

Emmitsburg NEWS-JOURNAL

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

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It's a New Year on the Chinese calendar - The year of the monkey. **Page 42**

Vigilant Hose member of the year

Each year the Vigilant Hose Company (VHC) selects one of its members to receive the Outstanding Member of the Year Award. The award recognizes the member who has shown the most initiative in making the company the best it can be. This year, at the company's annual award banquet, VHC President Tim Clarke and Company Chief Chad Umbel presented Elyssa Cool with the award.

VHC President Tim Clark said: "Elyssa is just one of those steady, dependable and enthusiastic members that will define how our organization moves forward in the coming years. She will most likely become a future leader in the department. The one thing that stands out with her is her chairmanship of the fire prevention committee for the past ten years and her ability to perform admirably in representing the agency."

After joining in 2006, Elyssa spent two years in the department's Junior Explorer program, and eight years as an Operational Member. She became an Opera-

tional Member of the company at the age of 18, after she completed her EMT, Firefighter, and Hazmat certification.

During their annual reorganization, Elyssa was elected by her fellow firefighters to the VHC's Board of Directors, where she will serve a 2-year term. While serving on the board, she will continue her work on the Fire Prevention Committee and the EMS Committee, and as an advisor on the Junior Explorer Committee.

Elyssa first became involved with the VHC through her cousin, who was a member at the time. As long as Elyssa can remember she has always enjoyed giving back and helping others. Elyssa's involvement with the VHC has allowed her to do just that. "It allows me to stay close to the community where I was born and raised." She said.

This is not the first award Elyssa has received for her service to the VHC. In 2009 she received the President's Award and in 2013 she was the recipient of the Chief's Award. In addition,



Elyssa Cool, VHC member of the year.

in 2011 Elyssa served as Maryland State Firemen's Association's (MSFA) Miss Fire Prevention. While holding this title, Elyssa traveled throughout the state of Maryland assisting the MSFA in promoting fire education.

In her ten years with the company, Elyssa has created memories that will last her a lifetime. When asked to choose her favorite memory with the company, she states: "honestly there are too many to list. Spring Fling and MSFA Fire Convention Week in

Ocean City always brings good times and memories."

For Elyssa, being a member of the company has allowed her to create great friendships and do what she loves to do on a daily basis. "I enjoy every day I spend at the fire company. The friendships and bonds I have with my fellow company members will be life long."

Elyssa considers the company her family and is grateful for the opportunities that have been given to her during her time with the VHC. It was her love and dedication to the company that earned her the title of the Outstanding Member of the Year this year.

Home builders set to show skills

The Builders Association of Adams County (BACC) is preparing for its 26th annual home show. The show will open with an increased floor plan, providing plenty of room for exhibitors from across the region.

There will be a wide variety of contractors and services including area builders, remodeling and home repair services, landscaping, ale and heating, electronics, certified green specialists, and many other helpful services. Admission is \$4 for ages 17 and up; 16 and under are free.

"It's an opportunity for local industry businesses to display and share their expertise, and, to display their new products and techniques," said former president and BAAC board member, Ross Brownley. The two-day event will be held at the All Stars Sports Complex, 2638 Emmitsburg Road on Friday, February 19 from 4-8pm and Saturday, February 20 from 10am-6pm.

The show will also feature a student design competition. Determined by attendees' votes will be the \$100 "People's Choice" award of the show's Student Design Contest, featuring architectural plans. The main prizes will result

from judging. Awards of \$500 for first, \$300 for second, and \$200 for third are being provided by ACNB bank. Students from all of the county's school districts are eligible to enter.

The Builders Association of Adams County is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the building trades and education in the local community. To that end they have dedicated their efforts toward the students in the seven county school districts.

BAAC president Guy Ketterman said, "I feel the building industry trades are an important part of our kids' future, and I'm proud that we can be a part of the supporting efforts here in Adams County." Since the year of their first home show in 1980, all proceeds from the show go toward Student Activities.

Monies set aside in a Trust Fund are administrated by Adams County National Bank. They are loaned out interest-free, to students seeking higher education in a building related field. Since the Student Loan Program started, over 100 students have used the funds. Some have gone to trade schools, some to four-year colleges. All have pursued building related fields.



The 2015 ACHB scholarship winners: Robert Tuckey, Biglerville; Joseph Sneeringer, New Oxford; Austin Ford, Fairfield; Ben Price, Gettysburg; David Gebhart, Littlestown; Samuel McCollum, Bermudian Springs; and, Brandon Hummel from Fairfield High School ~ \$1,000.00 Scholarship winner.

The BAAC also began a Student Scholarship Program. This program gives a \$1,000 scholarship to one graduating senior from each of the seven county schools. The student must apply and attend a certified trade school studying carpentry, plumbing, electrical, HVAC, masonry, or drafting. "The foundation of our

organization is our annual Home Show, it establishes a baseline for the remainder of the year," said Ketterman.

Applications for both programs are available through the schools and from the Builders Association of Adams County at 717-337-5144 or visit www.adamscounty-builders.com.

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NEWS

Winter Storm Jonas brings it on

If the area's response to winter storm Jonas, aka Jack, could be summed up in one phrase, it would be: "Bring it on!"

In spite of the fact that Jonas was the sixth "storm of the century" predicted in the past four years, residents and businesses didn't take any chances.

Wednesday, the Jubilee in Emmitsburg was a madhouse, with shoppers backed up at every register. Come Thursday, the panic had spread to the Weis and Food Lion in Thurmont. Business at all three could best be described as pure pandemonium.

Winter supplies were nowhere to be seen at Zurgable Brothers and Hobbs hardware by 3 p.m. Friday afternoon. Salt, wood pellets, and other necessities of survivalist living were gone.

According to Mark Zurgable, "gasoline and kerosene containers were the first to go as just about everyone was expecting that with the predicted high winds and up

to 36 inches of snow, power would not only be lost, but lost for quite some time."

Harrington brothers did a landmark business in snow blowers and generators. Come Monday morning, their usually cluttered showroom floor was empty. Every generator and snow blower in stock had been sold in the days leading up to the storm. Paul Harrington said that "half of the resupply due in the Monday after the storm had already been sold as well."

Bob Mort of Quality Tire said he had "the best week in years in the week leading up to the storm. Everyone who had been driving around with bald tires finally got smart!"

The first flakes of Jonas were seen around 3 p.m. on Friday. For the next few hours, the area experienced intermediate flurries. By 8 p.m. the flurries had turned to light snow, and by 11, just as predicted, heavy snow. The area woke up to anywhere from eight

to ten inches. The snow continued all day Saturday, at times heavy, but mostly just steady. Fortunately, the predicted winds never materialized, so there was not much drifting and few power outages. In the midst of the storm on Saturday, the county pulled road crews off the roads and let Mother Nature have her way.

By midnight, Jonas had pretty much expended itself. Sunday morning, the area woke to a true winter wonderland. With 20 to 25 inches of snow coating the ground, no one was going anywhere, and with just about all the churches calling off their services, there was no need to leave the house.

The absence of cars on the roads gave the county the chance it needed to play catch up – and catch up it did – although it would not be until Wednesday that roads in some of the outlying areas were fully plowed.

For photos from winter storm Jonas see page 15.

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Town Council to meet monthly

With less and less agenda items on their plate, the Emmitsburg Board of Commissioners voted to reduce the frequency of their regularly scheduled town council meetings from twice a month to once a month. In this decision, Emmitsburg joins Carroll Valley, Fairfield, and Taneytown. Thurmont's town council meetings take place once a week.

According to the Emmitsburg Town Charter, Commissioners are required by the town charter to hold only one meeting a month. For years, the commissioners met publicly on

a Monday once during the course of a month. They would meet privately to discuss the agenda for upcoming meetings whether it be individually, in small groups, or as a whole.

Current Town Manager Dave Haller said when he first took the position of Town Manager; he began to prepare agenda packets for the commissioners to ensure they were up to date. To accomplish this, Haller said he would walk the commissioners through the agenda items, though the commissioners were not at liberty to discuss the agenda items

or vote on them.

Unfortunately, the open meetings act required all meetings, except those that dealt with personnel matters or other delicate concerns, to be open to the public. This would include agenda meetings to provide the opportunity for the public to have their items added to the agenda. According to former town commissioner Ted Brennan, "Commissioners were not allowed to gather in a private meeting to discuss the town's business. We were told that meant talking in the office or across

the hedge about votes was a no no." All meetings that were business related had to be announced and open to the public.

In 2004, in the heat of the contentious debate over annexation and development, the number of agenda items grew in leaps and bounds causing town meetings to run routinely late into night. To help alleviate the situation Mayor Jim Hoover felt that the agenda meetings should be recast

as formal town meetings, which resulted in the commissioners holding meetings twice a month. While the town staff is required to be at the meetings, the additional 11 town council meetings costs the town approximately \$5,000 per year.

While the commissioners have decided to reduce their public meetings to once a month, they did leave the door open for additional public meetings if and when they are needed.

Noise and nuisance ordinance rejected

The Emmitsburg town council unanimously rejected a proposed nuisance ordinance submitted by the Mayor on the grounds that it was too open for interpretation and thus potential abuse.

The ordinance, first proposed back in October in response to frequent complaints about late night noise and loud parties, targeted residents who are reported for three noise or nuisance complaints in one year that have: "a negative impact on the well-being of other persons, disturbing the quality of life of

other persons; and is injurious to public health, safety, or welfare, or obstructs the reasonable use of property."

A violation notice would be issued informing accused residents of forthcoming legal actions if the nuisance is not abated. However, the ordinance did not clarify the criteria that the mayor or town manager would use to determine if a complaint was in fact a valid complaint.

The initial response of the public in October was less than favorable. One of the main concerns expressed by land-

lords was that the ordinance could be misinterpreted and make life difficult for renters. Attendees at the October meeting also agreed that the definition of "nuisance" needed to be clarified.

For example, the ordinance includes in its definition of nuisance: "Property used for the storage or concealment of illegal weapons, stolen property, contraband, or property where the tenant, owner, or other occupant has been convicted of violations of criminal law occurring on, in, or in relation to the property."

A revision of the ordinance, based upon input from the October meeting, was represented to the town council at its January 20th meeting. Upon review the commissioners unanimously rejected it, stating they still had concerns with the proposed definition of nuisance and how the mayor and/or town manager will determine what qualifies as a violation. In addition, the commissioners expressed concern that the penalties proposed for violation of the ordinance were too severe.

As written, the ordinance allows the

town to order a tenant, "who knew or should have known of the existence of the nuisance to vacate a property within 72 hours or to demand a plan to ensure that the property will not again be used for a nuisance."

The town council asked Commissioner Joe Ritz to have the Citizen Advisory Committee review the ordinance and make recommendations for improvement that will ensure a positive contribution to the quality of life in Emmitsburg. If the Advisory Committee is unable to modify the ordinance to achieve that goal, then that determination will be presented to the Town Council instead.

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Arguments over duplicate committee suggestion

Accusations were flying at the latest Carroll Valley borough council meeting when newly-elected borough councilman Bruce Carr introduced a motion to create another three-person committee to review decisions being made by the council on the proposed building project.

Carr suggested that his intention was to bring the discussions "out of the shade" so all council members would have knowledge of any decisions being made or brought before them.

"It needs to have the council take responsibility for these things," Carr said, noting that he'd been to one recent meeting of the "working group" appointed to discuss build-

ing issues and was surprised that not more council members were in attendance. "I feel like there is just not enough being seen. We're going to end up owning the project one way or the other. The council's going to be called on to justify it."

On the other hand, council member Ken Lundberg was having none of it, noting that because three members were appointed to serve on the working group and represent the council, there would be no need to form a separate committee. He further said that even if other council members attended, under the Sunshine Act, they would not be permitted to have a vote or take part in the

discussion or else it would have to be held as a council meeting.

"It would totally be redundant," Borough Manager Dave Hazlett concurred. "There would be no purpose to have two groups doing the same thing."

Councilman Dave Patton suggested advertising the working groups so that the public could attend the meetings if they wanted to have any information, and further offered to relinquish his place in the group so that Carr could attend in his place. Council president Janis Ashman interjected at that point saying she would prefer to take the spot as she had more of a responsibility to know what was being discussed.

The outcome of the 5-2 vote against the committee did not sit well with resident Richard Mathews, when during the public comments section of the meeting stood up and accused the board of violating the Sunshine Act.

"What you have is a group that gets together and makes decisions and then at the last minute gives it to the board, which makes fairly uniformed decisions that are going to affect all of the citizens of Carroll Valley," Mathews said, suggesting decisions were also being made without details being made available to the public.

Patton patiently explained to Mathews that "There are no major

decisions made at the working group meetings, nobody is hiding anything. There are no shadows, and quite frankly, I take offense to that. I'm a representative of the citizens, and that's all. We bring everything back to the council, we give the public updates. There's nothing underhanded going on whatsoever."

Borough solicitor Steve Coccorese agreed with Patton, reminding the public that regardless of any discussions held during the working group meetings, "no decisions are made on any items until it actually gets to the council for a vote. There are no additional powers that a committee would have over a working group," he said.

Election winners take oaths of offices

As hundreds of audience members looked on, six judges, including Adams County's first woman judge, presided as numerous county officials took their oaths of office in Gettysburg for their new election terms. Among those sworn being sworn in were Christina Simpson and Shawn Wagner, two Republicans who were elected as judges in November.

After family members presented the pair to the court and helped them into their new robes, they joined the county's four serving judges on the bench in the Ceremonial Courtroom of the Adams County Courthouse. Simpson said that, when she was a girl, she

"couldn't imagine being here," and expressed determination to make as positive a contribution as her ancestor who fought in the Battle of Gettysburg.

"It really feels like coming home today," she said, citing many hours spent in the courthouse while serving as an assistant district attorney and solicitor for Adams County Children and Youth Services and during her years in private practice.

Wagner, who brings his own experience as district attorney to the bench, joined Simpson in thanking the serving judges for their mentorship. "I'm truly honored to join your ranks," Wagner said. He also thanked his fam-

ily - pride beaming from each and every one of them as they listened to him.

The ceremony also marked the passing of the torch for two retiring judges: Robert Bigham and John Kuhn. Their decade's long service to Adams County was duly noted by a long standing ovation from the audience and fellow elected officials.

President Judge Michael George summed up the entire ceremony by reminding officials that they did not take their oaths as Republicans or Democrats, and that democracy's "institutions are greater than any of us as individuals." He said, "I urge officials to uphold the honor of be-

ing trusted by the public so that the next generation enjoys the lifestyle we have." Judge Thomas Campbell was on the bench as well.

As Elizabeth Meigan presented her husband Marty Karsteter Qually to be sworn in as commissioner, she said "This year's election created a great divide among Democrats to the extent that friendships melted, but now is the time of healing." She also encouraged "bridge-building" between parties.

Others sworn were: County Commissioner Randy Phiel, with Kelley and Connor Phiel. - County Commissioner Jim Martin, with James A. Martin as well as Joy and Martin Cox.

Magisterial District Judge Daniel Bowman, with his son Joseph Bowman. The latter, in uniform as a member of the U.S. Border Patrol, recounted some of his father's wide range of experiences, from receiving a gunshot wound as a police officer to being injured while dealing with a potentially rabid squirrel. - Coroner Patricia Felix, with her son, Bryan Felix. - District Attorney Brian Sinnett, with Rhonda Hull Kershner. - Controller Steven Renner, with Kimberly, Kelly, and Lindsay Renner. - Register and Recorder Karen Hefflin, with Crissy Redding. - Prothonotary Beverly Boyd was sworn in privately before the ceremony, George said, so that she could fulfill the duty of having each official sign formal paperwork after taking the oath.

Hamiltonban Area News Briefs . . .

Recreation Commission

Hamiltonban Township supervisors voted unanimously in January to create a joint Hamiltonban-Fairfield Recreation Commission. The vote occurred extended discussion and assurances that creating the joint commission did not mean a park would necessarily be built.

The long-debated discussion over the joint commission had been tabled until after the November general election, and was subsequently left on the table pending a letter from Fairfield that would formally request the borough be given a voting position on the commission - that letter was presented during the January meeting.

Strongly opposing the idea of creating a recreation park, jointly or alone were two supervisors - Doug Woerner and LuAnne Dille. "Every vote, I have voted against the park," said Dille. "I am not for a park in this location." Dille further stated that "Funds are so tight we can't afford a bridge; we had to get a loan," referring to a loan from Penn DOT to finance the Reeds Bridge replacement.

Supervisor Robert Gordon further assured Dille and Woerner the park, numerous years in the planning, would not be constructed simply because the joint commission would be approved. The final vote to create the joint commission was unanimous among the five supervisors.

Reeds Bridge re-opens

In other business, Reeds Bridge

re-opened in early January ending a month-long replacement project in Hamiltonban Township.

The concrete box-culvert structure replaced a steel grate bridge after township officials discovered several support beams had rusted away. Construction was hindered by deeper than expected original concrete and several days of heavy rain - "The rains at the end of December and beginning of the year were a little overwhelming," said

job foreman Timothy Gregory - and then sub-zero temperatures.

Temporary paving was installed to protect the bridge until spring, when permanent blacktop will be laid down. "We're happy that it's completed," Township Supervisors Board Chairman Robert Gordon said as the Bridge Closed signs were moved away. "It was a long process, obviously, and we thank everyone for their patience during this long period of time."

He said the bridge, which carries Mount Hope Road traffic across Toms Creek at Gum Springs Road, is heavily used, especially by Mount Hope Road residents who, along with school buses and trash collectors, have been forced to detour about eight miles around the construction site.

Board re-organization

The discussion followed the state-mandated annual reorganization

meeting, during which the following officials were appointed: Chairman, Robert Gordon; vice chairman, Doug Woerner; road coordinator, Edward Deardorff; office coordinator, LuAnne Dille; safety officer, Coleen Reamer; and right-to-know officer, Deborah Feiler. Township engineering firm, William F. Hill of Gettysburg; Zoning hearing board solicitor, Harry Eastman; Township auditor, Musselman and Creager LLP of Gettysburg. The next meeting of the township supervisors is set for Feb. 2 at 7 p.m. at the township office on Carroll's Tract Road.



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NEWS

Officers receive lifesaving awards

At the January 19th town Council meeting Thurmont Chief of Police Gregory Eyeler presented three Lifesaving awards to officers who persevered in a lifesaving act.

The first Lifesaving award was presented to Officer Kyle Minnick. An adult female had overdosed on an unknown substance and had stopped breathing. Upon arrival at the scene Minnick found an uncapped hypodermic needle on the bedside table next to where the female was not breathing. Minnick immediately administered a Naloxin injection - medicine that reverses an opioid overdose - whereupon the victim's vitals began to improve. Shortly thereafter the victim opened her eyes and was able to respond to verbal commands.

Officer R. Torres received the second Lifesaving award for his

actions in response to a separate drug overdose. Upon arrival at the scene Torres was informed by the female's sister that she was dead upstairs. He found the female on her back not breathing with a used needle close by. Torres took action immediately by administered a Naloxin injection. Within a minute of receiving the injection the female regained color and opened her eyes.

Had it not been for these two officers and their quick thinking and decisive actions, both women would have died.

Officer Brian Donovan was the third recipient of the Lifesaving award. Responding to a call for an individual suffering cardiac arrest, Donovan arrived on the site and quickly assessed the individual's vitals. The individual was not breathing. Using his portable automated external defi-

brillator, Donovan administered two shocks to the individual, as instructed, and two sets of chest compressions. After the second round of shocks and chest compressions the individual began to breathe. The individual was taken to Frederick Memorial Hospital where, unfortunately, the individual suffered another cardiac arrest and then passed away.

While the individual did not make it, Chief Eyeler said Donovan's actions were in the highest tradition of the department and saved the individual's life temporarily, which earned him the Lifesaving award.

Mayor Kinnaird congratulated the three officers and thanked them for their efforts. Commissioner Wes Hamrick expressed his gratitude saying, "We are very blessed to have a great department out there."



Officer Kyle Mimmick accepting his Lifesaving award from Thurmont Chief of Police, Greg Eyeler.

In addition to the Life Safety awards, Chief Eyeler also promoted Officer David Armstrong to the rank of Corporal. Commenting on the promotion, Commissioner Burns told those assembled: "I have had the pleasure of seeing him

in action working crime scenes, working next to my old property on countless occasions. He is always respectful, polite, and above all else professional. He is a true credit to Thurmont and the Thurmont police force."

Planning and zoning fees considered

At the December 15th Thurmont town meeting a revised fee structure for planning and zoning was discussed. The fee structure would apply to residents that submit a formal application asking the town to consider annexing a parcel of land into Thurmont, along with other services such as site plan reviews.

No actual fees were discussed for the potential fee structure. The purpose of the discussion was to get the commissioners thinking about the possibility of additional fees for specific planning and zoning review items. Chief Administrative Officer, Jim Humerick says most municipal-

ities already charge fees for services such as site plan reviews and annexation applications and reviews. Thurmont currently charges some fees for planning and zoning, but does not charge for these types of services.

Mayor John Kinnaird said that by creating this fee it will help cover the cost that occurs during the annexation process, including paying town staff, paying contractors, and legal fees.

The Mayor would like some sort of fee structure in place so that the town can be compensated for the time and work put into reviewing plans and annexation requests. It can

sometimes take several years for a property to be annexed.

Commissioner Martin Burns voiced his concerns regarding the amount of fees required by the town. He fears that the amount may cause future applicants to deter from applying and ultimately cost the town benefits such as revenue from taxes and job growth.

Commissioner Burns referred back to a previous annexation request where the town stood to gain over \$10 million worth of benefits. This example, Burns said, "shows we can set any fee we want when the application comes in. We can

recoup anything we want. We don't have to set a price."

Commissioner Burns pointed out to the board that setting an upfront fee may have a chilling effect on potential applicants who will be faced with paying the town money upfront for an annexation application that could be denied. As opposed to first getting the annexation approved, then being billed by the town for all resultant zoning and permit work. In doing so, it could limit potentially profitable expansion opportunities for the town.

Commissioner Burns noted that: "We've had 2 annexations in 16 years, the Mayor and board had no problem giving real money and ser-

vices to the BOE when they donated a transformer at a cost of approximately \$175,000. They had no problem putting a new service line in for Potomac Edison \$175,000. Yet there's such a huge problem with annexations? If the town approached a property owner and the "town" wanted to annex their property, would we still charge a fee? There can be real benefits to the town when annexing property, increased taxes on real property, services (a doctors office, retail etc), and of course jobs. We shouldn't create legislation to fix a problem that doesn't exist."

The board voted to have a fee structure draft drawn up for public review in an upcoming meeting.

New broadcast system considered

Thurmont's Board of Commissioners have agreed to consider using funds from the FY16 budget to purchase a new camera system for the town office.

Chief Administrative Officer, Jim Humerick, has received several complaints from residents in regards to the current broadcasting system the town is using to broad-

cast town meetings. The issues that have become prevalent have to deal with the quality of the picture and sound of the broadcasts on channel 99.

Humerick reports that while no complaints have been made in regards to the video streaming that can be accessed on the town's website, with the town's current cam-

era system now pushing 20 years old, the need for change has become apparent.

The FY16 town budget set aside \$17,689 for the purchase of a new flat screen projection system for the town office. At the January 12th meeting, Humerick asked the board to consider putting the projection system on hold to use the funds to

instead purchase the new camera system.

The idea of getting a new camera for the meeting room is not a new topic being discussed. The town previously received an estimate for a new camera system that, according to Humerick, included the "whole nine yards." The estimate was \$30,000. But the town is looking further into the matter to hopefully find a higher quality camera with a lower estimate.

At the meeting, Commissioner Burns expressed apprehension about the idea of reallocating the funds at this point in time. Burns suggested that before any decision is made to reallocate funds more research should be done to verify the \$17,689 will cover the cost of a camera, and that at a minimum, more research be done on the subject before a final decision is made.

The board agreed to revisit the subject at a later date.

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February 4

Civic League Meeting

Last Friday the regular monthly meeting of the Civic League was held in the high school. The attendance, though not large in proportion to the enrollment, was representative. Several matters of importance, pertaining to the morals and health of the community, were discussed and committees appointed.

As an incentive to the prevention of fly breeding the League offered a prize of one dollar for the first quart of flies killed since February 1st and brought to the secretary of the League. Following the custom that has accomplished so much in the extermination of flies in other places, it was determined by the League to offer a nominal sum for dead flies during the spring and summer months. Also new iron signs that say: "Keep to the right" were contracted for by the League, the signs to take the place of wooden ones now at the Square.

Mild Weather

Emmitsburg, in fact all of Frederick County, has not experienced in 18 years, such mild weather as has been prevalent during the past month. The farmers throughout the county are rejoicing over the fall of snow on Wednesday. While the growing wheat is said to have been looking well there was danger of a freeze, which has been prevented by the recent snow. If signs count for anything, Frederick County will have six weeks of good weather as the groundhog failed to see his shadow any place in the county on Tuesday.

Auto Show Big Success

Frederick's second annual automobile show was the biggest and finest display of motor vehicles that Western Maryland has ever had. The cars shown were valued at \$100,000. This exhibit, unusually well display, represented 30 autocars from the leading manufacturers of the country. The range in price of these machines was for \$300 for a roadster to \$6,000 for a beautifully appointed limousine.

February 11

Reprimand For Wrecking Trolley

Barney Carbaugh, 10 years old, of near Catoctin Furnace, was brought to Frederick last Saturday and taken before the justice of the peace, charged with having placed an obstruction on one of the rails of the Thurmont trolley last Tuesday, which caused a serious wreck. Barney, while returning from school the saw a piece of iron lying along the track and just for the amusement, placed in on one of the rails. He waited several minutes for the trolley but when it was late arriving, the little fellow continued on his journey

home. Shortly after the car struck the iron, left the track and crashed into a telephone pole. It was damage to the extent of several hundreds of dollars and 20 passengers made narrow escapes from serious injury. By reason of the child's age the sentence was suspended after a severe reprimand from the magistrate.

Chestnut Blight Worse in Frederick County

While some farmers have reported that the chestnut blight, which has been destroying trees throughout Frederick County, is disappearing, a different story is told by others who have been carefully watching the progress of the serious tree disease. John Early claims that conditions are even worse than ever before, and he cannot understand how some say that the blight is vanishing.

"I've been cutting timber for telephone polls" said Mr. Early, "and you can hardly find a chestnut tree that is not affected. I think that the blight is now worse than ever before. This is not only true on Catoctin Mountain, but also on South Mountain, where I worked last summer. You can scarcely find a bunch of sprouts that is not blighted."

In the summertime the blight appears as a gradual withering of the leaves. Its progress is steady and results in the death of the healthiest looking trees. This tree disease has enlisted the best thought of scientist and foresters - but no remedy seems to be forthcoming.

February 18

Narrowly Escaped Serious Injury

While sledding On Gettysburg St., Tuesday evening, William Sprenkle, of East Main St., collided with an automobile, narrowly escaping serious injury. The car was coming in the opposite direction and before the driver could stop, the machine struck the sled, throwing young Sprenkle under it. Other than a few cuts about the head and knee, he was not seriously injured.

Killed While Operating Pump

While operating a gasoline pump on the Western Maryland Railway Bridge in Rocky Ridge, Samuel Butts, 63 years old, was killed. The section foreman found his body wedged in the machine. Butts' clothing was caught in the pump and he was drawn in head-first under the flywheel. His skull was crushed. He was a section hand and is survived by a widow and six children.

Presidents' Day

On Lincoln's birthday many flags were seen floating from homes and stores in Emmitsburg. On next Tuesday, Washington's birthday, it is expected that Bunting

will be displayed profusely on all stores and residents in town.

February 25

Maryland Passes Up Suffrage

After one of the hottest fights of the present session of the Maryland legislature, the House Committee on Constitutional Amendments reported the proposed suffrage measurement unfavorably. The whole Frederick County delegation stood by the equal rights measure, with one exception, Edward Delaplaine, who opposed it.

Horse Thief Caught

A horse and buggy, valued at \$250, was stolen on the farm of Charles Flook, late Wednesday night. Yesterday, a negro giving his name as John Wilson, about 35 years old was arrested by Deputy Lidie, a Thurmont, while trying to sell the team. The prisoner was taken to Frederick and after a hearing before the justice of the peace, was held on \$500 bail for action of the next grand jury.

Organization Notice

A special invitation is extended to all men between the ages of 18 and 50, to be present at a meeting in Emerald Hall on Tuesday night for the purpose of organizing a tribe of Red Men. Because of the inclemency of the weather, the attendance at the preliminary meeting on Tuesday night was small, but enthusiasm was manifest, and consequently the organizers are confident that our hearty response will be made to this invitation.

Death of Mary Bowling

After weeks of suffering which she bravely bore in the spirit of Christian fortitude and resignation which characterized her life, Mrs. Mary Bowling died at her home on Gettysburg Street. The cause of her death was a complication of diseases. She leaves behind her, beside her husband, nine young children, one of which is a baby five weeks old.



Yes, I Stopped over at Marville

THE dearest burg I struck in my territory. Been dry for a couple of years. And the hotel!—the worst I ever came across. A glass of beer with your meals? Holy horrors!—the natives don't know what a glass of beer is.

"Can't I get a drink in this village?" I asked the hotel clerk. "Front!" A bellhop came up. "Put this gentleman's hat in the cloak room." The boy grinned. I followed him. He winked at the check boy, who opened up a suit-case labeled "A. Jones." From this he took a bottle of fusel oil. I planked down a dollar, sipped the drink and shuddered, and pocketed my half dollar change.

That's the dry town's notion of temperance and abiding by the law. That's how prohibition prohibits. How different the next town where you can get beer at a well-run beer saloon, and the natives, knowing moderation means temperance, are sober and industrious.

—Advertisement



Thurmont Post Office Robbed

Yeggman early Sunday morning blew up two safes in the Thurmont post office but left without having obtained loot of any kind. The door of the smaller safe was jammed into the wall at a point near the ceiling. There was nothing of value in the safe. Although the door of the larger safe used entirely for the storage of stamps and funds of the post office was torn from its hinges, bent, twisted and warped beyond repair, the charge explosive was not effectively placed. The second, or interior, door of the safe was not open. The total loss will amount to about \$200. An investigation is being conducted into the burglary but as yet no arrest had been made. The only clue points to two strange men, who were seen moving about suspiciously before the burglary and her were seen leaving town

a short time after the explosions occurred.

Boozers Celebrate Suffrage Vote

Former Former Boozers turned out in force to heckle the suffragettes who gathered on the Square last night to protest the defeat of the state bill to allow women to vote. The Boozers paid a dollar to the boy who could blow out the most candles held by the women - which according to Boozers President Dan Shorb - was a far better use of a dollar than killing flies. "Flies I can live with," said Shorb, "but what right minded man can live with a women voting?" Calls to end the boozers' celebration went unheeded as Constable Shuff was partaking in the celebration himself.

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



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FROM THE DESK OF . . .

County Councilman Kirby Delauter

We are approaching the budget season for county government and as usual, I'll point out some items of interest as well as things I feel we could do differently. It's interesting to see how the State budget cycle works because as a County, we rely on a lot of State dollars for our local government. The State budget cycle is as follows:

1. Budget instructions are sent to state agencies in June of the year preceding the start of the new fiscal year.
2. State agencies submit their budget requests to the governor in late August.
3. Agency hearings are held from October through November.
4. Public hearings are held from January through March.
5. The governor submits his or her proposed budget to the state legislature on the third Wednesday in January.
6. The legislature typically adopts a budget in April. A simple majority is required to pass a budget. The fiscal year begins July 1.

The County fiscal year coincides with the State, so as of July 1, we are into our new fiscal year. The interesting point Councilman Shreve and I have brought up repeatedly is that as a council that represents Frederick County we are losing out on millions of state tax dollars due to the fact we are not represented in Annapolis. We have requested for the second year in a row that the

council hire a lobbying firm to represent us in Annapolis.

Now, you may say, hey Delauter, why would you send my tax dollars to a lobbyist in Annapolis, I thought you were a fiscal conservative? You would be correct in asking that question. Here's my answer, if you don't know the inner workings of Annapolis you are getting passed by for (your own) tax dollars. The lobbyist we requested to hire would charge \$25,000 annually. When I spoke to his firm last year, after we missed the boat, he stated that there was \$70 million in untapped funds that went unappropriated. I wonder how much funding Frederick County could have tapped into for that \$25,000 fee?

Everybody that knows me knows I like to gamble, I gamble every day in the construction business, I love to gamble on the craps table, and I will bet anyone, that if we should hire a lobbyist, we would not only recover the \$25,000 fee, we would bring back multi millions for Frederick County that is simply our money to begin with. Instead, we are no shows in Annapolis, we pay no attention to the timeline as shown above, and when the money is doled out, they pass by Frederick County simply because we have no one representing our interests and we show up late to the party year after year.

On to the reactionary issue of the week, impact fees. The County Executive is requesting the council propose a bill on her behalf to raise impact fees. Just a short note, the council is the branch of this government that proposes legislation but what is happen-

ing with this piece is that the Executive Gardner has written the legislation and is using the council and an extension of her office to propose legislation from the back door. The council is supposed to be a check and balance to the executive, in our case, we are simply an extension of the county executive.

These fees are not going to solve the issue of school funding. We need two elementary schools at a proposed cost of \$45 Million each. Here's some info as to why this won't work and why it's Dejavu all over again. If you go to the Frederick News Post (FNP) archives you'll find an article for September 2000 that is very interesting. It's an article about what else but, school impact fees and funding.

The then County Commissioners (which included our current Executive Jan Gardner) passed a 300% increase in school impact fees on builders and developers. The County Manager is quoted as saying at the time that the plan "calls for 1,200 homes per year and with these new fee increases, this will solve all of our school funding problems."

Now I don't know about you, but I have never seen a 300% increase in any of my annual income, yet the county back in 2000 passed this "solution" that would cure our school funding needs. It's funny how we had the same players back 17 years ago, proposing the same tired ideas of blaming builders and developers yet today we have the same problem we had back then, and to make things worse these same people are proposing the same solution today as they proposed 17 years ago and somehow they seem to think they're go-

ing to get a different result? Wouldn't a sane person ask this question: If we raised fees 17 years ago by 300%, (and they've been raised since) and we still have school funding issues, isn't raising fees a solution that doesn't work?

The fact is, from 2000 – 2008 we exceeded the 1,200 homes per year and to boot, when the county in 2006 updated the Comp plan, their synopsis stated that their debt affordability models needed 1500 homes annually on average to maintain the bond to revenue ratios for debt affordability.

So, from 2008 – 2015 we have only averaged 800 homes annually so we are 50% of what the models predicted and this is evidenced by the fact we have in 2015, 57 fewer FCPS student enrolled than predicted.

Now I'm not a mathematics major, but the numbers would tell me that fees are not the issue along with builders and developers are not the issue. Heck, we should be relaxing standards on builders or having a blue light special on building permits so we increase revenue for impact fees. If we use the County Executive's model and increase impact fees themselves, this will not increase revenues; it will actually decrease revenues and stifle an already fragile construction market.

Some other interesting facts are that in the last ten years over \$80 million in fees have been paid by developers for an added student population of 1000, or \$80,000 per student. The current Tischer/Bise study for impact fees requested by County Executive clearly states that a new (per) student costs

the county taxpayer \$35,000 each. So, if we've taken in \$80,000 per student in fees, and a student costs \$35,000 each (in today's dollars) where the hell is all the money? Why are we proposing to raise fees?

I have a theory that explains this gap in revenue. I have proposed to issue a request for proposal to do design/build contracts for the two new elementary schools. I also propose to include a private lease agreement for the school and the maintenance and custodial contracts as well. My bet (remember I like to gamble) is that the schools can get built for far less than \$45M and by including all maintenance and custodial, we could systematically eliminate FCPS maintenance and custodial employees through attrition thus reducing these costs by making them fixed costs within the long-term contract.

My theory is this, this is where we lose the \$50M gap between fees collected and student costs. We lose it in all of the miscellaneous employees and benefits. My theory also includes the reason this will never come to fruition until we're flat broke, is because all of these miscellaneous employees are a huge voting bloc. Who will they vote for, a businessman like me that wants to control costs, or a FCPS employee that was elected to the Council like CM Fitzwater or Donald who will provide them with higher pay and benefits ... with your money? None of this is rocket science, just follow the money and you'll find the answers.

Hopefully I can continue to help expose this while still finding ways to educate our children without breaking the banks of ordinary citizens that call Frederick County home.

"More Dollars than Sense"

Justin Kiska

It's the season once again, budget season that is. This is the time of year when governments across the country are all working on drafting their budgets for the next fiscal year. It's no different here in Frederick County.

The process kicked off back in December when County Executive Jan Gardner held her first public hearing on the county's Fiscal Year 2017 budget. This will be her second budget as county executive since Frederick transitioned to a charter form of government. Under that Charter, the county executive, whoever he or she may be, drafts the budget and must

present it to the County Council by April 15th. The Council then has until May 25th to adopt the budget.

There are some interesting points about the budget process that should be addressed. Under the Charter, the county executive is responsible for putting the budget together. The executive gets to decide how much and where county dollars will be spent. After all, that's a large part of why they are elected and that's the standard operating procedure for counties throughout Maryland operating under the charter form of government.

What then, is the role of the County Council in the process beyond approving the budget? The Council can make cuts to the proposed budget and decrease spending. However, the Council does not have the ability to increase funding for a budget item.

During the last budget cycle, the newly sworn in Council exercised their budget authority and made over \$600,000 in cuts to Executive Gardner's first budget. While member of the Council would have liked to have seen that additional money go toward certain programs, they could not make that happen because the County Council can only decrease the amount of money spent on a budget item.

The county's FY16 budget was just under \$536 million, \$250 million of which went to the school system. That

amount was only \$4 million above MOE, Maintenance of Effort, funding. That is the absolute minimum amount of funding the state allows a county to allocate to schools. Four million doesn't sound like all that much compared to a budget of over \$500 million. But that \$4 million was the first increase in school funding in six years.

During the election in 2014, a number of candidates promised to increase the spending for the school system. After six years of nothing more than Maintenance of Effort funding, it could be argued that an additional \$4 million was nothing, a mere drop in the bucket.

Let's take a look at an alternate history for a moment. What if there had been a majority of Council members who wanted to increase the amount of tax dollars being spent on education? They could have done what is so hard for elected officials to do and found areas of the budget to cut, because the budget must be balanced, and taken that money and increased the funds going to schools.

Knowing a number of the members of the County Council, I am sure they would have loved to have been able to do that. Under the Charter however, they couldn't.

In 2014, I proposed what I thought should be the first amendment to the Charter. The County Council should be given the authority to not only decrease funding for particular line items but increase it as well.

On principle, I do not like giving addi-

tional people the power to spend county tax dollars, but if the Council is to be the legislative balance to the executive, they need the ability to fulfill that responsibility.

Education spending is only one example. What if the Council wanted to approve a large number of road projects or but the county executive was absolutely opposed. What recourse do the seven members of the County Council have under the current Charter?

In an ideal world, the county executive and Council would work together in drafting a budget so that everyone was happy with the very first draft. Unfortunately, that isn't how things actually happen and a despotic county executive could very easily ride roughshod over the Council throughout the budget process.

Under Frederick County's Charter, we have a very powerful county executive. That is why it is so important that the County Council is able to provide a balance to the executive's authority. To do that however, they need the tools. An amendment to the Charter allowing them to increase funding is the first step, followed by having a staff person to specifically advise on the budget and fiscal matters.

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GOVERNMENT—SOUTH OF THE MASON-DIXON LINE

County Executive Jan Gardner 2016 Priorities – Education, jobs, seniors, and community

I am writing this column in the midst of the blizzard of 2016! Hope by the time you are reading this, the weather is a little less snowy.

I wanted to share with you my priorities for Frederick County for 2016. We live in a beautiful county and are blessed with good schools, a safe place to live, and a high quality of life. In fact, we were just ranked in the top ten counties to live in the United States (#9). Our collective challenge is to keep it that way!

Education: One of our biggest challenges in the next few years is keeping school construction on track and on time in the face of dramatically rising costs. We need to build two new elementary schools to address serious overcrowding in the City of Frederick and in Urbana. Right now, the capital budget is short \$36 million to build both schools in the same budget year – meaning there is only enough money for one school. To solve this challenge, I am asking our delegation to introduce a bill to require the state to pay or cost share in new state mandates that have increased the cost of our schools; I am advocating for more state dollars; and, I am asking developers to be part of the solution through impact and school mitigation fees that reflect the actual increased cost of school con-

struction. Some creative and out of the box ideas are also being pursued. All of these proposals are needed to keep school construction on track.

Our schools also need to attract and retain the best teachers in our classrooms since teachers make the biggest difference to our student outcomes. We need to make sure we address class size and provide the breadth of course work to students that they need for work or college. Our children have to compete globally for jobs and need the skills and course offerings to be prepared. I have committed to funding above the minimum level required by law (Maintenance of Effort) and to direct half of all new revenues to education.

Jobs: We know that having a job is fundamental to a high quality of life. Frederick County is already one of Maryland's economic engines. Our unemployment rate dropped to 4.6% as the number of jobs here rose. Housing prices are rebounding faster in Frederick County than for the average county our size. Our economic output has grown to \$11 billion. Frederick is leading the way in Maryland.

To encourage more jobs and to keep our young people living and working right here in Frederick County, I am advancing plans to cre-

ate a business innovation center at 118 N. Market Street in Frederick. The center would include a new IT and technology incubator under the umbrella of the county's Frederick Innovative Technology Center Inc. (FITCI). I hope to engage students from both Hood College and Mt. St. Mary's University. Companies growing out of our incubator have located their businesses in Frederick County. For example, HSRL Pathology spent six months at FITCI before outgrowing the space. In 2008, the company moved into the old bowling alley and roller rink on Frederick Road in Thurmont. FITCI has been very successful in supporting start up businesses and creating jobs in Frederick. We need to keep that energy going.

It's true that the small towns and rural areas of the county have had challenges with job growth. The best opportunities are to support our Main Street programs and to encourage and support small businesses. We are working collaboratively to market our small town Main Streets. To support small businesses, my legislative package to Annapolis includes a small business tax credit. We recently launched a small business loan guarantee fund to assist start ups with gap financing. And, we have a small business

specialist to help our small businesses get started. We also support our agriculture industry through our Agriculture Economic Development Specialist.

Another way we're looking to add jobs is through regional efforts. The Office of Economic Development is partnering with the Tech Council of Maryland for a first-of-its-kind CEO mentoring program. We're also participating in efforts to brand the region as a hub for life sciences and technology. We're making it clear that Frederick County means business!

Seniors: One of the biggest tasks of 2016 is standing up Citizens Care and Rehabilitation Center and Montevue Assisted Living. It will be a heavy lift to transition the homes back under County ownership. I will be looking for expertise to help make this transition to fulfill our promise to take care of Frederick's seniors.

I also look to the Seniors First steering committee to make recommendations about how to best prepare to take advantage of our rapidly growing population of seniors and plan for services. Stay tuned for more.

Community In 2016, I look to strengthen our partnerships with our non-profit human service agencies to be more effective in helping all citizens be successful. We have begun this process with Community Partnership Grants. A housing study is also under way to provide information on how to best utilize and leverage affordable housing fees

paid by new development. We want to make sure we use these funds wisely to provide housing for seniors and to keep our young people living here too.

While we're on the topic of housing, I want to share some exciting news. A few months ago, we developed a partnership with non-profit Interfaith Housing Alliance to redevelop a former county school building into about 55 workforce rental units. I am please to share that the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development awarded \$15 million in tax credit equity to fund the majority of the project. This is a fantastic project that not only adds some affordable rental units but reinvests in our core community and puts a vacant building back onto our tax rolls.

I also want to finish a number of initiatives that were started in the past year including updating the county comprehensive land use plan called Livable Frederick and advancing ideas from the public outreach forums on solid waste and recycling solutions. We will also be highlighting our first all electric transit busses in April – the first in the region. And, we will see some key transportation projects move forward. The State has provided construction funding for a new interchange at I-270 and MD 85, several improvements along U.S. 15, and a new bridge over Flat Run in Emmitsburg will be constructed.

It is a great time to be living in Frederick County!

County Councilman Billy Shreve

February ... 14 months in office. #1 duty of the County Council is to provide budget oversight. So far ... after 14 months we still have not hired a Budget Director. But I am proud to announce that we have created a job description ... and ... wait for it ... Advertised the position.

Now some of you may say that is not very exciting but after being in office for 14 months and tirelessly advocating the need for a Council Budget Director this is BIG news! In fact I will go out on a limb here ... I'm covering all bets ... the Council will begin to jell in 2016. OK ... time to hedge ... maybe jell is too strong ... but probably not a stretch to say it's only up from here.

Have we hit rock bottom? I hope. Council President Bud Otis did make 3 huge blunders recently. Almost impossible for things to get worse. But, it's only January.

Bud Blunder #1 - Otis did read a statement, possibly written by the County legal staff, stating his comments about firing a former county employee were wrong.

Bud Blunder #2 - He sent out a "correction" press release, which was factually inaccurate. Otis was wrong when he stated that I asked for Budget Directors to apply for the job with only a 25 word essay describing why they want the job. The fact is I asked for the essay, Cover letter and resume. Rather standard when applying for a job in today's world. I had 5 responses almost immediately. When Otis was informed of his mistake he issued No correction press release correcting his previously incorrect correction press release.

Bud Blunder #3 – Out of nowhere, in a public meeting, Bud decided to tell the world how the Council hired a consulting firm last year. He stated who

hired them, who made the motion, who seconded the motion, who was in the room during the vote, the vote tally, and why we didn't continue with their services. Of the 6 items he mentioned, nothing he said was correct. The Frederick News Post wrote an article immediately after the meeting based on Otis' statements at the meeting. After reviewing the video archives, the FNP wrote a correction article the next day stating what really happened and Headlined it "Council President gave incorrect information on accounting vote". Did Otis deliberately lie? When asked by the FNP about his statements he said his comments were a misstatement, but they generally reflected what happened. Uh ... What? He didn't get anything right. He was 0 for 6. His quote was "It's immaterial. All five of us did vote to let them go," Otis said. In the public meeting that created this mess he said

the vote was 6-0.

My conclusion ... After 3 Big Bud Blunders recently it is hard for things to get worse. Unless that rumor about Bud wanting an Executive Security detail are true.

2016 Council Predictions ... Things

will get better. Additional Council staff will be hired. The Council will establish itself a separate entity from the County Executive. Citizen services from the Council will improve. Hang on!

Billy Shreve represents Frederick County as a Councilman at Large. He can be reached at billy@FrederickCountyMD.gov, or 301-639-4763.

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FROM THE DESK OF...

Carroll Valley Mayor Ron Harris

Under Pennsylvania Borough Code, a special meeting of Council called "Reorganization Meeting" is held on the first Monday in January of each even-numbered year unless it is a holiday. During this meeting, the Mayor, if necessary, administers the oath of office to residents elected to council and presides at the meeting until a President and Vice President are elected.

At the January 4th Carroll Valley Borough Reorganization meeting, I had the pleasure to swear-in 5 council members elected to council: Janis Ashman (re-elected), Bruce Carr (newly elected), Tom Fitzsimmons (re-elected), Tyler Pyles (newly elected), and Sarah Skoczen (re-elected). Council members already serving are Ken Lundberg and Dan Patton.

The seven-member Council elected Janis Ashman as President and Sarah Skoczen as Vice President of Council. Congratulations to all. Felicitations goes to Terry Weikert, the Borough's Municipal Services Supervisor and Roadmaster upon his retirement. I presented a certificate of appreciation for his 24 years of dedication, diligence and outstanding service to our residents. He will be missed.

The Carroll Valley Police Department under the command of Police Chief Richard L. Hileman reported to Carroll Valley Borough Council that the Department responded to 2516 calls for service, a 0.1% increase over 2014. Calls for service are incidents requiring a police response and do not include vehicle stops or other routine duties. The 2516 calls for service resulted in 236 Uniform Crime Reports

or UCRs. A UCR is crime as defined by the FBI and categorized into Part 1 and Part 2 Offenses.

Part 1 are homicide, forcible rape, robbery, assault, burglary, theft and arson and Part 2 are everything else except traffic offenses like stop signs or speeding. Part 1 offenses decreased about 9% and Part 2 decreased 14%. Ignoring seasonal ski thefts, overall crime decreased 9% overall. The Police Department cleared (solved by arrest or other means) 56% of the Part 1 crimes. The state averaged just 31% cleared in 2014 (most recent statewide figures available). Carroll Valley Police cleared 25% more than the state average. 73% of Part 2 crimes were cleared compared to 59% state-wide. How safe are we? The state-wide rural crime rate for 2014 was 17 Part 1 and 39 Part 2 crimes per 1,000 residents. Our 2015 Part 1 is 14 crimes per 1,000 (13% less) and Part 2 is 20 crimes per 1,000 (47% less) respectively. Police issued 835 traffic, non-traffic and ordinance citations in 2015 including 322 for speeding, 500 for other traffic and 13 for criminal violations.

Our police officers also participated in roving patrols and a local checkpoint. These Adams County DUI Task Force patrols were funded by state grant funds. Carroll Valley Police arrested 36 DUI operators in 2015. Of these, 19 were under the influence of a controlled substance or drugs and alcohol. Of the remaining 17, 10 had BAC of twice the limit or more. Of the last 7, 2 were more than 25% over the limit and 2 refused testing. If you would like to view the video presentation that Chief Hileman gave, watch the January 2016 meeting. We all can

be proud of the service provided by our Carroll Valley Police Department.

As of this writing, we have experienced a sprinkle of snow and unusual warm temperatures. However, we know that snow is coming. We need to help out our borough maintenance crew who are trying to clear the trails. This can be accomplished by you not parking your vehicles on the trails. It slows the snow removal process and in some cases can be dangerous to the plow operators trying to get around partially parked cars. Remember, during a snow emergency, which includes most snow events, it is illegal to park on the road or in the right of way just off the road and can result in your car being ticketed and towed. Please help us by doing your part and keep our roads clear. Also when we are experiencing very low temperatures, please do not leave your pets outside. Be alert for signs of frostbite and injury. Dogs' ears, paws and tails are especially susceptible and if you suspect frostbite, contact your veterinarian.

The Department of Environmental Protection has urged all Pennsylvanians to test their homes for radon. Radon is a deadly radioactive gas that is the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers in the United States. Winter is the best time to test your home for radon because doors and windows are typically closed and tightly sealed, producing the most accurate results. We live in a high radon area. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sets the "action level" for radon at 4 picocuries per liter of air. Residents with levels at or above that figure should take steps to lower



2016 Carroll Valley Borough Council. Front Row: Sarah Skoczen and Janis Ashman. Back Row: Mayor Ron Harris, Councilors Ken Lundberg, Bruce Carr, Dan Patton, Tom Fitzsimmons, and Tyler Pyles

them. Testing for radon is the only way to know if a home has elevated concentrations of radon. Test kits can be purchased at most hardware or home improvement stores at an average cost of \$15 to \$25 per test. If you are uncomfortable doing the testing yourself, you can hire a state-certified radon tester. Pennsylvania law requires all radon service providers, such as radon testers, radon mitigators, and radon laboratories to be certified by DEP. The list of Pennsylvania-certified radon service providers is updated monthly and available on DEP's website. You can also obtain a hard copy of the directory or verify a company's certification by calling 800-23RADON. You also can visit DEP's website for further information at www.dep.pa.gov/radon.

The Carroll Valley Borough July 4th (J4) Committee is organizing their 2nd Annual fundraiser Daddy-Daughter Princess Ball to be held on Saturday, February 13th from 6:00 to 9:30 pm at the Fairfield Fire and EMS Banquet Hall. Ticket price is

\$35 per couple and \$10 for each additional child. So whether your Valentine is a toddler or a teen, show her how special she is to you. Fathers, Uncles, Grandfathers or anyone with a special girl is invited to spend a semi-formal evening full of music, dancing, yummy food and fun! Proceeds raised will go to support the Carroll Valley July 4th event. Pre-registration is required. For more information or to register, go to cvj4events@gmail.com or call 717-642-8269. Seating is limited.

The Borough will be holding the following meetings in February: Planning Commission (Monday – Feb 1st), Borough Council (Tuesday – Feb 9th), and the Parks/Recreation Committee (Wednesday – Feb 24th). The Borough Office will be closed on Monday – Feb 15th for Presidents Day. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by email at MayorRonHarris@comcast.net or by cell at (301) 606-2021. Be careful driving on the trails. We need to slow down. Watch out for ice.

State Senator Richard Alloway

Pennsylvania's credit rating has taken a number of hits in recent years because the cost of state government has grown at a faster rate than can be supported by state revenues. These expensive outlays have created a structural deficit that must be addressed in order to avoid saddling taxpayers with millions upon millions in additional borrowing costs and new taxes.

A recent report by Standard & Poor's offered a roadmap for Pennsylvania to avoid further credit downgrades and get our commonwealth back on solid financial footing, and it starts with addressing the most serious cost-driver of both the state budget and school district spending plans – pension reform. The report made it clear that if lawmakers do not address the pension problem, taxpayers will ultimately bear serious financial consequences.

While borrowing costs are a serious concern, out-of-control pension costs pose a much more immediate and severe threat than the potential for credit rating downgrades. Pensions are the main culprit behind the exorbitant property tax increases at the local level in recent years. Failing to address pension costs ultimately threat-

ens taxpayers with a double-edged sword – higher property taxes now, and higher borrowing costs later.

Governor Wolf has proposed billions in new taxes to fill the structural deficit and finance new government spending, but the S&P report makes it clear that these measures alone will not fix the problem. This validates the position advocated by Senate Republicans since the budget debate first began in March. Simply put, we cannot solve the problem by throwing more money at it and hoping it goes away.

I have supported several plans in recent years to reduce long-term pension costs, including measures to bring public employ-

ee pensions closer to the retirement benefits offered in the private sector. Most recently, I voted for a pension reform plan in December that could potentially save taxpayers tens of billions of dollars in long-term costs. This is exactly the kind of reform that S&P and other credit rating agencies have repeatedly advised, and Senate passage of this bill is a significant step toward solving the state's single biggest fiscal challenge. It is unfortunate that this plan hasn't yet received the support necessary to pass in the House of Representatives.

Although the governor initially supported a budget framework that included pension re-

form, he failed to deliver even a single Democrat vote for pension reform in the House of Representatives. He also completely eliminated all funding for the Public Employee Retirement Commission in the budget, further com-

plicating the process of completing a pension reform plan in the next several months. These actions inarguably are a leap backward on our journey to address the pension problem and resolve the budget crisis.

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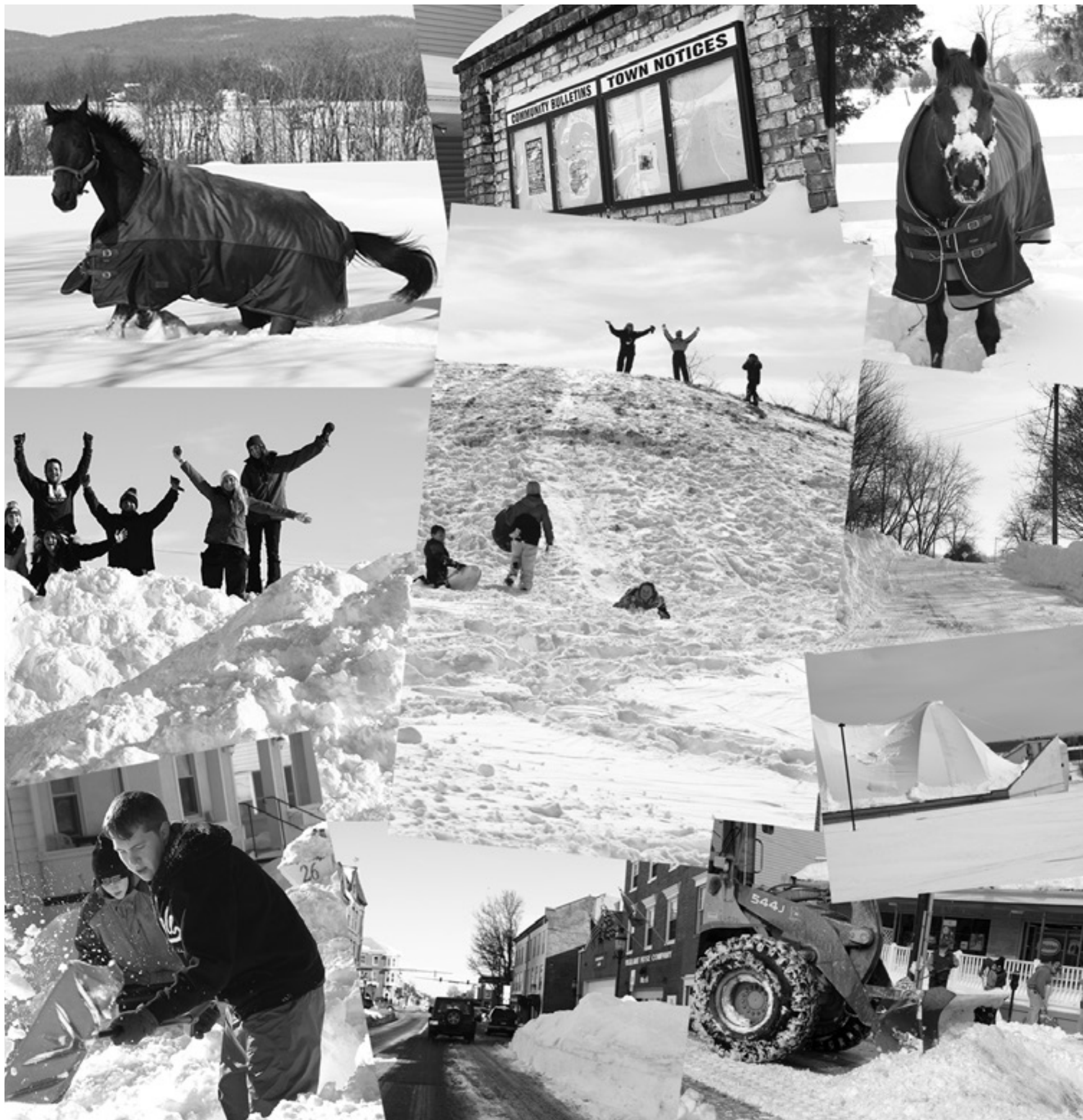
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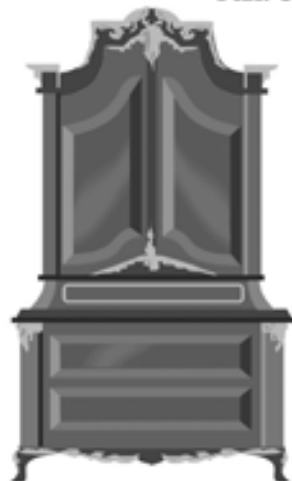


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THE VILLAGE IDIOT

Finally, sort of

Jack Deatherage, Jr.

One-eyed Balor (DW) casts an angry glance my way. Whiskers begin to curl as an odor of scorched hair wafts about my head. My spine pops and creaks as I puff up with my own anger and challenge the Evil Eye of the Fomorians reborn, if somewhat diminished in stature, king. (Hey, it ain't my fault DW had an Irish ancestor and the connections to Celtic stories snap into place every time she gets fired up about something I'm doing, or not. Mostly not.) For some reason she's dead set against my starting a business of my own. She insists I find a real job and my response of "show me the shoe factory I'm supposed to apply to" brings on the full glare of the Balor she normally suppresses.

Crap! Flames briefly lick my cheeks. But I'm on a roll and after a quick soak of my head, I contemplate how I can turn the missing patches of scraggly beard to my advantage. I realize DW saved me the task of shaving, a thing I find unmanly. Now I can apply face paint without having to shave!

I clamp a clown nose to my schnoz and DW looks away from me, furious at what I'm about to do, but revealing the tiniest of twitches at the corner of her lip. HA! I'm onto something!

DW is a plodder. Give her task she understands and she'll work through it for hours, days or years. Present her with something she doesn't understand and old Balor rises to the challenge. FEAR FIRE FOE! Which, in our time together, has kept a roof over our heads and our bellies generally too full. As a plodder, she's also carried the burden of my ever-changing dreams. I guess she's grown tired, but oddly her rebellion comes when I have a dream that costs neither of us a dime. Her frustration with me is understandable. In the 300 years (or is it 30?) we've been together she's endured many a dream I've

attempted to make reality. Too dimwitted to puzzle this one out, I shrug and think about how I got to this place.

The first "business" I attempted was in the mid 1960s. I got involved with companies requiring you to sell their products to family, friends and neighbors. Greeting cards and flower seeds. I was 11 or 12 years old, living in rural PA. I didn't do well, though I did sell to my nearest neighbors, both of them. Decades later I took it into my head to raise tropical fish to sell to the area's pet shops.

DW was as seriously into the fish hobby as I was and we set about spending \$3,000 on tanks, filters, pumps, chemicals, books and fish. We had contacts among Florida's commercial fish farms and local area breeders of species we weren't currently working with. We chatted up all the local pet shop owners and discovered between 6 or so shops we'd never sell enough fish to pay for the feed they were eating! I decided to open our own shop out of our home. That dream died the day I had to present the idea to the town government. (I've not been on good terms with the town since.)

Next came the idea of Community Sustainable Agriculture (CSA). I have family and friends that want locally grown organic produce; meats and veggies. I have friends who own land and didn't mind me and my family killing ourselves on it trying to grow food. What I didn't have was land I could organize a CSA on. So I thought we'd try a market garden. I took to growing gourmet garlic at my grandfather's little farm in quantities larger than I'd ever consume, but my kin that owned the property wanted to sell the land so I went looking elsewhere.

I gave some thought to opening a local bakery, just a few well made breads and some simple sweet treats, but watching tons of artisan breads being fed to a local farm's pigs (and the thought of having to deal with the town government

again) put paid to that idea.

Marty came along and provided the best land I'd been offered for a market garden venture. He also had the power equipment to make such work a possibility as my then 60-year-old body was beginning to tell me it wasn't up to what I had planned to do with hand tools. Sadly, he cashed out before we picked the first bushel of beans.

I've had the entire summer to deal with the aftermath of Marty's passing. During that time the factory lost a major customer and my working hours fell to less than 20 a week. DW was beginning to worry she'd have to close the factory. We discussed what I should do. Hell, what could I do? Forty couple years in a factory making small leather goods hasn't prepared me for much outside of that field.

Three area restaurants took my applications for a dishwasher position. I think I'm up to that, having done it for a winter back in '72. The work can't have changed that much! But no one has called, even though dishwashers come and go nearly as quickly as paychecks. Have I heard nothing because I'm only a few months and a year from being able to sign up for old people's welfare? Why would anyone bother to hire and train me just to have me go off and nap on my Social Security reimbursements? Hell, even I'm not that foolish.

Foolish. Hmm, my home-study writing course kicks in (another dream I had that croaked when I realized I can't write.) Fool, idiot, buffoon, jester, clown. Idiot? Clown?

Idiot is obvious. If I tease out the loose threads of my life the longest seems to be the "idiot". Sure, the foolish thread is there, but repeating the same sort of mistakes over and over builds a much longer and thicker thread of idiocy.



Following the failure of his "Peacekeeper" trebuchet project, Jack, in the true spirit of Court Jesters of old, will soon be gracing the streets of his fair kingdom for the amusement of all (and the financial profits it brings him).

Searching the county library and the Marina catalog of connected state public libraries I assemble a small collection of books about idiots portrayed as clowns, or the reverse, depending on where in history one chooses to begin studying clowns. Being not particularly bright, or even common, I consider the truly stupid that once were the butt of everyone's laughter. I'm not up to the physical demands of such a role. Looking closer to modern days I realize I'll never be so hungry as to run for elected office so that leaves the traditional clown as my role model.

I like this idea. It costs me little that can't be paid by making an ass of myself. But what is that to me? Idiot that I am, becoming a clown is only a step up. Admittedly a very high step up.

DW's seriously not with me on this one.

I know! Once I've built a clown face, I'll get her to unleash Balor. The paints will bake on and I won't have to do more than touch it up occasionally! HA! A truly idiot plan!

To read past editions of the Village Idiot visit the Authors section of Emmitsburg.net.

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PETS

Winter blues

Jennifer Vanderau
Cumberland Valley
Animal Shelter

I think I get the post-holiday blahs. The days are so short and the cold is definitely here and as much as the hustle and bustle is...well, a hustle and bustle...it definitely provides a goal and something to look forward to.

January is not my favorite month of the year, that's for sure.

Although I may have discovered a way to combat the winter blues.

There have been moments over the last few weeks where I've found myself smiling, quite wide.

We had three Jack Russell Terrier mixes come into the shelter before Christmas – all sisters – and they have traveled with me to various places in the county. We've gone to fundraisers at local businesses as well as pet therapy to nursing homes.

It's gotten to the point where they know me when I walk through the kennels.

The other day one of the sisters – the last one to be adopted – was spending some time hanging out with the girls in the front office and I walked up. Oh, she jumped up from her bed so fast and just came running over to me, tail wagging.

I absolutely couldn't help or stop the grin that came over my face. I immediately bent down to say hello to her and get all kinds of kisses from my girl.

That gave me a little jolt for my seasonal sadness.

Surprisingly enough, even though it's January, we actually still have kittens at CVAS. Usually in the winter we see the kitten population dwindle a bit – mostly because the cats are more focused on staying warm rather than, um, other pursuits. For some reason, this winter,

that's not the case.

We have two litters of kittens at the moment in our multi-cat playpens at the shelter and spending time with them will lift any spirit.

They are all serious snugglers and one black kitten in particular just wants to perch on shoulders. I kid you not, he will climb until he is practically hugging you and just settles in. Even when you put him down to give a kiss to one of his siblings, he somehow manages to search you out and give you that particularly sad cat look and you have to shrug and say, "fine, come up here with your brother."

I swear he's like the cat that got the canary after that.

Kitten purrs have to be one of the best medicines on the planet to cure whatever ails you.

We also had a litter of puppies come into the shelter a little before Christmas. They were fostered out immediately, but have been returning recently to be spayed and neutered. As is no great surprise, they are all already spoken for, but oh my word, seeing them again really does a heart good.

They've grown so much, even in just a few short weeks, and they've got that puppy look – with the big brown eyes and the wagging tails and the puppy breath! Spending time watching them play and romp and roll around is enough to lower anyone's blood pressure.

You wouldn't believe how different they all look, too. There are a couple that look like black labs and one boy who has the Schnauzer beard and two little girls who look like hound mixes. What an adorable family!

Even my own cats bring me a great deal of pleasure. They all are huddled around the heaters and when I come home I'll say, "Brrr. It's too cold out there" and they'll look at me all snug-

gly and warm and stretch out for a pet.

My little brat Dee Dee wants to snuggle in the morning as I'm getting ready for work, but I know the bathroom floor is cold on her little feet because she keeps picking one up and then the other (not unlike how I tiptoe on the linoleum). I eventually have to scoop her up and give her some kisses and put her back on the bed. I tell her, "For heaven's sake, stay in there, you nut."

Every morning when I wake up, she's usually curled around my legs or stomach or feet, basking in the warmth of me and the covers. It always makes me smile to get some good morning smooches in with my girl.

So as I sat one day pondering how I could shake myself out of my doldrums, I was reminded of all the moments of joy I've had recently and I've decided that maybe while the cold and snow rip around outside, I should be looking a bit more inward and taking some time to rest and searching out those around me who bring happiness.

If you keep your eyes and heart open, you really can find those times and people and animals that bring sunshine even on the dreariest of days.

Savor them. Cherish them. They are so important in so very many ways.

Now if you'll excuse me, I've got some kittens to visit for a bit.

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



Fiona is a 1-year-old tortie girl who is super sweet. She came into us with an oddly-colored left eye and after discussion with the vet, we believe she's blind in that eye because of an infection early in her life that wasn't treated correctly. Don't think for a minute that stops little Fiona though! She still loves attention and will run and play all the time. Please come out and see if Fiona is the right match for you.



Smokey Mechu was surrendered to the shelter by his owners and he was already neutered when he came to us. He's a 2-year-old, all gray guy who is just a big, wonderful lovebug. He loves to pose for pictures! Smokey Mechu just wants a place where he can snuggle with his special human. Could that be you?

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

To a poor and lonely stray I'd give:

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

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

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

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

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

-- Author Unknown

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Smoke detectors

Dr. Kimberly Brokaw
Walkersville Veterinary Hospital

Every home should have at least one working smoke detector on each living level. The batteries are supposed to be changed twice per year, when we change our clocks, spring and fall. While ideally the batteries are changed on that routine schedule, lots of people, change them only when they hear the annoying low battery chirp of the smoke detector.

I'm not sure if it was by design or just luck that the low battery chirp made by smoke detectors drives the majority of dogs crazy. If I have a smoke detector that's battery has gone low while I'm at work, I know immediately upon getting home that it has been chirping. The dogs are waiting at the back door acting agitated and they follow me around acting extra clingy until I put fresh batteries in the smoke detector.

One of the times when I was at a veterinary conference, one of my smoke detectors had the low battery chirp start. My dad was staying at the house watching all the pets and he called as the dogs were following him around and driving him crazy. He had checked all the smoke detectors and still hadn't found the one with the low battery. I like to have a smoke detector in almost every room in the house. In fact some rooms get two smoke detectors as well as a carbon monoxide detector. So when the battery goes dead in one of the devices, it can take awhile to find which one is out, with the dogs following me from room to room while I try to find where the beep is coming from.

As I only change the batteries in the smoke detectors when I hear the beeping, I have come to recognize the agitated and anxious look on the dogs' faces when a battery is low. However, some of my clients are better at changing batteries, so may not realize just how irritating the low battery alert of the smoke detector can be to some dogs.

One of my clients brought in her dog for a sudden behavior change. Mocha is a 6 year old boxer cross. She'd lived with her owner since she was a puppy and her owner had never seen behavior such as this. She told me that it came on suddenly and now Mocha was acting insecure and following her all about the house and acting nervous. The behavior had been occurring for the last couple of days. Mocha was still eating and drinking normally, but was no longer able to be by herself. The owner said Mocha was even following her into the bathroom and trying to get in the shower with her.

After a normal physical exam, I continued asking the owner questions about whether there were any new people in the house or new pets or other things that could be making Mocha nervous. The owner couldn't think of anything that would be causing the behavior change. After further discussion, we decided to pull blood

and submit it for analysis. Infection, thyroid disease, and other problems can initially present as behavioral problems. Mocha's physical exam was normal, so I felt it was unlikely that she had a physical illness. As it was an evening appointment, the blood tests wouldn't get sent out until the next day, so it would be two days before I would have results. I instructed Mocha's owner to call me if Mocha started to act sick or show a worsening of signs.

Two days later, I called Mocha's owner to let her know that the blood tests were normal and I didn't see a reason for Mocha's behavior change. As I started discussing options for referral to either a behaviorist or a neurologist, Mocha's owner interrupted me to say the behavior had resolved. Apparently she had forgotten to change the battery in her smoke detector and while she didn't notice the beeping for a few days, it was driving Mocha crazy. After



the owner changed the smoke detector battery, Mocha's behavior returned to normal.

So be sure to change the batteries in your smoke detector. Alternatively, only buy smoke detectors with the built in 10-year long battery life. While the annoying lit-

tle beep of a low battery may be a simple reminder for you, it can make your dog neurotic and get you an unnecessary vet bill.

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



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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. Although winter has finally caught up with us, we will still have some warmer days. 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 easier. 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 roll 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 to 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 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 type of 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, blueber-

ries, 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, whether 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 February. 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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Horticultural program for 4-H and FFA members

National Junior Horticulture Association (NJHA) Exciting New Horticulture Programs - a monthly 'Make It Take It' project for any 4-H or FFA member of Frederick County. Register for different projects each

month to include: Terrariums, Scrapbook using grocery bags, Seed Charts, Silk and Fresh Corsages, Hyper-tufa Containers, Pressing Flowers/Leaves, Evergreen Centerpieces, and Holiday Gathering.

In addition to the FUN learning activities each month, we will have a short lesson on some aspect of the NJHA (www.njha.org) contest. They include: Identification of Trees & Shrubs, Houseplants, Vegetable Market Packs, Identification of Cut Flowers, Sampling Fruits, Smells of Herbs and Vegetables, Identification of Evergreen and Cones.

Instructors include: Myrtle Sturtz, 4-H Horticulture Coach; Donielle Axline, 4-H UME Educator; Susan Trice, UME Horticulture Educator/Master Gardener Coordinator; and various other UME volunteers and community leaders.

Go to www.emmitsburg.net/gardening to register for the Program.

THE MASTER GARDENER

Annual tree seedling sale

Native containerized plants, seedlings, and transplants may now be ordered from the Adams County Conservation District for its 2016 Tree Seedling Sale. Pick up date is Thursday April 21 from 10am to 7 pm at the pole building behind the Ag Center at 670 Old Harisburg Road, Gettysburg.

The Adams County Conservation District is trying to balance offerings for the smaller land/homeowner as well as the larger landowners and those in CREP (Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program). We look for native offerings that are the largest sizes and best prices. New this year is #2 gallon containerized pagoda dogwood and black chokeberry. Bareroot hardwoods and evergreens are American elder or elderberry, American hazelnut, red oak, sugar maple, swamp white oak, and sycamore, aka American planetree. The evergreens (seedlings and trans-

plants) are white pine, American red pine (seedlings only), white spruce (seedlings only), and Norway spruce, the only non-native (but naturalized) species of the bunch.

Bluebird nest boxes and the 2-chambered bat boxes are again available to order and are at the District office throughout the year. A limited amount of rain barrels should be available for purchase on the day of pickup for \$50 per barrel, however, you may also purchase them throughout the year at the District.

For a brochure/order form or questions, please contact the ACCD at 717-334-0636, email shull@adamscounty.us, or visit us at www.adamscounty.us and print out an order form. You will need to either mail or drop off your order form along with your check, payable to the ACCD by March 24th for any container order and April 8th for all other bareroot seedling orders.

Small Town Gardener

Notepads & Jackets

Marianne Willburn

Have you been walking through your garden? I hope so. At this time of year we are as clearheaded as we will ever be. Winter may not afford us congenial temperatures, but what it lacks in warmth, it more than makes up for in perspective. Any issues due to poor spacing stand naked before the winter gardener clutching a notepad and a pencil. We will not be beguiled by sweet blossom to ignore flagrant thuggery. Even if the offender is evergreen, its beauty is contracted, it's power, lessened. It would be a shame to lose such an advantage just because we can't be bothered to find a warm coat.

Around here, it is obvious that I will need to move a cast-off variegated privet that I never thought would survive and which did. It is far too close to a stand of rusty-red chrysanthemums that I never thought I'd like and I do. But how to decide which one must go? The feathery remnants of miscanthus "Morning Light" made it easy this morning, reminding me of a September romance with the mums that was made in Heaven. So the privet will depart – perhaps even to a friend's garden. Note made. Shrub tagged. On to the next.

The spacing between Hydrangea paniculata "Pinky Winky" and my Snow Cream edgeworthia needs some attention – as well as the spacing of the latter against the pathway to the house. If I can finally let myself believe (against all naysayers) that it will live, and not only live, but thrive, I believe I am ready to move it with confidence to a spot ever-so-slightly less sheltered so it can spread its limbs into the ten foot monster it's destined to be. Right now, it's still a demure three foot mass of silky buds at the ends of caramel brown stems. What a stunner.

Always one to ignore the beam in my own eye for the speck in my neighbor's, I have not endeared myself to two separate homeowners who neither asked for my opinion, nor seemed pleased to receive it. Yet both were on the verge of horticultural Armageddon, having planted the fast growing Thuja "Green Giant" outside their front windows as a "cute" pyramidal evergreen. Another victory for the Big Boxes with their rows of completely inappropriate "winter interest."

One, there is nothing cute about a pre-pubescent Green Giant. They are awkward growers that for several years shoot up, not out (a bit like my teenage son). Two, fifty feet doesn't warrant a pruning saw, but an equity loan when you have to have it professionally removed.

Yet, we are all guilty of silly mistakes, as I intimated earlier. Turned on by beautiful golden evergreen foliage, I similarly planted three Daniellow arbovitae along the path to the back door. They brought out the gold in the moss between the flagstones and gave a bit of gravitas to a

There is no such thing as gardening mistakes, only experiments!

pathway otherwise lost. After four months, I still can't hold my head up when a gardening friend asks why I ignored the "8-14 feet" on their tags. I usually mumble something about it being late autumn and moving fast, but it's a weak excuse and I know it.

The entrance to the driveway will make a far more respectable home this spring, restoring my credibility and adding a bit of golden snap, crackle, and pop to the deer's breakfasts in the mornings. In the meantime I'll enjoy that color for the winter, right within range of my husband's 30-aught-6.

Getting the idea? Confess your sins and schedule your penance. Now is the time. Not only can you see clearly, you don't have to do much more than scribble down suggestions in a journal then go inside for a cup of tea and an aimless sort through your seed packets. Spring will be bad of course. But then, it's the best kind of bad, isn't it?

Marianne is a Master Gardener who writes from Lovettsville, VA. You can read more at www.smalltowngardener.com or follow The Small Town Gardener on Facebook.

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FIRE COMPANY AWARDS BANQUETS

Vigilant Hose Company



Administrative officers for 2016: (Front row) Frank Davis, President; Steve Valentine, Secretary; Steve Hollinger, Treasurer; Bill Boyd, Jr., Assistant Treasurer; Father Charles Krieg, Chaplain. (Back row) Board of Directors: Hugh Boyle, David Stonesifer, Elyssa Cool, Douglas Orner, and Carl White.



Line Officers for 2016: (front row) Chad Umbel, Chief; James Click, Deputy Chief; Christopher Stahley, Assistant Chief; Joshua Brotherton, Captain; Alex McKenna, Lieutenant; Derek Rosensteel, Lieutenant; Douglas Yingling, Lieutenant. (Back row) Lynn Orndorff, Fire Police Captain; Ronald Face, Jr., Fire Police 1st Lieutenant; Steve Orndorff, 2nd Lieutenant.



President's Award recipient for 2015 Karyn Myers with outgoing President Tim Clark.



Elyssa Cool - Member of the Year for 2015 - flanked by Chief Umbel and outgoing President Tim Clark.



Vicki Grimes and her daughter Brandy accepting the Hall of Fame award for her husband, Luther "Jay" Grimes, who passed away in April of 2015.



Thomas Hoke being presented with the Hall of Fame Award by outgoing president Tim Clark, flanked by award recipients from prior years.



Auxiliary Officers for 2016: Tina Ryder, President; Sharel Boyle, Vice President; Jo Ann Boyd, Treasurer; Joyce Glass, Secretary; Mandy Ryder, Financial Secretary; Jennifer Boyd and Katie Davis, Co-Historians.

Vigilant Hose Company Officers for 2016

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Vice President	David Wilt
Treasurer	Steven M. Hollinger
Assistant Treasurer	William D. Boyd, Jr.
Secretary	Steven W. Valentine
Assistant Secretary	Thomas Vaughn

Line Officers

Deputy Chief	James E. Click
Assistant Chief	Christopher A. Stahley
Captain	Joshua Brotherton
Lieutenant	Douglas Yingling
Lieutenant	Derek Rosensteel
Lieutenant	Alex McKenna

Auxiliary Officers

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

Board of Directors

Hugh Boyle, Elyssa Cool, Randy Myers, Douglas D. Orner, David Stonesifer, Carl A. White

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Captain	Lynn Orndorff
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FIRE COMPANY AWARDS BANQUETS

Harney Fire Company



The swearing in of the 2016 Harney Fire Company Officers: David Yingling, Travis Dutterer, Charles Blocher, Jennings Martin, Robert Baughman, Richard Yingling, Donald Yingling, Sr, Eugene Curfman, Leonard Bowers, James Waybright and Lee Bowers.



Harney Volunteer Fire Company's Women's Auxiliary: Tina Hewitt, Patty Hewitt, Barb Miller, Ellen Rodgers, Louise Strickhouser, Loretta Bowers, Theresa Ridinger, Christina Rodgers, Beth Bowers, Shirley Waybright, Mary Jane Waybright and Linda Yingling.



Outgoing Treasurer, Grace Poole and her husband Richard.



Jenna Waybright with her son (and future Harney firefighter), and his great grandmother MaryJane Waybright.



Leonard Bowers and his daughter Madelyn.

Harney Fire Company Officers for 2015

Chief	Donald Yingling, Sr.
President	James Waybright
Vice President	Charles Blocher
Activities Tres.	Leonard Bowers
Utilities Tres.	Gene Curfman
Secretary	Richard Yingling
Recording Sec.	Robert Baughman
Chaplin	Jennings Martin

County delegate Jeff Sowers
Trustees Brad Waybright, Lee Bowers and Donald Yingling, Jr.

County Delegate Richard Yingling and Travis Dutterer

Top Ten Responders for 2016

- 1 Donald Yingling, Sr.
- 2 Donald Yingling, Jr.
- 3 Brian Martin
- 4 Lee Bowers
- 5 Robert Baughman
- 6 Matthew Nye
- 7 Jonathan Harman
- 8 Chad Reese
- 9 James Yingling
- 10 Kyle Nye



Harney firefighter, James Hewitt.



Harney's #3 top responder Brian Martin with Chief Donald Yingling, Sr

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HEALTH NOTES

Oncology care

Kelsey Shupe
Frederick Memorial Hospital

A diagnosis of cancer can be overwhelming, but you can be assured of one thing from the very beginning: when you entrust your care and treatment to the compassionate professionals at FMH, you will be at the center of everything we do, starting with a customized treatment plan that considers your medical, emotional, and practical needs.

If treating your type of cancer involves the use of chemotherapy or other cancer-fighting medications, Monocacy Health Partners Oncology Care Consultants will be an important part of your team. Called “medical oncologists,” these physicians work closely with the rest of the FMH cancer team to provide you with high quality, well-coordinated

care where you can be most comfortable—close to home.

Oncology Care Consultants are devoted to creating a healing environment for their patients based on comprehensive, compassionate care that draws on the experience and expertise of many different professionals and services including:

In-office cancer navigator

A patient who has just been diagnosed with cancer enters unfamiliar territory—a confusing maze of questions, concerns, and choices. Oncology Care Consultants’ Navigator is an experienced healthcare professional who will work with patients on the many aspects of cancer care such as scheduling appointments, tests, and procedures, making referrals, suggesting solutions to any logistical or financial problems, and making sure



The physicians of Oncology Care Consultants are all certified in Internal Medicine, Hematology, and Medical Oncology by the American Board of Internal Medicine. Pictured from left to right: Elhamy Eskander, M.D., Brian O’Connor, M.D., Yin Wu, M.D., Medical Director Patrick Mansky, M.D., Patricia Rice, CRNP, and Mark Goldstein, M.D.

that all the patient’s concerns are addressed.

Infusion center

Patients of the practice receive intravenous chemotherapy, hydration, and other medications at the hospital’s Infusion Center. Co-located with Oncology Care Con-

sultants at the FMH Regional Cancer Therapy Center, the Infusion Center is staffed entirely with nurses who are certified and credentialed through the Society of Oncology Nursing.

Cancer risk assessment expert

Oncology Care Consultants’ cancer

risk assessment expert Patricia Rice, CRNP, uses a set of tools to define a person’s risk to develop cancer—genetics, gender, age, family history, history of hormone exposure, and many other factors. She can also provide information and guidance regarding genetic testing—including its benefits, risks, costs, and limitations if patients desire.

Access to clinical trials

Patients have access to a wide range of clinical trials designed to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of new drugs or therapies, offering access to promising new treatments.

Cancer patient assistance fund

Founded by Dr. P. Gregory Rausch and completely supported through community donations, the FMH Cancer Patient Assistance Fund assists patients who are struggling to afford their medications, dietary supplements, and other medical necessities related to their cancer diagnosis.

Pain management

Oncology Care Consultants work with physicians at the FMH Pain and Supportive Care program to provide patients with relief from symptoms associated with cancer including pain, nausea, loss of appetite, shortness of breath, depression, and fatigue.

Fitness and Nutrition

Patients of the practice have access to the FMH Fitness and Nutrition for Survivors (FANS) program, an eating and exercise plan to help manage the side effects of cancer treatment.

Complementary therapies

With guidance from their physicians at OCC, cancer patients have access to massage, Reiki, acupuncture, meditation, aromatherapy, reflexology, and guided visualization to relieve the side effects of cancer treatments.

“Each patient with cancer faces multiple, unique challenges. Oncology Care Consultants at FMH offer a nationally recognized, comprehensive cancer care program close to home, right here in Frederick.”

—Dr. Patrick Mansky, Medical Director - Oncology Care Consultants

FMH Cancer Program Earns Reaccreditation with Seven Commendations

Accreditation from the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer (CoC) is the yardstick against which America’s top cancer treatment programs measure their performance and progress. Every three years, the FMH Cancer Program voluntarily participates in this rigorous accreditation process in order to compare the success of its program against nationally recognized quality measures and standards of care.



The FMH Cancer Program recently received a three-year reaccreditation from the Commission on Cancer with commendations in seven out of seven categories. The commendations were received for clinical trial accrual, cancer registrar accrual, public reporting of outcomes, College of American Pathologists protocols, nursing care, RQRS participation, and data submission (accuracy of data).

Congratulations to all of the physicians, nurses and staff members who make this accreditation possible!



To learn more about the FMH Cancer Program, please visit fmh.org/cancer.



Emmitsburg's Eagle Scouts give back

Jennifer Buchheister

It's the project that every Boy Scout begins to think about as they get closer to completing their Life Scout rank—their Eagle Scout project. As part of the Eagle rank requirement, scouts are required to complete “a service project helpful to any religious institution, any school, or your community.”

Stephen Lowe, a member of Troop 727 sponsored by St. Joseph's Church in Emmitsburg, decided his project would benefit his church and the local community. With the assistance of other scouts, parents, and several parishioners, Stephen constructed a new flag pole, a garden, and memorial outside of the St. Joseph Parish Hall and dedicated it to Emmitsburg's fallen hero, Lt. Robert Seidel III.

“When Stephen Lowe contacted us to let us know that he wanted to redo the flagpole at St. Joseph's Church and dedicate it with a plaque and a garden in honor of Rob for his Eagle Project, we were so touched,” said Rob's mother, Sandy Seidel. Rob Seidel was an active member of St. Joseph's parish, having been baptized there and receiving all of his sacraments at St. Joseph's. He was also an altar server. Rob Seidel, a graduate of West Point Military Academy, was killed in action on May 18, 2006 at the age of 23 when an improvised explosive device detonated near his Humvee during combat operations in Baghdad. He was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 22nd Infantry, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), based at Fort Drum, N.Y. “Before Rob deployed, he went over all his wishes if anything were to happen. He was adamant that he be buried in Emmitsburg at his church, not Arlington or West Point, so it means so much to see the flag flying and know that Rob will continue to be a part of St. Joseph's for many years to come,” stated Seidel.

On November 21, after the annual wreath laying event in honor of Lt. Seidel and other local veterans, a dedication ceremony took place at St. Joseph's Parish Hall where Fr. John Holliday, C.M. blessed the memorial and new flag pole. “This Eagle project is a wonderful memorial to 1Lt. Robert A. Seidel III,” said Fr. John Holliday, C.M., pastor of St. Joseph's Church. “Robbie was known and loved by our parishioners. This memorial near the entrance to our parish hall will ensure that his memory will be kept alive.”

Five Scouts earn Eagle Scout rank

It's hard for any high school student to stay focused on achieving the rank of Eagle, let alone five at one time, but that is exactly what happened for five scouts from Troop 727 sponsored by St. Joseph's Church, Emmitsburg.

On December 26, Maryland State Delegate Kathy Afzali, Mayor Donald Briggs of Emmitsburg, and Fr. John Holliday CM, pastor of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Emmitsburg, joined Troop 727 Scout Master, Mary Neibecker, and Assistant Scout Master, Christopher Anadale in honoring the five scouts who successfully completed the Eagle Scout rank. The scouts were

Keegan Wright, Andrew Neibecker, Brendan Isaacson, Paul Slotwinski, and Stephen Lowe.

The Eagle Scout rank is culmination of years of work. Most of the boys had been scouting together for 10 years, starting as cub scouts. A major highlight of their scouting careers was their trip to Philmont Scout Ranch, the Boy Scouts of America's premier high adventure base located in New Mexico. Other highlights included camping at the Summit Bechtel Reserve, the new BSA high adventure camp located in West Virginia, Goshen Scout Reservation, Camp Airy Boy Scout Camp, Camp Tuckahoe, and portions of the Appalachian Trail. They overnights on both the Battleship USS New Jersey and slept in hammocks and stood watch aboard the frigate USS Constellation, the last all-sail US Navy warship at anchor in Baltimore Harbor, and participated in numerous training classes including CPR and Wilderness and Remote First Aid.

“Boy Scouts has been an amazing experience from start to finish, but it

wouldn't have been the same without these guys,” said Eagle Scout, Paul Slotwinski. “They helped to make every experience fun and productive. Also, we all pushed each other to finish, so if not for them I probably wouldn't have gotten my Eagle.”

As part of the Eagle rank requirement, scouts are required to complete “a service project helpful to any religious institution, any school, or your community.” Years after they are gone, people who have never met them will enjoy the benefits of their Eagle service projects. This is truly the spirit of Scouting.

Keegan Wright constructed a 3-sided wooden firewood storage shed at Catoc Mountain Park for the benefit of the campers staying at the Park's camp sites. Andrew Neibecker rehabilitated the Willow Rill Nature Trail located at Mother Seton School, to benefit the teachers and students. Brendan Isaacson constructed a fenced play area around St. Joseph's Parish Hall, to provide a safe area for the children and their parent. Paul Slotwinski blazed 15 miles of the multi-user trail system located throughout the Rainbow



Troop 727, Emmitsburg, had five scouts achieve the rank of Eagle Scout (l-r) Keegan Wright, Andrew Neibecker, Brendan Isaacson, Paul Slotwinski, and Stephen Lowe.

Lake watershed for the benefit of Emmitsburg citizens and town visitors, and as note above, Stephen Lowe constructed a memorial outside of St. Joseph's Parish Hall to Army 1st Lt. Robert A. Seidel III who died the May 18, 2006 in service of his country.

“Our parish is very proud of these four young men,” said Fr. John Holliday, CM, pastor of St. Joseph's. “This is a

remarkable achievement for a small Boy Scout Troop such as ours and is a wonderful testimony to our men and women who are leaders of Troop 727.”

For more information about the Cub Scout and Boy Scout program sponsored by St. Joseph's Church, please contact the parish at 301-447-2326. The scouts meet every Thursday at 7 p.m. at the parish hall.

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SCHOOL AND LIBRARY NEWS

2017 FCPS budget

Katie Groth
Frederick County
Board of Education

FCPS Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Terry Alban has submitted her operating budget recommendation for the 2017 fiscal year which begins July 1 of 2016. Her recommendation of \$567,954,137 amounts to an increase of \$23,423,721 over last year's budget. It represents what she believes our school system needs to provide instruction and services to the more than 40,000 students who attend Frederick County Public Schools.

It recommends, for example, the purchase of 3 new school buses, increasing services for homeless stu-

dents, pre-k enrollment for which no state funding is available, and the increasing cost of employment benefits for staff. Some services that we have always provided, such as special education and special programs for our English language learners, have continued to increase because we have more and more students requiring those special services enrolling in our schools. In addition, pension costs which were once contributed by State government have now shifted to local government. And of course, the cost of energy and the rapidly growing need for technology upgrades have also added to the budget numbers. Each year we negotiate with our employee groups such things as salary, work calendar

and various benefits.

In the recommended budget we place a "salary resource pool," a place holder for the cost of any salary increases or changes in benefit packages that might be negotiated. One thing we always can always count on is that cost of insurance will go up. But in any case, nothing can be decided about that resource pool until negotiations are completed.

If you were to do the math, and FCPS has some excellent finance staff, you would quickly see that what Dr. Alban is asking is \$24.2 million more in expenditures than in projected revenues. We are looking for extra funding from the county that would pay for some "one-time, non-recurring" necessary upgrades for our Wide Area Network infrastructure as well as an upgrade for our PeopleSoft Financial System. This technology is

essential for our school system to do its work and provide accountability. Existing infrastructure has reached its "end of life" and cannot be further updated. Our school system depends heavily on this technology to conform with current standards in data processing and storage as well as being able to account for resources and student achievement data.

Now that Dr. Alban has presented her recommended budget, it is up to the BOE to approve it before sending it on to the County Executive and the County Council for final approval and funding. Frederick County funds about 45% of the schools' budget. The rest comes from State government and a small percentage directly from the Federal government.

So between now and February 17 when the Board must send its own

recommended budget to the County Executive, public feedback is being sought by the BOE. Please go to the FCPS website at www.fcps.org and find the site where you can give your feedback. Also, on Wednesday, February 3, the BOE will hold a public hearing to gather public feedback. This hearing will be held at Oakdale High School at 7 pm. There will be a budget presentation by members of the staff, followed by the public hearing.

These are your public schools. You as citizens have the right and the responsibility to see that our children receive the best education we can afford. You may not have children enrolled at the present time. However, in a very real way, the children who attend public school in this county are YOUR children. They will be the future for all of us.

Love your library: A "Friend of the Library" collection

Linda Frydl
Frederick County Public Library

The Friends of the Library Emmitsburg Branch would also encourage you to visit the Emmitsburg Branch with the whole family to show your support and to have some fun. Visitors will create a valentine "make and take" craft, kids will hear a story and other surprises are planned. The Emmitsburg Branch Library is the oldest branch of the Frederick County Public Library system and has been providing information services as well as reading, listening and viewing materials since 1906. The Love Your Library event will be held Saturday, Feb-

ruary 13, 10am-12pm. The Friends extend the Emmitsburg library's capacity through dollar gifts, volunteer and program support, and through advocacy. Membership is free and help with the Community Book Sale is always needed.

Other library News

We're celebrating the National Park Service Centennial all year in the library. Coming up at the Thurmont Library, learn about Marvelous Morels & Other Wild Food Finds from an NPS biologist. The morel mushroom is a much loved but very elusive local foraged food. Many people in

the Northern Frederick County area have their secret spots for foraging – sometimes in old apple orchards or near a stand of poplar trees and perhaps you'll learn some new tips about hunting them or share your own with other foragers. Join Becky Loncosky, National Park Service Biologist, who will share information not only about morels but also other edible local mushrooms and other wild forage species. No registration necessary. Thursday, February 18 at 6pm. (Snow Date: March 17)

New FCPL services

Starting February 1, Frederick

County Public Libraries is excited to offer patrons access to three new products. First, Rosetta Stone courses present first level language learning for 30 different languages. Next, lynda.com delivers about 4000 online courses to learn technology, creative, and business skills that will help you achieve professional and personal goals. Third, Flipper makes it easy for you to read your favorite magazines on your computer or mobile device. Titles will include People, Entertainment Weekly, US Weekly, and Time. For more information, log on to FCPL.org, or come into the branch and we'll be

happy to show you!


Library programs

Stem Saturday: Learn to use microscopes in order to view insects and plant parts. Put together snap circuits in order to learn how electricity works. Best for ages 8-12. Saturday, February 6, 11am. Registration required. Register online at fcpl.org, or call 301-600-6331.

Mega blok party: Join us for an afternoon of Lego and Mega Blok fun! Build tall buildings, create mysterious scenes and have an endless

continued on page 33

WINTER HAS STRUCK WITH A VENGEANCE!



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SCHOOL AND LIBRARY NEWS

Happenings in the MSS art room

Karolyne Myers

Last year, through art, our school community demonstrated to Jubilee foods our deep appreciation for all their support through the years. The MSS Art Dept. kicked off "Feel The Love" campaign. The students of MSS stamped and finger printed 100 brown sacks for the grocery market. Customers that purchased enough groceries to fill the brown bag received one of these special Valentine bags printed by our students. Students also included kind words of appreciation too! The school community participated in creating a fingerprint banner. The beauty of this art/service project teaches our students it is important to say "Thank You" and informs the school community that Jubilee supports our school. On the other side of the rainbow, Jubilee feels valued and their customers learn how the market gives back to the community. The customer feels appreciated by the market and the child, through service, art and education. This year, our school will strive to reach out to the community in the same manner. Our student body will reflect on the Gifts/Fruits of the Holy Spirit and Character Traits.

8th grade creates with earthenware clay!
 "But now, O LORD, You are our Father, We are the clay, and You our potter: And all of us are the work of Your hands." Isaiah 64:8

I am very excited to share with you that our eighth grade students will have the opportunity to work with

earthenware clay this year!!! This is a special project that will be led by artist – in – residence potter, Mary Ashe-Mahr, January 26, 2016. Mary is a member of the Nicodemus Center for the Ceramic Studies Pottery (NCCS) Guild on the Mont Alto, Penn State Campus. She is the executor director of the Nicodemus Center For Ceramic Studies in downtown Waynesboro, where she teaches a variety of classes from child through adult, beginner through advance. Mary also has an extended "Outreach Program" for Assisted Living Communities and is looking forward to expanding workshops for a variety of organizations and families.

Our eighth grade students will design a "Christ Centered" cross as a final art piece from Mother Seton School. Each student will design and glaze their cross which will be fired at the CAC. Crosses will be on display for our MSS Fine Arts Exhibit, held in May. I would like to take this time to thank all the folks that help fund the MSS Arts Program to make this possible. My dream is to have enough funding for the students to work with clay every year!

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Once again this year, shoppers at the Jubilee will get their groceries put in bags decorated with Valentines or hearts, courtesy of the students at Mother Seton School.

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Events at the Blue Ridge Summit Free Library

Mondays: Lego night!!! Challenge your creative side. All ages welcome.

Wednesdays: Coffee house "Coffee, Tea, and Thee" from 3 to 5 p.m. The gang will all be here!

Thursdays: Teen night from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Join us for Wii, board games, puzzles, snacks, etc!

Saturdays: Story hour from 11 a.m. to noon. Stories, crafts, movies, games, etc!

Wee Build "Block Parties" will be starting soon on Saturdays directly following story hour. Call the library for details at 717-794-2240. For toddlers and tweens.

Artist Bill Hammann will be joining us once again for a scherenschnitte

(paper cutting) just in time to impress your Valentine! The free class will be on Tuesday Feb 9th from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Please reserve your space; there are only 8 spaces available. All materials included, for teens and adults.

For class reservations call the library at 717-794-2240 during open hours (M-Th: 3 to 8 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.).

Movies!
 Feb 11th we will be showing the Oscar nominated animated film "Shaun The Sheep The Movie" rated PG. "In this delightful family film, a sheep takes the day off to have some fun and gets more than he anticipated when a mix up with a farmer, a caravan and a steep hill leads to a big-city adventure."

Feb 25th at 6p.m. we will show "Max" rated PG. "A military dog from Afghanistan is adopted by his late handler's grieving family in the U.S., where his close bond with the soldier's brother leads to a life-altering revelation in this family-friendly adventure."

Frederick County Library continued from page 32

amount of STEM fun with Lego bricks at the library! Best for ages 2 and up with an adult. Tuesday, February 9, 3:30-6pm

Family night: Join us on Family Night where we'll be reading a selection of winter-themed stories. We'll also have a winter art project for you to make and take. Thursday, February 11, 6pm. All ages with an adult. Registration required. Register online at fcpl.org, or call 301-600-6331.

Love Your Library: Visit with the whole family to create a valentine "make and take" craft, hear a story and more. All ages. Saturday, February 13, 10am-12pm.

Teens: marshmallow blast! Marshmallows...juggling, sculpture, shoot, relay race, and finally eat your own sticky creation. Tuesday, February

16, 4 - 5pm. Registration required. Register online at fcpl.org, or call 301-600-6331.

Playdough playtime: Come join your friends at the library for some playdough modeling fun! Ages 2-5. Wednesday, February 17, 2pm. Registration required. Register online at fcpl.org, or call 301-600-6331.

Family bingo Night: Bring the family and let's have fun playing Bingo at the

Library! Thursday, February 25, 6pm. Play date! Every Monday drop in for a special playgroup. We'll start off with a fun story. Afterwards, you can meet new friends, read books, and play with toys. For ages 0-5. Mondays, 10:30 – 11: am.

Full "steam" ahead: Play, Learn, and Explore at our pop-up "STEAM" lab. A variety of activities will be available. Try one or all. Tuesday, February 23, 4 - 6:pm.

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FOUR YEARS AT THE MOUNT

As Presidents' Day approaches, we asked our writers to reflect on the Founding Fathers, their lives, presidencies, and fun facts. We hope to inspire you to dust off some history books, or reignite your interest in politics!

Freshman Year

A first time for everything

Michael Kenney Jr.
MSM Class of 2019

Before I get into this month's topic, I wanted to give you a quick introduction to myself. Unfortunately, you will never find me chiseled besides George Washington on Mount Rushmore nor will I ever be depicted on American currency. You will, however, find me as the new Class of 2019 writer for the Four Years At the Mount section. Like Washington's impeccable first go at the presidency, I find that the Mount community has made my first semester at college a rewarding experience.

Growing up in a close knit, Catholic family has made leaving my Michigan roots rather challenging, but my family's fast pace versatility has enabled me to thrive on my East Coast adventure. I love sports and gain a rush in learning new things. I am extremely competitive but never pass up an opportunity joke around. As an aspiring screenwriter, I love analyzing interpersonal dynamics both in real life and in fiction.

As a first time voter, the dynamics of the 2016 presidential election fascinate me. I want nothing more than for our 44th president to uphold our nation's founding principles and to do justice to Washington's vision for the future of our nation.

The first time around often gives us a sharp learning curve. The first pancake

never turns out as well as the subsequent ones. The first date is unfailingly more awkward than those that follow. And the first draft of this article was much less refined than the one you are currently reading. However, the pejorative "first try" excuse is not applicable to our nation's first president, George Washington. Even though all of America's founding fathers were men of exceptional merit, charisma, and esteem, Washington's impressionable character made him stand out amongst his colleagues—so much so that he was unanimously elected president. To this day, Washington remains the only president in U.S. history to earn all of the Electoral College's votes. Even though Washington remains one of history's most lauded and studied political leaders, popular misunderstandings about Washington still prevail today.

Tales about Washington's childhood attempt to explain his irreproachable character and leadership. Washington's mischievous encounter with a cherry tree is perhaps the most famous of these allegories. Legend has it that Washington received a small hatchet for his sixth birthday and used it to chop down his father's prize-winning cherry tree. When George's father, Augustus, inquired about the damage, young George mustered up the courage to admit to the crime. Augustus, so moved by his son's integrity, endearing-

ly embraced his son and acclaimed his son's honesty. The story suggests that George's honesty emboldened him with a moral compass that guided him straight through his presidency.

Though entertaining, there are reasons to doubt the authenticity of this cheeky anecdote. Namely, evidence suggests that the peripatetic minister who first published the story, Mason Locke Weems, likely invented it to encourage morality and make money. As he articulated to a publisher just a few months after Washington's passing, "Washington you know is gone! Millions are gaping to read something about him... My plan! I give his history, sufficiently minute... I then go on to show that his unparalleled rise and elevation were due to his Great Virtues."

Evidently, Weems penned a bestselling novel, *The Life and Memorable Actions of George Washington*—a biography chock full of never-before-heard accounts about the beloved first president. The "cherry tree anecdote" did not emerge until Weems' fifth edition. If the story were just as accurate and as impactful as it was described, wouldn't Weems have originally put it in the first edition rather than a later one?

In addition to the cherry tree story, many people entertain the false notion that George Washington had wooden dentures. While it is true that artificial teeth replaced Washington's rotting ones, his dentures were made out of a variety of materials including ivory, gold, and lead, but not wood. In fact, wooden dentures were rarely even produced during Washington's lifetime.

Nevertheless, historians up until the twentieth century have promoted this falsehood.

While the exact origins of this misunderstanding are unclear, many historians and dental scientists reach the same conclusion. Experts reason that the ivory dentures became so severely stained over time that the teeth became brown and grainy. In a letter to the president, Washington's dentist commented on the dentures' discoloration. He wrote: "the set you sent me from Philadelphia...was very black... Port wine being sower takes off[f] all the polish." To the general public, Washington's false teeth may have easily appeared to be wooden dentures.

In addition to these lighthearted myths, a somber topic continues to spark debate among educators and historians: Washington's position on slavery. While Washington was born into a family of slaveholders, grew up in a racist society, and eventually inherited and purchased slaves himself, people question his ultimate stance on slavery. Many experts claim that Washington considered slavery a "necessary evil" but treated his slaves with respect—even occasionally joining in the manual labor himself. One foreign visitor reported that Washington treated his slaves "far more humanely than do his fellow citizens of Virginia."

Conversely, a fewer number of scathing accounts also hold credibility. One Englishman who lived near Washington's plantation reported "it was the sense of all his [Washington's] neighbors that he treated [his slaves] with



more severity than any other man." Some slaves ran away from Washington's plantation and were pursued by slave catchers.

This dichotomous understanding of Washington as a "nice slaveholder" is continuously debated, but at some point in his life, Washington undoubtedly became an abolitionist. Of all the nine founding fathers who had slaves, Washington was the only one to advocate for abolition. Shortly before he died, Washington said that "... No man desires more heartily than I do [the end of slavery]. Not only do I pray for it on the score of human dignity, but I can clearly foresee that nothing but the rooting out of slavery can perpetuate the existence of our union." He also described his ownership of slaves and his inability to abolish slavery as "the only unavoidable subject of regret" in his life. Upon his death, he emancipated 318 of his slaves, and clung tightly to the then unpopular notion that "all men are created equal" regardless their race.

Welcome to the team, Michael!

Sophomore Year

John Adams, too, survives.

Sarah Muir
MSM Class of 2018

In anticipation for Presidents' Day, I found myself ruminating on the first few Presidents of these United States of America. I remember learning about Washington and Lincoln in school and a few other mentioned here and there, but to be entirely honest, I know very little about a vast majority of the leaders who have made this country great. With this in mind, I plunged into the history of, not the first, but the second President, John Adams.

On October 30, 1735, John Adams was born in Quincy, Massachusetts to John Adams Sr. and Susanna Boylston. At age 16, he was accepted

into Harvard University with a scholarship and graduated in 1755 at age 20. Three years later, after studying law extensively, he received his masters from Harvard and was welcomed into the bar. On October 25, 1764 he married his third cousin, Abigail Smith, who he would have six children with; Abigail, John Quincy (who would become the sixth President), Susanna, Charles, Thomas Boylston, and Elizabeth.

John Adams rapidly became involved with the patriot cause, starting with an essay entitled "Essay on the Canon and Feudal Law," in which he voiced his displeasure at the Stamp Act of 1765. In 1770, he stood as the representative of the British soldiers who killed five civilians, during the Boston

Massacre. He believed that all peoples deserved the right to be defended in the Court of Law, no matter the passionate opinions of the peoples.

Later that same year, he was elected into the office of the Massachusetts Assembly. This would mean that in the year 1774 he would be one of the five men that would represent the colony at the First Continental Congress. Adams would also be the one to nominate George Washington as commander-in-chief when Continental Army was created in 1775.

While Thomas Jefferson would write the first draft of the Declaration of Independence, John Adams was one of the five people selected by the Congress to draft the declaration; the other five being Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, Robert R. Livingston, and Roger Sherman. Adams served on as many as ninety committees after the signing, and would serve at the head of the Board of Ordinances in 1777. During the Revolutionary War he served in France and Holland, playing a diplomatic role. Adams was one of the American envoys sent to negotiate the Treaty of Paris; a treaty that would bring about the end to the Revolutionary War. After the war, he remained in Europe for several years, eventually becoming the first United States minister to England.

On his return in 1788, he was placed on the ballot for the presidential election. He lost to George Washington and again in 1792, but Adams became the first Vice President of the

United States. Eventually, in 1796, at age 61, he became the second president of the United States of America. During his presidency, war between Britain and France was causing tensions to run high in the newly formed country. The ruling faction in France, the Directory, cut off trade relations with America. Attempting to repair these tenuous relations, Adams sent three envoys to France. He received word that the Directory refused to take part in any negotiations until a bribe was paid. After Congress was informed of the slight, they managed to complete three new frigates and build additional ships, authorized the raising of a provisional army, and created and passed the Alien and Sedition Acts.

While a declaration of war was never issued, conflicts began arising on the high seas. Before 1800 traders were defenseless against attacks from French vessels, however the turn of the century brought with it armed American merchants and United States warships that protected American waters.

Word came that France was ready for negotiations and Adams was ready to end this semi-war. The talk of peaceful discussions brought a significant amount of displeasure from the Hamiltonians and this, along with the divisions occurring among the Federalist, caused Adams to lose re-election to Thomas Jefferson in 1800.

After his presidency, Adams lived with his wife in Quincy, where he would spend the rest of his life. He kept



in correspondence with Thomas Jefferson, who had become a dear friend of his. Both Adams and Jefferson would die on July 4, 1826, 50 years after the first American Independence Day. John Adams last words were, "Thomas Jefferson survives."

John Adams has taken his place in history as one of the Founding Fathers of this great nation. The ideals and freedoms expressed so eloquently in the Declaration of Independence live on; Thomas Jefferson is not the only one who survives in the spirit of the Declaration of Independence, but John Adams too, and every man and woman who have risked (and risk) their lives and livelihood to protect those fundamental ideals on which America stands. So, if I could tell John Adams anything, I would tell him that through the battles fought and hardships endured, America lives on; America survives.

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

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PRESIDENTS' DAY

Junior Year

A man of action

Leeanne Leary
MSM Class of 2017

Our third president was Thomas Jefferson – the principal author of the Declaration of Independence, an American Founding Father, a supporter of individual rights and republicanism, and a Virginia native. He was a father, a husband, a student of language and philosophy, a violinist, the second Vice President of the United States, and eventually the third president.

He fought a reported eight cases in defense of slaves seeking freedom, lowered the national debt by nearly \$30 million during his presidency, and played key roles in the Louisiana Purchase, the Indian Removal Act, and more. All of these things are part of our fundamental history. He helped to shape early America in monumental ways and lived as an example to the American man.

In the weeks before Presidents Day and in the midst of the 2016 presidential campaign, it's natural to reflect on our past presidents and in doing so it is also natural to remember a few key moments or details about each president. For Thomas Jefferson, he showed the country and its future generations how he wanted to be remembered by requesting the printing of three things on his tombstone when he died: Author of the Declaration, Pass-

ing the Statute of Religious Freedom in Virginia, and Founding the University of Virginia.

The Declaration of Independence

The Declaration of Independence was, and still is, the epitome of the morals, goals, and ideals that formed our country as we know it today. As the primary author, Thomas Jefferson was a member of a five person committee selected by the Continental Congress also including John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Roger Sherman, and Robert R. Livingston. At the time he was selected, Jefferson actually didn't want the role, he instead wanted to return to his home in Virginia to help write the Virginia State Constitution. He used this desire in his first draft of the Declaration of Independence by taking ideas and information from several Virginian documents including their Declaration of Rights and his first draft of the Virginia Constitution.

The Declaration, in summation, was a statement from the people of the colonies explaining their right and prerogative to rebel against Great Britain and further create their own government.

Jefferson wrote the first draft of the Declaration, defended his writing through the editing process, chaired the Declaration committee, and was ultimately most proud at the end of his life of this work, choosing it to go first

on his tombstone.

Jefferson has been referred to as “the best spokesman we have had for the American ideals of liberty, equality, faith in education, and in the wisdom of the common man.” From the Declaration, we get words, ideals, and goals still incorporated in today's debates and functioning government. We get the famous mantra that fuels many arguments and positions today—“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”

Statute of Religious Freedom

In three short paragraphs, the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom discusses and addresses both religious freedom for individuals on a mental level and the establishment of the separation of church and state doctrine. It was passed on January 16, 1786 and set the precedent for the First Amendment dealings with freedom of religion. The statute is fully representative of Jefferson's personal philosophy and ideals, making it both a political and personal achievement. When Jefferson wrote this statute, there were already groups petitioning for the separation of church and state and for religious freedom. These petitioning groups set the groundwork and opened up the platform for Jefferson to take his stance and pass a statute that he would personally be proud of until the day he died.

The Statute goes paragraph by paragraph and discusses the natural right

of freedom of thought in the first section, sets the act in the second paragraph claiming that no person should be compelled to attend or support any church, and the third paragraph reminds the people that no law is set in stone and the people have the right to change them at any given time.

When we consider the context of this statute- it being the first of its kind and a bold move by Jefferson- it is a true example of Jefferson's moral leadership and his character. The statute was of course met with opposition and some saw it as a real attack on the church, but it was successful and became the precedent for the religious freedom we hold so dearly today.

The University of Virginia

The final act on Jefferson's tombstone was the founding of the University of Virginia. Throughout his life and presidency, Jefferson was a firm believer and supporter of education for all men. He believed that education and freedom were closely linked and in order for our nation to succeed, all men should receive an education. He spent his final 17 years of life working with, designing, and founding the University of Virginia, another testament to his personal beliefs and values.

Jefferson's vision was to create a state University that offered an education to any man. This vision started to become a reality in February of 1816 when the Virginia General Assembly granted a charter for a Central College and the work began. Jefferson's hard fight was rewarded, land was purchased and buildings began to



go up. In 1817, in preparation for the school's final touches and opening, Jefferson was asked to draft a bill for a system of public education. He did and called it “revolutionary,” proposing a three-tier system – free elementary education, tuition based secondary education, and a public state university for those who make it to that point. The original bill failed, but after a long legislative fight the General Assembly finally approved a state funded university to be called the University of Virginia.

Jefferson's life was indeed revolutionary. He redefined much of what was known at the time in terms of freedom, religion, and education – three things that I regard so dearly in my life today and I know others do as well. His life and presidency were marked by bills, political fights, and new laws, and in the end he is remembered as one of America's favorite presidents for good reason.

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

Senior Year

Meet the Madisons

Katie Powell
MSM Class of 2016

“Those who do not study history are doomed to repeat it,” ah, yes—the famed quote used by many a history teacher to threaten their students to pay attention to their lessons on the Fertile Crescent, Mesopotamia, Athens, and Sparta in ninth grade social studies. I am certain you all remember the eye-rolls and groaning that followed, save for that one pupil nodding in agreement, front-and-center. I am sorry to say, you all, that pupil was me. I truly do believe that statement to be true! That is why I am thrilled that this month I get to time travel a bit and talk about the great James Madison, the fourth President of the United States.

While it is why he is best remembered, Madison's eight years as President from 1809-1817 were not his greatest contribution to our nation. I will also argue here that his presidency is not what we ought to remember most about Madison. Some of my reasons involve his policies, others his passion, and some his wife, Dolley, whom whitehouse.gov describes as “the toast of Washington.”

First, I must mention that Madison attended college at Princeton, which was then called the College of New Jersey (I guess great people gravitate toward great places). He then returned to Virginia to serve his home

state's government. Although Madison is widely regarded as the Father of the Constitution of the United States, that was not his first Constitution. In 1776, at 25 years old, Madison helped to frame the Virginia Constitution while serving on the Virginia Assembly as well as the Continental Congress.

During the Revolutionary war, Madison, along with Alexander Hamilton and John Jay, published the Federalist essays, a publication aimed at communicating the ideals of the fledgling nation. Despite this success, Madison's career was far from over.

Madison was instrumental in the formation of the Bill of Rights, and in fact, he helped create the Jefferson (also called Republican) Party due to his opposing view of Alexander Hamilton's ideas.

After helping found the nation, Madison served as Thomas Jefferson's Secretary of State. During this time, Madison made the biggest mistake of his political career. Because of unfair seizure of American ships by Britain and France, who were at war, Madison enacted the Embargo Act of 1807. The Embargo made exports from the United States illegal, in an effort to punish Britain and France, and regain respect for American people and goods. Although the aim was to end the capture of American ships, the only success it really had was causing a depression in the United States because of the severe decrease in income. After his presidency, Madison

returned to his home state and lived the remainder of his life in Virginia.

It would be unfair for me to write my article about James Madison without mentioning some of the quirkier facts surrounding Madison and his presidency.

To start off, I want to talk about his darling wife, the iconic and classy Dolley Payne Todd Madison. They say that behind every great man is a great woman, and Dolley may have well have been the inspiration for that saying. She is one of the most famous First Ladies in history; in fact, according to firstladies.org Dolley is the only first lady to be “given an honorary seat on the floor of Congress.” She was a natural beauty with dark hair and bright blue eyes, and she loved fashion—she was Jackie Kennedy, 120 years before Jackie Kennedy was born. She is a huge reason that James Madison was so popular. Dolley was incredibly socially active, and made her home the “center of society” from the time Madison became Jefferson's Secretary of State until the end of the presidency in 1817.

I used the term “quirky” to describe the president with good reason: for all of the Madison's popularity, they caused quite a stir. Here are some “fun facts” about the Madisons.

1. Samuel Morse (inventor of Morse code) chose Dolley to be the first American to receive a telegram.
2. Madison served as a colonel during the Revolutionary War.
3. Dolley increased the popularity of ice cream through the United States—her favorite flavor be-

ing oyster ice cream, which she made herself with oysters from the Potomac.

4. James Madison and Thomas Jefferson met at the Virginia Convention in 1776, and became best friends.
5. During the War of 1812, a British army forced the Madisons to flee the White House. When they returned, it was in ruins.
6. Madison opposed George Washington's financial decisions, in part because Alexander Hamilton served as Washington's Secretary of Treasury.
7. The “Republican” or Jeffersonian party that Madison helped to create is actually the direct ancestor of our current Democratic party.
8. James Madison was the smallest of all of the presidents, weighing only 100 pounds and standing at a mere 5'4.

I wanted to take some time to conclude this month's FYATM theme. As I mentioned, I love history. However, I must admit, regrettably that although I am almost 22 years old, I have not yet voted in an election. I am not proud of it, but to my defense there has only been one presidential election I have been eligible for, and living in a different state than that of my home has made it trickier.

According to fairvote.org, in the last presidential election 58.2% of eligible adults voted, about a three percent drop from 2008. Midterm elections dropped from 41% in 2008 to 35.9% in 2012. Upon reading that, I



was embarrassed to add to the statistic. My new years resolution is to register to vote, follow the debates this year, and make an informed vote this coming November, and I challenge you to do the same! Nearly all of the Founding Fathers, in their final years, begged for the continuation of the United States, and for the prosperity of Democracy.

James Madison's final political comment in his letter, “Advice to my Country,” was this: “The advice nearest to my heart and deepest in my convictions is that the Union of the States be cherished and perpetuated.”

Every single one of us plays a key role in the success of our nation—whether your candidate ends up winning or losing, your vote plays a part, and your opinion matters. Our rights to freedom of speech in the United States are unprecedented and almost unparalleled, and it is our duty to exercise it on behalf of those who cannot.

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

FASHION

A romance for 90's style

Valerie McPhail
MSM Class of 2015

The fashion of the 1990's brought grunge, hip-hop inspired styles and classic looks. Models and actors communicated these perspectives with the support of brands such as Marc Jacobs, Supreme and Calvin Klein. Since then, these brands have remained an influence on the fashion industry through their ability to represent a culture and to communicate its perspective. This ability speaks to my interest in fashion. Therefore, for this month of February, a month celebrated for love and Valentine's Day, I express my admiration for the fashion of the 1990's.

It began with an attraction to minimalist design. There was a response to oversized knits and basics such as asymmetrical, solid-printed skirts. In addition to graphic tees and denim, these styles were not just pieces of clothing that I wore every day. I wanted these pieces in my closet so that they would fill my days with fashion. I sought after these styles for I found them to communicate a perspective. Through aesthetic and design, the items of clothing I invested in expressed character before words were spoken. Just simply through a regard for a manner of dressing, otherwise described as a fashion or a style, an industry is created and remains intrigued with clothing. For me, this interest lies within the fashion trends of the 1990's. There is a romance for 90's style.

Defining this decade of fashion are high-waisted denim popularized by Winona Ryder, the hip hop inspired looks from Will Smith in "Fresh Prince of Bel -Air" and the spaghetti strap, overalls and turtle-neck outfits worn by Jennifer Aniston's character, Rachel from the popular television show "Friends." These were among the style icons, the fashionable people of the 1990s. Their influence is important to consider because they have inspired they way people dressed.

Alongside Kate Moss and John-

ny Depp, is Winona Ryder, a young girl of the 1990s whose grunge style spoke for a culture at that time. Solid black colored tops, velvet dresses and a whole lot of leather were not only a part of her wardrobe, but established a grunge culture. At this time Kate Moss and Winona Ryder's fashion styles were almost identical. Images of Kate Moss wearing mom jeans and slip dresses for evenings out mirrors Winona Ryder's similar fashion sensibilities. She was photographed for her fashion sense, sighted wearing high-waisted jeans, simple black dresses and black boots, these pieces categorized a look of the 90s: minimalist grunge.

If it wasn't for his charm and comical situations in the NBC's popular Television show, "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air," Will Smith's character, Will, made an impression through his style of dressing. Baseball caps—a term modernized to snap backs, sneakers and the variety jacket laid the foundation for his hip-hop inspired looks. More explicit fashion statements were baggy, loose-fitted pants, jogger jackets and printed t-shirts. The relation of these styles grew as the hip-hop scene materialized from the East to the West Coast in the United States during the 1990s. As the rappers and hip-hop artists wore these styles, youth culture—those who responded to their music releases—would dress in this manner as well. Such artists became fashion icons. The nature and style of Will Smith's character in the 90's television show exemplifies a young man influenced by hip-hop. At this time, hip-hop was becoming more than a genre of music; it developed as a culture expressed through art. Fashion and music were strong mediums of its communication.

Overalls, plaid pieces and full length, solid colored dresses became trendy pieces because they were the reflections of fashion statements from Rachel Green, Jennifer Aniston's character in "Friends." These pieces were staples to her wardrobe. Rachel presented 90's fashion in its most

classic form. There are numerous way to describe her style: minimal, preppy, high fashion and cozy casual. She made these moves all without seeming to lose perspective and disbanding her confidence. Rachel Green was able to pull off all these styles—dress like a schoolgirl one day and then wear Victorian-inspired button-down velvet dress in the next moment—because she consistently wore classic pieces that defined her style. Such as way of dressing is defined by patterns and silhouette.

A classic style fashions solid colored tops—basic crew-neck t-shirts, long sleeves and turtlenecks—jeans and a square-shaped or shift dress. Mix in prints and patterns without losing the silhouettes of these pieces and there remains a classic sense of style. Rachel Green became a fashion icon and still continues to inspire today because the fashion she wore is never going out of style.

The 1990's brought style icons and fashion brands that continue to influence today. Here are a few of my favorite brands that were establishing themselves in the fashion industry during the 1990s.

Marc Jacobs

A final collection of oversized knitted sweaters at Parsons turned into a groundbreaking career for a designer who embodied a youth culture of the 90's, a grunge society. Dark colors, graphics and wedged shoes define his luxury brand. Marc Jacobs built a career from the premise of fashion as an art. The art of fashion is alive in the production of runway shows; even today, Marc Jacobs continues to generate anticipation and excitement for his runways each season. Just like any form of art, there is a point of view that speaks through its design. The popular attraction for this brand reveals a success of such an approach. I personally connected with this brand by experiencing the unexpected beauty discovered in construction of girly blouses and party dresses. There is a light-heartedness in his designs and amidst all the

seriousness that surrounds the industry, he makes fashion fun.

In New York City, you can find women fashioning Marc Jacobs bags right and left, on the subway and while out downtown in Soho. His cross body bags are especially trendy.

A few of my favorite things: jewelry (including bracelets, earrings and necklaces)

My favorite watch is a Marc by Marc Jacobs watch; I wear it every-day. I also adore his evening dresses. His designs are ideal pieces to wear out for celebrations and his clothing brings the excitement for a night of dressing up!

Supreme

Through capturing the hearts and attention of skaters, artists and youth culture, one brand has created a namesake. Supreme inspires the city it was established in: when they launched their Fall/Winter Collections last August, the brand's flagship store on Lafayette Street, downtown Manhattan in Soho attracted fans who gather in lines that wrapped around the block. Most of these fans are guys—fashion rarely experiences such a sight. I appreciate this brand for its collaborations and effortless sensibility. Supreme encourages us to keep in mind that when getting ready for the day, casualness is always cool.

Sights of Supreme beanies and Baseball Caps are popular around the city. Even though they are small items, they manage to represent a presence for hip-hop, skaters and artists. Supreme is a brand that confidently drums to its own beat. It supports a culture misunderstood by the mainstream. They too have a perspective and Supreme communicates their story.

A few of my favorite things: t-shirts, long sleeve shirts and Baseball caps.

Collaborations with Supreme come along with a level of exclusivity. Last fall, the brand did a short-lived collection with my favorite brand Comme des Garcon. I was



A Marc Jacobs party dress

fortunate to grab one of long-sleeve t-shirts from this collaboration before they sold out. I am also a fan of their beanies. Since recently experiencing winter here in New York, I have quickly learned that beanies are very popular piece of culture. In a city that hosts the United States' most fashionable events as it faces the iciest winters, beanies are both fashionable and practical. A Supreme beanie is a statement.

Calvin Klein

Though this brand was born in the 1970's, Calvin Klein reached popularity status through their ad campaigns in the 90s. Campaigns for Calvin Klein Underwear—featuring Mark Wahlberg and Kate Moss—created not only attention but controversy. Despite this, the designer continued to launch campaigns that turned heads. Moving efforts towards Calvin Klein Jeans, the brand photographed provocative images of young models in cabin camp recreational setting. The sexualized ads brought an overwhelming amount of dispute, to the point where there was a dramatic turn-over for these ads. What once was printed in The New Yorker became quickly dismissed from advertisement in the New York Times. Since then, this All-American brand has stood its ground and once again represents a voice for younger generations.

Images of Calvin Klein fashion can be spotted all over blog sites that consume teenagers' time and as well as found at stores like Urban Outfitters, where they shop. The youth culture has an obsession over graphic t-shirts and hooded sweatshirts that read "Calvin Klein Jeans." These are their coveted pieces of style.

A few of my favorite things: graphic sweatshirts and t-shirts Calvin Klein offers satisfying basic items. These would be the key pieces to shop because not only are they classic pieces but investments for a wardrobe. I own an oversized navy sweatshirt with the Calvin Klein Jean logo on the front. I snagged it from a yard sale not far from the Mount's Campus my senior year. I love its aged 90's graphic and bagginess. It was very comfortable to study in throughout my last year at school and to wear on lazy days throughout the weekend.

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First love

Lydia Olsen
MSM Class of 2016

Being a teenager is hard for everyone and the added stress of having a social life and trying to “impress” boys was always something I was quite frankly horrible at. Even then I was just awkward in appearance and action. My hair was a strange mix of being curly and straight at the same time but still not exactly wavy and somehow always seemed greasy. My pants were a little too short since my growth spurt over the summer and I still felt too lengthy when I ran. My teeth were covered with pink and purple rubber-banded braces that my lips got stuck on when I tried to smile. My face was an awful mix of being two shades too dark where I tried to cover up existing pimples with my mother’s makeup and red and annoyed where new pimples were forming.

It was not a good look. Not for me and not for anyone. Yet we all went through this phase, didn’t we? To make matters worse, I had an early birthday, which meant that I was nearly half a year more mature than the rest of the kids in my grade. It seemed like a big difference to me at the time. Looking back, I was probably among the least mature in my class, but I still won’t fully admit it.

We were all in transition, phasing out of being a “child” and becoming what we thought were adults. We were about to enter high school. It was something we all spoke about fearlessly but deep down we were all undoubtedly anxious about it. High school brought a lot of unknowns. The least difficult were questions about where you would sit at lunch or on the bus in the morning. The more challenging questions to find answers to were how the other freshmen would like you and even more frightening, how the upperclassmen would like you. I remember my eighth grade grad-

uation being exciting and nerve-racking at the same time. I was thankful that I would have the summer to figure out who I wanted to be going into high school.

I was too young to have an official job, so I would lie around the house until my mother couldn’t stand it anymore. She’d get back from a long day of work and I’d be lying on the couch still in my pajamas watching another rerun of something I’d seen a million times before.

“Harper,” she would say as she rolled her eyes at me, “did you get out of the house at all today?” Most of the time my answer was “no.”

I remember the weekend my mother decided things were going to be different. She had talked to a few of my friends’ mothers and they had all come to an agreement of some sorts. It was a Saturday morning when my mother opened my bedroom door and made me get out of bed before my noon-alarm clock. I sat up and rubbed my eyes.

“What’s the excitement for?” I asked her with a yawn.

“There’s someone I want you to meet,” she said with joy as she fled from my room. I got out of bed, got dressed in shorts and an oversized T-shirt and met her in the kitchen. “No, no,” she said as she looked at my attire, “that won’t do.” She went to my room and threw a pair of jeans, socks, and a shirt that was my size onto my bed. “You’ll need to wear your sneakers too,” she said, “they will do for now.”

Soon enough, we were in the car and mom couldn’t stop humming to the songs on the radio. I knew she didn’t even know how they went but she clearly didn’t mind. We drove for about 10 minutes until we came to a stop.

“Here we are,” she said with a grin.

“This is where you wanted to take me?” I said with confusion.

We got out of the car and I saw a few of my friends with their mothers. We went over to greet them before a woman in her late-twenties with a long blonde braid draped over her back approached us.

“Hello!” she said with a warm smile, “My name is Jennifer and I am so glad to meet each of you!” She led us around and we followed unquestioningly. I remember being skeptical but entranced. In pairs we filed off with our mothers by our sides.

“Harper,” Jennifer said as she looked me in the eye, “there’s someone really special I want to introduce you to.” We rounded the corner and I instantly came to a stop feeling myself getting awkward again. “This is Charlie”, Jennifer said, “I felt like you two would get along well.”

I remember the feeling I got when I met Charlie’s big brown eyes for the first time, the way they seemed so knowing and soothing. I remember us on long walks together and running through the fields. I remember sometimes I would just sit with him for hours reading or doodling and he never grew impatient. Sometimes I would tell him the gossip. I would share my fears and my hopes and yet somehow he always made me feel as if he already knew. One day we walked through the woods and I remember finding a tree to carve our names into. My mother and friends took a liking to him too and I remember how we would run down to the nearby stream on those hot summer days and splash around without a care in the world. He was always there to turn to when I was having a rough day or when my emotions took over and I couldn’t control them. He was always calm and gentle and eager all the same. That summer turned into the two of us spending all of our time together. I would ride my bike down the street to see him and he would be there, ready and waiting. I would scribble our names together on notebooks with hearts and draw pictures of us that I would bring



to show him and hang up for him to see. We were inseparable and I adored him with every ounce of love within my 14-year-old heart.

When the day came for high school to begin, I finally felt ready. Charlie had helped me establish a new sense of confidence and calmness. As high school went on, Charlie and I grew out of touch. I became increasingly busy and I knew he understood but I wondered if it bothered him and if he missed me and those times when we would spend all day together.

It took me a while to go back. I was afraid he wouldn’t remember me and afraid that the memories we had shared would have escaped him. Time had driven us apart. So much had changed since our magical summer together. I was long into college when I went to visit him again. I had seen him around but I had never stopped, until one morning I decided to change that. I put on a pair of jeans, socks, and a fitted T-shirt and found an old pair of worn boots. I laughed as I slid them on, realizing they still fit. On my way out I grabbed an apple from the kitchen counter and then I got into my car and drove 10 minutes down the road. The pavement turned to gravel and I slowed

my car before parking. I got out and shut the car door as I took a deep breath. Inside the barn, Jennifer stood helping a young girl tack a chestnut mare. She looked over at me and waved with excitement. “Go see him!” she yelled to me, “He’s been waiting.”

From the fields, a dark bay horse with soft brown eyes looked up from grazing. He turned his head as if to smell the wind. I took a few steps closer to the fence and he took a few steps closer to me. Before I knew it, we had met each other in the middle of the field. We stood there for a moment, holding each other’s gaze as if to say, “What took you so long?” and then I had flung my arms around his neck and grabbed hold of his withers. He nodded his head as if to pull me closer. “I’ve missed you,” I said with a trembling voice. Charlie grunted and whinnied. I found myself laughing as I blurted out loud, “I guess it’s true what they say then, you never can forget your first love.” Then giggled to myself as I thought, “Even if they are a horse.”

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ARTS

“And All That Jazz!”

Gettysburg Community Theatre, the non-profit 501c3 organization located in the original Elks Lodge building at 49 York Street within the first block of Lincoln Square in historic downtown Gettysburg, will present the long-running hit musical CHICAGO. This landmark show has been presented on Broadway for over 6,000 performances since the current revival opened in 1996, going on to win six Tony awards, including Best Revival of a Musical. The original production, directed and choreographed by the legendary Bob Fosse, opened in June of 1975 and was nominated for nine Tony awards.

Billed as “a musical vaudeville,” Chicago is based on a play by the same name written in 1926 by Maurine Dallas Watkins. It tells the story of Roxie Hart, who finds herself on Murderer’s Row in the Cook County Jail after shooting her lover. Smooth-talking attorney Billy Flynn agrees to take on Roxie’s case and manipulates the press to make Roxie a celebrity. Roxie has rival for the media’s

attention, however: another Billy Flynn client named Velma Kelly. Written by John Kander, Fred Ebb and Bob Fosse, Chicago is a cynical look at America’s celebrity culture and its corrupt judicial system, presented through the highly stylized language of song and dance. The musical features well known songs such as “All That Jazz”, “Mister Cellophane”, and “Razzle Dazzle”.

The GCT production is being directed and choreographed in the style of Bob Fosse by GCT Founding Executive/Artistic Director Chad-Alan Carr, with musical direction by Nicholas Werner who will lead a 6 piece jazz combo on stage for the night club act feel of the musical comedy. The cast is comprised of college and community talent from Pennsylvania and Maryland including Carrie Trax as Roxie Hart, Catherine Howard as Velma Kelly, Tony Crerand as Billy Flynn, Buff Wills as Mama Morton, Thad Fillmore as Amos, and filling out the ensemble are Lauren Kutz, Emily Smallwood, Nicole Powell, An-

drea Lommen, Bridgid Wills, Shane Miller, Drew Derreth, and Lee Howard. Be sure not to miss Chicago the Musical at Gettysburg Community Theatre, for a truly exciting night of theatre. As the script puts it, “Let’s pick up the pace! Let’s make the parties longer, let’s make the skirts shorter! Let’s all go to hell in a fast car and KEEP IT HOT!”

Chicago the musical contains mature language and may not be suitable for all audiences. \$18 Limited reserved seating tickets can be purchased online today at www.GettysburgCommunityTheatre.org or by calling 717-334-2692.

GCT Mission Statement: To inspire creativity and confidence, provide cultural enrichment, and instill a love of the theatre arts in young and the young at heart through quality education, training and performing experiences in musical theatre.

To purchase tickets please call 717-352-2164 or 888-805-8056 or visit www.totempoleplayhouse.org.

The Red Door Boutique

Bringing a little southern charm up north

What is a dream? For some, it is just a collection of images that they see when they sleep. But to others, a dream is a lifelong desire to do something. Emily Graham has dreamed of owning her own store for longer than she can remember.

While living in Georgia, Emily participated in many markets where she would showcase her artistic talents including, but certainly not limited to card making, scrapbook designs, and creating beautiful and unique jewelry out of game pieces.

Whether it was her two daughters keeping her busy with their after school activities, or the family moving to a new home, Emily was never able to find somewhere that she felt her store would really thrive. That was until the family made a big move from Atlanta, Georgia to Maryland. Once the search for a home began, thoughts of having her store here did not even cross her mind. That was until they came across a home for sale in Taneytown.

The house shared property with a 2,000 square foot building behind the house that was previously a well known and loved flower shop, Every Bloomin’ Thing. The house itself was a perfect fit for the family and the building in the back had the potential to finally make Emily’s dream of owning her own boutique a reality.

With the help of her two daughters, Macy and Kathryn, Emily has opened The Red Door Boutique in Downtown Taneytown. The store offers a wide variety of home décor, gifts, fashion jewelry, accessories, and paper crafting classes. She also offers custom orders for items such as personal scrapbooks, handmade cards, and coasters. You name it, Emily can do it!

The Red Door Boutique is currently open Thursday- Saturday from 10 AM-6 PM. If you find yourself in Taneytown, or just in need of some retail or crafting therapy, Emily and her girls would love to see you!

Children’s Theatre announces 2016 season

The Children’s Theatre at Way Off Broadway is the area’s only children’s lunch theater, offering a family-friendly meal before each show, and giving audience members, young and old alike, a chance to meet the character before they see them singing and dancing on stage. As the new year begins, Way

Off Broadway’s producers have announced three of the four shows for the Children’s Theatre’s 2016 Season.

Kicking off the season will be the area premiere of Junie B. Jones – The Musical. January 23 – April 9. It’s Junie B.’s first day of first grade and a lot of things have changed for her: Junie’s friend Lucille doesn’t want

to be her best pal anymore, and on the bus, Junie B. makes friends with Herb, the new kid at school. Also, Junie has trouble reading the blackboard and her teacher Mr. Scary thinks she may need glasses. Throw in a friendly cafeteria lady, a kickball tournament, and a “Top-Secret Personal Beeswax Journal,” and first

grade has never been more exciting.

Next up is Stinkykids – the Musical: April 23 – July 30. Britt loves making everyone happy. But this girl who never gets in trouble is in a sticky situation – literally: She woke up with an impossibly epic wad of gum stuck in her hair. All of Britt’s friends are depending on her parents to take them to the new

MegaJumper 3000 at Captain Happy’s Jumpy-Fun-Super-Bouncy Indoor Place, so she definitely doesn’t want to disappoint anyone. Britt must rely on her mischievous friends to go with her on an unexpected adventure across their neighborhood to solve the problem before her parents find out and possibly cancel the trip!

Clara and the Nutcracker Prince will follow on November 12 – December 28. Drawing on Tchaikovsky’s ballet, Clara and the Nutcracker Prince carries the audience away as the Prince introduces Clara to a world of fantasy. From a battle with the Mouse King to a visit with the Sugar Plum Fairy in the Land of Sweets, Clara is taken on a magical holiday adventure neither she nor the audience will ever forget.

“The Children’s Theatre is a great place for kids to see the characters from their favorite books come to life,” says Bill Kiska, Way Off Broadway’s Executive Producer. “A lot of times, our children’s theatre productions are the first live stage shows some of the children ever seen. Being able to introduce children to live theatre is an amazing wonderful thing.”

Children’s Theatre performances are every Saturday afternoon, with matinees on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month. Tickets are \$17 per person, allowing everyone to be a “kid” that day.

Tickets can be purchased by visiting the theatre or calling the Box Office at 301-662-6600. To learn more about The Children’s Theatre, or any of the theatre’s productions, visit the Way Off Broadway’s website at www.wayoffbroadway.com.

For additional information about any of Way Off Broadway’s productions or events, visit www.wayoffbroadway.com.

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Works of Love

Jack Williams
Class of 2017

And perhaps a fair number of you, have encountered generalizations about art that are rather macabre. The most popular notion, and perhaps the most incorrect one, contends that every work of artistic excellence incorporates death in some manner. The widely acclaimed artist Daniel Hirst has commented on this before, arguing that “There’s only ever been that one idea in art – that Gauguin thing, you know: where are we going, what’s it all about, where did we come from, is there a reason? If you’re trying to make sense of life, then death looms big on the horizon.”

Perhaps. The central tendency in most works of art, if you feel compelled to identify one, is this “making sense of life,” but this need not depend on the rather simple designation of death. How about love? Isn’t it remarkable that one of the most fruitful paths to self-understanding and self-love exists in the selfless care for another person?

So let’s discuss it! Valentine’s Day comes around this month, providing either a long awaited opportunity or compunction to buy something memorable for that person we love. For that couple, and those who are single, let’s highlight some compelling works of art about love. Love helps us make sense of life, and while these works cannot impact us as another can, they are a wonderful place to start.

Also, as you read this, I am privileged enough to be studying abroad with Mount St. Mary’s in the city of Florence in Italy. As you’d imagine, I’ll be visiting every museum I can find, and guarantee that I’ll share the art I discover in my wanderings. Now, especially in Florence, sculpture is an integral part of its art history, most memorably due to Michelangelo’s David (which was placed in the Palazzo della Signoria). So let’s start with sculpture!

There are notorious examples of love in sculpture, and you’d likely first think of Robert Indiana’s Love sculpture, the one famously associated with Philadelphia. But when I think of love in sculpture, I cannot think of anyone apart from Auguste Rodin. There are some famous works of his which you may have seen, even if his name is unfamiliar. He crafted The Thinker, a bronze sculpture of a man ruminatively sitting with his chin resting upon the back of his hand. I became familiar with Rodin because of this work, in my time as a philosophy major, seeing its likeness on the walls of my old professors’ offices.

He also sculpted The Kiss, a marble masterpiece originally intended to be part of a grand exhibition at a Parisian museum. It is a statue of Francesca da Rimini, a person most classically remembered as a sufferer in Dante’s Inferno, permanently lost in its second circle. Paolo, her lover in the sculpture, is not the man she married. The second circle is re-

served for the lustful, and Francesca is stranded with Paolo in an eternal whirlwind, always subjected to its gusts, swept up in its speed, just as she was always swept away by her passions.

What Rodin executes so brilliantly in his sculpture is the beauty of Francesca’s body and the devotion to her infidelity. If you were to look at a painting of Francesca and Paolo, such as Dante Rossetti’s portrait in the mid-1800s, you would find a woman who is only “50-50” in committing to her passions with her lover. You will find a similar theme in a few classically erotic paintings, especially of the European variety: women are depicted as secondary participants in acts of love, that the man initiates the passion which women then reciprocate. Rodin betrays this convention. Francesca is sculpted with exquisite detail, and is fully intimate in her kiss with Paolo. This, in turn, gives additional credence to her placing in the second circle; she truly belonged there because of her full investment in the act.

But as breathtaking – a word I rarely use – as this love sculpture by Rodin is, there is another which baffles me even more. Rodin created another sculpture for the museum, one that draws upon this full commitment of love by both participants: Eternal Springtime. Without having seen this piece, the title encapsulates the sentiments these lovers express, that being, a perpetual experience of novelty, of rebirth, of beauty.

Rodin, debatably, is my favorite example of an artist adding modern elements to works of the past. I was lucky enough to have seen Eternal Spring at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. Rodin based the movements of his sculpture on a masterpiece by Antonio Canova. Canova sculpted a famous (and rightfully so) work called Psyche Revived by Cupid’s Kiss, often deemed one the greatest works of Neoclassical sculpture. I encountered this in my art history class in high school, and was perplexed by its beauty and classical undertones. Psyche Revived is sourced in Lucius Apuleius’ classic work The Golden Ass, and the sculpture shows a young woman tenderly holding the back of Cupid’s head as he extends his kiss.

Eternal Springtime shares the pose of Psyche Revived, with the woman caressing the back of her lover’s head, leaning toward him as openly as can be. The man, similarly, leans in toward her with equal affection. The modern element which Rodin incorporates in this work, which ought to be discussed and celebrated, is the emphasis on the individuals. The subjects are not gods, or distant incarnations of the Passions. Psyche is often translated from the Greek as “soul,” or “breath of life,” while Cupid’s denotation is well known to us. Rodin’s greatest feat in this piece is emphasizing that these sentiments of enamor and fulfillment are not reserved

to classical texts, or polytheistic deities. They are in each of us, they are us, they inspire and forge the art and relationships in which we fully invest ourselves.

How about novels? If you are an avid lover of the written story, as I imagine many of us are, I have a few recommendations to pick up this month. Many of you, myself included, are fascinated by history, so my first choice is Doctor Zhivago by Boris Pasternak. This is a rich novel, difficult at times, yet immensely moving in its plot. The novel is similar to Gone With the Wind, in the lone sense that it tells a love story in the midst of tumultuous, revolutionary times. Doctor Zhivago is set in Russia between the Revolution of 1905 and the Bolshevik Revolution, centered on the life of one Yuri Zhivago, a doctor in practice but “a poet at heart,” and his ambition for love in the shaky stability of governmental upheaval. This work, a piece of historical fiction, excellently depicts the mannerisms and behaviors of early 20th Century Russian civilians in the wake of massive change.

The second novel is nowadays considered a classic of F. Scott Fitzgerald, his fourth and final novel, Tender is the Night. While this is not a tale of infatuation or a love that seems predestined, it nevertheless relays extensive detail on the nature of love and the dynamic nature of interpersonal relationships. The novel displays the dealings of Dick and Ni-



cole Diver, a couple who move to a villa in France. On the property lives a young woman named Rosemary Hoyt and her mother, whose presence begins to affect Dick’s emotional connections with Nicole. In the midst of this conflict, flashbacks catalog the characters’ histories, family backgrounds, and additional information which provides remarkable complexity to an otherwise cliché story topic. This book is worth reading for its emphasis on individuality, for its emphasis on honesty in both members of a relationship, and its devotion to succeeding in love in the face of tribulation.

There are too many intriguing romantic films, just as there are numerous romantic novels, to list in the span of this article. Films like The Titanic, The Notebook, The Time Traveler’s Wife, When Harry Met Sally and other popular romantic movies will be watched this month. Instead of these, I have a different recommendation for a

film you may not have heard of. Its name is Chungking Express, a 1994 Hong Kong film by Wong Kar-Wai. The film consists of two stories focused on two different characters, both of whom are policeman in the ever-busy city of Hong Kong. This is not a film intended to draw an infatuated couple closer together, as a movie like The Titanic might. Instead, it is a deep reflection on the paradoxical influence of love on emotions. If you’re in the search for a different take on love this month, this movie is certainly for you!

Love is one of many ways that we make sense of life, and I hope that some of these will help you approach this phenomenon differently. Happy Valentine’s Day everyone! And as they say across the pond, “a presto!”

To read other articles by Jack Williams visit the Authors section of emmitsburg.net, or emmitsburgartscene.wordpress.com.

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SPORTS

Lady Cougars' winning streak

Michael Donahue

Coming into January, Catocin basketball was struggling. The men and women held a combined record of 0-20. However, the Lady Cougars began to turn around their downward trending momentum in the middle of January. While the same problems continued to glare, their strengths began to solidify. Offensively, the women still struggled. Yet, their defense was tremendous and their transition game began to improve.

While Catocin could not manage to secure the win against an impressive Walkersville squad, the Cougars made strides to correct their losing form. Their defense demonstrated tremendous effort against the range and size of the Lions. On the offensive side of the court, Catocin continued to struggle as their transition game continued to dominate the majority of their offense. While the Lions won the game 45-39, Catocin was able to keep pace with one of the best teams in the county.

Only a few days later, the Railroaders made their way into the Cougar's territory. To start the match, Catocin struggled. They started with three turn-

overs and five empty trips offensively. However, Brunswick did not take advantage and, when Amy Entwistle signaled for a timeout, the game was still tied 0-0. After the timeout, Catocin's defense kicked into gear. On the Railroaders first trip down the floor, Meghan Jenkins intercepted a pass and led Allison Larochelle with a dime of a pass. Larochelle promptly laid the ball into the basket.

However, the rest of the first went in the favor of Brunswick and ended 12-7. Yet, Catocin kept pace in the second. Taylor Crum had multiple steals and was a threat on the defensive side of the floor. In one play, she ran down an opponent who had a clear lane to the basket and picked the offender's pocket. On the opposite side of the floor, Hannah Gray started to reinvigorate the offense, a trend she would continue during the second half.

To kick off the second, Gray, Crum and Larochelle continued to thrive on offense. The three began the second with an 8-3 run to tie the game at 25. This success continued for the rest of the quarter as their focus changed to attacking Brunswick's internal defense. Plays began outside with Crum, Larochelle

and Jenkins and moved inside to Gray who dominated the paint. She received the pass on the elbow and slashed her way to the basket.

Late in the fourth, Brunswick had pulled within one. However, Gray came through with an elite play. She drained a runner in the paint while also drawing the foul. On the free throw, she completed the three-point play. This play was followed by two athletic plays by Larochelle. She intercepted two passes and turned the turnovers into easy baskets. These three plays secured Catocin's first win of the season.

After the game, Hannah Gray proceeded to preach her own coach's words saying "we are continuing to grow as a team...[we are] accepting our own accountability." She went on to say the team will use this game as momentum and "keep heading towards the peak of the mountain."

After an impressive win away from home against Smithsburg, Catocin hosted the FSK Eagles while they looked for their third straight win. The Cougars kicked off the match on fire. They had an impressive defense set and were beginning to convert offensively. However, their intensity began to draw needless fouls. Gray, who came into the game with three straight double-doubles, fell into foul trouble and, once Gray left the court, the Catocin interior lost some of their drive.

However, the Catocin offense found a slight spark to start the second quarter. Larochelle, Crum, and Jenkins connected inside on backdoor cuts multiple times for easy points. However, this spark died as soon as it had begun and FSK responded. Fine, who would finish the game 5-6 from beyond the arc, shot the Eagles back into the game late in the second half. This, coupled with



Taylor Crum laying the ball into the basket versus Brunswick.

Catocin's foul trouble, allowed the Eagles to diminish the lead the Cougars had gained and tie the game at 33.

The third quarter was the spark of pure potential the fans have been dying to see all season long. It was an image of Catocin's full form. Gray came off the bench and scored eight in the third alone and Crum scored six of her own. On the other end of the floor, Jenkins was a ball hawk and forced three turnovers. As well, Larochelle was sitting in the pocket of Fine the entire quarter. When the third quarter ended, Catocin had 19 points compared to FSK's measly five.

However, the Eagles responded with a quarter of their own. Fine was consistent from beyond 20 feet and Catocin's foul troubles continued to send FSK to the line. The Eagles found a flaw in Catocin's offense and changed their scheme to a zone to isolate the Cougar's range.

With three seconds left on the clock and down two, FSK had the ball at mid-court when they broke from their

timeout. During the timeout, Entwistle was preaching the severity of a foul. However, on the inbound, Crum fouled the ball carrier 50 feet from the basket. This sent the Eagles to the line with three seconds left.

As the shooter stepped to the line, the game seemed bound to be headed toward overtime. Unsurprisingly, the first was golden: 57-58. However, the second shot went up, banged off of the rim, sat in the air for a second and fell back out, securing the win.

As the season comes towards an end, the women are beginning to peak at the appropriate time. However, they have an uphill task ahead. They will have their second to last home game on February 2 against Middletown and their final home game on the 19th against Smithsburg. There is little doubt the Cougars will be tested to keep the wins coming. However, as Entwistle said at the beginning of the season, the Lady Cougars will learn from each game and reach their maximum potential when they head into the playoffs.

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MOUNT SPORTS

Mount basketball

Brian Vogelgesang
MSM Class of 2016

Mount St. Mary's men's and women's basketball teams have had many twist and turns throughout January as they pursue a triumphant end to their seasons. Men's basketball has had a remarkable display of wins against their NEC conference opponents. The men have gone 5-1 in the NEC with the only loss being attributed to a very tough Bryant team.

On the other hand, the women's team started to see some light early in January as they defeated St. Francis of Brooklyn and Central Connecticut State. The ladies have been playing their opponents with much courage and perseverance through their struggles this season. Overall, both Mount basketball teams have brought forth some exciting play with notable performances from players like BK Ashe and Junior Robinson. Both of these players being sophomores on the men's team.

To start conference play, Mount St. Mary's University defeated LIU Brooklyn 79-63. Mount athletics reported, "Five players scored in double figures as Mount St. Mary's ran past LIU Brooklyn, 79-63, in the Northeast Conference opener for both teams on Saturday afternoon at Knott Arena. BK Ashe paced the Mount with 16 points while Gregory Graves added 14 points in the win. Chris Wray and Elijah Long each tallied a career-high 13 points while Junior Robinson (also added 13 in the win."

The spectacular performances by these players brought great momentum to the team as they continued to trump conference opponents in the upcoming weeks. One of these opponents being St. Francis of Brooklyn. The Mount found this St. Francis of Brooklyn team to be tough competition. Though, with courage and perseverance, the Mountaineers marched past them with a 44-40 victory in overtime.

Head coach Jamion Christian commented on the men's courage and perseverance this season saying, "I always feel like our teams in my time here has played courageously. We always play one of the toughest schedules and in the toughest environments. I am a big believer in recovery after failure. Failure hits you at some point each season. Our ability to bounce back and show perseverance is critical to how we want to play the game."

The Mountaineers were led in points by Junior Robinson who put up 13 baskets, helping the Mount gain the edge they needed to pull off this close win. Robinson, though leading the team with points was not the sole factor for the victory. He was joined by his teammates Greg Graves, BK Ashe, and Khalid Nwandu who crafted a sequence of solid runs that led to the defeat of St. Francis of Brooklyn.

Mount St. Mary's men's basketball had another solid performance after their win against St. Francis of Brooklyn as they battered Central Connecticut State 73-62. The Mount was led by Junior Robinson who had a great game scoring 17 out of the 73 points against the Blue Devils. Robinson was joined

by Will Miller, Khalid Nwandu, Greg Graves, Taylor Danaher, Elijah Long, and Chris Wray, and BK Ashe to seal a win against Central Connecticut State. This win moved the Mount to 3-0 in the conference. Mount athletics reported, "This is just the third time the Mount has opened NEC play with a 3-0 record since joining the conference in 1989-90." This was truly a big leap for the men's basketball program at Mount St. Mary's University.

Unfortunately the Mount fell from their undefeated conference run to a very good Bryant team with a score of 82-79 in double overtime. Junior Robinson led the Mount with 20 points followed by Taylor Danaher scoring 19 for the Mountaineers. The men showed great perseverance throughout the game and kept their heads up as they went into the next week beating Robert Morris 82-79. The Mount stands in the NEC conference with a record of 5-2.

Mount St. Mary's University men's basketball kept their winning streak alive defeating St. Francis University with a score of 82-72. During this bout, the Mount was led by Greg Graves with 18 points, Junior Robinson with 15 points, BK Ashe with 11 points, and Taylor Danaher with 11 points. The Mount pulled ahead only by four points going into half time. The game remained close as the play proceeded through the second half.

According to the Mount athletics webpage, "With the score tied at 53-53 with 8:39 remaining, Will Miller keyed a 9-0 run to give the Mount a 62-53 advantage. Miller started the run with a four-point play, and then added a three-pointer on the next possession to give the Mount a 60-53 lead. Miller then stole the inbounds

pass, and fed Graves for a jumper for to make it 62-53 with 6:59 on the clock."

The Mount continued to play strong through the rest of the second half. Mount athletics reported, "After the Red Flash cut the margin to 64-57, Taylor Danaher converted a nice pass from Junior Robnison and BK Ashe drained a corner three-pointer to stretch the advantage to 69-57. After a Red Flash free throw, Graves and Ashe converted back-to-back buckets to give the Mount its biggest lead at 73-58. From there, the Mount was able to hit free throws to secure the win."

Though playing well against St. Francis University, the Mount found themselves at a loss in the next game against Sacred Heart with a score of 76-71. The Mount will continue their hunt for the NEC title as they prepare to play some good teams such as Fairleigh Dickinson and Robert Morris in the upcoming weeks.

On the other side of the court stands the Mount's women's basketball team. Though, not as successful as the men's team, they continue to play strong. The ladies faced some hardship offensively this season, making it difficult to pull off the wins. When asked about the hardship, head coach Bryan Whitten said, "We've faced some adversity scoring. Our defense has been very good, but offensively we have struggled making shots."

Despite struggling, Mount St. Mary's continues to strive for improvement. Coach Whitten commented, "We've been working very hard. Our team is very proud and wants to be successful. They've been doing all that we've asked them to do to improve."

This improvement can be seen in the Mount's 66-56 win against St. Francis of Brooklyn and their victory



over Central Connecticut State with a score of 54-48. As they improve, the Mountaineers remain optimistic.

Coach Whitten noted, "It is still early in our conference season, a lot of good things can and will happen."

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COMPLEMENTARY CORNER

2016 – The Year of the Monkey

Renee Lehman

The Chinese New Year (also called the Lunar New Year or Chinese Spring Festival), one of the traditional Chinese festivals, is the grandest and the most important festival for Chinese people. It originated during the Shang Dynasty (about 17th - 11th century BCE), and it is an important time for families to get together, similar to Christmas Day for westerners. It is also a time to hope for the return of spring, to welcome prosperity, wealth, and longevity, and a time to remove any negative qi (pronounced “chee”) from the past. There is even a tradition prior to the New Year for every family to thoroughly clean the house to sweep away any ill-fortune in hopes of making way for good incoming luck.

Chinese Calendar History

The Chinese calendar was originated by the Yellow Emperor Huang Ti, and has been in use for centuries. The Chinese calendar is called a lunar calendar, but is really a calendar based on the moon and the sun. The Gregorian calendar, which the world uses today (originated 430 years ago) is a solar calendar. (The Chinese Lunar New Year always begins on the second new moon after the winter solstice, in case you were wondering why it’s on a different date every year.)

The Twelve Animals of the Chinese Calendar

The Chinese calendar is made of five, twelve-year cycles. Each of the twelve years of the Chinese calendar is appointed one of the following 12 animal’s names (in this order): rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon (the only mythological animal), snake, horse, goat/sheep, monkey, fowl, dog, and pig. The animal that rules the year of your birth is said to exercise a major influence over your life, and that year in general. Much of the information used for this article is taken from The Handbook of Chinese Horoscopes by Theodora and Laura Lau, 2007. The sign of the Monkey is the ninth sign of the

Chinese zodiac, and the animal related to this coming New Year.

The Monkey

February 8, 2016 through January 27, 2017 is the Year of the Monkey.

The Monkey is commonly regarded as the emblem of trickery.

So, get ready for an unpredictably adventurous year!

The secret to understanding the energy that we are going to be moving with this year can be found in the Chinese classic novel of the 16th century (Ming dynasty), Journey to the West (by Wu Cheng’en). One of the famous characters in this legendary tale is the Monkey King who demonstrates a combination of pluck, bravery, scandalous irreverence, ingenuity, ruthlessness, and magic to assure his status as one of China’s epic folk heroes. The Monkey King was born from a stone, acquired supernatural powers from a Taoist master, stole an elixir of life, steals the peach of longevity from the Empress’ garden, and then rebelled against heaven. No one could defeat him. Finally, Buddha tamed and jailed him. In the end, the Monkey was sent to accompany a famous monk and his disciples to the western kingdom to bring a Buddhist sacred text from India to China. All sorts of magical adventures ensue over the course of four-volume book. This legendary story has been adapted for TV, movies, cartoons, and opera many times.

Monkey Personality

If you were born in one of the following years, your sign is the Monkey (on or after February 20, 1920; February 6, 1932; January 25, 1944; February 12, 1956; January 30, 1968; February 16, 1980; February 4, 1992; and January 22, 2004). A person born in the year of the Monkey is an intelligent, quick-witted, and inventive person. Overall, they are clever, flexible, and innovative. They can solve problems with ease, and demonstrate an independence associated with achievers. The nimble monkey is playful, youthful in nature, and symbolizes irrepressible curiosity

and creative energy. A person born in this year will be successful at whatever s/he chooses to do. No challenge will be too great for him/her.

On the shadowy side, the Monkey person has an inborn superiority complex. The Monkey’s problem solving tendencies can turn them into being a trickster, opportunistic and not all that trustworthy. The youthfulness hides an unscrupulous adolescent, and the independence can turn to unfaithfulness. However, it can be difficult to begrudge a Monkey’s wonderful joie de vivre. This is what makes him so enviable at times. Even in the Bible you can spot a Monkey. Mary Magdalene and the Prodigal Son were Monkeys. They got to eat their cake and keep it, too. They slid back into everyone’s good graces – Monkeys are unsinkable!

Famous People born in the Year of the Monkey:

- Leonardo da Vinci, Italian Artist and Inventor
- Pope John Paul II
- Eleanor Roosevelt, American First Lady
- John Milton, British Writer
- George Lucas, American Film Director
- Lucy Liu, American Actress
- Celine Dion, Canadian Singer
- Tom Hanks, American Actor
- Harry S. Truman, American President
- Venus Williams, American Tennis Player
- Katie Couric, American Journalist
- Will Smith, American Actor
- Nelson Rockefeller, Vice President of the United States
- Michael Hillman, the editor of this paper (which explains a lot!)
- And of course, Curious George!!!!

General Predictions for the Year of the Monkey

In the Year of the Monkey anything can happen. This mischievous animal bursts with exuberance, bringing a lightning fast pace and fantastical motivation. Business flourishes and risks



tend to work out. The Monkey’s gift is the ability to find unconventional solutions to old problems. Daring to be different could lead to success.

A promising time for new inventions, the Year of the Monkey is for taking risks and being rebellious, a year where agile, inventive minds, sheer guts and bravado will win out. Now is the time of courage, action, anarchy, and true devotion to even the wildest of schemes, a time to start new endeavors, for they are destined to succeed under Monkey’s influence. But a word to the wise: those who can hang on for the wild ride, outsmart the confidence-trickster, and bluff their way through will come out untouched. Those who are lackluster or slow-witted, and can’t handle the stress will come unnerved.

On a personal level, harmonize your own nature with this Monkey energy. Summon your own power and move forward in your life. Make strides, and reach out for the adventure that lays ahead, and don’t look back. Learn to see magic everywhere!

Quotes to Live By in the Year of the Monkey

“The problem is to keep the monkey mind from running off into all kinds of thoughts.”
—Lee Kuan Yew

“The mind is a monkey, hopping around from thought to thought, image to image. Rarely do more than a few seconds go by in which the mind can remain single-pointed, empty.”
—Dani Shapiro

“The test of a first-rate intelligence is the ability to hold two opposed ideas in mind at the same time and still retain the ability to function.”
—F. Scott Fitzgerald

“Intelligence is the ability to adapt to change.”
—Stephen Hawking

“The true sign of intelligence is not knowledge but imagination.”
—Albert Einstein

And finally, something witty: If pro is opposite of con, then what is the opposite of progress?
Enjoy the exciting adventure of the Year of Monkey 2016.

Renee Lehman is a licensed acupuncturist and physical therapist with over 25 years of health care experience. Her office is located at 249B York Street in Gettysburg, PA. She can be reached at 717-752-5728.

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FITNESS AND HEALTH

Keep moving

Relaxed resolutions

Linda Stultz

I know New Year's resolutions are a tradition for many people but sometimes they are very hard to keep. Many people set a goal that is too much, too soon. We are just getting over the holidays that have been easy to change our eating habits to the treats but much harder to get back into our normal eating schedule. I have had so many clients and friends tell me they are so glad to

get back into their regular routine of meals, work and exercise.

We all enjoy the anticipation of the upcoming holidays but we are creatures of habit and even though we enjoy the cookies, cocktails and parties living that way all the time would really upset our balance of a healthy life. Back to the resolutions, if you have made one that is.

Think about what you wanted to accomplish with the resolution you made. Are you still doing what you

set for yourself or has it already gone by the wayside? Don't give up even if you have already stopped the schedule you set for yourself. If you are going strong with your resolution, keep with it and be proud of yourself but if you have lost some of your momentum, don't beat yourself up.

Rethink what your initial goal was and think about why you are not able to keep up with whatever you scheduled for yourself. Think of what you were able to do and what part you were not able to do and now come up with another way to try that will fit into your busy life. This time, maybe you can give yourself a little less stress by planning to exercise two days a week a first then work up to more. Give yourself a chance to in-

corporate the new changes with your food, exercise, the number on the scale or whatever you have chosen.

Going from one way of living then to the holidays and straight into a strict new schedule because of the New Year's resolution you made can be a big change and not one that is easy to stick with. I know some people have to be very strict and go into a new plan full force but if you can, try being a little more relaxed with your approach and maybe that will be the key to sticking to your New Year's resolution and making this the year you changed the lifestyle that was keeping you from achieving your goals and becoming as healthy as you can be. This may also be the year to include someone else in

your quest to eat better and exercise more. By including a family member or friend it may make it easier and more fun for you and help them accomplish something they have been working on.

Working with a partner is fun, keeps you accountable and gives you and them the support that is needed to not only keep your short term schedule but it may help make that lifestyle change that will be with you for the rest of your life and theirs. Relax, don't be too hard on yourself and just maybe that will be the way to keep you on the path you are looking for. Call me at 717-334-6009 with any questions or if you need that little push to get started or continue toward your goal of good health.

Celebrating recovery brings hope

Mark Punchard

With a heart for the hurting in our community, husband and wife team, Mark and Jenny Punchard started the Celebrate Recovery program at the Gettysburg Foursquare Church in 2011. The hope was to create a safe place where not just those struggling with chemical addictions, but anyone experience personal hurts, could come to find love, acceptance, and most importantly freedom.

Over the past four years, we have seen people from all walks of life come through our doors, dealing with a wide range of life issues, including anger, sexual addictions, depression, grief, drug addictions, alcoholism, codependency, self-injury, sexual abuse, eating disorders, and much more.

Celebrate Recovery is not a new program. In fact, Saddleback Church Lay Pastor, John Baker, created it in 1990. Today, there are more than 20,000 Celebrate Recovery groups held in churches throughout the world. Its structure is similar to other mainstream 12-step recovery programs, except it defines our higher power as our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

This allows us to integrate non-denominational Biblical principles into the program, so members can understand and fully embrace the true power of God's love, grace, and mercy. Unlike some other mainstream recovery programs, Celebrate Recovery

does not solely focus on drug and alcohol addictions. Instead, it brings hope and freedom to people struggling with all types of "hurts, habits, and hang-ups."

Psalm 107:13-15 says, "Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble and He saved them from their distress. He brought them out of darkness, the utter darkness, and broke away their chains. Let them give thanks to the Lord for His unfailing love and His wonderful deeds for mankind." We not only believe that the Lord will break the chains of addiction and past hurts, we have seen it happen time and time again. This is why we choose to Celebrate Recovery and give thanks to the Lord for His goodness and mercy.

After seeing the tremendous need in the community, a second Celebrate Recovery group was formed at The Intersection Church. Our weekly meetings are held from 7pm to 9pm on Monday and Tuesday nights at The Intersection. We maintain an open door policy and invite anyone, and everyone, who is experiencing any type of "hurt, habit, of hang-up" to join us. Each night's program is different, so you can choose to come Monday night, Tuesday night, or both nights.

Our nightly meetings begin with our Large Open Share Group that includes a time for prayer and worship. Each night, we either hear a thought-provoking lesson that is based on the 12-steps, or listen to a powerful testi-

mony from others that have walked the road to recovery and are experiencing their own personal freedom. We conclude the Large Group with a celebration the recovery process, by handing out monthly and yearly chips, along with the Newcomer/Starting Over chips.

After a brief break, we split into gender-based, topic-specific Small Open Share Groups, such as life issues, chemical dependency, codependency, and depression. During these groups, everyone has the opportunity to take five minutes to discuss the personal issues he/she is facing. All members agree to follow a short set of guidelines in order to create a safe and completely confidential setting.

We also have a fellowship time that allows people to exchange contact information and start building a support system. This strong support system is crucial to the recovery process because it provide a place to turn when groups are not in session.

Our Step Study program, which takes the Celebrate Recovery process to the next level, is also offered. This is a yearlong program that uses a series of four workbooks to work through the 12 recovery steps, which are broken down into 25 lessons. Each lesson includes Bible reading, character studies, and several questions that encourage participants to look at their past and current issues in order to release these hurts and addictions to God, experience mercy, and break free from the cycle.

Initially, our Step Study groups are open to all member of the community. After several weeks, however, it becomes a closed group to secure a setting where everyone feel safe to share personal details of the past hurts, pains, and poor decisions. We offer both women and men Step Study groups throughout the year. We will be opening one of our women's Step Study groups in early 2016.

Our Celebrate Recovery meetings held every Monday evening from 7pm-9pm at Foursquare Church at 328 Middle Street, Gettysburg, PA; and every Tuesday night from 7pm to 9pm at The Intersection Church, 1980 Baltimore Pike, Gettysburg, PA. Please contact Mark Punchard at 717.309.6066 or email him at gettysburgcr@gmail.com for more information.

ASTRONOMY

The night sky of February

Professor Wayne Wooten

For February, the Moon will be last quarter on February 1st, rising at midnight, and only 3 degrees north of reddish Mars. On February 3rd, the waning crescent moon will pass 4 degrees north of Saturn in the dawn sky. On the 6th, the moon lies 4.3 degrees north of Venus, and 3.9 degrees north of Mercury in the dawn sky. The moon is new on February 8th. The first quarter moon is on February 15th, and full moon on February 22nd; this is the "hunger" moon in Native American tradition, when most of the food stored up for winter was almost gone. The waning gibbous moon passes just 1.6 degrees south of Jupiter on February 24th, with both rising about two hours after sunset.

Mercury is low in the morning sky, reaching greatest western elongation on February 7th. It is easiest to find on February 13th, when it is only 4 degrees east of Venus. Venus dominates the dawn sky for the next few weeks, but will be lost behind the sun in April. Mars is being overtaken by the faster moving Earth, and will come to opposition on May 21st, when it will be closest to us and brightest in 2016. Look for it in Libra near the moon on February 1st. Jupiter is in southeastern Leo, and comes to opposition on March 8th. Jupiter dominates the late evening eastern sky, rising almost at sunset by the month's end. The ringed planet will be coming to opposition on June 2nd, and is now north of An-



M-42, the Great Nebula of Orion, an outstanding binocular and telescopic stellar nursery.

tares in Scorpius, rising about 3 Am at the start of the month. The rings are much more open than last year, and are open about 27 degrees now, when fully opened at Saturn's solstice this year; when this open, the huge reflecting surface of the ring's ice boulders will double the planet's brightness.

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 bina-

ry star Algol, where the Arabs imagined the eye of the gorgon Medusa would lie. It fades to a third its normal brightness for six out of every 70 hours, as a larger but cooler orange giant covers about 80% of the smaller but hotter and thus brighter companion as seen from Earth.

At Perseus' feet for the famed Pleiades cluster; they lie about 400 light years distant, and over 250 stars are members of this fine group. East of the seven sisters is the V of stars marking the face of Taurus the Bull, with bright orange Aldebaran as his eye. The V of stars is the Hyades cluster, older than the blue Pleiades, but about half their distance.

Yellow Capella, a giant star the same temperature and color as our much smaller Sun, dominates the overhead sky. It is part of the pentagon on stars making up Auriga, the Charioteer (think Ben Hur). Several nice binocular Messier open clusters are found in the winter milky way here. East of Auriga, the twins, Castor and Pollux highlight the Gemini. UWF alumni can associate the pair with Jason and the Golden Fleece legend, for they were the first two Argonauts to sign up on his crew of adventurers.

South of Gemini, Orion is the most familiar winter constellation, dominating the eastern sky at dusk. The reddish supergiant Betelgeuse marks his eastern shoulder, while blue-white supergiant Rigel stands opposite on his west knee. Just south of the belt, hanging like a sword downward, is M-42, the Great Nebula of Orion, an outstanding binocu-

lar and telescopic stellar nursery. The bright diamond of four stars that light it up are the trapezium cluster, one of the finest sights in a telescope.

In the east rise the hunter's two faithful companions, Canis major and minor. Procyon is the bright star in the little dog, and rises 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.

When Sirius is highest, along our southern horizon look for the second brightest star, Canopus, getting just above the horizon and sparkling like an exquisite diamond as the turbulent winter air twists and turns this shaft of starlight, after a trip of about 200 years!

To the northeast, a reminder that spring is coming; look for the bowl of the Big Dipper to rise, with the top two stars, the pointers, giving you a line to find Polaris, the Pole Star. But if you take the pointers south, you are guided instead to the head of Leo the Lion rising in the east, looking much like the profile of the famed Sphinx. The bright star at the Lion's heart is Regulus, the "regal star". Fitting for our cosmic king of beasts, whose rising at the end of this month means March indeed will be coming in "like a lion". Note that Jupiter now sits just south of the tail of Leo, and will be moving from Leo into Virgo by mid year.

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Farmers' Almanac

Mid-Atlantic weather watch: Fair, cold (1) with light snow (2, 3, 4). Windy, very cold, lake-effect snow late (5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10) more snow and stormy (11, 12). Fair and cold (13, 14, 15) with yet more snow, heavy in the southern part of the region (16, 17). Fair and very cold (18,19) with Nor'easter, heavy snow (20, 21); lake-effect snow (22, 23) with still more snow mainly in the south again (24, 25, 26) turning fair and not so cold (27, 28, 29).

Full Moon: February's Full Moon will occur on Monday, February 22nd. Many Native American tribes who lived in cold and temperate climates who faced harsh winters and a real scarcity of game during this month called it HUNGER MOON. It has also been referred to as Snow Moon because snow was often at its deepest now in certain parts of North

America (like in the Mid-Atlantic Region this month!).

Special Notes: The year 2016 is a Leap Year so we get an extra day this month! Watch out for "Punxsutawney Phil", who makes his much-anticipated appearance on Thursday, February 2nd. As we all know, on that day, he makes his "prediction" of the coming of Spring and if the little coward sees his shadow, he will go back underground and we will face another 6 weeks more of Mr. Winter! If he doesn't, there will be an early Spring!

Holidays: Celebrate The Christian Festival of Lights, or Candelmas, on Thursday, February 2nd. The day is marked when many churches traditionally light more candles than usual during their daily services. The added light made the day special and it was also believed that the additional

light provided protection from illness and plague in the coming year. Ash Wednesday falls on February 10th and is the first day of Lent, a season of fasting and prayer. Valentine's Day, February 14th, falls on Sunday in 2016. Plan a special day with your special someone and let them know just how special they are to you. The birthdays of Abraham Lincoln (Friday, February 12th) and George Washington (Monday, the 22nd) are collectively celebrated on President's Day which falls on Monday, February 15th to provide us with an extended holiday weekend.

The Garden: In the event of snow (and there will be some this month!), be sure to shake or brush off the white stuff from the branches of your evergreens and shrubs to prevent them from breaking or deforming under its weight. Stored summer flowering bulbs may try to start into growth if they are subjected to heat. They should be kept very dry, and stored at 45° F. If they are shriveling, put them into slightly damp peat moss, but keep them cool! Keep tabs on all of your houseplants. They need special attention having been cooped up indoors for so long. Check to be sure they are getting enough sunlight and water and don't ever let the pots dry out. Always be checking for pests. Continue to put out bird seed. You want them to stick around and help with insect control when the weather starts to warm up.

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COMPUTER Q&A

Passwords, pins and security codes

Ayse Stenabaugh
Jester's Computer Services

Windows passwords & pins

When you login to your computer you may or may not have a password. Some computers will allow you to use a fingerprint scanner and some touch screen computers will even let you touch certain areas of a picture to login instead of using a password. It is important to remember that this does NOT replace your password and you should still remember your alphanumeric password that was first created. Windows 10 now allows users to login using a 4-digit pin code – again this does not replace your password and to perform some repairs and actions within Windows your alphanumeric password will be required.

The dangers of BIOS passwords
For added security some users enable a BIOS password which is a password stored on your motherboard that must be entered BEFORE Windows loads. If you require additional security such as this please don't make the mistake of forgetting this password! If you happen to forget this password, you are more than likely going to need to send your computer to the manufacturer to have the password removed or reset. If you don't need the additional security, we recommend removing the BIOS password entirely and using a Windows password instead!

Most websites require passwords!

If you use email, you have a password. If you use Facebook you have a password for that too! Any website that you use that provides you access to account information or your personal data requires a password for security purposes! Often when we ask for an email password customers reply with "I don't have one". While you may not need to enter a password or login information on your personal computer (because you have allowed your web browser to save your password for you) it doesn't mean that you don't have one. If you were to login to another computer, you would be required to enter your login credentials including username (or email address) and password.

Most web browsers will give you the option to save your password so that you won't need to enter it each time you visit a website. This can be a very useful feature! Keep in mind that Firefox and Google Chrome will allow you to view saved passwords where Internet Explorer will let you save them but won't give you the ability to view them later on.

Security & password resets

If you forget a password you can usually attempt to login to the website that you are trying to access and choose the "forgot password" option. In most cases when you first setup your account you were asked to enter alternate contact informa-

tion such as an email address or phone number that you are able to access. Using the information you provided, you will be given a clue (such as a partial view of the email address or phone number provided) and you will need to fill in the missing information. If you provide the proper information a reset link is emailed or a security code is sent to your cell phone (landlines will usually receive a phone call with an automated code). Once you receive that code and enter it on the screen (or click the reset link in your email) you will be asked to create a new password. If you are resetting an email password and you receive your email on another device, you will also need to enter the new password before you will receive emails in that location.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Adam's County Master Gardener classes

February is a great time to think about improving your gardening skills. Whether you are a seasoned gardener or a beginner, there is always so much to learn. Let the Penn State Master Gardeners of Adams County help you resolve your gardening problems or get started in basic gardening through our seven class series, Flower Gardening in Your Environment.

This year the classes will be offered in two locations on two different days, giving participants more flexibility. Classes begin on Wednesday, February 3, in Gettysburg, and on Saturday February 6 in York Springs. The Wednesday evening classes will be held at the Agricultural and Natural Resource Center, 670 Old Harrisburg Road, Gettysburg, PA, from 6 - 8:30 pm, and the

Saturday morning classes will be at the Lion's Club Building, 406 Main Street, York Springs, PA, from 10 -11:30 am. They will continue for 7 weeks through March 19, 2016.

Each year before the growing season begins, the Master Gardeners offer educational classes to encourage people to improve their gardening skills. This year's series will emphasize using natural gardening practices in the ornamental garden to help you get better results while respecting and supporting the environment.

Since good gardening begins with the health of your soil, we will start the series with the topic "Living Soil, Healthy Soil", which will result in stronger plants, fewer pests, and less disease. You'll learn how to improve your growing medium for better results.

"Green Gardens...Clean Water" is the name of a new Penn State initiative, and the basis of our second class. It addresses dealing with rainwater run-off, a huge problem that causes flooding and contamination of streams and rivers, much of which comes from mismanagement of excess water by homeowners. Good gardening practices can go a long way toward solving the problem.

Our next three classes will address three seasons of gardening, "Gardening in Spring", "Gardening in Summer", and "Gardening in Fall". Each season is unique in its challenges. Learn tips on what to do, and how to do it as your garden progresses from early spring through frost.

In the sixth class, learn a little

about the insects you may encounter in your garden. Did you know that beneficial insects far outnumber the pests? We call this class "The Good, The Bad, and the Oh So Ugly"! Learn and enjoy.

"Gardening for Birds, Butterflies and Bees" will round out our classes. Learn about gardening techniques that support and attract songbirds, butterflies and pollinators.

As Master Gardeners, we recognize that the more we learn, the more we realize how much we don't know. The instructors of each class are very knowledgeable in their subject area, and their expertise will encourage you to take on new gardening projects or improve what you already have.

So come to our early spring gardening series and see how much you can learn. Start by gaining a basic gardening competency through

this class series and then develop your know-how from there. There are so many facets of gardening to explore. You'll find a great deal of helpful, pertinent information in these classes.

Besides the educational value, it's always fun to meet and interact with people of similar interests. Along with the instructors, there will be other Master Gardeners present at each session to help answer your personal gardening questions.

Class numbers are limited, so sign up today. You can register for this seven-week class series online by visiting <http://extension.psu.edu/plants/gardening/events>, or by calling 717-334-6271. Cost is \$65; Come learn in a friendly, fun environment. See you in class! Get ready to enjoy either your first gardening season, or your best gardening season!!

Valentine's Day wing feed

Now is the time to plan for celebrating your Valentine's Day with the ones you love. What better way to give back to the community by attending a charity wing feed? The Emmitsburg Community Heritage Day committee is holding a wing feed on Saturday, February 13 at the Emmitsburg Ambulance Hall from 3pm to 11pm.

Proceeds will go to benefit the Community Heritage Day Festival, this year on June 25th which is held annually on the last Saturday in June. Emmitsburg Community Heritage Day is an annual Independence Day celebration sponsored by many of Emmitsburg's active civic organizations and has been held for the past 34 years. Fireworks, parade, music, food, and fun are all provided to benefit the community directly. All in all, the day provided raises funds to bring awareness and

funds for charities, as well as providing activities for the attendees to enjoy all day. Further, it highlights Emmitsburg's rich Civil War history and the many sites to see in the area. The annual festival, however, relies entirely on funds generated from donations and fundraisers.

The Valentine's Day Wing feed offers a variety of wing flavors, side dishes and drinks (soda, heritage milk, water) all for \$20 per person. At 7:30 enjoy your drinks for \$1 donation and music until 11pm. Other activities such as a raffle and ticket jars will be offered as well.

Please help support our community by attending our first Valentines Wing Feed! To purchase tickets, stop in at Zurgables (Mark Zurgable 301-447-2020), or Mountain Liquors (Gary Stouter 301-447-2342) or contact Cliff Sweeney at 301-447-1712.

Community events

February 3

Liberty Mountain Resort's Operation Thanks Choice of free 8-hour lift ticket or a 2-hour tubing pass for all active military, law enforcement and EMS personnel. 78 Country Club Trail, Carroll Valley. For more information call 717-642-8282 or visit www.libertymountainresort.com.

February 5

Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter all you can eat spaghetti dinner. For more information visit www.cvas-pets.org or call 717-263-5791

February 12, 19, & 26

St. Francis Xavier Parish will host its fifth annual Lenten Fish Frys at Xavier Center, 465 Table Rock Road, Gettysburg. Dine In or Take Out. Adult, Senior, Children and Reduced Portions will be available. Children under 5 eat free. For further info, call 717-334-4048.

February 13

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel and St. Anthony Shrine Parishes' Cash Bash at Our Lady of Mount Carmel's Parish Center, 103 Church Street, Thurmont. Cash prizes will be awarded every 15 minutes starting at 3 pm through 7:45 pm, at 8 pm the grand prize of \$3,000 will be awarded and is based on the 3 digit Maryland Lottery number drawn at that time. The tickets are \$25 and should be purchased in advance. The ticket price includes the cash prizes, food and drink. Music will be provided by Back Roads. For tickets please call the parish office at 301-447-2367.

February 13 & 14

The Central Maryland Antique Tractor Club Toy Auction and Show. Frederick Fairgrounds, 797 E Patrick St. For more information call 717-552-7691 or visit www.cmatc.org.

February 14

St. Joseph's Taneytown's Special Valentine's Day old fashioned

country style all-you-can-eat breakfast buffet. St. Joseph's Parish Center, 44 Frederick Street, Taneytown. Featuring: Pancakes, french toast, scrambled eggs, sausage, home fries, chipped beef gravy, orange juice, tea, and coffee. Prices: \$8.00 adults, \$4.00 children ages 7-10 (6 & under free). Sponsored by: Knights of Columbus, St. Joseph Taneytown Council 11631. All proceeds support the the Council's charitable and service programs.

February 16

The Majestic Theater presents Robert Osborne, beloved cable TV host of Turner Classic Movies, as he discusses the important role movie theaters have played in the life of small town America with Jeffrey Gabel. Afterwards, Mr. Osborne will introduce the classic film, "Casablanca" starring Humphrey Bogart & Ingrid Bergman, on the big screen. Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle Street, Gettysburg. For more information call 717-337-8200 or visit www.gettysburgmajestic.org.

February 20 & 21

Frederick Coin and Currency Show - Fifty coin and currency dealers! Elk Lodge #684, 289 Willowdale Dr., Frederick. For More Information call 443-623-7025 or visit www.coinshows.com/frederick_co.html.

February 20

St. Mary's Fairfield's Men's Club will be holding a spaghetti dinner at the parish hall in Fairfield, Dinner includes, spaghetti, meatballs, sausage, salad, bread stick, drinks and dessert (BYOB). The cost is \$7.00 for adults, \$4.00 for children 6 to 12 and under 6 free.

Hollabaugh Bros Cooking Class - Best Thing Since Sliced Bread: Back by popular demand for the second year in a row, get ready to make some fantastic breads, and learn how easy it really is! For more information call 717-677-8412 or visit www.hollabaughbros.com.



Choose When You Want To Play!

THURSDAY NIGHTS
Great Food! Huge Jackpot!
Doors Open @ 5:30 PM
Bingo Starts @ 6:45 PM

TWILIGHT BINGO
1st Friday Of Every Month!
Food! 3 Jackpots! Larger Payouts!
Doors open @ 5:30 PM
Bingo starts @ 8 PM

Fairfield Fire & EMS
Follow Rt. 116 To Fairfield
Turn Onto J. Harry Kane Blvd.



ROCKY RIDGE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

COUNTRY BUTCHERING & PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Saturday, Feb. 20, 2016
6:00 am - 10:00 am
(In The Activities Building)

Orders Must Be Placed By February 13, 2016
Orders Must Be Picked Up Feb. 20 From 6 am - 10 am
To Place An Order Call: Paulette 301-271-4252
Cindy 301-271-4057 Gertie 301-271-4253 Helen 410-775-2758



Fried Oyster & Turkey Dinner

Saturday, February 13th
12:00 Noon to 5:00 pm

St. John's Lutheran Church
8619 Black's Mill Rd., Creagerstown, MD
(Take 15 N. or S., get off at Thurmont exit and follow Rt. 550 to Creagerstown.)
(Take 194 N. or S., turn onto Rt. 550 at Woodsboro to Creagerstown.)

MENU:
Fried Oysters, Roast Turkey, Mashed Potatoes, Dressing, Gravy, Sauerkraut, Succotash, Cranberry Relish, Cake

ADULTS \$16.00 AGE 6-12 \$7.00 UNDER 5 FREE
CARRY-OUTS \$17.00 FANCY TABLE

Fried Oysters Made With Tender, Loving Care, Just Like Grandma's!

For Info Call: 301-271-7851



COACH

BINGO Saturday, Feb. 20th
Snowdate: March 5th
Treat yourself to a girls' night out!

TICKETS FOR 20 GAMES
Advance \$20 - At The Door \$25
Concessions For Sale!

For Tickets Call:
Rebecca 410-756-1815
MSS School Office
301-447-3161

Sponsored by: MSS Home & School Association
Mother Seton School
100 Creamery Rd., Emmitsburg, MD

UPCOMING EVENTS

Gettysburg National Park's Mid-Winter lecture series

February 6

Congressman James A. Garfield and Reconstruction. James A. Garfield of Ohio entered Congress in late 1863 committed to abolition and Radical Republicanism. Over the next 10-15 years, however, Garfield's commitment to radicalism softened. Learn more about Garfield's background and his political views on African American rights, treatment of former Confederates, and other important national issues during the Reconstruction period.

February 7

Impeached! The Rise and Fall of Andrew Johnson. Andrew Johnson rose from a humble Tennessee tailor to assume the mantle of the Presidency following the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. His handling of the first

years of Reconstruction nearly resulted in his impeachment. Look at the rise and fall of this controversial figure.

February 14

Legacies of Letterman: The Army Medical Corps, 1864-1945. Explore advancements in military medicine from the end of the Civil War to World War II.

February 20

Adelbert Ames - From Gettysburg to Mississippi. The story of Union General Adelbert Ames is one of courage, and heroism. A Medal of Honor recipient, and original commander of the 20th Maine, he would serve with distinction on countless battlefields of the Civil War. In the post-war years,

Ames served as military governor of Mississippi, senator, and later civilian governor.

February 27

Furled and Unfurled: A History of the Confederate Battle Flag at Gettysburg. Few symbols are as recognizable or as controversial as the Confederate battle flag. From the men who carried it into battle, to its incorporation into monuments and memorials, the flag is inextricably linked with the battlefield of Gettysburg. Discover the compelling and controversial history of the flag at Gettysburg, and the on-going debate over its meaning and message

February 28

Together Again for the First Time:

The Grand Reunion of 1888. The Grand Reunion of 1888, held on the 25th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg, was hailed as a time of reunion and reconciliation. It would also prove to be the first real meeting of many Union and Confederate

veterans. Explore the events, interactions, and episodes of this important moment in Gettysburg history.

All lectures take place at the Gettysburg National Military Park's Museum and Visitor Center Theater. For more information call 717-334-1124 or visit www.nps.gov/gett.

February 27

ESP Performing Company's 2016 Art in Motion! Showcase Fundraiser at the Catoclin High School Auditorium. Advance tickets \$5 students, \$10 adults (\$6 & \$12 at the door) Purchase tickets at ESP Dance, 15 Water Street, Thurmont or from any Company dancer. For more information, please call 301-271-7458. Keep Art Alive in Thurmont! Bring your friends and family to enjoy 2016 competition performances by the ESP Performing Company. Be amazed by these local, talented dancers! 50/50 drawings, gift basket raffles & concessions will also be available

For other upcoming events, visit the Events section of Emmitsburg.net

2016 Adams County Home Show



AllStar Events Complex
2638 Emmitsburg Road, Gettysburg, PA

Friday, February 19 • 4pm - 8pm
Saturday, February 20 • 10am - 6pm

Featuring:

- Door Prizes
- Student Design Competition
- Children's Activities (10am-2pm Saturday)
- Nail Pounding Competition
- Good Food
- Free Parking
- 98.5 The Peak will be Broadcasting Live

Vendor Info:

Contact Sue Miller at the BAAC at 717-337-5144 or sueamiller88@comcast.net to become a vendor at the show.

Proceeds benefit the Student Scholarship Program



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1 DOZEN ROSE BOUQUET
With Baby's Breath & Ferns
\$19.99

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MIXED ROSES & FLOWERS
With Baby's Breath In An Attractive Vase
\$9.99

Valentine's Day

Sunday, February 14th!

Roses, Roses, Roses!

Jubilee has a beautiful selection of roses for Valentine's Day at great prices that are so much less than traditional florist shops!

THREE ROSE VASE
With Baby's Breath
\$9.99

Give Your Special Someone A Valentine Pinch!



LIVE LOBSTERS
Saturday, February 13th & Sunday, February 14th!
\$10.99 lb. Avg. 1-1/2 lbs.

Orders Must Be Placed By 10am, Fri., Feb. 12th!

SINGLE ROSE VASE
With Baby's Breath
\$4.99

MOUNT ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY

Justice in America Today ACTIVISM... If Not Me, Who?

Wednesday, February 3, 7 p.m.
Knott Auditorium
#MSMUJustice

While examining issues of poverty, race, policing and social justice, there comes a point when a spectator becomes an activist.

Join Mount St. Mary's University as it examines activism – how its role is evolving in social movements and where you can begin getting involved. A panel of experts will discuss social movements, grassroots organization and building coalitions.

An expert panel featuring

Brandon Scott

Baltimore City Councilman

Grassroots organizer and co-founder of the 300 Men March

Kim Dine

Chief of Police, U.S. Capitol Police Force

Adult Undergraduate Open House

Create a Plan to Complete Your Bachelor's Degree



Saturday, February 20
11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Frederick Campus

Register today!

msmary.edu/OpenHouse

Complete your undergraduate degree at the Mount's Frederick Campus! Working adults can receive a quality education at a convenient location and finish a bachelor's in just two years by taking accelerated evening classes just one night a week. Join us at the Open House to meet with an advisor and learn more.

Adult Undergraduate Degrees

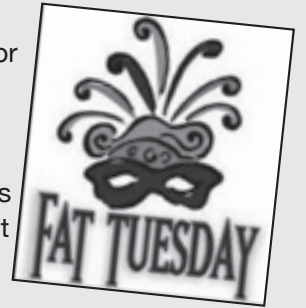
- Business
- Criminal Justice
- Elementary/Special Education
- Human Services

UNIVERSITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mardis Gras – Fat Tuesday Concert

Tuesday, Feb. 9, 4-7 p.m., Patriot Hall

Grab your beads and head to Patriot Hall for one last party before Lent! The Mount's musical groups and several special guests provide entertainment for the evening.



Allies Musical Revue – Songs for a New World

Thursday – Saturday, Feb. 11-13, 8 p.m.

Horning Theater, Delaplaine Fine Arts Center
Songs for a New World looks at the way we adapt and change in the face of new circumstances. You'll enjoy an evening of funny, inspiring, and poignant analysis of the human experience, and support a great cause at the same time! All proceeds go to the Forty to None Project. One note: the show includes mild language. Tickets are \$5.



Spotlight Cabaret

Friday and Saturday,
Feb. 19-20, 8 p.m.

Horning Theater,
Delaplaine Fine Arts Center

Join us for an informal night

of performances from

our talented students. Singers, actors, musicians... there's a little bit of everything! Free and open to the public.



NATIONAL SHRINE GROTTTO OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

(Gates close at 5 p.m.)

Offering Mass 12 p.m. Thursday-Sunday

Special events:

Concert honoring Our Lady of Lourdes
Sunday, Feb. 7, 1 p.m.

Ash Wednesday Mass

Wednesday, Feb. 10, Noon

Stations of the Cross

Fridays, Feb. 12, 19 and 26, 12:30 p.m.

