

Emmitsburg NEWS-JOURNAL

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1785 recognized as founding date

After more than a decade of intermittent and, not infrequently, heated debate, the Emmitsburg Board of Commissioners unanimously voted December 6 to recognize 1785 as the founding date of the community.

The debate regarding when the Town of Emmitsburg was originally established reached a peak around ten years ago, and ultimately resulted, in 2006, with the commissioners circumventing further "hostilities" by simply recognizing the town's date of incorporation, 1825.

The latest effort to ascribe official status to the town's founding date was spearheaded by newly-elected Mayor Donald Briggs in an effort to spur the town's economy by making the town more historically attractive to heritage tourism.

Town Planner Susan Cipperly explained, "Emmitsburg's identity is tied to its history. A lot of the buildings date back to the 1700s."

Cipperly stated that recognizing the town's founding date is important to businesses, real estate sales, and tourism. "We are

competing and cooperating with other historic towns (to take advantage of historic attributes) It would be nice to have a date reflected in our materials (government and tourism documents and publications)."

The commission's decision was based on an 1785, recorded deed which denotes the name of the community as Emmitsburg. The deed represented a transaction in which Samuel Emmit (regarded as the town's founder) had conveyed the land involved to his son William, Hillman stated previously.

Although there are older documents indicating settlement was occurring in the area before 1733, Emmitsburg is never explicitly mentioned, according to Michael Hillman, president of the Emmitsburg Area Historical Society.

The commission also voted to remove the date of incorporation from the town seal and replace it with the founding designation "Established in 1785." The town welcome signs will also be changed to include the founding year.

Mount makes donation to town



Mount Saint Mary's University President Thomas H. Powell presented a \$3,000 check to Emmitsburg Mayor Donald N. Briggs at the Board of Commissioners' December 6th meeting. Mayor Briggs stated that he would like to see the donation used to improve the Town Square, which would include the purchase of trash receptacles and benches. "It was very kind of Dr. Powell (to provide the funds)," Briggs said. "He called up (the town office) and offered to help." Powell stated the donation was "to express our gratitude to the Town of Emmitsburg for the great relationship we have. What is good for Emmitsburg is good for the Mount."

The official recognition of the founding date represented a major victory for Hillman, who had been lobbying the town for over a decade for the founding designation and had engaged in exhaustive research

to back his position.

Hillman said, following the meeting, "I am happy that the issue has been finally put to rest I never had any doubt that in the end, facts would win out over folklore."

Cumberland rejects chicken farm

The Cumberland Township Board of Supervisors rejected an application for a conditional use permit at their December 20 meeting that would have allowed a 60,000-hen chicken farm along Mummasburg Road.

The request for a conditional use permit was submitted to the township by Brandon S. Keller, proposing a chicken farm at 1714 Mummasburg Road, a property Keller has under an agreement of sale with owner Shirley A. Wagner.

The board voted unanimously, on a motion by Supervisor Barbara Underwood and seconded by Supervisor Thomas D. Shealer, to reject the applicant's request for conditional use approval on the grounds that the application was incomplete.

Specifically, the board cited the lack of a manure management plan, the lack of notations on the plans indicating the size of proposed improvements, and the materials to be used in conjunction with those improvements, as required by the zoning ordinance.

The application rejection was the outcome of a five and a half hour long hearing held the previous week which concluded without the board rendering a decision.

Keller was seeking approval of a "free-range" chicken farm housing tens of thousands of hens to produce eggs for the organic foods market.

Such a farm, designated as a concentrated animal operation, is only allowed as a conditional use in the Agricultural/Residential (AR) zoning district in which the proposed site is located.

Specifically, the plan called for the construction of two 524-foot by 80-foot poultry barns and a 28-foot by 44-foot egg-packing room.

The hearing generally did not seem to go well for Keller, as opponents of the project repeatedly pointed out deficiencies they felt existed in the conditional use application, while others expressed concerns that the size and type of the operation exempted it from implementing



A proposal to hatch an organic egg farm in Cumberland Township was recently scrambled by local officials.

compulsory odor controls.

Township Solicitor Sam Wisner thanked the township staff for the work they put into the review process.

"I'd like to commend the township staff...who spend hundreds of hours (processing the application)," Wisner stated. "This was a very important decision."

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NEWS

Letters to the editor

Dear Friends of Francis X Elder American Legion Post 121.

As the holiday season approaches, we'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued partnership in helping us support servicemen and women and our community. Through your association with us we are able to give back to the veterans and the needs of the community. We were able to give back over \$8000 since July 2011 through the efforts of the Ameri-

can Legion Family. Francis X Elder American Legion Post 121 family includes the Sons of the American Legion, and the American Legion Woman's Auxiliary. Thank you for your support and contribution to the welfare of the Veterans and Community.

Our hope is that your Holiday season and the New Year be filled with joy, happiness and success. We look forward to working with you in the coming year so we can give back to the service-

men and women, their families and the community.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

The American Legion Family of Francis X Elder Post 121.

Dale A. Valentine,
Commander Post 121

James Houck,
Sons' Commander
Michelle (Missy) Saylor,
Auxiliary President

Dale A. Valentine,
Commander American
Legion Post 121

The recurring question of the founding date of Emmitsburg is now settled. The Town Commissioners recognized 1785 as the year the town was established. This is the year when the document laying out the Town of Emmitsburg was recorded in Frederick.

Now we can focus on a far more important issue, an urgently needed bypass re-routing MD Route

140 and PA Route 16 over Boyle Road in Adams County. Hundreds of cars and trucks speed and rumble through Emmitsburg daily on Route 140, polluting the air and endangering pedestrians crossing Main Street or Seton Ave.

The traffic, mainly to and from Pennsylvania is harmful not only to the health of the residents, but its vibrations damage historic buildings, cracking their walls and caus-

ing valuable pictures to fall or hang askew. It is time for the State Highway Administration to stop ignoring this issue and work with the Pennsylvania authorities to solve this interstate problem. Perhaps a new member of Congress can be of assistance in solving this Federal, as well as State issue.

Harold Craig, Jr.
Emmitsburg

Town sewer line repairs continue

The Emmitsburg Board of Commissioners approved at December 6 to fund the repair of a degraded section of the wastewater collection system in the area of Flat Run.

Town manager David Haller explained that approximately 300 feet of 10-inch pipeline has been breached as the result of a section of Creamery Road that has shifted, resulting in excessive storm water runoff getting into the disrupted sewer line.

The affected portion of the collection system, which consists of old

clay piping, runs beneath Creamery Road. Haller said the sections of the pipeline "appeared to have pulled apart."

The town manager said that "in times of heavy rain" up to one million gallons of storm and creek water can flow into the section and then be conveyed to the treatment plant, potentially resulting in the plant exceeding its permitted 750,000 gallons-per-day treatment capacity.

The commissioners approved a bid at their meeting in the amount of \$17,500 for the repair of the 300-

foot section of pipeline to Mr. Rehab, Inc.

The other bids received for the work were submitted by Am-Liner, Inc., in the amount of \$19,850 and Humphrey and Sons, Inc., in the amount of \$31,655.

While the repair is expected to correct a significant influx of unwanted water along the affected section, it is not the only degraded section of the wastewater collection system left to be addressed.

"There are several areas (remaining to be fixed)," Haller stated. "The



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Sewer rates could increase 80 percent

The Emmitsburg Board of Commissioners voted unanimously at their December 6 meeting to impose a sewer service rate increase on customers that could increase fees by 80 percent, or more for some users.

The commission also voted to implement the increase in two phases, each representing 40 percent of the 80 percent needed to pay for the balance of a new wastewater treatment plant that won't be covered by grant money, and for any accrued debt service.

The first phase of increase of 40 percent will go into effect April 1, while the second 40 percent increase will go into effect in July 2014. The full 80 percent increase in anticipated revenues generated by raising the sewer rate is expected to generate \$1,105,923 by the time the new plant goes online.

The new facility is expected to be online in "late summer of 2014," with construction slated to begin in 2012.

Town Manager David Haller

noted that the percentage represents anticipated revenue expected overall. Individual customers may experience a rate increase below 40 percent or above 40 percent in each of the two phases, depending on their average gallon usage.

The new facility, which will be located in the area of the current treatment plant east of Route 15 on Creamery Road, will cost around \$20 million, and about "\$50,000 more per quarter to operate than the existing plant,"

system is very old and constantly falling apart. You kind of have to keep working with it all the time."

In spite of nearly \$4 million spent on improving the collection system since 2000, Town Manager David Haller told the commission at their November 21 meeting that peaks in the amount of wastewater treated have actually increased since all of the work to date has been completed.

The section of pipeline to be repaired by Mr. Rehab, Inc., is seen as a potential major contributor to those peaks, but another factor may be the repairs made thus far.

Emmitsburg Agenda for 7:30 p.m., January 3 Town Board of Commissioners Meeting:

- Town funding of the After-School Program.

sioner Patrick Joy, who stated he was initially against implementing the looming increase in two phases, stating he preferred to spread the increase in sewer rates over three phases "to reduce the shock value" experienced by local customers.

The creation of a new treatment plant was required by the state in order for the town to meet federal Department of Environmental Protection standards, Haller told the commission, all the result of efforts that environmental agencies claim will help clean up the Chesapeake Bay.

Emmitsburg News Briefs

One-way road opening to Brookfield

The establishment of a one-way road out of the Brookfield development in Emmitsburg exiting onto Irishtown Road is expected to occur in late-December or early-this month.

Using the new one-way connector road to access Brookfield from Irishtown Road will be prohibited.

As of December 23, the

Emmitsburg town staff was waiting for Frederick County staff to post new signage.

The board of commissioners approved up to \$7,000 to be spent on the egress at their December 6 meeting, although a fully-developed egress could cost between \$30,000 and \$40,000 to fully improve.

As approved, the new road would be paved with stone and asphalt.

Frederick County Paving,

Thurmont, will be serving as the contractor on the project.

Loitering laws amended

The Emmitsburg Board of Commissioners approved a revision to the town loitering regulations at their December 6 meeting.

Specifically, the commissioners approved eliminating the provision that a violation could result in a fine of up to \$500 and/or imprisonment of up to 90 days.

In place of the stricken penal-

ties, the commissioners approved a penalty assessment of up to \$250 and no imprisonment.

The loitering ordinance applies to anyone who might "loiter, loaf, wander, stand, or remain idle...in a public place" in a manner which endangers the peace, creates a disturbance or an annoyance, obstructs a public way, interferes with the activities of others, engages in lewd acts (including prostitution), involves soliciting money, or making "unsolicited remarks."

'Welcome Center' open as rest stop
According to Emmitsburg Com-

missioner Glen Blanchard, reported that the Visitor/Welcome Center, also known as the Mason and Dixon Discovery Center, on Route 15 South will continue to remain closed.

However, he said, vehicles are being allowed to access the parking area to use as a rest stop.

In addition, the restrooms have been opened for public use at the site, as well as access to vending machines.

The Maryland Department of Transportation still recognizes the facility as "a gateway site" into Maryland, although it has been closed for more than a year.

Fairfield to seek HARB input on signs

The Fairfield Borough Planning Commission will be seeking comments from the borough Historical and Architectural Review Board (HARB) regarding business signage.

According to the planning commission, non-conforming signs that do not meet the borough's existing sign requirements have cropped up along Main Street over the past few years.

Borough Zoning Officer Francis Cool, also member of the planning commission, noted at the commission's November 14 meeting that he counted 14 business signs in the borough that did not meet signage requirements.

During a continued discussion of the issue of finding a means to ensure historic colors are used on commercial signs in the "village core," the commission decided at their December 12 meeting to defer to HARB, since that is the body who would be ruling on signage colors.

Cool stated, "HARB should make a decision on what their background colors are going to be (for signs). They have to approve it before I have to do the permit. I think that is something HARB should work on."

Most of the business structures along Main Street, he said, were white or brick. Current regulations call for signs to have a

background that matches color schemes existing on the main structure, which would limit the number of colors acceptable.

County Planner Rob Thaeler suggested HARB could find colors considered compatible with historic districts by researching guidelines presently being used by other communities (such as Williamsburg, Virginia).

Coming up with an acceptable range of colors, borough Councilman Carroll Smith, also a member of the planning commission, said, "I don't think that is a monumental task."

Storm runoff changes in DEP's hands

County Planner Rob Thaeler

informed the Fairfield Borough Planning Commission at their December 12 meeting that the county's proposed stormwater runoff rules have been approved by the county commissioners.

Now, he said, the regulations have been submitted to the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for state approval.

The proposed regulations were promulgated to reduce the impact the Monocacy Plan rules were having on small property owners and developers as the result of excessive, Monocacy Plan-driven engineering requirements.

When the DEP approves the

pending regulations, the municipalities in the county will have to develop local storm water runoff regulations that comply with the county's rules.



Hamiltonban budget approved

The Hamiltonban Township Board of Supervisors approved their proposed 2012 budget package at their December 6 meeting without necessitating raising taxes.

The general fund budget was approved in the amount of \$1,239,892, which includes a \$500,000 grant, causing the anticipated revenue to appear inflated.

The Orrtanna Treatment Plant sewer fund budget for 2012 was approved by the board of supervisors in the amount of \$111,515.79, while the State Liquid Fuels budget

was set at \$109,634.

The current tax rate will remain at 1.2359 mills.

The last time the mill rate was changed was in 2010 for the 2011 budget to reflect the results of the county-wide reassessment. Aside from that adjustment, there has been no tax increase in Hamiltonban Township in six years.

The total projected revenue for Hamiltonban Township in 2012, according to the board of supervisors, is \$1,239,892, "which is an increase in revenue of \$598,606 over

2011 because of anticipated grant funding receipts."

In the board's official budget statement, it was noted that, "That increase is due to the expected receipt of the delayed \$25,276 ARLE (state Automated Red Light Enforcement) grant award for new Fairfield School zone warning lights, \$500,000 in RACP (state Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program) funds for the maintenance building construction, the Gravel and Dirt Road grants for \$40,000, and the annual ARRA (American

Recovery and Reinvestment Act) interest rebate grant of \$22,320."

The only budgeted expense over and above day-to-day operations costs contained in the general fund include the replacement of the township secretary/treasurer computer.

Of the Orrtanna Treatment Plant sewer fund budget, an additional \$29,395.79 in revenue will be utilized to complete repairs to manholes, continue filming (videotaping) the remainder of the system's lines, and for repairs to those lines.

A number of projects will be addressed within the State Liquid Fuels budget, including seal coating

the entirety of Old Waynesboro Road, seal coating and leveling of low spots on Moritz and Newman roads, applying Grip Tight to Beechwood Drive and Franklin, seal coating Carrolls Tract Road in Orrtanna, and repairing a section of Cold Springs Road in the 1800 block and from the railroad tracks to Carrolls Tract Road.

"The Hamiltonban Township Board of Supervisors continues to provide quality services, to provide for the general safety of our community, (and) to use sound fiscal management..." the board of supervisors remarked in their official budget statement.

Highland stops SPCA donation

The Highland Township Board of Supervisors voted at their December 13 meeting to defray their annual donation to the Adams County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ACSPCA).

Secretary and Treasurer Alicia Birkhead stated that the township had received a letter dated November 29 from the SPCA indicating the humane organization was not in a position to accept donations from the municipalities at the present time.

According to a copy of the SPCA letter provided to the Emmitsburg News-Journal, the organization stated, "As you are doubtlessly aware, our shelter manager, Dawn Wike, is no longer in our employ."

The SPCA has been unable to find a suitable, trained replacement. As a result, any applicant accepted for the position would

have to undergo training classes which "are not offered until May."

"It would be, therefore, unfair to charge you for services which we cannot provide for 2012," ACSPCA board President Kathleen Carroll stated in the letter. "Accordingly, we will not be providing animal control services in 2012."

Carroll further stated, "We will re-evaluate this decision next year and will advise you whether we can provide animal control services for 2013."

Supervisor Ed Steinour, Jr. said, "I hope they do not fall through. They are definitely needed."

Township passes 2012 budget

The Highland Township Board of Supervisors approved at their December 13 the 2012 municipal budget in the amount of

\$270,795.

The approved budget includes \$12,125 for legislative, executive and financial expenses, \$500 for auditing and bookkeeping services, \$1,500 for tax collection, \$5,000 for legal services, \$39,450 for the office of the secretary/treasurer, \$11,900 for township and plant expenses, \$23,000 for public safety, \$123,000 for roads, \$800 for culture and recreation, and \$50,000 for employee benefits.

Anticipated revenues for 2012 amount to \$267,275, which should produce a budgetary surplus of \$3,520.

The existing tax rate of 0.2088 will remain unchanged.

Secretary and Treasurer Alicia Birkhead said, except for the 2011 adjustment reflecting the real estate re-assessment, the tax rate has effectively remained unchanged in the township for 20 years.

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NEWS

Mark Zurgable honored by EBPA

An Emmitsburg hardware store owner was honored December 2 by the Emmitsburg Business and Professional Association (EBPA) for community activism during the past year.

Awarded the EBPA's "Extraordinary Community Service" award was Mark Zurgable, owner and operator of Zurgable Brothers Hardware, 16663 Old Emmitsburg Road.

The business association presented the recognition award to Zurgable at their Fifth Annual Awards Banquet held at the Carriage House.

EBPA President Chris Ohanian said that Zurgable was selected as the 2011 award recipient premised on the hardware store owner's contribution in the Emmitsburg community.

"We give the award to a citizen or organization in town that exemplifies community service," Ohanian said. "Mark has been very active in the Lions Club (and numerous other organizations, such as the VFW and American Legion) in Emmitsburg and has been very active with the Emmitsburg Food Bank."

Zurgable told the Emmitsburg News-Journal that receiving the award was "Fantastic. I'll never forget it. It was very nice."

Regarding being active in the community, he said, "I like doing what I do."

Zurgable, whose father, Roger, founded the hardware store at the end of World War II, has worked at both the hardware store and a furniture store previously operated on West Main Street for the past 31 years.

Previous recipients of the "Extraordinary Community Service" award have included Robert A. Rosensteel, Sr. (2010), owner and operator of Rosensteel Photogra-

phy Studio, Donald (now mayor) and Libby Briggs (2009), Vigilant Hose Company (2008) and Robert Hanse, owner and operator of the Carriage House (2007).

Dave Reaver, president of Emmitsburg Glass, received the award in 2004 before the annual awards banquet was established, according to EBPA Treasurer Allen Knott.

Also recognized December 2 at the EBPA awards banquet was St. Philomena Catholic Books & Gifts & Holy Grounds Cafe, owned by Pam and Bruno Sielaff, for "Most Improved Business," and recognition of Conrad Weaver, past president of the EBPA.

The Ott House was also recognized for raising \$1,400 for the Emmitsburg Food Bank, as well as the Emmitsburg Volunteer Ambulance Company for raising \$1,575 for the food bank.



Jubilee raises more than \$2,000 for food bank

Emmitsburg's Jubilee grocery store has raised more than \$2,000 for the local food bank by selling paper Santa Clauses during a two-week fund raiser.

According to Jubilee Foods manager Rich Boyd, store management expected to raise "something like \$500" during the event, but had more than tripled that expectation by December 21, the second-to-last day of the fund drive.

As of December 21, the sale of the paper Santas had raised \$1,761. "It really exceeded what I expected," Boyd said.

The campaign was launched December 12 as a result of a suggestion proposed by Robert A. Rosensteel, Sr., Rosensteel Pho-

tography Studio, Emmitsburg, Boyd stated.

"We sold paper Santas for \$1 each, with 100 percent of the money raised to be donated to the Emmitsburg Food Bank."

The Santas were sold at the cash registers, and cashiers were offered an incentive of receiving a Gettysburg Outlets gift certificate if they finished in the top four in the sale of the paper Clauses.

Boyd said Jubilee Foods has participated in raising money for the food bank before, including having change jars available in the store for customers to drop in their spare change, a practice they continue.

The change jar campaign was

also conceived by Rosensteel.

The store manager noted that this was the first year the store had held the paper Santa sales, adding, "We would like to do this next year" as well.

As of December 21, the top four cashiers included Megan Cool, Kirsten Gumienny, Tricia Wibell, and Abby Greco, according to Boyd.

"Ever since it (Emmitsburg Jubilee Foods) was a corporate store, we've been active in the community and having fund raisers," the store manager stated. "We try to help the community."

In 2000, the local Jubilee ceased to be a corporate operation when it was acquired by



Steve Trout and Lorne Peters, who remain the co-owners.

"We're very lucky to be in a

community that helps each other so much," Boyd said. "It's an amazing town."

Fairfield Area News Briefs

Fairfield to update ordinance book

The Fairfield Borough Council approved at their December 20 meeting a contract to update the municipal ordinance book.

In order to accomplish the task, the council approved a contract

with Keystate Publishers, Inc., Shippensburg, in an amount "not to exceed" \$2,160, the estimated cost of the project.

Borough Secretary/Treasurer Susan Wagle stated that the ordinance book has not been updated to reflect the adoption of new subdivision and land

development and zoning ordinances since 2007.

In addition, she said, one of the ordinances adopted in 2005 was missed when the book was updated prior to 2007.

The \$2,160 cost includes replacement pages for the existing hard-copy ordinance

book, new Cds, and updating the ordinances online on Keystone's web site.

Keystone expects to complete the update within 30 days of being notified that the council approved the project.

CV comp plan progresses

The Carroll Valley Borough Planning Commission continues to work on the ongoing revisions

to the municipal comprehensive plan.

Edward Kaplan, planning commission chairman, informed the council at the December 13 borough meeting that the plan has "moved to the formatting phase" and will "provide us (the borough) with a solid inventory of its values" as a planning document, and will also "provide basic information about the borough."

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One hundred years ago this month

January 5

New Year's Festivities

On the last Sunday night at 10:30 there is a special watch service in the Lutheran Church to usher in the New Year. There was special music by an augmented choir, including a beautifully rendered duet by Ms. Rebecca Houck and Dr. Carson Frailey. Dr. Reinewald's sermon was very impressive and particularly fitting to the occasion. A few minutes before midnight, Mr. James Hospelhorn, as has been his custom for 39 years, tolled the bell on the stroke of 12, ringing in 1912.

The Emmett Cornet Band celebrated the birth of the New Year by a short concert on the square. The band started playing a few minutes before midnight and after the bells had announced the dawning of 1912. The numbers played were: Onward Christian Soldiers, Adeste Fideless, The Ensign and Maryland My Maryland. Meanwhile, the younger element of the community inaugurated the New Year by exploding fire crackers and shooting revolvers and guns into the air.

Emeralds Give Dance

On Wednesday evening the members of the Emerald Society gave a delightful dance in their new home on Frederick Street. Some 50 guests, many from out of town, joined the dance. Refreshments were served and altogether it was a tremendous success. The committee in charge is to be congratulated, especially Mr. Robert Kerrigan, one of its members.

Sleigh Races in Fairfield

Fairfield Burgess Waddle permitted the young bloods to hold sleighing races within the Borough limits. Tom Gingell's horse was the entire show. Every now and then someone would produce a steed that "could not be beat," but Gingell always led the race. There were more horses in town and more horse talk than for many years.

Trail of Post Office Thieves

Grows Cold
The trail of the yeggmen who cracked the post office safe last week is not any too warm. Inspec-

tors and detectives as a rule are not the most communicative men and while rumors of clues are thick, nothing real has taken place that could be told to the public. One report that persists is that a Taneytown man known to the authorities of this county worked the trick with the help of experts.

January 12

Sleigh Racing in Emmitsburg

With the streets in excellent condition for sleighing, several speed matches have been held on Main Street much to the delight of a number of our citizens. Mrs. Meade Patterson and Harry Bollinger had several heats, which were extremely close, but Mr. Patterson drove the faster horse.

Plumbers Kept Busy

The plumbers have been kept busy opening frozen pipes all over town. Households were much inconvenienced on Wednesday evening when the water for the town was turned off without warning.

Presented with a Handsome Watch

The parish hall at Souseville was crowded Wednesday night when the Sunday School of that place assembled to pay honor to Mr. John Davidson, inventor, scientist, author of the split-second speedometrix, and chauffeur of the two-wheeled death wagon that four months passed has figured in various escapades.

In making the presentation, Mr. Knotts said, "We are called together tonight to honor one of the greatest heroes of the age, John Davidson, L.X.D., P.D.Q., O.I.C., Q.E.D. When future history is written it will be recorded that the genius of this wonderful character in words that will never be forgotten. I doubt not that the National Society for the Prevention of Death by Natural Means will build a monument of lapis lazuli, and that Andrew Carnegie would endow the Chair of Fightology at the University of Harney in memory of this man.

It will be remembered that on the 31st of February, four years ago, Capt. Davidson, without having tasted either food or cloth-

ing for 92 days, propelled his bull chaser through the icy waters of Friends Creek in search of Dr. John Glass who was making a microscopic examination of an air well 59 feet below the surface. You recall perfectly that when he arose to the surface with his find, he became entangled in his auto-intoxicatrix short-circuiting his megaphone and changing his legal address to Mount McKinley where he discovered Dr. Cook, thereby clearing up the controversy between the latter and the University of Copenhagen. I can speak for an hour on the deeds of this genius, but as half of you are asleep and I have a two hour thirst on me I will give your testimonial into Capt. Davidson's hands and adjourn the meeting.

In attempting to swim through the tears of the audience and reply to the chairman, Mr. Davidson was washed out the third-floor window and took to the hills. When last seen he was on Poplar Ridge gazing intently at this time piece and singing, "The Watch on the Rhine."

January 19

Project To Save Partridges

Several gentlemen have clubbed together for the purpose of feeding and saving the partridges now in danger of being starved out. To further their idea they are willing and will pay for the first 50 birds delivered live and well to Mr. William Sellers, the sum of \$0.10 a bird. These cartridges will be cared for and liberated as soon as conditions are favorable.

15th Amendment To Give Women the Vote

Votes for women is provided in a constitutional amendment introduced in the House by Representative Victor Berger, the Wisconsin Socialist and noted troublemaker. In the event of the ratification of the amendment (which few in this town think will happen), the amendment proposes to force its provisions by enact-

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ing that any state which attempts to evade it, the basis of representation of that state shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male and female citizens therein. Within a few months, Congress will be presented with a petition in favor of woman suffrage, signatures to which are now being secured by the Socialist party. These rabble-rousers have yet to show their faces in our fair town and undoubtedly will receive a hot reception from the men of this town if they should.

Cole's Cavalry Reunion

Cole's Veteran Associations, Maryland Volunteers, held its 48th annual reunion. It was the 40th anniversary of the midnight battle in the snow in Loudoun Heights Virginia January 10, 1864. It was decided that a visit to Harpers Ferry, the base of operations of the troop, would be held September 12.

January 26

New Veterinarian

E. C. W. Schubel, D.V.S, a member of the faculty of the United States College of Veterinary Surgery, expects, in a few weeks, to be associated in the practice of his profession with Dr. Reigle in Emmitsburg. Dr. and Mrs. Schubel, R.N., will make his home in this place as soon as he can close up his affairs in Washington.

Source of Disturbance Arrested

A warrant was issued Tuesday morning for the arrest of Frank Lidie of Thurmont for swearing and creating a disturbance in Emmitsburg. Justice MacGil says he intends to break up such disturbances in the future and if the evidence justifies it, he will give Lidie a heavy fine. The minimum fine for offenses of this nature is \$5 and a maximum of \$10.

To read previous editions of 100 Years Ago Today visit the Historical Society section of Emmitsburg.net.



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GOVERNMENT—SOUTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

From the Desk of Town Council President Chris Staiger

I hope everyone has had a safe and happy holiday! Thank you to the Emmitsburg Business and Professional Association – and especially Bob Hance and the Carriage House – for sponsoring the tree lighting on the square as well as Christmas festivities down the street at the restaurant! I think Mayor Briggs made the right decision moving the tree lighting back to the square even though the traffic is a legitimate concern – thanks to the fire police and the resident deputies for providing the extra protection to keep everyone safe! Both events were very well attended and there seemed to be many more children at the tree lighting than in past years.

As one might expect, town business was relatively quiet in Decem-

ber... The president of Mount Saint Mary's University, Dr. Thomas Powell, attended the December 6 meeting – making a generous donation to the town of \$3000 that will most likely be allocated to making improvements to the town square. The Mount will have at least two more large building projects beginning over the next year or so including the construction of a Visitor Center at the Grotto as well as new dormitories on campus. We plan to work with the Mount to make sure that local businesses and workers have a chance to participate.

The town founding date debate was also resolved (again) in December. The town government has decided to adopt an Emmitsburg founding date of 1785 - which will

now appear on town documents and advertising. Approximately five years ago, we decided to use the 1825 incorporation date on the town seal since this was inarguably the date of the creation of the town government. I think we all recognize that there is value in pushing the date further back in order to honor the 18th century heritage of our community. I hope that the 1785 date will be something we can rally around.

Customers of the water and sewer system will find a flyer in their next quarterly bill describing proposed changes to the sewer billing rates. Changes to the sewer billing rates are required to fund the construction and operation of the new wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) to be built over the next two years off

of Creamery Road east of US 15. The new WWTP is required due to increasingly stringent environmental regulations at the state and federal levels. The town government has reviewed proposed rate structures at three public meetings – adopting a proposed implementation plan on December 6. A "Public Information Meeting" will be held at the town office on Thursday, February 16. The design engineers and town officials will be there to answer questions from the public. A "Public Hearing" will be held at the town meeting on February 20 for final consideration of the proposed ordinance changes / rate increase structure. Please read the flier enclosed in you next quarterly bill for more information.

At the December 6 meeting,

the Board of Commissioners approved a project to reline sewer pipes along Willow Rill east and west of Creamery Road. We expect that this repair will help reduce the amount of storm water infiltrating the system and then delivered to the sewer plant for treatment. No one wants to pay to treat rainwater – which will become even more important at the new plant with its higher operating costs. Over the next two years, we will continue to systematically target and repair such problem areas – measuring our progress as we complete each repair.

Please contact your elected officials with your questions and concerns! Sincerely, Chris Staiger.

From the Desk of County Commissioner Blaine Young

Four members of the Frederick County Planning Commission, for the first time in its history, intentionally and disgracefully refused to do their duty to the citizens of Frederick County.

They decided they would not permit the public to speak on the proposed new Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Map, despite the fact that they had scheduled and advertised four separate pub-

lic hearings. The property owners, residents and citizens of Frederick County had planned to attend the advertised and scheduled meetings to speak on whatever issues they deemed appropriate. But our Planning Commission, by a 4-2 vote, turned the citizens away and told them they could not be bothered to hear from them further.

Although they met their legal obligation by holding the first of

the four scheduled hearings, they showed arrogant disrespect to those who planned to speak at one of the remaining scheduled hearings.

For a little historical context, let's look at how this came to be. On April 8, 2010, the Frederick Board of County Commissioners adopted a new Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Map. The plan was approved by a 4-1 vote. I was the one vote against.

I was appointed to the Board of County Commissioners somewhat late in the process of updating this Comprehensive Plan. But anyone who heard my public statements during the consideration knew that I had been interested in the plan and had been watching it closely. And since the Jan Gardner Board (2006-2010) first talked about changing the Comprehensive Plan, I had a significant difference of opinion with the other four members of that board in the way they approached their so-called "update" of the plan.

From the beginning of the process it was advertised as an "update." In my mind, the end result was not an "update" at all. It seems more like a completely new plan, designed to satisfy a certain political constituency. And, there was no reason to scrap the existing plan, and start from scratch; certainly there was no reason to down zone hundreds of properties and destroy millions of dollars in property values. Except for a parting shot at the business and development community before heading out the door to satisfy their egos and a political constituency.

Throughout the history of planning and zoning in Frederick County, board after board stated that when a Comprehensive Plan was updated they would not be interested in down zoning properties. The 2010 plan takes a dramatic turn from that philosophy and – in my mind – a severe turn for the worse. In fact, the end result of the 2010 new Comprehensive Plan is that over 650 par-

cels of land in Frederick County, amounting to thousands of acres, have been either down zoned or have had their comprehensive plan designation removed.

I saw then, and I see now, no compelling reason for the down zonings and down-classification of thousands of acres of property in the county. Why kick hard working taxpaying citizens in the teeth during one of the worst economy's the majority of us have ever experienced in our lifetime. Ego and because they could.

When properties are zoned a certain way, or classified on the Comprehensive Plan for future development, people make life decisions, relying on those classifications. When those classifications are taken away, real people lose real money and the county tax base is affected.

In the absence of a very compelling public need, our elected government should not be wiping out the net worth of hardworking families who have been paying taxes on their properties in good faith for many years. That is exactly what my four colleagues on the Gardner Board did in approving their plan.

And, for a little more historical context, we need to go back to the 2006 county commissioner election campaign and remember the so-called "Dream Team." Their primary issue throughout the entire campaign was that they pledged, if elected, to scrap the New Market Region Plan, which had been approved only months before, and down zone thousands of acres of land which had been zoned for many years.

The Dream Team won the election, and in their first month in office they started the process of revamping the New Market Region Plan and to down zone properties. They drafted the plan and force fed it to the Planning Commission, which was loaded with members sympathetic to their campaign promises. The Planning Commission rubber stamped it, sent it back to the commissioners

and the new plan went into effect, all because of a campaign promise.

Now jump forward to today. Four of the five current county commissioners ran on a platform that included a pledge that if elected they would give property owners an opportunity to petition the board to restore their zoning classifications and plan designations which had been stripped from them by the prior board in either of the two down zonings I have described.

There was no secret about it. We – as candidates – said it over and over again, and we even published it in The Frederick News Post on September 26, 2010. We never said that we would grant any of the requests, only that we would provide an open and transparent public process for these people to request some action from their elected government.

Apparently for four members of the current Planning Commission, campaign promises made in 2006 are somehow more legitimate than those made in 2010. Like the Dream Team, we intend to keep our promises.

We began a process, and staff scheduled public hearings before the Planning Commission. Led by Commissioners Bob White and Catherine Forrence, four of the Planning Commission members threw a fit, and essentially took their ball and went home because they didn't like the way the teams were selected. These are the same commissioners who gleefully approved the down zonings sent to them by the Gardner Board, in keeping with their campaign promise to their no-growth constituency. Talk about the height of hypocrisy!

What we saw from our Planning Commission last week is an appointed board at its worst. We, as candidates last year, made a promise to our constituents, and we will keep it, with or without these four renegade members of the Planning Commission who refused to hear any more from you. You have our word.



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GOVERNMENT—SOUTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

From the Desk of County Commissioner Kirby Delauter

There is an old saying, everyone is entitled to their opinion, however, everyone is not entitled to their own facts. I am writing to rebut a few comments rendered in the December 2011 edition of the Emmitsburg News-Journal by my colleague on the Board of County Commissioners, David Gray.

David makes a few statements that were not exactly on the mark so to speak, and it is my intention to set the record straight.

David's article was titled, "Slow Down-Listen," and the crux of his argument was that the Board of County Commissioners were acting too quickly on matters facing us and the citizens of Frederick County.

The Board was sworn in now more than a year ago on December 1, 2010. One-quarter of this Board's term is now in the history books. I for one, do not believe that taking an entire year to act on and fulfill campaign promises made to the citizens is being reckless or acting too swiftly. Our agenda was clear, in fact so clear, we published it in the Frederick News Post in October 2010.

David stated that we need to "slow down and listen." This may have been the way things were done in the past, but this is not the case now. I listened to hundreds and thousands of voters throughout Frederick County throughout 2010. I along with a majority of the Commissioners ran on a public and open platform that was developed from listening to the voters. Not telling them what they wanted to hear, but listening and then acting on our mandate.

Now onto some of David's more erroneous statements. He made a reference that the County Commissioners defunded Head Start by 50%, fired over 60 instructors and stopped children's classes on two days notice. There is so much wrong in this one sentence alone it

is hard to start, but I'll try.

First off, Frederick County was the ONLY county government in Maryland which provided funding for Head Start. There was research and discussions about reducing the County's funding levels and commitment going on for more than a year, and had begun under the previous Board of County Commissioners, or the Gardner Board.

Additionally, the County did not fire 60 instructional assistants, but merely moved the program to a non-governmental vendor, who in turn offered employment to most of the Head Start staff. As of today, Head Start classes are up and running with the only difference being that the County taxpayer is not funding \$2.3M in unnecessary spending.

Again, all of this was undertaken and finalized with far more than two days of work.

David stated the School Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance was weakened with the newly adopted School Mitigation Fee. I beg to differ. As opposed to waiting for state action with funding, or deferring projects because previous Boards (which David was a part of) have hampered development and job creation, we have placed the onus on the developers who can fund school construction projects right in our own neighborhoods, while also building and creating jobs in those same communities. It is anticipated the School Mitigation Fee could benefit the County by more than \$24 million a year. That's for new schools and improvements in our communities.

Our schools are currently at 88% enrollment capacity, leaving room for more students. Between the impact fee and the mitigation fee, builders (not taxpayers) would be responsible for 115% of new school construction.

David wrote that new school

funding would be shifted to the taxpayers through additional property and income taxes. He is way off the mark on this one! We are finally looking to give the taxpayers a break from taxes. This Board WILL enact a 3 - 4 cent tax cut from your local taxes in the next fiscal year! We promised that in the campaign, and we have delivered on that promise.

In reality, our School Mitigation Fee will shift the burden of new school construction to the development community. Yes, the evil home builders will be paying the bills for our new schools, and for that I am guilty as charged. The building and Development Community, even in these tough economic times, stepped up to the plate with real ideas and solutions to problems, while our previous Boards (which David was part of) sat on their hands and hoped for a "Miracle on Church Street." Miracles may happen in Hollywood, but here in the real world, it's tough decisions and economic common sense that makes the difference between tax cuts or tax increases.

It was also stated that permitting and application fees were reduced without significant public input. I believe our Community Development Division personnel who participated in numerous public and outreach meetings to identify redundant and excessive fees and regulations were quite surprised to read that comment by David Gray.

A bit of history on this topic includes:

- An initial meeting which was held on Monday November 22, 2010, with the business and development community to discuss what can be done to promote a more business friendly environment in the County. An estimated 60 people participated from the private sector.
- Feedback was also received

from staff, by emails and other correspondence and resulted in the original list of 235 items which created the initial Business Friendly Action Item List. It has since been expanded to include additional items.

- Since the first meeting the County has had regularly scheduled bimonthly and quarterly Outreach meetings. The Outreach meetings have been separated into two specific areas, (1) Development related issues and (2) Permitting and Inspections type issues. Anyone interested can attend these meetings. Attendance of these meetings was initially with about 75 people, however recently they are approximately a dozen people and less.
 - The County has, and continues, to hold meetings with the Chamber of Commerce, FCBA, Planning Commission, BOCC and other bodies.
 - Specific areas of work (Subdivision rewrite, etc..) have also been organized into focused workgroups including County staff and private sector participants. There are several of these meetings every month along with weekly meetings with assigned staff participating in addressing the issues.
 - This is a continuing process as meetings, discussions and new items are on-going. The County continues to meet with businesses, consultants, groups and individuals to continue to understand additional issues or concerns that need to be addressed.
 - Staff has provided briefings at various civic organization meetings throughout the year highlighting accomplishments and seeking additional input.
- David noted that, "Privatization continues behind the scenes." I along with members of the pub-

lic am rather surprised then to periodically tune into FCG Cable Channel 19 or see meetings on the County's website of the Privatization Advisory Committee (PAC) meetings.

Additionally, Commissioner President Blaine Young gives a regular administrative update at the beginning of every Thursday morning meeting and has consistently detailed not just the PAC Meetings, but the other two committee's meeting on this topic as well. There has been dozens of meetings on privatization, public-private partnerships, intergovernmental synergies and potential cost efficiencies and savings, and David has been fully aware of all of these actions.

As a matter of fact, to date there have been 28 Privatization Steering Committee meetings, 6 Partnerships (Privatization) and Efficiencies Committee meetings and 4 PAC meetings.

David states that Developers are now allowed to inspect their own projects. This statement is totally false and misleading. The County has shifted to private third party (arms length) inspections. These third party companies are responsible for their inspections and have liability, just like the Developer. This is unlike the old system for example, where the County inspected the Tuscarora Sewer Interceptor, a major CIP project a few years back. The line was so poorly constructed it basically had to be reconstructed a second time. This was ALL INSPECTED BY COUNTY FORCES! The Contractor was held accountable, but the County inspectors never lost a dime in pay or benefits and the Taxpayer footed the entire bill. All we've done is introduce "Authority with Responsibility."

David States the Excise Tax was reduced to zero and that this will make the taxpayer have to pay more in property and income taxes. Again, simply not true. The Excise tax was imposed on businesses and entities like St. Johns Prep School. St. Johns paid \$79,000.00 in Excise Taxes for their new building. This BoCC was able to refund this money to the School when we reduced this tax to \$0. Maybe Commissioner Gray would rather have the School pay the tax when they can now use that money to educate students and / or reduce their debt on a new facility.

I could go on and discuss many other issues I have with David's column, but with space limitations I will have to defer those thoughts to another time.

I am very disappointed, however, that David chose to promote so many inaccuracies and mistakes. I welcome any and all open debate and discussion.

We all are free to our opinions, but I cannot set idly by when someone perverts the facts that are available to everyone, especially a County Commissioner who was a part of all of these issues and deliberations.



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GOVERNMENT—NORTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

From the Desk of Carroll Valley Mayor Ron Harris

At the December 13, 2011 Carroll Valley Borough Council meeting, the proposed 2012 budget was approved. The new tax rate for the year 2012 is 2.45 mills or 24.5 cents on each one hundred dollars of assessed value. At the same meeting, I had the pleasure to present a Certificate of Appreciation to the Councilman Frank Buhrman for his outstanding 25 years of local government service to Carroll Valley residents. Frank has served on the Planning Commission since 1987, the Borough Council for four years and is currently serving on the Sewer & Water Authority. Frank chose not to run again for the Borough Council. Thank you for your

contribution to our community.

It is January and you all probably know what I am about to share, but just in case. Have you ever heard the expression "Ring out the old, ring in the new"? Well after some research, I come to find out that January gets its name from a Roman god of beginnings and transitions called Janus. This Janus is a two faced god that looks back in the old year and forward into the New Year. I guess this is where "resolutions" come into play.

A resolution is a pledge or promise to one's self to make the New Year a better one for ourselves and hopefully those all around us. The short of it is the tradition of making resolu-

tions at the beginning of a new year may have come from this two faced god. And, if these resolutions are not too unrealistic, we may even be successful in achieving them. Some resolutions may even be prompted by others. For example, I resolve to get rid of all of my old computer peripherals prompted by a loved one in my household. Problem is how to accomplish the task. Beginning in January 2012, most of the Covered Device Recycling Act (CDRA) that was passed in 2010 will go into effect. This means that approved certified recyclers will accept all electronic/electric items for recycling - basically anything with a cord as long as the item does not contain any Freon, oils or fuels.

In Adams County, the Adams Rescue Mission at 2515 York Road in Gettysburg is an approved CDRA certified recycler and will accept computers, monitors, peripherals and televisions. If you are unsure whether the Adams Rescue Mission will accept an item, you can reach them at 334-7502. If you would like to get a copy of the Adams County recycling pamphlet you can get a copy at the Adams County Environmental Services Department located at 670 Old

Harrisburg Road, Gettysburg or send me an email and I will reply with a pdf copy of the pamphlet.

The next resolution given to me to accomplish was to get rid of the old oil and antifreeze I have stored in the garage. Well, for residents of Carroll Valley and Fairfield, you can deposit all in Carroll Valley behind the Municipal Services Building at 14 Ranch Trail. You can pour your waste oil, hydraulic oil and transmission fluid into the flat black tank marked waste oil next to the building. The anti-freeze should be poured into the blue drum next to the black waste oil tank. You are asked that all empty containers be placed in the large dumpster. Maybe one of your resolutions could be to serve on one of Carroll Valley's committees, authority and board. There are vacancies on the Finance Committee, Parks, Recreation & Environmental Advisory Council, Sewer & Water Authority and the Zoning Hearing Board.

With January comes snow which means we need to make sure that you winterized your car. If you haven't, you need to get it done. Check the car's tires and tire pressure, the heat/defroster and wipers. Please slow

down. If you drive too fast, those antilock brakes will not help you to come to a smooth stop. When driving behind another car, remember to leave more space between your car and the car in front of you. Some experts tell us that this distance is four car lengths for every 10 mph you are traveling. Remember you have less control over your car during bad road conditions.

The Borough will be holding the following meetings in January: Borough Council Reorganization Meeting (Jan 3rd), Planning Commission (Jan 9th), Borough Council (Jan 10th), Sewer/Water Authority (Jan 23rd) and the Parks/Recreation Committee (Jan 25th). Hopefully, one of your resolutions for the New Year is to try to spend more quality time with the family. Time really flies by quickly and you cannot go back. By the way, if you attended the "Breakfast with Santa" held at the Fairfield Fire & EMS Hall, the pictures taken can be seen and downloaded by going to www.ronspictures.net. Happy New Year everyone! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by email at mayor@carrollvalley.org or by cell at (301) 606-2021.

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GOVERNMENT—NORTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

From the Desk of Commissioner Randy Phiel

On November 8, after an unusually enthusiastic and well publicized eleven month campaign season for Adams County Commissioner, Adams County voters elected myself and fellow Republican Jim Martin, and Democrat Marty Qually to the next Board of Adams County Commissioners. This will be the first all new board of Adams County Commissioners in fifty years. The swearing in ceremony will be held on Friday, December 30th at 1PM at the courthouse in the historic courtroom. All residents are invited to attend. If you have not ever been in the old courtroom, it is a beautiful Adams County historic resource. I would highly recommend you experience it. On a related note our new board is already working on some ideas to make the old courtroom more accessible to the public on a regular basis. The new board's first official day of work in the courthouse will be Tuesday, January 3rd beginning with the mandated re-organization meeting at 9AM. At the re-organization meeting, we will be selecting a Commissioner Chair, Commissioner Vice-Chair, announce appointments to numerous committees, and appoint or re-appoint various "at will" officials. Regular commissioners meeting will be held every other Wednesday at 9AM - with workshops on the opposite Wednesday.

I am happy to report to you that your three new commissioners, after taking a very short breath following the general election, have been continually meeting and working together since mid-November to make the transition into office as smooth as possible for the residents of Adams County. In November we attended the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania general conference. In conjunction with the conference we also attended two days of informative workshops for newly elected commissioners. We have been meeting with the county manger, judges, department directors, boards and other county staff as part of an orientation and information exchange initiative. The three of us have had numerous meetings to define our own personalities, goals, management and operation objectives. As a result we will not be walking in the front door on January 3rd introducing ourselves to one another and core staff members. On the other hand we have no illusion that we will have plenty to learn - and will continue to work both hard and smart to achieve the best management results for our residents. I applaud my fellow commissioners for their contribution to our effort in getting out of the blocks as quickly and effectively as possible.

A major objective of this new board before taking office has been to identify and discuss key strategic areas of concern for Adams County. Although this initiative should be a constant work in progress, at the outset we have identified components of Effective Government, Efficient Government, Long-Term Planning, Improved External and Internal Communications, Economic Stimulation and the Emergency Management Radio project as key initiatives. Balancing our rural/agricultural heritage with our significant need for economic stimulus also ranks very high in my opinion.

Beside the three new commissioners, Steve Renner will be seated as Adams County's first County Controller. Steve's controller office replaces the three part-time auditor positions. The position was mandated as a result of Adams County moving from a sixth class to a fifth class county. In simple terms, Steve Renner will be the financial watchdog of the county. All three board members look forward to working with Steve, who has an extensive professional background in financial and administrative management.

During the campaign we heard many requests for better communications with residents and that many residents in outlying areas felt disenfranchised from their county government.

As a result we are announcing two new initiatives immediately. Prior to every commissioner's meeting and workshop, the agenda for those sessions will be available on Monday afternoon to the public, both in hard copy at the courthouse and on the Adams County website. That should improve our resident's ability to know and understand what will be discussed. Also, beginning in late February, we will be implementing a series of county-wide commissioner's communications forums at different locations around Adams County. The six public sessions in 2012 will be held in the evening beginning at 7PM. The first forum will be held in East Berlin and they will continue at two month intervals moving to McSherrstown/Conewago, York Springs/Upper Adams, Cash-town/Buchanan Valley and Fairfield/Carroll Valley. Each session will have a theme or key topic based on what is currently relevant in the county or that community - but will not be limited to that topic.

Our new board of Adams County Commissioners pledges to our residents that we will make ourselves available to the residents, listen to their opinions, effectively gather the best information we can from all sources, make the best decision that we can based on all the information gathered, make deci-



sions in a timely manner, and specifically explain our reasoning for the decision to our residents. We know that not everyone will always agree with every decision we make - but we hope that by following the aforementioned process, our residents will be better informed to understand and respect our reasoning for a decision.

It has been my pleasure since last June to contribute monthly articles to the ENJ as a commissioner candidate. My two colleagues and I will continue to keep you informed by contributing a

monthly column on a rotating basis as part of our on-going enhanced communications pledge. I believe the ENJ is a valuable community and communications resource serving the southern portion of Adams County.

On behalf of myself, and Commissioners Martin & Qually, I wish you and your families a happy, healthy and blessed New Year. Get out there and take advantage of all the natural beauty, history, recreational opportunities, culture and resources that Adams County has to offer! Best Regards!



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COMMENTARY

Words from Winterbilt

The size of government - common sense and nonsense

A common belief today is that our government is too large, it costs too much and it should be reduced in size. This sounds good and in many instances it is probably true, but when I question people about how big our government should be and/or should not be, the answers are sometimes a little fuzzy. A very frequent response is that the government is too large, but exactly how much "too large is," is not stated. This is usually followed by a few words that some government deregulation would also be helpful, but the specifics on deregulations are often omitted. When questioned about what government should provide the list includes maintaining a military for defense, police services, adequate roads, education, social security and then a long pause. . . . For myself, I would not like any reductions and/or deregulations in government that would affect me and/or the services I am receiving, and/or close to receiving - like Social Security and Medicare. Apparently many public opinion polls share my perspective. That is not to say everything else should be eliminated, since I don't even know what everything else is, which directly relates to the issue.

Conventional wisdom would say that common sense can tell us what to keep and/or what we should eliminate. However, if it were that easy then why has it not been done? Some things are easy to say but not so easy to accomplish. If you remember last month's column we discussed com-

mon sense and much credit was given to Thomas Paine's book *Common Sense*. Thomas Paine's argument is that government is a necessary evil. As stated in his book, "Wherefore, security being the true design and end of government, it unanswerably follows that whatever form thereof appears most likely to ensue it to us, with the least expense and the greatest benefit, is preferable to all others." So at least from Thomas Paine's perspective, this is not a new problem. Of course when Thomas Paine wrote those words, the United States of America, the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution did not exist. However, the fear then, as now, is that a large government is capable of intrusion in the citizen's life. A very frequent topic today as it was in 1776.

If we wish to reduce the size of government, it would be prudent to know how big it is and what it does. It is my belief, for good reasons, that we have no idea how big our government is. My ignorance, and I am not alone, also includes all of the functions our government has, or does not have. The former Secretary of Defense commented about this issue when he requested an accounting of contractors working in the defense department. Secretary Gates stated that when he requested the accounting for all of the contractors working for the defense department, the Defense Department could not give him an answer, not even how many con-

tractors they have. If we don't know how large something is then how do we determine how much is too much? What do we reduce?

As stated earlier the government should provide essential service like our military. However, if we are to make a decision of how much military we need - we need to know how many soldiers and contractors we have and what their jobs are. Adding to this confusion I heard a talking head on a news program state that we have over 700 military bases around the world. At first I thought I did not hear the number correct, but it was then repeated. Since you can very often not believe what was on the news I went to Google.

Google was very helpful. There are more than 1,000 US military bases around the world. The most accurate count is 1,077, or, if you count differently, 1,169, or even 1,180. The reality is nobody knows for sure. Of course these numbers include the bases in our country. According to the Department of Defense's 2010 Base Structure Report, as of 2009, the US military maintained 662 foreign sites in 38 countries around the world. But that number represents a reduction from numbers reported by DOD just a few years ago. So the number of 700 was overstated, unless you count the bases in this country. It is sad to say and sometimes shocking, but there are times when the news is just not reliable. (Of course that

statement does not include this article or other articles I have written)

Another site reported that Deputy under Secretary of Defense Dorothy Robyn referenced the Pentagon's "507 permanent installations" while testifying before the senate appropriations committee's sub-committee on military constructions and related agencies. This occurred early last year, however the Pentagon's 2010 Base Structure Report, lists 4,999 total sites in the US, its territories, and overseas. The numbers vary according to what sites you find and I guess it is dependent upon who's counting and the criteria they use for a "base", if that makes sense - which it does not. Apparently there are also numerous secret bases that we don't know about, which is logical since they are secret.

Some other interesting numbers that I found in my limited research is that we have 124 bases in Japan, and 87 in South Korea. If we examine this from the perspective of the countries that have our military bases, it works very well for them; they can have U. S. Military bases in their country to defend them and we pay the bill. This also benefits the military contractors who build, supply and maintain the bases. Who says the government can't create jobs - by building, maintaining and servicing military bases around the world, our government has created a lot of jobs - in other countries, with which we have

trade agreements. Maybe we are protecting the products they make!

Reducing the size of the government without an examination of our needs and how big the government is does not make sense. Of course not knowing how big the current government is does not make sense. Common sense would say that our leaders (the term leader may not reflect reality) should be able to tell us how large our government is and where it is. If you remember we had a large military base (probably several bases) in the Philippines. It was predicted by the experts that when we were kicked out it would be catastrophic. I am sure that did not work well, however I don't remember the catastrophe? Before we the people demand a smaller government, maybe we should demand an accounting of the current government.

"If a nation expects to be ignorant and free, it expects what never was and never will be." — Thomas Jefferson

Before congress reduces my social security, which is a program that works, I would like to see them account for the fraud, waste and abuse in the government that they have been promising to do for over 30 years. I would also like to see an accounting of what it costs us to defend the countries where we have military bases. Just for the record, I am not anti military, I took not one, but two oaths to uphold the U.S. Constitution during my career - and I took both seriously.

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

View from the Track

The Market Ticker

Kip Hamilton

First, many thanks to all those in and around Fairfield who contributed to the Toys for Tots campaign this year. The toys were handed out on Sunday, December 18th at the Fairfield Fire & EMS civic hall and about 250 children received little expressions of love and happiness from their caring neighbors. While unsettling to see so many little ones this year, the outpouring of support from this community was very gratifying. A great big pat on the back goes to Bill Echert and all those who helped with the collection and distribution of the gifts for the children. Good job guys.

I was reading one of my regular blogs a week or so ago; Karl Denniger's *The Market Ticker* (www.themarketticker.org) and Karl asked a very cosmic question that relates to what we have been thinking about for the past few months concerning our individual freedoms. He asked, "Who owns your physical person as a legal adult of 18 or more years of age?"

Personally, I was struck by that question. That's not a question you normally think about, is it? Ownership of your person. Consider that for a moment. Karl went on to say that

there are only two possible answers to that question: 1) You, personally and 2) Someone other than you. That certainly makes sense, right?

The Constitution and the Bill of Rights say that we are sovereign individuals whose rights in this world have been granted by The Creator and as such can never be stripped by another man. So far, so good.

But then Karl said, "I challenge you to examine whatever grant of authority over your personal sovereignty you claim the government has a right to assert."

So, if we are agreed that each of us is the worldly "owner" of our physical person, how can others assert so much ownership-like control over us, if we do not grant such control? And under what conditions are we comfortable granting it? In Karl's words, his point is "to challenge you to examine your first principles and then place against them the policies you support as pertain to the political party and government actors who you support and are willing to submit to in whole or part, and the conditions under which you are willing to do so."

Our personal freedoms are being lost almost on a weekly basis these days, but are they being stolen or are

we giving them away? Some would say a combination of both maybe, but why? Why would we give up our individual liberties, those granted in law by God and those for which so many have fought and died in order to protect; why would we so easily give them away? It makes no sense. These things are at the very core of what it means to be an American Citizen and yet we sit complacently by while they are STOLEN from us! Chief among them is the right to private property, for without your right to your personal, private property, there can be no freedom.

The 4th Amendment in part states, "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated. . . ." Meaning not only that someone cannot come into your home and steal your stuff, but more broadly that you have the right of ownership of what you earn through your labor.

Ayn Rand wrote, "Remember that there is no such dichotomy as 'human rights' versus 'property rights.' No human rights can exist without property rights. Since material goods are produced by the mind and effort of individual men, and are needed to sustain their lives, if the producer does not own the result of his effort, he does

not own his life."

It is interesting to observe that both 'socialism' and 'fascism' involve the issue of property rights. The right to property is the right of use and disposal. Observe the difference in those two theories: socialism negates private property rights altogether, and advocates 'the vesting of ownership and control' in the community as a whole, i.e., in the state; while fascism leaves ownership in the hands of private individuals, but transfers control of the property to the government. If you own something, but do not have control over it, do you actually own it at all?

Consider what just happened with the MF Global debacle. MF Global was a major multi-billion-dollar global financial derivatives broker and also a primary dealer in United States Treasury securities. They held Billions of dollars of their clients' money and assets in private trading and storage accounts. They made a really bad bet on the outcome of the European financial crisis and it looks as if they raided at least \$1.2B worth of their clients' assets and used them to settle their corporate financial obligations. . . totally against the law, by the way, and when there were no more client assets to steal, they were forced to file for bankruptcy. Now, it appears that much of the individual investors' personal property is just gone; some frozen by the trustee; some used to

pay MF Global's lien holders; some purchased by other brokers in a corporate estate sale of sorts, but gone, none-the-less.

If this financial pirating of individual investors' property is allowed to stand, it sets an extremely dangerous legal precedent which would appear to put ANY financial account at risk of being raided, including 401k's and even savings accounts.

Remember, all of our other rights are dependant on our right to own our property, including our sovereign selves. So, again, I ask you to truly evaluate the current government actors you support and are willing to submit to in whole or part, and the conditions under which you are willing to do so and determine at what point you will not tolerate the corruption and abuses any longer, or if that point even exists.

2012 may be a year like no other in the history of our Country. We may be forced to make decisions our Founders would never have dreamed. It is important for us to be firmly grounded in our personal principles, so that if the moment comes where we must make a choice, we can act decisively with confidence and strength because we are sure of our core beliefs and who we are and why. When you are standing at the edge of a cliff, it is not the time to begin deciding which way you should go.

Have a safe, prosperous and free new year!

The Delegate

A non-establishment delegate

Dr. Michael Hargadon

One of the less noticed elections during the presidential primary, is the election of delegate to the convention. Each Congressional district will elect three delegates and three alternate delegates for the Republican National Convention. I am a candidate for Delegate to the Republican Convention, even though I have only been registered as a Republican for six months. Less than a year ago, I was the Vice Chairman of the Constitution Party of Maryland, so if I can make the switch, you could also.

This election may be our last possibility of salvaging some remnant of our great constitutional republic. The Democrat establishment, with their Obamacare and socialist agenda, do not suit my liberty loving conservative frame. The Republicans however, with all of their establishment warmongering, are also unacceptable, but with one exception: Congressman Ron Paul.

Once registered as a Republican, even if only for six months, you will be eligible to vote in the Republican primary for a presidential

candidate, three delegates and three alternate delegates. The delegate candidates appear on the ballot as undesignated, or for a particular presidential candidate. A delegate candidate, who wishes to be listed on the ballot for a particular presidential candidate, must have that presidential candidate's campaign certify them. The delegates, listed with the presidential candidate that wins the popular vote, have historically won the delegate slots as well. Once elected, the delegate travels to the party's national convention to officially nominate the Party's presidential candidate and establish the platform. I have requested to be certified by Dr. Paul's campaign.

This year's Convention delegate rules have changed, in that the delegate is bound to vote for the candidate who won the district on the first vote, but if the candidate fails to secure 35% of the vote, or the candidate releases his delegates, or the Convention goes to a third ballot, the delegate is free to vote for whom ever he or she considers the best candidate. This could be historic.

Our government has lost its constraints of the constitution. The establishment in both parties

has worked the welfare/warfare paradigm to strip us of our liberties, bankrupt us, and retire our constitution to the status of relic to be used for pseudo patriotic outings. We hear talk about the 10th amendment and state's rights, but there is no state's rights concept within the power structure of the Republican Party establishment. State parties toe the party establishment line with every directive from the national party. One needs to look no farther than the last Presidential election in Maryland to see what is acceptable in the GOP, and what is not.

In 2008, I also ran for delegate to the Republican Convention, as well as Congress in Maryland's 7th District. The Republican primaries in five of Maryland's congressional races were won by non-establishment candidates, myself included. The five of us, along with Roscoe Bartlett's campaign, were honored by Dr. Paul coming to College Park to publicly endorse our efforts. Three fourths of the party's general election congressional candidates were endorsed by Congressman Ron Paul. Wouldn't you think that the party leadership would turn out, if not for Ron Paul, than at least for the individuals who sacrificed to keep the GOP on the Maryland ballot? This was arguably the biggest event for five of these campaigns, yet the state's GOP

establishment essentially boycotted the event, with only one Republican committee person, from the state and 23 county central committees, in attendance.

I once believed that principles would win out, regardless of party. This lesson was shattered after I ran as candidate for Lieutenant Governor in 2010, under the Constitution Party. Principles, such as strict 2nd amendment adherence, or being a foe of state funded abortions, were treated as meaningless, by our not being in the two-party duopoly. The local gun groups, the Baltimore Archdiocese, and several other "conservative" advocacy groups would not recognize us with an acknowledgment, an endorsement, or a simple declarative sentence in their election supplement, even though, we agreed with the principles of these groups more than any of the other candidates on the ballot.

The Maryland Republican Party may be showing some backbone in the straw poll taken at the state Fall Convention. Ron Paul finished in practically a dead heat tie for 2nd place. Could the state party be preparing to interpose the constitution over national directives? Don't count on it. Neoconservative Congressman Harris just announced he will be Co-Chairing the Maryland effort for former congressman, Newt Gingrich. Newt is the epitome of establishment, with his

concern about climate change, his fortune he has slurped from the government trough as lobbyist, and his public advocacy of violating international law with plausible deniable lethal attacks against sovereign nations.

Our only hope is to run over the establishment Republican Party. There are almost as many unaffiliated voters in this state as there are registered Republican Party members. Add to that, the disgruntled Democrats, the Libertarians, and those Republicans who insist on a party of true constitutional principles. We can take back our nation, through the Republican Party:

- A party that promotes the value of honest money: End the Fed.
- A party that yearns for personal liberty: End the Patriot Act.
- A party that pursues a non-interventionist foreign policy: End Undeclared Wars.
- And a party that depends on the restraints of our constitution: End Judicial and Executive legislation.

Let's salvage our constitutional republic? Register, and vote, Republican.

Editor's Note: Scott Zuke is on sabbatical in Morocco this month. His column, Pure OnSense, will return to its regular slot here next month.

Down Under

Happy hour

Lindsay Coker

War is peace. Freedom is slavery. Ignorance is strength. Who controls the past controls the future; who controls the present controls the past (George Orwell, '1984'(1949)

A very happy and unexpectedly prosperous new year to everyone who reads the Emmitsburg News-Journal from down under, the land of minerals, myopia and maladroitness. And fine dining - for which I want to say a very big thank you to your editor, the amazing Michael Hillman. I have been writing to you since the very first edition of this wonderfully unique paper, and as a reward he, and the News-Journal, gave me a lovely birthday present by shouting my wife and I to dinner at one of the finest eateries in Melbourne, The Fire House. It's certainly the best to be found here in the eastern suburbs, and if you know of anyone coming to this part of the world, please tell them to contact me (Michael knows how to do that) and we'll happily escort them to this converted fire house to prove my claim. I doubt you folk have been anywhere as good. (Smiley face) In fact, it's worth the journey just for this.

Well, this month I would like to draw your attention to October fourth, 1958. Some dates in history prove to be turning points, and this is one of them.

You don't remember? That is not surprising, as it's not a red-letter day. The second world war had been fought and won by the allies, with Russia turning back the Nazi war machine with lots of help from their friends America and Britain; Japan had been forced to surrender; the Berlin air lift had run its course, manufacturing and development was rampant, Dwight Eisenhower was President and Richard Nixon V-P. America was not happy with the rise of communism, as Stalin and co. set out to take over world domination, something Eisenhower and congress were determined not to let happen.

Dawns the 4/10/1958. Appropriately, it was an amateur radio ham who first broke the news to the media. Something called sputnik was up in the sky. One hundred and eighty three pounds of metal had been launched by Russia, broadcasting for all to hear, and panic swept the corridors of power. The problem was that if the world saw Russia as being pre-eminent in the space race, then it followed the world might see it as pre-eminent everywhere else. That had to be stopped.

By December six the reply was ready - except it exploded on the take-off pad. January 31 saw Explorer 1 up and away, and the race was really on. So were the red faces, the anger, and the on-the-run decisions from the white house. Soviets and their supporters were thenceforth

anathema. They were communists, enemies of all that was good and free, anti-democratic, and now to be hated, reviled, squashed, and done away with. No more friendship, just the new enemy.

The Red menace was beamed across the media; to be one of them or to sympathise was un-American, unpatriotic, and landed a lot of protesters and civil libertarians before senate un-American committees, in jail, reviled, jobless or deprived of more than liberty. Protest was a naughty word, freedom of speech was fine if you only echoed the right-speak, and the offstage presence of 1984 sent its chill through the land.

From Sputnik to Cuba to Afghanistan, via Korea, Panama, Vietnam, Iraq, and assorted other countries and leaders, people that had been friends became enemies. Hussein, the Mujahedeen, the Khmer Rouge, Noriega and many more started out as allies in the war on communism, but all became enemies when they tried to take over their own countries and reap the benefits America believed to be theirs because they had paid for them. You'd have thought that before this someone in power might have realised the error of using your enemies enemy to do your work. They've had over 50 years to find out it aint necessarily so.

But then came the horror of 9/11. If sputnik had caused a ruckus, this caused the anthill to explode. It was indeed a most terrible act, on a par with bombing civilians in Baghdad, but the reaction from the hill was outrage and disbelief. 'How dare anyone defy us. How dare anyone

attack civilians in this great nation, instil fear and horror among us?' It wasn't the communists this time, it was, we were told, a spectral, devilish Osama Bin Laden, the sputnik of the 21st century. This enormously rich Saudi-born man became leader of the Mujahedeen anti-Russian forces in Afghanistan, and in the area known as the North-West frontier beat them to a pulp. America had embraced him, given him everything he asked for and more, only to discover a little later that he actually despised them, and was intent on ensuring that his version of Islam dominated the world.

But communism had been beaten, hadn't it? No, not really, but Russia had, so this terrorist could also be beaten, couldn't he? Sure - along came The War on Terror, Guantanamo, Homeland security, the Patriot act and the whole range of counter terrorist agencies that have drained the coffers, raised the anxiety levels, and derailed the fundamentals of the American way of life. The land of the free it no longer is, and has the war been won? Hardly. G. W. Bush said it would not cease until every terrorist group in the world had been stopped. Really? It's a silly statement, and puts America as the sole arbiter of what constitutes terror. Anyway Bin Laden was finally killed and the war on terror should have been over.

Yet the war goes on, restrictions mount, and here's how it's done:

George Orwell, one of my heroes, was right when he predicted in his book '1984' that we would all be in thrall to the thought police by then, and he was also right in saying most

of us wouldn't know about it. Because an ill-informed populace is easy prey, and the best way to ensure that they are ill-informed is to feed them a diet so bland, so unreal and so diverting that the hard questions are never even thought of. Democracy it is not, as those in power try to lull us into acceptance of all they say and do.

There is, however, no substitute for informed honest journalism, examination of the real history, and unwavering determination to investigate the actualities behind events and policies, and to then collectively raise a voice of defiant truth. So, my university friends, you who are studying history and journalism, will you begin by raising your voices in disgust over the pseudo-democracy you live in, or will you, like the great majority, be content with a never ending happy hour? (Though it's not too happy at present). Freedom has to be more than the ability to believe and do what you are told. Civil liberty is the opposite of slavery, and every time any of those liberties are eroded slavery is strengthened. Freedom is NOT slavery. Ignorance is NOT strength. War is NOT peace. Yet the opposite is exactly what we are being told.

So here's investigation project number one: Why was the success of The mujahedeen and its successors, Al-Qaeda and the Taliban, in defeating the Soviet army in Afghanistan taken as meaning they would help the U.S. A do what Russia couldn't, and what IS the prize there? It certainly isn't democratic or humanitarian, which have never actually been the basis of any foreign relations. And reread 1984.

PASTOR'S DESK

On the sanctification of each moment

The Rev. Fr. Elias Yelovich
Orthodox Church of the Entrance
of the Theotokos into the Temple
Emmitsburg, Maryland

I'm no stranger to traffic in large metro areas, but there's a quality about the traffic inside the beltway of our nation's capital that makes me shudder. I try to avoid it fastidiously. Twenty five years ago, however, I had no choice but to get in my car twice a week and travel down to one of the universities within the beltway to finish my last semester in graduate school. I hated the drive, and it always left me frazzled and exhausted, particularly because the time of my classes required me to drive in the densest traffic both going and coming. Out of all the many days I traveled down to the DC beltway, however, one day stands out. For some reason, I had left for class a few minutes later than usual, and I was in a hurry to get there on time; but, on that day the traffic was particularly heavy. As I came within a few miles of the university the traffic piled up and came to a standstill. Like the other drivers, I too began to jockey for my best position in line, becoming more and more impatient with those with whom I shared the road. As horns blew and drivers overreacted, I felt my blood pressure rising, and soon, I was just like



everyone else on the road in that traffic jam: angry, impatient, ready to push for my advantage over others, selfish and truly more like a beast than a man. But suddenly, I saw the face of an angel. Next to me, in a little, old subcompact car, there was an elderly woman. She must have noticed how upset I was that day, but she was different; she had not given herself over to the anger to which the rest of us had succumbed; she had clearly risen above

it. She turned her head to me, and opened her mouth into one of the widest and truly awesome smiles I have ever seen. There was no mockery or judgment in that smile, for she was clearly uninterested in finding any fault or in pushing herself forward at anyone else's expense. Her smile was purely good, and when I saw it, all of my anger left in an instant; I had been lifted above my passions, and I was restored to my humanity again.

I remember this incident and speak of it often with the members of my parish. It is a symbol of how each of us has the capacity to heal, to be Christ to those in even the most mundane moments of everyday life. On January 6 Christians of the Eastern Orthodox Tradition celebrate a Holy Day that illustrates this clearly; it shows how Christ Himself openly revealed this to be Will of the Father. The Holy Day is called Theophany, and it simply means revelation of God. In the Eastern Orthodox Tradition, Theophany is actually a day that is

held in higher esteem than Christmas, for it builds on the foundation of His Birth by proclaiming the reason for it. In other words, it says to us: THIS is why He was born; and, THIS is what He IS; and, THIS is what He does for the salvation, for the healing of the world.

Theophany centers on the story of our Lord's Baptism, and at first glance it is a perplexing story indeed; for at the very beginning of His ministry, the Gospels tell us that the Lord Jesus did something that seems to make no sense at all. He Who is without sin, submitted to the Baptism of John the Forerunner, a Baptism of repentance from sin. How it is was that the Sinless One would do that which was intended for repentant sinners is something that John himself wondered. In Matthew's Gospel it is even reported that John tried to prevent Him from coming to Baptism. The Holy Forerunner said to Jesus, I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me? But the Lord nevertheless allowed Himself to be baptized by His cousin in the River Jordan; St. Matthew says that the Lord saw the Holy Spirit descend upon Him in the form of a dove, and that He heard the Father's voice, saying: This is my Beloved Son, with Whom I am well pleased!

The Holy Fathers of the Eastern Orthodox Tradition have a perspective on that moment that is truly revealing. They say that the Lord submitted to the purifying waters of Baptism, not because He needed to do so; after all, He was without sin, and He needed to repent of nothing. There was no need for Him to be purified of anything. Instead, they say, it was Christ Himself Who was the purifying agent in that story. He entered the waters of the Jordan, not to be purified by those waters, but rather to purify them by His presence. It is He Who cleanses in the story; it is He Who purifies the moment by His presence; it is He Who restores the waters of creation to their original purpose, so that they become the means of our purification, the means of our union with the Father. Thus, the Great Feast of the Holy Theophany is a sign of how the Father brings about the restoration of all things. Each moment and each element of creation is sanctified by

the presence of Christ; through Him the waters themselves are cleansed, becoming a sacramental means of our union to the Father; through Him we offer back to the Father that which we are given by the Father, and He returns it all as a greater blessing, a blessing of Life – water, bread, wine, oil, each moment in time, become means of our union to the Father. Through Him, every moment is sanctified, and even the ordinary, dull moments of daily life become the means of healing. Each moment and each element of creation become for us opportunities of blessing and sanctification, so that even in the most mundane of circumstances, we may receive what the Lord gives us and offer it back to Him as a sacrifice of opportunity for the healing of others around us.

This sounds perhaps a bit overwhelming, but it is really quite simple. All of life becomes sacrament for us who follow Him. Just as the good will of a stranger became the means of my healing in that miserable traffic jam so many years ago, so too may we Who confess Jesus as Lord become the means of healing for others around us. Each moment becomes opportunity and means of blessing. We receive from God, and we offer back to Him the sacrifice of our simple actions of charity and good will on behalf of others; in so doing they and we are healed. We cannot solve the big problems of the world until we first submit to the opportunities given to us by God in each moment. The war is only won through the individual battles of each moment in time, as we receive them as opportunities to be Christ to those in our midst – for He Who is without sin, entered the waters of Baptism not to be purified, but to purify. And we who follow Him are given the great honor of doing likewise, of bringing Him to those around us in each mundane moment of our own lives. To this end, may the Holy Spirit enliven us all, and to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the Undivided Trinity, the One True God, be all honor and glory forever! Amen.

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THE BOOK OF DAYS

Making bread in the Middle Ages



In the chronicles and records of the Middle Ages that have survived to us, we find many items of curious information relative to the supply in those days of what was, from the absence of the potato and other articles of food, even more than now, the staff of human life. We cull a few of these particulars for the information—and, we trust, also the amusement—of those among our readers who care to know something about the usages of the olden time.

The bread that was in common use in England from five to six centuries ago, was of various degrees of fineness (or 'bolting' as it was called) and colour. The very finest and the whitest probably that was known, was simnel-bread, which (in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries at least) was as commonly known under the name of pain-demayn (afterwards corrupted into pay-man); a word which has given considerable trouble to Tyrrwhitt and other commentators upon Chaucer, but which means no more than 'bread of our Lord,' from the figure of our Saviour, or the Virgin Mary, impressed upon each round flat loaf, as is still the usage in Belgium with respect to certain rich cakes much admired there. This bread of course was only consumed by persons of the highest rank, and in the most affluent circumstances.

The next in quality to this was wastel bread, in common use among the more luxurious and more wealthy of the middle classes, and the name of which it seems not improbable is closely allied to the old French gasteaw, 'a cake.' Nearly resembling this in price and quality, though at times somewhat cheaper, was light bread, or puffed, also known as 'French bread,' or 'cocket,' though why it was called by the latter appellation is matter of doubt. Bread of a still inferior quality was also sometimes known as 'cocket,' and it seems far from improbable that it was so called from the word cocket, as meaning a seal, it being a strict regulation in

London and else-where that each loaf (at all events each loaf below a certain quality) should bear the impress of its baker's seal. The half-penny loaf of simnel was at times of the same weight as the farthing loaf of wastel or puff; the relative proportions, however, varied considerably at different periods.

The next class of bread was tourte, made of unbolted meal, and the name of which has much puzzled the learned. It seems not improbable, however, that this kind of bread was originally so called from the loaves having a twisted form (torti), to distinguish them from those of a finer quality. Tourte was in common use with the humbler classes and the inmates of monasteries. Trete bread, or bread of trete, was again an inferior bread to tourte, being made of wheat meal once bolted, or from which the fine flour at one sifting had been removed. This was also known as 'Us,' or brown bread, and probably owed its name to the fact of bran being so largely its constituent, that substance being still known in the North of England as 'trete'. An in-

ferior bread to this seems to have passed under the name of all-sorts, or some similar appellation, being also known as black bread. It was made of various kinds of grain inferior to wheat.

In the reign of Edward III we find mention made of a light, or French, bread, made in London, and known by the name of 'wygge,' an appellation still given in Scotland to a kind of small cake. Another kind of white bread is also spoken of in the reigns of Edward II and III, under the still well-known name of 'bunne' (or boun). Horse-bread also was extensively prepared by the bakers, in the form of loaves duly sealed, beans and peas being the principal ingredients employed.

The profits of the bakers from very remote times were strictly a matter for legislative enactment. A general regulation was in force, from the days of King John until the reign of Edward I, if not later, throughout England (the City of London perhaps excepted), that the profit of the baker on each quarter of wheat was to be, for his own labour, three pence and such bran as might be sifted from the meal; and that he was to add to the prime cost of the wheat, for fuel and wear of the oven, the price of two loaves; for the services of three men, he was to add to the price of the bread three halfpence; and for two boys one farthing; for the expenses attending the seal, one halfpenny; for yeast, one halfpenny; for candle, one halfpenny; for wood, threepence; and for wear and tear of the bolter, or bolting-sieve, one halfpenny.

In London, only farthing loaves and halfpenny loaves were allowed to be made, and it was a serious offence, attended by forfeiture and punishment, for a baker to be found selling loaves of any other size.

Loaves of this description seem to have been sometimes smuggled into market beneath a towel, or beneath the folds of the garments, under the arms. For the better identification of the latter, in case of necessity, each loaf was sealed with the baker's seal; and this from time to time, and at the Wardmotes more especially, was shewn to the alderman of the Ward, who exacted a fee for registering it in his book. In London, from time to time, at least once in the month, each baker's bread (or, at all events, some sample loaves) was taken from the oven by the officers of the assayers, who seem to have had the appellation of 'hutch-reves,' and duly examined as to quality and weight; it being enacted, however, in favour of the baker, that the scrutiny should always be made while the bread was hot; the 'assay,' or sample loaves, which were given out to the bakers periodically for their guidance as to weight and quality, being delivered to them while hot.

In the City of London, if the baker sold his bread himself by retail, he was particularly forbidden—for reasons apparently not easy now to be appreciated or ascertained—to sell it in his house, or before his house, or before the oven where it was baked; in fact, he was only to sell it in the 'King's Market,' and such market as was assigned to him, and not elsewhere. The foreign baker, however, or non-freeman, was allowed to store his bread for a single night. In the market, the loaves were exposed for sale in bread-baskets, or in boxes or chests, in those days known as 'hutches;' the latter be-

ing more especially employed in the sale of tourte bread. The principal days for the sale of bread in the London markets seem to have been Tuesday and Saturday.

Keepers of inns and lodging-houses were not allowed to bake bread. Private individuals who had no ovens of their own, were in the habit of sending their flour to be kneaded by their own servants at the 'moulding-boards' belonging to the bakers, the loaves being then baked in the baker's oven. Persons of respectability also had the right to enter bake-houses to see the bread made. Bakers were allowed, in London, to keep swine in their houses at times when other persons were forbidden, with a view probably to the more speedy consumption of the refuse bran, and as an inducement to the baker not to make his bread of too coarse a quality. The swine, however, were to be kept out of the public streets and lanes. No baker was allowed in the city to withdraw the servant or journeyman of another, nor was he to admit such a person into his service without a licence from the master whom he had previously served. The frauds and punishments of English bakers in bygone centuries, we may perhaps find an opportunity of making the subject of future investigation.

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

To learn some modern bread baking techniques, read Sharon Racine's *Simple Servings* on page 36.



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"If you've seen one squirrel, you've seen them all."

—Betty Meredith, 1957, *et seq.*

Anno Domini 2011 has slipped away into the mists of Times Past, as years do. We were taught in school that time is immutable, and that it has flowed by like a river at a constant rate since the universe was formed. As a child, my elders told me that happened 6,000 years ago; my third grade science book erased that number from my memory and inserted one million. By the time I got to college it had grown to a billion; in graduate school, George Gamow told me it was 4 billion, and several years later Stephen Hawking corrected me and raised it to 12 billion. Just to be sure I had it straight, I checked Wikipedia yesterday and found it had grown to 13.75 billion, plus or minus a few millennia.

The crowning assault on my bewildered brain came last night when I watched an interview of Lisa Randall, an attractive young woman who teaches physics at Harvard and is so smart it makes your head hurt to listen to her. She said if the Higgs boson is



discovered it may mean time is not constant after all. Or at least I think that's what she said... I'm not sure. In a way, I hope she's right; it would confirm what I have observed lately, that each year goes by faster than the previous one. Last year I was still writing 2010 on checks after my birthday, and that was in May. I despair to think how long it will take me to realize it is 2012.

I was thinking about time and all of that this morning when I came into the kitchen, but it didn't seem like a productive way to start the day, so I got some coffee and started searching for something less strenuous to think about. The bird feeder outside the window was no help. Last winter I was seeing from 15 to 20 species of birds in the yard each morning, and many of them were northern visitors such as purple finches, pine siskins, red-breasted nuthatches and tree sparrows, but this winter I haven't seen more than 12 species in one morning. Perhaps this is a reflection of increasing decrepitude on my part, but that's not the entire explanation. The Audubon Society held its annual Christmas Count last week, and the results were disappointing. I saw 36 species on the Gettysburg Battlefield, mainly because I was accompanied by a very pleasant young man whose eyes and ears are a lot better than mine. But the number of birds seen by the other groups participating in the count was significantly lower than it has been in previous years. Ecologists know that

many of the winter birds have irruptive populations... i.e., their numbers fluctuate from year to year... but with the environment under increasing stress, any decline in numbers is worrisome.

On this particular morning, I had an idea why there were no birds in sight. Two days ago I was watching several small birds pecking about when suddenly they all flew off in a panic. A second later a big Cooper's hawk sailed into the tree and perched just above the sunflower seed dispenser. It was a spectacular sight... almost two feet long, with a blue-gray back and wings, pale red stripes over a white breast, and long, curved talons designed for killing smaller birds. I called my wife; she was reluctant to leave the bacon on the stove and grumbled something about "if you've seen one bird, you've seen them all," but even she was impressed when she saw it. The hawk has been around all year; I saw it fairly often this summer and fall, usually stalking flocks of starlings or pigeons. This was the first time I'd seen it in the yard since last winter.

If the birds are having a bad year, the same cannot be said of squirrels; they're having a banner year. I can recognize a few of them; one has a broken tail, and another is larger and more aggressive than the rest. There are several smaller ones that were born last spring, and are still learning the fine points of nuisance. One of them stands out because it is solid black. The first time it came to the yard I called my wife away from the stove again, and got the same result as with the hawk, but when she finally came and saw the squirrel she agreed it was cute. She appears to like it better than the hawk, because she has told several people about it.

Years ago there was a story in *Life* magazine about someone in Michigan who gave a black squirrel to someone in a town in New England somewhere, and after a while that town became famous for having black squirrels everywhere. There may



have been some factual basis for the original story, but it got exaggerated beyond all reality and now whenever you hear of a black squirrel someone will say its ancestors came from Michigan. Since my black squirrel appeared last month, various people have told me there are populations of them in Frederick, Baltimore, Annapolis, Harrisburg and Washington, and they all came from Michigan. The truth of the matter is both simpler and more complicated. Hair color in animals is controlled by genes, and melanistic (black) animals occur as mutant forms in most species, just as their opposite forms, albinos, do.

Black foxes, wolves, leopards, or mice are produced by normal parents, as was the albino deer that my sister photographed in her yard several years ago. That's the simple part. The complicated part is how the genes work. Over a century ago, W. E. Castle discovered that the gray color of squirrels and mice results from each individual hair having bands of black, white and brown; that is why it is such excellent camouflage, and also why it is so hard for an artist to copy accurately. Dr. Castle discovered about six different genes which produce these colors; since then, nearly 100 different forms have been found. The production of the color bands on the hairs works like an assembly line in which each gene must do its part in an orderly sequence. If one gene is defective or mutated, then it can't do its part and the assembly line stops. In the case of albino animals, the defective gene occurs at the beginning of the process, so no color is produced, even though all of the other genes may be normal. Obviously, the gene that causes black animals must block the assembly line much later in the process.

Obviously? Well, maybe not. I used to take two class periods to explain it when I was teaching genetics, and I thought I understood it then. Now, I just read that the defect in the gene for melanism has been mapped, and a small section of its DNA was found to be missing. It seems that in the 14 years since I retired, time has speeded up and left me behind. The Preacher who wrote *Ecclesiastes* was wrong. There is something new under the sun, practically every day. So, enjoy the New Year. It will be different.

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



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IN THE COUNTRY

Bird feeding basics for the budget-minded

Russell Ryan
Conservation Chairperson
South Mountain Chapter of National Audubon Society

Suppose those who regularly feed birds have noticed that the prices of bird feed have increased since this time last year. I checked the prices out for myself and I was stunned. Black-oil Sunflower was nearly \$30.00 for a 50 pound bag. That is nearly double the price since last year. Throw in the economic issues of the day and many folks may decide to spend less on non-essentials such as bird food.

The following information is meant to provide some feeding basics for those species likely to be encountered between now and spring migration (does not include Tanagers, Orioles and Hummingbirds). I also hope to provide ideas for the budget minded.

Birds as with all wildlife require the 4 basics: food, water, shelter and a place to raise their young. When all of these items are provided, we refer to that as habitat. When humans feed birds, they are essentially supplementing the food component of their habitat. Feeding birds can be done year round but feeding is especially important when food supplies are sparse and during harsh weather conditions such as very cold and windy conditions and/or weather conditions like ice and snow accumulations. These conditions can make finding natural food sources much more difficult.

Fresh water should be provided. There are numerous ways to provide this critical requirement but the important thing is to maintain fresh water. Dealing with frozen water is the challenge. You could use an electric heater which gets costly; or you could simply replace the water when it freezes.

Types of Food

Sunflower - Black-oil sunflower seeds rank as the single best wild bird food. These small, thin-shelled seeds are easy to open and are rich in fat and protein. Virtually every bird that visits backyard bird feeders eats black-oil seeds. They work well by themselves or as the primary ingredient in quality mixes.

Cracked corn - Cracked corn is inexpensive and high in carbohydrates and fat but low in protein.

Nyjer (thistle) - This specialty seed type is preferred by a few species such as the finches. At a cost of \$1.00 per pound, you best assure that the seed is provided in a specialty feeder.

Suet /peanut butter- Suet can be offered easily by purchasing the square blocks at most retail stores for about \$1.00 each. One can also purchase suet from the butcher. Peanut butter is another fat/



The hanging feeder in the foreground and the covered ground feeder in the background attract different types of bird. Anyone who is handy with a saw and hammer can build three of the covered ground feeders for the price of one store-bought hanging feeder.

protein substitute but I've heard that peanut butter prices are expected to increase as well.

White proso millet- Millet is attractive and utilized by ground-feeding birds such as doves, sparrows and juncos.

Mixed Bird Feed - If buying a mix, look carefully at the contents of the mix and the percentage of each type of seed. A mix with mostly sunflower and white proso millet is best. Many of the other seed types are generally not eaten which results in waste and more spoilage and cleaning of feeders.

Calcium and grit - These overlooked supplements are essential to a bird's health and survival. Try providing crushed oyster shells, play sand and egg shells (disinfected). This is simple and inexpensive.

To minimize disease and un-

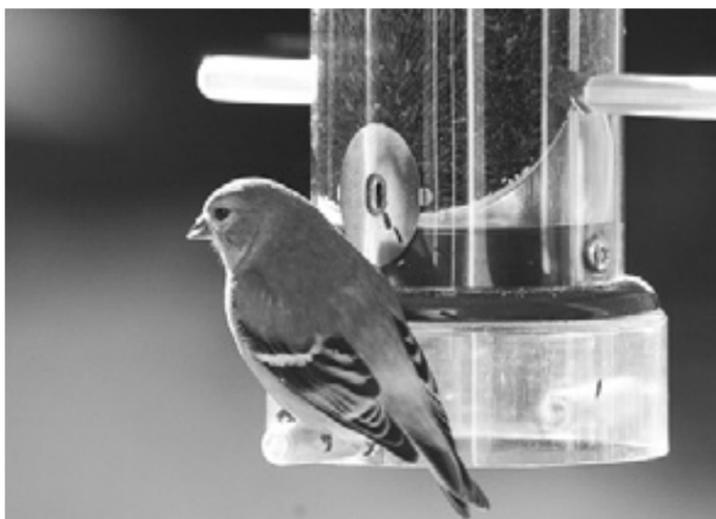
wanted visitors such as rodents, keep the area under the feeders cleaned of spoiled seed, wipe off feeders and discard wet and spoiled seed when it accumulates in bottom of feeders. Remove excess snow accumulations from under the feeders during snow events.

When trying to keep feed costs down, offer suet and a cracked corn/black oil sunflower mix. These three foods will not be wasted and will provide for a diversity of species.

Suet is cheap and once it is rendered (melted) it can be formed into molds and you can add other feed types such as sunflower.

Types of Feeders

When feeding birds, one must understand how certain birds feed. For instance, sparrows and doves



are ground or platform feeders. They are not equipped to feed from a suet feeder or a nyjer feeder. Another example would be a cardinal or grosbeak cannot feed from a suet feeder or a nyjer feeder. All birds have preferences for the type of food and how that food is presented. Keep in mind that a bird's bill and feet type dictates what type of food and or feeder type it can feed from.

Common feeders available are tube feeders, hopper feeders and platform feeders. Using these types will provide a diverse presentation of food for a variety of species.

Making your own feeders is an inexpensive option. Provide feed to bird by broadcasting the seed on the ground or provide the food by purchasing some type of platform feeder (make sure you provide drainage holes).

Suet feeder - simply place your rendered suet in a hole in a log (very natural) or wrap the suet with twine and hang from branch.

Peanut butter - I like to spread my peanut butter and sunflower mix on pine cones or other rough surface or use a spoon and stuff into a pre-drilled hole in wooden log/branch.

Nyjer - Inexpensive mesh bags can be used or you can recycle a plastic soda bottle and cut your own slits and provide the perches.

Hopper feeders - These common feeder types can be easily made from recycled products. Assure that drainage is provided and a means of cleaning these and all feeders.

Shelter/Cover - One of the common mistakes made with bird feeding is the failure to provide adequate shelter not only from the weather but from lurking predators, such as the cat and the Sharp-shinned Hawk or Cooper's Hawk. To deal with weather, try to protect your feeders from the wind. As for predators, keep the feeders in an open area but assure that cover is nearby. Evergreen trees are great for



protecting the feeders from both wind and predators. My feeder placement is not ideal but I provided temporary shelter simply by recycling the various families' Christmas trees. Using a post hole digger, I dug a hole and placed a plastic pipe within that hole so that in the winter time, I simply cut the lower branches off the tree and slip the tree into the hole with sleeve. I now have an instant evergreen that if placed properly they will provide shelter from the elements and from predation.

Birds which are likely to be encountered at local feeders include: Mourning Dove, White-throated Sparrow, Bluejay, Chickadee, White-breasted Nuthatch, Cardinal, Tufted Titmouse, Downy Woodpecker, House Finch, Gold Finch and Junco.

Some of the specialty birds that one can hope to attract include: Evening Grosbeak, Redpoll, Pine Siskin and Purple Finch. These birds are considered nomadic and sporadic in their movements from the north to the mid - Atlantic states.

The average property owner can indeed enjoy bird feeding by simply following the information above. When people understand the bird's requirements and then offer those requirements you will enjoy feeding our feathered friends. REMEMBER: IF YOU PROVIDE IT THEY WILL FIND IT AND THEY WILL THANK YOU!

Useful web sites:
www.birdfeeding.org
www.projectwildbird.org
www.birdsource.org
www.birds.cornell.edu



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VILLAGE IDIOT

Did I mention, I love the city!

Jack Deatherage, Jr.

The Texan homesteader, the Mad One (Simona) and my wife have long been after me to get over my reluctances, especially the ones about dining with people and venturing into cities. The Texan and I had an email exchange that left me promising I'd go with cousin Luke and the Mad One the next time they asked us to ride along, be it to the Russian deli down around Baltimore, or some estate garden open to the public in Pennsylvania. (I don't recall what argument the Texan used, only that I agreed to go.)

The Mad One and I have also had a long talk about what we would do if we ever found ourselves wealthy enough to do as we pleased. She would sling a pack over a shoulder and walk about this rock sampling the cuisines of every hamlet, village, town and city she could reach. She would stop at every museum, theater and crafter's shop to learn as much about humanity as she could absorb.

I would erect a shack on the edge of the acre garden, complete with a camera, a microscope, a computer (plus all the necessities to garden and to live as comfortably as one can in a shack) and learn that bit of ground in as much detail as possible. Rarely would I leave the acre to move among people. (How long Wanda would put up with such behavior I haven't bothered to ascertain, as I doubt I'll ever be wealthy enough to have to worry about it.)

The trio of females decided if I'm determined to further remove myself from human contact I should at least know what-all I'm giving up. To indulge them (to silence, briefly, their harangues) I agreed. Next thing I know we're off on the Red Line to the National Geographic Museum in Washington DC to take in an exhibit of an Anglo-Saxon horde of "worked" gold, garnet inlaid in sword pommels and crosses. A secondary excursion was planned for Union Station where I was to be introduced to the varied shops and cuisines that fill that

space. All the while, I'd have to function among strangers dressed outlandishly and speaking with accents foreign to me.

I donned my best pair of comfortable sneakers, the least work stained pair of blue jeans I have, a new T-shirt, my fraying Army field jacket and my newest JCA (June's Custom Archery) baseball cap. I was ready to face the weirdoes of The Big City!

What I wasn't ready for was my being the weirdest thing I saw all that day. It started with the Red Line. Gods know what century the rail cars were made in, but I don't think it was the 19th, let alone the 20th or 21st. No normal sized man of six and a half feet in height and 265 pounds of bone and flesh was ever meant to sit in those gawd awful seats. The escalators were another problem for me. I had all I could do to stand upright on them while the people around me actually walked up and down them as if they weren't moving. Probably the best thing I can say about the Red Line system was it delivered me to the ground above. No surprise that DC reminded me of Baltimore, Norfolk, Miami, Philadelphia and Richmond. A city is a city is a pity, as far as I can tell.

The museum was mostly a disappointment. I hadn't been in one since 1967 and I recalled that one being much better lighted. Had it not been for a couple of guys in period custom and a couple of videos for the patrons to watch I'd have been angry at being charged \$8 for what little was on display that I could see, barely.

We left the NG museum and entered a courtyard where a couple of guys had falcons on display as they lectured a small crowd of camera wielders. We listened for a few moments then crossed the courtyard to take in a photo display of sea life, which was more interesting than the Anglo-Saxon horde.

Then it was back to the Red Line and on to Union Station. This time I took a seat next to an unconscious Santa (I wondered if he might be dead, not that it mattered) because

the seat afforded me some much needed legroom. (Santa awoke when the Mad One took a picture of us. He glanced at me, rolled his eyes and went back to sleep.)

Following a hungry Luke and ravenous Simona into the station's food court, Wanda and I were surprised by all the offered cuisines. "There is food here from every where. Take your time and see what is available. Whatever your choice, it will be good." Simona told us.

I asked Wanda to get me a diet cola and sipped it opposite Simona who glared at me over her sandwich. I explained that I was as close to being in Hell as I ever hoped to get. The place was simply alien to me. Even the cola tasted strange. I was uncomfortable being underground with no sure exit to the surface and lots of people between me and where I thought fresh air might be. I allowed that little I'd seen or experienced so far had endeared me to the city. I allowed that no normal, sane person would willingly venture into such a place a second time short of being threatened with death. I also allowed I might rejoin the Catholics so's to avoid going to Hell when I die, having sampled a tiny bit of it already. (The Mad One allowed I might not have time to repent.)

We eventually reached the ground level of Union Station and I relaxed a bit once I saw windows to the outside. Luke and I took to exploring the station and watching people, mostly females who appeared in every skin color and form of dress, while Wanda and Simona sought out Simona's favorite shops.

Finally, back to the Red Line and Simona's car. As we settled in for the drive home, I asked where we'd be venturing next and when. In the stunned silence that followed, I admitted I'd had a good time and wanted to try some other city, or museum, or both.

What I didn't mention was most everything enjoyable I experienced that day I could have gotten closer to home. Still, going into the city has convinced me my place is in the country. I thank the women for get-



Author seated to the left.

ting me to look at what I plan to reject. I did enjoy the day though, from being cussed in Bulgarian, twice, to chatting with a Jamaican panhandler.

I have some vague feel of what Simona and Luke find attractive

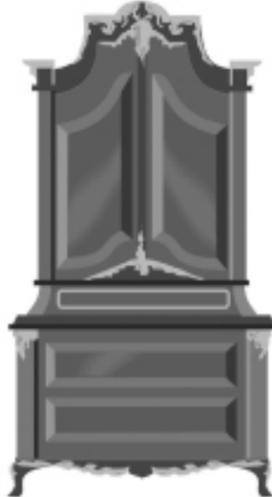
about cities. I wonder if my taking them on an in-depth tour of the acre would give either of them a clue as to what I find attractive there?

To read past editions of the Village Idiot visit the author's section of Emmitsburg.net.

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PETS LARGE AND SMALL

OK, here's a doozy of a story for you - you may want to sit down

Jennifer Vanderau,
Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter

We had a gentleman arrive at the shelter looking for a pet, claiming that he would provide an excellent home, both financially and emotionally stable, but he had decided somewhere along the line that he didn't want to pay the adoption fee.

Stick with me. This gets unreal.

He made the announcement to three different staff members that he wasn't going to pay more than \$20 for the lucky dog (she said sarcastically) he had selected from our kennels.

The above mentioned three different staff members politely explained to the gentleman (I'm using that term terribly loosely by now) that the adoption fee for the dog remained at \$105, regardless of his claims of providing the perfect home for \$20.

Here's the thing. Every animal at this shelter has already been spayed or neutered, has been started on their vaccinations, will receive a microchip for permanent identification upon adoption and has been treated for fleas, ticks, worms, earmites and the like as needed. Cats have been tested for feline leukemia and FIV and are free from those diseases.

Our adoption fees are \$120 for puppies six months and younger, \$105 for dogs six

months and older, \$80 for kittens six months and younger and \$70 for cats six months and older.

Anyway you slice it, for all that we've put into these animals, those prices are a serious deal, and quite frankly don't always cover what it really costs to care for these animals the way we do.

It would be nice if we didn't have to charge a fee and I'm sure we would get a lot more animals homes, but we'd also be out of business pretty fast. We have adoption fees to try to cover the cost of the care we give these babies and we try to make them as fair as possible.

To think that someone would walk into the doors of an animal shelter and believe he could "bargain down the price" simply boggles my mind. I mean, my word, this isn't a used car lot, for crying out loud. These animals don't have a blue book value, you know?

Indeed, as our shelter manager rather succinctly told this gentleman, "These animals aren't broken. They're perfectly capable of love and devotion and good behavior and in the right home, they'll prove that."

The majority of these animals are already spending their days in cages because someone along the way gave up on them. Didn't want them any more for whatever reason. Didn't bother to



Smooth is the game....Rufis is his name! This black-and-white boy is a gentle fellow looking for someone to adore him. He's a very senior boy—probably older than 10. Rufis has huge green eyes and shiny black fur, with just a dab of white on his chest. We're really hoping someone can open their heart to this adorable older guy.

search when they got lost. Decided they just weren't worth the effort anymore.

The last thing any of them need is someone who thinks so little of them that they believe they can haggle down the price for them before they even get them home.

Also, I couldn't help but wonder exactly how financially stable a home this gentleman could really offer if he wasn't willing

to go a penny higher than \$20. How could we even be sure the dog would receive the necessary vet care, let alone quality food? I mean, what are the chances he'd go into a vet clinic and announce "I'm not paying more than \$35 for that procedure." 'Cause, that's really not the way it works.

It costs a lot to keep an animal for the duration of their lives and someone who isn't

even willing to pay an adoption fee is suspect to me in their ability to provide a good home.

Obviously, this fellow wasn't taking no for an answer and continued to argue his point, saying time and time again that he wouldn't pay more than the \$20 bill apparently burning a hole in his pocket.

The kicker is the pup he wanted was just the dearest dog. Sweet, unassuming, a real treasure for someone who knows how to look for the true value an animal can bring.

Eventually (this went on for a lot longer than you would have imagined possible), we had had more than enough and our shelter manager finally said, "Sir I'm confident we will find someone who is willing to pay \$105 to love this sweet dog for the rest of her life."

And the perfect slice of poetic-justice pie came when, I'm not kidding, a man stepped up from the corner of the room and said, "I'd be more than willing to pay the adoption fee. In fact, I came here specifically to see this pretty girl."

A screenwriter couldn't have scripted that better. I swear you could hear all of us in our heads go, "Yes!!"

Our gentleman friend (who had a lady in town -- what a lucky woman! -- again, sarcasm) eventually left the shelter, not too terribly pleased with the course of events.

Honestly, if I live to be 80, I don't think I'll ever understand people. The general population never ceases to amaze me. And when you throw the well-being of animals into the overall craziness of the human race, that's when the tales can get truly shocking.

For the animal-lovers out there, rest assured that the Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter will continue to fight, speak for and protect our furry friends. We work hard every day to make sure the right animal goes to the right home where he or she will be loved and get the best care for the rest of his or her life.

Even if it means upsetting "gentlemen" like that one.

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

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PETS LARGE AND SMALL

Farriers: No hoof, no horse

Dr. Kimberly Brokaw
Walkersville Veterinary Clinic

A good farrier is worth his or her weight in gold. A bad farrier can drive the owners crazy and can permanently cripple a horse. Despite the critical importance of farriers to the well being of horses, in the U.S. farriers are not required to go to school to learn how to shoe a horse. While there are schools that teach horse shoeing, the schools greatly differ in content and quality. A few schools offer a simple weekend class before declaring their students competent to shoe horses. Other programs require years of training and supervision. Farriers are not required to pass a national licensing exam in the US, or even to get a state license. This obviously leads to vastly different skill levels among farriers.

Years of school leaves an equine veterinarian knowing how he or she wants a horse shod, yet without the strength and knowledge to shoe a horse. Very few veterinarians possess the skills to actually shoe a horse. This allows for the creation of an environment where vets and farriers are frequently at odds with each other. One has the theoretical knowledge of how to shoe a horse and the other has the skill to actually do it. I am reminded of an encounter several years ago when my farrier was working on another veterinarian's horse. The vet kept telling him how to shoe the horse. "No take a little more off the heel. Now the toe. Put a wedge on the shoe. No not that much." That went on until my farrier turned on the other vet, threw his equipment at him and said "You do it. I'm leaving" and got in his truck and drove off. Luckily he returned later and finished the job as the vet had never shaped a shoe or nailed one to a horse. The health of the poor horse would have been at risk if the veterinarian had tried to put shoes on the horse without ap-



A properly fitted shoe takes intelligence, skill, patience, love of horses, and practice, practice, and more practice.

propriate farrier supervision.

Because veterinarians usually don't do shoeing, they often have unrealistic expectations of what a farrier can accomplish when given a horse with neglected feet. Farriers often have little respect for the skills of veterinarians, as it is hard to respect someone who "consults" about a job that they cannot actually perform. Veterinarians are sometimes reluctant to listen to farrier opinions because farriers lack formal education and licensure. This often leads to conflict between veterinarians and farriers, with the owner and the horse left to sort out the battles.

When I decided to write about the topic of farriers, one of my bosses asked me not to write the article. He asked me if I really wanted to alienate any more farriers than I already had. (That comment related to my first 6 months in Maryland almost 4 years ago when I went through a new, supposedly good farrier every 5 weeks/shoe cycle before declaring them all incompetent and driving my horses down to Virginia to get shod (the same place

Mike Hillman, the editor of this paper gets his horse shod at!) I have since found a farrier who has come to my house for the past few years and does a great job.) While at first I thought I would take my boss's advice, I was speaking with Mike over a chili dinner when he declared that I should write my next article about shoeing horses.

I politely pointed out to him that farriers tend to be big strong burly guys and, as I was not, perhaps I didn't want to further irritate them by publishing an article in which I critique their work. Mike laughed, told me to make it educational, and write to the article. He also asked me to take pictures of horse hooves to include in the article to illustrate both good and bad farrier work. As this was decided only 10 days before my article was due, I was nervous that I wouldn't be able to find a picture of really bad farrier work in time for the article. My fears were unfounded as the next day I was at a farm when an opportunity to take a picture of bad farrier work presented itself.

Within the veterinary com-

munity and the farrier community, there is little agreement on what constitutes a perfect shoeing. There is agreement about what constitutes an abysmally bad shoeing. The idea of a good basic shoeing is to trim the hoof so the angle of the hoof approximates the angle of the horses' pastern. The toe of the foot often needs more trimming than the heel to get that ankle. The shoe needs to be big enough so there is room for the heels to grow and still have shoe under them. The amount of room can be difficult to determine for each horse. If the farrier does a beautiful job, but the horse catches his hind foot on the end of the front shoe, that beautiful new shoe will be ripped off. Balancing the foot is also important.

The right foot in picture to the right is poorly shod. The heels are underrun/collapsed and completely lacking in support as well as being too tall and in need of a trim. By using too small of a shoe, greater stresses were applied on the heel making them prone to collapse. By keeping the heel elevated, the coffin joint was forced into flexion. The shoe was too

small for the foot, the toe hadn't been shortened enough and the right foot was trimmed to a completely different shape than the left foot. While the left foot has a fairly upright and short toe, the right's toe is too long creating strain on the flexor tendons and suspensory ligament. Not surprisingly this horse is lame despite being fairly young and hardly ridden. While the blame for this poor shoeing could be related to an owner leaving shoes on for too long, in this case the horse had been shod less than a week ago. Most horses need new shoes at 5 or 6 week intervals. A farrier cannot be blamed for "bad shoeing" if the owner only has him come out every 3 months.

Next month: The ideal shoeing job.



Blacksmithing is one of the few remaining unregulated trades. Anyone can hang out their shingle and claim to be a Farrier. It is possible to learn the skills of a Farrier in school, but the best Farriers often learn by observing more experienced Farriers. It's never too early to begin learning!

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THE MASTER GARDENER

Gardening in Winter?

Mary Ann Ryan
Adams County Master Gardener

Maybe you are not digging in the dirt, but winter is the best time to check out your garden structure and browse the internet, catalogs, and books for gardening ideas. If a new gardener or one of experience, January is the best time of year to really dig into garden design.

As a seasoned gardener, one would think that a time would come when new designs, new spaces and new plant or ornamental additions would come to a halt. However, just the opposite seems to happen. I don't have a gardener friend that isn't always thinking about the next season, what to improve, move or change.

We've been lucky to have a warm December, allowing us to still dig in the soil. Last minute bulbs, transplanting and other garden chores could still be accomplished. However, even though warmer than average temperatures are predicted for January through March, we are still indoors most of the time, longing to be digging in the dirt. And on those warmer days, we can take the time to go into the garden and look at its

structure. Without leaves on the trees, it's very easy to see where our holes are, where evergreens could be added, or where there may be too much growth or plant material. Plant structure, like branching habit, twisted stems, drooping branches are easily seen during the winter season.

Hard structures like arbors, statues, and pergolas, are often formed in the imagination of gardeners in January. As we take our inventory, look through the books and on the internet, garden additions and designs are formed. Committing it to paper is our next step. This gives us the opportunity to move things around, search better flow, and determine special uses of the garden.

After determining what needs to happen, whether it's adding empty space to the garden, constructing something new to delineate an area, or focusing on more color and texture, then you can think about naming plants. This is where research becomes most important. The right plant for the right place will make your gardening successful. Knowing the soil, moisture, winds and sunlight will narrow your plant selection, making those decisions that much eas-



Worried that it still may be too cold? Try using row covers. These simple "blankets" will warm up the soil and give you a jump start as early as two weeks!

ier. A rainy or snowy day makes for a great time to look over the catalogs and gardening books for plant lists that can work for you and your environment. Then when April and May rolls around, you'll be armed with a wealth of knowledge, a plan, and a plant and supply list to visit garden centers.

In addition to garden design in the winter, this becomes a time to plan your vegetable or fruit garden. These gardens require full sun and well-drained soil. Be sure you can provide a minimum of 6 hours for successful crops. Browse the seed catalogs. You can learn of new selections and introductions, learn of disease resistant hybrids, as well as learn about tried and true heirloom varieties.

These gardens can be designed in many ways, from raised garden beds, to fenced-in areas, to a tilled area in the sunniest spot in your yard. Since you have already taken a close look at your garden space, you'll be easily able to determine what type of edible garden will

fit into your overall design. And, hopefully, you'll know what kind of critters may visit your garden as well, since this could determine if some type of fencing will be necessary to protect your vegetables and fruit.

When planning the vegetable garden, keep in mind the types of crops you want to grow and whether they are cold or warm season plants. You can start as early as March with cold season crops, depending on the weather. (Be sure the soil isn't too wet when planting out transplants or seeds. Wet soil will rot seeds and roots.) Crops such as peas, potatoes, lettuce, spinach, broccoli, cabbage, and cauliflower can be planted as early as mid-March.

Worried that it still may be too cold? Try using row covers. These simple "blankets" will warm up the soil and give you a jump start as early as two weeks! You can also start your warm season crops inside from seeds by April. Tomatoes, cucumbers, and zucchini can typically be started by mid-April

for transplants by mid-May.

If you are looking at starting a fruit garden, be sure to order your plants early in the year. Spend the month of January researching varieties and sizes and place your plant order by February. Fruit trees go quickly, so if you need a particular variety, the earlier the better. There are many varieties that have been recently introduced that are disease resistant with good flavor.

Remember when selecting your trees to look at the size of the rootstock, since the size is controlled by the rootstock. M9 and Bud 9 are the smallest rootstock, making them ideal for the home gardener. However, staking is important when growing these trees, as they cannot stand without additional support. Research the many staking methods. Trellises can be easily used for support, as well as fencing and walls.

In addition to fruit trees, blueberries, grapes, raspberries and strawberries can be grown in a garden. Many of these plants can be used in the landscape, as they have ornamental value as well as edible value. However, locating these plants in a single area allows soil preparation, maintenance and harvesting to be easily managed.

Blueberries, unlike brambles, require a low soil pH, so be sure you test your soil. Knowing what needs to change before planting will help in the growth and health of the plants. Grapes, since they are vines, will require a trellis of some type. This can be ornamental or conventional, depending on your needs or use of space. Strawberries can be used as a groundcover, or just planted as a crop for production.

Before starting a fruit garden, be sure you know how to maintain and manage the plants. Most need some type of spray program, wheth-

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THE MASTER GARDENER

The Small Town Gardener

My Winter Manifesto

MB Willburn

Yesterday, while leafing through one of those meaty gardening volumes that one reads at this time of year with a large glass of red wine in one hand and a box of tissues in the other, I happened upon the following thought by Dr. Stefan Buczacki, a noted English garden writer, broadcaster and horticulturalist:

"I am often rather saddened when I visit people and their gardens at winter. But not for the most obvious reasons: it is not the overcast sky, the rain, sleet or snow, the biting cold or any of the other features of winter's well-known charm that I find depressing. It is because all too often the garden itself has been forgotten; put away from thought, heart and deed with the last setting of the summer's sun".

If the good doctor was trying to evoke a guilt-response from me, he did not succeed. With all due respect (and admittedly, much is due) I flatly refuse to be shamed for feeling disenchanted by frozen earth and blackened foliage. Yet they are out there in the hundreds, these purveyors of poppy-juice fantasies – all telling us how we should change our attitudes towards the winter garden. Evidently they would have us throwing parties on ice caked patios...exclaiming gleefully over the way that frozen soil smells of nothing at all... and joyfully rhapsodizing over expensive winter casualties and the occasional burst water main. Isn't it fun to look out over your freeze-dried evergreens and glimpse the squirrels nibbling on a store of daffodil bulbs they dug up in November?

I'm very sorry to bring this to everyone's attention, but I'm afraid that the Emperor is naked.

Let's examine Dr. Buczacki's assertion that the garden has been 'forgotten.' Nothing could be further from the truth. Last season's drought/flood schizophrenia could not be better seared upon my memory than if 'twere branded there with a hot iron. If anything, I am trying to forget it ever happened.

And 'put away from thought, heart and deed?' The promise of next season's garden drifts seductively in and out of my heart and dreams like a steamy love affair – I would like nothing better than to consummate this relationship, however there is the little matter of earth so frozen it will not accept a pickaxe much less my tender caresses. Believe me, the minute the first robin sounds the all-clear I'll be out there fast-



er than Romeo on Juliet.

And just for the record, I was standing in the garden up to my neck in compost long after the last setting of the summer's sun. I've got the chillblains to prove it.

Against Dr. Buczacki and all of the other hard-core winter enthusiasts out there, I stand bravely upon my opinion and confidently offer the following credentials: I am not a fair weather gardener. I do not wait for the mercury to sail blithely into the high sixties before venturing a tentative toe over the threshold. I do not use my garden simply as an elaborate backdrop for a show-stopping Spring Fling with devastatingly intelligent guests and three kinds of pasta salad. I love my garden. I relish my garden. I have evergreens and I know how to use them. But during the long and somewhat gloomy progression of an East Coast winter, I cannot pretend that all is sweetness, joy and light in a barren wasteland where angels currently fear to tread.

It takes a greater man than I to do so, Dr. Buczacki, a greater man than I.



Remember to look at the size of the rootstock when selecting your trees since the size of the tree is controlled by the rootstock.

er you choose organic or conventional methods. Diseases and insects are common problems with fruiting plants. You will also want to consider the pruning of these plants, as all fruits have particular pruning requirements for best production.

As you can see, there is lots of gardening that can be done in January. It just doesn't require you to get

dirty! Start by walking through the garden, taking inventory, creating a drawing, and researching plants and your winter will fly on by! Before you know it, spring will be here and you'll be so well prepared that you'll be able to jump right into it!

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

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CIVIL WAR HISTORY

The Confederate soldier during the 1862 Maryland campaign

By John A. Miller

In the previous two columns I focused on the Union soldier. I wanted to start with the Union soldier first because everyone will be first to say that the Confederate soldier was worse off than that of the Union soldier. But, as I pointed out, many Union soldiers were ill-equipped, and in several cases their uniforms were just as ragged as the Confederate soldier. Even though the Union soldier had his fair share of hardships, the Confederate soldier during this period of the war also had his.

During the 1862 Maryland Campaign, many eyewitness accounts about the Confederate soldier were recorded by the citizens of Frederick, Maryland. The only known photograph of Confederate soldiers was taken while the Confederates occupied the city of Frederick. The photograph contains many great details, and provides some much needed insight on the average Confederate soldier during the Maryland Campaign. There are others taken on the Antietam Battlefield of dead Confederates, where close shots of the dead bare witness to their uniforms and equipment. One thing to keep in mind is that the majority of the Confederate army fought hard during the summer of 1862. However, there were several newer brigades

of soldiers that did not see action at Manassas. General Thomas Drayton's brigade of South Carolina and Georgia soldiers were still wearing the uniforms that were issued to them in June, while in Charleston, South Carolina. They had not seen any combat with the Army of Northern Virginia since their arrival to Richmond. This would soon change.

During this period of the war, the Confederate soldier was receiving clothing from three main sources. The Commutation System, where the soldier was reimbursed for his uniform, the Clothing Bureau, known as the Depot System, based out of Richmond, and you also had states such as North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia issuing clothing to their own troops. With no standard regulations across all three of these sources, this caused the Confederate soldier to lack an appearance of uniformity. In addition to these sources manufacturing garments other factors in the variance of uniforms were that some were made as frock coats and others, shell jackets. All were made of various materials such as jeans-cloth, cassimere and satinette, and in addition to that different patterns were used in the manufacture of the garments. What unit the soldier was with and where he was at the time determined the type of garment that the soldier



received. For the most part, the Confederate soldier was well armed and equipped. These soldiers bore scars from a season of hard campaigning, and if you carefully study the photographs from the Library of Congress, in some you will see where the sleeves are shredded to pieces from wear.

After their stunning victory at 2nd Manassas in Virginia, Lee turned his attention northward, and plans for the Maryland Campaign began. As the Confederate army forded the Potomac River on September 4th-7th, they began marching toward Frederick, Maryland. William Judkins of the 22nd Georgia described the march from the Potomac River to Frederick, Maryland: "We marched through several towns in Maryland and through fine farms and stopped at Frederick City, Md., on the Monocacy river, remained there one day and washed our clothes in the river and put them on wet. We were trying to drown some of the lice of which we had plenty. We had not washed

our clothes in about a month, and the bugs were getting unbearable."

Confederate soldier David E. Johnston wrote about his uniform during the Maryland Campaign. "A musket, cartridge box with forty rounds of cartridges, cloth haversack, blanket and canteen made up the Confederate soldier's equipment. No man was allowed a change of clothing, nor could he have carried it. A gray cap, jacket, trousers and colored shirt - calico mostly - made up a private's wardrobe. When a clean shirt became necessary, we took off the soiled one, went to the water, usually without soap, gave it a little rubbing, and if the sun was shining, hung the shirt on a bush to dry, while the wearer sought the shade to give the shirt a chance. The method of carrying our few assets was to roll them in a blanket, tying each end of the roll, which was then swung over the shoulder. At night this blanket was unrolled and wrapped around its owner, who found a place on the ground with his cartridge box for a pillow. We cooked but little, hav-

ing usually little to cook. The frying pan was in use, if we had one."

The first portions of the Confederate army marched into Frederick on September 6th. Several pro-southern citizens of Frederick could not believe that the victorious Confederate army that they heard about was so poorly clad. Many of the stunned citizens just turned their backs on Johnny Reb. Because of the hard campaigning in Virginia, the veteran Confederate soldier had not had time to take care of himself with regards to hygiene, or be issued a new uniform. Many storekeepers could not bare the stench that came from these soldiers. An unnamed citizen of Frederick City noted: "I have never seen a mass of such filthy strong-smelling men. Three in a room would make it unbearable, and when marching in column along the street the smell from them was most offensive... The filth that pervades them is most remarkable... They have no uniforms, but are all well armed and equipped, and have become so inured to hardships that they care but little for any of the comforts of civilization... They are the roughest looking set of creatures I ever saw, their features, hair and clothing matted with dirt and filth, and the scratching they kept up gave warrant of vermin in abundance." Another observer described the Confederates simply as "a lean and hungry set of wolves."

Jacob Engelbrecht, a civilian wrote that "Many [Confederate soldiers] were barefooted and some had one shoe & one barefoot-they really looked "Ragged and tough." The first 8 or 10 thousand got a tolerable good supply of clothing and shoes and boots but the stores and shops were soon sold out." This forced many shops to close their doors. Many of the Confederate soldiers paid for these items using Confederate C-notes, which were worthless in Maryland.

D. Lewis Steiner, who was in Frederick during the Confederate occupation of the city noted: "At 4 o'clock this morning the Rebel army began to move from our town, Jackson's force taking the advance. The movement continued until 8 o'clock p.m. occupying 16 hours. The most liberal calculation could not give them more

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VETERANS PROFILE

James Donald Rodgers, Sgt.

Morse Intercept School at Ft. Devens, MA

Assignment - Army Security Agency, 8606 Field Station, Herzo Base, Herzogenaurach Germany

My experiences in the Army during the Korean War were much more pleasant than most veterans of that era. Herzo Base was a former German Luftwaffe Base for fighter aircraft assigned to protect Nurnberg, about 20 km distance. The only war damage to the base was the destruction of one of the motor pool garages by a British bomber lost in bad weather.

In 1953, the town of Herzogenaurach was also small; about the size of Emmitsburg, and you could easily walk the mile from Herzo Base to town and take the train into Nurnberg, the largest

nearby city. Now, when I look on the internet at pictures of Herzogenaurach, it looks like a metropolis. This is due to the fact that it is the headquarters for both Adidas and Puma footwear and athletic equipment.

During my tour of duty in Germany, I was able to take leave and see many of the European capitals but my only harrowing experience was the flight home -- We had to go to Frankfurt to catch a MATS flight home but, due to hurricanes off the coast of the U.S., many GI's were waiting for flights. After five days, we were assigned a flight and we took off about 10:30 AM in a C-54 Sky-master. The crew had been awake too long to fly directly to the U.S. so we headed for the Azores. We landed in the Azores, had a good dinner and good nights sleep, got back on the plane and tax-

ied to the end of the runway. The flight engineer came back and kept looking out of the windows at the engines. After several minutes he announced that three out of the four engines were missing to badly and we would have to return to the terminal. I don't know what the mechanics did but, after about two hours, we got back on the plane and took off. In a short while it started getting very hot in the plane and we then found out the heating system could not be shut off. The pilot said we should remove the plastic inserts in the porthole type windows he would fly at about 500 ft to get fresh air and that we should keep an eye out for a reported downed aircraft. We never saw a downed aircraft and I sometimes think that the pilot was just trying to give us something to do to ease the tension among us.

Again, since we were so late taking off, the crew had been awake too long so we headed for Gander Newfoundland, landed, had a nice dinner and a good nights sleep. We boarded the plane the next morning but the pilot could only start one out of the four engines. Mechanics climbed onto the wings, did something and finally got all the engines started. As we pulled away from the terminal the mechanics were shouting, "I hope you make it in that bucket of bolts!!!"

Finally, we landed at McGuire AFB in New Jersey. As we were getting off the pilot said, "I am going to Charleston if anyone wants to go along!!" Needless to say, no one took him up on the offer.

We were bussed to Fort Dix arriving about 7PM Thursday evening and, immediately, saw that the guys we had left in Frankfurt had arrived at Dix two days before. Anyhow, after signing in, the Sgt. said that we had



72 hour passes and that we would be discharged Monday morning. That was great news as we still had two months to serve on the enlistment.

After discharge, I used my GI Bill to get a degree at night while working for Johns Hopkins Radiation Lab during the day.

In 1958, I married M. Dolores Topper from Emmitsburg and we have four children; Michael, Dennis, Michele and Curtis.

continued from previous page.

than 64,000 men. Over 3,000 negroes must be included in the number... They had arms, rifles, muskets, sabers, bowie-knives, dirks, etc. They were supplied, in many instances, with knapsacks, haversacks, canteens, etc., and they were manifestly an integral portion of the Southern Confederacy army. They were seen riding on horses and mules, driving wagons, riding on caissons, in ambulances, with the staff of generals and promiscuously mixed up with all the Rebel horde."

The above statement may be referring to the soldiers of General John B. Hood's Division, primarily the Texas Brigade. If you take into account the Spanish ethnic background of soldiers from Texas, plus add the dust of the long march to Frederick, and exposure to the elements of the sun, those factors may have given the writer an incorrect impression of those soldiers. In the distance a Texas soldier who has a dark complexion, and was dirty from the elements may be mistaken as being African-American. Keep in mind that many African-Americans in the Confederate army were drivers, cooks, and servants, and most likely unarmed. Several people of Frederick could not believe the condition of the Texans. One elderly individual looked upon a Texan soldier and simply said "Lord bless your dirty, ragged souls."

By September 9th, General Robert E. Lee issued Special Orders Number 191 dividing the Confederate army into several sections. With this, almost two-thirds of the Confederate army would besiege Harper's Ferry. By September 13th, the rear guard of the Confederate soldiers were skirmishing in the streets as they marched out of Frederick.

As the Confederate army marched out of Frederick, many of barefooted soldiers marched upon the National Pike. The macadamized road tore their feet up, forcing many to march along side of the road. Shotwell, a

Confederate soldier in the 8th Virginia Infantry, was shoeless and could not keep up with Longstreet's wing as it marched to Hagerstown. In Funkstown, a civilian offered his boots to the soldier but they were four sizes to big. The soldier gave them back realizing that the oversized boots would make his feet blister and bleed even more.

On September 14th, 1862, the Battle of South Mountain would erupt. During the battle George Fahm, a Georgia soldier who fought at Fox's Gap, describes the condition of his uniform after the Maryland Campaign. Sergeant Fahm later wrote "the flag, flag-staff, clothing, cap and blanket of the color bearer (myself) showed thirty-two bullet holes, and yet most strangely to relate, I did not receive a scratch in that battle. Surely God was with me in that fearful struggle." He was the sole survivor of Company E of the 50th Georgia that crossed the Po-

tomac River with sixty-five men. Sixty of that number was wounded or killed within twenty minutes at Fox's Gap and five others were killed at Antietam. He was later promoted to Lieutenant.

The next day, further to the south at Harper's Ferry, the guns fell silent and the siege was over. Jed Hotchkiss, Stonewall Jackson's famous mapmaker recalled the condition of those Confederate soldiers. "Our soldiers are as dirty as the ground itself and nearly the same color. The enemy looked at them in amazement." During the Confederate occupation of Harper's Ferry, the stores containing weapons, cloth and equipment were taken. As orders came for the Confederate concentration of Sharpsburg, General A.P. Hill's Division was left behind to parole the captured Union soldiers. They would arrive on the Antietam Battlefield late in the afternoon of September 17th, many

of them wearing Union blue uniforms taken at Harper's Ferry.

These are just some of the descriptions of how the Confederate soldier appeared. By no means is this a definitive history. As the Civil War progressed, the Confederate soldier would see a uniform that was well made. Some regiments were clothed far better than

others. Civil War uniforms are a topic that interests many people when they come to a Civil War battlefield. It helps to complete the story of the soldiers' experience.

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

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HISTORY

Memories of the Emmitsburg High School

James Rada, Jr.

You could be forgiven for thinking that an Emmitsburg High School reunion is a family reunion. After all, many of the people attending are related, whether by blood, marriage or the strong bonds of friendships.

There's even a kid's table for the "babies" in the group. That's what Wanda Meadows Valentine calls the Class of 1968, which was her graduating class and the last class that graduated from Catocin High School. Of course, this means that the babies in this group are 60 and 61 years old.

No real children attend Emmitsburg High School any longer, though. The building is still there, but it's the Emmitsburg Community Center on South Seton Avenue now and even that is different than most alumni remember.

Only a few hundred people share the memory of the building as a school. It binds them together in a way not seen with modern graduating classes.

Early History

Emmitsburg High School graduated its first student in 1898, according to the Emmitsburg Chronicle. Sarah Miller went on to become an elementary teacher in the school.

A member of the Class of 1900 recalled that the school day began with the ringing of the bell in the tower of the original school building. School began with a group meeting that included singing and devotional exercises before the group separated to their classes. Ruth Hoke taught the high school students. Classes included history, Latin, geometry, composition and rhetoric, geography and English.

The student recalled an incident in his history class when another student stood up to speak on the subject of "Washington at Valley Forge."

"This is his version—"Valley Forge was a small village and George Washington marched in there one bright winter morning and captured the village. The consequence was the school became uproarious with laughter and it took ten minutes to get everybody settled to work. I think, if I am not mistaken, that is the standard time to quiet a school full of laughter, especially when the teacher laughs himself," the graduate recalled in the Emmitsburg Chronicle article.

The early years of the high school had graduating classes that tended to have anywhere from four to seven students. In its first decade of graduating classes, there were 56 graduates. Of those 56, the Emmitsburg Chronicle reported at nine became teachers, seven graduated college, one entered the ministry, 13 attended college, two attended a university and five went into business.

Though the class sizes in Emmitsburg High School never grew particularly large, they did grow large enough to warrant a new building.

The school that Emmitsburg High School's living graduates remember opened in 1922. The high school classrooms were on the top floor, the elementary classrooms (and later gymnasium/auditorium) were on the first floor. The shop classes, middle school classes, boiler room and eventually the cafeteria were in the basement.

Living Memories

The graduating classes grew to be anywhere from two- to three-dozen graduates each year.

Valentine said, "It was kind of neat knowing everybody in your class, but because we were a small school we didn't offer what a lot of other schools could."

Tom Hoke, Class of 1940, attended Emmitsburg High School during the Great Depression. "We were poor and didn't know it because everybody was in the same situation."

Ruth Damuth, one of Hoke's classmates, said that students went home for lunch or carried their lunches to school because there was no cafeteria service at the school at that time. Hoke said his lunches tended to be boiled eggs and cheese or soup and a sandwich.

In later years, the school would get a cafeteria and lunch program. A lot of jokes get made about school lunches nowadays, but back then, the cafeterias made all of the menu items themselves from scratch. Though some students still went home for lunch or to a restaurant in Emmitsburg, Pete Tokar, Class of 1960, "For 25 cents, you could get a full home-cooked meal. You can't beat that."

Emmitsburg High students weren't above skipping classes for a good cause. Hoke remembers slipping out of classes one day in October to listen to the World Series. This would have been during a four-series streak of wins that the New York Giants had during each of Hoke's high school years. It was also a time when baseball games were played during the day so if Hoke wanted to hear the play-by-play on the radio, he couldn't do it in school.

"We snuck up on the roof of the school and jammed a chair under the door so no one could get up there to find us," Hoke said. "Then we listened to the game on a radio we took up there."

Tokar said he would sneak into the boiler room to smoke with the shop teacher, all the while watching out in case the principal showed up.

Quality Teaching

Emmitsburg High School was never large enough to offer a great number of elective classes. The curriculum focused on the basics, classes like English, geometry, science and social studies.

"We had what was needed," said Stan Hartle, Class of 1955. "The teachers taught us how to learn and if you know how to learn, the world is open to you."



Class of 1929

Charles Bollinger, Nina Jane Baumbardner, Rachael Smith, Mary Franklin, Helen Stonesifer, Helen Maxell, Harriet Waybright, Carrie Miller, Rose Warrebfeltz. (Sorry, the yearbook these photos came from did not list the individuals in their order in the photo, all we have are the photos and names.)

This is not to say that there weren't any electives. French, Latin, agriculture, shop and typing were also offered.

The key, then as now, is to have teachers who care in the classrooms and the Emmitsburg High School teachers fit that bill. Mr. Homes was the strict English teacher who carried a paddle. Mrs. Hoke was the excellent math teacher. Mrs. Trebitt was "the best music teacher ever," according to Doris Wastler Delmonico, Class of 1962. Mr. Jones was the principal and his wife was an English teacher at the school.

Mr. Baker was Hortle's agriculture teacher who helped the teen-

ager decide on what direction his life would take. As his graduation approached, Hortle found out that he had won a full-ride agriculture scholarship at University of Maryland. However, through Mr. Baker's agriculture lessons and Hortle's own experience on the family farm, Hortle had decided that agriculture wasn't for him. He turned down the scholarship and wound up joined the military where he found his life's work in electronics.

"Mr. Baker helped me out a lot," Hortle said. "We weren't just numbers to the teachers."

Valentine said that is the advantage of a small school. Not only

were the students close, but the faculty was close with the students. She points to the fact that Mrs. Remavege, the home economics teacher, was a confidant to a lot of the girls in the school.

Joyce Bruchey, Class of 1962, was able to find her future career because the teachers knew the students so well.

"As a senior, the principal would take me out of the classroom and I would be a substitute teacher for primary grades," Bruchey said. "That would never happen today. Prior to that experience, I was going to be a dairy technician. By having a chance to be in a classroom, I changed my career choice and became a teacher and taught for 39 years."

For her first year of teaching, Bruchey taught the third grade at Emmitsburg Elementary. Some of her former teachers became her colleagues. Bruchey also wound up teaching her younger sister and cousin in that first year at Emmitsburg Elementary.

Early Graduation

Until 1950, Maryland students also only needed to attend school 11 years rather than the current 13 (including kindergarten). Mary Jean Rice, Class of 1940, graduated high school when she was 16. Her husband is a year older than her and he attended school in Pennsylvania,



Faculty 1929

Homer Guyton, Principle - Mathematics, Chemistry; Mylo Downey - Agriculture; Charles Stull - Music, Glee Club, Orchestra; Mae Rowe - Problems of Democracy, History, Latin & French; Mary Smith - 6th and 7th Grades, Anna Rowe - 4th & 5th Grades; Margaret Simpson - 2nd & 3rd Grades; Sranna White - 1st grade.

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HISTORY

but both he and Rice graduated the same year.

What is even more unusual is that the grade that needed to be added in 1950 wasn't the 12th grade but the 8th grade, according to Etta Mae Norris, Class of 1940.

Sports and Clubs

"We were very supportive of our sports teams since there wasn't much else to do," Valentine said.

Emmitsburg had soccer, baseball, field hockey, cheerleading and volleyball teams. The Emmitsburg High teams were called the Liners after the Mason-Dixon Line that marks the Maryland-Pennsylvania border to the north of town.

One particular soccer game sticks in Dennis McGlaughlin, Class of 1962, memory and it's not even a game that the school won. It was a home game against Montgomery Blair High School in Silver Spring; a school that had more than 10 times the number of students that Emmitsburg High School had.

"The opposing team arrived with more players than the Emmitsburg High School had male students, but little old Emmitsburg High School tied the mega school 4-4!" McGlaughlin recalled.

The school had a nursing club, homemakers club, modern dance club, science club and hunting and fishing club. The latter was overseen by the shop teacher. There were also student organizations to produce the yearbook, which was called *The Broadcaster* or *The Liner*, depending on when a student attended, and the school newspaper, *The Emmitsburg Hi-Times*. Students could also serve on the student council or play in the school orchestra.

Delmonico liked participating in the student plays, such as *H.M.S. Pinafore* and *Much Ado About Nothing*.

May Day

As the weather began to warm up and spring seemed just around the corner, Emmitsburg High as well as the other students in the school and members of the community would celebrate May Day. The events of the day included the May Pole dance. Students would hold onto one end of a streamer attached to the May Pole and then dance around the pole weaving the streamers together. The school band and glee club would provide the music for the dance.

The May Day Queen would also be crowned after showing off her hand-sewn dress made just for the occasion.

Tokar liked the day because it gave him a legitimate reason to get out of school for awhile. It was his job to collect the flowers used in the May Day celebration.

"I'd grab one or two guys and we would go up on the mountain to collect the flowers and enjoy being out of school," Tokar said.

The school also held a lot of regular dances so kids would have social activities to enjoy. If the kids wanted to see a movie, they drove to Gettysburg. Valentine said it was no problem since one of them drove a station wagon

on that could hold eight people.

Not everyone could enjoy the camaraderie among students outside of the school; at least not to the extent of some of the others.

Since Hartle helped out on the family dairy farm, his free time was determined by the milking schedule of the 40 to 50 cows on the farm and how long it took to get to and from town. Each morning, he was up at 4 a.m. to milk the cows before getting ready for school and walking a half mile to the bus stop where he then had a half an hour ride into Emmitsburg. After school, he couldn't stay around long, either. He needed to leave for home by 4 p.m. to get back in time for the evening milking, have dinner and do his homework.

"I'd be out with friends and they would want to do something, but I would look at the time and know that I'd have to head home," Hartle said. "I had very little free time."

Closing

Residents had known it was coming since the mid-1940's, though they hoped that it could be avoided, but the writing was on the wall. Despite the fact that the 157 high school students was the largest enrollment in the high school, the Frederick County Board of Education was making the case that Emmitsburg already had a high school, which was St. Joseph's. Superintendent Eugene Pruitt said that consolidation with Thurmont High was "inevitable" although not in the near future.

Both schools were old and in need of repairs. The Frederick County Board of Education decided to build a new school...but just one. By giving up their small schools in town, each community was told their students would attend a modern high school located between the two towns.

Valentine, who was a member of Emmitsburg High's last graduating class, said that she thought it was a bad idea. "We were rivals with Thurmont. Putting us together was never a good combination," Valentine said.

Committees from both communities were appointed in 1961 to sit down and decide on possible locations for the new school, but nothing happened. "Since the two committees appointed some time back to select a site for a consolidated school have not come up with a solution as to where the new school would be located, it is becoming apparent that the School Board just might take the 'bull' by the horns and pick a site itself," reported the Emmitsburg Chronicle in July 1963.

Faced with having a site forced upon them, the committee met and unanimously recommended the purchase of 40 acres on Payne's Hill for the school. It was a site nearly halfway between the two communities.

"This site had previously been approved by both the County Commissioners and the School Board, and its selection, one of the most scenic in the northern section of the county, and one easily accessible off U. S. Route 15, is felt by the committees to be the most feasible and agreeable to the citizens and taxpayers of this area," the Emmitsburg Chronicle reported.



Old Emmitsburg High School – Class of 1961

Top Row, L-R: Robert Wagerman, Fred Hawk, Terry Fleagle, Randy Valentine
Middle Row: Lois Saylor Layman, Harriet Hahn Valentine, Barbara Hardman Hartman, Judy Valentine Breeding, Joe Smith, Linda Knox
Bottom Row: Dorothy Moser Little, Patty Glass McLaughlin, Judy Valentine Phillips, Linda Frock Hobbs, Patty Moser Knott, Kathy Springer Krom

Note: The class of '61 had 25 graduates, three of which are deceased: Williman Naili, Sharon Pittinger and Booby Gingell. Six class members were unable to attend the 2011 Alumni Banquet.

izens and taxpayers of this area," the Emmitsburg Chronicle reported.

Negotiations faltered when another buyer offered more money for the Jamison parcel. The board of education expanded the number of properties it would consider to five. Even at this late date, the board still considered simply expanding both existing schools as an option.

A second choice, the Staub property on the edge of Thurmont, had also been rejected by the county commissioners.

At one point it was suggested to build a new high school on the southern edge of Thurmont that both Thurmont and Emmitsburg students would attend and then build a second high school in Emmitsburg when enrollment justified a new school.

Then on Nov. 27, 1963, Emmitsburg residents awoke to discover that they were going to lose their high school. The night before, the board of education reversed direc-

tion and authorized the purchase of the Staub site for \$30,000.

"However, the Board of Commissioners apparently threw caution to the winds and when the Board of Education, either by default or deliberate intention, offered no alternate site, the Commissioners went ahead and okayed the sight and appropriated the money," reported the Emmitsburg Chronicle.

In announcing their decision, the commissioners inadvertently admitted they may have overstepped their authority. The board of education is required by law to select the site and the commissioners could only approve or deny it. In this case, the commissioners had selected the site. Though it was not a formal alternate site, they considered it one because it had been considered and rejected earlier.

Emmitsburg citizens fought the decision by protesting at meetings. Efforts were organized to stop the high school from be-

ing "stolen" from Emmitsburg.

It all came to naught. The last graduating class from Emmitsburg, a group of 37 seniors, graduated at 8 p.m. on June 10, 1968. No mention was made in the newspaper that it was the end of an era.

"They closed our school in the middle of the next school year and moved the students to Catoctin High," Valentine said.

In 1969, Catoctin High School graduated its first class of 140 seniors.

The alumni of Emmitsburg High continued to celebrate their lost school, though. They attended dinners together, went on cruises together and remembered Emmitsburg High together. Even 43 years after the last graduating class, nearly 200 people will still turn out for the annual class reunion for all alumni.

To read other history articles visit the Historical Society section on emmitsburg.net.



Class of 1930

Mae Fisher, Anna Hoke, Polly Baumgardner, Frances Hoke, Toman Bollinger, Roy Shoemaker, Harry Troxel, Mead Eyler, Wilson Farnklin, Everett Martin, Helen Higbee, Barbara Hoffman, James Pryor, William Krom, Mabel Naylor, George Cool, Elizabeth Kugler, Margaret Sharrer, Dorothy Caldwell, Clara Stonesifer, Carol Troxell, Clifford Shriver, Mae Rogers, Mary Fuss.

COLD WAR WARRIORS

A diplomat's Cold War



Tom Wajda
Fairfield Pennsylvania

PART 2

NBC newsman Tom Brokaw in a 2007- two hour TV documentary, called 1968 "The Most Turbulent Year". For a lot of reasons that he admitted were too difficult to cover in a two hour period.

For example, there were the Robert F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King assassinations; the bloodiest year in Vietnam combat; the emergence of a drug culture in America; the Poor People's Campaign in Washington D.C.; anti-war protests; the USS Pueblo seizure; the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia, and the bloody anti-Vietnam riots at the Democratic Convention in Chicago ... just to name a few.

Proxy wars had become the front lines of the Cold War. A place where the prime adversaries could test each other's will and capabilities in a conventional war setting. Of course there was always the chance that things could "go nuclear" - by accident. Our nation's worst fear when well armed enemies interacted on land, sea and in the air. Vietnam was our nation's flashpoint in the late 1960s. Matters really came to a head in 1968 - the year I received orders to serve with the Agency for International Development in Vietnam's Tay Ninh province.

A lovely place if you were not involved in combat operations. I had served in other garden spots such as Dakar, Iran, and Afghanistan - as part of a formal U.S. legation. The nice part about these assignments - no matter how miserable - is that

you got to go home to the wife and kids at the end of a busy day. Such was not the case in Vietnam. This was an "unaccompanied tour".

1968: Tay Ninh Province, Vietnam

I arrived in Vietnam shortly after the major Tet Offensive of January, 1968. A major military campaign by the People's Army of Vietnam against the Republic of Vietnam and the U.S. Tet was an event that forever changed the American public's perception of the war. This was real warfare. Regular North Vietnamese army forces with irregular forces known as the Viet Cong (National Liberation Front). A rarity in the Vietnam war.

In Tay Ninh I was assigned as a State Department liaison officer to the Agency for International Development (AID). AID had been set up by President Kennedy to provide long-range economic and social development assistance efforts to developing nations of the world. It had a twofold purpose of furthering America's foreign policy interests in expanding democracy and free markets while improving the lives of the citizens of the developing world. It reflected the economic theories of Kennedy staffer Walter W. Rostow. It sought to combat the spread of communist ideology and instability that resulted from poverty.

The range of support we were providing was broad and closely tied to military efforts to "pacify" regions formerly controlled by the North Vietnamese and the Viet Cong. While the principal concept in Pacification program was to isolate villages from the Viet Cong by strengthening village defenses- we never forgot that we also had to win the hearts and minds of the Vietnamese people.

One program that was created across Vietnam to do just that was called the Civil Operations and Rural Development Support program. This was a joint civilian and military organization to develop and strengthen local, grassroots opposition to Viet Cong.

My job title was 'Refugee Advisor.'

My role was to visit villages that had recently been attacked by the Viet Cong and assess what they needed to help the villagers get back on their feet. Things such as rice, pigs, pots and pans, not to mention help in the rebuilding of huts and community buildings. Once I had completed my assessment, I then had to negotiate - or lobby - with American and South Vietnamese offices who supplied the material. In short, I was a middleman. While it was always sad to see villages after they had been attacked, it was always rewarding to be able to help get the villagers back on their feet. And while I myself never came under fire, a colleague of mine in a neighboring province was killed in a Viet Cong ambush while I was 'in country.'

The pacification program did help reduce the ability of the Viet Cong to recruit from the rural population, but it was too little and too late. When the war weary U.S. pulled out of Vietnam in 1975, the South Vietnamese government collapsed and the 'pacification' program I worked on became a footnote in history.

1969 - 1978: Life as a Labor Attaché

I returned from Vietnam in 1969 and was assigned to a Harvard University Business School program relating to labor and labor unions in developing countries. This related to the "Three Legged Stool" concept where most developing countries were run by three elements of their society - a single political party, the military and a Trade Union.

By now, leaders on both sides of the Cold War had come to understand that the Cold War could not be won on the battlefield, but in the minds of people in the third world. The Communists were pushing hard to convince the poor and downtrodden that their lives would be better under communism, so we had to convince them of the fallacy of that claim. The best way to do this was to help the country's educated elite because we found that local populations tended to believe the word of one of



The gas crisis of 1973 was a wake-up call to American dependence on foreign oil.

their own over that of a foreigner.

After the Harvard Program, my diplomatic career had a whole new focus - I was a Labor Attaché and would serve at the U.S. Embassies in Senegal and New Zealand.

Strangely enough, at the time, the trade unions were mostly made up of white collar professionals. Being educated, they had a firmer grasp of the benefits of democracy and free market economies, and were willing to espouse it, but often lacked the means to do so. My job was to reach out to the leaders of the trade unions and help them obtain the supplies they needed, be it a simple mimeograph or fax machine to allow them to print flyers.

In this new phase of the Cold War, a simple mimeograph machine was often more powerful than an aircraft carrier, not to mention, significantly cheaper!

I completed this phase of my diplomatic career with a two-year stint at the State Department's Foggy Bottom headquarters as the Desk Officer for New Zealand and Australia.

The role of a Desk Officer was a simple one; know more about your assigned country than anyone in the US. Simple right? Being assigned to worth with two stalwart allies in the Cold War, my life was much easier than those my colleagues who were assigned to monitor our Cold War adversaries. But it still allowed me time to work one-on-one, and even occasionally down a few beers, with the leaders of those countries.

1979 - 1986: Cold War Science & Technology

By the end of my headquarters tour in 1978 I decided it was time to get back into the mainstream of State Department Cold War activities. One avenue was to become focused on the world of science and technology.

I was assigned to George Washington University's Masters Degree program in Science & Technology Policy. This was a real "career changer" for me. I returned to State Department headquarters in 1979 and became the Director of International Energy Technology. At the time, the US and its western partners were still recovering from the 1973 oil crisis.

The crisis started in October 1973 and lasted until March of 1974, when the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) imposed an oil embargo in response to the U.S. decision to re-supply the Israeli military during the Yom Kippur war. Realizing that the security of the west could be held hostage to countries that nominally supported the Soviets, the US and its western partners began coordinated efforts to free their economies from their dependence on Middle East Oil.

The principal purpose of my office was promote the sharing of ideas and advancements with our partners on new energy technologies, such as nuclear Power, clean coal and fusion energy.

I served in this capacity for two

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COLD WAR WARRIORS



Vietnamese villagers rebuilding homes with aid from OECD.

years and then received the assignment every diplomat dreams of - Paris! My years of purgatory in Iran, Afghanistan, Senegal and Dakar had paid off.

I was assigned to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), which was created in the early 60s with the lofty goal of keeping the peace following WWII through cooperation and reconstruction. OECD was made up of representatives from 24 nations. Today this number has expanded to 36.

I was labeled as the U.S. "Science and environmental guy." OECD was all about how governments could support science and technology (i.e. research and development) and use that technology to advance the cause of democracy and free markets around the world.

This was a confusing and busy time in the Cold War. And we little realized that the events of this decade would lead to the demise of the Soviet empire. The decade began with Ronald Reagan becoming our President on a platform of opposition to détente. Instead, Reagan announced our new Star Wars (SDI or Strategic Defense Initiative) program in 1983 which would eventually be a factor in pricing the Soviets out of the Cold War race.

In 1984 Britain's Margaret Thatcher met with a new Soviet

leader Mikhail Gorbachev (1984) and the following year he became the leader of the Soviet Union. In 1985 Reagan and Gorbachev began a series of Super Power summits. In 1986 they negotiated a major breakthrough in nuclear arms control at the Reykavik Summit.

1986 - 1991: Return to Washington & the State Department Headquarters

After four challenging years in Paris it was time to return to Washington and the life of a senior staffer at Foggy Bottom.

It was clear major changes were going on in the Soviet Union at this time. They had begun removing their troops from Afghanistan. By '88 Reagan and Gorbachev had ratified the INF Treaty in Moscow. In '89 the Soviets left Afghanistan; Poland had held free elections; the Hungarians modified their constitution to allow free elections. There were revolutions throughout Eastern Europe. The scene was set for the collapse of the Soviet empire and the end of the Cold War.

From '86 to '88 I worked on science and technology issues for Secretary of State George Schultz. My principle task at the time was to prepare daily briefing notes (i.e. point papers) on the fast moving, complex issues of the day for Secretary of State George Schultz.

Interesting enough, one of the major issues the US wrestled with at that time was on how much technology, and by technology I mean computers, we would allow to be exported to communist countries. The US Military was staunchly opposed to allowing any transfer to occur, even the selling of a single IBM PC, which at the time were making their appearance in almost every office in every business in the US.

Far superior to anything the Soviets had, the US military was afraid the PCs would be put to use in improving the guidance systems of Soviet ICBMs and by ground commanders to improve their command and control systems.

Secretary of State George Schultz, for whom I worked, had a different view. He believed that the PC would lead to the downfall of the Soviet Union because their ability to store information on 'floppy disks' - would allow Soviet citizens to more easily share information. This would break the control the Kremlin had on internal communications.

Because of their control, the Soviet Union and its allies had for years been able to deceive their people into thinking that conditions in the west were deplorable, and that life behind the Iron Curtain was paradise. It was Secretary Schultz's opinion that once the people behind the Iron Curtain got a true look at the real conditions in the West, one of prosperity and freedom, they would rise up and overthrow their governments. Secretary Schultz's arguments eventually won the day, and as history now notes, he was proven right.

In many ways, the introduction of the western made PCs into Warsaw Pact countries played the same roll that Facebook and Twitter is now playing in the uprisings that have occurred throughout the Arab world.

In the end, the Cold War was not won by planes, ships or guns, but by western technology that that allowed the principles of Democracy and market economics to penetrate a once impregnable Iron Curtain that had enslaved hundreds of millions. And like anything built of iron, once rust set in, the wall was doomed.

1991 - 1995: "Sunset Tour" in Canada

My final tour as a diplomat was in Canada and I got to watch, in leisure, as the Cold War was won. Germany had reunited, the Warsaw Pact dissolved, the Soviet coup attempt against Gorbachev had failed; Boris Yeltsin's rise to power and finally Gorbachev's resignation as the President of the USSR and the formal dissolution of the Soviet Union. The Cold War was over! On Christmas Day, 1991, Yeltsin called President George H.W. Bush and told him the Cold War was over!

At the U.S. Embassy in Ottawa where I was the "Officer in Charge of Science and Technology". My biggest concerns shifted from nuclear warfare and the Space Race to more mundane (but important) issues such as "acid rain", agricultur-

al pollution of streams and rivers (by chicken farms).

There was enough blame to go around on both sides of the Border. Canadian factories sending their waste materials into Lake Ontario and then to the U.S. to Alcoa Plants in Messina, N.Y. polluting both nations. It was a far cry from the Cold War confrontations in Berlin, Afghanistan and Vietnam.

With the Cold War now over, the US found itself working hand in hand with its former adversaries. During the Cold War, adversaries eyed space as the next field of battle, suddenly it became the showcase of cooperation. In 1993 the US invited its former Cold War enemy Russia, along with Britain, France, Canada and Japan, to help build the International Space Station. The cooperation of these former adversaries in such a huge undertaking would serve as a clear single to the world that a new era of cooperation had begun.

But many members in the US Congress had doubts about the space program, and wanted to spend the 'peace dividend' on other projects. Congress approved the Space Station, but by only one vote, and that slim majority was only achieved with promises that other nations would help fund its construction. Including Canada, where I was currently assigned.

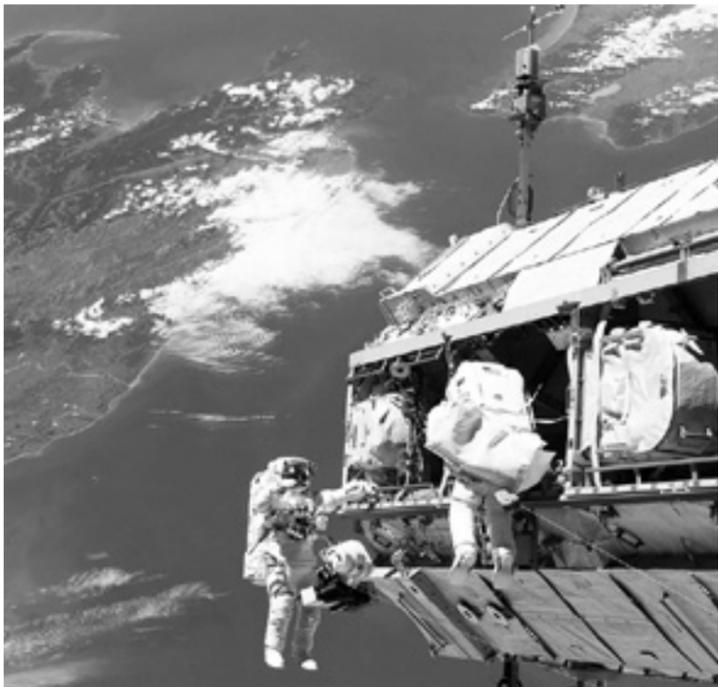
Like their US counterparts, Ca-

nadian members of Parliament were dubious about the benefits of the space station, and began to indicate that they would withdraw from the agreement. Had they done so, this would have resulted in the US cancelling the station. So once again I was called in to use my 'diplomatic skills' honed from years of Cold War events, to save the symbol of our victory. After a lot of back room negotiating, the Canadians reversed their decisions and the rest is history.

With this one final victory under my belt, I decided to retire. When I entered the Foreign Service, American children were being taught how to 'duck and cover' from Nuclear weapons launched by Soviet missiles. Now we witness American astronauts sitting side-by-side with Russians atop Russian missiles headed towards an international space station aboard Russian missiles.

The world had clearly changed for the better. I had done my job, and it was now time for me to move on. In the French tradition, I chose a quiet place called Fairfield, Pennsylvania where I opened up an herb farm. A place where my biggest concern was too much rain and its impact on my fragrant lavender.

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



Former advisories now work side-by-side on the International Space Station.

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STAGES OF LIFE

Mom's Time-out

Without moms we would be a lost society

Mary Angle

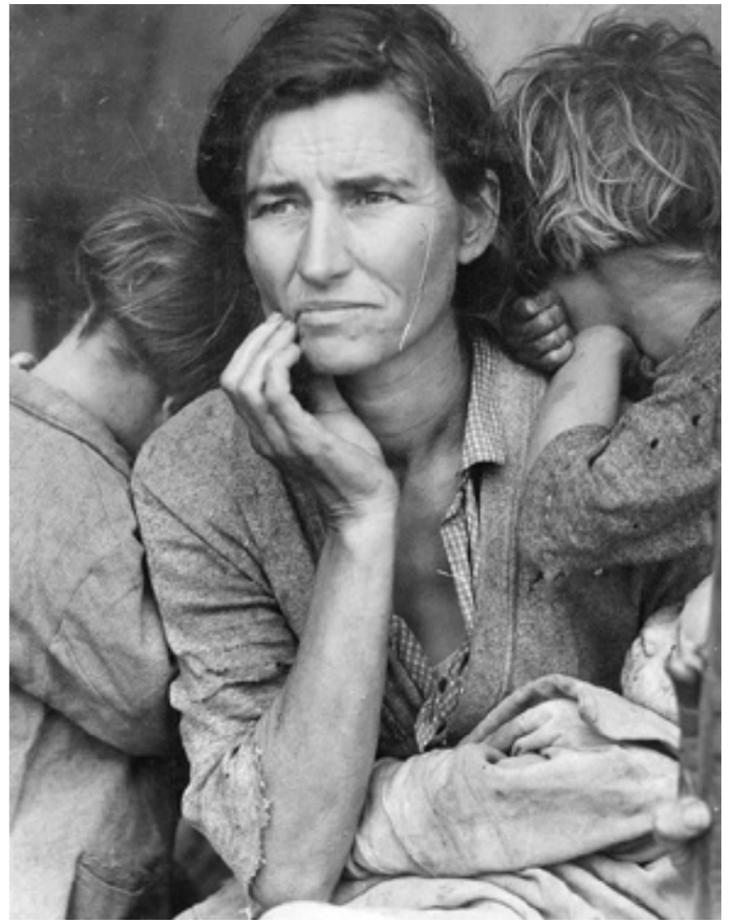
It is officially 2012 and what a great time to count our blessings. I hope tops on everyone's list is family. And sticking with the theme of this article I hope moms; your moms, your wives - the mothers of your children, your grandmas, etc. You get the point. Without moms we would be a lost society, the diversity of moms in our society is amazing and should be celebrated and yes counted among our blessings. Although Christmas is over it brings to mind the mother of all mothers, the mother of Jesus... Mary. Wouldn't it be amazing if we all thought of our mothers with the same reverence we think of Mary. And treated and spoke to our mothers the way we would speak to Mary given the chance. So here's to our moms, for all they are, all they do, all they say, and all they mean to us.

Mom, Mother, Maw, Mama, Grandma, Meme, Grammy, Mom mom, Madre, Abuela, Nana, Oma, Granny, cook, dishwasher, laborer, house keeper, diaper changer, teacher, tutor, clothes washer, magical stain genie, baker, coach, cheerleader, nose wiper, butt wiper, windshield wiper, car washer, trash

collector, garbage hauler, chauffeur, sleep deprived breakfast maker, lunch packer, audience, bank roll, hair brusher, tear wiper, seamstress, mathematician, budget analyst, shopper, grocer, swim instructor, dance partner, stylist, nurse, doctor, plumber, lawyer, referee, judge, jury, volunteer, and sometimes "dad".

Good Morning, Stop fighting, it will be better before your married, clean up, straighten up, sit up, wake up, go to sleep, wash your hands, you are amazing, don't make me come in there, leave him alone, leave her alone, brush your hair, brush your teeth, make your bed, make your mind up, I love you, say your sorry, tell the truth, take your vitamins, do your homework, do your chores, brush your teeth again and this time use toothpaste, wash your hands again and this time use soap, hugs, set the table, clear the table, study, play nice, play fair, don't be a sore loser, be a gracious winner, kiss your mom goodnight, your going to be late for school, you'll put your eye out, you'll put someone else's eye out, don't play with that, practice you instrument, you are wonderful, have you done your homework, because I am your mother that's why, if you can't say

something nice...don't say anything at all, have you studied for your test, do you have a fever, have you pooped today, cover your nose when you sneeze, you are beautiful, where did you meet him, kisses, don't put that in your mouth...you don't know where its been, get off the phone, have you called your grandma, excuse yourself, don't use that language, elbows off the table, that skirt is too short, those pants are too big, don't slouch, tuck in your shirt, pull up your pants, tie your shoes, ask your father, get your hair out of your eyes, you are handsome, when I was young..., don't eat that, eat your vegetables, always wear clean underwear in case you get into an accident, I hope when you grow up you have kids "just like you", it's what is inside that counts, close the door...do you live in a barn, get a haircut, hold the door for a lady, respect your elders, you will understand when you are older, don't make me give you something to cry about, sweet dreams, if your friends jumped off a bridge would you, wait till your father gets home, stop texting at the table, who are you texting, who is texting you, if you were going to be late why didn't you text, do you think money grows on trees, don't



make that face or it will freeze that way, close the door...were you born in a barn, brush your teeth again, good night, I love you!

It doesn't matter if your mom works from the home or out of the home, her jobs are endless, tireless, and thankless. So make today the day you change all that and say, "thank you" to your mom. For that matter thank any

"mom" who is there for you. And ask your self this...if God chose a humble unwed woman to be Jesus' mother who are you to think any mom doesn't deserve your utmost respect. God loves all moms, shouldn't you!

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

Sacred gifts - Myrrh

Charlotte Test, ND, MH

The Herb Peddler - Gettysburg, PA.

Myrrh is in the same family as the balm of Gilead, referenced in the Bible. It is familiar to most as one of the gifts of the Magi to the newborn Christ. Since ancient times Myrrh has been prized for the many medicinal, as well as sacred, uses it has. It is commonly used in its orig-

inal resin form or as an essential oil. Myrrh is obtained as the dried oleo gum resin of a variety of Commiphora species of trees. The resin is secreted by the tree when the bark has been cut or injured into the sapwood. In resin form or as a pure essential oil, Myrrh has been used internally and externally, alone or synergistically blended with other ingredients.

Other names:

Commiphora myrrha, Balsamodendron myrrha, Hirabol myrrh, Heerabol Myrrh, Mu-Yao.

History:

Myrrh has a rich, smoky, and earthy aroma. It is a favorite ingredient of natural medicines among all cultures going back to its early discovery in the far reaches of time. A native to Ethiopia and Somalia, Myrrh has been used historically as long ago as 3000 BCE by the Egyptians for embalming. Into the 15th century, Myrrh has been burned as incense during cremations and funerals to cover up the foul odors of the dead. Myrrh was also used to anoint kings and to scent fabrics for use by those on a spiritual journey to holy places. Myrrh is reported to be one of the key ingre-

dients in the mythical Egyptian perfume Kyphi. Like Frankincense, the ancient Romans considered Myrrh to be as valuable as gold, often using it as security for monetary debts. Without a doubt Myrrh is one of the most famous natural ingredients in the world used by many cultures and religions for medicinal and spiritual uses.

Historical Uses:

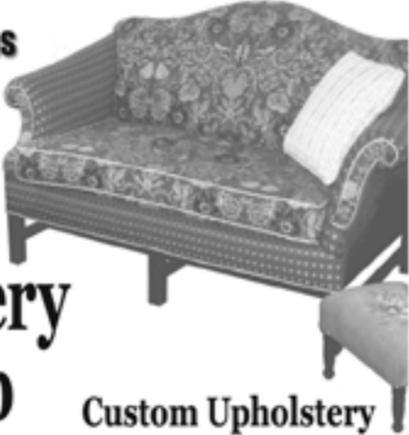
Traditionally Myrrh has been used for the treatment of spasms and infections. Its most common use medicinally is for oral hygiene as a mouthwash for treating the gums. Today it is found in many natural brands of toothpaste and mouthwashes. It is known for its soothing effect on the upper respiratory system relieving coughs and the symptoms of colds. It is also known to be helpful in failure of menstruation and in chronic fatigue. In addition to problems with the teeth and gums, Myrrh has been used for the digestive system and

skin. In Ayurvedic medicine, Myrrh is a desirable addition to the rasayanas for rejuvenation and disease prevention. Myrrh Gum is commonly found to be a primary ingredient in many traditional Middle Eastern, Chinese, and Tibetan formulas, in addition to the numerous natural oral health remedies and salves for the skin.

Common Applications:

Myrrh gum has a stickier consistency than Frankincense tears. Just as with Frankincense, Myrrh can be burned in a dish made for burning incense. Soap-stone or a shell lined with a layer of sand provides a nice dish to burn Myrrh. Myrrh essential oil can be diffused in an open diffuser as it is too thick and sticky for a nebulizer, unless it is mixed with other oils. In aromatherapy, Myrrh, which is associated with inspiration, strength, and endurance, helps the individual move forward in their life both spiritually and emotionally. It is considered to be centering and calming, as it instills mental tranquility. Myrrh is used to impart peace as it helps to ease feelings of sorrow and grief. In use during meditation Myrrh helps one to connect to their inner self and to the realization of dreams. To use as a disinfecting external poultice for skin eruptions, chicken pox, bedsores, and minor cuts, a known herbal formula combines Myrrh with comfrey leaf, slippery elm, and lobelia.

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A TEEN'S VIEW

Rejecting reality



Kat Dart

Isn't it amazing to think that the human mind is actually able to reject reality and live in a self-created fantasy, for a short or long period of time?

Under the water, you are a siren, a sprite, gliding smoothly and effortlessly through a cool, quiet, peaceful world of blue and white, watching your limbs climb out in front of you and smoothly pull back, feeling yourself being propelled powerfully through the water as your legs kick, breaching the surface and then coming underneath the water, out of reach again, with a muted Wuuumph!

Then you break the surface again, and your face feels disgusting because it is hot and sweaty and you can feel bodily fluids coming out of your nose and you are choking on chlorine and water and oh please when am I done? and there are people screaming "GO!" and your coach(es) waving her arms shouting "WILL YOU MOVE IT!" in your ears and you are assaulted with wild cheers and the timer is in front of you showing how many laps you have done (and you're think-

ing of how many you need to go still) and water splashing everywhere, because swimmers are ahead of you and swimmers are behind you, and you realize that you have absolutely got to pick up the pace and sprint (speed up for) the last twenty five, fifty, hundred yards of water, and there is absolutely no way you look graceful or serene because you are just trying to finish it already.

And a few short seconds later, you go back to the deep calm blue expanse of water again and once again, you are quiet, calm, relaxed. Serenity surrounds, bubbles trickle from underneath your hands and you are again the queen, ruling thy underwater kingdom.

Many people have issues. Many people deal with them in different ways. Some tend to keep going until they run themselves into the ground. Some people are able to manage their issues one at a time, and some have an innate ability to deal with it all. Some people take their frustration out on others, and some take their frustration out on something inanimate.

Some people dive into a self-made fantasy, distance themselves from their current issues, hide away from the world and let someone else make them aware of passing time. Try to live in a dream - filled haze so they don't have to really be "here" to deal with it.

"I just loathe reality," Lady Gaga has said, in a quote now used by many of her Little Monsters. But, loathing reality, living in your fantasy is just a way to not be connected on a real level. It is like gravity - no one can escape it, no matter how far away from the center of gravity they get, they're

eventually going to come crashing back.

And are people prepared for the fall they are inevitably going to face?

So, I guess in the end I'm suggesting that I believe it is alright to stray away from living, delve into your fantasy world, try to escape and calm down for a while. But one cannot live in fantasy, one needs to come back.

Otherwise a reality is replaced with a fantasy, and that is not living anymore.

Thus, this New Years as a result of reflections I have made a resolution: it is time to stop trying to go through the year in my fantasy, only coming back in time for the bell to ring, only listening for my name directly spoken, only for the major events.

I cannot expect things to just happen; I need to work for them. I cannot live in this dream-world where everything I want can just fall in my lap as time passes. Where I get what is needed just because. It's time to plant my dreamer's feet back on the grounds of reality and try to get what I want.

I cannot continue to try and ignore everything around me, try to shield myself from the outside world. There is so much going on right now, in a personal matter and in a worldly one, why should I or anyone miss it?

Right now, it is the small things that really make a difference or matter, and living in fantasy will only cause me to miss them, and missing them means that when I blink again, the world will be in color and I will have missed all that has turned and changed.

Some days, I will go back under the water, cool down, be in control. Then I will break the surface again and breathe in all that is around me.

Life in high school



Lizzy Ryan

I now have started high school. But before I started school I was very nervous about so many things. One of the many things that I was nervous about was getting to all my classes on time. I guess I was picturing looking stupid walking aimlessly around school and getting to class late and teachers yelling at me. I was also nervous about the teachers being really strict, like bellowing at me for simple, no-big-deal reasons. Before I even started school I just had this feeling that I was going to forget a bunch of books for certain classes and then getting yelled at by the teacher. Overall I was just plain worried about high school.

I heard nothing but bad things, like people stealing from locker and peer pressure. It turned out, though, that I did all that worrying for nothing. High school has been fine so far (knock on wood.) When I first started I didn't really get lost because I would ask a teacher whose class I was in where the next class was. The teachers were actually really nice about it. I don't usually get to my classes late because I don't go to my locker after every class like other kids do. I go to my locker sometimes, like before English class, because it is in the same area as my locker. I also go to my locker before my quarter class which is gym, so I can get my gym clothes. I go to my locker at lunch too.

It may sound like I am the typical freshman, but I don't actually carry around a bunch of books to class.

Some books you don't always need to bring to class because you don't always use them. For some classes you barely need to have any books at all like my Religion class. I only need one folder, a small notebook, and a skinny textbook. However there are certain days that I have to take a load of books to class. There are so many classes that I have that I really can't be late for like global history, Spanish, or biology. Those teachers really don't like it if you are late to class. Overall, though, my teachers are pretty nice. They are not any meaner just because they are high school teachers.

In the beginning of the year I used to forget a lot of stuff because I didn't know what books belonged to each class. So I got smart and got a mini white board to put in my locker to write down what subjects had which books. That helped a lot. The one thing that I really don't like is locking the lockers. It just has not worked out for me. I never had a locker at my old school so I really don't get how one works. When I close my locker all the way I can't get it open. I don't know what I do wrong but I would always have to get my friends to open it. For some reason they usually get it right away. I actually think that there is something wrong with the lock on my locker that it gets jammed. Twice I have had to get one of the teachers to come down to my locker to get it open with their key. Now I just prop the bottom of it so that I can get it open quickly without problems. Now you may think, "what if someone steals from your locker?" Well, I don't have anything for them to steal. I don't keep anything valuable in my locker and the only thing that would be left for them to steal would be my books, and I don't think anyone would want to steal my books.

I try to avoid any drama and that makes high school life worse. I'm not on facebook and I don't text. So, overall, high school is alright. I hope that the rest of my year continues as well as the first half has.



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SCHOOL NEWS—EMMITSBURG ELEMENTARY

News from EES

The New Year brings hopes for a happy, healthy, and active 2012. At Emmitsburg Elementary we will kick off the New Year with several exciting events. These events showcase a few of the teaching and learning experiences that happen each day.

Our fifth graders have a very exciting event that is saved for their last year of elementary school. Emmitsburg students, as well as all other 5th graders in Frederick County Public Schools, have the privilege of an outdoor school experience. Our students will be taking a field trip over two days to interact with the geology of Frederick County. This field trip directly relates to the science curriculum unit of geology that our students study in their fifth grade year. This two day trip covers the Northern and Southern areas of our county. On one day the students will travel to the Catoclin Forest, High Rock, and various locations in between. The other day is spent traveling to Sugarloaf Mountain, an aqueduct,

and other places in the southern half of the county. They will have the opportunity to collect rock samples like Geologists and learn about how rocks and minerals are formed, as well as how they came to be part of the Frederick County landscape. This is definitely one of the highlights of being a fifth grader.

On January 12, FCPS will be honoring and celebrating the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This is an annual event that also honors and celebrates citizens of the community and FCPS students. Each school selects a student who exemplifies the qualities of Dr. King and puts his message into practice. Again this year, we have selected a model student from EES who we will proudly bestow the honor of receiving this award. I will share the name of this student who was selected in next month's article. The community is welcome to join the celebration on Thursday, January 12th at 7:00 pm in the Governor Thomas Johnson High

School Auditorium. Please plan on arriving early, as seating will be at capacity.

Another event that is planned for January is our second STEM Night. STEM, which is an acronym for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math, is the pathway to future success. When our students are seeking jobs after high school, the majority of the workforce will need to have experience with STEM. We are preparing our students to be leaders in the workforce. On STEM Nights, our students participate in hands-on activities that all relate to STEM. We have presenters, who work in STEM jobs, share how they use STEM in their careers. We are also very lucky to have students from Catoclin High School volunteer to assist with the activities. These older students make the activities fun for the students as they share their experiences with STEM courses they are taking in high school. The EES STEM Committee has planned 4 events for this school year.

We want to send out warm-wishes to everyone and a healthy new year. Good things happen at Emmitsburg Elementary every day.

EES PTA News and Notes

What is PTA? Why join PTA? The number one reason to join the Parent Teacher Association is to benefit your child. In doing so, you also help your school. But there are many more PTA advantages:

- **Get Connected.** There's no better way to know what's happening in your school.
- **Discover Great Resources.** The PTA offers a variety of programs designed for parents as well as students.
- **Tap into a Network.** PTA functions are opportunities to meet other parents and teachers, building rapport and discussing issues that are on your mind. You can share ideas, concerns, and experiences.
- **Watch Yourself Grow.** By volunteering with your PTA, you put your skills and hobbies to use for a noble cause—your child and all children in the community.
- **Speak Up.** PTA can be a way for you to more effectively suggest change at your child's school.
- **Witness Improvement.** By

getting involved at your child's school you'll be part of the solution, helping make positive changes. Local PTAs play an important role in fundraising to provide building improvements, curriculum-based programs, and social events.

- **Be a Role Model.** By becoming a PTA member, you'll be demonstrating to your child the importance you place on education.
- **Enjoy Substantial Benefits.** Individuals and local units can take advantage of a host of benefits from PTA membership including discounts and offers from member benefits providers and sponsors, magazine subscriptions, leadership training, e-newsletters and much more.
- **For less than 3 cents a day,** you can become a PTA member, joining more than 5 million other people who share your interest in issues affecting children. Everyone—parents, educators, students and other citizens active in their schools and communities—is invited to join our not-for-profit parent association.

It's still not too late to join the PTA. A PTA membership is only \$5.00 per person for the year and any adult can join. The next PTA meeting of the school year will be Wednesday January 4th at 6.30pm in the school cafeteria. Subsequent meetings will be held on the first Wednesday of each month at 6.30pm.

2011-2012 P.T.A. Officers

President: Colin Phillips
 Vice President: Tammie Barth
 Treasurer: Jill Williams
 Secretary: Laura Hoyt

PTA Meetings

Tuesday September 6 - General Membership Meeting
 Wednesday October 5
 Wednesday November 2
 Wednesday December 7 - General Membership Meeting
 Wednesday January 4
 Wednesday February 1
 Wednesday March 7 - General Membership Meeting
 Wednesday April 11
 Wednesday May 2 - General Membership Meeting/Elections
 All meetings are 6:30-8pm in the school cafeteria.

Thank you for your support of the EES PTA. At the end of the day, we are simply advocates and cheerleaders for America's children.



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SCHOOL NEWS—MOTHER SETON

News from MSS

Lynn Tayler

Happy New Year! We had a busy, but enjoyable, Christmas season at Mother Seton. Among our joys was celebrating creative students who reminded us of the true meaning of Christmas with their winning artwork in the Knights of Columbus, Brute Council's "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest. MSS student winners included Caitlin Maron (1st place, grades 1-3); Neoline James, (1st place, grades 4-6); and Mackenzie Kirby (1st place, grades 7-8). Matthias Buchheister, Clarence Pavlovic, Haleigh Bowling, Ana Hand, Carrie Reaver, and Paige Orner also placed for their respective grades. All posters submitted were on display for students and family to enjoy during MSS's annual Christmas Program in December.

In addition to these award-winning students, the MSS Art Angels club, led by teacher Karolyne Myers, designed a gorgeous Christmas card that took first place in

the Gettysburg Outlets "Student Holiday Card" contest. The prize - \$500 - will be used to purchase a document camera for the art room. We are incredibly proud of our talented students and faculty!

We are now looking forward to 2012. After the holiday rush, January ushers in a slightly quieter time—but not for long! With Catholic Schools Week at the end of the month, our school is busy preparing for a number of events.

First up is a Mass honoring the Feast Day of our founder and patron saint, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, on January 4th at 10:15 a.m. at Mother Seton. Friends and family, and the community, are encouraged to attend as we pay homage to a remarkable woman who brought not only a strong foundation of faith to our area, but set the example for Catholic education and outreach to the poor across the nation. This event also honors the MSS Class of 1962, for the 50th anniversary of their grad-



Father John Holliday, Pastor of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Emmitsburg, stands with the winners of the Knights of Columbus, Brute Council's 'Keep Christ in Christmas' poster contest. (Front Row) Clarence Pavlovic, Caitlin Maron, Haleigh Bowling, Matthias Buchheister. (Back Row) Paige Orner, Carrie Reaver, Fr. Holliday, Mackenzie Kirby, Ana Hand, and Neoline James.

uation. We always look forward to hosting alumni, but it is a particular joy to come together and celebrate the full lives of these graduates, and to hear about the role that a MSS education played in their lives.

At the end of the month, Catholic Schools Week (CSW) officially begins the enrollment period for the 2012-2013 school

year. The first event of the week is a school fair at the FSK Mall in Frederick from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, January 28. Our own MSS band, under the leadership of Mr. Dave Metcalf, will perform at 11 a.m. Come out and show your support!

On Sunday, January 29, MSS opens its doors for a community Spaghetti Dinner from 12 p.m.

to 5 p.m. Join us for food, laughter, and fun! There will be a raffle and door prizes, and in between servings of pasta, you can walk off the calories by taking a tour of the school. While MSS hosts visitors often, this is our premier Open House of the year and the one not to miss. If you've ever just passed by and wondered what goes on here or if you have serious questions about what a private school education is like, come on by. Classrooms will be open, curriculum on display, and students, parents and teachers will be available for tours and questions.

Monday, January 30th is Teacher Appreciation Day, where our dedicated faculty is treated to a home cooked luncheon. The following day, Tuesday the 31st, honors students with special treats and recognition for their hard work. On Wednesday, Parent Appreciation Day is celebrated with a breakfast social and classroom visits beginning at 7:30 a.m., followed by the Grand Opening and Blessing of the new Mother Seton Learning Center at 10 a.m. Thursday, February 2, is Pastors & Church Workers Day. Clergy and staff of various denominations from area churches are invited to attend a special Prayer Service beginning at 10:30 a.m. and a reception afterwards, in gratitude for their support of our school and Catholic education in this area. Spirit Day, with special uniform rules for the students, winds up the week on Friday.

Catholic Schools Week is a special annual tradition at Mother Seton - where as we meet new families who may be joining us, we take the time to recognize each of the important groups that make our school a success. We hope that you can join us for some or all of these events. We are indebted to you, our community, for helping our school provide a quality education and for the support you give all year to our students and staff. Stay warm and God Bless You!

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FOUR YEARS AT THE MOUNT

Freshman Year

The red shoes

Kyle Ott

“There’s no place like home, there’s no place like home.” Even if you haven’t seen the classic movie based off Frank L. Baum’s book, this quote should be familiar to you and it should carry meaning. That one simple line cut past all the fantasy of Dorothy’s epic adventure and got right to the underlying theme that lurked just beyond the hordes of munchkins and shining Emerald City. The idea that Baum was trying to get across and the theme that Dorothy’s memorable quote extols is that as no matter how fantastic your life is, home will always matter most.

But what is home? I guess for our red shoed heroine, home was returning to her normal, everyday existence on a dusty Kansas farm, but

for each person home is different. In my last article, I considered the nature of family and what it was that bound people together into a single inseparable unit. But now, writing an article in my house for the first time this year, I want to consider what home is especially to the college freshman who is spending his/her first long break away from school. I don’t believe that home is simply four walls that we eat, sleep, and live in. We have that in school at our residence halls. No, I think that the idea of home is deeply rooted in what we most hold dear, and the family that we share our lives with. For example: the week leading up to Christmas break was dominated by two points of discussion: finals and home. Barring the first discussion topic, I learned a lot from the stories my friends told of what they were looking forward to when they got back home from school. Some of my friends were excited to spend

time with girlfriends or boyfriends that went to different schools. Still others were excited to spend time with parents, grandparents, siblings, or cousins. And still others just wanted to sleep in until twelve in the afternoon, able to rest without a care in the world. From my own perspective, I was just looking forward to a break from the pressures of college life: I had no emails to check every day or essays to write at night. More than that, I was looking forward to the people that I had left behind when I went to school. My family is my rock, my support, and my sounding board for life. My little brother is my best friend in the entire world, my father is the role model that surpasses all others, and my mom has always been my guide keeping me on the right path. It’s the time I spend with these people, and the moments I share with them that make me truly appreciate being home. It’s not the fact that I can sleep in my own bed, or watch TV again, or have an amazing assortment of home cooked goodies to

eat at my leisure. Home means being with the people that I love and who love me unconditionally, and I suspect that for many students at Mount St. Mary’s that’s really what this break is about.

With that in mind, I submit to you dear reader that home is not so much a place as it is a state of mind. When you are home, you are truly yourself, fully at peace, and able to recuperate from the pressures of the everyday world. College is a stressful time, a period of four years where everything in your life is in a state of constant flux. Who you hang out with is always changing, and conflicting class schedules, work, and any number of things can change your social group without warning. The responsibility of having to do well in classes (some of which you may or may not be good at) also takes its toll and can wear down the strongest student. Then of course there’s the lack of sleep (something we all know about) that seems to go hand in hand with almost every college kids weekly routine. Even the

classes themselves change. Many of us are used to our existing schedules, but when we return in January we’ll have to adapt to a whole new system, and the challenges it brings. But being home gives us a chance to breathe. This month away from college allows us to recover our strength and our will in the face of the oncoming semester. But for now I think I’ll remember the friends I’ll see again, and forget the challenges that I (and so many other college kids) will face in the coming semester. For now, it’s enough to know that I’m with the people that complete me, in the one place that will never change. We’ve got one month until we see each other again, and I hope you will all make the most of it. Until then I’ll be here at home, a writing book on my desk, right next to a pair of glittering red shoes. After all, there really is no place like home. I’m Kyle Ott, won’t you sit and read for a while?

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

Sophomore Year

Finale

Carolyn Shields

It’s all becoming a memory very quickly, isn’t it? Time is so brutal, and dreams so extremely fragile. It wasn’t until I was on a bus in Spain that I realized that my dream has come true. I’m seeing the world. So what do you do then when your dream comes true? What’s next?

Spain surprisingly massaged my heart. I devoted at least six hours of research on working out train timetables and bus schedules to get us to either Africa or the Rock of Gibraltar, but the moment we entered Ronda, our hearts were content. As I tell God all the time, it was more than enough. But I won’t lie, while watching the Spanish sun set behind craggy mountains, I couldn’t help but be a little sad at the closing of

this chapter. It’s that kind of sadness that has settled in my chest. Dreams can be fulfilled. They can end. Has anyone ever thought of the sadness that follows? Yes, my heart still radiates with joy and thanksgiving for Christ blessing me in this way. So it’s time to start living for the Eternal, and St. Clare of Assisi summed it up nicely: “Love God. Serve God. Everything is in that.” And I will seek the help of the woman who had eternity become time within her, Mary, our Mother.

So not everyone has their dream fulfilled, and some work years trying to achieve a dream that isn’t theirs.

Speaking of sleep, David, Emily, and I had those three months of traveling catch up with us in Austria. It was below freezing outside, and we conquered Schonbrunn Palace’s gardens and a Christmas market in Vienna before noon. We decided to head back to our hotel to study for upcoming exams and then three hours later we all woke up from a nap. Did we really just waste three hours in Vienna? At the intermission I looked over at David. “I may need that tissue.”

“Are you serious? I slept through part of it. You don’t even know what’s going on.”

So I poked him during Act II,

and then he nudged me when his favorite solo piece was performed. I closed my eyes several times because the orchestra was phenomenal, and though I was thousands of miles away from home, I felt so at peace next to my ‘big brother’ at an orchestra in Vienna. Oh, and guess who had to wear Converse to the opera because she wasn’t thinking when she was packing? And I put my head in my hands and sigh to myself in third person, “Carolyn...”

But no one ever said how utterly exhausting seeing the world can be. On our one night in Frankfurt, we had a bratwurst picnic in our hotel room after walking through the Christmas market. Emily and I crawled under the sheets in the same bed of our hotel like sisters as David told us a bedtime story about Manny the Merman until both of us were asleep. We were thoroughly exhausted that day from our seven-hour train ride from Vienna, during which, at one point, I opened my eyes and took out my headphones to find myself surrounded by Germans who were throwing a party on the train.

There are days here in the finale when I wake up and forget if I’m in Spain or at home, and then I remember I’m in Dublin. I’ve been so tired lately that dreaming, ironically, has ceased. Three months, sixteen flights, eight countries, six trains, fourteen buses, eight castles, twenty-two taxis, two best friends, and one giant world to see. It can honestly wear you out.

And as we all say goodbye to 2011 and welcome 2012, we should remember to not look to our past with a yearning or toward our future with hesitation. As I shoulder Irish memories as I board my flight home to America, I don’t want to cry over these beautiful and final months of 2011 or fear facing the future without a guidebook, because “why plunge into the future? Only the present moment is precious to me, as the future may never enter my soul at all. It is no longer in my power to change, correct or add to the past. And so what the past has embraced I must entrust to God. O present moment, you belong to me, whole and entire...Although I am weak and small, you grant me the grace of your omnipotence. And so, trusting in Your mercy, I walk through life like a little child.”

The thing is, and maybe that’s why I’m so weepy writing this, I was expecting to leave Ireland having learned something, or at least why God sent me here, and I don’t have an answer. I know time will reveal it—that I may not understand for months yet until God sees me ready for the answer. All I know is that I should have always and will now start living only for the Eternal.

Tomorrow I must pack, and all of this will only become memories.

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

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FOUR YEARS AT THE MOUNT

Junior Year

I don't want to grow up

Samantha Strub

Kids are never happy with their age. They always think something else out there is better. They think that the next year they will be able to do more, have a different teacher, and get one year closer to the things that they want to do. If only kindergartners knew that they would miss nap time!

I'm no exception to this rule; I was always wishing that I could do more. I was never satisfied with what I had. I was always looking ahead to what was going to come next. At first, I couldn't wait to go to high school, drive, own a horse, go to college, and then, once I was in college, to graduate and get a teaching job. I enjoyed the important and simple moments along the way, but in a sense I was always looking for that moment that would really take my breath away. I wanted to prove every doubter of my abilities wrong by driving out East by myself, owning a horse, and getting good grades. I wanted to make everyone proud, and growing up was the way that I could do that. I knew that by being independent I would gain the respect that I desired by showing everyone that I could do everything that they thought I couldn't do.

Believing that, I drove forward every chance I got. I moved ahead, enjoying the moments but always looking toward the future, waiting for

what was next. I always worked hard in my classes knowing my grades would be important for college but still enjoyed the sports I was involved in—horse-back-riding and field hockey. Along with enjoying all the other important events of high school, like winning the Varsity State Championship in field hockey, the dances, and all the silly memories that make high school worthwhile.

Now, though, my perspective has changed a little bit. I'm ready to slam on the breaks! Just slow down so I don't lose control. This happened as the education majors sat their listening to the multitude of information, projects, and portfolios that we have to do in regards to our internship next semester. In the internship we are in actual classrooms part time and then begin full time observing and teaching. This way we are able to get guidance and experience firsthand in our field. It is very exciting to think that I'm going to be practically a full-time teacher beginning in January, but it is also rather intimidating. At the start of the information sessions, you are overwhelmed and don't know how you are going to come out ahead. Your mind becomes obsessed with things that you cannot control, and you just have to try to breathe in order to drag yourself out of it. My theory is that professors overwhelm you at the beginning so you later realize that all your assignments and portfolios are not

that bad in reality. Somehow you accept that you'll be able to accomplish everything that lies before you.

I'm very excited to be starting my internship and getting experience in teaching. However, there is a certain part of me that is screaming to slip away to Neverland and never grow up—to somehow run away from all the stresses of life and live with a carefree, childlike attitude. As Peter Pan and the Lost Boys teach us in *Peter Pan*, they have a carefree attitude toward life as they in the perfect world where they never have to grow up and can play in carefree innocence forever. As children are playing and fighting nap time, they do not realize that when they are older that will be all they will want to do: just lie down or play and let everything float away for a little while.

Too bad Neverland does not exist, right? Some days you want to embrace the innocence of children. They live with no worries and are good examples of innocence and welcoming the world with open arms, such as a baby coming home for the first time or a toddler waiting for his daddy to come home. They take everything as it comes. Adults and students alike are always worrying about what comes next, instead of enjoying the moment. They are concerned that everything could go wrong instead of just enjoying the moment while still following through with their responsibilities. Adults should learn to know what they have to do and they get it done so they can go off and relax.

This message of taking time to relax and enjoy your passions is a wonderful lesson with which to begin the



New Year. During a time when everything is changing you take the time to step away from all of the hustle and bustle. Instead of just wishing that all of your responsibilities would disappear and you would never have to grow up, you can take some time to discover your inner child and then come back to reality. You relax and enjoy the activity that you are passionate about, but then you come back, buckle down and do what you have to do, whether that means you go for a run, exercise, play a sport, watch TV, listen to music, or read a book. You take some time for yourself to relax and breath, always remembering to come back to your responsibilities, whether that is going to work, going to meetings, study-

ing for a test, writing a paper, doing your homework, writing lesson plans, grading papers, and so on. Having this attitude towards life is very freeing, knowing that you do not always have to be responsible at all times.

You can take some time for yourself. That is the best way to get through the situations that make you nervous as well as new experiences, knowing that if you do your job well you will be rewarded for it.

You know it has to get done, but you have to remember that you deserve to take a child's carefree attitude toward life as your own every once in awhile. This makes life's responsibilities less daunting. Now close your eyes and come out of Neverland's captivating spell...

Senior Year

Living witness

Julie Mulqueen

The air is heavy with anticipation. I can taste the budding joy on my tongue. The earth tremors with excitement, and my coursework is finally complete for the semester. Yes, all of the signs of Christmas are here! The only thing left for us to do is wait. We must wait with joy-filled hearts for the day that changed the world so long ago. The beauty of this waiting is that we have time to prepare for the day. We have time to allow our hearts to slowly open, like the petals of a rose, to make room for love to grow.

As my own heart unfolded this season, I decided I should take some time to visit my grandparents. When I was younger, I did not always appreciate fully the blessing that they were. My grandmother and grandfather both come from Puerto Rico. When they were 18, my grandfather heard about a pea farm in New Jersey that needed cheap labor. He and my grandmother decided that he would go to New Jersey and work for a little by himself. Then he would send for my grandmother and their two children.

When he came over, he worked with seven other men. They lived on the top floor of a barn with no heat and no shower. They were paid little and fed even less. They used to sneak peas to eat as they shelled them. One Sunday, the owner took them out to a diner so they could each eat two eggs, bacon and toast for the day. After just a few weeks, my grandfather decided that he needed to find a better job. He had heard of work in Doylestown, Pennsylvania. My grandfather decided to move there and work at the Doylestown Inn. He started as the lowest of the low with a thick Spanish accent and little knowledge of the English language.

As time progressed, he continued to work hard and eventually sent for my grandmother and their two children. They bought a cheap house with no heat. He worked almost constantly to provide for his

family. My grandmother sacrificed her will and her desires in order to maintain the home for him and their children. Over the years, my grandfather's hard work and dedication proved to his boss that he was capable of almost anything. Although he had started out as a simple kitchen worker, his talent for better things was evident. He rose to the position of chef in the restaurant in which he worked, and he started crafting his signature soups. He came up with recipes for delicious soups like shrimp bisque and snapper soup. My grandfather also helped with catering large affairs and ensured everything ran smoothly at events.

They continued to have children, 10 in all! My grandmother tended to the home and their children. Eventually, she pursued her GED. Both experienced hardships throughout their lives but overcame them with poise and grace. Together, they raised their 10 children and sent them to Catholic school, all on his meager salary.

My grandfather finally retired

when he turned 80. Now, the two of them go to church daily and take long walks through their neighborhood. He remains dedicated and hard working. He insists on mowing his lawn, shoveling his driveway and caring for my grandmother as she ages. He likes to garden and prays the rosary with his wife daily.

See, when I was a child, all I knew was that my grandparents had thick accents. I did not, and perhaps could not, understand the richness of love and compassion that they brought to our family. When I was younger, I did not know the depth of faith each of them possessed, and I did not understand all that they both overcame in order to provide for their family. As I have grown older, I have finally been able to appreciate what they have done. I have started to see some of their qualities emerge within myself. My dedication and commitment mirrors my grandfather's. My peace of heart and joyous spirit match my grandmother's.

This Christmas season when I went with my mother to visit them and put up their Christmas decorations, I found my heart full of joyful appreciation for the two of them. As my mom and I brought up the tree and ornaments from their basement, my grandparents sat calmly in their rocking chairs and watched us work. They patiently showed us where this snow globe should go or where that porcelain tree should sit. As I helped them prepare for Christmas to arrive, I realized that they epitomize the American dream. They are living witnesses that with faith and dedication anything is possible. I know that one day they will pass on, but I also know that the memory of their lives will live on in me and in my children.

Have a joyful Christmas and during this season take a moment to remember your own grandparents, because they are a gift in and of themselves.

To read more articles by Julia, go to www.emmitsburg.net.

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THE GRADUATE

January—half way done

Katelyn Phelan
MSM Class of 2011

January means a new month and a new year. For me, though, it marks a different milestone, the middle of a year instead of the beginning of one. The arrival of January means the school year, my first year of teaching, is half-way over. It also means mid-term examinations have arrived—just three days for six tests which cover everything from August to January. If the prospect of this isn't horrifying to you, it's probably because you've blocked memories of doing this yourself.

As a high school student, I dreaded mid-terms. I felt like I needed to study for them over Christmas break, which was probably unnecessary, but it always loomed over me and kept me from completely enjoying myself. Studying was a days long proposition and there always came a point when I just wanted to take the test and get it over with, not matter what the result. That actually was never true, no matter what I told myself I cared a lot about what my grade was. Happily this year, I don't have to study for mid-terms, just make, administer, and grade them.

Actually, as a teacher it's kind of nice to make a mid-term up. I like seeing all of the information we've covered in class and all the things my students have learned. For example, in ninth grade English we've read selections from the *Odyssey*, all of *Animal Farm*, and four short stories: "The Most Dangerous Game,"

"The Cask of Amontillado," "The Scarlet Ibis," and "The Gift of the Magi." We have learned 80 vocabulary words as well as parts of speech. We've written four papers, too. It's a nice feeling to see what we've done. It's also good to take stock and see what we still need to do.

I haven't yet made my ninth grade English mid-term exam, but I'm sure it's going to take me hours to do. The last two tests I've created, I've spent hours working on. Even "easy" questions, like simple, multiple choice objective questions, seem to take a while to make because you have to think of 4 different options. Critical thinking questions take even longer to write. I consider my last two tests works of art because of how they turned out. They featured a mixture of identifications, multiple choice, matching, and short answer questions. I don't think the students shared my enthusiasm for the beauty of my tests.

After I write the test, check over it for mistakes, though I've been having limited success with finding them. I hate making mistakes on my tests. I also take the whole test, including writing out the essay or short answer questions so I have a key to check the students' tests.

I haven't made my creative writing mid-term either, though for them it is more like a final. Creative writing is only a semester-long course, so mid-January these kids go on to take some other class and I get a new set of

creative writers. I'm excited to start that course over again, because I've thought of some new ideas and projects which I think will be fun to add to the class.

In that class I've tended to provide a series of examples and then the students have to write something of their own based on that topic. For example, we read poems dealing with pop culture and myth, including poems about Smokey the Bear, Lot's wife, Hansel and Gretel, and the boy who put his finger in the dike in Holland. After reading famous poems that deal with these themes, the students have to write their own. The last group wrote poems about Superman, Casablanca, and Alice in Wonderland.

For the poetry unit I've decided to add a Dante assignment. We will read in class a few cantos of Dante's famous epic poem, the *Inferno*, which is a poem about traveling through hell and seeing various groups of sinners in their eternal punishment. The poem is filled with vivid imagery, or language which conjures in the readers head very vivid images of what is happening. The poem is very descriptive, and wonderfully creative. One of the fascinating things that Dante did was include people he knew personally and famous people he only knew of, like popes and political leaders, in the circles of hell. After we read and discuss Dante, students will have an opportunity to mimic the famous Italian poet and create their own poem about hell. It should be an interesting assignment.

One of the assignments I'll likely do again involved "The Yellow Wallpaper" by Charlotte Perkins Gilman. The story was written in the early 1900s and is the first piece of feminist literature. Like with all the stories we read in class I tried to select an important element in the story, discuss it with the students, then create an assignment out of it. For this story, we focused on setting.

"The Yellow Wallpaper" is about a woman who has post-



partum depression/psychosis (though that's not explicitly clear in the story) and is given the "rest cure" as her treatment. For some of you currently in desperate need of a break, this might sound like a pretty nice treatment, but let me finish explaining. This woman was instructed to at the home she and her husband were renting for a few months and do nothing—no cleaning, no working (this is sounding pretty good, right?), no reading, no writing (eh, not so enticing after all), no visiting with friends, and no leaving the house (restful or not, that seems like a rotten deal). The only thing she was allowed to do was wander around in the garden a little bit, but other than that, she was just instructed to "rest" all day.

In addition to this treatment plan, the woman was required to be subservient to her husband. She had to agree with his decisions and abide by them. For example, in their rental home he selected the room they'd stay in, despite his wife's voiced concerns that the room made her uncomfortable. It was covered in hideous yellow wallpaper which had loud and wild patterns all over it. Over a period of time, the woman's already somewhat unbalanced state grew worse from a combination of factors.

She could do absolutely nothing

and was forced to abstain from things she wanted to do, like writing and reading. Not only this, but she was contained in a room that bothered her. The yellow wallpaper eventually dominated this poor woman's entire consciousness—she looked at it, she thought about it, she dreamt about it, and she obsessed over it. It eventually drove her into madness.

Clearly the setting in this story is of great importance. The setting, the room with yellow wallpaper, is what causes this woman to go mad. Without this setting, the story is completely different. The woman might recover, the story may not end badly, etc. But if she were placed in a field of flowers, for example, the story, character, and ending would be completely different. After reading this story the students' assignment was to create their own story where setting played an equally important role, where their story would be completely different if the setting were changed.

I'm excited to deal with these topics and assignments with a different set of creative writers, but more than that right now is excitement, relief, and happiness at being halfway done with my first year of teaching.

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

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TIME IS ON MY SIDE

A new year; a new life



make her laugh, I do repeatedly to try to get her to laugh again. It doesn't always work, unfortunately. For instance, when we have a visitor and I say, "Hey, do you want to hear her laugh?" We get all excited and I try tickling her in the same spot or whispering gibberish in her ear and sure enough, she looks at me like I am crazy. It's like she's saying, "You really expect me to fall for that again? Silly Mom..."

Though she is not forming full words, Lucy is working on it and makes small improvements every day. Sometimes she has a "ma-ma" cry where it sounds like she is saying "mom." If only she wasn't crying when she says it! She also makes a "k" sound when she is making noises. One night I looked at her when she did this and thought, oh my, you are really going to talk someday! What's next, "Ma, can I have the keys?"

These little ways to measure time are absolutely priceless. A baby truly does help you realize how fast time goes by. When



we saw family members around the holidays, everyone first commented on how big Lucy grew in such a short amount of time. Time goes by so fast now, but at least I am noticing the little details of each and every second along the way. It makes life feel more fulfilled. There are also the days that feel much less fulfilling, like when 5:00 rolls around

and the only thing I managed to accomplish that day was changing out of my pajamas. At times like that, I just look at Lucy and how beautiful she is and realize my day couldn't have been that much of a waste.

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

Jackie Fennington
MSM Class of 2010

I guess you are truly an adult when you start realizing and commenting on how fast time goes by.

My cousin-in-law just graduated from high school last Spring and is now working a part-time job while taking classes at a community college. Of course, the traditional four-year, living on campus college route is the more fun, less realistic, fantasy lifestyle. When we asked him how post-high school life was, he shook his head sadly and said, "I just don't know where the time goes, man." I couldn't help but laugh, feeling the same way after graduating college.

This new year in particular I am amazed by how much my life has changed in just a year. Up until about 10 months ago, I never really paid much attention to how quickly time passed and certainly never measured time by any means. Once I was pregnant, I started measuring time by how many weeks or months pregnant I was. Now I measure time through my beautiful baby girl, Lucy.

In the beginning, I measured time by how many days old Lucy was, then it was weeks old and now we measure by months. She is now three months old and I find myself measuring time by Lucy's many new developments and discoveries. She is still in the process of discovering that her hands are actually attached to her body and she has control over them. Sometimes Lucy holds her hands together close to her face as if she is praying or trying to theatrically explain something. When she raises her eyebrows at you, it adds so much expression and I honestly feel like I am having a conversation with this little baby who cannot speak. If only she could talk, I know she would have so much to say. One of these days...

Lucy also discovered her thumb, but has yet to realize that she can easily move her hand up to her mouth to easily enjoy it. Sometimes I find her leaning her whole body down to her thumb, making it look so difficult. Every day she gets more and more in tune to her hands and how she can control them. The day she discovered her thumb was a day like no other. I woke up at 9:00 a.m., turned to Sean and asked, "Did Lucy wake up and I slept through it?" I went into Lucy's room to check on her and found her happy as could be sucking her thumb in her crib. That was the start of our late mornings and I couldn't be happier!

After a month or so, Lucy became more vocal, making cute little noises as if she is responding to you. She has the sing-song sigh that sounds like she just got home from the longest day at work and then there's the belly laugh. The belly laugh is my favorite. Whatever I did to

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SIMPLE SERVINGS

Bread for the New Year

Sharon Racine

Bread is one of those amazing side “dishes” that makes every meal taste better. Maybe it’s innate for humans to love bread, seeing as it’s been around for thousands of years; as Robert Chambers references in this month’s Book of Days article (see page 13), bread always has been, and still is, “the staff of human life.” This statement could not be more valid. Really, where would we be without bread?

Bread recipes vary from very, very simple (especially since the debut of the oh-so-convenient bread machine) to more complex and involved. I still don’t quite understand the science behind the process of bread-making (such as proofing the yeast), nor do I enjoy the lag time bread requires to let the dough rise. Maybe this is why I prefer to bake breads of the flatter variety.

At any rate, the human taste for new and adventurous culinary findings has affected the bread world in a big way over the past few centuries. Consider all of the countries of the world with their individual traditions and recipes, and adaptations of recipes passed down



through generations upon generations. What does this mean for you, bread lover? A virtually endless supply of bread recipes, nor do I enjoy the lag time bread requires to let the dough rise.

It’s thrilling to search for bread recipes in cookbooks and websites (such as AllRecipes.com) and be met with a deluge of infinite ideas. I like to think of recipes as guidelines more so than rules – they become so much more fun when you let your creative license kick in!

So enjoy the bread recipes below – some are more involved than

others, but I can guarantee that the fruits of your labor will not disappoint. Try some fun toppings or herbs while you’re at it, too!

French Bread

From AllRecipes.com

This delicious basic recipe pairs well with everything from pasta to soup.

Ingredients

5 ½ cups all-purpose flour
5 teaspoons active dry yeast
1 tablespoon butter
2 teaspoons salt
2 cups warm water (110 degrees F/45 degrees C)
1 tablespoon cornmeal
1 egg white
1 tablespoon water

Instructions

1. In a large bowl, combine 2 cups flour, yeast, butter and salt. Stir in 2 cups warm water, and beat until well blended using a stand mixer with a dough hook attachment. Using a wooden spoon, stir in as much of the remaining flour as you can.
2. On a lightly floured surface, knead in enough flour to make a stiff dough that is smooth and elastic. Knead for about 8 to 10 minutes total. Shape into a ball. Place dough in a greased bowl, and turn once. Cover, and let rise in a warm place until doubled.
3. Punch dough down, and divide in half. Turn out onto a lightly floured surface. Cover, and let rest for 10 minutes. Roll each half into large rectangle. Roll up, starting from a long side. Moisten edge with water and seal. Taper ends.
4. Grease a large baking sheet. Sprinkle with cornmeal. Place loaves, seam side down, on the prepared baking sheet. Lightly beat the egg white with 1 tablespoon of water, and brush onto loaves. Cover with a damp cloth. Let rise until nearly doubled, 35 to 40 minutes.
5. With a very sharp knife, make 3 or 4 diagonal cuts about

1/4 inch deep across top of each loaf. Bake in a preheated 375°F oven for 20 minutes. Brush again with egg white mixture. Bake for an additional 15 to 20 minutes, or until bread tests done. If necessary, cover loosely with foil to prevent over-browning. Remove from baking sheet, and cool on a wire rack. Yields 2 large loaves.

Portuguese Farm Bread

From epicurious.com

Ingredients

1 tablespoon active dry yeast
¾ cup unsifted semolina flour (substitute: bread flour)
1 cup very warm water (110° to 115°F)
3 cups sifted unbleached all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon salt

Instructions

1. Combine the yeast, semolina flour, and water by churning 10 seconds in a stand mixer fitted with the paddle blade. Scrape down the sides of the work bowl, re-cover, and let stand until foamy, about 15 minutes.
2. With the mixer running, add half the all-purpose flour.
3. Using a plastic spatula, scrape the work bowl, and if necessary, redistribute the dough so that it evenly surrounds the blade. Add the salt and remaining flour, distributing evenly over the dough, and churn for 10 seconds. Again scrape the work bowl and redistribute the dough.
4. Churn the dough for 20 seconds nonstop, shut the mixer off, and let the dough rest in the sealed work bowl for 5 minutes. Now churn for another 20 seconds.
5. Remove paddle blade and carefully redistribute the dough until it’s of uniform thinness. Re-cover the work bowl. Note the level of the dough in bulk, estimate what it should be when doubled in bulk, and mark that level on the side of the work bowl.
6. Let the dough rise in the sealed work bowl until doubled in bulk, about 1 hour. Meanwhile, lightly coat an 8-inch springform pan or 8-inch pie pan with nonstick cooking spray and set aside.
7. When the dough has fully doubled, fit mixer with dough hook and pulse quickly 4 to 5 times to punch down, then churn for 20 seconds nonstop. Let the dough rest in the sealed work bowl for 5 minutes, then churn for another 20 seconds. The dough will roll into a ball and leave the sides of the work bowl reasonably clean.

8. Turn the dough onto a lightly floured surface, shape into a ball, then roll in the flour to dust lightly. Place the loaf in the prepared pan, cover with a clean, dry dish towel, and set in a warm, dry spot until nearly doubled in bulk, about 30 minutes.

9. When the dough has risen for 10 minutes, position one rack in the middle of the oven and slide a second rack in the slot just below. Place a large shallow baking pan on the lower rack and half-fill with water. Preheat the oven to 500°F.
10. Center the risen loaf on the middle rack and bake for 15 minutes. Reduce the oven temperature to 400°F and continue baking about 20-25 minutes, until richly browned and hollow sounding when thumped.
11. Remove the bread from the pan as soon as it comes from the oven, set right-side-up on a wire rack, and cool to room temperature before cutting.

Cheesy Onion Focaccia Bread

From AllRecipes.com

Ingredients

¾ cup warm water (110-115 degrees F)
1 ½ teaspoons active dry yeast
1 tablespoon sugar
2 tablespoons olive oil
1 teaspoon salt
2 cups bread flour
1 large onion, quartered and sliced
3 garlic cloves, minced
¼ cup butter
2 teaspoons Italian seasoning
1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese
2 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese

Instructions

1. In a large mixing bowl, proof (i.e. dissolve) the yeast, combining water, yeast and sugar, for 10 minutes.
2. When proofing is completed, add the remaining ingredients to the bowl and combine thoroughly. Knead bread for approximately 8 minutes, then turn dough onto a lightly greased 12-in. pizza pan; pat into a 10-in. circle.
3. Cover and let rise in a warm place until doubled, about 30 minutes. Meanwhile, in a large skillet, saute onions and garlic in butter until golden brown. Stir in the Italian seasoning; cook 1 minute longer.
4. Using the end of a wooden spoon handle, make deep indentations 1 in. apart in dough. Top with onion mixture and cheeses. Bake at 400 degrees F for 15-18 minutes or until golden brown. Serve warm.



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Stuffed Chicken Breast Of The Week - Meatloaf Muffin
8-Oz. New York Strip Steak - Pan Fried Bone-In Pork Chops
Mussels Or Clams Over Linguine

Sandwiches & Burgers
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Seasoned Steak Fries - Asian Cole Slaw
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy - Parsley Red Potatoes
Sweet Potatoes - Wild Rice - Roasted Broccoli
Vegetable of the Day - Homemade Applesauce
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Great Grilles of Fire

American Shakespeare Center at the Mount

Kathryn Franke
MSM class of 2013

Now that 2012 is upon us, and as we welcome in the New Year, many of us are struggling to find that perfect New Year's resolution. But let's be honest, we all struggle to keep them sometimes. It's tough to follow through, but this year will without a doubt be different...right? Maybe it's going to the gym more often, or volunteering, or even just spending more time with your own family. Regardless of what you decide, let's all make another resolution this year. Resolve to follow through with our resolutions!

Now for all you Mount students out there, if you're having trouble actually thinking of a resolution, allow me to make a suggestion. Why not enrich yourself in the different cultures and history that the arts can bring? Now the only question is how to start. But fear no more! I have the answer.

Mount Saint Mary's University is proud to host one of the most well known groups performing a play written by one of the most well known authors of all time. Is the suspense getting to be unbearable? Well, here goes nothing! The American Shakespeare Center (ASC) will be performing William Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream in the

Mount's newly renovated Delaplaine Fine Arts Center.

The ASC will make a stop in our very own Emmitsburg for a three-night performance as a part of their Almost Blasphemy Tour. The performance will be open to all members of the Mount Saint Mary's University community. The performances will take place on January 30th, 31st, and February 1st. Tickets can be purchased by calling (301) 447-5825 or by visiting this website: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/211150>. Tickets are \$30.

For those of you who aren't familiar with the Fine Arts Center, it is home to the Visual and Performing Arts Department and it contains The Lynne & Joseph Horning Theater and The Thomas H. & Mary K. Williams Art Gallery. It was renovated in May of 2010 to now include the art gallery, a production shop, dressing rooms, improved classroom space, and state of art theater technology. It has surely become a venue that is fitting for such a distinguished group of performers!

Some of you may want to know a little bit about what happens in the play, but for those of you who like to keep it a surprise, I recommend skipping the next two paragraphs (spoiler alert)

The ASC describes the plot as follows: Theseus, the Duke of Athens, plans his marriage to Hippolyta, the



Queen of the Amazons. Egeus complains that his daughter Hermia has fallen in love with Lysander. Theseus then orders Hermia to obey her father and marry Demetrius or she will either be killed or sent to a nunnery. Hermia and Lysander plan to escape to the woods to get married and live off money from Lysander's rich aunt. Hermia's friend Helena, who loves Demetrius, reveals their plan to him and Demetrius chases Hermia and Lysander into the woods.

In the woods, Oberon, who is the fairy king, and Titania, his queen, fight over the possession of a changeling boy. Oberon sends Puck to put a spell on Titania so she will fall in love with the first creature she sees after she awakes. Nick Bottom and his fellow workmen come into the woods to rehearse a play for Theseus and Hippolyta's wedding. Puck places a donkey's head on Bottom, and Titania wakes and quickly falls in love. Oberon tells Puck to put a spell on Demetrius so that he falls in love with Helena, but Puck mistakes Lysander for Demetrius. As you can see, there is much confusion and coupling in this play, and it is one that will keep you on the edge of your seat.

So what makes this play so captivating? The ASC's website explains, "A Midsummer Night's Dream's theatrical spell is powerful enough to make audiences of all ages believe in anything. Shakespeare's mischievous comedy of lovers, heroes, fairies, and rude mechanicals is his tribute to humankind's power of imagination."

Let's switch gears and see what the director has to say about the play. Kathleen Powers, Guest Director of A Midsummer Night's Dream, has described the performance as "a kind of nonsense that becomes art." She explains it as, "love, sex, wooing, (spoiler alert!) wedding, upsetting ones parents, taking the occasional woman by storm (or at least by conquest), magic, moonlight, misunderstanding, transformation, and all the domains that there adjacent lie." Through this play, she claims that we "come to see the rich and multi-faceted ways in which it shows us how ridiculous we are and how essential love is."

Powers also explains that there are "four social strata" in the play, including aristocracy, gentry, laborers, and immortals, which help us "discover a sense of wonder, a sense of play, the

fragile relationship between order and chaos, the danger inherent in passions suppressed or denied." She describes Shakespeare's masterpiece as one that "shows us relationships fraying and fracturing, recovering and healing."

This story can hit close to home for many of us, because it draws on the mistakes we all inevitably make in our love lives. Powers explains, "Many of us have made impulsively bad decisions in pursuit of love; we can probably all remember foolishness once upon a summer night. Dreams can be wonderful stuff, but they often careen out of control. Moonlight can be romantic, but it casts shadows." Behind the curtain, we can look much deeper under the surface of things and learn many valuable lessons from this play. Powers has a deep insight into this play, and she has evaluated the play's message regarding dreams and nightmares. She says, "Both can skew our perceptions in alarming ways...The line between a dream and a nightmare can be thin and full of fissures. Is it a nightmare because it ends badly or wakes you with a start? Does it remain a dream because it has a happy ending? When or how does it cross over from one to the other? A happily moonlit playground and a dark, scary forest can be bordered by the same trees."

Never really thought about it that way, now did you? I sure didn't.

In one last comment about the performance, Powers says, "The play is ridiculous, but we hope it is delightfully so, and filled with the rich complexity, wonder, and joy of new love discovered and old love savored." It wouldn't be art if it didn't produce some sort of reaction from its audience! It's up to you to decide what your reaction will be. So if you want that rewarding feeling from actually following through with your New Year's resolution, why not make your resolution one that rewards you right back? This performance is one that you surely don't want to miss, and it will have you on your feet cheering for an encore.

The phone number for the venue at Mount Saint Mary's University is (301) 447-5308. For more information about the ASC and the other performances that they will be putting on throughout the year, feel free to visit <http://www.americanshakespearecenter.com/>.

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Tuesdays, Jan. 10-Feb. 28 • 10:30-11:30a
MATERIALS \$20</p> <p>Move & Groove (SENIOR CITIZENS)
Tuesdays, Jan. 10-Feb. 28, 9:30-10:30a</p> <p>Steppin' Out 2 (GRADES 4-6)
Wednesdays, Jan. 11-Feb. 8 • 3:30-5p</p> <p>Scene Study (GRADES 7-12)
Wednesdays, Jan. 11-Feb. 8 • 3:30-5p
MATERIALS \$5</p> <p>Creative Dramatics (SENIOR CITIZENS)
Thursdays, Jan. 12-Feb. 2 • 1-3p</p> <p>Hand-built Redware (SENIOR CITIZENS)
Thursdays, Jan. 12-Feb. 9 • 1-3p</p> <p>Clayday (GRADES 1-6)
Thursdays, Jan. 12-Feb. 9 • 3:30-5p
MATERIALS \$10</p> | <p>Creative Dramatics (GRADES 4-7)
Thursdays, Jan. 12-Feb. 9 • 3:30-5p
MATERIALS \$5</p> <p>Piano I (GRADES 4 & UP)
Thursdays, Jan. 12-Mar. 1 • 4-5p
MATERIALS \$20</p> <p>Oils (Senior Citizens)
Fridays, Jan. 13-Feb. 3 • 3-5p</p> <p>Bead Stringing & Design
Monday, Jan. 16 • 5:30-8:30p
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Monday, Jan. 16 • 6-8p
\$21 (\$24) • MATERIALS \$10</p> <p>Beginning Guitar for Adults
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\$170 (\$190)</p> <p>Mommy & Me Creative Movement
Mondays, Jan. 23-Feb. 13 • 9-10a
\$42 (\$47)</p> <p>Cook's Nook 3: A Perfect Ending
Monday, Jan. 23 • 6-8p
\$21 (\$24) • MATERIALS \$10</p> | <p>Introduction to Interior Design
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Wednesday, Jan. 25 • 6-8p
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MOUNT SPORTS

Mount men's basketball

Megan Kinsella
MSM Class of 2013

Well, here we are. January. It's probably the least exciting month of the year. The thrill of the holiday season is over, everyone has to go back to work and school, it's bitterly cold outside, and Valentine's Day in February is the only thing to look forward to (yes, much sarcasm). With that being said, I thought we could all use a little pick-me-up. Instead of letting the after-

Christmas blues take hold, come on out and pack the house at Mount men's basketball games!

The Mount St. Mary's men's basketball team was picked to finish sixth in the annual Northeast Conference Preseason Coaches' Poll. They tied for sixth in the NEC last year with a conference record of 9 wins and 9 losses. They began their 2011-12 season on Friday November 11th against an extremely talented Marquette squad. Although the men fell to Marquette, they showed their

spunk and energy in other non-conference games throughout November and December. After their season-opener, they rebounded to beat Hartford University, 63-50. Next, they played their home-opener against Siena on November 19th. Knott Arena was packed with almost 2,000 spectators for the game, and the Mountaineers were off to a promising start after a 6-0 lead in the first two minutes. By halftime, however, they were down by 21 points. During the second half, a strong defensive effort brought the men within 9, but Siena held them off to secure the victory. Head coach Rob Burke commented on the support from Mount fans: "While we unfortunately didn't come out on top against a tough Siena team, the atmosphere in Knott Arena was special...maybe the best it has been in my short tenure here at Mount St. Mary's."

Later, on December 7th, the Mount went head to head with the University of Maryland. They battled back and forth the entire game, and ultimately fell in a 77-74 nail-biter, buzzer-beater loss. So far in Northeast Conference action, the Mount is 0-2, losing close games to St. Francis PA and last year's defending champions Long Island. Beginning on January 5th, however, the men will begin their 16-game streak of Northeast Conference play, in which they are expected to really do some damage. See the schedule below for a list of remaining games, and come out to support the Mountaineers against their conference rivals!

The men's team is extremely young this year. With only one senior and three juniors, the team will be relying heavily on freshman and sophomores to step up and do big things this season. According to coach Burke, in college basketball the biggest improvement in a player's career is typically seen between freshman and sophomore year. "So, we'll have a whole group making significant strides, building on what we did last year," Burke said. "I'm excited to see this group develop and see how much better we can get. I think part of the excitement is that practice is more competitive so it gives us a chance to continue to improve at a rate that we didn't have a chance to do last year."

Not only is it a young team in regard to the players, but the



coaching staff is also fairly new to the Mount. Head coach Burke became the 20th men's basketball coach in Mount history and is in his second season here in Emmitsburg. He came to us last year with 22 years of coaching experience under his belt, having coached at Princeton, Georgetown, and American University. During his prestigious career, he has coached 39 All-Conference players and four NBA players. Not only is Burke fairly new to the program, but all three of his assistant coaches— Matt Henry, Darryl Bruce, and Tony Bethel—are in their first year here at the Mount. Prior to this season, Henry was with Georgetown basketball for six years as Director of Basketball Operations. Bruce is in his 21st season as an assistant coach, having spent the last six years at Jacksonville University. Bethel graduated from North Carolina State in 2006, and played professional basketball in Sweden, Bosnia, and Belgium. Needless to say, this basketball coaching staff is qualified, talented, and hungry for success. Although they are new to the program, these four men have been able to work together to start transforming the young Mount team into a force to be reckoned with.

As far as season goals, the team has only one: improvement. "[Our goal] is to get better every single day," said Burke, "We take it one game at a time and try to

win every one of them, no matter who the opponent is. Then we pick up our heads at the end of the year and see where we are." Offensively, the team is looking to improve by taking better care of the ball while at the same time pushing the tempo. They are also looking to do a better job of attacking the glass, both offensively and defensively. In an interview after two weeks of pre-season practice, Senior Danny Thompson commented on the team's expectations for the season: "As with every year, we are expected to win the championship. Along the way we still have to play a tough schedule and stronger teams, but I feel like that is just going to help us be more prepared for the NEC tournament."

To add to the excitement of new beginnings and improvement, this season marks the 50th anniversary of the MSM men's National Championship basketball team. The Mount's athletic department is honoring the 1962 championship team with a season-long celebration. Festivities began at the home-opener against Siena on November 19th with a commemorative pin giveaway to the first 1,000 fans. At the December 10th game against Loyola, thousands looked on as legendary coach Jim "Bowtie" Phelan unveiled the retired jersey number of Mr. John O'Reilly (#51). O'Reilly played for Phelan from 1960 to 1963 and led the Mountaineers to the National Championships with an average of 18.8 points per game in the 1962 season. He finished his career at the Mount with a total of 1,508 points and 1,113 rebounds. Finally, at the Monmouth game on February 18th, members of the 1962 championship team will be honored at a halftime ceremony. The first 1,000 fans will receive rally towels, so make sure you get there early!

Opponent	Location	Date	Time
Monmouth	Away	Thurs, Jan 5	7:00
Fairleigh Dickinson	Away	Sat, Jan 7	2:00
Central Connecticut State	Home	Thurs, Jan 12	7:00
Bryant	Home	Sat, Jan 14	1:00
Long Island	Away	Thurs, Jan 19	7:00
St. Francis	Away	Sat, Jan 21	4:00
Quinnipiac	Away	Thurs, Jan 26	7:00
Sacred Heart	Away	Sat, Jan 28	3:30
St. Francis	Home	Thurs, Feb 2	7:00
Robert Morris	Home	Sat, Feb 4	4:00
Wagner	Home	Wed, Feb 8	7:00
Wagner	Away	Sat, Feb 11	7:00
Fairleigh Dickinson	Home	Thurs, Feb 16	7:00
Monmouth	Home	Sat, Feb 18	7:00
Central Connecticut State	Away	Thurs, Feb 23	7:00
Bryant	Away	Sat, Feb 25	4:00

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MOUNT CREATIVE WRITERS

“I’m not a very smart man...”

Kelly Conroy
MSM Class of 2012

“... In fact, I’m pretty simple. Just like every other person in the world, I sometimes listen when other people talk. The only difference between me and everyone else is that sometimes I *remember* what other people have said. Yes, it’s true. I’ll admit it. Other people can have smart—maybe even brilliant—ideas for a split second in their lifetime. I figure that if I can catch all of those seconds I can catch something worthwhile. I can be smart for a couple seconds consecutively.”

“Mhmm,” the little boy’s lollipop stick waved from his mouth.

“You didn’t really get that, did you?” the old man leaned closer, “Maybe some stories will help.” The little boy’s bright blue eyes lit up—he loved story time!

“The county festival was an event that I eagerly awaited every year as a boy. It was a weekend free from chores and it put a pause on my boredom. There were many rides, even a Ferris Wheels and a Carousel. I played the bean toss game and went down the slide on a potato sacks millions of times. I snuck bites from the pies in the pie-baking contest and my parents always gave me a couple cents to buy cotton candy. I wasn’t a lone ranger at these festivals. I ran from game to game and ride to ride with my friends Tommy, Jim, and Paul. One year, we came up with the best idea.”

“Did you eat two cotton candies?” the little boy took the lollipop out of his mouth and looked serious.

“No, although that would have been a good idea,” the old man kept the boy’s serious tone and continued, “We tried coning. Have you ever heard of that?”

The little boy glanced up and the old man explained: “Tommy, Jim, Paul and I pulled a little stunt in the ice-cream cone line.”

“Get ready!” my friend Paul whispered to all of us under his breath. He showed his white teeth in a smile and took large steps towards the ice-cream cone line.

“I’ll have a vanilla and chocolate

twist cone,” I told the lady at the counter.

“I will too,” Paul stated.

“Just chocolate for us,” Jim said for himself and Tommy.

“Sure,” the lady smiled, “Four cones coming right up!” The four of us turned towards each other. Paul’s hands were shaking, but he kept smiling.

“Are we really going to do this?” Tommy whispered. I glared at him. We had already decided to do it.

The lady turned towards us with two ice-cream cones in each hand. At the exact same time, my three friends and I grabbed the ice-cream—not the ice-cream cone—and pushed the smushed ice-cream into our mouths.

“Thank you,” we said in unison. The lady gasped and stood there amazed with the ice-cream cones still in her hands. She didn’t know what to say. We looked very pleased with the little bit of ice-cream that we had eaten. We ran away as she stood there with the half eaten cones.

Maya Angelou once said, “Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.”

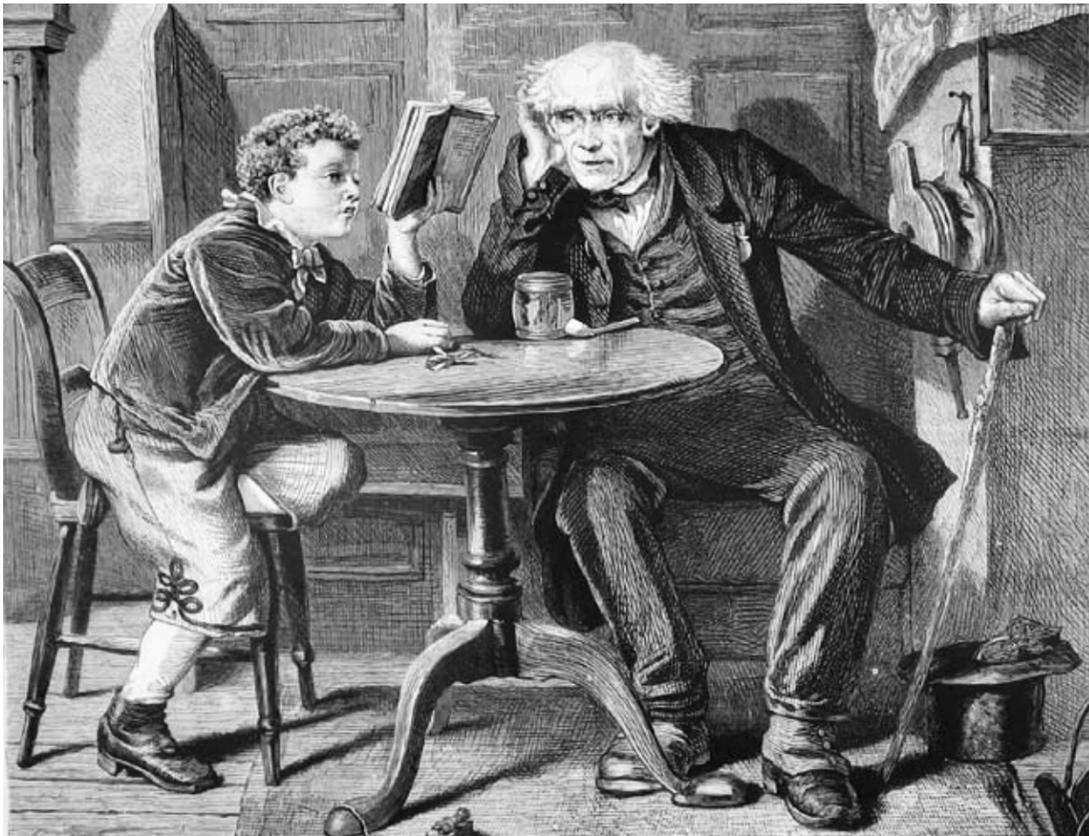
“I think my friends and I definitely took the ice-cream lady’s breath away that day. The little boy laughed as he thought about coning.

But seriously, the man thought to himself. Angelou was right. I remember when my breath was really taken away—the night I narrowly escaped the construction equipment from landing on my body and the day I watched as a father snatched his little girl out of the tracks as a train approached. These events shaped my life, but the little boy will have to learn about these matters as he grows older.

“What else did you do when you were small like me?” the boy patted the old man’s knee.

“When I was a little boy, I played baseball almost everyday. Did you ever see the *Sandlot* movie—my friends and I had one of those fields.”

“Catch this!” Paul yelled as he launched the ball from home base to right field. I ran and dove, but I closed my eyes at the last second. The ball fell to the ground.



Then, Jim came up to bat. “Show me what you got,” he bantered as I jogged to the pitcher’s mound. We constantly switched positions, but the game never seemed to stop. I threw a low curve ball and Jim swung and missed. *Yes, that’s it,* I thought to myself. The next pitch was a nice fast-ball—at least I thought it was nice, until Jim made perfect contact. He batted it into left field and no one was there to catch it. *I guess it’s not my day,* I bowed my head.

“Your turn at bat,” Paul directed me.

I swung the bat a couple times as I walked up to home plate: *Here goes nothing.* I swung and missed on the first pitch. I swung and missed on the second pitch. *Watch the ball,* I yelled at myself. Paul threw the next pitch and there was a loud sound. My ball went sailing into unknown territory over the back fence.

“Woohooo!” Paul shouted, “We’ve never done that before!”

My heart pounded in my chest and I couldn’t feel my legs as I began my lap around the bases. I laughed and shouted. But then my friends, the dirt, the grass, the back fence all began to blur. I suddenly began to feel the hard pounding of my feet against the dirt. *As soon as I finish my lap around the bases, it will all be over,* I thought to myself. I slowed my step and the smile slipped off of my face.

“Did you finish running fast or slow to home?” the boy interjected.

“I ran fast,” I replied, “It was as if I knew **Dr. Seuss’ words of wisdom, “Don’t cry because it’s over. Smile because it happened.”**

The old man leaned back in his chair and closed his eyes. *But seriously, I was not as upset on the baseball field that day as I was other times. There was my grandmother on her bed in the nursing home. I only got to talk with her for five minutes. I whispered into her ear and felt her soft, wrinkled skin on my cheek. She told me to*

smile because I had made it there in time to talk with her.

“Hey,” the little boy brought me back to reality, “Tell me more.”

I watched as he bit into the tootsie roll in the middle of his lollipop. “One more story,” I agreed.

“After one of those baseball games, my pals and I ran over to the neighborhood buffet. I felt like I was starving. Inside the restaurant, I filled my plate with a hamburger, mashed potatoes, fries, corn, jello... and who knows what else.”

“Can’t wait for this food,” I said to Paul.

“Make sure you fill your plate up as much as you can before you leave the buffet line. Once you’re at your table, you can’t come back in to get more.” Paul knew he was giving sound advice.

“Thanks.” I grabbed the ketchup bottle, dumped it on my burger, and pushed the bun on top. I looked around for the salt. I didn’t like wasting the time with these condiments, but I still needed one more. I spotted the whip cream on the other side of the food room. I plopped the whip cream onto my jello with one hand and filled up my soda cup in the other.

“All set?” the check-out lady asked me.

“Yup,” I ate a fry as she rung up my bill.

I sat down in my seat and took my first bite. I tasted the juicy burger, but then a terrible taste entered my mouth. I looked down. I hadn’t put ketchup on my burger—I had covered it with barbeque sauce. And I hated barbeque sauce. I rinsed my mouth out with soda and looked for something else tasty on my mouth to get rid of the flavor. Jello—perfect!

“Gross,” I spit out the jello and my friends stared at me.

“You’re gross, man, for spitting like that,” Tom told me.

“I put sour cream instead of whipped cream on my jello!” I related.

“Yikes!” Tom said and my friends laughed.

“Robert Frost once claimed, “In three words I can sum up everything I’ve learned about life: it goes on.” And my life did go on after that meal. I was hungry for a little while, but the next meal came around soon enough.”

But seriously, life does go on. I thought my career was over when I messed up a project at work. My boss had told me to make reservations for a company trip to Jupiter. I thought he was joking. Little did I know that a town named Jupiter does exist—in Florida! He was not too happy when he found out I never made a reservation. But my life didn’t end then.

“Those are funny stories,” the little boy told me.

“Did you learn any lessons?” I asked him. The little boy just yawned and closed his eyes. He had finished his lollipop a while ago. I kept talking: “I think the old claim that “97% of advice is worthless” is wrong. Only 96% of it is worthless.” I looked up at the clock. It was 11:58 and just two minutes before the New Year.

“The stories might just seem silly to you but they point to deeper lessons,” I whispered to the sleeping boy, “I learned them by listening to the words of others. I hope you can do that too. You are the future generation.”

The clock struck midnight. “People only remember me at the beginning of every year,” the old man kept whispering, “I hope that you remember me and my advice to you everyday. I represent all people from the past and I have great hope for future generations. My name is Old Man Time.”

To read more creative articles visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.



CONTRACTOR'S CORNER

Saving money on home improvement projects

Doris Kiser
Kiser & Sons Construction

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downspouts due to the heavy snow loads from past winters? Replace them with new seamless gutters (in-

stalled with hidden hangers) and new downspouts. Leaves and pine needles a problem? Install a gut-

ter guard system to prevent leaves and pine needles from piling up and clogging your gutters. Another home improvement you may consider is Attic Insulation. Properly insulating your attic with blown or rolled insulation can help reduce your energy bills and keep your home warmer.

Entrance Doors is another consideration to your home improvements. There are so many options and styles of entrance doors today. You can create an entryway that reflects your own sense of style and your everyday life. By choosing a fiberglass entrance door you can choose a wood-grain look or a smooth finish. A fiberglass door won't dent or rust like a steel door, or warp, split, crack or rot like wood. There is a large variety of glass options. From clear glass to elegant decorative glass, you can keep it simple or create a stunning entrance.

Have you ever wished for a room for relaxation? Consider a "Sunspace Sunroom". There are several different models to choose from. An All-Season room for Year Round Comfort or an Three-Season room to be able to extend your enjoyment of the outdoors without the usual annoyances of wind, rain, insects and harmful UV rays. With so many options to choose from, you can design a sunroom to meet your needs and add value to your home. A visit to our showroom to see these models on display and to create your sunroom using the Sunspace Cad System will help you decide which model to choose. You can also enclose an existing porch or screen room.

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CONTRACTOR'S CORNER

Extreme home makeover

Happy New Year! We hope that 2012 finds you happy, healthy, and wealthy enough to hire a contractor for your home improvement projects!

Now is the time of year to start the process for Spring and Summer projects that will require a Contractor's services. Typically, it is several months from initial phone call to workers actually showing up on the job. There are many steps in the process including concept plans, critical review/feedback of said plans, pricing, blueprints, contract documents, and the permitting process to name a few. A perfect example of this is a project that I just finished up in December in Mt. Airy. I first met the Clients in December of 2010. For various reasons, primarily price, we spent the next ten months zeroing in on the scope of work.

I thought it would be educational to look more closely at this specific job for this month's article, as it was basically an "extreme home make-over" that included many cutting edge products. It may also provide some ideas to improve your own home. The final scope of work for the Mt. Airy project included

New Windows, Doors, and Garage Doors; Constructing Gable overhangs on the Roof; New Roof Shingles; a Garage Addition; a Master Bath Addition; New Siding; a New Laundry/Mudroom; and the Replacement of a Deck and Screened Porch.

The windows we selected for the project were Andersen 200 series. The windows had a pre-finished white exterior, grills between the glass, and Low-E/Argon gas for thermal efficiency. Low E (E stands for emissivity) is a metallic coating that is typically sprayed on the inside of the outer pane of glass. Low E coatings reflect heat back to their source. In the summer, this helps to keep the hotter air outside, while in the Winter it helps to keep the heat inside. The Argon gas is an inert gas that is trapped in between the two window panes. It serves two purposes. It adds to the r-value of the window and prevents the metallic coating from oxidizing (rusting). As you can imagine, rusty glass would not be a good thing. The Low E/ Argon gas option will typically double the r-value of a window as compared to a double paned window without this op-



The home before the gable addition

tion. The additional cost (about \$25 per window) makes it a "no-brainer."

The Therma Tru doors we selected for the project are a paintable fiberglass skin with a urethane core for added r-value. The door frames were 100% composite material and the brick molding (outside trim) was PVC for low maintenance.

Another phase of the project was to construct Gable Overhangs and replace the Roof Shingles on the House and Garage Roof. Although the overhangs were not large enough to provide any appreciable passive solar benefit, they did greatly add to the overall appearance of the home. The roof shingles that we selected were a 30 year asphalt based architectural shingle. We selected a shingle with an "AR" rating which stands for algae resistant due to the presence of several large trees shading parts of the roof.

The Garage Addition was attached to the rear wall of the existing Garage. It provides ample area for mower storage, yard tools and a workshop. Adding to the degree of difficulty on this phase was the discovery that the architect had sized the new Garage so that the side wall "cut-thru" the existing location for the pool heater and pool pump.

The Master Bath Addition created enough space to transform a dated bathroom into a very nice area that will provide long term convenience and pay big dividends at re-sale time. The most important thing that the Bath Addition provided was curb appeal - see "After" photo attached. The bump-out and reverse gable roof above it (above the front door) turned a simple box into a charming house. It also created space for a walk-in closet in the teenage daughter's bedroom. I think she actually likes her parents again!

The siding we selected for the project was an insulated vinyl siding made by Crane. The



The home before the gable addition

6" wide lap panel design replicates the popular wood profiles of old. The solid core foam backer provides an added R-value of about 2.5 and greatly stiffens the vinyl. The result is increased thermal performance of the house and a beautiful end product that lays very flat and true on the walls. The Crane siding also provides the added benefits of noise reduction and low maintenance.

The Deck and Screened Porch utilized all low maintenance composites and UV resistant plastic products. The decking was made by a company called Guardian and was installed using a hidden fastening system. According to Guardian's website, the decking is "a recycled polyethylene material with a wood fiber core that is then bonded to a polyethylene surface that is highly resistant to fading and provides a deep wood grain look." All posts were covered with a pvc sleeve and the remaining treated lumber was wrapped or covered with azek using a hidden fastening system.

We also built a new Laundry/Mudroom in existing Garage space prior to starting the large

er phases of construction. This way, the homeowners would not be without laundry services. The Front Porch was also removed and re-built to raise the porch beam and provide a better line of site out of the picture window in the Family Room. We also built a back porch to cover a side exit to the swimming pool area. All of the new porch posts were a aluminum core for structural support with a glossy pvc exterior with a recessed panel - very elegant.

This project took an extensive amount of coordination to flow smoothly and minimize the disruption to the daily lives of the homeowners. The end result is quite spectacular. The after photo does not quite do the project justice. A proud moment for the homeowner (and myself as he recounted the story to me) was around Christmas time when a new driver for UPS asked him "is this a new house?" It doesn't get any better than that!

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COMPLEMENTARY CORNER

2012 – The year of the dragon

Renee Lehman

The Chinese New Year (also called the Lunar New Year) is a time 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 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, sheep, monkey, fowl, 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.

While last year, the Year of the Rabbit, was characterized by tranquility, quietness, and looking inward, the Year of the Dragon which begins on January 23, 2012 will be marked by enthusiasm, excitement, potential,

and intensity. The Rabbit instills people with a sense of guarded optimism, but people react to the spirit of the Dragon with energy, vitality and unrestrained enjoyment.

The Dragon

*I am an unquenchable fire,
the center of all energy,
the stout heroic heart.
I am truth and light,
I hold power and glory in my
sway.*

My presence disperses dark clouds.

I have chosen to tame the Fates.

I AM THE DRAGON.

(Lau & Lau, 2007)

Dragon Personality

If you were born in one of the following years, your sign is the Dragon (1916, 1928, 1940, 1952, 1964, 1976, 1988, and 2000). A person born in the year of the Dragon is considered generous, sentimental, noble-hearted, and vibrant and strong. They are also passionate, principled, brave and self-assured. It would be accurate to say that people born in the year of the dragon have a natural charisma and are certainly gifted with power and luck. It is unlikely for them to escape unnoticed from a party or to take a second place in a competition. Because they are larger than life themselves, they tend to like to do everything on a grand scale (which can leave them feeling exhausted).

These people can be quick-tempered (think about a fabled fire-breathing dragon) and obstinate, and sometimes too outspoken, but there is usually good advice in their criticisms or suggestions. They set high standards for themselves as well as for other people, which can make them seem terri-

bly demanding. They can also appear pompous, opinionated, overemotional, egocentric, defensive, impulsive, and headstrong. However, they are likely to be loyal to their loved ones despite their dogmatic ways.

At their best they are pioneering spirits; at their worst, they epitomize the old saying: *Fools rush in where angels fear to tread.* They are unafraid of challenges and are willing to take risks (even when they may not have the resources necessary to succeed).

Famous People born in the Year of the Dragon:

John Lennon, British singer and songwriter

Al Pacino, American actor

J. Paul Getty, American industrialist

St. Joan of Arc, French saint

Harold Wilson, British Prime Minister

Reese Witherspoon, American actress

Salvador Dalí, Spanish artist

Frank Sinatra, American singer and actor

General Predictions for

The Year of the Dragon

Dragon years are lucky for anyone thinking of starting a business or initiating a new project of any sort. Money will be easier to come by for everyone, whether it's earned, borrowed or received as a gift. Consequently we can expect the economic downturn to ease up a bit in the coming year. The 2012 Year of the Dragon will be noted for calm, visionary intelligence, and balance of right brain creativity with left brain logic. It is most likely to bestow the Chinese Five Blessings of **harmony, virtue, riches, fulfillment and longevity**, adding even more weight to the growing belief that 2012 will be about breakthroughs, not disasters.

Words to Live By in the Year of the Dragon

Explore your mind, discover yourself, then give the best that is in you to your age and to your world. There are heroic possibilities waiting to be discovered in every person.

—(Wilferd A. Peterson)

Peace demands the most heroic labor and the most difficult sacrifice. It demands greater heroism than war. It demands greater fidelity to the truth and a much more perfect purity of conscience.

—(Thomas Merton)



Reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.
—(Proverbs 12:18)

more for the truth than for what people think.
—(Aristotle)

We need less posturing and more genuine charisma. Charisma was originally a religious term, meaning “of the spirit” or “inspired.” It's about letting God's light shine through us. It's about a sparkle in people that money can't buy. It's an invisible energy with visible effects. To let go, to just love, is not to fade into the wallpaper. Quite the contrary, it's when we truly become bright. We're letting our own light shine.

—(Marianne Williamson)

A noble heart is a changeless heart.
—(Proverb)

Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen.

—(Winston Churchill)

The high-minded man must care

Do any of these resonate with you? If so, write it down and place it somewhere you see it every day. Use it to help you be more noble, enthusiastic, and principled this year.

Finally, as we move into 2012, the Year of the Dragon, I ask you to think this:

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.
—(Philippians 4:8)

Renee Lehman is a licensed acupuncturist and physical therapist with over 25 years of health care experience. Her office is located at 249B York Street in Gettysburg, PA. She can be reached at 717-752-5728.



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I recently celebrated 13 years of helping people improve their health and energy levels. So many of my clients tell me how their lives have changed and I would like to share some of their stories with you. It may be just what you need to hear to get you motivated and started on your way to a healthier future. A sedentary lifestyle takes its toll on our health and in today's automated world sometimes we don't realize just how much we do sit around. Emails, texts and face book consume much

more of our time than we like to admit, especially for our young people. We need to realize the importance of exercise in achieving and maintaining our health.

The first and most repeated benefit of exercise and weight training is **energy, energy, energy**. Almost every one of my clients expressed an increase in their energy level. Even though most started the exercise and nutrition program to loose weight, they soon realized the other benefits that come with it. One of my clients is so pleased she can wear a pair of slacks and does not feel self-conscious about how she looks. Several of my clients tell me they feel firmer and their clothes fit better now. Another client went on a field trip to the zoo and was able to walk all day without having trouble with her legs. Others are very pleased they can now

get up from a chair without leaning on the table for help. They can also walk up the stairs much easier and are able to get out of their cars without a problem. Sometimes they do things and realize a minute later what they did and how easy it is now. It is a wonderful feeling when you realize that you have improved your quality of life. Benefits like these do not come overnight; in fact, most people do not see or feel them coming until the day I mentioned above when something that used to be difficult is now done with ease. These are things people take for granted until they can't do them any longer. Improving your muscle strength and keeping it in good condition is much easier than trying to rehab a muscle after an injury. Not using your muscles to their full capacity will allow them to atrophy and will take more work to build strength in them again. No matter what state your muscles are in though, it is never too late to improve.

HDL (good cholesterol) is another positive benefit of exercise. Two of my clients were so pleased when their doctors told them their HDL had improved greatly. The doctors knew they were doing something different because exercise was the only way to improve HDL. High Blood Pressure, High Cholesterol, Arthritis and Diabetes have also improved for some of my clients with exercise. Many other health conditions can be improved with the proper exercise in the proper amounts, even Fybromyalgia. Many doctors tell people to get more exercise, but sometimes don't tell them how, that's where a trainer can guide you in a higher level of fitness to better health.

I have clients that come to improve everything from horseback riding, volleyball and hunting, to just being able to keep up with their kids. Every daily activity and sport can be improved with exercise and weight training. Walking is one of the best

Fitness Matters

Expert answers to your health and wellness questions

Inga Olsen
Anytime Fitness
Personal Trainer

Question: Is it wise to include supersets in my workouts and, if so, what are the advantages?

Answer: Supersets involve performing two exercises back to back with little or no rest in between. And if you're looking to change up your workouts a bit, they're definitely worth a try. There are numerous superset variations, but the most common types would be same muscle supersets or antagonistic supersets. As the name implies, same muscle supersets incorporate two different exercises for the same muscle group. For example, one set of dumbbell chest presses could be followed by barbell incline press. Antagonistic supersets involve opposing muscle groups, so you might combine biceps curls with triceps extensions, again with no

rest in between sets. No matter what type of supersets you engage in, there are three obvious advantages to utilizing this method of training. First of all, doing supersets saves time, which is clearly advantageous when people want to get in and get out. It also allows an individual to train at a higher intensity, which can produce better results in the long run. And lastly, because supersets allow for increased workout intensity without using very heavy weights, the likelihood of injury decreases significantly. Give 'em a try and see what you think!

About the author: Inga Olsen is the Club Manager and NSPA Certified Conditioning Specialist and Nutrition and Weight Management Specialist at Anytime Fitness in Thurmont. To submit a question for future articles, please contact the author at ThurmontMD@anytimefitness.com.

exercises we can do and a very safe one to start with.

Many people who have had a stroke or heart attack are told by their doctor or rehab facility to continue to exercise. Sometimes, they don't feel comfortable exercising on their own. I have some clients who have been through complete cardio rehab and realized the benefit of it. They want to continue to exercise because they know how much better their check-ups are and how much better their quality of life is. A regular exercise program, guided by a trainer or on your own, is a health benefit that is priceless.

Clients come to me all the time with stories of success, pride, improved self esteem and overall health. I have been helping people for thirteen years and have an established program, so I will be there to help you every step of the way. I offer per-

sonal, one on one training and guidance. Many people just need a little help to get started and if I can be that first step, please call me. Do this for yourself and encourage family and friends to join in for support and to share in the benefits. When you have good health, the rest of your life follows. Take that first step, you will be so glad you did. I am conveniently located just minutes from Emmitsburg, Thurmont, Fairfield and Gettysburg at 285 Boyle Rd. Call, 717-334-6009, for directions. Call to schedule another time if the open house hours are not good for you.

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ASTRONOMY

The night sky of January

Professor Wayne Wooten

For January 2012, the Moon will be first quarter on January 1st. The first two weeks find the moon waxing in the evening sky. The waxing gibbous moon passes just north of Jupiter on January 2nd. It sets about 3 AM on the morning of January 4th, which is the peak for the short duration but often intense Quadrantid Meteor shower. Bundle up, get a dark site, and you may spot about a meteor a minute coming out of the NE sky between then and dawn on that Wednesday morning, with eastern North America getting the best view of the cometary debris. The full moon is on January 9th, for northern Indian tribes, this was the Wolf or Snow Moon...before global warming, obviously....

The waning gibbous moon passes 8 degrees south of brightening Mars in the morning sky on January 14th. The last quarter moon passes 2 degrees south of Saturn on January 16th. The new moon is on January 23rd, and the waxing crescent moon passes six degrees north of Venus in SW twilight on January 26th, then the first quarter moon passes 4 degrees north of Jupiter on January 30th. Note that the first quarter moon marks the synodic or phase based month of 29.5 days for this month, at the beginning and end of the month.

Venus dominates the western evening sky for the first five months of 2012. She now appears as a small, gibbous disk, but will get larger and closer as she overtakes earth in the next months, to pass directly between us and the sun on the afternoon of June 5, 2012, a rare and historic Transit of Venus. At that moment, she is as close to earth as any planet can get. Mars is also getting closer, to come to opposition in Leo on March 3, 2012, which will be the closest he can get to us for the next two years. He is now rising about 10:15 PM as January begins, but will be coming up about 8:30 PM by month's end, and



The famed Crab Nebula, Messier 1. It is the remains of a supernova seen widely in July of 1054 AD.

much closer and brighter by then as well. Jupiter is still well placed in the SW sky through March, and its four moons and their transits across his face a fine telescopic treat for all observers and star gazes. Saturn rises about 1 AM as January begins, and will reach opposition on April 15th this year. It will be close to the bright star Spica in Virgo all year.

The square of Pegasus dominates the western sky. The constellation Cassiopeia makes a striking W in the NW. She contains many nice star clusters for binocular users in her outer arm of our Milky Way, extending to the NE now. Her daughter, Andromeda, starts with the NE corner star of Pegasus' Square, and goes NE with two more bright stars in a row. It is from the middle star, beta Andromeda, that we proceed about a quarter the way to the top star in the W of Cassiopeia, and look for a faint blur with the naked eye. M-31, the Andromeda Galaxy, is the most distant object visible with the naked eye, lying about 2.5 million light years distant. Overhead is Andromeda's hero, Perseus, rises. Between him and Cassiopeia is the fine Double Cluster, faintly visible with the naked eye and two fine binocular objects in the same field. Perseus

contains the famed eclipsing binary star Algol, where the Arabs imagined the eye of the gorgon Medusa would lie. It fades to a third its normal brightness for six out of every 70 hours, as a larger but cooler orange giant covers about 80% of the smaller but hotter and thus brighter companion as seen from Earth.

Look at Perseus' feet for the famed Pleiades cluster; they lie about 400 light years distant, and over 250 stars are members of this fine group. East of the seven sisters is the V of stars marking the face of Taurus the Bull, with bright orange Aldebaran as his eye. The V of stars is the Hyades cluster, older than the blue Pleiades, but about half their distance. Near the tip of the southern horn of Taurus is the famed Crab Nebula, Messier 1. It is the remains of a supernova seen widely in July of 1054 AD; the Chinese indicated it outshone Venus, and was visible in broad daylight for weeks. Today this expanding stellar funeral wreath is still visible in good binoculars, and this fine shot not only catches the red tendrils of rapidly expanding ionized hydrogen, but also the pulsar in its center, spinning 30 times a second!

Yellow Capella, a giant star the same temperature and color as our

much smaller Sun, dominates the overhead sky. It is part of the pentagon on stars making up Auriga, the Charioteer (think Ben Hur). Several nice binocular Messier open clusters are found in the winter milky way here. East of Auriga, the twins, Castor and Pollux highlight the Gemini. UWF alumni can associate the pair with Jason and the Golden Fleece legend, for they were the first two Argonauts to sign up on his crew of adventurers.

South of Gemini, Orion is the most familiar winter constellation, dominating the eastern sky at dusk. The reddish supergiant Betelgeuse marks his eastern shoulder, while blue-white supergiant Rigel stands opposite on his west knee. Just south of the belt, hanging like a sword downward, is M-42, the Great Nebula of Orion, an outstanding binocular and telescopic stellar nursery. It is part of a huge spiral arm gas cloud, with active star birth all over the place. You should be able to glimpse this stellar birthplace as a faint blur with just your naked eyes!

Last but certainly not least, in the east rise the hunter's two faithful companions, Canis major and minor. Procyon is the bright star in the little dog, and rises minutes before Sirius, the brightest star in the sky. Sirius dominates the SE sky by 7 PM, and as it rises, the turbulent winter air causes it to sparkle with shafts of spectral fire. Beautiful as the twinkling appears to the naked eye, for astronomers this means the image is blurry; only in space can we truly see "clearly now". At 8 light years distance, Sirius is the closest star we can easily see with the naked eye from West Florida. You must be in south Florida to spot Alpha Centauri on June evenings. Below Sirius in binoculars is another fine open cluster, M-41, a fitting dessert for New Year's sky feast.

Almanac

Mid-Atlantic weather watch: Windy and colder with periods of flurries (1,2,3,4,5,6). Heavy snow in the southern part of the region (7,8,9) turning windy and very cold with flurries in the north (10,11,12,13,14). Cloudy in the north and snow in the south (15,16,17) with fair weather and not so cold (18,19,20). Nor'easter with heavy snow (21,22,23); windy and very cold (24,25,26,27,28,29,30) turning fair and not so cold (31)

Full Moon: The first Full Moon of 2012 will occur on January 9th at 2:30AM. It was originally named

Hunger Moon because many Native Americans living in cold and temperate climates had great difficulty finding food during this month. It also has been referred to as Wolf Moon because so many wolf packs boldly wandered closer to villages and camps hoping to find something to eat.

Holidays: Civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr. was born on January 15, 1929. The official day set aside for his remembrance (the third Monday of January) falls on Monday, January 16th in 2012. Remember to honor him on this day and reflect on the great movement he began, the results he achieved, and how tragically he was taken from us.

The Garden: Collect nursery and seed catalogs now and remember to place your orders early. Before you order, check out return policies, guarantees, and shipping charges. Get together with other gardeners and combine orders to save on shipping costs. Look ahead and note the last projected frost dates for your region and mark down when to plant seedlings indoor. Check out usna.usda.gov/Hardzone to determine local hardiness. Schedule mulching and fertilizing when you plan to prep the ground outdoors for transplanting. And don't forget about your indoor plants! They not only brighten up the house but they also rid indoor air of nasty pollutants.

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COMPUTER Q&A

Essentials for your new computer

Aysë Stenabaugh

So, you got that brand new super-fast computer that you have been waiting for all year! Now that you have all the wires plugged in where they go and have had a chance to check out all the bells and whistles it's time to get down to business.

Software Essentials:

Internet security is the single most important software you will need if you intend on keeping your computer in good working order. The software that we recommend is AVG Internet Security suite. You can call Jester's Computer services to purchase the software and they will even install it for free (aren't they great?). Without a good antivirus installed on your computer, you're likely to become a victim of spyware or viruses that can render your computer useless. No antivirus is 100% effective which is why you should also get your computer cleaned up at least once a year. With over 10 years of experience using and being a licensed AVG re-seller we highly recommend it. AVG does a great job of protecting your computer without taxing your computer's resources like most other antivirus programs do.

Internet browsing is the main reason why people use a computer most of the time. Internet explorer comes with your computer but did you know there are other browsers that use fewer resources and can even be faster? I personally recommend Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox. There are tons of features in Google Chrome such as private browsing (great if you're trying to secretly order a gift). Both have the ability to use add-ons which can make your browsing more enjoyable by using pop-up blockers or a variety of browsing tools.

Microsoft Office is essential to students and professionals and can be quite costly but, there is a less expensive alternative! You can download Open Office 3 FREE of charge by visiting www.openoffice.org Once downloaded and installed you will be able to create presentations, spreadsheets, graphics, databases and even word processing. The best part about this software is it opens and saves in word format. The only thing you will need to do once it is installed is go into the settings for the program you are using and change the way it saves the file to word format. For example if your using the word processing program you would want to tell it to automatically save it in .doc format which is words format for saving word files. This step is only necessary if you plan on sending it to someone else with Microsoft products or if you plan on using it in a Microsoft program later.

Bloat ware or trial/unwanted software is pretty common from most streamlined manufacturers these days. It's strongly recommended that you remove unwanted software by visiting your computers add/remove

application. Be careful to not remove anything Microsoft related or anything that came from the manufacturer of your computer (Ex. HP, Lenovo, ASUS). If you are not sure, do a quick internet search and you can find out what the application is for. Only remove what you are able to recognize in the list or you can always have a professional remove it later on!

The Physical Essentials:

A mouse is something many people purchase even if they have a laptop. For laptops there are some really cool options. When purchasing a laptop mouse I recommend one that has a micro USB receiver. This receiver is sleek and will prevent the adapter from getting broken or damaged because it won't be sticking out of the side of the computer. I highly recommend doing your research on a wireless mouse before you make a decision. Find out the battery life, durability, and what surfaces the mouse will work on. Some of the mice look pretty cool but break easily or drain batteries like crazy. Oh, and I absolutely recommend Logitech, they produce wonderful products.

Wireless connectivity is becoming an essential especially if you have a lap-

top or other wireless devices. You will need to have a wireless router to be able to connect your wireless device to the internet or to your home network. Be sure to match up the technology to what type of wireless connection your device supports. If you have a wireless N capable laptop and purchase a router that only supports wireless B or wireless G you are losing out on speed and range. Give Jester's Computers a call if you're in need of a wireless router or to inquire about having your network setup.

Printers are a necessity if you want to be able to print documents, pictures, or to have a hard copy. The thing about printers is that you really want to make sure you're getting your money's worth. I highly recommend Kodak printers because the ink is very inexpensive and today you need to have both your color and black cartridge installed or the printer won't work. I also recommend either using a USB cable or to connect your printer into your home network. Wireless printers are often more of a hassle than they are worth. Connecting your printer into your network (via Ethernet cable) is the same concept as using the wireless in the sense that multiple



computers can use the same printer without the computer connected to the printer needing to be on. If you feel the need to use a wireless printer be aware that if you do not have the address for the printer setup to stay the same anytime the power goes out you will have to change the settings on each computer to the new printer address.

Well that's all for this month folks! As usual for friendly, professional computer help or repair contact Jester's Computer Services at (717) 642-6611 or stop by at 5135 Fairfield Road, Fairfield, PA.

I am also now accepting new students for one-on-one classes! Contact us today to get help!

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www.umm.edu/ibd



SPEAKERS:



Raymond K. Cross, MD, MS
"Crohn's and Colitis: Why Me?"



Mark H. Flasar, MD, MS
"Medical Therapy for IBD"



Andrea Chao Bafford, MD
"Surgical Management of IBD"



Seema Patil, MD
"Women's Health Issues in IBD"

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Call **1-800-492-5538** today. Dinner will be served.

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 1
Fort Ritchie polar plunge in the lake at one, but event starts at noon. This is a major fundraiser for the Fort Ritchie Community Center. There will be a bonfire, music and hot chocolate. Hot drinks and soup will be available. For more information call 301-241-5085 or check out our website www.thefrc.org.

January 4
Cunningham Falls State Park's First Day Hike - Meet a Ranger at the Falls Trailhead lot in the William Houck Area of Cunningham Falls State Park at 1pm to start your year off on the right foot. Hike will be approximately 1.2 mile long and will cover some rocky and steep terrain. Leashed dogs that get along well with others are welcome. Hike appropriate for individuals ages five and up. For more information call 301-271-7574.

January 4
Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve's Wednesday walk in the woods. Start the New Year off right and join us for a walk in the woods! We'll pick a new trail each week, and get fit while having fun.

January 6
Catocton High School Safe & Sane Benefit at the Ott House, featuring the band Stick Time. Live auction, door prizes.

January 8
Feast day of St. Elizabeth Ann

Seton. Join us for a special day of pilgrimage beginning with Mass at 1:30pm to honor the anniversary of the death of Mother Seton. For more information call 301-447-6606.

January 11
Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve's Wednesday walk in the woods. Start the New Year off right and join us for a walk in the woods! We'll pick a new trail each week, and get fit while having fun. Free.

January 11
The Vigilant House Company's Junior Fire Company "Explorer Post 6" special youth registration event. This co-ed scouting program designed to familiarize youths (ages 14-21) with fire company operations and procedures. All registrations fees are waved for this one night only at the Fire Hall. All youths must be accompanied by a parent. For more information call Bob Rosensteel at 301-447-6272.

January 13
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel & St. Anthony Parishes' All-You-Can-Eat Italian Night at the Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish Center.

January 14
Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve book club for readers and/or nature lovers. The club meets the second Saturday of each month. Come out each month to turn over a new page of a "nature-themed" book. The book club will meet in the Log Cabin at Strawberry Hill.

January 15
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel & St. Anthony Parishes' Community Country Breakfast at the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish Center.

January 16
Gettysburg College's 32nd annual event to celebrate legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. The event will be held in Christ Chapel. Admission is free and the public is invited to attend.

January 20
Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve will be presenting the film Mother Nature's Child focusing on growing outdoors in the media age. The event will be held at the Ragged Edge Coffee House on Chambersburg Street in Gettysburg.

January 21
Thurmont library's winter medieval ball just for tweens. Come dressed as your favorite knight or princess and enjoy an afternoon of dancing, games, and crafts. After the ball, sit back and relax while watching the feature film

Enchanted. This event is free and fun for all tweens!"

January 23
EBPA Dance Fundraiser with the Rock N Roll Relics at Mother Seton School. For more information call Bob Rosensteel at 301-447-6272.

January 23
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel & St. Anthony Parishes' blood drive at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel's Parish Center. Call Terri Allen at (301) 271-7872 to make an appointment. Walk-ins are also welcome.

January 27
Music Gettysburg Presents Felix Hell, Organist. Lutheran Theological Seminary Chapel, 147 Seminary Ridge. For more information call 717-338-3000 ext 2197 or visit www.musicgettysburg.org.

The Majestic Theater presents 'Riders in the Sky' - Round up your herd and join in the fun with America's favorite singing cowboys whose music celebrates the melodious traditions of such For more information call 717-337-8200 or visit www.gettysburgmajestic.org.

January 29
Community Day at Mother Seton School Spaghetti Dinner Noon to 5:00 p.m. All You Can Eat Spaghetti, For more info: 301-447-3161 or www.mothersetonschool.org.

Mount St. Mary's University host The American Shakespeare Center's performance of William Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream. For more information visit www.msmary.edu.

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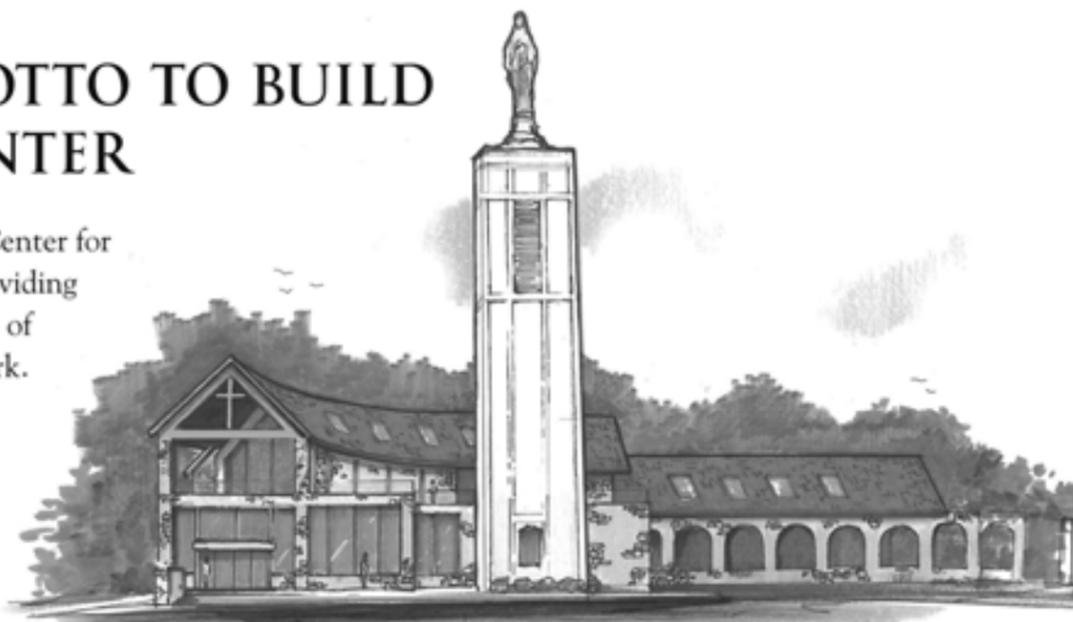
NATIONAL SHRINE GROTTO TO BUILD EXTENSIVE VISITOR CENTER

Mount St. Mary's University will construct a Visitor Center for the National Shrine Grotto of Lourdes this spring, providing much needed resources for the hundreds of thousands of people who annually visit the historic campus landmark.

The 5,000 square-foot, two-story facility is designed to wrap around the existing 100-foot Pangborn Memorial Campanile and will house a large, multi-purpose conference room, a gallery and gift shop, outdoor gathering spaces for visitors, and administrative offices.

"We are extremely blessed to have this glorious national shrine on our campus, and soon we will have an extraordinary center to welcome our many visitors," said University President Thomas H. Powell. "We thank our many donors who are making this dream a reality."

The \$2.7 million project is funded primarily by donor gifts to the Grotto and expected to bring more visitors to the Emmitsburg area. The Grotto will remain open during construction and completion of the Visitor Center is expected in early 2013.



Want to keep up-to-date with Mount happenings? Follow us on Facebook for the latest event information.

www.facebook.com/MSMUniversity

MEN'S BASKETBALL HOME GAMES

THURS., JAN. 12 VS. CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE, 7 P.M., WELCOMING THE FREDERICK COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

SAT, JAN. 14 VS. BRYANT, 1 P.M. AUTOGRAPH DAY - MOUNT PLAYERS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR AUTOGRAPHS!

CALL THE BOX OFFICE AT 301-447-5700 OR GO ONLINE TO WWW.MOUNTATHLETICS.COM

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL HOME GAMES

TUES., JAN. 3 VS. HOWARD, 7 P.M.

SAT., JAN. 14 VS. BRYANT, 3:30 P.M. DADDY/DAUGHTER DATE NIGHT

MON., JAN. 16 VS. CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE, 7 P.M.



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Anti-race activist and author Tim Wise, author of *Dear White America: Letter to a New Minority* and *White Like Me: Reflections on Race from a Privileged Son* among others. Wise, was named one of "25 Visionaries Who

are Changing Your World," by Utne Reader in 2010, has spoken in 49 states, on over 600 college campuses, and to community groups across the nation. Tuesday, Jan. 17, 6:30 p.m., Knott Auditorium Cost: Free but tickets are required and are available from the Center for Student Diversity, email Chianti Blackmon at blackmon@msmary.edu or call 301-447-5474.



A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

The American Shakespeare Center's Almost Blasphemy Tour will stop in Emmitsburg, MD for a three night performance, open to all members of the Mount St. Mary's University community. January 30 & 31, & February 1, 8 p.m., Horning Theater, Delaplaine Fine Arts Center

Cost: Tickets are \$30 plus applicable tax and service fee. Ticket information at www.brownpapertickets.com/event/211150