garlic and jalapeño; cook 2 minutes longer. Sprinkle with oregano and cumin; cook 1 minute longer or until chicken is browned and vegetables are tender. Transfer to a 3 qt. slow



cooker. In a small bowl, mash 1 cup of beans; add 1/2 cup broth and stir until blended. Add to the slow cooker with the remaining beans and broth. Cover and cook on low for 3 to 3 1/2 hours or until chicken is tender. Stir before serving. Add cream cheese and heavy cream. Stir until melted and combined. Sprinkle with cheese. Garnish with sour cream and cilantro if desired.

Note: I usually double this recipe to feed my family and have some left over! I prefer this soup creamy so I usually cut back on the chicken broth and just use more cream cheese and heavy cream! Add more (or less) jalapeños to taste.

Taco Soup

Ingredients:

- 1 can black beans

- 1 can diced tomatoes/chillies
- 1 can pinto beans
- 1 can shoepeg corn
- 1 can kidney beans
- 1 can diced tomatoes
- 1 large can crushed tomatoes
- 1 pound ground beef
- 1 envelope taco seasoning
- 3 cups of water
- 1 envelope Hidden Valley ranch dressing

Cooking directions: Brown ground beef, drain excess fat. Stir taco seasoning and ranch dressing into ground beef. Add remaining ingredients. Bring to boil. Reduce Heat and simmer 30 minutes.

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

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LIBRARY NEWS & EVENTS

Blue Ridge Library

Standing Events

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

Wednesday - Coffee club in the community room from 4-5:30 p.m.. Mingle with the gang for coffee, tea, puzzles, board games, coloring books, &c.

Wednesday - VITT night. The community room is reserved for teen use from 6-7:30 p.m.. Just hang out or play Wii, play board games, do puzzles, eat snacks, watch movies, make movies.

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

Upcoming Special Events

On Feb. 1 join us for a free classic movie showing at 6 p.m.. We are showing, "Groundhog Day". A weatherman finds himself inexplicably living the same day over and over again.

Celebrate Ice Cream for Breakfast Day with Miss Mary Anne at story hour on Feb. 3. Breakfast starts at 11 a.m..

The Digital Graphics Club will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Feb 5th & 22nd. We will be creating new graphics, animated and static, for our digital sign.

On Feb 6 we will have our scheren-schnitte get together at 6 p.m.. New members are welcome, old members are appreciated. Younger children must be accompanied by an adult.

The Adult Reading Group at the Library will be meeting on Feb. 8 at 6 p.m.. The current book subject pick is "Gods and Monsters".

Family Game Night on Feb 12 at the library. Board games, puzzles, jenga, Wii, etc. Fun for everyone! We will

be gaming from 6-7:30 p.m..

Join us in celebrating one of the most romantic months of the year on Feb 15 at 6 p.m. with our family friendly movie "Sleepless in Seattle". "A recently widowed man's son calls a radio talk-show in an attempt to find his father a partner."

It's Chinese New Year at the Library! Help us usher in the year of the Dog during story hour at 11 a.m. on Feb. 17.

Summit Stitchers Quilt Club meeting - Feb. 20 at 5:30 p.m.. New members and new projects always welcome! Any skill level may attend.

Join us on Feb. 22 from 5-7 p.m. for a Book Swap at the Library. Bring your nearly new or gently used books of all genres to trade.

Digital Graphics club is meeting on Feb. 22 at 6:30 p.m.. This meeting will be working on graphics for Presidents' Day.

It's National Pie Month at the Library and Miss Mary Anne has quite the show ready for story hour at 11 a.m. on Feb. 24..

Our new Fantastical Fables and Film club is meeting on Feb. 26 at 6 p.m.. Movies, graphic novels, books, and cool crafts will be showcased. The club is geared for tweens, teens, and adults.

Frederick County Public Library

Emmitsburg Branch

Caregiver Connection & Coffee Break - Feb. 7, 11- 11:30 a.m., Network with other caregivers and learn about childcare resources. Refreshments for adults and playtime for children provided.

Hello Holidays: Valentine Craft Make and Take (ages 0-10) - Feb. 10, 10:30 - noon. All materials provided to make a special Valentine craft.

Chocolate Brownie Microwave Mug Cakes (grades 6-12) - Feb. 10, 1-2 pm,

Learn recipe basics making a delicious microwave mug cake.

LEGO Block Party (grades K-5) - Feb. 12 & 26, 4-5 p.m.. Build vehicles with kits or build your own creation.

R.E.A.D. with Wags for Hope (grades K-5) - Feb. 15, 5-6 p.m., Children read to Reading Education Assistance Dogs.

2018 Winter Library Olympics (grades K-5) - Feb. 19, 1-2 p.m.. Participate in the 2018 Winter Library Olympics! Try out some library style Olympic games and go for the gold!

Digital Learning Day (grades K-8) - Feb. 22, 4-5:30 p.m., Educators from FCPS and FCPL offer students hands-on activities on Digital Learning Day, a nationwide celebration highlighting great teaching and demonstrating how technology can improve student outcomes.

Family Storytime (ages 0+) - Feb. 27, 6:30-7 p.m., Songs, stories, and fun for the whole family. Designed for ages 0 and up with a caregiver.

Family Tunes and Tales: Symphony Storytime with Frederick Symphony Orchestra (ages 0+). Feb. 28, 10:30 - 11 a.m.. FSO musicians perform classical music to beloved stories, followed by a musical instrument petting zoo provided by Music and Arts.

Thurmont Branch

LEGO Hangout (grades 1-5) - Feb. 2, 9 & 16, & 23. 4-5 p.m.. Watch LEGO movies while you build.

Steampunk Day (grades 9-12) - Feb. 4, 1:30-4 p.m.. Steampunk-themed crafts and activities, plus viewing the Japanese animated film Steamboy.

School Skills for Preschoolers (ages 3-5) - Feb. 6, 13, & 27. 1-1:30 p.m.. Practice school-readiness skills with cutting, tracing, play, and other literacy activities.

Hello Holidays Art Series: Paint A Glass - Feb. 7, 7-8:30 p.m., Artist Michele Maze of Seven Dragonflies Studio provides hands-on instruction to help you create a beautiful glass. Simple designs will be available for ideas or participants can bring their own simple design.

Box Art (grades 5-12) - Feb. 8, 6-7 p.m.. Decorate multi-purpose boxes us-

ing duct tape, scrapbook paper, and other provided supplies.

Chess Club - Feb. 10, 11 - noon. Beginners to advanced players welcome. Learn, play and sharpen your skills.

Thurmont Friends Book Club - Feb. 12, 7-8:30 p.m.. Hosted by the Friends of the Thurmont Regional Library and open to readers in the community who are interested in discussing books.

Hello Holidays: Anti-Valentine Party (grades 6-12) - Feb. 13, 3:30-4:30 p.m.. Crafts, games, and STEM activities without pink, red, or hearts.

Hello Holidays: Bring the One You Love Dance (ages 0-10) - Feb. 13, 6:30-8 p.m.. Celebrate Valentine's Day with dancing and seasonal activities!

Dinosaur Fun (ages 2-8) - Feb. 17, 11-11:30 a.m.. Learn fun dinosaur facts, play with dinosaur figures, and make a dinosaur craft.

2018 Winter Library Olympics (grades K-5) - Feb. 19, 10:30-11:30 a.m.. Participate in the Winter Library Olympics! Try out some library style Olympic games and obstacle courses.

Hello Holidays: Escape Room - Presidents' Day edition (grades 6-12) - Feb. 19, 1-3 p.m.. Solve a series of clues to

breakout before time's up!

Black History Month: Held in Regard - Feb. 20, 7-9 p.m.. People, places, and events we respect and value in telling the African American history of Frederick County.

Digital Learning Day (grades K-8) - Feb. 22, 5:30-6:30 p.m.. Educators from FCPS and FCPL offer students hands-on activities on Digital Learning Day, a nationwide celebration highlighting great teaching and demonstrating how technology can improve student outcomes.

Hello Holidays: Mardi Gras Madness (grades 6-12) - Feb. 22, 6-7 p.m.. Make a mask with sequins, feathers, beads and more.

R.E.A.D. with Wags for Hope (grades K-5) - Feb. 24, 11-noon. Children read to Reading Education Assistance Dogs.

Curious Minds: Attracting Bluebirds - Feb. 26, 2-3 p.m.. Kathy Kremnitzer of the Maryland Bluebird Society shares her expertise and simple tips for attracting bluebirds and maintaining bluebird boxes.

Art Night - Feb. 27, 6-7:30 p.m.. Drop in to try printmaking, charcoal, watercolor, and more!



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SCHOOL NEWS

How I would rework the county school budget

Edison Hatter
Candidate for Frederick County School Board

The proposed Frederick County Public School budget for the 2019 fiscal year was just recently released by Superintendent Terry Alban. This year's budget is backed by 604 million dollars of funding; 26 million dollars more than the 2018 fiscal year budget. While many aspects of the budget, such as the necessity of transportation costs, are mostly non-debatable and agreed upon by most, other budget areas, including special education funding, are hot debate topics as certain groups fight for additional funding. By far, the largest expenditure for

the school system is teacher pay and benefits. For the 2019 year, 528.2 million dollars (87.4% of the total budget) has been allocated toward teacher pay and benefits. This number is slightly higher than last year for two reasons: new teaching positions and the re-working of the teacher pay scale. 106.6 new full-time teaching positions were added due to anticipated enrollment increases, and a four year 18 million dollar plan is currently underway to readjust the teacher pay scale to make Frederick County salaries more competitive with nearby districts.

The main change I want to see, in terms of teaching positions, is the number of teachers in the classroom instructing students. Current-

ly, certain class sizes are exceedingly large, such as math and English courses, which all students are required to take. Some of these classes have more than 40 students. It is very difficult for students in large classes, such as these, to grow a strong relationship with their teacher. To fix this, I would like to see additional teaching positions added to cut some of these class sizes in half. To find the funds to accommodate these additional positions, I think two routes need to be taken. First, of the nearly 6,000 full time positions in the system, nearly 2,000 of them are aides and other non-classroom staff. By looking at these positions on a case-by-case basis, there are certain full-time positions cur-

rently that could be half-timed to allow for more classroom teachers to be hired. Additionally, the school system receives maintenance of effort funding from the county and are state-based upon certain factors. One of the factors is student enrollment and as the enrollment of the county continues to increase, MOE funding will as well. These additional funds from the county and state should be used towards hiring additional classroom teachers.

Funding for special education students is currently severely underfunded. While special education will receive 64.2 million dollars in direct funding for the 2019 fiscal year, this is still not enough to allow their programs to be fully staffed. Special edu-

cation has faculty and programs that are totally separate from other departments within the schools. As a result, they need their own budget category to ensure they have enough funding to fully operate. At this point, special education needs additional funds to hire more staff members. If elected, one of my fiscal priorities would be to secure more funding for special education so that the needs of every student can be met.

Overall, I find that the FCPS 2019 fiscal year budget is well thought out and I agree with most of the funding, but going forward, the system has to find a way to reduce the class size issue and find additional funding for the special education programs. To follow along with my campaign, check out @HatterForBOE on Twitter and Friends of Edison Hatter on Facebook.

Stretch dollars - providing more than academics

Joy Schaefer
Frederick County School Board

School budgets always go up, begging the question, "What are those dollars paying for and what is the benefit to our students?" The answers become increasingly critical as we are constantly compare U.S. students' academic performance to other countries, and, observe that, over the last few decades, we have consistently come up short.

The international statistics in math, reading and science achievement seem to show that the public school students in Finland and Singapore perform far ahead of students from a majority of countries, including the United States, that are similar in other ways (gross domestic product, wealth, income), and that we score in the middle of the pack. Further, some recent studies have determined that the amount of per pupil spending in many of these "higher performing" countries is less than we spend, which might suggest we are mis-spending or wasting our dollars.

However, when we examine education spending among nations and try to draw a connection to student performance, we fail to consider the specific things on which each of us is spending our money. There are services and programs American public schools provide, either out of necessity or based on our values, that other nations do not. Additionally, the investments that other countries make beyond K-12 public school education assist their schools in keeping expenses lower.

Support for Children and Families Benefit Schools and Education

In supporting families with other services, other countries position children for optimal success in school and drive education spending down. Nations like Japan, Canada and Finland spend larger percentages than the United States on social welfare to support needy individuals and families, as well as families in general. In fact, Finland spends a substantial amount of public dollars to support students and families before they get to public schools and then while they are enrolled. This support of students and families allows students to better focus on learning throughout their education career.

Support for children and families in many of these countries with high-performing education systems begin before children are born. In addition to accessible and free or affordable healthcare, maternity benefits are also publicly provided, ranging from free prenatal vitamins to cash and/or tax credits. These provide additional support for women and families or compensate them for loss of income during pregnancy for medical reasons, and afterwards, to allow them to care for their baby. Free preschool and socialized medicine ensures all students come to school ready to learn, physically and developmentally.

U.S. Schools Stand in the Gap

In the absence of accessible and affordable healthcare for all, universal preschool, and adequate social services, the majority of American schools must often stand in the gap for families and children by regularly providing services beyond education.

During, before and after the school day, American public schools routinely provide students with varied supports, meeting their needs beyond instruction and education. Students receive counseling and psychological services, health-

care, and coordination of social services and/or public assistance, frequently during the school day. Schools also go beyond the provision of a school lunch, and offer breakfast, weekend and summer feeding programs.

U.S. schools also stretch their dollars to provide programs that enhance students' school experience that are absent in school systems to which we are compared. For example, students in Finland will not find extracurricular activities at their schools, such as sports, theatre arts, or marching band. They also will not be provided transportation services, while Frederick County Public Schools transports over 75% of its students and school buses across this country transport more individuals each day than all of our domestic airlines combined.

Public Schools Can't Do It Alone

More and more, we rely on our public schools to shoulder ever-widening responsibilities that extend beyond academic instruction. Our public schools certainly play a key role in preparing our students for success. But we should understand that unless we begin to put our mon-

ey where our mouths are and provide real support for families struggling to provide nutritious food, quality healthcare and safe homes for their children, our schools will have only a limited impact in positioning students for the future.

Joy Schaefer, Education Advocate, Frederick, MD. Joy serves on the Board of Education of Frederick County, Immediate Past President of the Maryland Association of Boards of Education, and serves on the Commission for Excellence and Innovation in Education. Her opinions do not reflect the positions of these entities. Word Count: 685



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FOUR YEARS AT THE MOUNT

Within the past twenty years alone, technology has advanced a great deal and this has affected the way we connect with the world around us. This month we asked our writers to comment on the growing change in our interpersonal connections and how they see society adapt to technology.

Freshman Year

Connecting and creating

Kaitlin Marks
MSMU class of 2021

My childhood is a chapter of my life that is tinted golden, the memories swirling with feelings of joy and nostalgia. As a little girl, my sister and I spent our days playing together. Technology quickly became a large part of our lives, but many of our games didn't involve any form of technology. We spent lots of time outside, imagining lives and creating worlds, playing with dolls, and starting small, pretend businesses in our play room. I can still remember when I got my very first laptop, something all mine, and I was able to learn and play and connect with family. Even though I am older now, and technology is a much bigger part of my life, I often think back to the intertwining roots that I feel I experienced between generations: somewhere between now, when technology is in the hands of toddlers and small children constantly, and the time where this was much less common.

While I can clearly visualize the

dangers, the consequences and the drawbacks of such accessible and abundant technology, our society has improved and our daily lives have many more capabilities due to its use. One critique I have experienced, especially with the commercial we writers were tasked with viewing this month, is that technology separates us from one another. The critics explain that it creates a divide between businesses and consumers, between celebrities and ordinary people, between everyday friends and family members. The logic behind these devastating conclusions is that technology allows us to avoid face-to-face interactions, phone calls, and personal, deep connections. While I understand the possibility for using technology in a way that creates a sort of divide, I moreover anticipate and admire its ability to connect us. I can, in an instant, see snapshots of my younger cousins' lives. At college, I can be connected constantly to my family. Instead of just a phone call, I can video-call my parents and ease the homesickness I may be facing. When I have good news, my family and friends can all hear at once. Even more powerful,

I use technology to run my own personal blog. I can connect with readers from across America, and across the world. There is a magic, a brilliance, within the virtual world that allows us to bridge gaps of space and time, to reach out and experience connections in so many places.

I have an infinite amount of respect for the generations before me who used physical, tangible maps to navigate on a road trip. Much as I try, I find myself always relying on a GPS app on my phone. Family and friends who know me best laugh at me over the childlike wonder with which I view the world around me. How wonderful is it that we can find our way to any destination we like, with a tiny piece of technology at our fingertips? How magical is it that I can write a reflective blog article, publish it on a website I designed myself, and suddenly touch the hearts of people far away from me?

Even if there are negative uses of technology, like credit card company answering machines and automated receivers instead of human customer service departments, there is certainly a magical element to the infinite possibilities and ease that technology offers. I was able to teach my beautiful, kind grandmother, to use Facebook

and other social media sites, and she loves getting to experience and read snippets of my daily life, especially when things are hectic and I may not have an abundance of time to talk on the phone. However, even the technology within making a phone call has changed and developed for the better. I can talk safely to my family when I am driving, updating them on my progress, with Bluetooth calling, meaning I am hands-free and able to focus on the road. There are such wonderful capabilities made possible thanks to technology.

Technology also gives us the chance to choose. This may sound strange; we have choices in everything we do. However, technology allows us to have a wealth of knowledge just waiting for us to devour, right at our fingertips. My papers, projects, and ability to learn at school are more diverse and rich, thanks to the ease of access to scholarly journal articles and other information, from anywhere—not just in the campus library. If I don't have a chance to visit a family member, and they want to see a copy of this newspaper, I can direct them to a webpage, a collective of my articles.

Dangers accompany progress, and there are of course a number of consequences to technology. There are

predators able to access the accounts of young teenagers. There are fake profiles on social media, a decline of intimate human connection due to the 'age of texting', and of course, damage to linguistic styles due to the incorporation of texting and other shorthand methods of communication. However, I believe that technology is a wonderfully transformative tool. If you want to be informed about political issues, you can find truthful, unbiased information using technology. Libraries have access programs that teach a variety of people to use technology. In order to best develop the technology we are lucky enough to use, we need to be responsible with both how we use it, and with ensuring its accessibility to everyone in the country. In rural areas, minority living areas, and areas of poverty, there is a major global issue called the digital divide, causing rifts and achievement gaps for people who do not have consistent access to technology. With improved programs to increase digital literacy and provide access and knowledge of technology's uses, I believe it is a magical and important tool that revolutionizes society for the better.

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

Sophomore Year

Age of communication

Morgan Rooney
MSMU Class of 2020

As a person who was born in the late 1990s, 1998 to be exact, I have had the experience of growing up during a time of rapid change in technology. When I was a child and I wanted to watch my favorite film, I would search through the box of VHS tapes stored in an old cardboard box in the hall closet. I would be sure to insert it into the VCR player, rewind the tape, and start it from the very beginning. I remember seeing my parents and other grownups walking around with cheap flip phones in their pockets, unaware of the many limitations of the now archaic technological device (at least, compared to what we are used to now). I remember feeling an uncontrollable urge to grow up, as many of us felt, and wanting an old-fashioned cell phone of my own so I could chat with my best friend for hours, rather than having to wait for my mom to get off the phone line. In those days, my computer tower and bulky monitor sat on a small table in the office, across from my parents' equally bulky, but faster and more updated computers.

I got older, things changed. We made the historic switch from VHS tapes to DVDs. I upgraded from my flip phone to a smartphone, which has been updated to the latest version on multiple occasions. Our TVs got thinner and thinner, but increasingly wider and taller, and, of course, with higher definition. The big USA roadmap for our occasional road trips got folded up and put away after my family bought

our first GPS system. With the addition of texting and social media in our lives, communicating instantly with anyone, anytime, became much more possible than it had been before.

One thing that I hear quite often about these new developments of technology is that people, both adults and children, are spending way too much time using this technology rather than communicating face-to-face or living life away from the screen. I do believe these statements have their truths to them. Many of us have experienced spending time with another person—it could be a date, or even just spending time with a family member or friend—and the other person just cannot seem to put their phone down. He is addicted to it, and pays more attention to the screen than the person right in front of him. To me, this seems to be unhealthy, and more than anything, annoying. I don't claim that I have never picked up my phone when spending time in the presence of another person, because that would be a lie, but I do think there is a point of limitation. Sometimes, I find even myself spending too much time using my smartphone. I know that I am not an exception to this trend, and sometimes should be spending my time elsewhere, being more productive and doing things to improve the overall quality of my life. Although this is something I strive to improve in my own life, and I think many others should too, I do see how technology improves my own life and the lives of the people around me every day.

When I first moved away to attend college here in Emmitsburg, it was already such a big decision and drastic

change to my life. I was coming here from halfway across the country. The most common thing people would ask me when I told them of my decision was, "Won't you miss your family?". The answer was, of course I would, but it wasn't like I would never speak to them or have maybe a weekly phone call. With the technology we had, I would be able to contact them at any time I wanted to, and they were able to contact me whenever they pleased. The simplest question could be asked through a quick text message, and all was smooth sailing. What about my friendships from high school? Our contact is not just limited to an email or letter in the mail, though that can be fun on occasion. We can talk hours on the phone, catching up with our new busy lives, or even video chatting where we can see each other's faces. It's the closest we can get to being together, when we are not physically together, and I think it is wonderful. Old, long-term friendships don't have to fade or grow apart, but can continue to strengthen. When it is easier for people who do not live near one another to keep in contact, it is more likely they will. What I am really trying to say here, is that even though I am spending a fair amount of time on my smartphone, I am still able to maintain social interactions with friends and family. In fact, it helps me stay in contact with my closest friends and remain in their lives, even when we live far away from each other. No, I do not believe this replaces a face-to-face conversation, or spending time together in person. Those things are still very important to me, but to be able to talk to my old friends so easily and often means a great deal to me and I'm glad I have the technology to do so.

Sure, increased use of technology

has its drawbacks and what I would call annoyances, but when I think of technology and how my friends and I use it, I see it more in a positive light. It is a great way to stay up-to-date on the things going on around us and keep in contact with those we love, no matter where they may be in the world. If

we don't allow what is in our hands to control us, it can be advantageous, and improve our relationships with our friends and family instead of allowing them to fade away.

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



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FACE TIME OR FACEBOOK?

Junior Year

Balancing efficiency & alienation in the age of technology

Shea Rowell
MSMU Class of 2019

“Please listen to the following options, and select one of the following; press one if you are calling to ask about ticket sales; press two if...” the sickeningly robotic voice intones as I struggle to maintain composure. Phone to my ear, I listen to the litany of options and hope that at the end of the list I will hear those rare but magical words: “If you’d like to be connected to the next available associate, press 0 or stay on the line.” This means that I am only a brief on-hold music interlude away from contacting a real, living human. Shocking, isn’t it? There is nothing as relieving as finally connecting with a real person on the other end of the phone, or better yet, face-to-face. Human interaction, however, is a phenomenon which is slowly disappearing from the daily experience of most Americans.

Technology, of course, is the culprit. It has empowered us to order pizzas, book hotel rooms, and pay for our groceries without the strain of conver-

sation with another person. In fact, many of my peers suffer from a condition known as “phone anxiety,” which amounts to fear of speaking to strangers on the phone. Technology is obviously not an inherently negative thing. The majority of technology’s “side effects” are remarkably positive. Technological advancements in education, medicine, transportation, industry, etc. have made once-difficult tasks easy. Most Americans now have the world at their fingertips through their smart phones, tablets, and laptop computers. The possibilities are endless, and technology is moving and improving every day.

It is no secret, however, that technology makes humans more and more distant from each other. Our social interactions largely take place over social media platforms, our communication takes place over text or email, and our daily tasks can be more easily managed on the computer or the latest app than through more direct means. Society has irreversibly changed, and this is not a bad thing. There is immense value, however, in taking a step away for a few moments.

During my winter break, my sis-

ter and I hopped on a plane to visit our grandmother who lives in Florida. Taking a step into her house is like stepping back in time. If the grandmother vibe was unclear by the pink floral wallpaper she had hung in every room, or the light blue Grand Marquis parked in the driveway, it was made remarkably clear through the lack of technology in the place. She does not own a computer or a smart phone, nor does she intend to change that. Her daughter recently bought her a tablet as a gift. Interested, my sister and I asked her what she uses it for. “Email,” she responded, “and I only check it a couple times a week.”

This was a completely foreign concept to my sister and I, who were both born and raised with accessible technology. And surprisingly, our stay with her was refreshing. For the majority of the trip, I left my phone out of sight and out of mind, trying instead to meet my grandmother on her level. The trip was filled with conversation. I learned more about her and her life in my five-day visit than I had known in the twenty-one years I had known her before. I learned about her childhood, her relationship to my grandfather, her hobbies, etc. I will cherish the relationship I was able to build with her in that week.

A famous and slightly cliché Maya Angelou quote reads: “People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.” I hope, in my week with my grandmother, I made her feel as loved and cared for as she did me. The simple act of putting away the cellphone or computer to be fully present with others reminds them that they are valued and loved. They will remember how you make them feel. The same principle applies to businesses.

During my summer breaks, I work at a small farm-to-table restaurant waiting tables. The restaurant has only twelve tables, and the same staff comes back day after day to cook, clean, and serve each day. The customers get to know the staff, and we get to know the customers—at least the regulars. The personal touch makes all the difference. I can welcome them by name: “Good morning Miss Kathy! I’ll be right back with your coffee” and then ask about her week while we wait for her food. She, and many other customers, come back, not for the food or the prices (although both are excellent) but for the personal attention they receive from the staff; each staff member, in turn, cares greatly for the customers.

At the restaurant, we make them feel cared for. Staff are closely accessi-

ble to customers, and attentive to their needs. Technology, however, has a bad habit of distancing and distracting us from that personal touch. Recorded phone messages and online services make the customer feel alienated and isolated. Customers remember that feeling, and return to the places where they feel welcomed and loved.

It is impossible, of course, to completely abandon technology. I greatly value the ability it gives me to contact people who are far away from me, to quickly order whatever I may need on Amazon, or to sate my curiosity with a seconds-long Google search—not to mention the entertainment of Netflix or Spotify! It is, however, important to recognize the changes it creates in our lives, for better and for worse. It can enhance our world without distancing us from one another, but technology users must find the balance themselves. Businesses, likewise, must remember that alienation is a side-effect of efficiency, and that the customers reaching out to them are not as robotic as the services they are offered. As humans, we desire connection and community, intimacy and love. We will remember how others make us feel; let us spread compassion instead of alienation.

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

Senior Year

For want of humanity

Sarah Muir
MSMU Class of 2018

When venturing out to write this, I had thought I should speak of technology. In retrospect, this was a rather a foolhardy enterprise, since I would not consider what I know as first rate (or even, second-rate) information. Besides some basic understanding of how to work my computer and phone, I am far from being considered “technologically savvy”. However, as a member of the human race I can at least talk about how we are evolving alongside the technology we create. So instead, I propose to speak of humanity; its relationships, genius and innovation in the world that it has built for itself.

Humanity is ingenious and every one of us born with an insatiable curiosity. Throughout our lives we explore the world around us with an unwavering need to connect and interact with others. The things that we create are proof of this: Phones, cars, computers, airplanes, postal services, televisions, all of these inventions strive to fulfill our need to reach out across whatever divide there is and touch each other. We can know what is happening on a different country at any given moment, we can talk to strangers or friends on the other side of the globe and learn from them all that they know of their slice of the world. For this reason, we can say that we are closer now than we ever were; however, this I have found, is not entirely true. There is a double-edged sword that comes with technology. It comes when it is exploited or taken for granted and leads to a willingness to see human beings not as they are,

but as a series of numbers and pixels on a screen.

For this article, all the student writers watched an airline commercial from the late nineties. The manager of this airline tells his employees that they have been fired by a 20-year loyal customer who no longer recognized the company. The advertisement focused on the shift from face to face customer service to relying on automated messages and fax. The whole thing was only a minute long, but it encapsulated a problem that has not gone away. In fact, the opposite is true, the problem has gotten worse. Nowadays it is not only affecting the way in which we conduct business, but the way in which we communicate with each other. With the development of social media apps, our interactions have altered to a point wherein we cannot be alone without our 200 plus followers coming along for the ride. I know I probably sound like an old curmudgeon, complaining about these young’uns today with their instaface and snapbook, but life surrounds me with daily proof.

This is a small example that has stuck in my mind. I was out to breakfast with my family when we spied a scene worthy of Norman Rockwell. Two pairs of gentleman sitting by the window in a pool of morning sunlight; separated by tables, chairs and several decades. The older couple sat across from each other holding up a newspaper between them, complaining about the headlines and discussing this and that. The young pair a few feet away, had their heads bent over their in an odd reverence and faces slightly lit by their phones. They

did not utter a word to each other or even spare a glance at their equally occupied companion. Looking on I couldn’t tell if they were friends, lovers or strangers and I felt a cold uneasiness wash over me. Unfortunately, this is not an isolated incident, I have seen people on dates, friends out to lunch, and entire families completely disconnected from anything outside of their screens. I am guilty of this. In public, without a book, I whip out my phone and try to avoid whatever people want to make small talk. At home I click away on my laptop, television on (and ignored) in favor of procrastinating whatever necessary tasks have found their way to my To-do list.

News is also rapidly evolving with technology and seems to be pouring out every way you look to the point where it becomes too much to take in. Stories of corruption, bloodshed and anger are becoming common. While the world has been made smaller it is still easy to distance yourself from the faces on the screen because they are shadows in a nebulous network of information.

For the past four years I have been working for the Emmitsburg News-Journal. This local newspaper that values itself on developing a personal relationship with its readership and community has taught me the importance of this bond between the customer and the business. I have seen this newspaper call on students to understand what it means to work as a team, to build and improve and draw the surrounding community together.

Technology is a wonderful phenomenon that opens so many possibilities in the world. It has advanced to the point in which nearly anything is possible, but with this extreme potential to do good, it has

an equally great propensity to cause harm. For bigger businesses this is made even worse. Now the face on the screen is not a human being, but a source of revenue; they are broken down into numbers and figures. The way we use technology has created a society in which people have become cold and desensitized. The

world is divided by screens that have made us cynical and blind to the fact that we are all members of the human race. Today, we have to remember that we need more humanity than machinery.

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



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FASHION

Showing love to Men's Fashion Week

Valerie McPhail
MSMU Class of 2015

An awakening has broken within the menswear industry, which has allowed the commonly overlooked labels to speak loud and clear. Just as these brands - Sacai, Ann Demeulemeester and Henrik Vibskov - were represented in the same way they've always been presented, the recent de-scaling of menswear shows gave the showcasing brands nothing but the platform to be illuminated. No longer is the standard suit and tie the only option, for the loudest expression on the runway was at times the most outlandish form of fashion made among the Fall 2018 Collections. As Pigalle's track pants replace the formality of suits and Grace Wales Bonner's crop blazers and snow pants become a fashion statement, these menswear trends function as victories of expression, individuality and ingenuity. In the Spirit of Valentine's Day, I share my adoration, appreciation and respect to these fashion-forward designers. My hats off to the accomplishments made this season.

Change is within the fashion industry's nature. My first love for the men's fashion industry and its clothing design blossomed in college as a response to an overwhelming feeling towards the women's wear industry. Confused as to how I could express myself with so many options among the growing maximalist culture, an idea where accessories were embraced in multitude and mixed prints worn together, the menswear presented a straightforward and uncomplicated approach to dress

wear. I found this refreshing amidst the noise. With passion I accepted a job at Brooks Brothers at the Gettysburg Outlets, allowing the opportunity to find inspiration and relate to men on their connection to fashion.

I love the classic styles. The suits my dad wears to work in Washington D.C., or the pleated trousers the pastor of my hometown church will wear every Sunday remains an item of clothing relied upon for various reasons: its structure, adopted within society and habit of routine. Despite the fact, the menswear industry continues to evolve. As designers experiment with prints and the deconstruction of classic styles - the navy blazer, matching trouser and forward pointed dress shirts - fashion becomes more of an art form, and the pieces commonly worn in a man's day to day will continue to be passed down throughout the generations, allowing fashion to be more approachable to men.

Although the classic pieces are the standards that keep men shopping, invested, and ultimately interested in clothing, the brands committed to experimentation allow the industry to stay contemporary. One of the most popular conversations of last fall, across the entire fashion industry, was the topic of gender neutrality. That is, the idea that clothing blurs lines between men and women, where model-looks appear androgynous and break boundaries on how fashion is defined. This season of menswear shows a continuation of such conversation. Both men and women models walked numerous shows on the calendar. Brands including SS World Corp, Kenzo and Ann

Demeulemeester casted female models to show in the presentations and shows for their Fall Men's Collections. Whether they were wearing flamed printed dresses accessorized with silky neck ties, or deconstructed vests, trousers and combat boot uniforms, women complemented and matched outfits among men's fashion. Since the concept first appeared among the fashion magazines last year, the presence of gender fluidity remains.

Another constant conversation is the idea of practicality. The standard of men's fashion commits to producing garments utilized for the everyday. The sake of suits, wool trousers and turtlenecks paired with shearling jackets translates to fashion with a function. Embracing colder weather fashion designs with the winter and business meetings in mind, lifestyle remains in the DNA of menswear. This season, designers utilized the practical pieces with extravagance. Articles of fashion that assist with the routine were elevated on the runway. Japan's Sacai and New York's Thom Browne led the dialogue. Each brand, distinctive in their approach to functionalism within the fall and winter clothing for men, exaggerated the appearance of practical items of clothing, framing a point to how men make a habit of dressing, and desire to dress. Sacai showed a head-to-toe plaid outfit made of a ski down jacket, matched to shorts layered over slim fitted slacks. Such looks portrayed a formal suit attire style blending attributes of athletic wear. Replicating a man's runner outfit track shorts and compression leggings, the uniform intermixes styles of fashion, creating innovative approaches to the daily costume of a man's life. Furry snoods were unexpected, and yet nonetheless it was a popular accessory to the collection. Slightly feminine, the snoods added to the trending winter accessories also showing in other collections.

Thom Browne's Fall 2018 Collection continued the story by upgrading the looks of snow boots and mittens with ostentatious appeal. Browne took his guests to a landscape of snowy plains, creating a camping experience where models put a collection of café au



White Mountaineering's snow suit for Fall/Winter 2018, image courtesy of Vogue Runway.com.

late colored cable knit cardigans, fur trimmed puffers and snowflake printed blazers to rest. In the same snowy escapade, Japanese designer Yosuke Aizawa, the name behind the brand White Mountaineering, showed an orange snowsuit among Christmas printed vests. Check tailored coats and fingerless gloves were looks in a collection paired with zip line ropes and Carabineer hiking hooks. These rustic supplies created a seasonally appropriate atmosphere. Such extreme practical pieces of clothing appear as artistic expressions of fashion on the runway.

This genuine approach to fashion continues with the designs of Y / Project and Henrik Vibskov. Notorious for their explicit, dramatic and unconventional designs these brands are carrying the torch for the advancements of fashion's expression. As Vibskov coordinated his collection in loud printed cardigans, kimonos and a Canadian tuxedo, the most publically acclaimed example of strange fashion shown this season is what is known as the "knee high Ugg." A boot close enough to capture reference to the Australian

footwear brand, is a style that comes fresh from the Y / Project runway. The wrinkled, thigh high boot with fur lining has become a highlight this season. Despite its strong statement, its overwhelming embrace for comfort is an attribute that the men's fashion industry can relate to. For without comfort, men would not allow any type of fashion into their everyday life.

As up and coming brands shared profitable, yet safe, collections for Fall, here came a season where the fierce, experimental, and at times immodest brands became notably respected for creating novel ideas on design. Among those showing this season, White Mountaineering and Henrik Vibskov make fashion statements while the ole suit and tie combination continues to be approachable and yet questionably relevant. Such brands were the ones with a unique perspective on comfort and functionalism. In response there is an expectancy that these new ideas carry into trends for next season.

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

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COMMUNITY NOTES

GNMP's new Artist-in-Residence



Acclaimed painter Joshua Osburg is the new Artist-in-Residence at Gettysburg National Military Park. He is known for expressing the pain of war and transformation throughout his visual themes.

U.S. Military combat veteran and acclaimed painter Joshua Osburg is the new Artist-in-Residence at Gettysburg National Military Park beginning in mid-January. Gettysburg National Military Park, in partnership with the National Parks Arts Foundation and the Gettysburg Foundation, is welcoming Osburg for a month-long residency on the Gettysburg battlefield. He will talk about his work

at an artist engagement event at the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center on February 3 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Osburg is known for expressing the pain of war and transformation throughout his visual themes. He plans to create three to five oil paintings in a series entitled "The Last Measure of Devotion" to incorporate the landscape of Gettysburg National

Military Park. The effort will be an exploration of Osburg's relationship with war from the perspective of an artist, educating the public about the impact of war on the artist and visual art.

"Gettysburg National Military Park will allow me to explore my personal relationship with war as an American artist," said Osburg. "I answered the same calling as the men did that died fighting at Gettysburg during the American Civil War. I want to examine the juxtaposition of beauty that encompassed pain and suffering."

Originally from St. Louis, Missouri, Osburg endured a transient childhood and was, by his own account, "raised in depravity." His first canvas was the walls of his many homes, where he depleted his family's stock of pens and pencils. At age 21

he enlisted in the United States Army, brimming with a sense of strong patriotism and duty to his country. At 22 he was in Baghdad with 1st Cavalry Division as QRF (Quick Response Force). Still, a sheet of wood and drawing utensils helped him escape the pains of war. He feels that his constant and intuitive relationship throughout his life with art eliminates stress and produces a satisfaction acquired nowhere else.

In his public engagement, Osburg will explain his point of view in his own words as an example of the impact war has had on him personally and in his creative process. He will also speak about the many art movements and great American artists that have come from and been moved by America at war from America's

beginnings to present time.

Osburg feels that the battle of Gettysburg was a turning point in history, art and culture and his Gettysburg residency will, therefore, be a turning point in his career as an artist. The perspective or "lens" of his experience in war will be an influential perspective to which he will view the battlefield's artistic themes.

"Gettysburg National Military Park has offered inspiration to artists for more than 150 years," said Chuck Hunt, acting superintendent at Gettysburg National Military Park. "The Artist-in-Residence program engages new audiences and tells Gettysburg's stories in new and compelling ways." For more information about Joshua Osburg's artist engagement call 717-334-1124 or visit www.nps.gov/gett.

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THURMONT MAIN STREET MATINEES

February 10th - I Hate Valentine's Day

A romantic comedy about a florist, who abides by a strict five-date-limit with any man, finds herself wanting more with the new restaurateur in town.

Starring My Big Fat Greek Wedding actors Nia Vardalos and John Corbett.

February 24th - Andre Rieu at Radio City Music Hall

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ARTS

The Majestic rocks your world this Spring

Jean Grubesky
Marketing Director

Gettysburg College's Majestic Theater hopes to "rock your world" of entertainment with its Spring 2018 Celebrity Season. "Every year I try to book a line-up of shows featuring popular headliners, as well as introducing the stars of tomorrow," said Jeffrey W. Gabel, the Majestic's Founding Executive Director.

Celebrate the power of love on Sunday, February 18 at 3 p.m. with the legendary rock & roll diva, Darlene Love, the roof-raising voice be-

hind the 1960s hits "He's a Rebel" and the holiday classic "Christmas (Baby Please Come Home)." Love provided back-up vocals for numerous timeless singles including "Johnny Angel," "You've Lost that Lovin' Feeling" and "Baby, I Need Your Loving." It's no wonder The New York Times raved, "Darlene Love's thunderbolt voice is as embedded in the history of rock and roll as Eric Clapton's guitar or Bob Dylan's lyrics." A limited number of VIP tickets will be available which includes premium seating, a pre-show meet and greet with the artist and a special screening of her Oscar winning

documentary "Twenty Feet from Stardom" on Valentine's Day at 7 p.m.

Saddle up for an acrobatic extravaganza set in the Old West when the amazing athletic artists of Cirque Éloize present "Saloon" on Wednesday, March 7 at 7:30 p.m. The show features a musical score of songs by Patsy Cline and Johnny Cash. Cirque Éloize (pronounced El-o-wahz) is the world-famous, Montreal-based company which has been at the forefront of the circus arts renewal since 1993.

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with Dublin Irish Dance on Sunday, March 18 at 3 p.m. An all-star cast

of world champion Irish step dancers, vocalists and instrumentalists who have performed throughout the world with Riverdance, Michael Flatley's Lord of the Dance, and Celtic Woman. The show brings to life the epic tale of Celtic culture with a gala celebration of Irish music and dance.

And finally, bring the whole family to see My Father's Dragon by Enchantment Theater Co. of Philadelphia on Sunday, April 15 at 3 p.m. My Father's Dragon is the beloved children's novel by Ruth Stiles Gannett about a young boy, Elmer Elevator, who runs away to Wild Island to rescue a baby Dragon.

Both a Newbery Honor Book and an American Library Association Notable Book, Enchantment Theater's production is in collaboration with the author and in celebration of the book's 70th anniversary.

Tickets can be purchased starting June 9th for Majestic Members and June 16th at 12 noon for the General Public online at gettysburgmajestic.org, by calling 717-337-8200, or stopping by the Box Office, 25 Carlisle Street, Gettysburg. The Box Office is open Monday through Saturday from Noon until 7:30 p.m. and on Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m..

Adams County Arts celebrates 25th Anniversary

Philip Horn, who is retiring this month after 25 years as Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts (PCA) in Harrisburg, will be guest speaker at the Adams County Arts Council's 25th Anniversary special event on Tuesday, March 13, at the Gettysburg Hotel, on Lincoln Square.

Horn's leadership led to fundamental changes in how the PCA does business, and expanded the reach of state arts funding. Through implementation of a unique, streamlined grant-making approach, the PCA doubled its number of grantees and expanded its service, enabling it to work close-

ly with new applicants, guide new partnerships and initiatives, and provide expanded services. The PCA was named among government's top 50 Best and Brightest agencies in the Innovations in American Government Award, a national program of Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

With the creation of the groundbreaking public/private partnership, Pennsylvania Performing Arts on Tour 1997-2014, PCA collaborated with major foundations like The Heinz Endowments and The Pew Charitable Trusts to form the first

statewide partnership of Pennsylvania's major public/private funders in support of the arts. His innovative cultural tourism strategies have resulted in bringing such noteworthy events as the First National Performing Arts Convention to Pennsylvania.

Since 1993, the Adams County Arts Council has evolved from a small group of optimistic organizers into a nonprofit arts organization with more than 500 members and a mission to cultivate an arts-rich community. ACAC's primary goals are to provide high quality arts in education opportunities for students of all ages, to sup-

port local arts presenters, schools and artists, and to promote economic development through the arts.

Through a tremendous outpouring of community support, ACAC opened its Arts Education Center at 125 South Washington Street in Gettysburg in 2011. The 10,000 sq. ft. center includes inviting spaces for arts and culinary classes, artist studios, gallery for local art, pottery and glass workshop, and reception hall with commercial kitchen for community and private events.

The 25th Anniversary Celebration begins at 5 p.m. with heavy hors

d'oeuvres, cash bar, silent auction, and the Gettysburg High School String Ensemble. The program starts at 5:45 p.m. and also includes "25 Years in Review (the short version)" by Arts Council Executive Director Chris Glatfelter, recognition of outstanding volunteers Louise Garverick, Jack Handshaw, Brenda McCabe, and Kate Rice, and a performance by lyric soprano Jessica Gondwe with accompanist Patrice Smith.

For more information call the Adams County Arts Council at 717-334-5006 or visit www.adamsarts.org.

This month at the Weinberg

Parody of HBO's "Game of Thrones" to take the Stage at the Weinberg

Daenerys, Tyrion, Joffrey, and other memorable characters will take the stage at the Weinberg Center for the Arts on Sunday, February 18 for the regional premiere of "Musical Thrones: A Parody of Ice and Fire." The musical parody of HBO's "Game of Thrones" is written by Jon and Al Kaplan, the brothers responsible for the Off-Broadway hit "Silence! The Musical." The performance is scheduled for 7 p.m.

Brothers Jon Kaplan and Al Kaplan are composers, lyricists and writers. In addition to "Musical Thrones," they created "Silence! The Musical," a stage version of "The Si-

lence of the Lambs," that has played in London, New York City, and Los Angeles. They are also the creators of the YouTube channel Legolambs, which features musicalizations of various Arnold Schwarzenegger movies such as "Conan the Barbarian," "Predator" and "Commando." The brothers also co-wrote and scored the 2014 film "Zombeavers."

In addition to "Silence!," the Kaplans have composed music for the NBC reality show "Starting Over," a John Ford silent film entitled "Just Pals," and a series of Walt Disney web advertisements. The Kaplans also wrote two seasons worth of Super Nintendo-style underscore for G4's cartoon series "Code Monkeys." In 2009, the brothers wrote come-

dy (not music) for the MTV Movie Awards, and arranged Andy Samberg's "Lonely Island Medley," which was performed by LeAnn Rimes, Chris Isaak, and Forest Whitaker. They have also scored "The Hills Have Thighs," "Piranhaconda," and "Dinocroc vs. Supergator."

Frederick Speaker Series to Present "Nightline" Anchor Ted Koppel

Legendary journalist Ted Koppel will take the stage at the Weinberg Center for the Arts as part of the 2018 Frederick Speaker Series on Thursday, February 22 at 7:30 p.m.. Best known as the former anchor and managing editor of ABC's "Nightline," the award-winning journalist now serves as an analyst for NPR and a contributing columnist for The New York Times, The Washington Post, and The Wall Street Journal. With his trademark wis-

dom, wit, and warmth, Koppel will share his observations on the state of the world, providing an unmatched analysis of today's headlines and the people behind the scenes.

During more than 50 years that he has worked as a professional journalist, Ted Koppel has embodied the term "eyewitness to history." He covered John F. Kennedy's funeral in 1963, Barry Goldwater's presidential campaign in 1964, and Martin Luther King Jr.'s civil rights march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama in 1965. Koppel also covered a succession of ten conflicts as an ABC News war correspondent, beginning with Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia in 1967, 1969, 1970 and 1971 and finally as an embedded correspondent with the 3rd armored infantry division during the invasion of Iraq in 2003.

Over the course of 26 years as anchor and managing editor of "Nightline," Koppel became the

longest serving news anchor in U.S. broadcast history. After leaving ABC in 2005, Koppel and his colleagues produced 20 hours of documentaries for the Discovery Network, where he served as managing editor. Since then, he has worked as a contributing analyst for BBC America and a special correspondent for the NBC News magazine program, "Rock Center."

Koppel's most recent book "Lights Out," a 2015 New York Times best-seller, examines a threat unique to our time and evaluates potential ways for America to prepare for a cyber-catastrophe. Koppel serves as commentator and non-fiction book reviewer for the National Public Radio. He is also a contributing columnist to The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, and The Washington Post. As of February 2016, Koppel has undertaken a new assignment for CBS News as Senior Contributor to "The CBS Sunday Morning Show."

Teelin Irish Dance's "Celtic Storm" Returns to Weinberg

Teelin Irish Dance Company will once again bring their celebrated show "Celtic Storm" to the Weinberg Center for the Arts. Back by popular demand, the latest engagement is scheduled for Saturday, February 24 at 7 p.m.. The Columbia-based, award-winning company has enthralled audiences around the world with their cutting-edge choreography since 2001.

A complete listing of artists and performers scheduled for the 2017-2018 season can be found at WeinbergCenter.org.

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MOUNT ARTS

What to expect this spring...

Hannah Opdenaker
MSMU Class of 2018

The first week of the semester at the Mount was filled with warm wishes for a happy New Year from the Visual and Performing Arts Department. Springtime at the Mount is always filled with events that highlight the work of students on campus, and the Visual and Performing Arts Department is no exception. During this first few weeks of this semester, Senior theatre majors Nicole Heilos and Hannah Opdenaker will be holding auditions for their up and coming senior directing projects. Heilos will be producing a show called "Light: Songs to Stop Mental Stigma". The show will include songs from various musicals dealing with mental health and mental illness. Theater goers may recognize songs from the popular newer musicals on Broadway, Dear Evan Hansen, Next to Normal, or the recently revived musical Spring Awakening. Other musicals recognizable to Heilos will be pulling from include Sweeney Todd, Jekyll and Hyde, Rent, Gypsy, and Into the Woods, which was made into a popular Disney movie a few years ago.

"This is such an exciting time for Mount Theater" says Heilos, "We have worked so hard to get here, and time feels as if it has just flown by over these four years." Heilos claims she is most excited to work with the students that she has befriended over her four years here at the Mount. "It will be interesting transition" she says "I have only worked with my peers as a student actor, so actually directing them will be a different kind of experience. Definitely a learning curve I will have to overcome." Heilos believes that the work she is presenting is important, however. The conversation about mental health is one that she believes that has to be had, but rarely is. "How many times have you overlooked someone with a mental disability or illness? Or how many times have you said 'it's just

depression.' Or 'it's just OCD what is the big deal?'" Heilos believes that her compilation of songs that address the stigma of mental illness, and the severity of their effects on the human condition will be warmly welcomed around the Mount campus.

If you are interested in seeing Nicole's production of Light: Songs to Stop Mental Stigma, you can catch it in the Horning Theater in the Delaplaine Fine Arts Center on the main campus. The dates for the show are March 22-24.

This spring also heralds the first round of auditions for Hannah Opdenaker's senior project, Lysistrata. Opdenaker's project is a fresh, fast-paced comedy, inspired by the Aristophanes play. It follows the legendary character of Lysistrata, an Athenian housewife, who calls for the women of Greece to help end the Peloponnesian War. She proposes a radical plan: all Greek women must refuse to engage in love making until the men see reason, lay down their arms and come home to lie down with their wives in peace. The women agree to make the sacrifice and all hell breaks loose as men wander the country in an agony of unsatisfied lust. Will Lysistrata and her crew accomplish what the politicians could not?

As a double major in political science and theater education, there was some concern how to meld the two majors together. However, given the political climate within the last year, especially the climate surrounding women's issues, it seemed like an appropriate time for the Mount to produce a show about women. Opdenaker is especially excited for the predominately female cast. It will be exciting to see so many women coming together to put on something that can have such an impact around the campus. Sometimes it is difficult to separate the arts from the political sphere in 2018, however, Lysistrata proves that the theater and the political world can and should intertwine. If you are interested in seeing the political comedy Lysistrata it will

be coming to the Horning Theater at the Delaplaine Fine Arts Center April 20-22.

The spring's Main Stage production this semester, Almost, Maine, will be sure to be a heartwarming crowd pleaser. The play is a series of nine short, somewhat absurdist vignettes that all revolve around the theme of love. The small ensemble cast has just started rehearsals. Many of the cast are excited to bring such a warm show to the Mount during a time of the year that many of us can get a little down in the dumps. The production of Almost, Maine can be seen in the Horning Theater March 15 thru the 17.

Shea Rowell, member of the Mount Music Society, gave some insight on events the Society is planning on offering in the spring. In addition to café nights and album reviews, the society also plans to host a "thon" style event with a bit of a twist. Another exciting event that the Mount Music Society will be hosting is a trip to see Waitress, the Musical at the Hippodrome Theater in Baltimore, Maryland. Waitress, tells the story of Jenna, a waitress with a knack for baking who is unhappily married to her husband Earl. She unexpectedly becomes pregnant, falls in love with her Gynecologist, and



A scene from the Broadway production of Waitress.

begins an affair with him. Jenna copes with her unhappy marriage through baking, and enters a pie contest in hopes that she can escape the monotonous life she is leading. The Art department also promises to present some interesting exhibits, as well as student shows and senior portfolio presentations.

Alpha Psi Omega, the theater honors fraternity on the Mount campus, is planning an event to produce is a theater workshop focused on the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) side of theater. Science and Math have taken over many industries, and the theater is no exception. Professor Ben Buhrman has offered to host an event showcasing the many different jobs and outlets that the theater offers in areas other than acting.

As an educational theater program, the Visual and Performing Arts department makes every effort to appeal to any and all students, not just those with an interest in the arts. Another event that is in the works is a contemporary dance workshop, with a focus on dance for the musical theater. Both events are set to be in March or April.

Mount Saint Mary's dedication to the fine arts is proven in the passion and hard work of her students, faculty and staff. The theater and arts productions at the Mount are open to the public. For more information contact the Delaplaine Fine Arts Center on the Mount Campus at: 301-447-5308.

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



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- CIRQUE ELOIZE -

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Wednesday, March 7th
7:30 p.m.

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STEPPING OUT

Sunday, March 18th - 3:00 p.m.

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Tickets: \$46, \$41, \$35

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2018 CELTIC CONCERT

THE STEEL CITY ROVERS



Thurs., March 22, 7 p.m.

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SPORTS

Catoctin girls' basketball back on track

Edison Hatter

Catoctin High School's girls' basketball team lost a lot of talented seniors last season, but still has high hopes for a successful season this year. This season, the varsity team only has nine players, with only one senior on board. However, there are five juniors with plenty of experience to help push the team to hopeful victories. The Lady Cougars also have a little bit of height on their side with four players measuring taller than 5'8". Amy Entwistle, a gym and health teacher at Catoctin, is the head coach of the team and she is assisted by John Woelfel, Chris Barnhart, and Jason Smith.

The season began well for the Lady

Cougars as they knocked off rival Francis Scott Key with a score of 50-44 during their first game of the year. Unfortunately, the rest of December did not go as well for the team as they dropped the next seven games. Some, such as a 38-36 loss to Boonsboro and a 49-46 loss to Oakdale, were close, while others, including a 64-30 loss at the hands of Middletown, were not. Nonetheless, as 2017 ended and the calendar changed to 2018, the team looked to get back into the winning column and move on from a rough start to the season.

The Lady Cougars' first chance to score a win after the New Year came against the Smithsburg Leopards in a conference matchup on the road. The team jumped out to an early 9-4 lead af-

ter one quarter and extended it to take a 22-11 lead into halftime. After both teams scored fifteen points in the third quarter, Catoctin still led 37-26. The fourth quarter featured a comeback effort from the Leopards as they cut into the lead to make the game interesting, but the Lady Cougars ultimately held on for the 52-46 win. The win moved the team to 2-7 overall, but 2-3 against other 1A schools.

Numerous impressive numbers immediately stand out in the scorebook from the Smithsburg game. As a team, the Lady Cougars were sharp from behind the arc, hitting five three-pointers as a team. Additionally, the team really worked the ball inside well and got to the free throw line often, and converted. The team shot twenty-five free throws over the course of the game, making seventeen of them. Defensively, the Lady Cougars dominated the Leopards on the boards, picking up 41 rebounds throughout the game. The team also recorded nine steals and eighteen deflections.

Individually, junior Melanie Topper scored over half of the Lady Cougars' points in the game, recording 27 points in the win. She shot 82 percent from the free throw line, going nine for eleven from the stripe. Topper was also accurate from behind the arc, connecting on four three-pointers. The 27-point performance was a new career high for Topper, but she is no stranger to scoring in the double digits. Within the first ten games this year, she is averaging 15.3 points per game to lead her team and has hit twenty-four three-point shots. Fellow junior Olivia Crum also scored in the double digits, putting eleven points into the scorebook for herself. The total was her second highest of the season, only behind a twelve-point performance against Mountain Ridge. Elizabeth Dougherty scored seven points, Chayne Barnhart, Drucilla Long, and Reagan Smith all scored two points, and Madison Tobery scored a point to finish out the scoring for the team. Dougherty also recorded nine rebounds to lead the team.



The Catoctin High School varsity girls basketball team warms up prior to a game against Middletown.

The team's next game was two days later against the rival Brunswick Railroaders. In the game, the Lady Cougars jumped out to an early 14-6 lead after the first quarter, but the Railroaders cut into the deficit in the second quarter to trail 24-22 at halftime. After both teams scored fourteen points each in the third quarter, Catoctin continued to cling to a two-point lead heading into the final quarter. After a back-and-forth affair the whole way, Catoctin found themselves down 53-50 with less than a minute to go. The ball ended up in freshman Courtney Eyley's hand behind the three-point line with 30 remaining. Eyley launched a shot that found the bottom of the net to tie the game. The three-pointer was the first Eyley made in her young high school varsity career. After a defensive stop, Catoctin had the ball back. Topper drove towards the hoop and released a shot that made its way into the basket to give Catoctin a two-point lead with six seconds to go. She was fouled on the play and hit the free throw to convert the "and one" and gave Catoctin a three point lead. Brunswick was able to get a good look from deep off at the buzzer, but it bounced off the rim and Catoctin emerged victorious, 56-53.

In the game, both teams struggled from the free throw line. Brunswick ultimately missed eleven free throws in the fourth quarter, potentially costing them the game. On the other side, however, the Lady Cougars only shot 39 percent

from the free throw line, connecting on nine out of twenty-three tries. Catoctin also turned the ball over seventeen times, a season high. However, they did connect on five three-pointers and shot 36 percent from the field. Defensively, Catoctin had a strong game, recording three blocks, twelve deflections, and 42 rebounds.

Individually, Topper led the way once again with eighteen points, including the game winning shot with 6.1 seconds remaining. She shot 44 percent from behind the arc, hitting four out of nine three-point attempts. Eyley was second on the team with nine total points, a new career high for her. Tobery also recorded a season high in points, hitting four out of seven shots for eight points during the night. Crum scored seven points, Smith recorded six points, Barnhart had five points, and Dougherty scored three points to round out the scoring in the win. Smith dominated on the boards, bringing down seventeen rebounds for the Lady Cougars. With the win, the team worked back to 3-3 and a .500 record in matchups against 1A schools. Overall, they improved to 3-7 with their second win in a row.

As the season enters the last month, the Lady Cougars could use some support from the local community as they prepare for the playoffs. Of the five games left for the team in February, three will be against teams they have already defeated. First, on February 2, the team will take on Smithsburg at home at 6 p.m.. Next, the team will travel to Brunswick on February 6 at 7 p.m. to take on the Railroaders again. On February 9 at 7 p.m., the Lady Cougars will welcome the Walkersville Lions, last year's regional finalists, in another rivalry game. In their final home game of the year, Catoctin will welcome Francis Scott Key on February 13 at 7 p.m. in an important regional matchup. The team will finish the regular season on the road at Clear Spring on February 16 at 7 p.m.. To view the schedule for the Lady Cougars and the rest of the Catoctin High School sports teams, visit www.frederickcountycmc.org and select "Catoctin High School" from the menu on the right hand side of the page.

For a full schedule of Catoctin sporting events, visit www.frederickcountycmc.org and click on "Catoctin High School" on the right hand side of the page.

Local student receives Down Under cross-country opportunity

Early in December Madison Kay, a sophomore from Fairfield High School, received an exciting letter asking her to be a part of the Down Under Sports program. Kay received the letter from the Fairfield High School cross-country coach Marcia Roan, who proudly told her she was selected to represent Pennsylvania on the 2018 Cross Country team. Students will compete down under for individual honors and a team championship title, and will even have the opportunity to work with the U.S. Olympic cross-country coach.

Kay moved from Columbus, Ohio to Fairfield a little over two years ago, and joined the high school's cross-country team. Kay had no prior knowledge about the sport, but felt it would be a great opportunity to meet new people

and become involved in her new school. Since the beginning, she has qualified for districts, medaled in a few invitationals and set the school sophomore cross-country record.

When asked why she loves the sport so much, Kay responded by saying, "Cross-country allows me to become a better runner and meet new people." She has already received tremendous support from friends, family and her coaches who have all been instrumental in helping her get to where she is today. In the future Madison hopes to work towards her goal of receiving scholarships in order to attend college so she can help train younger athletes who also have a passion for this sport. For more information on how you can help Kay, go to www.DownUnderSports.com.



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MOUNT SPORTS

Spring sports kick off this February

Samantha Barbato
MSMU Class of 2018

As the first month of the new year comes to a close, we are able to look forward to a huge month in college sports that comes with the month of February. Spring sports will have just begun or will finally kick off their seasons, and many winter sports will enter the most important part of their season. As the month rolls around, the fields will be raked and lit, the courts will be cleaned, and the concession stand with turn on its lights again, so get ready for a jam packed month of Mount sports.

Both the men's and women's basketball teams are heavy into their conference seasons this February. The women's team kick off the short but tremendous month right away with a home game against LIU Brooklyn on Saturday, February 3. The women will then battle St. Francis Brooklyn two days later at home on Monday, February 5. The following week the women will hit the road to face Farleigh Dickinson in New Jersey on February 10, before traveling further north to face Sacred Heart in Connecticut for an ESPN3 featured game on Monday, February 12. The women will then return back home the following weekend to face Bryant University on Saturday, February 17 and Central Connecticut on Monday, February 19 before rounding out their month in Staten Island to face Wagner on the 24 of the month.

The men's team will also face a grueling month with the constant flip flopping of home and away games as they prepare for the start of the Northeast Conference Tournament on the last of the month. The team will begin their month on the road as they face Robert Morris on Thursday, February 1 in Pittsburgh. The men will return to their home court to face Saint Francis University on Saturday, February 3, before hitting the road again to face Central Connecticut on Thursday, February 8 and Bryant on Saturday, February 10. The Mountaineers will return home one more to face Fairleigh Dickinson on Thursday, February 15, before traveling for the last scheduled away game of the season at Sacred Heart University in Connecticut on Saturday, February 17. The men will return home for a televised game on CBS Sports Network against Robert Morris on Thursday, February 22 and the final game of the planned conference season on Saturday, February 24 against Wagner. The men will then enter their Conference Tournament Quarterfinals on Wednesday, February 28 at the venue of the higher seed.

Also finishing up their regular season and looking to bigger competition is Men's and Women's Indoor Track and Field. A portion of both teams will head to Ohio where they will compete in the Akron Invitational and Heptathlon on Friday, February 2 and Saturday, February 3. Meanwhile, another portion

of the teams will head to Pennsylvania to compete in the SU Challenge at Susquehanna University. The teams will travel to Staten Island, NY where they will compete in the Northeast Conference Indoor Track Championships from Friday, February 16 to 17.

Finishing their regular season and entering league tournaments are the Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving teams. Both teams will compete against Loyola University on Saturday, February 3 to close out their regular season competition. The teams will split when it comes to their perspective league championships. The women's team will travel to New York to the Nassau County Aquatic Center where they will compete in the Northeast Conference Championships for a multi-day meet beginning on Tuesday, February 20 and ending Sunday, February 25. The men, who are in their second season since their establishment on campus, will compete in the ECAC Championships for the second time, after a good first year to put them on the board. The championships will begin Friday, February 23 and will end Sunday, February 25 at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, NJ.

Beginning their spring season is the Mount St. Mary's University Softball team, who will kickstart their season a week prior to spring break on a long trip through the south. The team will begin their season with a tournament at Elon University in North Carolina. The tournament, comprising of multiple double headers will begin on Saturday, February 17 with games against Bowling Green State University and Rhode Island University. The next day, the team will face Saint Joseph's University and Elon University. After the conclusion of the tournament, the team will continue their journey further south, where they will go to Deland, Florida to Stetson University for the Stetson Mad Hatter Invitational. On Saturday, February 24 the team will face Colgate University and the host, Stetson University. The following day, Sunday, February 25, they will face Colgate once more, before competing against Brown to conclude the invitational. The team will stay in the area, however, to face Stetson one more tie on February 27. The team will conclude their month as they slowly travel back to Maryland, starting on February 28 with a double header against Savannah State.

The baseball team will also kick off their season in February, with a slightly less hectic schedule. The men will start their season on their (new) home turf where they will face Coppin State on Wednesday, February 21. The team will then continue the start of their season and month of February down in Florida. The men will play Chicago State as part of the Snowbird Classic on Saturday, February 24, followed by a game against Minnesota on Sunday, the 25 of the month. The team will then travel to Port Charlotte,

Florida where they will play back to back days, the 26 and 27 against St. Bonaventure.

The Mount St. Mary's University Men's and Women's Tennis teams will be continuing the start of their seasons in the month of February. The women will kick off the month on Saturday, February 3 in Annapolis, where they will face Navy. The following weekend, the team will be on the road to face Howard University on Friday, February 9. The women will stay on the road and travel to Pennsylvania to face Lehigh University on Saturday, February 24 for the last of the indoor season, before heading down south to Orlando, Florida. There, the women will round out the month with a double-header, facing Davenport University and Rollins on Wednesday, February 28.

The men's team also start their month in Annapolis, but they will start off facing Bryant University on Sunday, February 4. The men, like the women, will stay on the road for the rest of the month, their next stop being in Philadelphia to face Temple University on Saturday, the 10 of the month. A week later, on Saturday, February 17, they will face Howard University, before rounding out their indoor season at Lehigh University on Saturday, February 24. The men will then travel down to Orlando, Florida to end the month playing Davenport University and Rose-Hulman on the 28.



The women's basketball team battles Robert Morris, first in a conference on Monday, January 22.

The month of February also marks the start of lacrosse season for the men's and women's teams. The men will begin their play on the road, playing the University of Delaware on Saturday, February 10. They will continue the next weekend, playing Towson in Baltimore on Saturday, February 17 before continuing with one more away game on Tuesday, February 20 at Richmond. The Mount men will finally return to the mountain to play UMBC in their home opener on Friday, February 23. The men will round out the month on the road again, playing Georgetown on Tuesday, February 27.

Finally, the Women's Lacrosse team also begin their journey to conferences in February, starting on Saturday, February 17 when they face Manhattan College on home turf.

The women will continue their games at home as they face UMBC on Wednesday, February 21, and Army West Point on Saturday, February 24. They will finish out the month with an away game against Presbyterian College.

The Mount looks forward to an exciting and entirely packed month of February with the overlap of many winter and spring sports. As we watch the height of some seasons, we watch the ending of others, and the fresh season beginnings to the spring sports. The month of February offers the perfect opportunities for great outings with families through the wide variety of competition featuring Emmitsburg's own Mountaineers. Grab some snacks and get ready, because as the weather begins to heat up, so do Mount sports!

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COMPLIMENTARY CORNER

2018 – The Year of the Dog

Renee Lehman

The Chinese New Year (also called the Lunar New Year or Chinese Spring Festival), one of the traditional Chinese festivals, is the grandest and the most important festival for Chinese people. It originated during the Shang Dynasty (about 17th - 11th century BCE), and it is an important time for families to get together, similar to Christmas Day for westerners. It is also a time to hope for the return of spring, to welcome prosperity, wealth, and longevity, and a time to remove any negative qi (pronounced “chee”) from the past. There is even a tradition prior to the New Year for every family to thoroughly clean the house to sweep away any ill-fortune in hopes of making way for good incoming luck.

Chinese Calendar History

The Chinese calendar was originated by the Yellow Emperor Huang Ti, and has been in use for centuries. The Chinese calendar is called a lunar calendar, but is really a calendar based on the moon and the sun. The Gregorian calendar, which the world uses today (originated 430 years ago) is a solar calendar. (The Chinese Lunar New Year always begins on the second new moon after the winter solstice, in case you were wondering why it’s on a different date every year.)

The Twelve Animals of the Chinese Calendar

The Chinese calendar is made of five, twelve-year cycles. Each of the twelve years of the Chinese calendar is appointed one of the following 12 animal’s names (in this order): rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon (the only mythological animal), snake, horse, goat/sheep, monkey, fowl/rooster,

dog, and pig. The animal that rules the year of your birth is said to exercise a major influence over your life, and that year in general. Much of the information used for this article is taken from The Handbook of Chinese Horoscopes by Theodora and Laura Lau, 2007. The sign of the Dog is the eleventh sign of the Chinese zodiac, and the animal related to this coming New Year. The Dog may be the most likeable sign in the Chinese horoscope. The Dog has a deep sense of loyalty and a passion for justice and fair play.

The Dog

The martial strains have summoned me to hear your sorrows, still your pain.

I am the protector of justice.

Equality – my sole friend.

My vision is never blurred by cowardice,

my soul never chained.

Life without honor is life in vain.

–I Am The Dog (Lau & Lau, 2007)

February 16, 2018 through February 4, 2019 is the Year of the Dog.

Considering that the Rooster is known as the “Dawn Awaker,” this past year we had the opportunity to WAKE UP on many levels! The Year of the Rooster brought us fresh challenges requiring quick wit and practical solutions! The Year of the Dog is a year for progress. Focus on achieving the life that you really want out of your life!

Dog Personality

If you were born in one of the following years, your sign is the Dog (January 28, 1922 – February 15,

1923; February 14, 1934 – February 3, 1935; February 2, 1946 – January 21, 1947; February 18, 1958 – February 7, 1959; February 6, 1970 – January 26, 1971; January 25, 1982 – February 12, 1983; February 10, 1994 – January 30, 1995; and January 29, 2006 – February 17, 2007). A person born in the year of the Dog is known for being honest, intelligent and straightforward. Dogs are very loyal, once you have gained his/her allegiance. Just don’t be opposed to what the Dog believes is correct and just. If you oppose the Dog, watch the Dog snarl and show his/her teeth!

The Dog is typically amiable and unpretentious, and will know how to get along with others. However, the Dog is prone to spells of erratic and cantankerous behavior (dogs can get your attention with good or unruly behavior)!

Overall, the Dog is not materialistic and prefers plain talk. However, the Dog can become cynical, because the Dog by nature is a pessimist. The Dog worries and expects trouble – think about how Dogs are often protecting those s/he loves! The Dog will always defend his/her territory. The Dog will have a high sense of values, and to him/her, home and family will come first.

Famous People born in the Year of the Dog:

- Andre Agassi, American Tennis Player
- Matt Damon, American Actor
- Tina Fey, American Actress and Comedian
- Mother Theresa, Albanian Roman Catholic Nun and Missionary
- Sir Winston Churchill, British Prime Minister
- William J. Clinton, American President
- Susan Sarandon, American Actress
- Norman Mailer, American Writer and Director
- Yitzhak Rabin, Prime Minister of Israel
- Prince William of Great Britain



- Christiane Amanpour, American Journalist
- Alec Baldwin, American Actor
- And of course, Lassie, Snoopy, and Scooby Doo!!!!
- General Predictions for the Year of the Dog

The Year of the Dog is an appropriate time for making life changes – relocating your home, changing jobs/relationships, starting a new business venture, and improving your lifestyle/health habits. It is a year to focus on getting what you want out of your life. Do your best, because this is a year for progress. You are likely to work more than play this year, and it will pay off for years to come.

The Year of the Dog will also bring increased sensitivity to social issues. Many voices around the world will bring increased social awareness and interest in society’s less powerful members. Finally, any tendencies toward greediness and self-indulgence will be replaced by a widespread sentiment of generosity and selflessness.

Finally, lucky is the person who is loved by a Dog, because you will likely be loved forever.

Here’s to Action during the Year of Dog 2018!

Quotes to Live by in the Year of the Dog

“Loyalty to the Nation all the time, loyalty to the Government when it deserves it.” –Mark Twain

“Justice cannot be for one side alone, but must be for both.” –Eleanor Roosevelt

“Until the great mass of the people shall be filled with the sense of responsibility for each other’s welfare, social justice can never be attained.” –Helen Keller

“In matters of truth and justice, there is no difference between large and small problems, for issues concerning the treatment of people are all the same.” –Albert Einstein

And finally, something from Scooby Doo: *“Scooby Dooby Doo!”*

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. She can be reached at 717-752-5728.



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FITNESS AND HEALTH

Taking care of yourself

Linda Stultz
Certified Fitness Trainer

We have all heard that we need to take care of ourselves for many reasons. Our health is the biggest reason but others may be that you are a caregiver for an elderly parent, spouse, child or grandchild. Many grandparents today are the ones raising their grandchildren without the help of the child's parents. Sometimes circumstances put you in a position you never thought would happen and you have not prepared for. People are also faced with working longer than they planned because of insurance or other financial responsibilities.

Our health is the most important thing we have and is the resource we will pull from all through our lives. Eating well and exercising are two of the best known ways to keep our health at it's best but there are many other less talked about ways to keep or get you back to the best health possible for you. Acupuncture, massage, chiropractic, meditation and osteopathic practices are other channels to improving the aches and pains that have made their way into our daily challenges.

I know many of these doctors and therapists are not covered by insurance and therefore many people do not think about them. Researching these alternative treatments may benefit you greatly. Stress is so overwhelming and such a big part of most people's life today that they don't realize what a toll it is taking on their bodies and health.

Stress not only affects your mood and mental health but it can actually cause physical health problems. I realize many of the alternative practices are not covered by insurance but there are ways of trying some of them at no cost. Meditation is something everyone can do at your own pace. Learning to meditate is a skill that takes practice and patience to learn but is so beneficial.

We all need some time to ourselves to renew energy, relax our shoulders and take a few deep breaths. I realize finding that time is almost impossible for some but can make such a difference in your life. Even if you take a few moments right before you go to sleep to clear your mind, breath deeply and let go of the busy day that just passed it may help you

sleep better and release some relaxation hormones to ease the stress of the day.

Practicing some of the exercises such as meditation, yoga, stretching or whatever you find you enjoy enough to keep doing may not make an immediate change in how you feel but give them a chance. Alternative medicine and practices do not work as quickly as traditional medicine but they also do not have the side effects and potential problems that many medications have. Improving our health naturally is a less invasive, longer lasting health improvement.

We still need medications and traditional doctors and many of the procedures to identify, treat and cure disease and I so appreciate the doctors and nurses that help us everyday. Nev-

er stop a medication or do anything drastic in changing your medical routine without talking to your doctor first. Many doctors are encouraged when people want to add some of the alternative practices along with their medical treatment. Both approaches working together may improve the condition faster and the natural alternative practice may be the way to prevent the problem from coming back down the road.

Meditation is one thing you can do at home without costing you but sometimes you can even talk with a chiropractor, acupuncturist, massage therapist or osteopath at a community or hospital health fair. Research any activities happening in your area. That would

be a great way to meet and talk with the practitioners and experience some of the alternative practices that may benefit you.

I met my massage therapist at a health fair a Mount St. Mary's years ago

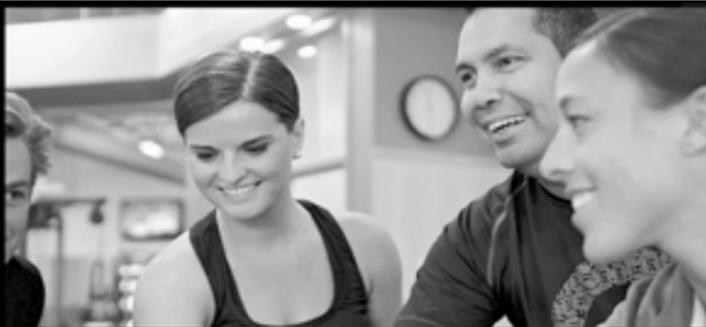
and she knows exactly what I need now. Make this the year you explore what is out there and see if it may help improve or keep your health on track. I'm sure you want to take care of your family and friends as long as you can and taking care of yourself is the best way to insure you will be there for them. You will also feel the best you can for years to come. Remember to Keep Moving!

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ASTRONOMY

The night sky of February

Professor Wayne Wooten

For February, the Moon will be last quarter on February 7th, with bright Jupiter 4 degrees south of it and both rising about midnight in the SE. The waning crescent moon is 4 degrees north of Mars on the morning of February 8th. The crescent moon passes 2 degrees north of Saturn on February 11th. The new moon is on February 15th, with the Chinese New Year celebrated with the appearance of the waxing crescent the following evening. The moon is first quarter on February 23rd.

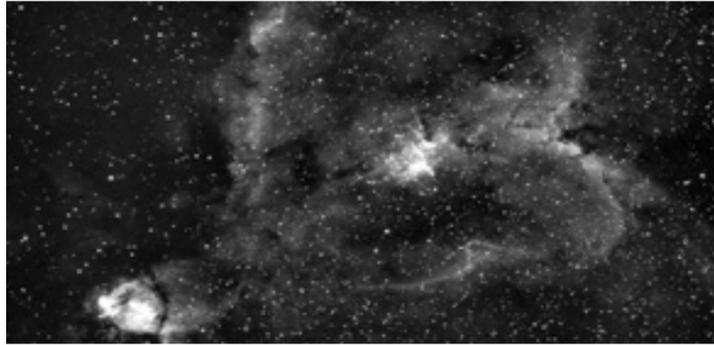
This month is unusual in that being February, with only 28 days, it does not have a full moon at all! They occur on January 31st, then again on March 2nd! All other months must have full moons, as the synodic cycle of the moon's recurring phases takes 29.5 days.

Mercury and Venus are too close to Sun for easy observing this month. Ve-

nus will pass behind the sun and return to the evening sky later this spring. Mars passed Jupiter in the dawn in January, and will not return to the evening sky until its close and bright opposition next July. Jupiter also lies in the morning sky, and like Saturn, will be best seen in summer and autumn evening skies.

The constellation Cassiopeia makes a striking W in the NW. She contains many nice star clusters for binocular users in her outer arm of our Milky Way, extending to the NE now. Timely for Valentines is the faint but photogenic "Heart Nebula", IC 1805. This photo by EAAA member Ed Magowan shows it nicely.

Cassiopeia's daughter, Andromeda, starts with the NE corner star of Pegasus Square, and goes NE with two more bright stars in a row. It is from the middle star, beta Andromeda, that we proceed about a quarter the way to the top star in the W of Cassiopeia, and



The Rosette Nebula is located near one end of a giant molecular cloud in the Monoceros region of the Milky Way Galaxy. The nebula lies some 5,000 light-years from Earth and measures roughly 130 light years in diameter. The radiation from the young stars excites the atoms in the nebula, causing them to emit radiation thereby producing the emission nebula we see.

look for a faint blur with the naked eye. M-31, the Andromeda Galaxy, is the most distant object visible with the naked eye, lying about 2.5 million light years distant.

Overhead is Andromeda's hero, Perseus. 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. It is part of the pentagon on stars making up Auriga, the Charioteer (think Ben Hur). Several nice binocular Messier open clusters are found in the winter milky way here. East of Auriga, the twins, Castor and Pollux highlight the Gemini. UWF alumni can associate the pair with Jason and the Golden Fleece legend, for they were the first two Argonauts to sign up on his crew of adventurers.

South of Gemini, Orion is the most familiar winter constellation, dominating the eastern sky at dusk. The reddish supergiant Betelgeuse marks his eastern shoulder, while blue-white supergiant Rigel stands opposite on his west knee. Just south of the belt, hanging like a sword downward, is M-42, the Great Nebula of Orion, an outstanding binocular and telescopic stellar nursery. 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 rise the hunter's two faithful companions, Canis major and minor. Procyon is the bright star in the little dog, and rises before Sirius, the brightest star in the sky. Midway between them is the fine Rosette Nebula, a star nursery of gas and dust including the nice open cluster NGC 2244, easily found in binoculars. Several other nice clusters for binoculars are also plotted on your February sky map printout, be sure to check them out some clear, crisp winter evening.

Sirius dominates the SE sky by 7 PM, and as it rises, the turbulent winter air causes it to sparkle with shafts of spectral fire. Beautiful as the twinkling appears to the naked eye, for astronomers this means the image is blurry; only in space can we truly see "clearly now". At 8 light years distance, Sirius is the closest star we can easily see with the naked eye from West Florida.

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, a reminder that spring is coming; look for the bowl of the Big Dipper to rise, with the top two stars, the pointers, giving you a line to find Polaris, the Pole Star. But if you take the pointers 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". Fitting for our cosmic king of beasts, whose rising at the end of this month means March indeed will be coming in "like a lion".

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"The groundhog is like most prophets; it makes its prediction and then disappears."—Bill Vaughn (1947-)

Mid-Atlantic Weather Watch: Snow, heavy in the southern part of the region (1, 2, 3); fair and very cold (4, 5, 6) turning windy and cold, with lake-effect snow (7, 8). More snow, mainly in the south (9, 10, 11); fair and cold (12, 13, 14, 15, 16) with more snow in the south (17, 18). Fair and not as cold (19, 20, 21) with showers in the south (22, 23). The month ends with fair and cold weather (24, 25, 26, 27, 28).

Full Moon: In 2018, February will have no Full Moon. This is not so rare and in fact, the same thing happened in 1999 and 1980. And more recently, in 2014, February had no new moon. How can this occur? The orbit of the Moon around the Earth is slightly elliptical. When the Moon is at perigee (closest to Earth), it moves faster than it does at apogee (farthest from Earth). The Moon's phases occur 90 degrees apart in the orbit as seen from Earth. Consequently, the time between successive phases can vary anywhere from five to nine days.

Since February is a shorter month, if apogee occurs close to the middle of the month, there will only be three

phases during that month if there was a phase within a day or two of the end of January. Note that this is not a universal phenomenon. Other parts of the world could have a full complement of phases in a February while we have only three phases. For example, suppose that London, England has a phase at 2:00 AM on February 1, which means that London will definitely have four phases in February. But because of different time zones, that same phase occurs in New York City at 10 PM on January 31, which means that New York will most likely have only three phases in February, depending on when apogee occurs.

Special Notes: "Punxsutawney Phil" makes his much-anticipated appearance on Friday, February 2nd in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania to make his annual 'prediction' of the coming of Spring. It will be determined by this little marmota monax's reaction to the day's weather. If it is sunny and he sees his shadow, he will retreat underground for another 6 weeks of Winter! If it is cloudy and he doesn't get scared by his own shadow, Spring will come early in 2018.

Holidays: Celebrate the Christian Festival of Lights, or Candelmas, on

Friday, February 2nd It is on this day that many churches that traditionally light more candles than usual during their daily services. The additional light not only made the day special but it was also believed that the additional light would provide protection from illness and plague in the coming year. Valentine's Day, February 14th, falls on Wednesday in 2018. Plan something special for that special someone who is a special part for your life. February 14th is also Ash Wednesday, which begins the season of Lent. The birthdays of Abraham Lincoln (Monday, February 12th) and George Washington (Thursday, the 22nd) are collectively celebrated on President's Day which falls on Monday, February 19th to provide us with an extended holiday weekend. Enjoy!

The Garden: In the event of snow, be sure to shake or brush off the white stuff from the branches of your evergreens and shrubs. Continue feeding our feathered friends. You will want them to stick around to provide natural insect control when the weather warms again.

J. Gruber's Thought For Today's Living

"A life without purpose or goal is a wasted opportunity to perform wonderful deeds"

COMPUTER Q&A

Computer maintenance

Ayse Stenabaugh
Jester's Computer Services

We've all been there, turning the computer on only to wait what seems like 10x longer than the last time for programs you don't even recognize to load. Finally everything loads and you're about to open your web browser when a large window appears prompting you that you need to update your software. Has everything on your computer seemed to slow down since you bought? If so, it's time for some computer maintenance!

Much like a car needing an oil change computers need regular maintenance in order to continue to run smoothly. At Jester's Computer Services we perform what we call a "clean-up" on your computer which combines the removal of malware and harmful software, hardware diagnostics, and maintenance into one package.

Potentially Unwanted Programs

One of the largest growing reasons for regular maintenance is the number of "Potentially Unwanted Programs" that are installed on computers that can range from creating a nuisance to creating a security risk. Many of these programs get installed when users download software from third-party websites many of which offer drivers and popular software downloads that can be found elsewhere on the web. The only difference is that these websites get paid to bundle other software into your download so while you may be attempting to download Skype, a legitimate program from Microsoft, you might also be downloading additional programs such as unwanted toolbars or junk programs that claim they found errors on your PC and then ask you to pay to upgrade to resolve them.

Windows / Program Updates

Many times we hear people tell us that they are afraid to update their software. Updating your computer is very important because it can patch vulnerabilities or security holes within the software. Updates can also provide improvements both with performance and new features. Windows will do automatic updates and will sometimes require computer restarts to apply new updates. If your computer is not updating that could create a problem with your computer also. Other programs will commonly ask to update as well.

You should be wary of websites that tell you to update software and take you to a third party website. Instead always update your program when you see an update window appear down by your computer clock to ensure you are updating from within the program. During a clean-up Jester's performs all Windows updates as well as many common programs and will fix Windows Update if updates are not being downloaded to your computer.

Hard Drive Maintenance

The most important thing on your computer is the data that is stored on it. Your important data is being stored on the hard drive inside your computer. The hard drive industry is moving towards standardizing solid state drives which don't contain moving parts but currently the cost is still too high. This means that most people have hard drives that are subject to hardware failure. Even those who have solid-state drives aren't completely safe from experiencing hardware malfunctions. In the past computers defragmented themselves on sched-

ule but today that practice has been halted because that process can actually wear the drives out faster. Jester's performs a yearly-recommended hard drive defragmentation along with running hard drive diagnostics to evaluate the current potential for hardware failures.

Heat & Dust

Improper airflow inside a computer can cause stress on sensitive components inside the machine causing them to fail prematurely. Using a vacuum to clean a computer is dangerous because it causes static electricity and can fry the

hardware inside. Jester's uses a specialized high-powered blower to remove dust and grime from inside your computer. Cooling fans are also evaluated to ensure that they are running properly and are providing adequate airflow.

If you or someone you know is looking for affordable and reliable computer service please contact Jester's Computer services located at 5135 Fairfield Road Fairfield or by phone at 717-642-6611 or visit us on the web at www.jesterscomputers.com. In addition to computer repair services we provide on-site service, one-on-one technology training and more!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

February 3

The Frederick County Master Gardeners present the following free seminar for the general public, beginning and advanced gardeners alike: "Basic Vegetable Gardening & Seed Starting." This overview of basic vegetable gardening covers how to plan, locate, plant, and maintain your vegetable garden. Find out which plants are best started from seed and when, plus how to start and plant seeds. Register online or call 301-

600-1595. Doors open 30 minutes prior to start times. Walk-ins are welcome if there is room.

February 4

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish's Community Country Breakfast - Buffet Style - Scrambled eggs, French Toast, Pancakes, Bacon, Sausage, Home Fries, fruit cup, toast, coffee/tea, orange or apple juice. Chance to win 1 free breakfast out of every 25 breakfasts sold.

February 9 - 11

Gettysburg Rocks is the brainchild of local musician, music promoter and radio personality Rob Simon. The original concept for this multiple venue festival in the town of Gettysburg was just an idea until Rob's daughter Ashley approached him to help her with a fundraiser for Penn State Mont Alto's THON group. Gettysburg Rocks is now a bi-annual music festival and fundraiser for Four Diamonds. Since the creation of Gettysburg Rocks the event has raised over \$80,000 for Four Diamonds. This year's event will feature more than 160 perfor-

mances at 14 venues over three days. For more information visit <http://gburgrocks.com/about/>.

February 9

New York Music Ensemble performing at Schmucker Hall, Gettysburg College Campus. This event is open and free to the public. Since 1976, the New York New Music Ensemble has commissioned, performed, and recorded the important and upcoming composers of our time. They have traveled to Europe, Asia, and South America. The New York Times commented that, "the composer could not ask for better advocates."

February 10

St. John's Lutheran Church Creagerstown's Fried Oyster and Turkey Dinner. Oysters, Turkey, Mashed Potatoes, Dressing, Gravy, Sauerkraut, Green Beans, Cranberry Relish, Rolls, Cake, Home Made Baked Goods. For additional information call 301-898-5167.

Steppin' Out for Polish Pottery Bingo. Tickets can be purchased by visiting Gettysburg Polish Pottery at 102 Baltimore Street in Gettysburg. Tickets include entry and three Bingo cards per game for 20 regular games. Three special bonus Bingo game cards will be sold separately at the event. Polish Pottery prizes will be awarded to the winner of each game! Sandwiches, soups, desserts and drinks will be available for purchase. And BYOB! Games begin at 7 p.m. There will be door prizes and a 50/50 raffle! Free Parking.

All proceeds benefit the Baltimore Street Historic Pathway Revitalization Project. More lights make safer streets.

February 12 - 17

Ag Week at the FSK Mall — Visit the Master Gardener Booth and you'll find activities for children; information on vegetable gardens, enhancing your landscape, pollinators, invasive plants; and more. Have a gardening question? Ask a Master Gardener! We look forward to seeing you!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

February 13

Mother Seton School Presents STEM-Tastic! Bring your little ones to MSS and have fun doing a Valentine-themed experiment. Children will also make a Love Bug craft to take home. After, stay for snack and free play with our Pre-K students. Enjoy a tour of the school while you're visiting! Free. Ages 2-5. For more information call 301-447-3165 or email jbuchheister@motherse- tonschool.org.

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish's Shrove Tuesday Pancake and Sausage Dinner. OLMC Parish Ctr. Sponsored by K of C.

February 16 & 23

St. Francis Xavier Parish 7th annual Lenten Fish Fry Dinners. Dine In or Take Out. For more information call 717-334-4048 or visit www.stfxcc.org. Dinners will be held at Xavier Center, 465 Table Rock Road, Gettysburg.

February 17

Carroll Valley's 4th Annual Daddy Daughter Dance held at the Fairfield Fire & EMS building. Area Fathers, Uncles, Grandfathers, or anyone with a special girl is invited to spend a semi-formal evening full of music, dancing, food, and fun! Seating is limited, pre-registration required. For more information call 717-642-8269 or email carrollvalleyevents@gmail.com.

February 19

Music, Gettysburg! presents Air Force Singing Sergeants. What better way to observe President's Day than a concert by the Singing Sergeants? The afternoon will ring with classical, popular, and patriotic favorites. Music, Gettysburg! is a free 20-concert series featuring international and local musical artists supported by both the United Lutheran Seminary and the wider Gettysburg community. For more information call 717-339-1334 or visit www.musicgettysburg.org.

February 21

In their Own Voices. In commemoration of Black History Month, students from Silver Oak Academy will present scenes from "Spirits of the Furnace" and serve food prepared from traditional recipes. The event is free and open to the public. For a little over half a century, black enslaved work-

ers comprised a substantial part of the workforce at Catocin Furnace. Actors from Silver Oak Academy will portray young workers and servants in vignettes based on actual events in the village. The enslaved butler at the ironmaster's mansion will discuss preparations for the meal and describe his job in the 'big house,' which includes overseeing wine pairings and proper table settings and service. A furnace worker will talk about digging a grave for a friend killed in an industrial accident. A parishioner will talk about the newly-built Harriet Chapel and its meaning for the village. A reading of the names of all slaves known to have worked at Catocin Furnace will complete the program. Lunch prepared by the Silver Oak Academy culinary arts students will follow and will feature pickled beets, pepper slaw, pot pie, mustard greens with ham hock, corn muffins with apple butter, apple

pudding and homemade root beer. Reservations are encouraged. For more information call 443-463-6437 or email ecomer@catocinfurnace.org.

February 25

Music, Gettysburg! presents Sunderman Wind Quintet. Tour the world with faculty members of the Sunderman Conservatory who will perform music from

Puerto Rico, Klezmer dances, songs from the Mississippi delta and more! Music, Gettysburg! is a free 20-concert series featuring international and local musical artists supported by both the United Lutheran Seminary and the wider Gettysburg community.

For more information call 717-339-1334 or visit www.musicgettysburg.org.



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Mount St. Mary University Library Receives Preservation Grant

The Hugh J. Phillips Library at Mount St. Mary's University, which houses collections with medieval and early modern manuscripts dating from 1320 to 1700 as well as records on early Maryland history and Catholicism in America, has been awarded a Preservation Assistance for Smaller Institutions grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to support a comprehensive preservation assessment.

A consultant will provide an overview of the preservation concerns in the library's significant historical and cultural collections, including the Rhoads Memorial Archives, as well as provide short- and long-term plans for addressing these issues. The grant also allows Jessica J. Whitmore, C'16, interim library director and university archivist, to improve collection care immediately by purchasing environmental monitoring equipment for the two rooms where the materials are housed.

"Since reopening the archives in 2014, conducting a formal preservation assessment of the university archives has been one of my top priorities. I am grateful to the NEH for this funding opportunity," Whitmore said. "In the past, only about 30 percent of applicants have received this NEH grant. The fact that the Mount was a successful applicant in this highly competitive grant speaks volumes about the quality of our archival collections."

The Rhoads Memorial Archives, named for alumnus and benefactor Paul Rhoads, C'40, serves as the institutional memory of Mount St. Mary's University and Seminary and its faculty, staff, students and alumni. Holdings consist of a wide range of materials, including approximately 40,000 documents relating to the university's founding in 1808, the growth and development of Catholicism in America, the local community and early church bishops and leaders. The collection also houses medieval and early modern manuscripts dating from 1320 to 1700, including religious texts, Gregorian chant music, legal documents and letters as well as American slavery, Civil War and World War II records.

The Catholic Studies Room features a collection of more than 500 rare books, including incunabula and a copy of the Downey Bible, the first Catholic Bible printed in the United States. Other works in this room include the 217-volumes of the Patrologia Latina, the 68-volume Acta Sanctroum and the Heritage Edition of the St. John's Bible. The library's artwork collection is on display throughout the building; works by John La Farge are in display in the office of Mount St. Mary's President Timothy E. Trainor, Ph.D.

Cheer on the Mountaineers at Home!

Men's and Women's Basketball Home Game Schedules

Men's Team

FEB. 3 4 p.m. vs. Saint Francis
FEB. 15 7 p.m. vs. Fairleigh Dickinson
FEB. 22 7 p.m. vs. Robert Morris
FEB. 24 4 p.m. vs. Wagner

Women's Team

FEB. 3 1 p.m. vs. LIU Brooklyn
FEB. 5 7 p.m. vs. St. Francis Brooklyn
FEB. 17 4 p.m. vs. Bryant
FEB. 19 7 p.m. vs. Central Connecticut

For more information about tickets, contact the ticket office at 301-447-5700. Visit www.mountathletics.com for full schedules.



National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes

Mass

Saturday and Sunday, noon.

Reconciliation

Saturday and Sunday, noon.

Special Events

Feb. 3 The Blessing of the Throats.
Feb. 11 Our Lady of Lourdes Mass.
Feb. 14 Ash Wednesday.
10:45 a.m. Adoration
10:45 a.m. Reconciliation
Noon Mass

Daily Hours

9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily (gates close at 5 p.m.).
Visit nsgrotto.org for more information about the Grotto.

University Events

Art Exhibition - Works by Hilda Shapiro Thorpe

Feb. 1-March 8
Opening reception Feb 1, 5-6:30 p.m.
Williams Art Gallery, Delaplaine Fine Arts Center
A retrospective of Hilda Shapiro Thorpe's expressive abstract paintings and handmade paper sculptures will be on display.

Mount2000

Feb. 9-11
PNC Sports Complex
Feb. 9 Field House closes at 2 p.m.
Feb. 10 ARCC and pool closed.

Mardi Gras Concert

Feb. 13, 5-7 p.m.
Mount Cafe
Come join the Mount Big Band, Lab Bands and special guests for one last party before Lent! Come jazz it up, grab your beads, and party with king cake!

Theater Performance - Almost, Maine

Feb. 15-17
Horning Theater, Delaplaine Fine Arts Center
On a single winter night, a series of couples in the northern Maine town of Almost find themselves confronting love, loss, gains, and the Northern Lights... almost. Almost, Maine combines sweetness, sentimentality, and a touch of magic to tell stories that will work their way into your heart.

For more event details please visit
www.msmary.edu/calendar.