VOLUME 1, NO.1 • WWW.EMMITSBURG.NET • JUNE 2009 • FREE

Town considers grease trap ordinance

Ordinance may impact restaurants, bars, schools, day care facilities, & churches. **Page 4**

Pondering the Puzzlement

Fishermen consider Brown Trout to be the smartest, most difficult to catch of the trout species found in Maryland. **Page** 7

Unsung Heros

Emmitsburg heartstrings pull strong on Louie O'Donoghue, for that we are grateful. **Page 8**

The Master Gardener

With native vegetation and wildlife habitat is being lost and ground water and streams are being polluted, it's time to consider an alternative to the typical lawn. Page 10

The Retired Ecologist

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The Mystery of the Vanishing Bees!

I'll tell you this true story as it was told once by the trees. Page 13

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Having Fun with your Dog. A look at dog sports, one of the fastest growing obsessions of dog enthusiasts today. **Page 14**

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Something went horribly wrong on the night of June 15, 1863. What happened that night we may never know for sure. **Page 16**

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My person decided to move us across country from Virginia to California . . . Page 23

Astronomy

The Night Sky of June -The only planet now in the evening sky is Saturn, just west of overhead. **Page 27**

Fun for All and All for Fun at the Emmitsburg Carnival

Caroline Trevorrow

ries of "Spin the Candy Wheel" over the PA system filled the air, competing with the occasional shout of "Bingo!" from the Bingo tent. Country music underscored the warm, cloudless evening sky in May. The fragrances of cotton candy, pizza, French fries and popcorn from "Kernel Jim's Sugar Shack" wafted over the crowd and combined into

that magical carnival scent. Carnival season has officially begun! Nuns were busily serving up funnel cakes. People of all ages were pushing baby strollers. A young man with a red Mohawk hair-do was kissing and cuddling an adorable smiling baby. Colorful stuffed animal snakes filled the hands of the kiddies.

It is something that the illustrator Norman Rockwell would appreciate, of this I am sure. Goldfish and hermit crabs were being won at the 'Soda Toss' and 'Fish Bowl' games. The hard won critters could even be baby sat while you strolled the midway playing games of chance like 'Skee Ball' and 'The Bowler Roller'. (Imagine trying to hold on to a goldfish while riding the rides and having a crab cake.) This was the 27th time that the grounds in front of the Mother Seton School had been transformed into a fun filled wonderland.

Rides from the Russ Amusements Company such as 'The Zipper' inspired fear in young and old alike. The 'Bear Affair' ridden by the cutest kids you ever saw made you wish you were a kid again. Farm boys cleaned up after their chores and headed down to the carnival for some much needed fun after a hard day. Pretty young women put on their casual best after spending untold amounts of time flat ironing their hair and getting their makeup on just right, all in the hopes that it looked effortless. Even younger girls showed off the latest trend in multi colored, striped and polka dotted knee-high socks. It was a very colorful and relaxed crowd.

My two young sons, Clayton and Rowan each had a one dollar blue skylite snow cone which of course resulted in blue lips. Rowan slipped on down the 'Fun Slide' and Clayton braved it on the 'Tilt a Whirl'. Soon after, they could no longer resist the siren call of the 'Candy Wheel' and were determined to give it a spin. Lady luck was on their side when my youngest, Rowan (who is seven) picked lucky number seven and won on his first (and only) 50 cent turn. Oh the thrill of victory! We

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Emmitsburg Elementary Principal Retires

Susan Allen

Wanda Severance, Emmitsburg Elementary School Principal since 1996, is retiring at the end of the current school year. Remarkably, Severance will be ending her 34-year career with Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS) in the same location where it began.

Wanda Tyson came to Emmitsburg School (as it was then named) in 1975. It was her first teaching job after graduating from Frostburg State College. The school building, which was opened in 1973, was a new one. The school housed both elementary and middle school classes, and Wanda found her niche teaching the younger students. She stayed in Emmitsburg until 1984, spent two years in school support at North Frederick Elementary, and then returned to the northern part of the county as the reading specialist at Sabillasville and Wolfsville Elementary Schools for one year. In 1987 she was named principal of Sabillasville Elementary. In July 1994 she became the principal at Emmitsburg Elementary, inheriting the largest elementary school attendance area in the county.

"It felt like coming home," she says. After over the 24 years spent here as teacher and principal, the school and the Emmitsburg community have become "truly home." The special con-

nections within that home are very much like those in a family. Students from her teaching years became the parents of students now enrolled in the school. One of her former students, Charlene Rippeon, is an Emmitsburg third-grade teacher whose own children know "Mrs. Severance" as their principal. Several current and now-retired teachers worked with her first at Sabillasville, and Emmitsburg's reading specialist Janine Sherman was a colleague when both were brand-new teachers in Emmitsburg. Severance knows the history of the building, the families, and her staff in ways that can't be written down in official reports.

Severance gives the school's team high praise by saying, "this staff is highly qualified ...just phenomenal [in] their caring for the students." She notes that student test results have been improving steadily, at least in part because "we have been able to maintain smaller class sizes, especially in the primary grades...[and] give the kids more individual attention." Enrollment numbers have changed very little over the years, but new programs, she says, "really help students in specific areas of learning. The students are so great and work very hard." She also notes that their behavior has elicited many positive comments from substitute teachers and bus drivers alike.

For their part, staff members are very sorry to see Severance retire. "She's the



Emmitsburg Elementary School Principal Wanda Severance doing what she loves best, reading to students.

best boss I've ever had," says guidance counselor Sarah Fawley. She and Secretary, Ann Eyler, echoed a county administrator, saying "we have the Cadillac [of principals] and we don't want to change." Severance says that she is doing all she can to make her successor fully familiar with the school, its personnel, and area families. She and her husband Bill, who is also retiring from teaching at Middletown Elementary, will be moving to their home in Garrett County. She hopes to be in Garrett County by mid-July and says, "I will be

available—it's so much easier to stay in contact [with] email and voice mail. She and her Bill hope to do some traveling and spend more time with their extended family and local friends.

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NEWS

From the Editor

When I was approached by members of the community to form a new paper after the closing of the Dispatch, I accepted the challenge with the intent of creating a paper fitting for a small town with a great University. With each edition my vision for how to best achieve that goal matured. A truly good paper is comprised of three elements: advertisers and sponsors to help pay expenses, dedicated readers that can't wait to get their hands on the paper, and enthusiastic writers. You need them all. Without good writers, readers will not open the paper, and without readers you have no need for ad-

It's my hope that you'll find yourself just finishing the last article of this paper when the next paper arrives. I believe that when given the option of advertising in a paper that hangs around all month, versus one that is discarded into the trash bin upon delivery, advertisers will choose the News-Journal.

Truth be told, the cost of producing a 32 page paper versus the traditional 18 or 24 page tabloid is relativity insignificant. A 32 page paper provides us with sufficient space to allow our writers to express themselves. The writers you've come to enjoy over the past four months have been empowered to take ownership of their columns. The fruits of this em-

powerment will result in even more exceptional reading. In addition, you'll now have the opportunity to enjoy the work of several Mount students who have been charged with sharing with us all the Mount has to offer the community. As for our new name, I believe it reflects the true nature of the paper, a newspaper with journal-

Many, many years back, when I was first learning to ride, my instructor gave me some sage ad-

"I accepted the challenge with the intent creating a paper fitting for a small town with a great University."

vice —"Never think you know it all. There is always something new to learn. Surround yourself with people that are better than you and strive to achieve their level of excellence." While her advice was focused on making me a better rider, it's applicable to all aspects of one's life. Chris Patterson, or News Editor, and Pat Bell, our Copy Editor, have been joined by four new people who have stepped forward to help bring you this paper.

Brookfield resident Brain Barth is responsible for our great new design. With a local Emmitsburgian in change of the paper's layout, we now have the ability to make last minute changes to the paper, which will allow us to capture late breaking news and events.

Katherine Au is the new Assistant Editor. Katherine graduated from Mount St. Mary's in 1998 with degrees in English and History. Her love of both the Emmitsburg area and journalism will bring a nice balance to the paper.

Zenas Sykes, another resident of the Brookfield development, has taken on the responsibilities traditionally filled by a paper's publisher. Zenas brings to the paper a wealth of business savvy, not to mention amazing energy.

Finally, Sharon Graham has taken the unenviable task of advertising and will put a much needed human face on the paper for all our advertisers.

The last four months have taught me much. First and foremost, it takes the right mixture of smart and knowledgeable people to put out a great community paper. The Emmitsburg News-Journal has just such a team, and from here we shall go forward and produce a paper everyone who calls the Emmitsburg area home can be

Emmitsburg NEWS-JOURKAL

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Letters to the Editor, notice of upcoming events, news stories, and interesting and creative articles are welcome and may be submitted via regular U.S. Mail to P.O. Box 543, Emmitsburg, MD 21727, by email to editor@emmitsburg.com, or at our office on the square - 1 East Main Street.

About Town

Chris Patterson Staff Writer

Tax rate to remain the same

Town commissioners voted May 4 not to increase the town's tax rate despite rising costs and reduced income. The rate will remain at 36 cents per \$100 of asyear 2010, which runs from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010.

The annual budget, however was not resolved but must be decided by the time the new budget goes into effect.

Mayor Hoover presented the budget to the commissioners for their consideration and the first budget discussions ing. Despite reduction in state highway user fee income and tax equity income from the county, Hoover's proposed budget included reducing trash service to one day per week, a continuation of three deputies, among other things.

During the town meeting, commissioners voted to renew a threeyear contract with the current sessed property value for Fiscal took place at the May 20 town meet- trash vendor for pickups once per decisions regarding the budget. www.emmitsburgmd.gov

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week. Town manager Dave Haller was asked to ensure that as pickups will only be once per week that the weekly pickup is not skipped if trash day falls on a holiday.

1-year subscription (\$45)

The May 18 town meeting resulted in more discussion but no Commissioners said they want to hear from more town residents during the June 1 town meeting regarding the annual budget.

Town Council meeting minutes are available on-line at

Lions Club Feeds BBC

Beth Johnson Contributing Writer

Local barbecue fans had a good day May 17, as the Emmitsburg Lions Club held its annual Chicken Barbecue.

Signs heralding the event and a bright blue tent brought out locals and travelers alike.

A well-practiced crew served barbecued chicken, applesauce, potato salad and a dinner roll to visitors to the tent, but also filled orders for area residents who stopped by or called in orders in advance.

Local residents Elise Manning and Denise Runkles came up to the booth with cash in hand.

"We live in town and we're familiar with how great the chicken is," Manning said.

"The chicken is so moist and delicious. They don't do it often and now I don't have to cook!" added Runkles.

Denise Etris, Lion's Club president and town commissioner, said the club through around 300 chickens everytime they put on the event, which is about three times a year. The chicken comes from Hillside and other local vendors and are grilled at the barbecue set up near Rt 15 to take advantage of travelers going by the town, she

"We use this as a fund-raiser to purchase eyeglasses and cover funeral expenses. And the money also goes to activities for the children like the Children's Christmas and.... work with other groups on Halloween children events," said

The barbecues usually sell out by 1 pm, she said.

Mark Zurgable, chairperson for the barbecue fund-raisers, said the event is usually held in May, June and again during Community Day in August. He created the popular barbecue sauce used by the club for the event.

"People don't realize how much work goes into this. They see us selling it, but the other

work the members do like obtain permits, ordering the various foods and all the preparation (is unseen by the public)," Zurgable said. "We are here at 5:30 to setup. We work in four shifts then have the cleanup. We really want to say thank you to the volunteers."

Elizabeth Prongas, M.F.A.

GOVERNMENT

From the Desk of County **Commissioner David Gray**

The 2008 Economic I sion has and will continue The 2008 Economic Depresto have negative impacts on Frederick County residents and our business community. Frederick County Government has had to cut its budget from \$476,000,000 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 to a proposed \$444,000,000 in FY 2010. The capital budget has also been reduced by approximately \$12.7 million. During my first term as County Commissioner, local government reductions were necessary in light of a recessed economy in 1991-1992; however, the cuts are much deeper this time around.

The Board of County Commissioners is not proposing a property tax increase for FY 2010. Property taxes amount to the majority of Frederick County's revenues to the tune of about 57% of total revenues, followed by income tax revenue at 34%, 10% from the FY 2008 fund balance, and 7% from various smaller revenue sources. The real property assessable base, which is the total value of Frederick County's real property assessments, establishes the base for the Constant Yield Tax Rate calculated by the Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation for Frederick County the sum of which will increase in FY 2010 by 5.9%. At the current tax rate of \$.936 per \$100 of assessment, Frederick County property tax revenues should exceed FY 2009's by \$13.6 million.

In FY 2010, Frederick County Public Schools will receive 51% of the County's total revenues compared to 30% for departments in county government. Frederick County enjoys education excellence and it the bulwark of Frederick County's standard of living, but educational costs continue to escalate.

In addition to County funds appropriated for schools and the Community Center in Emmitsburg, the Board of County Commissioners assumed the fiscal responsibility for the Up-County Support Program this past winter and appropriated \$115,669 for its operation from January 2009 through June 2009. An appropriation of \$195,200 is proposed for FY

Frederick County Government will continue to work smarter to fulfill the responsibilities of local government, but there may be noticeable service reductions as we trek toward economic recovery.

Volunteerism is always an asset to county governments, but now during a recessed economy, volunteers can minimize the impact of budget reductions by all three levels of government. Opportunities for volunteering on one of Frederick County's boards and commissions can be viewed on the County website which is www.co.frederick.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at my office to share comments or anytime I can assist you. I can be reached at 301-600-1101 or my e-mail is dgray@fredcomd.net. Have a safe and happy summertime!

From the Desk of Town Commissioner Chris Staiger

Hello everyone—I hope you are enjoying the springtime, successful at staying dry, and able to get the lawn cut before you need an industrial strength mower? For the Town Council, spring means its 'budget time' while we also continue to put the final touches on our twenty year vision for the Town through the Comprehensive Plan Update.

Review of the Mayor's draft budget take precedence in May and June. Revenues from many income sources are projected to shrink in the next budget year beginning July 1st. Much has been made in the press about County budget cuts to municipalities as well as decreased State funding for various programs and a deflating Municipal tax base. All of these are true and challenge the Town Council to meet projected budget requirements. There is a 6.7% decline in the overall General Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2010 (FY2010). This may not seem like much, but reflects a big change in direction since these budgets have typically increased by around ten percent per year. Salaries and benefits for staff take approximately 33% of the proposed General Fund budget. The contract for three resident deputies accounts for a further 20%. The remaining 47% could loosely be described as 'for the provision of services.'

Property tax rates will remain at 36 cents per hundred dollars of assessed value versus a constant yield rate of 35.8 cents per hundred dollars. The proximity of these numbers inis stagnant - it is not increasing in terms of a) the amount of taxable property, or b) the assessed value of taxable property. The rate is, admittedly, higher than many neighboring municipalities although apples to apples comparisons are often difficult due to the varying baskets of services municipalities provide. The Mayor commented at our May 4 meeting that one difficulty is the revenue raised per penny of tax. According to the May-

"I plan to establish a stronger focus on this effort once resources are freed up through completion of the Comp Plan process."

or, Emmitsburg collects approximately \$20,000 per penny of tax while Thurmont collects over \$50,000 per penny. Some of this discrepancy can be accounted for through Emmitsburg's smaller tax base but a large reason is also the smaller share of commercial property within the Town. Our Comprehensive Plan Review should attempt to highlight these issues and commit us to overcoming them. Effectively addressing any opportunities for commercial development will be a huge challenge—but one with big rewards paid back not

dicates to me that the tax base just in revenue but in increased jobs and community vitality. At our April meeting, I noted that we were in danger of remaining a 'bedroom community' unless we were able to adjust our pattern of development while better defining and taking advantage of commercial opportunities. I plan to establish a stronger focus on this effort once resources are freed up through completion of the Comp Plan

> Beyond the budget, we continue (and continue...) to work on this plan. The current focus is on recalibrating our growth projections to the estimated availability of water and sewer treatment resources. The first step was to finalize the criteria by which we determine the availability of these services. Then, in concert with the State mandated 'Water and Sewer Capacity Management Plan', we will define where growth is possible, probable, and preferred. This will inevitably lead to some hard and possibly controversial revisions by the Town Council. I don't see any other choice given the scarcity of resources and our pre-existing challenges in waste handling and treatment.

> As always, I appreciate your feedback so please feel free to contact me with questions, comments, or concerns. I promise to reply to every inquiry! Thank you for your continued support,

Chris Staiger Commissioner



Town Considers Grease Trap Ordinance

Chris Patterson Staff Writer

By July 1, 2010, all existing businesses in Emmitsburg with commercial kitchen facilities will be required to install a grease interception system, if a proposed town ordinance is approved.

Sewer Treatment Ordinance 09-05 will require installation of a 1,600 gallon grease interceptor or trap system for all new construction with a "non-domestic" commercial kitchen facility, and the installation of a smaller or an interior system for all existing "non-domestic" facilities. Retrofitting of a facility that existed as of May 1, 2009 will also require a trap.

Town Manager Dave Haller explained the new ordinance during the May 4 town meeting saying that the law will apply to non-domestic facilities including, "but not limit-

ed to restaurants, commercial kitchens, bars, cafeterias, clubs, schools, daycare facilities, churches, groceries and convenience stores."

During a slide presentation, grease clogs in the town's sewer drains were shown, some occasionally as large as four feet. The clogs must be blasted free from the sewer lines and hauled away to keep the lines clear. Frequently, they also accumulate in the pumps, requiring repairs and sometimes replacement of the equipment. The proposed ordinance is meant to reduce that damage and expense, Haller said.

And while the maintenance and repair bills are high now, not cleaning the deposits and blockages could be much higher, as was the case with the town of Thurmont. After a sewage back up into several homes in 2004, Thurmont was sued by the families and ultimately had to pay out over \$2.5 million.

Haller said the county already has an ordinance requiring grease interceptors in new construction facilities, but does not regulate existing ones. A request to upgrade a kitchen in a town church fell by the wayside when the county required installation of the expensive underground grease interceptor system.

The town's proposed ordinance would override the county's ordinance and only require the installation of the under the sink system for the church, which is substantially less expensive and may make it possible for the church to consider making the upgrade after all, Haller said.

Haller said the ordinance would require the town also be notified of the amount of grease hauled away by each establishment at various points throughout the year.

"The reason for that is that we don't want you to take it out of the

grease trap and flush it down the toilet," he said. Businesses will have to make sure the grease is hauled away or otherwise disposed of properly.

Bob Hance, owner of the Carriage House Inn, will not have to install anything if the new ordinance is approved, as he already has an underground system in addition to separate system in the second floor kitchen.

Hance said he thought any businesses using or generating grease would want to have a grease interceptor, if for no other reason than to protect its own plumbing.

"To be honest, I thought that was already required. I am surprised to find out it isn't, "he said. "In a restaurant of this size it would be absolutely necessary to keep all that grease out of the sewer line. I can't imagine not having one."

As president of the Emmitsburg Business and Professional Association (EBPA) Hance said he thought the ordinance might affect the amount of new business coming to Emmitsburg, but he still supported the ordinance.

Town inspector Frank Henry said he was not sure which businesses will be affected by the ordinance but he was fairly certain that most restaurants in town, schools and churches with "non-domestic" kitchens do not have a grease interceptor currently installed.

Expressing concern over the effect of the ordinance on already struggling small businesses, Commissioner Denise Etris suggested the hearing and vote on the ordinance be postponed, and the board agreed to postpone the matter until the first meeting in June.

A public hearing on proposed town ordinance Sewer Treatment Ordinance 09-05 is slated for 7:30 pm, Monday, June 1 at Town Hall.

Rebecca Pearl and Her Art Return to Emmitsburg

James Rada, Jr.

Local artist Rebecca Pearl has had ther own gallery on East Main Street in Thurmont for three years, but this summer Pearl will return to where she started. She will open a new gallery at 122 West Main Street in Emmitsburg in July.

"I was in Emmitsburg for four years when I first started," Pearl said. "It was a business decision to move, but my heart lies in Emmitsburg."

Her new gallery is next door to the Palms Restaurant. She is also pleased to be back in Emmitsburg with its large tourist draw at the Seton Shrine or many students at the National Fire Academy. Both could provide lots of traffic to her new gallery.

"We did a lot of agonizing over the decision to leave," Pearl said. "The people of Thurmont have been fantastic in supporting us, but we've outgrown this place in terms of space.

She also noted that the electric bills for her Thurmont gallery have gotten a little bit out of control.

With her return to Emmitsburg, visitors to the gallery will soon see three new paintings with an Emmitsburg theme. Pearl is working on a painting of Mount St. Mary's that combines elements of the university's past with its present. She will also be doing commissioned works to celebrate the Vigilant Hose Company's 125th anniversary and Mother Seton School's bicentennial. As with many of her works that are commissioned by organizations, a portion of the proceeds go to support the organization.

"It's my way of helping the

community," Pearl said. "Art is very important to a community. It improves people's lives. You benefit greatly from being a part of a community. I think people are better adjusted if they are part of a community."

She has already featured in Emmitsburg in some of her pieces such as Winter at Mount St. Mary's, Trinity Church, St. Joseph's College, Emmitsburg Square 1886 and "All of This, And Heaven Too."

A new feature that Pearl will have in her new gallery that she didn't when she was previously in Emmitsburg will be art classes. She will teach oil and watercolor painting for children and adults.

"I enjoy teaching in the gallery," Pearl said. "You learn from the students and it keeps you painting."

Not that she needs help in that area. Pearl continues to keep busy doing commissioned works in addition to paintings she wants to paint because she likes the subject.

Growing up in a family of artists, Pearl has been drawing and painting since she was a child. She started on her career as a portrait painter when she 25 after receiving training at Schuler School of Fine Art and the Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore. Her paintings feature landscapes, architecture, historical scenes, animals, people and florals.

For more information on the new gallery, call Pearl at (301) 271-2348 or visit her web site at www. rebeccapearl.com.

Fairfield Senior Named Presidential Scholar of the Arts

James Rada, Jr.

Peter Ferguson of Fairfield, a senior at Delone Catholic High School, uses his garage and basement to paint his works of art, but at the end of June, Ferguson and his art will be on display when he receives the 2009 Presidential Scholar of the Arts Award in Washington, D.C.

"Peter has a great gift. He has a natural ability to draw what he sees. But, he also likes to experiment, and that, in my opinion, is what continues to take Peter to the next level," said Raymond Buchheister of Fairfield, who is Ferguson's mentor.

On May 4, the U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan announced 20 high school seniors as the 2009 Presidential Scholars of the Arts. Among the group is Fairfield resident Peter Ferguson. He and the other scholars will be honored in Washington D.C. on June 20-24 where they may meet President Obama. Ferguson's art work will also be exhibited at the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

"Recieving the Presidential Scholar in the Arts award was confusing and odd," Ferguson said. "I didn't and still don't really understand or comprehend the magnitude of it all. The benefits from it like showing at the Smithsonian and possibly meeting the first African American President of the United States among other things are beyond a level of astonishment for me. I feel like I won't be able to process how I feel about it until a long while after it has all happened."

"I think Peter has the ability to make a mark in the visual arts that will garnish him a place in the history books as one of America's great painters. He has a long way to go, but he's young and is already making inroads with some of today's masters," Buchheister said.

Since 1983, each Presidential Scholar has invited his or her most inspiring and challenging teacher to travel to Washington, D.C., to receive a Teacher Recognition Award from the U.S. Department of Education and to participate in the recognition events. Ferguson chose Buchheister, his mentor, to accompany him.

Though Ferguson has been drawing since he could pick up a pencil, he started working with Buchheister as a sophomore to learn painting and credits Buchheister with his desire to succeed.

"Receiving a teacher recognition award from the U.S. Department of Education is an honor, but what has been most gratifying, is to see the light in Peter's eyes when he realized that his talent to draw and paint can become something more than what he just loves to do, that being an artist can actually become his profession and earn him a living. He is well on his way," Buchheister said.

Ferguson has already started selling his paintings through contacts he made with gallery owners through the young ARTS program.

"Apart from the dream of making enough money from art to feed myself and my family, I want my art to make people see and think what they have never thought of before," Ferguson said. "In my opinion, it is an artist's job is not to create something beautiful, it is to reveal a unseen truth about human kind. Then fast forward far into the future, I want to be a teacher so I can inspire young minds like Ray has inspired me."



NEWS

Emmitsburg's Future Health Care Center is Rich in History

James Rada, Jr. **Emmitsburg News Journal**

When Dr. Bonita Portier started working on the expansion of Emmitsburg Osteopathic Primary Care Center 121-123 West Main Street, she got hit in the face with the history of the building.

"When I ripped down this ceiling I got hit with this tidal wave of dirt," Portier said. "It was how they used to insulate and retard fires."

Portier has been able to trace the building's ownership back to 1794 when it was owned by Samuel Emmit. The other owners were William Emmit, Susan Winters and Ernie Shriver. Portier is only the fifth owner in 215 years.

Opening in Emmitsburg

Portier purchased the house in 2001 when she was working in Thurmont. She lived in Emmitsburg, however, and wanted to work in her own hometown. The real estate prices kept her out of the market, though. She just couldn't afford anything.

"Then one day I was going to a house call near here," Portier said. "I said a prayer and asked if I couldn't find something for around \$125,000 so I could open a clinic. Then I saw this place."

Portier and her husband wound up purchasing it for \$126,000.

Early discussions centered on tearing the house down and building from scratch. That didn't feel right to Portier, though, so a plan was developed to build a new section onto the back of the house that would serve as the initial clinic. The money the clinic made could be used to pay for the renovations of the original house.

"Our first patient walked through

the door on December 27, 2005," Portier said. "It was a Tuesday and we were very excited."

Since that time, Portier has been providing patients with local health care. She was even awarded the Maryland Osteopathic Physician of the Year 2006-2007

Once the Emmitsburg Osteopathic Primary Care Center was established, Portier began to plan for the renovations of the original building. Besides, the mud insulation, additional surprises awaited. Beneath the exterior siding, the house was a log cabin made of American chestnut, which has died out due to disease. The plaster was mixed with horsehair and the fireplace is made of local brick. An addition on the west side of the house appears to have been originally used as a barn that could be accessed through a connecting door. Workers even found an old Emmitsburg Chronicle from 1885 when they tore down the plaster in one of the walls.

While it's not surprising that the renovation required new wiring and walls, it also required that the first floor be lowered about eight inches to allow a normal height on that floor and open it up somewhat.

When complete, the new building will house two oncology exam rooms and a chemotherapy room. There will also be a psychiatrist's office. Besides Portier, the center currently has an acupuncturist and a podiatrist who has office hours on Mondays.

"We originally saw a need for dialysis and chemistry, but the board worried about blood products, so we went with psychiatric services," Portier said.

While oncologists are already lined up to use the space when it



For a brief time, residents of Emmitsburg were treated to a rare view into the town's past. The exposed logs formed one of the original houses in town. Built in 1786, it was one of the few to escape the great fire of 1863.

becomes available, a psychiatrist for the center is still being sought.

Emmitsburg Osteopathic Care

The Emmitsburg Osteopathic Primary Care Center is a non-profit organization that not only provides healthcare but also medical education. The center provides more than \$100,000 a year in free medicine to its uninsured and underinsured patients. Uninsured patients, who make up about 10 percent of the center's office visits, can visit the center for free.

"I served in many places in my training and I realized that the only way to do medicine is not to worry about profits," Portier said.

The center provides care to more than 1,500 patients in the region and that number will undoubtedly grow when the new section opens.

The center is open Monday and

Friday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Wednesdays from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information, call (301) 447-3310 or visit the center's web site at www.osteopathicprimarycarecenter.com.



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100 Years Ago this Month

JUNE 4, 1909

Attend The Strawberry Festival

The committee in charge of the ice cream and strawberry festival to be held this evening and tomorrow evening on the Emmitt House lawn has formed itself into an auxiliary organization to the executive committee of the Old Home Week Celebration. Individually and collectively, this committee is doing all in its power to make the week in July a pleasant and a successful one. It only remains for the people generally to lend their cooperation to this commendable project. It should be remembered that the entire proceeds from this festival are to be devoted to defray part of the expenses to this big undertaking, and when this is said a very large and liberal patronage is sure to show.

A Much-Needed Improvement

Work has begun on the old Frederick Road in order to better its condition. The section of the road between the tollgate and Motters will be repaired. The work is under the charge of Mr. L. M. Zimmerman.

Electrical Indicator at Hotel Slagle

Mr. Keilholtz Hoke has installed a completely unknown cedar system at the Hotel Slagle. All the rooms are connected with the office by push buttons, indicators, and bells, creating in short a complete electrical connection between the office and each room in the hotel.

JUNE 11

The First Circus

The John H. Spark's Show will exhibit in Emmitsburg on June 21. It is said that \$40,000 has been expended in increased equipment and that every effort has been used, regardless of cost, to make the show satisfying to his pride and advanced ideas.

The management claims that the people of Emmitsburg will be surprised and delighted at the amount of keen enjoyment to be held in witnessing the performance given by the splendid array of talent with the Spark's Show. The costumes are reported to be elegant and costly, the music especially fine, and nothing is in it that could not add to the pleasure and enjoyment of the patrons.

The New Bank Opens Saturday

The Emmitsburg Savings Bank will open for business tomorrow, Saturday. All persons who have subscribed for stock may secure their certificates by applying to the cashier. Every Saturday the bank will be open from seven to nine in the evening.

Strawberry Is As Big As Apples

The Chronicle is indebted to Mr. And Mrs. J. C. Fox for a box of strawberries —undoubtedly the largest berries ever brought to this office. By actual measurements, it takes only 18 of these berries to make a quart.

Saturday Night **Disturbances**

Every Saturday afternoon and night certain men (not Emmitsburgians) make a business of becoming intoxicated and staying in that condition as long as their money holds out and inflict themselves on this law-abiding community. They not only disgust decent people by their actions, but they fill the air with profane and filthy language, making it thoroughly unpleasant, to say the least, for women and children to be on the streets. If characters of this kind have no respect for themselves or their families, they should be compelled to respect the laws of this community. No community anywhere has a better constable than the one now on duty in Emmitsburg, nor does any body of men have a greater desire to uphold the decency and good order than the Burgess and commissioners of this town, but as it is practically impossible for one constable to be witness to every infraction of the law and as the Burgess cannot issue a warrant without having sufficient evidence furnished him, there is a certain responsibility which rest upon the people. They can notify the constable of any case coming to their attention; or, in lieu of this, they can inform the Burgess of what they have seen. Arrests or warrants for arrest are bound to follow and if substantial fines are imposed, the Saturday night disturbances will quickly cease. If the people of Emmitsburg are interested in maintaining a good reputation of their town, then they will cooperate with the local authorities in their endeavor to carry out the law.

JUNE 18

Improvements Preparatory to Old Home Week

In preparation for the Old Home Week celebration in July, a great many improvements are being made in and around Emmitsburg. This week Mr. Joseph E. Hoke is having the entire exterior of his business establishment painted. Mr. John Jackson has just finished a concrete pavement in front of Mr. Theodore Bollinger's property on W. Main St. And, in a few days Mr. Albert Patterson will have a concrete pavement laid in front of his residence which adjoins that of Mr. Bollinger. In a few days, Mr. Shoemaker will have a concrete pavement in front of his house and shop. Mr. Frank Rowe has

had concrete steps put in front of his dwelling and store. Also, very soon work will commence on the concrete work in front of the Adelsberger's store, their house, and the house of Mr. McGreevey. Finally, Mr. Clarence Rider has painted his dwelling on Gettysburg Street.

Children Meet with Accidents

Mr. Henry Troxell met with a peculiar accident on last Friday. He was watching a carpenter at work making a key in front of his home. The man had fastened his broad ax piece of wood so as to avoid any accident to the child who was inquisitive by nature. The little fellow stumbled and when he fell his hand slipped under the blade and was so cut between the fingers. Dr. Stone dressed the wound.

The same day Alice Orendorff, a daughter of Mr. Joseph Orendorff, fell out of a window. She fell about 9 feet but fortunately suffered no serious injury. It was reported she leaned against a window screen that gave way which caused her to fall.

The young son of Mr. Shingledecker fell from a hog pen and cut a gash in his leg about four inches long. Dr. Jamison dressed the wound. The accident happened yesterday.

JUNE 25

Harvest Begins

Several farmers in this vicinity have begun to harvest their crops. Lots of grass has been cut and a great amount

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Improvements to the **Lutheran Church**

The extensive improvements to the Lutheran Church will be finished in a few days. The frescoing has already been finished. The interior of the church presents a fine appearance. Hardwood floors will be laid and when the work is finished, it will be one of the prettiest churches in town.

High School Is Not to Close

Professor White denied the rumor of the discontinuance of the Emmitsburg High School. There will be no change except with regard to the principal. Mr. Palmer, who has served the school in this capacity so faithfully and efficiently for 12 years, is retiring. He is now a candidate for the office of Register of Wills with everything being favorable to his election. Mr. Palmer has been most faithful to every trust put in him. His work as teacher has

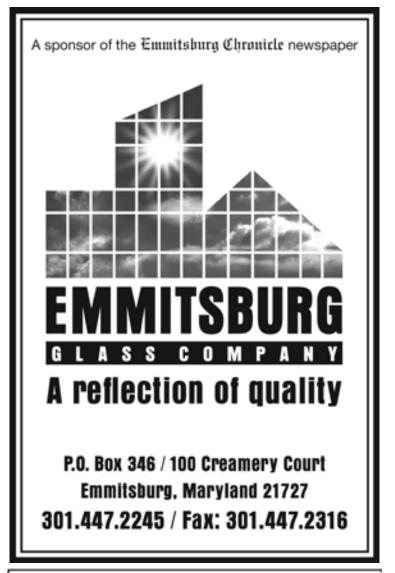
been of a high order in the success attained by the scholars he has prepared for college-many of whom have distinguished themselves academically. He has always taken keen interest in his students through the thoroughness of his instruction.

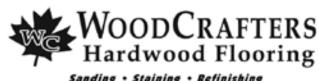
To learn more about the history of the Greater Emmitsburg Area, visit the Historical Society section of Emmitsburg.net

Carnival Story from page 1.

all shouted and laughed in amazement at his good for-

Then came the painful task and brain wracking of picking out which candy he wanted. Casting aside suggestions from me, (Sweet Tarts) and his brother, (Milky Way Bars) He was determined not to be influenced by his older brother or myself. Finally after much consternation, Rowan selected an eight piece 'Three Musketeers' fun size pack and his blue stained lips grinned with satisfaction. Alas, these are the simple pleasures of the Emmitsburg carnival.





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COMMUNITY NOTES

Pondering the Puzzlement

Jack Deatherage, Jr.

From Maryland's DNR-"Maryland Fish Facts" in reference to Brown Trout (Salmo trutta):

"Frequently brown trout can be very discriminating and can tell the difference between a natural insect and a well-crafted imitation."

"Fishermen consider them to be the smartest, most difficult to catch of the trout species found in Maryland."

I have to grin. And, why not? The only time I caught a brown was during an attempt to make a perfect cast while standing among the rocks below Kump's dam. I had a fly rod, a box of dry flies, some soft drinks, and a determination to make at least one good cast before going home.

I started out on the lawn above the dam. Bluegills were patrolling the grassy edges and beyond them torpedo-shaped juvenile bass. I tied on a popper and began waving the fly rod about with the hope I wouldn't tear off an ear lobe as a boy I knew once had done. The nasty little hook hissed past my ear way too often for any chance of my relaxing and enjoying what I was about. A popper floats on the water's surface and each time the line is jerked the popper "pops." Cool. Except I was hearing popping sounds behind me and nothing was touching the flat surface of Middle Creek except the naked fishing line. I probably lost 4 or 5 poppers before I learned to stop "cracking the whip."

After an hour of not snagging my ear and keeping the same fly on the line for a whole 20 minutes, while being ignored by every fish above the dam, I decided to join the water snakes on the rocks below the dam. I selected a tiny red ant from my fly box and after several attempts to attach it to the tippet, which is fly fishing lingo for a line so thin and light that a clumsy hand can't possibly tie it without breaking it less than four times, I was ready to make a perfect cast. There was a spot where I imagined a trout might actually be waiting for a red ant to fall from an overhanging tree, which was across the dam face from where I stood being studied by the snakes; so, I stripped line from the reel, began working it out, concentrating on the spot I wanted to gently place the ant and let the line go.

Ha! I was doing it, repeatedly. I think even the snakes were impressed. I got all puffed up with my newly acquired skill and occasionally looked around to see if I was impressing anyone else who might have walked up without my knowing. All the racket the water was making splashing into the pool after escaping the dam would have muffled the approach of a bulldozer. But it was just me and the snakes, which was fine because some ignorant would have asked, "catching any fish?" when I was only serious about making a good cast.

With that thought in my head, everything went wrong. The line collapsed in a tangle just feet before me and the tiny ant fell a few inches beyond the mess. I was quite pleased no one was around as I began to untangle the line. "Pride goeth before a fall," I thought as the last of the casting line went onto the reel the tippet twitched and I had a fish on.

I'd never hooked a fish on a fly rod before, and all the reading I'd done on how to play one went right out of my head. I doubt I did anything right but swear, which I did with great enthusiasm. I knew I had a trout on as I'd seen it flash below the surface a time or two and then it was in my trembling net.

It wasn't a big fish. It wasn't frying pan size, and I let it go as I didn't have another to make up a meal. I wasn't sure what kind of trout it was either as I'd only ever caught rainbows. When I told some of the trout anglers what I'd caught, they just stared at me until they realized I wasn't lying--which is always a possibility with anglers. It was then they told me I'd caught one of the most difficult fish in all of Maryland's freshwaters. I had caught one of the most difficult fish without even knowing it, and I had caught it in a place no one ever thought to find such a fish! I was thrilled, even though it might have been the result of a complete screw up on my part.

I was advised to change this story to- "I'd made the perfect cast," even though I was told the fish's reputation would suffer if a klutz such as I could catch one by accident. In the fish's defense I think it was young and foolish. Or, maybe I was being taught a lesson like perfection doesn't al-

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

Monterey Pass, Pennsylvania Civil War **Trails Wayside Exhibit Dedication**

As part of Mountaintop Heritage Days weekend, the One Mountain Foundation along with the Monterey Pass Battlefield Association will be commemorating the 146th anniversary of the battle of Monterey Pass at the Rolando Woods Lions Club Park on June 26, 2009. A ceremony will be held at 1:00 pm to unveil the Pennsylvania Civil War Trails Wayside Exhibit in addition to the battle of Monterey Pass driving and walking tours.

Since 2004, the One Mountain Foundation, chaired by Gary Muller, has worked with several tourism officials in Pennsylvania and Maryland to have Monterey Pass recognized as the second largest Civil War battle to take place in Pennsylvania and the only battle to be fought on both sides of the Mason and Dixon Line. In April 2009, this vision became a reality with the placement of the Pennsylvania Civil War Trails Wayside Exhibit at the battle of Monterey Pass site.

Activities will begin at 9:00 a.m. and will be led by John A. Miller, founder and Civil War Historian of the Monterey Pass Battlefield Association. Mr. Miller will be on site to answer questions and talk with the public about the importance of this once forgotten Civil War battle. The Monterey Pass Battlefield Association will have many exhibits displayed as well as dressed interpreters who will explain the Civil War heritage of the mountaintop.

"Pennsylvania and Maryland to have Monterey Pass recognized as the second largest Civil War battle to take place in Pennsylvania and the only battle to be fought on both sides of the Mason and Dixon Line."

Mr. Miller will also conduct two tours of the original Maria Furnace Road where parts of the battle occurred. The first tour will start after the dedication ceremony. During the tours Mr. Miller will share first-hand accounts of what the Confederate Army experienced as they withdrew from Gettysburg and marched over South Mountain at Monterey Pass. The second tour will begin at 6:00 pm to provide Civil War enthusiasts who could not attend the previous tour the opportunity to take the trek

on this historical road and celebrate the area's history. For those interested in attending either tour, Mr. Miller recommends bringing bottled water, wearing comfortable shoes and clothing appropriate for walking in a wooded area. Also bring plenty of bug spray. Each tour will last approximately

Following the dedication of the Wayside Exhibit, the MPBA will carry the celebration into the former Fort Ritchie Army Base during the Mountaintop Heritage Days that will take place on June 27th and 28th. Members of the MPBA and the OMF's Heritage Development Committee will conduct several informal lectures as well as firing demonstrations near the pavilion by the lake. Exhibits will be displayed at the Fort Ritchie Community Center along with other artifacts of the area's past. For more information about Mountaintop Heritage Days, please visit the One Mountain Foundation website at www.onemountainfoundation.org. For more information on the battle of Monterey Pass or the event schedule for Mountaintop Heritage Days, you can visit their website at www.emmitsburg. net/montereypass.

For more information visit emmitsburg.net/motereypass.

Spring Awareness/ Wilderness Survival Class

Marie Maccabee

Spring has begun! It is the perfect time of year to identify plants in their fleeting early stages of growth and to remind the self how amazing life is. I will be holding weekend nature awareness classes at my valley home in the Catoctin Mountains in upper Frederick county, MD on 11.5 acres of nurtured land. I have been teaching wilderness survival for 5 years now.

My intention for these classes is to share with people techniques of observation, help them identify plants and animals native to our mid eastern portion of the continent and to work with them on ancient, sacred survival skills. I show students how to make rope using fibers of milkweed and dogbane, shelters using natural materials directly

vines, how to collect water and oh so much more.

As a class every weekend we observe life forms as they emerge and animal/ plant relationships, and so it is to the advantage of the student to come more than one time. There is always plenty of time for discussion as a group so as to find answers to all kinds of questions and to share each others thoughts and experiences.

There is a huge library here covering wild edible and medicinal plants and how they can be used, gardening techniques, North American wildlife and animal tracks books, etc.. Thus, after a period of teaching there is always opportunity for people to research and take any extra notes they might be interested in.

Awareness will be the underly-

from the ground, baskets from ing theme in every class as I see it to be very important for people to know how they can experience nature in ways which enable them to savor the moment more clearly. We will have sense heightening exercises thru games, wanders and many more techniques. Keep in mind, wild medicinal and edible plants grow quickly and these precious moments where they show certain phases of growth really do not last long at all.

Let me share with you the beauty of springtime and early summer and many skills and aspects of the wild world you may not be aware of... and of course I am open to learning from you! Give me a call...

My phone number: 301-271-2307, Email: splintfling@gmail.com

Meet Louie O'Donoghue

Caroline Trevorrow

Taiting for me to arrive, high aloft in the imposing and impressive Maryland Room of the Frederick County Public Library, my reticent subject sits before me. Behold the mysterious and intriguing Mr. O'Donoghue. Try as I might to color and shade Louie O'Donoghue, "Just the facts" is what I am given to work with on our first meeting. However, upon closer observation, I find that there is something twinkling behind his staid façade and I just can't pin it down yet. Hopefully, with a little prodding I can get a peek inside to find out more. It's clear that I have much to learn about this man, who after having moved from place to place over the considerable span of his lifetime, still finds that Emmitsburg holds something elusive and special for him. What is it about this town that has forged such strong ties for Louie, having only lived in Emmitsburg until the tender age of five? Once again, our charming little town of Emmitsburg has spun its powerful web of ephemeral memories that hold tight time and again around the heart of Louie O' Donoghue, like it has for countless other Emmitsburgians before him.

Louie was born to an already full house in Emmitsburg in 1930, smack dab in the middle of 13 children in what has for decades been known around town as "the spooky house." Actually it is the old Annan Family Homestead replete with its original quaint moniker of "Stonelodge." It is an old stone house that still stands at the west end of town near the doughboy statue. It's hard to believe, looking at the forlorn specter of a ruins now, but it used to be a beautiful house, neatly kept, filled with life and the laughter of little children. The house was a wonderful place to live in then. It had with it the hustle and bustle of town out the front door and a serene, idyllic view of the Catoctin Mountains and surrounding countryside out back. The best of both worlds, town and country, was all wrapped up in a little corner of Emmitsburg. Unfortunately, the house has sat empty ever since the O'Donoghue family left to go live in Sabillasville in 1935, almost eighty years ago. Its now dilapidated appearance has for years earned the building its reputation around town as "the spooky house."



Louie's connection to Emmitsburg goes back to his great grandfather, John Donoghue, from Altoona, Pennsylvania. Note the missing "O" from his great-grandfather's name. Interestingly, the 'O' was dropped from O'Donoghue for a while in the latter part of the 19th century when it was convenient due to the fact that it sounded "too Irish." Those were the days when Irish folk were discriminated against, and that was just plain bad for business.

Great-grandfather John was the contractor for the Emmitsburg Railroad back in the early 1870's. Elaborate plans and high hopes were put into building the railroad, but when it was done the town was dismayed when it found that it didn't have enough money left in its coffers to operate it. Thankfully, for the first couple of years the Western Maryland Railroad kept it in operation until Emmitsburg got their ducks in a row and was ready to take over. When he saw that Emmitsburg had the Railroad business well under way, his great-grandfather John quietly went back to Altoona, Pennsylvania.

With Emmitsburg never being far from Louie O'Donoghue's memories, we get just a bit of a disconnect, when after having moved to Sabillasville, Louie stayed in the general area for a while. He went on to high school in Thurmont for three years and then moved to Wallbrook in Baltimore and went to City College High School for one year and graduated that February. Af-

ter graduation, Louie worked for one year as a Dental Mechanic in a laboratory in Baltimore, Maryland, making and repairing dental appliances. Louie then moved to Washington D.C. and had an interesting career working as a civilian in the United States Army Map Service as a cartographer for six years. Moving onwards and upwards, he moved back to Baltimore to work in Fort Holabird at the Army Imagery Interpretation Center studying aerial photography for six years. Upon finding that his expertise was highly sought after led him to Washington D.C. again to interpret U-2 airplanes and satellite photography. At age 35 he got married, had three children, and settled down for a while in Kensington, Maryland. Louie then worked as a photogramatist measuring images on photography. Eighteen years ago he sold his house in Kensington and finally settled in Spring Ridge in Frederick where he now resides.

Then, Louie retired. But, as it so often happens for highly motivated people, retirement got boring. He knew there was more out there for him to do. He decided that he still wanted to work and got a job at the CIA as a contract employee. His years of expertise led him to become the senior trainer for the CIA for their imaging interpretation of satellite photography for eighteen months. But, something just under the surface was still calling out to him - something important that would last well beyond his time on

earth. Now it was time that he really retired, and he has been for the last twenty years or so. But that is not the end of Louie's interesting and compelling story.

Thankfully for the town of Emmitsburg, his most important undertaking was soon at hand. Louie was never one to sit about idly. He is always looking for something meaningful and interesting to do. About fifteen years ago, Louie started to spend time in the Maryland Room about twice a week at the Frederick library archiving the founding families of Emmitsburg before their names and achieve-

ments had been lost forever. It is Louie who took it upon himself to hold onto and catalogue these shreds of faded paper before they crumbled away into shadowy myths as it so often happens in small villages and towns across America whose grasp on our heartstrings don't pull as strong as Emmitsburg does. We know he's not finished yet. For that, Mr. O' Donoghue, we are grateful.

To read other articles on people who have helped shaped Emmitsburg, visit the People Section of Emmitsburg.net.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Defending Without Fouling

Pastor John Rudolph **Trinity United Methodist Chruch**

efore going to seminary I Bwas a high school basketball coach. During my tenure, one of the challenges of the job was encouraging the team to play good defense without fouling. Aggressive defense is a characteristic of good basketball teams; the difficulty comes with the fine line between aggressive play and out of control defense that results in fouling. Bad teams usually end up in one of two extremes: too aggressive, leading to excessive fouls, or too passive leading to easy scores by the opposition.

I repeated a mantra. Every practice and every game, I would emphasize "defend but don't foul, defend but don't foul." Still, my team struggled with the necessary balance. The last game I ever coached was in a regional play-off game, where three of our best players fouled out of the game resulting in an overtime loss. Sometimes, I still have nightmares yelling "defend, but don't foul, defend, but don't foul!"

Recently, the mantra came to mind while reading an article in the newspaper about the Westboro Baptist Church from Topeka, Kansas. Members deploy across America in protest of our country's views and policies on homosexuality and abortion. The group's favorite tactic is to demonstrate at high-profile funerals. They were recently in Frederick County, MD gathered at the funeral of the family involved in the murder / suicide in Middletown. As I read Westboro's press release and followed their Internet links, I screamed, "Foul! Foul! Foul!" I deemed their action a foul, not just for having the audacity to add to an already painful day for a community, but to do it in the name and spirit of "defending" God.

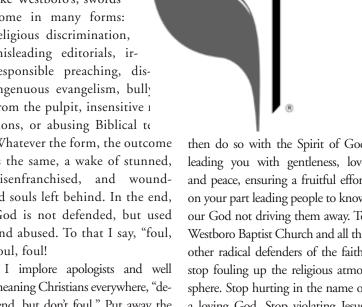
The hate language used on Westboro's picket signs, pamphlets and in their speech cuts like a sword, especially for innocent family members who attend these funerals. To make matters worse, the funerals targeted usually have no connection to the causes being defended, leaving the people gather to mourn confused and angered. The presence of Westboro serves to cut deeper the wounds of tragedy. I don't know the motivations of the leaders of Westboro, whether strictly evil or severely misguided, but what I do know is that when and if God needs to be defended, the sword is not necessary.

The Bible tells us in the Gospel of John that as the guards were arresting Jesus, Peter used his sword in an effort to defend the Son of God. Promptly, Jesus said, "Put your sword back into its sheath" (John 18.11). In other words, Jesus was calling a "Foul!" Even at the apex of the struggle between good and evil, Jesus demanded that his disciples not defend him by force or violence. The sword was not necessary on the night that Jesus gave himself up for humanity and it is not necessary today. Westoboro Baptist Church's weapon of choice may not be a sword, but their actions are forceful and violent.

If Westboro were the only radical religious group out there, then the world would be relatively peaceful when it comes to faith issues. They are not alone when it comes to irrationally defending God. Many defenders of the faith are not as overt in their forceful and violent attacks on others, yet in most cases are just as harmful. In addition to protests like Westboro's, swords come in many forms: religious discrimination, misleading editorials, irresponsible preaching, disingenuous evangelism, bully from the pulpit, insensitive 1 sions, or abusing Biblical to Whatever the form, the outcome is the same, a wake of stunned, disenfranchised, and wounded souls left behind. In the end, God is not defended, but used and abused. To that I say, "foul, foul, foul!

meaning Christians everywhere, "defend, but don't foul." Put away the swords, and don't defend faith with judgmental and harmful words. If you feel called to be a Christian apologist or feel the need to defend God,

then do so with the Spirit of God leading you with gentleness, love and peace, ensuring a fruitful effort on your part leading people to know our God not driving them away. To Westboro Baptist Church and all the other radical defenders of the faith, stop fouling up the religious atmosphere. Stop hurting in the name of a loving God. Stop violating Jesus' command to "put away the sword." Just stop fouling! Better yet, just get out of the game and sit down, you have fouled out!







June 19 - 21, 2009

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THE MASTER GARDENER

Wildflower Meadows: An Alternative to Lawns

Mary Ann Ryan and Pam Wiehagen **Adams & Frederic County Master Gardeners**

Tt's time to consider an alterna-**⊥** tive to the typical lawn. Why? Due to the continual suburban development, more of our native vegetation and wildlife habitat is being lost and ground water and streams are being polluted.

The mowed lawn aesthetic originated in the late 18th century from aristocratic France and England. Landscape architect Andre LeNotre designed small lawn areas for the palace of Versailles. This aesthetic was rapidly adopted by the rich of England because turf grass grew easily in the English climate of moderate temperatures and frequent rain. The U.S. colonists also adopted the lawn aesthetic in an attempt to transform the wilderness of the new country into the sophistication of the old world. The middle class did not copy the wealthy look until after the civil war, with the stimulus of the new landscape architects leading the way. Soon, in the early 20th century we were being bombarded by advertising to have that "look" and in many cases shamed into submission by what the Joneses had next door.

about the impact Think turf grass has had on our environment in modern times. With the help of a river of water, an endless stream of fertilizers and pesticides, an armada of lawn maintenance companies and modern machinery, and a lot of money the modern society can have green turf that will keep at bay a rich and diverse array of native plants and animals as well as pollute our water, air, and reduce needed insects for pollination. In the United States more than 30 million acres of lawn are scrupulously maintained. We purchase 100 million tons of fertilizer per year and 80 million pounds of pesticides which is 10 times the rate per acre of pesticides used by farmers. In addition, our grass clippings consume 25 – 40% of landfill space during the growing season (Chesapeake Bay Watershed Alliance) just in time for us to spend more money on compost and mulch from suppliers, instead of composting our own garden waste.

If you want to reduce your mowing time and costs, promote clean water and air, as well as attract beneficial insects, mammals and amphibians, you would benefit from a turf reduction and redesign of your current landscape. By replacing some of your lawn areas with native wildflowers, you can provide food and cover for a variety of wildlife. This will provide much needed habitat to our declining native birds, butterflies, and beneficial insects.



Native wildflowers in your yard will attract songbirds, hummingbirds, butterflies, and possibly other wildlife. Turf grass will not achieve this. Native wildflower meadows can provide an attractive, hardy, drought- resistant, and low-maintenance landscape. Modern lawns require tremendous amounts of water. Native wildflower meadows also increase the soil's ability to store water and significantly reduce runoff.

Once established, wildflower meadows eliminate or significantly reduce the need for fertilizers and pesticides. And without those fertilizer and pesticide additions, the water that penetrates into our local groundwater and runs into streams and rivers is no longer a threat to the quality of our water.

Incorrect information that says less manicured areas attracts rats and other pests is an unfounded fear. Native wildflower meadows attract butterflies and dragonflies, birds such as purple martins, hummingbirds, songbirds and hawks, amphibians such as frogs and salamanders, and mammals such as chipmunks, squirrels, and woodchucks.

If you have a large area that you wish to turn into a meadow, you could simply stop mowing and let nature take its course. Many wildflowers will naturally begin to take over your designated meadow all on their own. The disadvantage to this is that you have little control over which species will live in your meadow. To manage the plants that you may not want in your meadow, you can pull out the unwanted species and remove the seed heads before the seeds disperse. With patience and good management you will have a meadow for all to envy!

If you've got a particular vision of the plants you want in your meadow, the easiest and least expensive way to achieve a meadow is to start with seeds. As the best location for a meadow is in the full sun, most of the meadow mixes have perennial seeds and annual seeds that prefer lots of sun.

When selecting a meadow orwildflower mix, be sure to read what plant species are in the mix. Oftentimes you will receive an annual mix, which will give you great color the first year but will need to be replanted every year. Try to locate a mix that has mostly perennial seeds. Although perennial grasses and flowers take a longer period of time to get established, oftentimes two to three years, your meadow will reward you in the

Some plants that you would want to include in your meadow: blackeyed Susan, liatris, butterfly weed, evening primrose, milkweed, helenium, goldenrod, asters, ironweed, obedient plant, hardy geranium, purple coneflower, bee balm, agastache, little bluestem, big bluestem, Indian grass, switchgrass, and north-

The first step in preparing your meadow is to remove all weeds and grasses before planting anything. Remove existing lawn with a sod cutter, a shovel, an herbicide, or by covering it with black plastic. Compost, horse or cow manure, and peat moss are excellent sources of organic matter and their addition improves the drainage and soil structure. In most instances it is impossible to add too much organic matter during soil preparation. Do a soil test to determine the needed amendments and nutrients before you further prepare the soil. [Kits for this purpose are available at your County Exter sion Office for a nominal fee. Carefully follow the instructions and mail your sample to the appropriate University. In a week or two you will receive the results and recommendations for your garden plot. Follow the guidelines for the addition of fertilizer, lime, and organic matter.] Keep in mind if you are using plastic to kill grasses and weeds, it may take up to 3 months for the plants to die. Whatever your tool, be sure to be rid of all grasses and weeds. The meadow plants will be most successful with a smooth, weed-free soil.

You can use a broadcast spreader to evenly disperse the seeds across the weed-free soil. Lightly rake the seed so you have some soil cover. You could use a light layer of mulch to help keep the soil moist. Just as if you were starting a lawn, you will need to

water during the first six weeks. Keep in mind that as your new meadow develops and gets established, weeds will invade. The first year of a newly planted meadow will require mowing twice. The first mowing should be before the weeds reach a height of 8 inches. Cut to about 4 inches. This will help to control the weed seed heads from developing and then dispersing. At the end of the growing season, mow the meadow at a height of 6 to 8 inches to allow for wintering protection for the new plants.

Once your meadow is established, yearly mowing will be needed. Often it is done in the fall to "tidy up" after the plants have gone to seed. Mowing can also be done in the spring, depending on your preference.

If the idea of turning you whole lawn into a wildflower meadow is a bit more than you're willing to take right now, then try growing a meadow patch. Even if you begin with a small area, you will find enjoyment and satisfaction in knowing how much you are making a difference for our wildlife and environment. The term meadow patch sounds contradictory since meadows are generally large expanses of land, but it can be as small or large as you want and easy-to-grow, too. Again, choose a sunny area and then tell your neighbors what you are doing so they don't get worried about seeing a patch of something other than manicured lawn. Better yet, get them to do it too.

Native wildflower meadows provide so many benefits because they fit. This is their home, and they are a part of our natural heritage. Natural wildflower meadows are an opportunity to re-establish diverse and attractive native landscapes and to invite flowers, birds, and butterflies back home.

As you drive around your community or walk in your yard try to look at things a little differently. Imagine a more varied and colorful landscape that doesn't look exactly the same every day of the year. Imagine a landscape that blooms in the spring and summer. Imagine the landscape blows in the wind. Is it really worth all the effort and all the money and all the side effects of turf?

To learn more about creating a wildflower meadow or native plants, visit the Gardening Section of Emmitsburg.net

To learn more about how to become a Master Gardener call Mary Ann Ryan at 717-334-6271 (Adams County Master Gardener Coordinator) or Susan Trice at 301-600-1596 (Frederick County Master Gardener Coordinator).





NEWS



une has now come, bending beneath her weight of roses, to ornament the halls and bowers which summer has hung with green. For this is the Month of Roses, and their beauty and fragrance conjure up again many in poetical creation which memory had buried.

We think of Shakespeare's Juliet, musing as she leant over the balcony in the moonlight, and thinking that the rose 'by any other name would smell as sweet.' We again see Milton's Eve in Eden, standing half-veiled in a cloud of fragrance —' so thick the blushing roses round about her blow.'

This is the season to wander into the fields and woods and look up at the great network of branches and think how silently they have been fashioned. Through many a quiet night, and many a golden dawn, and all day long, even when the twilight threw her grey veil over them, the work advanced; from when the warp was formed of tender sprays and tiny buds, until the woof of leaves was woven with a shuttle of sunshine and showers which the unseen wind sent in and out through the branches.

No human eye could see how the work was done, for the pattern of leaves was woven motionless-here a brown bud came and there a dot of green was thrown in; yet, no hand was visible during the workmanship, though we know the great Power that stirred in that mysterious loom and wove the green drapery of summer.

Now in the woods, like a fair lady of the olden time peeping through her embowered lattice, the tall woodbine leans out from among the leaves, as if to look at the procession that is ever passing of golden-belted bees and gauze-winged dragon-flies, birds that dart by as if sent with hasty messages, and butterflies, the gaudy outriders, that make for themselves a pathway between the overhanging blossoms. All these she sees from the green turret in which she is imprisoned, while the bees go sounding their humming

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horns through every flowery town in the forest. The wild roses, compelled to obey the commands of summer, blush as they expose their beauty by the wayside and hurry to hide themselves again amid the green when the day is done, seeming as if they tried 'to shut and become buds again.'

We now hear that sharp rasping sound in the fields which the mower makes every time he whets his scythe, telling us that he has already cut down myriads of those beautiful wild flowers and feathered grasses which the morning sun shone upon. We enter the field and pick a few fading flowers out of the great swathes and, while watching him at his work, see how at one sweep he makes a desert, where a moment before all was brightness and beauty.

How one might moralize over this globe of white clover, which a bee was rifling of its sweets just before the scythe swept it down, and dwell upon the homes of groundbuilding birds and earth-burrowing animals and insects, which the destroyer lays bare.

Many of those grasses which he cuts down so thoughtlessly are as beautiful as the rarest flowers that ever bloomed, though they must be examined minutely for their elegant forms and splendid colours. No plumage that ever nodded over the brow of Beauty, not even that of the rare bird of paradise, can excel the graceful silky sweep of the feather-grass which ladies used to wear in their head-dresses.

The silky bent grass, which the least stir of air sets in motion, is as glossy and beautiful as the richest satin that ever enfolded the elegant form of maidenhood. The quaking or tottering grass is hung with hundreds of beautiful spikelets, which are all shaken by the least movement of an insect's wing; and, when in motion, the shifting light that plays upon its many-coloured flowers makes them glitter like jewels. But, let the gentlest breeze that ever blew breathe through a bed of this beautiful grass, and you might fancy that thousands of fairy bells were swinging and that the hairlike stems were the ropes pulled by the greenwood elves which are thinner than the finest silk.

It has many pretty names, such as pearl-grass or silk-grass. Nothing was ever yet woven in loom to which art could give such graceful colouring as is shown in the luminous pink and dazzling sea-green of the soft meadow-grass. The flowers spread over a panicle of velvet bloom, which is so soft and yielding, that the lightest footed insect sinks into its downy carpeting when passing.

Many grasses which the mower is now sweeping down would, to the eye of a common observer, appear all alike; although, upon closer examination they will be found to differ as much as one flower does from another. Amongst these are the fox-tail and other grasses, which have all round heads and seem at the first glance only to vary in length and thickness. They are also so common that there is hardly a field without them.

We take up a handful of grass from the swathe just cut down and find dozens of these round-headed flowers in it. One is of a rich golden green with a covering of bright silvery hairs so thinly interspersed that they hide not the golden ground beneath. Another is a rich purple tint that rivals the glowing bloom of the dark-shaded pansy while, besides colours, the stems will be found to vary, some being pointed and pinched until they resemble the limbs of a daddy-longlegs. This is the scented vernal grass

This is the season to wander into the fields and woods and look up at the great network of branches and think how silently they have been fashioned.

that gives out the rich aroma we now inhale from the new-mown field. It seldom grows more than a foot high as the fragrance is supposed to be that which scents the June air for miles round when the grass is cut and dried.

The rough, the smooth, and the annual meadow-grasses are those which everybody knows. But, for the rough meadow-grass we should not obtain so many glimpses of green as are seen in our squares and streets-for it will grow in the smokiest of cities. While to the smooth meadow-grass we are indebted for that first green flush of spring—that spring green which no dyer can imitate and which first shows through the hoary mantle of winter. The annual meadow-grass grows wherever a pinch of earth can be found for it to root in. It is the children's garden in the damp, sunless back yards of our cities. It springs up between the stones of the pavement and grows in the crevices of decaying walls. Neither summer suns which scorch nor biting frosts which blacken can

destroy it for it seeds eight or nine months of the year and, do what you will, is sure to come up again. Pull it up you cannot, excepting in wet weather, when all the earth its countless fibers adhere to comes with it for it finds nourishment in everything it lays hold of, nor has it, like some of the other grasses, to go far into the earth for support.

In the next field we see the haymakers hard at work turning the grass over, shaking it up with their forks or letting it float loose on the wind to be blown as far as it can go while the air that passes through it carries the pleasant smell of newmown hay to the far away fields and villages it sweeps by. How happy hay-makers always appear, as if work to them were pleasure, even the little children, while they laugh as they throw hay over one another, are unconsciously assisting the labourers for it cannot be dispersed too much. What a blessing it would be if all labour could be made so pleasant!

> Some are gathering the hay into windrows, great long unbroken ridges, that extend from one end of the field to the other and look like motionless waves in the distance, while between them all the space is raked up tidily.

> Then comes the last process which is to roll those long windrows into haycocks. Turning the hay on their forks over and over and clearing the ground at every turn, as boys do the

huge snowball, which it takes four or five of them to move-until the haycock is as high as a man's head, and not a vestige of a windrow is left when the work is finished by the rakers. Rolling those huge haycocks together is hard work; and when you see it done you marvel not at the quantity of beer the men drink labouring as they do in the hot open sunshine of June but at the labour it takes to make haycocks.

We then see the loaded hay wagons leaving the fields. They rock as they cross the furrows, over which wheels but rarely roll, moving along green lanes and between high hedgerows, which take toll from the wains as they pass, until new hay hangs down from every branch. What labour it would save the birds in building if hay was led two or three months earlier, for nothing could be more soft and downy for the lining of their nests than many of the feathered heads of those dried grasses. Onward moves the rocking wagon towards the rick-yard where the gate stands open, and we can see the men on the half-formed stack waiting for the coming load.

When the stack is nearly finished, only a strong man can pitch up a fork full of hay, and it needs some practice to use the long forks which are required when the rick has nearly reached to its fullest height. What a delicious smell of new-mown hay there will be in every room of that old farmhouse for days after the stacks are finished. We almost long to take up our lodging there for a week or two for the sake of the fragrance.

There are upwards of two thousand varieties of grasses. The oatlike, the wheat-like, and the water-grasses, of which latter the tall common seed is the chief, are very numerous. It is from grasses that we have obtained the bread we eat, and we have now many varieties growing wild that yield small grains of excellent corn. This corn could, by cultivation, be rendered as valuable as our choicest cereals.

After-month is a word still in use, though now applied to the second crop of grass which springs up after the hay-field has been cleared. None are fonder than Englishmen of seeing a 'bit of grass' before their doors.

Look at the retired old citizen, who spent the best years of his life poring over ledgers in some half-lighted office in the neighbourhood of the Bank, how delighted he is with the little grass-plat which the window of his suburban retreat opens into. What hours he spends over it, patting it down with his spade, smoothing it with his garden-roller, stooping down until his aged back aches, while clipping it with his shears and then standing at a distance to admire it. He then calls his dear old wife out to see how green and pretty it looks. It keeps him in health, for in attending to it he finds both amusement and exercise, and perhaps the happiest moments of his life are those passed in watching his grandchildren roll over it while his married sons and daughters sit smiling by his side.

Hundreds of such men and many such spots lie scattered beside the roads that run every way through the great metropolitan suburbs, and it is pleasant when returning from a walk through the dusty roads of June to peep over the low walls or through the palisades and see the happy groups sitting in the cool of evening by the bit of grass before their doors, that which they call 'going out on the lawn.'

Visit Emmitsburg.net for a daily selection of Robert Chamber's The Book of Days.

THE RETIRED ECOLOGIST

Remembering When Science Was Fun

Bill Meredith

Then I came to Mount St. Mary's in 1957, one of the first courses I was assigned to teach was General Science. I was adequately prepared to teach biology, and I knew enough chemistry and physics to get by, but that was not sufficient; "general" science included astronomy, geology and meteorology. Furthermore, those topics could not just be skimmed over; 1957 had been designated as the International Geophysical Year, and it also marked the beginning of the Space Age when Sputnik was launched that fall. Science was in the news. So I had three choices. I could give up and quit (not a good thing to have on my resume', and besides, there was a family to support); I could sit down and cry (not considered a "manly" thing to do at an all-male institution, and not very productive in any case); or I could get busy and learn the necessary information on my own.

So I started reading. The library had a limited selection of textbooks, but most of them were out of date and useless as sources of information on space and earth science. So I stretched my meager budget and subscribed to Scientific American, a monthly magazine that covered the latest developments in all fields of science. It turned out to be a godsend. Its feature articles were well-written, often by internationally known scientists; I remember reading James Van Allen's article on the Van Allen Belt, a radiation zone that was discovered by instruments on the first American satellite, and which won the first Nobel Prize from the area of space science. In addition to such current topics, the magazine also had a column called "The Amateur Scientist," which provided ideas for demonstrations and lab exercises. Reading it became a joy as well as a necessity.

I also began learning the history of science. Scientific American was founded sometime before the Civil War, and one of its most interesting features was a column called "50 and 100 Years Ago," which told what had been the latest discoveries in those days. It recounted the controversy over Darwin's Origin of Species in 1859, and the bewilderment that followed Einstein's Theory of Relativity in 1905. Even though Einstein was still living, those things seemed like ancient history, for I was only 24 at the time. But age brings with it an altered perspective. The column is now called "50, 100 and 150 Years Ago," and it no longer seems so ancient; it now features things I remember happening.

The May, 2009, column had a note on the Mohole Project, which probably set the all-time record for combining pure, goofy fun with genuine scientific inquiry. In the late 1950s there was a revolution in the science of geology which explained why earthquakes and volcanoes occur and how continents drift over the face of the earth through time. The explanation was based on a theory proposed in 1909 by a Croatian geologist with the unpronounceable name of Andrija Mohorovicic. He discovered that earthquake waves suddenly speed up at a point located a few miles beneath the earth's surface, and he proposed there was a boundary there between two layers of rock, the Crust and the Mantle, which conduct waves at different speeds. This boundary was named the Mohorovicic Discontinuity in his honor, but it quickly became known among geologists as "The Moho." To everyone else, it was unknown... until 1958.

In the mid-50s, government funding was made available for the International Geophysical Year, and the National Science Foundation was flooded with research grant proposals. Some of them did not fit into any specific category, which was frustrating to the scientists who had to evaluate them. One evening, relaxing over drinks, one evaluator remarked that there should be a "miscellaneous" grant category. Obviously, grants in that category would have to be evaluated, so someone proposed a special group to do it. Everyone immediately volunteered, and they agreed to call themselves the American Miscellaneous Sociwore on, they proceeded to draw up bylaws. The first rule would be that there were no rules; any time two or more members passed in the hallway could constitute an official meeting; there would be no officers; and no minutes would be taken. An annual ceremony was planned at which the author of the most unusual proposal was awarded a stuffed albatross.

Amid the general hilarity at a subsequent meeting, someone asked a profound question: If money were no object, what would be the single project that would produce the greatest amount of completely new scientific knowledge? After deliberation, it was agreed that the best project would be to drill a hole down to the Moho, because no one knew what was really down there, or even how deep it was. One of the culprits was Walter Munk, a widely respected geologist and oceanographer who was gifted with both a sense of humor and a name no one could take seriously; it is believed that he was the one who remarked that such drilling would produce a "Mohole." Eventually a grant proposal was drawn up and submitted to NSF, with Munk as the project director, and the Mohole Project was funded in 1958.

There were a host of problems. It made sense to start drilling on the floor of the ocean, where the crust is thinnest, but at that time there was no equipment for deepsea drilling. So an immense raft was designed with giant outboard motors to keep it in the same place, and an oil drilling rig was mounted on it. Equipment was adapted to withstand the corrosion of salt water, the flexing of

and the extreme heat of deep rock formations. Someone asked an obvious question that had been overlooked: "What happens if we strike oil?" Special measures were designed to plug the hole with concrete and prevent polluting the ocean in that eventuality. Then the Russians got wind of it and, in the spirit of the Cold War, started their own Mohole Project. The news media loved it, the public were fascinated; the budget kept growing, and congress appropriated more funds each year. Phase I of the project was completed at a cost of over \$50 million... a trivial amount today, but a lot of money back then. Eventually Senator Proxmire noticed it and gave it his "Golden Fleece Award;" and in 1967 congress refused to fund Phase II. Unencumbered by such democratic decision-making, the Russians kept drilling until the mid-'70s; they produced the world's deepest hole, 40,226 feet deep, but never reached the

In the eyes of some, the Mohole Project resulted in \$50 million wasted by a bunch of impractical scientists to dig five holes in the ocean. But it was not a

waste; it yielded drilling technology and knowledge of the composition of the earth's crust that made off-shore oil wells possible, and also led to information about prehistoric climates and changes in ocean currents. And it also marked a time of change, a loss of innocence. After the intellectual excitement and optimism of the Kennedy years, we lived through assassinations, war and radical protests in the '60s, the OPEC disruption and Presidential resignation in the 70s, AIDS and antienvironmentalism in the '80s, legislative gridlock and Presidential disgrace in the '90s, and terrorism and economic collapse in the new millennium. Perhaps I'm just getting old, but nothing is as much fun as it was when people dared to dream of going to the moon or drilling to the Moho. But I have memories, reinforced by 52 years worth of Scientific American magazines piled in my basement. And Dr. Walter Munk is still alive and working at the age of 91; and I'll bet he is still able to laugh.

To read past Retired Ecologist columns, visit the Author's Section of Emmitsburg.net





IT IS WHAT IT IS

The Mystery of the Vanishing Bees!

Sandra Polvinale

This day will go down in history on the Serendipity Farm, a day so bright and glorious, when a little bit of heaven dropped its veil. It was a day that Heaven touched Earth. We, Francesca and I that is, my cat that thinks she's a dog, witnessed something so beautiful yet so grievous that we still talk about it over a cup of mint tea. She prefers cat nip tea and I spearmint, but then I am digressing.

I'll tell you this true story as it was told once by the trees, for the trees have seen even Civil War soldiers hide out among the bees. Yes the bees. It all started with the bees.

It was not so hot as the other day, I thought, here in Pennsylvania. We had just finished our tea,

I said "Francesca do you hear that?" My cat that thinks she's a dog is quite human at times. Listen! Do you hear that?! It sounds like singing. Francesca chattered away trying to give me a reason for this unusual song. Quiet! Listen.

I saw something moving about behind the typical Red Pennsylvania Bank Barn. It was a grey mass, moving, singing. As we moved closer the smell of warm honey filled the air. I always liked that perk of owning a bee hive or two. And I found myself in a daydream of a fine Civil War Soldier from "Old Virginia". I remembered the sound of a distinct regional southern dialect of a Rebel saying, "The smell of warm honey on a hot summer day can be almost intoxicating!"

Walking up to the scene we moved right into the middle of the party. The music was heavenly! Truly Heavenly! It was I guess liken to what angels must sound like. We closed our eyes and felt the gentle flutter of honey bee wings against our cheeks and it tickled. The music was changing, becoming the most beautiful music I had ever heard, even in the best choirs in town. A light breeze was blowing and the quiet creeks of the locust trees that shaded the hives were groaning a bit from the bad storm we had the week before. It had cracked one trunk that had to be braced by metal and wire. A Bee Whisperer.

As we were listening to the bee's hymns, I had a dream of working my hives just the week before. I don't wear bee gear like I should most times, and just work my bees with shorts and a loose T shirt. My friends laugh at me and call me the Bee Whisperer. Like the Horse Whisperer movie years ago I guess! By now, the bees were getting organized. No, not swarming, for I know what a swarm is for sure! They usually cling to a tree and cluster around to keep the Queen warm. They

were gaining momentum now and moving around Francesca and I in a slow twister type of situation. But, they were not going laterally, they were not moving in to the woods. The singing was almost deafening at this point as they seemed drunk or just care free. As they started moving up into the sky, not the woods, I was shocked. I screamed in a quiet, yet concerned tone. "Hey! If you are going to up and leave me, at least go into the woods!" My voice just trailed off and was almost inaudible as I watched in unbelief.

It became quiet that sunny day in July 2008. Quiet and still as my babies as I called them, up and left Francesca and I! They rose higher and higher until THEY COULD BE SEEN NO MORE! It was a group suicide I suppose. Not even a dot could be seen.

What the Physicist said

Not more than a month later, I was on a date with a Physicist having a very cerebral conversation. I told him my true story of my babies up and leaving us. He looked with his brows squished down as all thinkers do, and there was a long pause.

Maybe, just maybe those bees of yours know something we don't. Maybe just maybe there may be something coming we have yet to see, but they know! They are just getting out now. Or maybe it has something to do with the magnetic poles shifting.

Well, we can speculate all we want, but I bet if we listen long enough in the quiet of the hot air where Civil War soldiers have fought and rested, I bet those trees, where the bees made many a home...... could tell us!

When I think of my honey bees, I just can't help thinking of the birds and the bees as they say. Reproduction, as it is. And as they say in Adams County, "so it is". So when I think of reproduction, I think of ... Mothers! Aren't Mothers wonderful? Did your Mothers ever tell you about the birds and the bees? There is this old black and white movie called the The Miracle of Marcelino. In this old flick filmed in Italy, at an old Abby, there is a little baby that is left on the doorstep of this living quarters of MONKS! Yes! All men. And they are thinking, what are we supposed to do with this little baby? Nobody in town claimed him nor did they want to take him into their homes and adopt him. So, the Monks raised this little wonderful boy with mischievousness and curio playfulness ruling him to the delight of any Mother. He missed his Mother and longed to know her all the time, yet loved his Brother "Cookie" (the cook) Brother Sickly (the infirmed Monk) and so on. The Miracle.

There was one part of the movie that required a full box of tissues. He was told not to go up to the 3rd floor attic lest he hurt himself. Well, being a boy, that is all you need to say to him to check it out in secret. There was a full life size Crucifix with some chairs and attic things about. He would go up there and talk to this "man" about all his dealings and fun of the day, like you would talk to a Mother or Father. He felt so bad that "this man" was not feeling well and had sharp spikes in his forehead. He asked does it hurt? Can I get you something to eat? Are you thirsty? Marcelino would hide a few crumbs of bread and sneak some wine up there for Jesus. He was nurturing him as a Mother does for her young. As little birds feed their peeps and how honey bees tend to each other. Jesus came alive for this little innocent darling boy and talked with him about many things. Marcelino, with his large brown eyes, asked him about Mothers one day. After the "man" told him his name, He came down and sat in a chair holding Marcelino on his lap. Marcelino asked him very important questions?

Where is my Mother?

Jesus, what are Mothers like? Oh, dear boy, they are loving and kind and sweet. Are Mothers beautiful? Oh yes! They are very beautiful. Do I have a Mother? Oh yes Marcelino, everyone has a Mother! Well, where is mine? In heaven. Can I go there? Well not yet, but you will my boy, you will. But I miss her. Can't I see her? Does she smell good? Oh yes, sweetness like honey and flowers. But can I be with her NOW? Do you really want to be with her now? Yes, yes, I do. Then one of the Monks came up the steps and peeked in the room. He saw Jesus come down off the cross, on a chair, holding little Marcelino. Jesus had the crown of thorns on a chair that the dear little boy insisted He remove. I am crying softly as I type this. And as Marcelino broke bread and tasted the wine with Jesus, he died in His arms seeing his Momma, for the first time. Jesus then gently placed the boy on the chair and went back up on the Cross. The Monk started crying and ran down to tell the others. This was the miracle of Marcelino, Pane Vino. Marcelino, Bread and Wine.

Honey Bees, Mothers and Love

Mothers. Aren't they wonderful? And they smell so good! My Mother always smelled like Jergens skin lotion. I love that smell. Good memories. Smell brings back a lot of memories. Honey bees have a good sense of smell. Don't ever eat a banana and then go to work your honey bees. My husband made that big mistake years ago. The freshly killed bees release a scent that imitates the smell of a banana. Also, never wear red when you are working them, and NEVER EVER push a red lawn mower and bump up against the hives!

ha! Well, oops, my beautiful late husband did all three, and he came in with a few little kisses from my girls. Ouch! And he was a brilliant man too!

So Let Me Tell Ya 'Bout The Birds And The Bees...

From the 1960's song: So let me tell ya 'bout the birds and the bees and the flowers and trees and moon up above, and I think of love. And Love = Mothers! Mothers love unconditionally and we need all the love we can get in this world today. Mothers are only here for a very short time with us. Just like the worker honey bees that have a certain life span, so do our dear Moms. Love them and store their love for future use. Just as the worker bees tend to the Queen bee, let us cultivate and till the ground sowing seeds of love we have gleaned from our Mothers. And hope and pray our honey bees will be with us a long time also, for without them, we will not have many crops! Keep hopeful, for we are a tight knit town and know when to retreat, but never give up!

To read other articles by Sandra Polvinale, visit the Author's Section of Emmitsburg.net



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PETS LARGE AND SMALL

Having Fun with Your Dog

Erica Green **Emmitsburg Veterinary Hospital**

ave you ever flipped through Have you ever mere the TV and found a program with dogs flying through the air catching a Frisbee or running through an obstacle course and thought that it looked exciting? Maybe you thought you'd like to get out there and try your hand at it? Dog sport is one of the fastest growing obsessions of dog enthusiasts today. With the growing popularity it's easy to find a trainer and get involved!!

Dog sport is a wonderful way to keep (or get) you and your pet in shape and provides a great release from the everyday stresses in life. Getting involved in an activity with your dog also gives you the opportunity to connect with other people who share the same passion—spending time with their best friend!

Before choosing an activity for your canine companion, you should try to understand their genetics & breed history. Some sports require the natural abilities that your dog was bred for. For instance, if you have a herding breed like a Border Collie or German Shepherd dog you may want to look into herding, or if protection sport is your cup of tea, you will need a dog that was bred for protection abilities such as a Doberman Pin-

scher or Rottweiler. Remember though, just because a dog breed was originally intended for a specific activity does not mean they are limited to that type of activity. The natural ability from genetics plays a part, but training, practice and teamwork will ultimately determine your success.

You should also consider your dog's personality. Some dogs are harder to motivate, but given the chance will be able to do well in a chosen sport. It will be your job to find what motivates your dog (food, toys, lavish praise, etc), and use that tool to succeed. On the other end of the spectrum are the dogs that are over the top with energy and enjoy nothing more than feeling the wind on their face as they run around the yard. These are the dogs that need sport. An activity like agility will challenge them mentally and physically. When energy (mental and physical) is properly spent through sport, it relieves the dog of having to find ways to expend the energy and boredom. Dogs that are left to figure out a way to use energy tend to employ digging, barking, eating our possessions and other frowned upon activities as an outlet.

Participating in a sport will also strengthen the bond between you and your dog and will help to define the roles of "leader" and "pet". When you reward your dog for following your request during training, you are asserting yourself as the leader. The successes during training will encourage your dog to continue to look to you as the leader and for guidance. This relationship will "breed" further success.

No matter what sport you choose for your dog remember; it is the journey that is most important, not the destination, keep an open and creative mind, and MOST importantly- it is all about having fun!!!

Types of Dog Sports: Agility

Agility is the most popular of the modern sport for dogs. The first widely documented appearance of dog agility was as entertainment at the Crufts dog show in 1978. During the demonstration, people noticed how much the dog and handler seemed to enjoy it and the sport became a runaway success. Agility is a dog sport in which a handler directs a dog through an obstacle course in a race for both time and accuracy. Dogs run off-leash with no food or toys (of course incentives are allowed during training). The handler's controls are limited to voice, movement, and various body signals, requiring exceptional training of the animal.

Dock Diving

Dock Diving is a relatively new sport and is gaining in popularity. This sport involves canine competitors diving from a ramp into a pool of water to retrieve a toy. The winner is determined by the dog that dives the furthest



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Obedience

The term "obedience" is commonplace when describing dog behavior. Formal obedience as a sport is more than not jumping on the company or stealing food off the counter. In formal obedience, the dog and handler team are required to perform specific tasks with precision. Beginner level obedience the tasks can include healing (dog walks on handlers left side), sitting/ laying down on command and staying in the position. As the team advances, the levels obedience can include retrieving, and even scent work!! Generally, obedience is not a timed sport, and the team is judged on precision and how the dog and handler act as a team. Obedience requires high levels of concentration and motivation from both dogs and owners.

New to dog sport is Rally Obedience. Rally or Rally-O is more relaxed than formal obedience, and the handlers are allowed to encourage their dogs. During a Rally trial, the dog and handler team travel a course that contains 10-20 "stations" and perform the exercise detailed in the sign. Although the team still strives for correct and precise performance, the course is also timed so the challenge is to be fast and correct.

Flyball

Flyball is a dog sport in which teams of dogs race a straightline track against each other in a relay-style race. Each team begins at the start line with their first dog, releases that dog to runs down the track which has several hurdles. When the dog gets to the end of the track, a spring-loaded box holding a tennis ball is waiting for the dog to press the pad to release the ball. With tennis ball in mouth, the dog must return to the start line, by turning around and following the same track and jumping the jumps. When the first dog returns, the team's second dog is released down the track. The first team to have all dogs complete the course (without error) wins!

Schutzhund

The diversity in dog sport is as wide the diversity in human sport. There is something available to suit every dog and owner team from the precision of obedience to the excitement of agility. It's most important to get involved, and try something new. You might be surprised at what you find enjoyable. Always remember rule #1—HAVE FUN WITH YOUR DOG.

Happy Training!

Have a story about a pet you want to share. If so, the Emmitsburg News-Journal would love to help you share them! Send them to us at editor@emmitsburg.com or see our mailing address on page 2.

MY LIFE IS MY CAREER

Turtle in a Bucket

Christine Maccabee

Some things in life never change and my love affair with turtles is one of them. How I went from a young girl looking for turtles in the woods behind her house to an 18 year old carrying water turtles in a bucket on the greyhound bus between home and college to the me that I am now in my early 60's and still transporting a turtle in a bucket between her dining room aquarium habitat and her outdoor pool is what this essay is all about.

As a child I was drawn like a magnet to the woods. Despite all of my mother's efforts to keep me from going there, I went anyway. At the time I didn't know that she was only trying to protect me from possible dangers lurking there, but the woods I knew as a friendly place full of wonder and mystery and TURTLES! Before too long my mother, Rose, a nature lover herself, gave up trying to stop me, and even permitted me to build a Turtle Town in our small backyard south of Baltimore. Many years later I was told by the neighbor boys next door that all the fellas didn't know what to make of me, I was such a different sort of girl, but that they admired me. Nice. Wish I'd known it then. All they ever did was tease me.

For some reason, as a very young child I had an innate understanding of what turtles need to be happy in captivity. No cardboard box for them, no way! Instead, walls were made with cinderblocks piled 2 blocks high, an area for hibernation in one corner, filled with leaves and loose soil and covered by slatted boards to simulate the canopy of trees, and burdock with their large leaves were dug up with great effort and transplanted so as to provide shade for my awesome pets. I also found plenty of worms down in the woods under the rotting leaves which my neighbor dumped religiously each year after raking in the fall.

So, at an early age I learned the joy of digging in rich dirt for worms as food for my turtles, I learned to love the rich smell of the woods in all seasons, and gave myself lessons in transplanting plants and caring for dependant creatures no book could have taught me. I was a hands-on person back then before the term was invented. I learned by doing. Most importantly, my relationship with the natural world grew strong, and, well, naturally. I count my blessings everyday that I had such opportunities to explore and to learn, and I am more than

aware, even sorrowful, that millions of children are not so fortu-

However, having been so blessed has placed me, all through my adulthood, in the sometimes tricky position of wanting to teach others the importance of allowing our children the time and opportunity to cultivate their own relationships with the natural world. As their bond with plants animals and insects grows, so does their love for this awesome earth and their desire to protect it in any way they can. I know I am digressing here, so let me return to my story, to my journey on the back

very still as long as possible watching. Even then the male's red eyes flashed and his mouth would froth. I always sort of felt sorry for him as the position he had to hold in order to penetrate seemed terribly awkward, if not impossible. From several unions, I found eggs buried, and even watched a female laboriously dig her hole for hours on end late into the night. Fearing my flashlight was interfering with her progress, I reluctantly went inside by 11pm, having sacrificed watching the Miss America Pageant and having gained innumerable mosquito bites. In the morning, I excitedly ran outside

Somehow my interest in turtles expanded to include the beautiful red-eared slider. I remember the magical feeling I had when I first saw those cute little babies in the back of the Woolworth's store south of Baltimore where I lived. I bought two, and thus began my fascination with water turtles. I also acquired a gorgeous map turtle with his fascinating white markings on a background of shades of brown. It did indeed look like he was covered with maps of swirling rivers and lakes, not roads. Sadly he was not to live long, and as time went on the sale of tiny turtles was discontinued on such a

contentedly in the sun on the board in her pond outside my back door. She is growing by leaps and bounds, eating worms and special turtle food I buy at Ricks Fish store. She has survived two Adams. One Adam escaped years ago, no doubt heading for the marsh area nearly one mile away. I hope he made it across dry summer hay fields. The other Adam arrived here seemingly healthy, but soon became very sick, as did both Eve and I. Apparently he brought us salmonella from wherever he came from. He died, but Eve and I came back better than ever after a horrible period of illness. Symbolically, does this mean we girls do not really need an Adam? Not sure.

To record every single experience I had with turtles would take a book, and this is only a newspaper. So let me end by saying that if our continent is indeed Turtle Island as the Native Americans have called it, and if the turtle truly is a symbol of good fortune, then I am indeed a very lucky person, possibly the luckiest person in the world. Problem is, I keep forgetting that. So, every time I put Eve in a bucket to change her dirty water, every time I feed her and make life better for her, I know I am making life better for myself. She reminds me of who I am and the importance of my love connection with the natural world. She is my good luck charm in a bucket!

Christine is a certified Master Wildlife Habitat Naturalist in the state of Maryland, a writer and musician. For more of her essays as well as poetry and original music available on two CD's, call her at 301-271-2307.



of the turtle.

I was about nine when I made my first turtle pen and many years of renovations later, it truly was a Turtle Town. I believe the most turtles I had at one time was ten, 8 box and 2 mud (they had their own private mud hole) with only one male box turtle at a time. I learned the hard way not to have more than one male. To see the flash of the red eyes and the frothing at the mouth when two male turtles fought is enough to scare the pants off of anybody! Their mouths are sharp and can do a lot of harm so you don't want to get in the middle of it, that's for sure.

Mating was another thing I never interfered with, but would sit

to see if the eggs were laid, and sure enough, the ground was all covered up as if it had never been

I honestly believe I would have been happier as a biologist, but somehow, I became a musician. Of course, I always was both, but career wise I chose music. It is no crime to be both, but with limited time in a day, it is not always easy to keep every aspect of your persona alive and functioning. Somehow, against all odds, I managed to do both. I have written songs and performed them over 5 decades. Many of them are nature songs...no surprise there. I also write poetry about love, life, and nature...still no surprise.

large scale. For that I am thankful. Just the thought of neglected turtles in some stenchy water in someone's house where there is little understanding of them, makes me shudder.

I had just enough understanding to keep several water turtles alive though college and into my early twenties. Wherever I went, they went with me in a bucket, and wherever I went I found a wild place with lots of worms for the having. You might think I was obsessed with my turtles, and I guess I was. I couldn't imagine life without them. I still can't. I believe I only went one year without a turtle since the age of nine.

Today, Eve, my only turtle, basks



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HISTORY



remains of the three story Maryland Hotel.

sk all horse owners what their Three biggest fears are and nine out of ten times a barn fire will make the list if not outright top it. Predominantly constructed of wood and filled with dry hay and straw, barns are torches just waiting to be lit. So, it's not surprising the extent horse owners take to keep potential ignition sources out of their stables.

The first thing I did after purchasing my farm was to install an old fashioned mechanical fire bell in the stable which was activated by heat. It can be heard as clear as day in the house even with the windows closed. For once a barn fire gets started, you only have minutes before it's out of control and an alarm may mean the difference between losing both your horses and barn or just your barn.

In 1863 horses were the primary mode of transportation in Emmitsburg. The first run of the Emmitsburg railroad was still twelve years away and automobiles and planes were thoughts of idle dreamers. As such, if you wanted or needed to travel you did it on horseback or in a carriage. The half hour trip to Frederick today took two days which necessitated trip to Gettysburg or Thurmont occupied almost a full day.

Instead of parking meters, the streets of Emmitsburg were lined with hitching posts. Instead of garages everyone had stables, and for those that couldn't afford their own stable, the town had at least five public stables. Each and every one was a potential torch just waiting to be lit.

The stable for the guests of the Western Maryland Hotel on the south-east corner of the square was located behind the hotel. The stable for the Emmitt House Hotel was located at the end of West Main Street. Emmitsburg residents who didn't have their own stable stabled their horses at one of three stables run by the Patterson brothers and a Messrs. Gunther and Bean. The Patterson brothers had two public stables in town. The larger one, which housed horses most frequently used, was located on West Main and Patterson Street and their 'turn out' stable was located on the south side of East Main Street opposite modern day Jubilee grocery store. Gunther and Bean's stable was located just east of the Elias Lutheran Church in what is now the church's upper parking lot.

It was in the latter stable that something went horribly wrong on the night of June 15, 1863. What happened that night we may never know for sure. Did someone carelessly throw a cigar away? Did

The fire quickly spread with the prevailing winds. It first burned the homes and businesses to the south of the stable - the North West corner of the square. Because of the height of the buildings on the square, which were the largest in town, the fire was easily able to jump to the North East Corner of the square and began to burn down East Main Street.

Folklore has it that the fire traveled east for two blocks burning everything in its wake, at which time, its eastward progression was stopped by the citizens of the town. The fire then jumped to the southern side of East Main

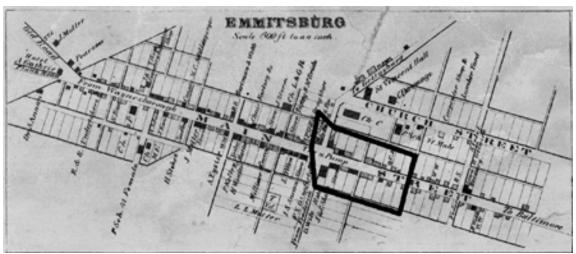
of buildings. One only needs to draw a straight line from the Lutheran Church's parking lot to the North East corner of the square - the direction of the prevailing wind to see that the line intersects the middle of the first block on the south side of East Main Street. From there, the fire on the southern side of East Main Street would have progressed eastward until it too ran out of homes to burn.

Because of the prevailing winds, the fire on the south side of East Main Street would have progressed more slowly to the west, which accounts for the fact that the last building to be destroyed was the

"On Monday night just about 10 o'clock, a fire broke out in our neighboring town of Emmitsburg, ten miles from this place, which was truly awful in its ravages. It commenced in the livery stables of Messrs. Beam & Gunther with such rapidity that it defied all attempts to stay it. The glow of the fire could be seen by the residents of Gettysburg. The fire consumed the properties of the following per-

Julie P. Rowe, owner of the property occupied by the livery, loss estimated at \$800; Beams & Guthrie, 9 horses, 1 cow, 2 hogs, vehicles &c burnt, \$2,000; John Barry, barn & stable, \$600; J. A. Elder, barn & stable, \$600; Lawrence Dwen, house, shop, barn &c., \$4,000; William Waters, house and stable, \$600; Dr. Eichelberger, house and stable, \$4,000; Michael Addelsperger, house and stable, \$1,500; James Addelsperger, tin establishment, with goods, \$3,000; James F. Addelsperger, house and stable, \$1,000; Dr. Patterson, house and stable, \$4,000; Daniel G. Addelsperger, house and stable, \$2,000; Patrick Kelly, house and stable, store and goods, \$6,000; George Bishop, house and barn, \$700; Francis McGraw, house and stable, \$1,500; James Hospelhorn, \$3,500; Upton Kooutz, house, shop, stable, \$1,400; Caroline Zimmerman, house and shop, \$1,500; Jacob Eckenrode, furniture, meat, &c, \$700; Jacob Harner, house, \$500; John Haupt, house and stable, \$1,000; Hugh P. Dailey, house and stable, \$1,000; David Morrison, house, \$300; Samuel Welty, furniture, \$150; John Hoover, house, \$900; Charles Shirkley, furniture, &c., \$400; James L Wise, house and barn, \$2,000; John Miller, house and barn, \$4,000; H. & G. Winters, house, \$600; James Knouff, furniture, \$300; Edward Adams, furniture, \$300; Joseph Ovel-

man, furniture, \$300; Frank



1858 Map of Emmitsburg showing an outline of the area destroyed during the Great Fire of 1863

Did improperly dried hay spontaneously ignite? History only records that at 11 PM that night the alarm of fire was sounded.

While water was plentiful because almost all homes had their own wells or pumps, there was no organized and formal fire company to fight fires. Instead, the community would turn out en mass with buckets to form bucket brigades. While a bucket brigade would normally be sufficient for small fires, it was no match for a barn fire. A firefighting hose cart built in town in 1851 by the Emmitsburg Fire brigade (the predecessor to today's Vigilant Hose Company) was used at the great fire. (The old hose cart is on display in the museum area of the Vigilant Hose Company station.)

However, a review of maps of the town at the time suggests a more probable progression of the fire. The eastern progression of the fire was not stopped at the end of the two blocks by the efforts of the citizens but by the lack of fuel. In 1863 the majority of homes and business in Emmitsburg were located on West Main Street and not East Main Street. The end of the second block of East Main Street contained only a few widely spaced houses providing too great a distance for the fire to jump.

As for the jumping of the fire to the southern side of East Main Street, the most probable location was near the square which contained the largest buildings as well as the greatest concentration

an overnight stay. And, a round a kerosene lantern fall and break? Street and burned west back to the Western Maryland Hotel located on the south east corner of the square. The fire was not brought under control until 7 AM the next morning. All of the homes and business in the western part of the town, save those on the North West corner of the square, were spared. John O'Donoghue's house, which sat opposite the Western Maryland Hotel on the South-West corner, was saved by the placing of wet blankets on the roof which prevented cinders from nearby flames from igniting its roof.

> Unfortunately, at the time Emmitsburg did not have a newspaper, so we have to depend upon reports from the papers of surrounding communities as to the events of that evening. According to the Gettysburg Sentinel and General Advisor:

HISTORY



Smith, house and barn, (not his hotel property), \$1,000; Jesses Seabrooks, furniture, \$450; Mrs. Eli B . Lefevor, furniture, \$300; Jesse H. Nurser, house and stable, \$1,600; Joshua Shorb, residence, store, building and stable, \$4,000; Shorb & Addelsperger, a very large stock of store goods, \$12,000; Daniel Wile, City Hotel and stabling, \$10,000."

According to the June 27, 1863 Gettysburg Star and Sentinel:

"On Monday night last, at about 10 o'clock, a fire broke out in our neighboring town of Emmitsburg, ten miles from this place, which was truly awful in its ravages. It commenced in the livery establishment of Mssrs. Beams & Guthrie, and spread with such rapidity as to defy all efforts to stay it. Twenty-eight dwellings were destroyed, rendering homeless fifty-four families, numbering in the aggregate one hundred and eighty-nine persons. These have been cared for in various ways. A large portion have been accommodated at the Sisterhood; the Hall in town is full, whilst all having spare rooms have freely given it to the homeless. A ruffian named Eli Smith has been arrested and confined in Frederick jail, on suspicion of having been the incendiary."

According to uncited newspaper articles collected by Zourie Hyder Wentz (1852 -1940):

"When the sun arose upon the burnt district, it revealed the horrors of the night, and the people realized they were homeless, many pennyless, blackened walls or only foundation to tell where eight hours before comfortable habitations stood. Houses were opened to shelter the thirty families who were so suddenly made homeless, some repaired to friend's houses in the country. The fields and roads close by were strewn with furniture and

bedding. Some of this was damaged by the sparks, one piano on the pike as far down as the Warehouse was greatly damaged, while beds were being carried away they took fire upon the men's shoulders. While the fire was raging, the church bells were rung to call the people from the country. A few came, quite a number came up the road within sight of the town, seeing the great light, they concluded the Rebels had fired the town, and they returned to their homes, fearing they knew not what, for these were perilous times. The army under Lee was moving up the valley of Virginia, the Army of the Potomac was moving toward Washington. Sixteen days later these two armies met at Gettysburg with results well known to all. The excitement of the army passing helped to divert the people of our town, the battle, the return of the army passing, kept up the excitement, thus the people were kept excited the whole summer, later families or individuals left for other fields."

"Between midnight and morning, Rev. Dr. John McCloskey brought the boys from the college to assist at the fire. No doubt some of these boys have often thought of this fire and the jolly time they had."

"Many amusing incidents occurred, such as carrying feather beds down stairs and throwing a mirror after it. An old lady came to the writer with a basin of water and insisted upon his throwing it on a burning house. Some carried their furniture into houses where it fared the same fate it would if it had been left at home. The excitement was so great, many were not responsible for their acts. It was no uncommon thing to see groups crying and bewailing together. It was a piteous sight to behold."

"For weeks the town was the attraction, not only for people near, for they came long distances to view the ruins, many letters from friends away came urging these sufferers to come to them, others came to see and do for their friends. The citizens held a meeting and appointed a committee to go to Baltimore and solicit aid. They collected quite a sum which, added to contributions sent from towns, gave great relief. Forty-five houses and stables in all were destroyed, besides the household effects by the hand of some malicious person applying a match to the stable of Guthrie and Beam, their loss was eleven horses, carriages, buggies, harness, &c. When the Union Army came through on the road to Gettysburg, almost the first question asked, was 'did the Reb's burn this town.' A few persons built the same summer, but the burnt district was not wholly rebuilt for many years. Prior to 1870 only nineteen houses had been rebuilt."

The question of how the fire started occupied the minds of many. A week after the fire, Eli Smith, a resident of Emmitsburg and Union sympathizer, was arrested on suspicion of starting the fire to prevent advancing Confederates from taking supplies from the town. In July of 1863, Smith was formally arraigned in Frederick and charged with arson.

On June 15th 1863, Confederate General Robert E. Lee began his Pennsylvania Campaign as the advance of the Confederate Army crossed into Maryland. During the night the citizens of Gettysburg looked southward and saw an orange glow in the sky coming from the direction of Emmitsburg. Rumors began to spread throughout the countryside about the Confederate invasion. It wasn't until June 29th that the first Union soldiers saw the damage that the fire had caused. Tired from a day's march from Frederick and Middletown, the Union soldiers set camp in Saint Joseph's Valley. The town's residents welcomed the Union

troops. After seeing the damage done by the fire on June 15th, the troop thought that the Confederate army had torched the town. For many years, that's where the story of the great fire of Emmitsburg ends. However, recent research by the Greater Emmitsburg Historical Society has uncovered that in April of 1864 Smith was found innocent of the charges and set free. The Historical Society is in the process of obtaining the actual court records and with them can hopefully cast more light on the events leading up to and during the Great Fire of 1863. Stay tuned, there may yet be unexpected twists and turns to this long underreported story.

Lieutenant William Ballentine of the 82nd Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment recalled:

"The town is a very nice one, hardly as large as Urbana, but all fine buildings. About one half of the town was burnt about two weeks ago. The people think it was done by a resident of the town whom they now have in jail. He is said to be a Union man although the town is one of the worst secessionist towns in Maryland. But that was not the reason it was burnt. It was in revenge for some private wrong done by some individual of the town; his store was set on fire and burnt the rest with it."

As after any fire, many of the homes and business were rebuilt over time. Bean and Gunther were no exception. They rebuilt their livery stable on land now occupied by the antique mall. Their decision to relocate to this spot resulted in confusion in the minds of many as to the exact location of the start of fire. Many old timers only knew of Bean and Gunther being located at this second location and equated the location of the start of the fire with the new stable and not their original stable located next to the Elias Lutheran Church.

Contrary to popular folklore, the conditions that eventually led to the decision to form the Vigilant Hose Company lay not so much in the fire of 1863, but a 1881 cholera pandemic that had broke out in India. Public health officials, eager to prevent its spread to America, began to demand that unsanitary conditions in densely populated areas be addressed. In May 1881 the Frederick County Board of Public Health directed Emmitsburg to correct concerns over the purity of drinking water." In May of 1883 a town meeting was held to determine if sufficient funds could be raised for an Emmitsburg Water Company whose purpose would be to supply the citizens of Emmitsburg with pure mountain water. With a resounding "yes" the town elected John Donoghue, whose home on the square was saved during the fire of 1863, as the first president and authorized him to begin selling stock, the proceeds of which would be used to fund the construction for the company.

In 1884, one hundred and twenty five years ago, following the building of the water company's reservoir in the hills west of town and the subsequent installation of fire hydrants on the streets of Emmitsburg, the Vigilant Hose Company was founded. While a massive "conflagration" fire is most unlikely nowadays, the men and women of our local fire company continue to remind us that everyone must always remain vigilant to the ever-present menace of fire where we live, work, learn,

To learn more about the history of the people and places that shaped Emmitsburg, visit the Historical Society section of Emmitsburg.net.

The Historical Society invites everyone to join them at their next meeting, June 15, at 7 p.m. at the Emmitsburg library for a discussion of the Great Fire of 1863.

A MOUNTAIN PERSPECTIVE

Mountain Mayhem

Chelsea Baranoski

ome. When most people think of home, they think of a small brick house complete with a fireplace and a white picket fence. When I think of home, I think of Mount St. Mary's University. The Mount has become my second home over the past three years. Often, I call this small college nestled at the foot of a mountain "home" without even realizing it. When I leave the Gettysburg outlets with a group of friends, I ask if we are going "home" now. When I am in my hometown of Pasadena, MD for the summer, I talk about going "home" to help with Freshmen Orientation. Sometimes, when I am home in Pasadena, I start counting down the days until I can go back to my second home: the small private liberal arts institution in Emmitsburg. Hard to believe, I know. But, if you have ever set foot on the Mount's campus, you know "there is something about the Mount."

How can a two hundred yearold, dorm laden college campus become home, you ask? The answer is simple: the people. As I enter my senior year and think about graduation, I know that I will miss the people of Mount St. Mary's the most. I have met friends who would be willing to climb Mt. Everest to help me out. They listen to me ramble on and on about my chaotic life. They listen to me

complain about the countless papers and homework assignments I have to write. They listen to my corny exclamations, "Oh fiddlesticks!" "Gee whiz!" "Holy can of ravioli!" "You must have esp...n." And not once have they told me to stick a sock in it. They even put up with my slow eating during dinner. They have learned to wait patiently as I attempt to both talk and eat away at my chicken tenders and fries.

My college friends have shaped my experiences. I will never forget going to the Frederick County Fair with Danielle and getting Joe Nichols' autograph. Or working in the library with Kim, where we chatted about our busy lives. Or dancing the night away with Alyssa, Fallon, and Melissa at the Christmas dance. And who can forget getting lost? In Frederick, on the way to Annapolis, on the way to Cunningham Falls. I am definitely directionally challenged. I have learned never to help the driver with directions, even if I do have the directions printed out from Mapquest. My help often results in long car rides in the middle of nowhere and me freaking out in the passengers seat.

The Mount is truly a community. It is the place "where everyone knows your name." I love walking to my classes and seeing the same people over and over again. Before coming to the Mount, I had never heard the polite question, "how are you?" used with such frequency. I like it when people say "hi" to me with a friendly smile. I like it even more when the guys on campus open the door for me, even though they do not know me from class. Coming from a high school where guys let doors slam in a girl's face, this is quite an accomplishment. This is proof that chivalry is not dead.

The Mount community comes together in good times and in bad. We all celebrated when the men's basketball team made it to the "Big Dance," the NCAA tournament. Many students painted their faces blue and white and traveled down to North Carolina for the big game. Others watched the game from a crowded dorm room or from a large screen oncampus. I'll never forget watching the men's basketball team emerge from a bus carrying a golden NEC Championship trophy. A crowd of students and news reporters surged around them. A Mount St. Mary's cheer ignited, sending a wave of school spirit across cam-

We all cried and fell to our knees in prayer when we lost four students over the course of fourteen months. President Powell told us to be there for one another and that is exactly what we did. We hugged each other, consoled each other, and told each other that we had new angels watching over us. We, as the Mount community, have learned both to laugh together and to mourn together.

Besides the community atmosphere, there is one other thing that makes the Mount home: its environment. I came to the Mount from Pasadena, aka "the Dena," a suburb surrounded by numerous creeks and boats galore. I never thought I would be able to call Emmitsburg home. After all, Emmitsburg is the complete opposite of Pasadena. The only water I can find near the Mount is Cunningham Falls. Instead of water country, Emmitsburg is farm country. Cornfields abound and you can't drive far without seeing horses or cows. Yet, I have grown to love this small town, country living. I have grown to love Emmitsburg, perhaps even more so in the fall, when the mountainside becomes a wash of beet reds, burnt oranges, and golden yellows. I always need to fight the temptation to whip out my camera and take a million photographs of the scenery that so often resembles a wa-

Without the Mount, I would not have come to appreciate the beauty of the Grotto. Even though I have to climb what feels like a thousand steps to get to the pinnacle of Mary's Mountain, it is well worth the hike. The Grotto is definitely a good place to get away from the stresses of papers, tests, and presentations. It is so serene. So prayerful. So beautiful. The only sound seems to come from a gust of wind or a trickle of water or a small bird or a rustle of crisp leaves. The Grotto can serve

tercolor painting.

as a spiritual escape, a reminder that there is something greater out there watching over all of us.

Emmitsburg has introduced me to a variety of new experiences. It has introduced me to the tricky corn maze and hot apple cider. It has also introduced me to Sheetz (before going to the Mount, the only Sheetz I knew were the bed coverings). I also believe that if I never came to the Mount, I would have never regained my love for country music. I had stopped listening to country music at the end of elementary school and I did not start listening to it again until my freshman year at the Mount. A country station was one of the only stations that came in clear on my radio. Now, I have found my inner cowgirl.

I know that I am almost "home" when I see a big green sign for Cunningham Falls on the right side of the road and a golden statue of Mary on the left side. And if these two landmarks don't give the Mount away, the potent smell of fertilizer does. Even though Pasadena will always be my hometown, the Mount will always be my second home. It will always be the place I'll run to when I want to bask in memories of college and explore the Emmitsburg country-

Chelsea will be entering her Senior year next fall at the Mount majoring in English. Her column MOUNTain Mayhem will be a regular feature in the Emmitsburg News Journal.

Home is Where the heart is . .

Ananda Rochita Mount St. Mary Rhetoric and **Communications Major**

Tt is the end of my Sophomore **⊥** year, and I am currently pack ing to go to my home in San Francisco, CA. But as I am packing, I wonder to myself "What is Home?" As I shuffle through definitions online, it is defined as home to be - a place where one lives or be confident or relaxed about doing.

To be honest, I always think about my future every night before I go to bed - What will I be when I grow up, the jobs I will be holding, and especially where I would end up. However, my dreams started to change after being in Maryland.

Back in San Francisco, I always thought that I would end up living in the city and working for a fashion boutique somewhere or being a weather girl

for a TV station. But as I experience a different life outside of the city, I start noticing other things apart from the material expenses.

Family Something I didn't really think about until I came to Maryland or had ever crossed my mind. Whenever I thought about family, I would just think of my mother and father and never myself physically producing an heir to "the Rochita throne."

One of my golf teammates from Mount Saint Mary's recently just got engaged and moved back to Tennessee. And sometimes I think ... maybe it would be nice to have a family one day and perhaps be a mother to a dozen golfers or little soccer players running around.

Also, being so far away from home and with the rising prices of airplane tickets, I have had the opportunity to stay with close friends for the holidays

and see how their families celebrate Thanksgiving and Easter in Maryland. I never was used to the idea of "family dinner," where the whole family gathered together to enjoy each others company and engaging in small talk. Most of my friends in San Francisco had parents, like mine, that travel for work frequently and thus, us children, became independent and enjoy the internet and a meal provided by Betty Crocker.

I have been brought up to remain close to my family (who are currently 3,000 miles away from Maryland). I am thankful of the opportunity to be able to go to school so far away from home. But it has made me question whether to stay in Maryland or to go back to San Francisco.

As I debate this I go back to the definition of home -where one lives to be confident of.

I can honestly say I have changed so much from being away from family and just being at school in Emmitsburg. It is nice going to Jubilee in Em-I know from school and also seeing other townspeople being so friendly to the people inside, something I am not used to from back home. I've also had the opportunity of meeting so many people from going to school at the Mount that are some of the kindliest people that I have ever met and could never let go.

Being here, in Maryland, I have also done things I have never done back home. I help out at homeless shelters, in Student Government, and an Assistant News Editor/ Web Editor for my school newspaper. I have completely branched out and become a completely different person then the big city girl a couple of years back.

As I do call San Francisco my "home", I've come to realize that it actually is not. It is weird how so much clarity has possessed my mind these past mitsburg and seeing people that two years in Maryland and to see a world outside of the fashion and rush of the city. From being in Emmitsburg these past two years, I have come to not depend on material things as much and have thus appreciated things I never looked at such as family and even the beauty of all the seasons.

> And sometimes, even though I know I would want to go back to San Francisco, perhaps maybe (depending on where my path takes me) Maryland is where I will call home very soon.

Ananda Rochita is a Rhetoric and Communications major at Mount St. Mary and will be a regular contributor to the Emmitsburg News-Journal.

A MOUNTAIN PERSPECTIVE

The Forgotten Game

Justin Courtney Mount St. Mary

n Thursday, March 6, 2009, the sun was shining bright and a cool, gentle breeze was swirling around the baseball diamond on the campus of Mount St. Mary's University. A sign that reads "E.T. Straw Family Stadium" glistened in the rays, seemingly enticing anyone in the area to enter the small, yet comfortable stands behind home plate.

On the field, players had begun to go through their normal pre-game routines as some elected to jog around the edge of the outfield fence, while others warmed up their arms playing catch. There was nothing abnormal or special about the game that was about to begin, just a simple baseball game between the Mount and George Washington University.

At 3:37 p.m., the "pop!" of the first pitch hitting the catcher's mitt was heard, and the game had begun. What many Emmitsburg locals and Mounties don't know, however, is that baseball has a rich tradition at the Mount.

As Emmitsburg is a small community, one would think that some families would venture out to see a baseball game, and a free one at that. Interestingly, though, no Emmitsburg residents were present at the game.

Maybe baseball is not a favorite among locals, or maybe many residents just simply don't care, and who could blame them? After all, the team gets very little publicity and Emmitsburg isn't necessarily a hotbed for baseball. Most Mount sporting news tends to come from the basketball team, which recently has been very successful.

When the Mount's basketball team made it to the NCAA tournament last year, for example, the entire town seemed to be buzzing about the news. Emmitsburg residents and Mount students alike celebrated together at the Ott House to witness the "little school that couldn't" take on the mighty North Carolina Tar Heels.

There may not have been a single person who believed the Mount would win, but everyone knew the Mouncoach in Jim Phelan and going to the tournament last year, people just hear about it more."

Surely, the basketball program at the Mount is more widely known and recognized than the baseball team. Most people would prefer the loud, intense atmosphere of the Knott Arena to a long and slow-paced game of baseball on the back side of campus.

What the basketball team has

for Cleveland. Don Costello, who graduated in 1914, played for the New York Yankees in 1913 and the Pittsburgh Pirates in 1914-1916.

Even the Great Bambino himself, Babe Ruth, took some swings on the Mount's Echo Field. Ruth visited the school in 1921 and put on a hitting demonstration for players and students alike. In fact, pictures of his visit can be found



Catcher Kyle Lane headed for third at a recent game

university, and that was all that was ever asked of the players that day.

The question that remains, then, is why do more people, especially Emmitsburg residents, not know about the baseball team?

"I just think more locals like the basketball team because they hear about it more," said 20-year Emmitsburg resident Charles Garbar. "Especially with a Hall of Fame done in recent years has been great to witness, but there is a rich and long history to the baseball team as well, a history that few know about and a history that Emmitsburg locals and Mounties would be proud to know.

In 2007, for example, the Mount Saint Mary's baseball team celebrated its 125th anniversary. The first baseball game in school history was played in 1882 against Pennsylvania College, which later was named Gettysburg College. Unfortunately, the records from this game have been lost, so the final score will forever remain a mystery.

None-the-less, baseball in those times was a very popular sport. Crowds at Mount games could be as high as 1,000 fans, which is only 500 short of the school's current enrollment. Though the team endured periods of mediocrity through the years, it also enjoyed great success. In the 1890's, for instance, the team went 29-6 and posted an 81-40 record in the 1920's.

Several of the players from around these periods went on to have successful careers in Major League Baseball. John Chapman played for the Philadelphia A's in 1924 and Ed Edelen played for the Washington Senators in 1932.

Joe Engel, who was a member of the class of 1911, had a Major League career that spanned from 1912 to 1920. He played for the Senators and the Cincinnati Reds. He also pitched one game

at the Archives Office on campus.

In recent years, several Mount players have been drafted by Major League Baseball teams. Ivor Hudson, for example, was drafted by the Kansas City Royals in 2007 and is doing well in the team's minor league system. Pitcher Dustin Pease was also signed, as an undrafted free agent, by the Royals last year.

Apparently the Royals like Mount graduates because they drafted Brian Santo in 2003, and Mike Gioioso was drafted by the Baltimore Orioles in 2007.

As for competition, the team plays in the Northeast Conference, which is Division 1. Schools that the Mount has competed against range from Miami, Villanova, Bucknell and Penn State. Regular conference competitors include Fairleigh Dickinson, Wagner and Monmouth.

After joining the NEC conference, the Mount struggled to win a consistent basis as it failed to compete for the conference title for several years. Recently, though, the team has made a strong comeback and is very competitive.

Last year, for example, the team won its first NEC Championship when it defeated rival Monmouth twice in the final round of the conference tournament. Head coach Scott Thompson, during the same tournament, earned his 200th victory

when the Mount defeated Wagner in the semi-finals on May 23rd.

Mount Picture

Mike Matta

Coach Thompson deserves much of the credit for the team's recent success. "Coach Thompson has built the Mount's baseball team into an annual contender in the Northeast Conference," said Mount St. Mary's Sports Information Director Mark Vandergrift. "With the success in recent years, coupled with the great facility in Straw Family Stadium, the baseball program definitely has a bright future ahead."

With such recent success, expectations are high for this season. Tom Flynn, a writer for the Navy Midshipmen Examiner, lists Mount Saint Mary's as the fifth best baseball team in Maryland this year, placing them behind only Maryland, Towson, Navy and UMBC. The team is starting to get attention.

Though it might not yet receive the recognition that the basketball team does here in town, there is still a great deal of history, pride, and tradition on the line when the team takes the field.

"We just want to win, and we are doing that," said senior catcher Ryan Stamp. "We aren't the most popular team around, but we would love to see more Emmitsburg residents and students watch our games because Emmitsburg is part of us, and we are part of it."

What few locals and Mount students have noticed, however, is that there are potential MLB stars on that field, and if there aren't, there is a good team that is a great deal of fun to watch.

Editor's Note: Justin Courtney is a Senior at Mount St. Mary's University. During his four years he has gotten to know many Emmitsburg residents. We look forward to his sharing his perspective as a Mount student.

Justin Courtney graduated this year from Mount Saint Mary's University. We look forward to him being on the staff of the News-Journal and sharing his perspective on Mount



STAGES OF LIFE

Should the government rate music?

Vicki Moser

Tmagine your friend told you at school to look up a particular band. When you got home, you found the band and listened to some of their music. When you played the music for your parents, they enjoyed the music as much as you did. There were a few curse words in the lyrics, but your guardians gave you the permission to buy the CD anyway. The next day, you went to the store to get the disk, but the person at the register said that you couldn't purchase the disk because you were too young; the language was too explicit. Even though your parents agreed to let you get the disk, you still aren't permitted by the government to buy it. Should the government rate music? NO!

The government should not rate music because artists have the right to express what they think and how they feel. If the government rates music, it will be violating the First Amendment. The First Amendment states that we have freedom of speech. Beyond general issues of freedom of speech, censorship also often targets specific groups or races. These often include African-Americans and Hispanics rather than Caucasians. To add to that, if the government begins to rate music, who knows what will be next? Books and artwork may be next. Therefore, artists will have no reason to write down their feelings or ideas because no one will be allowed to listen, read, or look at them.

Furthermore, kids in general are also an issue. If censorship in music becomes law, no one knows how it will affect children who aren't yet allowed to vote. For some music is a very important part of life, and they will do anything to listen to it. Regardless of the lyrics, because some people only listen to the instrumental part of the music. I have heard it said, "Rock music is sex. The beat matches the body's rhythms."

This is not true. All music is beautiful. I believe, the real problem adults have with the music is the lyrics. They may believe that kids have sex and use violence as a 'result' of the music they listen. However they often already have these ideas on their mind or have been exposed to such things. The children probably would have done these things with or without the influence any music.

Perhaps most important to this issue is that parents need to step up to the plate and be parents. Parents need to monitor what their children are listening to not the government. They also need to 'lay down the law' and discuss right and wrong with their children. They need to tell their children what they can and cannot listen to. Adults need to discuss with their children that music isn't there to change their beliefs or pressure them into thinking certain ideas are okay. They need to make sure their children understand everything they are saying in regaurds to the type of music they listen to.

And last we must remember that censorship cuts both ways. Once government steps in they can then censor all music-rap country, rock ,and even Christian. Are we ready to take the consequences this will result in?

So, should the government rate music? NO! Our kids may be in danger if the government rates music. Most importantly, censorship is a violation of the First Amendment. Parents need to step up too! If we begin rating music, who knows what will happen in the future?

A Teen's View Dealing with Failure

April Hildebrand

The equestrian sport of combined training, or 'Eventing,' traces its origin to the days when each country depended upon the cavalry in battle and horses were a vital part of the Army. Friendly boasting at the end of a day's campaign as to the relative courage, speed, and stamina of particular horses evolved into a series of tests to prove these claims. Eventing, like in track and field's decathlon, represents the ultimate in testing the all-around skill of an athlete.

In equestrian sport, combined training is considered the ultimate test. This competition encompasses three separate tests (hence, its name): dressage, endurance, and show-jumping. Each is scored individually but added together for the final score. Unlike other sports where only the human will and body are working against the clock, in combined training, two minds and bodies have to work as one, and a true partnership between horse and rider is necessary

A few weeks ago, I was eliminated at an event with my horse, Tango. I went from blue and red ribbons the previous weeks to not even in the top ten. So, first I had to discover what the problem was. Was her back hurting? Was something wrong with her? Or, was it

The first thing my coach said to me was, "don't worry about it." How was I not supposed to worry? The first step in handling failure for most people is to worry or make excuses. "Well, it was raining. I was cold. I was hungry. Her back could have been hurting. Tango doesn't like the rain... excuse, excuse, excuse!" So, yes, I made excuses, but who doesn't when dealing with failure? It's a natural human reaction and it's a social inhibition. And it actually helped relieve some of the stress so not all the fingers were point-

Once I was done with the excuses, I had to make a decision. Should I change something, or do I continue down the same path and hope it takes a turn for the better? I decided I needed to make a change. It was time to stop blaming everything except myself. I decided it was a psychological issue because my mind was not in the right frame and I needed determination to change my mind.

My horse was not the one with the problem. I was the one with the problem. "You didn't have the eye of the tiger," my coach said. In other words, I didn't have the mindset to get the job done. I had entered the ring with a careless attitude and didn't have any determination in my eyes. "I am no longer your riding coach. I am your psychiatrist," Mike said. He knew he needed to get me to get my head in the game, or head in the competition in this case.

The second step in handling failure is establishing or re-establishing goals and ambitions. I needed to ask myself what exactly I wanted to accomplish and why. If I didn't know why, then my heart wouldn't know why either and wouldn't have any desire to continue. The third step was recognition. Failure is temporary. I asked myself, "Am I going to get eliminated every single time from here on?" No. So, I didn't let it stress me out and drag me down on a day to day basis. For me, step four was to go back to square one. No one wants to go in reverse, but re-establishing the basic skills or knowledge was a great way to gain back lost confidence. Step five: I asked other people for help. I tried to gain some knowledge from them and listen to



April Hildebrand

their advice and try it. Then, I reassured myself of all previous successes which was a great way to build back up self-esteem. I looked at it this way: I had been in four competitions in the last six months, in three of which I got first or second place. The world is not looking at me saying, "Oh my, what a horrible rider. She can't even get through the course." They are saying, "She placed every other time. Today is just not her day."

Next? Practice makes perfect! Or, better, in this case. The best way for me to overcome a failure is to practice. If I fail a test? I study harder and longer. My co-worker gets the promotion? I make myself standout above that person in other ways than I may have already tried. Once the feeling of confidence had completely returned and determination had set in my mind, I was ready to re-face the challenge. Whether it's a completely different challenge or the same one as I previously failed, my mindset should be right where it needs to be and this will allow me to be successful.

Failure is certainly not an easy obstacle to overcome. Not only does it lower our ego but it directly affects our sense of identity with the world. It makes us feel unsatisfied with who we are. But if we learn to deal with it and analyze it for ways we can improve, it will not affect our daily lifestyle. The fact is, everyone fails--maybe only once, or maybe a hundred times. Everything in life is about learning from mistakes and being happy. So don't dwell on failure, rise

To read other articles by April, visit the Author's Section of Emmits-



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STAGES OF LIFE

Parenting by Zenas: Play Ball!

June—The Character building for the month is Fidelity & Chastity –being faithful to our duties and obligations while being pure in character. The Activity for the month is Celebration, and with summer vacation on the way, there is plenty to celebrate!

AND THE FIRST PITCH ...

Tomes in just a little low and ✓to the outside . . "Ball One" shouts the umpire! The batter pauses, knocks some dirt from the spikes on his left shoe, gazes over at his coach sitting in the dugout, nods, then looks down the left base line. Next pitch is a bit high, "Ball Two". A fast ball stings into the catchers' mitt. "Stiiiiiroick One" announces the ump. The next pitch is knocked foul down the third base line, into the stands to be caught by the fans. Two and two is the count. The pitcher lowers his head, gazing at the runner on first, then back to the catcher. After a pause, he nods in agreement with the catcher, takes his wind up and delivers a smoking curve ball. WHOOOSH, swings the batter. "STIIIIROICK THREEEEEE", loudly claims the umpire for the last time of the game. With his gaze toward the dirt, a bit of frustration and sorely disappointed, the batter heads to the dugout. "Nice try", says his coach and teammates. The pitcher, on the other hand, briskly runs over to his dugout to the cheers and celebratory chants and pats on the back from his coach and teammates.

What really just happened? Two teams met on the field to play a game of baseball. The pitcher was having a better day than the batter, as was the case throughout most of the game. In the end, the pitchers team won, and the batters team lost. Or, the pitcher, and his team, had an outcome he,(they), could celebrate, while the batters team had an outcome he, (they) were was less than satisfied with. Yet it took both the pitcher and the batter to play the game. Without two teams, there just couldn't have been a baseball game. Or for that matter a soccer game, lacrosse game, football game, you name the game and if there weren't two of them, there wouldn't be a game.

But you say that winning is everything . . .

Or is it? As a parent I am way more interested knowing that my kids are showing up at practice on a regular basis and coming home exhausted from the days practice,

than I am at how well they hit the ball while playing the game. Should they have a real interest in the game they choose to play, then it is only natural that their game ought to get better over time. Practice usually leads to better skills, which in turn leads to a better player. In most types of games, there is going to be one of the teams that has adequately prepared and one that has not. And the outcome is either going to be satisfying, or not, depending on how much preparation each of the teams underwent.

Some of my biggest thrills of raising five kids was to watch as they failed. Now don't get me wrong, it wasn't fun. I tend to be one of those very competitive types (but not the parent who has no voice after the game!) and want to see my kids win at whatever it is they are doing. Ok, not win, but play their best. No, really, I didn't care if they won or lost, I just wanted to see them play their hearts out and have fun in the process!

I must digress for a moment. Just what is it about my wanting my kids to win that gets me so worked up? Maybe it's a learned trait, one that got drilled into me during my youth. It certainly couldn't have come from my parents raising me. They hardly ever came to cheer on my teams activities. And when it came to other things in life, they were rather non-committal, saying "oh yes, you did just fine". Perhaps it was hanging out with my friends who were constantly cheering on the winners, and ignoring those who lost. Deep down I would much rather hit a home run than get walked, or hit a single. Getting stuck out or hitting a shallow pop fly? Ouch. Most of the time it simply showed that I hadn't been practicing as hard as perhaps I could have.

Failure is an outcome . . . we learn from it.

There is a real thrill when we not only meet someone's expectations, but we exceed them. I have written before about the need for parents to nurture their children's "God given talents". Our number one job here on earth is assist our children in finding out just what that "talent" is! Rare is the child who starts out at a young age with an interest that stays with them throughout their adult years. More common is the child that attempts many things and finds out that some of them are really fun, while others are kinda boring. The boring items find their way into the minds attic (memory loss!), while the really fun things stay with the kids for years to come.

Failure is important! Simple failures like missing a fast ball tell us that we aren't paying attention to the speed of the pitch! Or, they tell us we haven't practiced against a pitcher that could throw that fast! If the batter has difficulty hitting any pitches, then perhaps its time to try a different game. Not everyone is going to be good at baseball.

A little sole sharing here! As a fifth and sixth grader, my friends and I spent every afternoon up at the corner lot playing pick up games of baseball. It really didn't matter how many kids showed up, as long as two kids came, we played ball! Fast forward to 8th grade. Once again at the corner lot. Two kids showed up, I was the batter. The pitch came in, a fast one, aimed right at my forehead. Duck was the smart

action. Not for me, I needed to see what getting hit in the head by a fastball felt like! At the moment of impact I realized my skill set wasn't in making quick decisions! Instead I enjoy plodding along, building up my information bank and then I make a decision. I ran cross country in high school, finding it far easier to pass out from the lack of oxygen than to risk getting my head pinged by fast thrown hard objects!

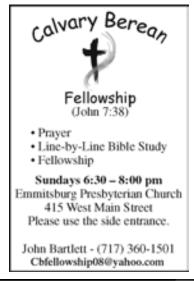
But back to watching our five kids fail while they were being raised! When our own children failed, we were usually given the opportunity to help keep them from getting hit over and over again by a fast ball! The reality was the failure meant it was time to move onto something else. The celebration was in knowing we were one small step closer to what they were really good at! And in case you are wondering, no, it didn't feel like cause to celebrate back then, but it did feel like it once they were grown. The celebration was in getting up, dusting off their hat and getting on with what came next. The celebration was knowing that when they did fail, they would either focus on getting better or pick something else to work on.

Life is a fast paced game. Being good at what you do gives you a competitive advantage over someone else competing for the same resources. That advantage is the difference between getting an A on a math test, or just settling for something less. That advantage is the difference between having a college really wanting you to attend (and paying you to be there), or having several colleges to select from to attend. That advantage is the difference between being asking to take a job, instead of having to accept why, "there is no opening at this time".

Summers here, celebrate your wins and losses, then get outside and go play some ball and remember it really doesn't matter if you win or lose, only that you played, did your best and learned from it!

To read past Parenting articles by Zenas Sikes, Visit the Author's Section of Emmitsburg.net







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JOURNAL

DOWN UNDER!

Lindsay, Melbourne, Australia!

ustralia is about as far away from Australia is about as iai away ironi Other European settlement as you can get. 13,000 miles from England, 3-4 months by sailboat meant that in the beginning, new arrivals hankered after things that were almost unobtainable. Fashions and philosophies, music, art and theatre - all remained bound by the ideas brought in by the settlers, which were mostly simple and naïve. Trade and commerce prospered, but entertainments were largely of the 'folk' variety, and foreign musicians who happened to chance on these shores were guaranteed a sellout box

But many talented artists did arrive —some unwillingly—en-riching the cultural life of the free settlers. Harpist Nicolas Bochsa wowed his Sydney audiences until his death by duel in 1856; Irish born Ms Lola Montez (Eliza Gilbert) shocked

Victorian morality but wowed the miners. (She died age 39, and is buried at Greenwood cemetery in Brooklyn). The list is long, but a strange belief emerged - that we had no talent among our own. If some emerged it was ridiculed to oblivion, or it went overseas, and finally it was named "The cultural cringe." The cringe was alive and well right to end of the Second World War, and to some extent it was the belief by Hollywood that Australia had vast untapped talent that finally closed that chapter.

Now I want to tell you a story. My father was the youngest of nine, the only one born in Australia. The rest came from a 'resort' (read grey and cold) in north Wales. My grandmother was a very fine pianist, and accompanied the famed Nellie Melba on one or more Australian tours. She was also the first pianist to perform in the Melbourne town hall, a high honour indeed. Her musical talent was handed down to her eldest son, Leonard, who was first flute in the Sydney Symphony Orchestra for many years, being vanquished by pyorrhea, and you cannot play flute sans teeth. The rest were Welsh, so they sang.

Now I never knew my grandmother, but her eldest daughter, Gwendolyn, carried on the tradition. They lived in a seaside resort south of Melbourne, and when I was 12 we went there for a celebration of some kind. After an enormous lunch I was marched to the music room. "You are going to sing for me." Not a request. "I can't sing, Auntie Gwen. They even asked me not to sing in the Sunday school choir."

"Yes you can. The heritage, my boy. You can't escape it. Here, let's try this." And I was handed the music for 'Where ere you walk.' It took 10 minutes for me to approximate middle C and another 10 before I was reduced to tears and my aunt to fury. Flinging the door open, she bellowed "Wilfred?" (for that my father's given name). He duly appeared looking alarmed, and asked what the matter was.

"This child cannot sing! Are you sure he's yours?" No doubt there was recrimination all round, but I escaped to play with my cousins. Of course she already knew I was doing quite well with my piano studies, but an 80 year-old dragon can't easily change its fire. And music has been much of my life. No, I was never good enough to go places, even though I changed to clarinet then to oboe, but I've had so much fun playing in orchestras of all kind, chamber groups, composing, and writing about music-and for the past 12 years broadcasting on community radio 3MBS. (www.3mbs.org.au). This has led me to appreciate just how far the cringe has been reversed, because Australian musicians, ballet dancers, conductors, actors, music theatre stars, song writers,

jazz supremos, folkies,-even, god forgive us, rock stars—are so well known around the world that now we are really proud to be the home of such talent.

Our school choirs have recently won awards in Canada and Asia, a piano trio won an international competition last year, and the list of high achievers is too long to mention. Nowadays we don't force them to gain recognition overseas, overseas begs them to come.

And why not? Music is all about emotion, and our artists seem to have the uncanny ability to get to the emotional heart of nearly all great music. I have just finished listening to the Flinders quartet (local maestros) playing Beethoven's string quartet no 2. I'm still in tears. Music is like that. Music lovers everywhere know that. It's why it will never die. Good music is life, love and happiness.

To read other Articles by Lindsay, visit the Author's Section of Emmitsburg.net.

My Perspective in Common Sense

Or ... I would take twice the beating for half of the money

Shannon Bohrer

Tears ago an incident occurred in **I** which a man was resisting arrest and was beaten by police and while the event was unfolding someone was video recording taping it. The event became national news and the officers were charged with assault and battery. After a criminal trial in which the officers were found not guilty, there was a civil trial in which the individual receiving the beating was awarded a very large sum of money. At that time, I remember thinking that I would take twice the beating for just half the money. It was a lot of money. I don't believe the man deserved the beating -

From my perspective, how much compensation an individual receives should be related to how much they accomplish - the old idea of being paid for your work. I believe most people agree with the idea of fair compensation, the question then becomes; "what is fair?"

There are many jobs in our society that I could do for half the money and there are many jobs I would not do for twice the money. Any job with the word "metaphysical" in the position description is not something for which I would be suited. We all have our strengths and weaknesses and I would prefer to focus on my strengths and while others can focus on my weaknesses. How many good-paying jobs are out there that you know you could do,

that pay more than your current job? In fact, I believe many people could perform many jobs for half and even less, and would still be earning very good money. I am talking about the financial mess that exists in our banking and investment industry. When a president of a corporation makes millions each year and the company goes broke and needs a federal bailout, something is not right. I know I could bankrupt a company for half the salary - maybe even a little less. My wife stated that she believes my management skills are just what some of these corporations need, so I think she agrees with me. She mumbled something about my skills and losing money farming. She was walking away so I don't think I heard everything. Of course she often tells me that. I think that is one of my weaknesses.

The public outcry over bonuses given out by these financial firms is also very puzzling. Listening to the interviews is like being in the "Twilight Zone." The usual response from these companies is that they have to give bonuses to the "best and brightest," or the people will go to another firm. If I had a business and it lost millions, or billions, I think I would want my "best and brightest" to go to work for my competitors. It's only common sense, and in fact I would encourage it. Again, I and many of you could do the work of these top managers for half of the money - and we could skip the bonuses. Ultimately we would be saving the companies millions of

This is a serious issue and since the new president has requested that we all should be involved I have been giving this some serious thought. What I have focused on is how can these large corporations make money? Think about it, if they make money the financial crisis may go away. Additionally, we, the tax payers, will not have to bail out the companies that are going broke. It is strange when you think about the word "bailout." As a former police officer, I used to lock people up and they often got bailed out. Of course I did not have to pay to have them bailed out. It's not the same thing, but I think there might be a connection there somewhere.

The question is if the "smart" people that run the corporations are bankrupting those corporations, are there smarter people who could save those same corporations? The answer is ves. I would offer as a suggestion to the Congress that there are smarter people. In the United States of America there is a very large segment of our population that knows everything, such as high school seniors, plus a few in lower grades. A few even retain this intelligence after high school. Someone once said that we should take everyone out of high school and employ them in the largest corporations, while they still know everything. I think this is the

seniors out of high school, there would not be a teacher shortage. We would have all of the classrooms and teachers we need. We would need fewer school buses and the morning commutes would be shorter. Think of the money the parents could save: little Dick or Jane would be earning their own money, paying their own rent. This would be like a tax break for parents.

I know that some of you are saying; is this guy real? Think about it, do you think you or the people you know (even high school seniors) could do any worse? Currently, there only seems to be one group in our society that is below the CEO's in intelligence, and that's the people giving them the money! Of course since we elected them, one could make an argument that—never mind.

In one large company (actually more than one) that received billions in bailout money, it was announced that they were going to pay bonuses in the millions! It was explained that the executives had contracts that the companies have to honor. The question you may be asking is, if the U.S. government did not bail them out, they would be broke - therefore No Bonuses! It's not metaphysical —it's common sense. Another reason cited is that the individuals receiving the bonuses are the ones that understand the complicated fiscal securities that the companies

If we took a large number of the hold; therefore they are needed to correct them. However - if the same individuals that created the problem assets are retained supposedly to correct them - I think we might be rewarding poor behavior. If I hired a fox to watch my chickens - and then gave the fox a shotgun, I think the fox would use all of the ammunition and then ask for more. Maybe I should not hire the fox?

> The suggestions that I have offered may not be the answer, but I do not think they are any worse than some of the solutions already in place. Seriously, we are a government of the people, by the people and for the people, so we should all get involved. I would encourage everyone to put thinking caps on, study the facts the issues and the players and read what the experts are saying. And if that doesn't scare you, you may not have a sense of humor. It would be serious - if it were not so funny. And in the end, if these corporations cannot make money when being run by people that know everything, then we might be in trouble.

Final thoughts;

"The budget should be balanced; the treasury should be refilled; public dept should be reduced; and the arrogance of public officials should be controlled." Cicero. 106-43 BC.

TRAVELS WITH HARRY: My First Cross Country Trip

Harry Au

My pet, Katherine, was talk-ing to one of her friends on the phone when she decided to move us across country from Virginia to California. I was lying on the carpet after a long day of chasing mice, avoiding being stepped on by horses, and eating grass and manure when she said we would make the move. I wasn't sure what moving across county entailed, but I started to find out soon.

We first left the farm we were living on and went to her parent's house, so my pet could get us organized for the move. Katherine got her car serviced, checked the tires, and started loading all that would fit in her car and in the cloth car-top contraption. Her father announced he was coming along for the ride, and she grumbled a bit to her parents in front of me about losing a whole seat to pack things on, but then later when she was with me alone she admitted she was glad 'grandpa' was coming because she was a bit nervous about the trip. I thought it might be a good idea to be nervous like her; but, she scratched my head, rubbed my ears and cheeks the way she does to get me to relax, and I believed it all would be okay like she said.

My pet, her father, and I set off early one morning from New Castle, Virginia, in July. We were headed to Dinosaur Point, California. Her father and I both learned later that day that she hadn't even bothered to look and see exactly where Dinosaur Point is in California. Luckily, we had a few days before we were to reach it, and she knew it was somewhere around Santa Cruz. This admission on her part came after her father announced he couldn't find Dinosaur Point on the map, and as he was navigator, this made him a bit concerned. Katherine said not to worry, although I'm not sure her father believed her, but I did, so we continued on – she and I not worrying about where our destination actually was located.

We each had specific seat assignments for the trip. My pet sat in the driver's seat, her father in the seat next to her in the front. Both of them were surrounded wherever possible by objects. She had less around her as she needed to have the space around her feet free to operate the petals. Her father's legs were wedged in by a small cooler, maps, and other odds and ends. I was in the backseat, which wasn't unusual, but I had



no room to move around, which was both unusual and undesirable. If I stood up I hit the rope above my head in the backseat. If I lay down or stood up to change positions I wobbled precariously on my perched spot on my bed set upon a box that was wedged in with other bags and smaller boxes. Both the front and back windows had to be cracked open so the rope tying the cloth car-top bag atop the roof could hold the car-top in place. I liked having the windows cracked for the rope as I got to smell the smells in the air everywhere we went, but I don't think my pet or her father enjoyed the rope constantly hitting their heads every day while my pet drove.

The first night we stayed outside of St. Louis. The next night we made it to Denver, and the day after we stopped at Vale. The air felt like it was fall in Virginia - crisp and cool with barely any humidity. I was hoping my pet would find one of my lighter blankets, but we went on a walk instead and that warmed me up so I could enjoy the sights of the biggest mountains I had ever seen. That was The Rockies. I enjoyed my walk and peed on everything I could. We then went to the Northern Rim of the Grand Canyon. I wasn't allowed on the walking paths, but I did get to get out and smell all around when one of the tires went flat and my pet had to unload everything in the trunk to get to the spare. I took it upon myself to guard all the items by the car, and I have to say I did a good job because everything made it back in when it was time to put the stuff back. We then made our way around the perimeter of Las Vegas and to Hoover Dam. I wasn't allowed to

go on the dam and my pet alternated with her father staying with me to keep the air conditioning running since it was over 100 degrees. We then finally made our way into California and went to see the Redwoods. I love marking any tree I can find, but even I was a bit daunted by the sheer size of most of the trees we encountered. After about six days traveling, we made it to our destination, Dinosaur Point, up on a mountain in what seemed like the middle of nowhere.

It was at Dinosaur Point that I learned about coyotes and how not to go and play with them. I also learned that wild boars are not to be trusted and may charge if encountered. I discovered that Mountain Lions look much bigger, even from a very great distance, than the cats I had met during my life. And, I learned that tarantulas may have no qualms about crawling into a bedroom and when that happens my pet will scream when she wakes up to one crawling on the wall near her

pillow. Dinosaur Point was a very exciting place to live.

It would take way too long to tell you about all of my time in CA for the three years I lived there with Katherine. I moved with my pet six times in those years. One place burned down one morning while we were out, and we came home to firemen lingering around what was left of the house we shared with others. We were lucky as most of our stuff wasn't burned since we lived downstairs, but I didn't like it that everything of mine was

wet and all my toys smelled like watered down ash. After that we moved onto a farm with horse poop for me to eat, fields for me to roll in, and trails for me to run on with her when she rode her friend's horses with them. We lived in two places on that farm for about a year. I got to see as far as my eyes could see the Pacific playing with the last rays of the sun as it set one time when I ran up the trails, and even though I'd played in the Pacific already, that time I was off a leash and could sniff and pee to my heart's content as I went back down the trail -I wasn't allowed to do that on the beach too often. It was soon after that when my pet told me we were heading back to the East so she could enroll in Graduate School. But, that trip is another story for later.

Until then, I remain your Jack Russell/Bassett Hound friend, Harry.

Katherine Au is a 1998 graduate of Mount St. Marys where she received degrees in English and History and is Assistant Editor of the Emmitsburg News-Journal. Katherine and her dog Harry currently call Middleburg, Virginia home.

To read other articles by Katherine Au, visit the Author's Section of Emmitsburg.net.





THE OLD TENANT HOUSE

'You'll need to move your house back 45 feet..."

Michael Hillman

or most homeowner, proba-**P** bly one of the most important, yet most confusing and frustrating parts any renovation is obtaining the necessary permits. Fortunately, most contractors, like Rockley's Plumbing and Heating, are more then happy to relative the homeowner of that burden, and pull all the necessary permits and deal with the inspectors themselves.

Likewise, my architect filed the paper work for the necessary building permits. While I didn't expect to run into any problem, I nevertheless confined my renovation actives to pulling down old plaster until the permits were issued. Needless to say I was shocked to receive a letter at the end of the allotted review period that the plans for the renovation had been rejected by the county.

The reason for the rejection was the proposed addition to the kitchen did not meet the required 65 feet setback from the center of the road. Now at first blush, this might not sound like a big issue, but when you take into account the kitchen is at the rear of the house, the fairest part of the house from the road, suddenly my dilemma becomes clear.

Like many old homes built in the 1800s, my house was built right next to the road. Our front door is only 24 feet from the edge of the road. Given it's a quiet back road, being close to the road has never been a problem, until now that is!

Unfortunately, when the county updated their building codes a few years back, in which they required all new construction to be set back 65 feet from the center of the road, they failed to grandfather in exclusions for pre-existing homes that sat close to the road like mine.

When I enquired about an exemption, I was told that normally it would be considered, but a prerequisite for an exemption was that the house had to be in compliance with the current code! So in short, I was told that if I wanted to build and addition to the kitchen, I had to fist move the whole house 45 feet back to bring it into compliance with the existing code! Needless to say this idea didn't go over well with anyone

Once again the resourceful Joe Wivell came to my rescue. With a tape measure in hand, we measured the distance from the center of the road to the addition, which was located on the North-West corner of the house. It was 56 feet. So if the addition was to work, I had to eliminate nine feet. The first five feet was easy. The part of the addition closest to the road was a five foot bathroom. Joe Wivell and Joe Reckly suggested moving it into the main part of the house. Now we just had to find four more feet.

Moving the addition back four feet was out of the question, as we were limited by the presence of a lovely old English Walnut tree that neither my wife or I were willing to see sacrificed. Every year it produced a bumper crop of the most mouth-watering walnuts one can imagine. As it was, we were going to have to cut one of its four main roots, moving the addition back four feet would have meant cutting it down completely. So another option had to be found.

'Ok Mike, here is what I want you to do." Said Joe. "Go down to the permit office and ask if you can put in a bay-window into a wall 65 feet from the road. If they say yes, then they are measuring the 65 feet to the road from the foundation of the house, not a part of the house. If they say you can, ask how much the bay window can 'project' out over the foundation. I think the maximum is four feet. If it is, asks the county if you can build your foundation at 65 feet and 'project' the addition the extra four feet in the direction of the road just like a bay window would."

With nothing to lose, I headed down to the permit office and followed Joe's directions. The questions stumped the front desk help, and I soon found myself in front of the chief of permitting. "Yep, you can project four feet over a foundation as long as foundation is 65 feet from the road ... so if you want to fax in the changes to me directly I'll approve the permits and you can start work tomorrow!"

Within am hour, my architect, Eric Jaranve of Fairfield, had modified the plans, and that evening, I got a call from the permitting office the plans had been approved and my permits were in the mail. "Go ahead and start," I was told, "and have fun. It looks like a beautiful addition." Less then 24 hours had passed since I had received the original rejection notice. Which only goes to prove what Joe Wivell kept telling me ... "If you're honest with the county and try to work with them they'll bend over backwards to work with you." He was right.

While I be the first to admit, I downed more then my fair share of Rolaids that day, in the end, the changes we made to the addition to meet the code requirements resulted in a much more appealing design for the addition. Instead on an unflattering twelve foot wall projecting 90 degree from the main part of the house, now we had two 45 degree walls that matched perfectly the two ending walls at far end of the addition.



Problem solved: Foundation moved back four feet and part of the addition converted into a 'architectural projection.

In addition, the movement of the bathroom into the house allowed what was going to be a windowless wall to now be all windows, which has 'made' the plant room!

Knowing that the permits were in the mail, it was time to line up the material and contractors. For materials I turned to Mark Zurgables. Sure I could have saved a few bucks by going to a lumber yard, but having dealt with Mark on a recent run-in shed for my horses, I was impressed by his willingness to match prices, not to mention the quality of the wood he provided. He didn't let me down. Besides having the ability to call up Mark at 5:58, minutes before he closed, and ask him to leave out twelve 2x4s was worth its weight in gold! Over the next twelve months I would spend so much time at Zurgable Brothers, I felt my truck could steer its own way over there.

When it came to the plumbing in the house, and the new heating system, I turned to the Joe Reckley, whose father's old 4 digit phone number still graced the house's existing 50 year old boiler.

As I was not interested in having a propane tank outside my houses, I was stuck with going with a oil heating system again.

"OK Mike, do you want estimates for the plumbing and heating work?"

"Estimates?" I asked. 'Joe, you've been taking care of our heating and plumbing needs for 18 years now. If you were going to cheat me you would have done that a long time ago. No I don't need any estimates, you long ago proved yourself, just get what you need and do the work." Joe and I signed no paperwork, he didn't ask for any money in advance. All we did was shake hands, just as I suspect his father did with Mr. Bollinger when he put in the original boiler 50 years back. When you deal with craftsman from Emmitsburg, a hand shake is as good as any legal document, and in my mind, far more preferable.

For the kitchen cabinets we turned to Brian Reaver, and like Joe Reckly, we rejected his offer for an estimate. Having seen his work, my wife and I had long ago decided we wanted his craftsmanship in our kitchen. Every day when walk into the now finished kitchen we are reminded why we thought him best of the best, not to mention, he proved to cost only a fraction of what other custom cabinet manufactures cost.

All was looking good until my little brother, a home remodeler from Philadelphia who was going to do the framing in return for all the times I covered for him while growing up, called me late Saturday night and informed me that he was bring his crew down that next Friday to frame the addition ... I had six days to tear down the existing rear of the house, dig the new basement and build the addition's foundation ... the pressure was on!

To read other articles by Michael Hillman, visit the Author's Section of Emmitsburg.net.





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THE ZOO KEEPER

Not All Creatures are Created Equal

Layla Watkins

My house is a zoo and I, partially by choice and partially by default, am the zookeeper.

My zoo houses quite a range of wildlife, each with its own unique needs, temperaments, likes, and dislikes. My job is to tend to each of these creatures. I must meet their basic needs (food and shelter) as well as provide for their higher level needs (affection, recognition, personal fulfillment, etc). Remember Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs? Well, add "other duties as assigned" to his pyramid and that, in a nutshell, is my job description.

Part of what makes my job rewarding, yet at the same time challenging, is the variety of species in my charge. The inhabitants of the zoo include one husband (Wayne), two children (Gavin, 3 1/2 and Kara, 5), two horses, one pony, a dog, a cat, and a fish. Given that the zoo is headquartered in a 250-year-old stone farmhouse, we also have an array of "uninvited" residents that make random appearances at inopportune times. One such resident is "Henry."



Henry

Henry is the longest standing resident of the zoo. He was here before we bought it and his progeny will surely be here long after we are gone.

I first met Henry quite by accident. We had just settled on the house and were doing some renovations before moving in. I went up to the attic to investigate how the plumbing was vented and thought, "How odd. They ran a hose off that vent rather than extending it through the roof." Upon closer inspection, though, I noticed that the hose was surprisingly shiny, tex-

tured, and not exactly round. "Oh dear God, I think it's a snake!"

Completely freaked out, I ran downstairs and called for back-up. When I told Wayne what I'd seen, he dismissed my fears by saying, "No way. If it was a snake, it would have slithered off when you got close to it. I'm sure it was just an old hose."

"I don't think so. Let's go back up and see if it's still there," I said.

When we returned to the attic, the "hose" was still there, but it had moved. Armed with an old curtain rod, Wayne began poking it, and poking it, and poking some more. Finally, it pulled its head out and totally unabashed it looked us straight in the eye as if to say, "Yes? Can I help you?"

Wayne and I just looked at each other, looked at the snake, then looked at each other again and shrugged. "What do we do? I guess he was here first."

The house had been vacant for over a year, and while we could get rid of him, there were sure to be more. We also knew he would help get rid of the mouse population. Wayne thought we should just leave him alone; however, I could not so easily reconcile having a snake living in my attic. Somehow, the animal lover in me took over and I named him "Henry" in hopes that with a name, he would seem less like an intruder and more like a pet.

Well, I've never quite gotten to the point of considering Henry a pet, but I have gotten used to him. He stays in the attic and minds his own business. And, we mind ours. I wish I could say the same for one of his friends.

Not an 'Old Wives Tale'

One afternoon I was getting ready to ride one of my horses and decided I should use the bathroom before I finished dressing. I started to sit down and noticed something dark in the toilet bowl. My first thought was one of disgust. "Geez, Wayne, the least you could do is flush!"

Then, it happened. Out of the corner of my eye I saw something move and when I turned, a snake stuck its head up out of the water and started hissing at me!

I screamed like you've never heard anyone scream before and jumped clear across to the other side of the bathroom where I proceeded to jump up and down in hysterics while the snake hissed at me from the toilet bowl!

In my panic, all I could think was "Flush! Flush!" So, I did. Around and down he went and I hoped he'd drown in the septic tank!

We never did figure out how the snake got in there and we haven't seen another since. I had heard stories about snakes in the plumbing but had always thought it was just an old wives tale. Well, in case you thought the same thing, now you know - it's not!

Welcome to the Zoo!

To read other article by Layla Watkins, visit the Author's Section of Emmitsburg.net.

Build It and They Will Come

Jeff Little Emmitsburg Baseball and Softball League

mmitsburg Baseball and Le Softball is in the midst of its 54th season. Many a young men and ladies have proudly worn the Emmitsburg uniform. This year we have over 240 young athletes lacing up their cleats and smacking the inside of their glove in anticipation of the ball coming to them. During these tough economic times we keep hearing that other youth baseball and softball programs numbers are lower than last year. We are pleased that our numbers are higher than last season. One wanders why this is? We, the parents that head up your program, believe the reason our numbers are growing is because we are continuing the traditions developed over the past 54 years. The founding fathers of Emmitsburg Baseball and Softball laid a great foundation for our youth and those beliefs and concepts have been maintained by all the parents and residents of Emmitsburg that stepped up to lead the program in the past be it for one season or many seasons.

This season we have the following breakdown of teams in Emmitsburg: two eight and under softball teams; one ten and under softball team; one twelve





and under softball team; eight tee ball teams age four to six year old boys and girls; four eight and under baseball teams; two ten and under baseball teams; two twelve and under baseball teams; one 13 to 15 year old baseball team and one 16 to 18 year old baseball team. The softball program is part of the Frederick County Softball League while the baseball program is affiliated with the Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth League.

While no one age group is more important than another I would like to focus on our Babe Ruth teams for a minute. Our 13 to 15 year old baseball team known as the Renegades and our Redwings, which is the 16 to 18 year old baseball team make up our Babe Ruth teams. The Renegades and the Redwings play their home games on the ball field located behind the South Gate development. Yes baseball fans there

is a field of major league proportion right here in Emmitsburg. The Renegades are under the watchful eye of Jeff Topper their manager with assistance from Larry Pittinger and the Dave Wantz III. As of May 13th the Renegades possess a record of 3-1 in the very tough Frederick County Babe Ruth National League Division. The Redwings, who are managed by John Mercandetti, will start their season on May 16th. Coach Mercandetti is assisted by Jim Ellis and the two of them are looking forward to an exciting season. Check out the Redwings teamsite for their schedule. This past fall the Renegades and the Redwings joined forces to capture the championship trophy in the 14 to 16 year old division of the Frederick County Babe Ruth. There is a lot of exciting baseball being played by our Babe Ruth teams so feel free to grab a bite to eat from Stevo's Grill while you enjoy the great game of baseball.

Check out all of our teams schedules on our website www.eteamz.active.com/emmitsburg. We hope to see you at the diamond.

FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE ONLY



FITNESS AND WELL BEING

It's Summer! Stay Healthy

Renee Lehman Licensed acupuncturist and physical therapist

) oy, was it hot around the end of BApril. It felt like mid-summer to me with the mid to upper 80 and 90 degree temperatures. This started me thinking about staying healthy in the summertime. Sure, the Summer solstice is on June 21st, but can you see how nature has been changing from Spring into Summer?

This is nature's season for growth and maturation. In fact, how many of you have been enjoying lettuce and spinach from your garden or watching your flower garden become multicolored with the many blossoms? Spring lambs are becoming sheep and apple blossoms are becoming apples. Living things all around us are maturing. It is a time of long daylight hours, warmth, and dryness. Some of the gifts of summer include joy, love, and warmth (just think of summer love), passion and compassion, partnership and community (don't you just love the picnics and festivals); intimacy and closeness (sitting with a loved one on a swing), spontaneity (Sunday drives in the convertible), and playfulness and lightheartedness (just watch the children playing outside). How many of the gifts of summer do you identify with? Can you see the energy of summer within yourself?

How can you stay healthy (body/ mind/spirit) during the summer season? A few ways to stay healthy include feeding the "fire" within yourself, staying cool and hydrated, protecting yourself when you are enjoying the outdoors, exercising, enjoying nature's bounty, creating special times with family and friends, and finally taking time to relax.

Feeding the "Fire". This is the season to consider: In what areas am I maturing? Ask yourself, "Is my partnership with a significant other evolving?" "Are my friendships deepening?" "Am I growing into my role as a parent?" Listen for the answers and give yourself time and space to

Think about the range of the fire that you have ever enjoyed from the cozy warmth of a campfire to the radiance of a blazing fire to the unending light of the sun. We contain within ourselves all of these types of "Fire." Tender care must be taken in tending to our "Fire." When we don't have enough fire within, we can feel as if the joys of life are extinguished. Too much fire within may cause our passions to burn themselves out. A healthy fire at our core shows up as a deep abiding joy and the ability to love, laugh, and play. It also includes touching and being touched by everything.

So, ask yourself these questions. "When was the last time that I had a good belly laugh?" "When was the last time that I made others laugh?" "Am I good at playing the fool?" "Am I good at lighting up the room?" Remember that appropriate fire attracts and draws others near to

If you would like to "test your fire," try one or more of the following practices:

For one week open and extend yourself into the world. Introduce yourself to people and say hello to the people on the street who meet your eyes. When you do this how does life show up differently around you?

- Practice appropriate physical touch as a way to connect and communicate with others. When you do this observe how the person responded.
- Bring the gifts of summer and the qualities of fire to a particular situation at home, with friends, or at work. When you do this how did life show up differently around you?

Staying Cool and Hydrated. Drink water! Drinking water is very important. Most people need 2-3 quarts (8-12 cups) of liquid a day and more in hot weather or with sweating and exercise. Drink two cups of fluid upon arising. Drink before going out for activities. Remember that if you wait until you are thirsty to drink water you are already dehydrated.

Carry water in a container that is made of hard plastic (i.e., Nalgene), stainless steel (i.e., Klean Kanteen), or aluminum (i.e., SIGG). This is to ensure that the chemicals in the plastic do not leach into the water. Also, check the recycling number. If you use a bottle with a #2 HDPE (high density polyethylene), a #4 LDPE (low density polyethylene), or a #5 PP (polypropylene) your bottle is fine. Unfortunately, those fabulous colorful hard plastic lexan bottles made with polycarbonate plastics and identified by the #7 recycling symbol may leach Bisphenol A (BPA). BPA is a xenoestrogen which is a known endocrine disruptor. This means it disturbs the hormonal messaging in our bodies. Camelback and Nalgene are now making non-BPA bottles so there is now a viable alternative.

Exercise. Begin or keep up an exercise program. Aerobic activity like biking, swimming, and hiking is important for a healthy heart. Who doesn't enjoy playing softball, volleyball, or golf in the summer time? Also, you could try out a new activity like kayaking, canoeing, sailing, or waterskiing.

Enjoy Nature's Bounty. Seasonal fruits and vegetables are at their best. Consume foods that are cooling and light such as fresh fruits and vegetables, raw fruit and vegetable juices, raw salads, and light protein. Fresh fruits include peaches, plums, apricots, berries, melons, bananas, pears, and citrus. Fresh vegetables include cucumbers, green leafy vegetables (endive, escarole, and watercress), tomatoes, and peppers. Try eating more of these later in the day versus having a heavier meal at night. Raw, unsweetened fruit and vegetable juices are wonderful. Just remember that fruit juices tend to elevate insulin levels when consumed whereas vegetable juices do not raise insulin levels like fruit juices. Raw salads such as coleslaw, a cucumber salad, leafy salads are light and refreshing. Try the following website for ideas for juices and summer salads: http://allrecipes.com. Light proteins such as nuts, seeds, sprouted beans, soy products, yogurt, cottage cheese, fish, and chicken are great in the summertime because they won't "weigh you down."

Finally, use the sun's heat and make sun green tea. Green tea is known for its antioxidants. Just make sure that you use a glass jar and think about adding some mint leaves - this will be refreshing on a hot day!

Create Special Times. Plan a trip with family, children, and friends who enjoy being outdoors. For example, hiking in the wild, camping, playing at the river, or resting at the ocean can help you to rekindle your connection with the EARTH and enrich your whole life.

Time to Relax. Lie in a hammock, sit on a swing, or just sit outside on a nice evening. Slow down and absorb the sunlight. This may help with depression and may help reset your "biological clock" which controls sleeping and waking. When you go out for the day, leave your cell phone at home. Don't wear a watch for a day. You could even try a week off from TV. Observe how life shows up without the constant stimulus.

So, this summer recharge your internal battery with solar power! Have GOOD TIMES!

If you are interested in learning more about how to stay healthy with the seasons read the 2003 edition of Staying Healthy with the Seasons by Elson Haas.

Information in this article is provided for informational purposes only and is not intended as a substitute for the advice provided by your physician or other healthcare professionals. You should not use the information in this article for diagnosing or treating a health problem or for disease, or prescribing any medication or other treatment.

Renee Lehman is a licensed acupuncturist and physical therapist with over 20 years of health care experience. Her office is located at 249B York Street in Gettysburg, PA. She can be reached at 717-752-

To read other articles by Renee, visit the Author's Section of Emmitsburg.net.



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New Patients Welcome

Starting a Safe Exercise Routine

Linda Stultz Certified Trainer/Therapist

any people jump into an Lexercise routine without realizing the possibility of injury. Talking to your doctor is always the best way to get started. In fact, the doctor is usually the one who tells you to get more exercise. If the doctor only tells you to exercise, but does not tell you the type or how to get started it is best to ask him for a reference to a physical therapist or trainer. Proper guidance is more important than many people realize.

A sedentary person should start out by going for a walk each day. The walk should be brisk and as long as you feel you can make it. Do not overdo or you will become discouraged and not continue the

in the ability so do not compare for a while forget that they didn't yourself to another person. It is nice to walk with a family member or friend, but sometimes the individuals cannot walk as fast and they decide it is better to walk alone.

The exercise buff can be encouraging to someone who needs to start exercising but can also be overwhelming to them. It is helpful to speak to a friend that has been exercising and has developed an exercise routine. Ask them how they started and if they have any pointers on how they keep moti-

If you are the one already exercising, remember how you felt when you started and tell the person how you worked up to the point you are today. Sometimes

routine. Every person is different people that have been exercising start at the level they are today. Trying to push a person too far to fast can be a problem both in keeping their interest in exercising and in possible injury.

Exercise is the most talked about subject when it comes to improving or maintaining our help today. Don't be afraid to explore the fun and great benefits exercise will give you. It is never too late to start some type of exercise. I believe you will be surprise how much you will look forward to your workout each day. Exercise is so beneficial for your body, mind, emotions and entire wellbeing. If you have any questions, please call 717-334-6009.

Keep Moving-You'll be glad you

ASTRONOMY

The June Sky at Night

Dr. Wayne Wooten **Professor of Astronomy**

For June 2009, the Moon will be full on June 7th, so the first week finds the moon waxing in the evening sky. This is the Flower, Strawberry, Rose, or "Honey" moon, depending on the culture. On June 13th, the waning gibbous moon will pass three degrees north of Jupiter. The Moon will be a waning crescent in the morning sky, passing 8 degrees north of Venus, then six degree north of Mars, on the morning of June 19th. New moon will be on June 22, the day after the summer solstice. The beginning of summer occurs at 12:45 AM on June 21, the longest day of the year, with about 14 hours of daylight for the Gulf Coast. The waxing crescent moon passes 6 degrees south of Saturn on June 27st, with the moon reaching first quarter on June 29th.

While the naked eye, dark adapted by several minutes away from any bright lights, is a wonderful instrument to stare up into deep space, far

beyond our own Milky Way, binoculars are better for spotting specific deep sky objects. For a detailed map of northern hemisphere skies, about May 29th visit the www.skymaps.com website and download the map for June 2009; it will have a more extensive calendar, and list of best objects for the naked eyes, binoculars, and scopes on the back of the map. Also available as the next month begins is wonderful video exploring the June 2009 sky, featuring many different objects, available from the Hubble Space Telescope website at: http://hubblesite.org/explore_astronomy/tonights_sky/.

The only planet now in the evening sky is Saturn, just west of overhead. Saturn's rings are almost closed now. If the image is steady, look for the split in the two bright rings, the Cassini division, and the fainter crepe ring closer to the planet than the bright A and B rings. You may also see some belts and zones on the planet's disk. The largest, Titan, will be seen in any small telescope, but others will need larger scopes to spot. EAAA member Ed Magowan saw the thin rings and disk detail in late April with a 9.25" telescope.

The winter constellations are being swallowed up in the Sun's glare, but you might spot Sirius low in the SW as June begins. Sirius vanishes into the Sun's glare by mid-June, and this sets the period as "Dog Days", when Sirius lies lost in the Sun's glare. In reality, Sirius is about 20x more luminous than our star, but also lies eight light years distant, while our star is eight light minutes away from us.

The brightest star in the NW is Capella, distinctively yellow in color. It is a giant star, almost exactly the same temperature as our Sun, but about 100X more luminous. Just south of it are the stellar twins, the Gemini, with Castor closer to Capella, and Pollux closer to the Little Dog Star, Procyon. By the end of June, all the winter stars, like Sirius, are vanished behind the Sun.

Overhead, the Big Dipper rides high. Good scouts know to take its

leading pointers north to Polaris, the famed Pole Star. For us, it sits 30 degrees (our latitude) high in the north, while the rotating earth beneath makes all the other celestial bodies spin around it from east to west.

If you drop south from the bowl of the Big Dipper, Leo the Lion rides high. Saturn lies just west of the bright star Regulus, the heart of the King of Beasts. Note the Egyptian Sphinx is based on the shape of this Lion in the sky.

Taking the arc in the Dipper's handle, we "arc" SE to bright orange Arcturus, the brightest star of Spring. Cooler than our yellow Sun, and much poorer in heavy elements, some believe its strange motion reveals it to be an invading star from another smaller galaxy, now colliding with the Milky Way in Sagittarius in the summer sky. Moving almost perpendicular to the plane of our Milky Way, Arcturus was the first star in the sky where its proper motion across the historic sky was noted, by Edmund Halley.

Spike south to Spica, the hot blue star in Virgo, then curve to Corvus the Crow, a four sided grouping. It is above Corvus, in the arms of Virgo, where our large scopes will show members of the Virgo Supercluster, a swarm of over a thousand galaxies about 50 million light years away from us.

To the east, Hercules is rising, with the nice globular cluster M-13 marked on your sky map and visible in binocs. Several other good globular clusters are also shown and listed on the best binoc objects on the map back page.

The brightest star of the northern hemisphere, Vega (from Carl Sagan's novel and movie, "Contact"), rises in the NE as twilight deepens. Twice as hot as our Sun, it appears blue-white, like most bright stars. But to the south, Antares rises about the same time in Scorpius. It appears reddish (its Greek name means rival of Ares or Mars to the Latins) because it is half as hot as our yellow Sun; it is bright because it is a bloated red supergiant, big enough to swallow up our solar system all the way out to Saturn's orbit!

27th Annual Emmitsburg Community Day Schedule

The Lion's Club 27th Annual **■** Emmitsburg Community Day celebration will be held Saturday, June 27. All events are free and open to the public.

The Lions will be recognizing the vital work of the Vigilant Hose Company this year by helping them celebrate their 125th Anniversary. One of their members will serve as the Grand Marshal of the parade and they will participate in the evening program.

In honor of the celebration of the Bicentennial Seton Legacy of Charity, one of its members will be giving the invocation at the evening program.

To get people in the mood for the celebration, the Emmitsburg Community Chorus will hold a concert at the new Community Park bandstand on Friday, June 26, from 7:00-8:30 pm.

Following tradition, Emmitsburg Community Day will begin the next day at 6:30 am with breakfast served by the Vigilant Hose Company Auxiliary at the Fire Hall on West Main Street. Breakfast is sausage, bacon, creamed chipped beef, pancakes, eggs, home fries, coffee and juice.

The games begin at 10 am. Traditional games include tug of war, egg toss (raw), three-legged race, balloon toss, watermelon eating contest, pie-eating contest, and a fishing game. The games include plenty of opportunities for the young-at-heart, as well as the just-plain-young, to participate.

Music by the Yellow Springs Concert Band can be enjoyed from 11 a.m.–1 p.m. The band is known for its patriotic and service tunes, marches, and polkas. Last year, they had plenty of people tapping their feet and clapping as they played.

Emmitsburg Lions' chicken barbecue dinners will be available beginning at 10 am until the dinners are all sold out (get yours early). Soft drinks and spring water will be available all day. Hot dogs, hamburgers, and homemade ice cream sandwiches will be available until 10 pm. After the success of last year, snow cones will also be sold! Yum.

Closest to the pin (golf) and horseshoes allow the adults to partake in some friendly competition. Registration for horseshoes will close at 12:45 pm and the content itself will begin at 1 pm. From 2-4 p.m, the closest to the pin golf contest will be held, with cash prizes. For those who like cash prizes, the Ambulance Company will be running bingo games from 11 am until 5 p.m.

For those who want to know more about Emmitsburg, Mike Hillman of the Historical Society will be giving two walking tours that focus on the history of the Great Fire of 1863 that occurred two weeks prior to the Battle of Gettysburg. The tours begin at the parking lot of Elias Lutheran church

at 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. For more information about these tours, write to history@emmitsburg.net.

The Community Day parade will begin at 6 p.m. Staging will be on Provincial Parkway in Northgate and the route will travel on North Seton to DePaul, Federal Avenue, and East Main Street to the Square before turning on South Seton and ending at the Community Center. The Vigilant Hose Company has promised to shine up its antique fire equipment. The Catoctin High School marching band will also participate this year.

The Evening Program will begin right after the parade ends. Following the program, Roll the Dice will play tunes suitable for singing along, dancing, or just listening until 9:30 pm. Finally, the fireworks display will cap off the evening. The fireworks are sponsored by individuals, groups, civic organizations, and local businesses through their generous donations to the Community Day fun. We look forward to seeing you there.

For more information, call Dianne Walbrecker at 301-447-6962 or visit the Emmitsburg Lions Club section of emmitsburg.net.





OBITUARIES

The Life & Times of Captain Samuel McNair

John Miller **Greater Emmitsburg Area Historical Society**

Emmitsburg sure has had its share of heroes, but none quite live up to the expectations of the word hero like Samuel McNair who died 100 years ago this month from a wound he received in September of 1862 during the Maryland Campaign.

Samuel N. McNair was born in Freedom Township, Adams County, Pennsylvania, on September 4, 1840. On August 26, 1861, at the age of twenty, he enlisted in Company C, Cole's Maryland Cavalry. He was a dedicated member of the company until the fight with Stuart's Cavalry at Leesburg, Virginia on September 2, 1862. During this battle he was severely wounded by a bullet that passed through his left lung. McNair never fully recovered from this wound and for almost forty-seven years he patiently endured the suffering that finally caused his death.

On that sultry day in September, when the gallant McNair was wounded in the fight at Leesburg, his brother had found him and four others, and placed them under an apple tree near a house. The 12th Virginia Cavalry was rapidly approaching and Hiram McNair knew that he must get his wounded brother and friends from this place. They were suffering terribly and a wagon must be had. Hiram sought the farmer whose name the place bore, Paxton's Crossroads. He found a young man who refused all offers of money for the service he was about to do them. He said that he was a Confederate but he would do to these men, as he would wish them to do for him in similar circumstances. He gave them a wagon and saw them safely to the river.

In "The Life of General Philip H. Sheridan" by Frank A. Burr and

Postelle.

reading anything to do with aircraft and flying.

Phil is survived by his former wife, Linda Atkins Postelle

of Singapore; three children, Karen Postelle Bowman and

husband, Stephen, of Singapore, Holly Noel Late and hus-

band, Michael, of Thurmont, and Andrea Lynn Postelle of

New York; and three grandchildren, Robert Nolan Fritts and

Shaun Darling Fritts, both of Thurmont, and Breanne Leigh

Bowman of Singapore. He leaves behind many friends and

associates and wonderful memories of days spent flying.

Richard J. Hinton is told the pathetic story of the assistance rendered by Samuel McNair to the young Confederate who had befriended him. It is recounted in this way:

"Almost two years afterwards in 1864 during a hard battle at Loudoun Heights, Samuel Mc-Nair found a young Confederate wounded in the neck unto death. He was covered with blood and unrecognizable. He asked his name and it was the same Paxton who had so nobly assisted him under like circumstances. It is needless to say everything was done for the poor fellow's comfort and Mc-Nair stayed by him as he died."

The following account was written by the late Major Oliver A. Horner, an officer in Cole's Cavalry and was read during Samuel McNair's funeral: "At the time he received the wound he was mounted and his horse carried him from the battlefield in the direction of Point of Rocks. Exhausted from the loss of blood and the severity of his wound he fell from his horse and lay prostrate in the road. The enemy found his body there but judging him fatally wounded they passed by. After the Confederate forces fell back his brother, the late H.S. McNair, then a lieutenant, and a few other comrades found him and procured a wagon and conveyed him to Point of Rocks where

he saw the stage starting for Emmitsburg. The driver, at his request allowed him to take passage and he rode to Emmitsburg and was taken to his home the same night."

"The ride was too much for him and he took to his bed to remain there for a long time. The march of the armies northward roused him



enough to again mount his horse. With three comrades from his old company, Gwinn, Wolf and Crooks, he started for Gettysburg on the 29th of June and was the first Union soldier to enter Gettysburg after Ewell's Division moved north toward York."

"He and his companions stopped at the Eagle Hotel and shortly after they arrived citizens told them that a Confederate cavalryman was coming up the street. Young Mc-Nair and his friends captured this fellow who afterward proved to be a carrier of dispatches from Lee to Ewell and he was lodged in the jail."

the hotel. A little while after a stranger in citizens dress passed by. The soldiers remarked a peculiar military bearing about the stranger that indicated that he was a soldier. Although the other members of the party opposed, Mr. McNair started in pursuit, and being better mounted, gained on the man who was making every effort to get away. Shots were exchanged between the two, the stranger shooting rapidly, McNair just frequently enough to draw the other's fire. When the young Union soldier judged that the other had spent his ammunition he spurred his horse and captured him. The man proved to be a "Johnnie" but when he surrendered said he was a chaplain. Mc-Nair replied, "Yes! a fighting chaplain, evidently from the way in which you are armed and your manner of using your gun." This prisoner was brought back to Gettysburg and also jailed."

camping west of Gettysburg, towards Cashtown and Bendersville, McNair and his three friends concluded they would make a reconnaissance of the enemy's position. So off they started and when they reached Bream's Tavern they came upon a Rebel artilleryman, which they captured, he having strolled outside the lines to replenish

his canteens with whiskey, two freshly filled ones being found upon his person. Finding the rebels were encamped only a short distance beyond this, they returned to the town with their prisoners. When they reached the top of Seminary Ridge they found a regiment of cavalry in their front, which had come in on the Bendersville Road during their absence."

"The "Johnnies" immediately made a dash for our boys, who with their prisoner beat a hasty retreat across by McMullins to the Emmitsburg Road, which they reached in safety, the Rebel cavalrymen in hot pursuit, chasing them at a rapid rate towards Emmitsburg. Fortunately for the three intrepid soldiers at about the Peach Orchard, they met the advance of Buford's Cavalry, the sight that caused a sudden halt and "Right about wheel" of their pursuers. The prisoner was safely turned over to General Buford, to whom McNair and his comrades tendered their services as scouts and were retained by the General during the entire battle of Gettysburg."

"It was this little band of Company C, Cole's Cavalry that captured the first Rebels on the famous battlefield of Gettysburg."

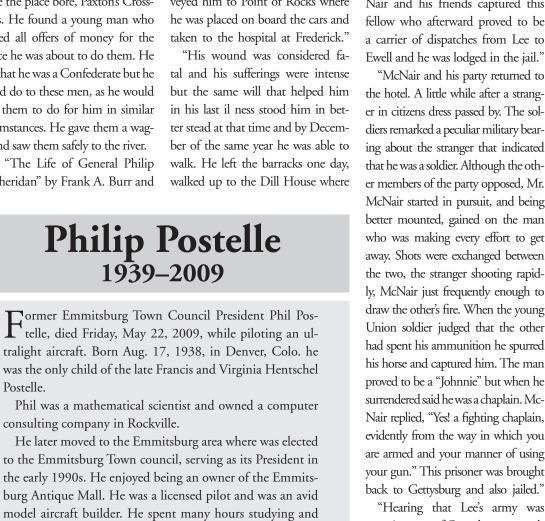
"After rendering General Buford valuable service during the battle, McNair and some of his companions on Saturday night, July 4th, found their way back into Emmitsburg. Stuart's cavalry, dashing into the place on Sunday morning captured them with others at Hoffman's hotel. McNair and Gwinn were taken over the mountain but during the first night, when about Boonsboro, they made their escape and came back to Emmitsburg finding their horses had been saved to them by Harry Hoffman."

Here the account written by Major Horner ends. Enough though has been told to gauge the character and fearlessness of this young patriot whose record has just been closed.

There are but a few incidents in Mr. McNair's army life, which was full of the glory that surrounds a true soldier. He stayed with his company until they were mustered out on June 28, 1865. After this he returned to Emmitsburg, in 1871 he was married to Miss Mary Antoinette Moritz. For many years he was postmaster at Emmitsburg. Samuel Mc-Nair passed away on June 5th, 1909. Emmitsburg deeply felt the loss of a noble soldier, an exemplary citizen and a true Christian.

To learn more about the veterans who called Emmitsburg home, visit the Historical Society section of Emmitsburg.net.







APPETITE



Lavender Drop Cookies

Submitted by Willow Pond Farms, Fairfield

Ingredients:

- 1/4 cup butter or margarine
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 tablespoon lavender buds, crushed fine
- 1 cup flour
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon lemon zest
- 1 teaspoon finely chopped mint

Cooking Directions: Cream together butter and sugar. Add egg and lavender. Mix well. Add flour, salt and baking soda and mix well. Add zest and mint. Drop by teaspoonfuls on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake at 375 degrees for about 10 minutes. Makes 2 1/2 dozen cookies.

Zucchini Appetizers

Submitted by St. Joseph's Church

Ingredients:

- 2 cups grated zucchini
- 1 cup bisquick
- _ cup vegetable oil
- _ cup parmesan cheese
- _ cup finely chopped onions
- 2 tablespoons parsley chopped _ teaspoon old bay
- 4 eggs slightly beaten

Directions: Mix all the above and spread in a greased 9x1392 inch pan. Bake at 350 about 30 minutes or until golden brown. Cut into rectangles. Serve warm.

Best Baked Beans

Submitted by St. Joseph's Church

Ingredients:

- Half pound of ground beef
- _ cup bacon bits
- cup chopped onion
- 1/3 cup brown sugar
- _ cup catsup
- cup barbecue sauce
- 2 tablespoons molasses
- _ teaspoon salt
- _ teaspoon chili powder
- _ teaspoon pepper
- 1 (16 oz) can kidney beans drained
- 1 (16 oz) can pork and beans
- 1 (16 oz) can butter beans

Directions: Brown ground beef, drain. Add onion can cook until tender. Add sugars, catsup, barbecue sauce, molasses and seasonings, mix well. Add beans and pour into 3 qt casserole dish. Bake at 350, uncovered for 1 hour.

Quick and Easy mayonnaise biscuits

Submitted by the Incarnation United Church of Christ

Ingredients:

- 1 cup self-rising flour
- cup milk
- 3 tablespoons mayonnaise

Directions: Mix all ingredients; stir by hand until smooth -about 2 or 3 minutes. Put in greased muffin pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 12 -15 minutes. Makes 6 biscuits.

Tee's Corn Pudding

Submitted by the Incarnation United Church of Christ

Ingredients:

- _ cup sugar
- 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 2 teaspoons salt
- -1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
- 6 large eggs
- 2 cups whipping cream
- _ cup butter, melted
- 6 cups corn kernels

Direction: Combine first five ingredients; beat eggs with fork in a large bowl; stir in whipping cream and butter. Gradually add sugar mixture, stirring until smooth; stir in corn. (I drain the corn first.) Pour mixture into a lightly greased 13 x 9 x 2 inch baking dish. Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes or until deep golden and mixture is set. Let stand 5 minutes.

All ingredients can be found at the Jubilee, with the exception of the lavender buds which you can find in most any Master Gardener's garden or at Willow Pond Farms in Fairfield, Pa.



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* Tommy Tippett

※ HARRISBURG AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

* Adie Wivell

※ PENN STATE UNIVERSITY

* Matthew Boyd, Son of Rich Boyd



COMMUNITY NEWS

Savings Among the Stacks

Caroline Rock Assistant Librarian Emmitsburg Library

The word "free" is especially appealing these days. Jobs and businesses are disappearing. Employers are putting freezes on new hires and raises. Yet the cost of everything is going up. The average family is finding it harder to maintain the standard of living it is used to. Most have found it necessary to cut back on all but the most essential items. But, it may be possible to stick to your tighter budget by saving in a way you may not have considered using your local library.

Here are five ways the Emmitsburg Library can help during these tough times.

1. Free magazines.

A magazine subscription to Time or Newsweek costs about \$20. People Magazine charges almost \$90 for a one-year subscription. If your child loves Highlights you will pay about \$30 to bring that periodical into your home. The Emmitsburg Library carries dozens of magazines and journals. Current issues are available for you to read in a cozy corner, and recent back issues can be borrowed and taken home for three weeks. You can also access hundreds of magazine and journal articles through the MasterFILE database, available through the FCPL website free of charge for patrons with a Frederick County library card.

2. Free DVD rentals.

A night at the movies for a family of four costs \$28-\$36 just for the tickets. Local video stores will charge your family a sign-up fee and require a credit card and other personal information for membership privileges. In addition, you are charged for each movie you rent. But, your local library has hundreds of DVDs for you to borrow free of charge. When you visit the Emmitsburg Library, you are not limited to the

can request DVD's from any other branch in Frederick County without any fee. And a recent change in policy allows you to borrow up to 75 DVDs for one week.

The latest craze in home video rental is the online DVD rental clubs. The customer pays a monthly fee of up to \$20 a month to receive DVDs by mail. But by accessing the FCPL website, you can download movies right to your home computer, free of charge, with your library card.

3. Free internet access.

To access the internet from your home you first must own a computer. This can cost from hundreds to thousands of dollars. A reputable internet provider may charge you \$25 a month or more to access the web. At the Emmitsburg Library, there are eight computers available for patron use, all with internet access and word processing capabilities. From them you can search the library catalogue, check your emails, utilize our databases, play a game online, surf the web, or chat with a friend. You can also create a resume or write a research paper and print it out right at the library for a nominal cost. You are not charged per month or per minute for internet access at the library.

And, if you have a laptop, bring it with you to take advantage of the library's free Wi-Fi connection.

4. Free fun for your children.

The children's librarians at the Emmitsburg Library are always looking for exciting ideas for programs. Weekly storytimes for small children, book circles for older kids, and special clubs for teens are just a few events presented to encourage youths to come to the library. Additionally, special programs are planned regularly to coincide with holidays and seasonal celebrations. The Summer Reading Club offers prizes for children who reach reading goals. The movies you see on the shelves. You Night Owls program invites kids to with optimism.

spend an evening of fun at the library after hours. The monthly Anime club is very popular with local teens. Musicians, clowns, yo-yo artists, and storybook characters will all visit the Emmitsburg Library this summer. Every event is free!

5. Free books!

The most obvious offering the library makes in any economy is free books. Since the establishment of Maryland public libraries by Enoch Pratt in 1886, there has rarely been a charge for the use of library books. But technology and innovations have taken the notion of borrowing a book from the local library far beyond imagining. Fiction and nonfiction, for babies, juveniles, teens, and adults are available by the thousands to card-holding patrons. And free certainly beats the \$10 or more a new bookstore charges for a paperback these days.

If the book you need or want is not on the shelf at Emmitsburg, the librarians can use the internet to search for it through a network of libraries in the county, or even across the state of Maryland. Many books are available on CD, and the entire text or audio of hundreds of books can be downloaded from the FCPL website onto your home computer or MP3 player. There is no cost for any of these services.

On a practical level, aside from the entertainment value of the library's fiction section, you may find a nonfiction book that will help you save money by planting a garden, fixing your own car, or making clothes. You may find a book that will help you make money by finding a better job, selling products online, or starting your own business.

These few suggestions used regularly may save a family hundreds of dollars. Common sense dictates being frugal now as a way to prepare for what promises to be even harder times ahead. The staff at the Emmitsburg Library is happy to help you find what you need to stick to your budget and look to the future

Farmers' Market Opens June 19

Beth Johnson Contributing Writer

Amy Naills has been hard at work setting up this year's Farmers' Market to be located at 302 South Seton Avenue, next to the former Emmitsburg Ambulance Company building.

This year's market will run Fridays from 3 pm to 6:30 pm, June 19 -September 25. All vendors are required to grow their own produce and prove that, if required.

"This (year's market) will host produce vendors, basket makers, fresh cut flowers, birdhouses and walking sticks, fresh herbs, baked goods and a very popular vendor, Stone Hearth Bakery, baking bread," Naills said. "We'll be glad to send anyone else an application. We accept crafters that make their own products. I'm always looking for different things and want everybody to get along."

The cost to participate is free, but all participants must be preregistered with Naills, and vendors are responsible for all permits through the Health Department, she said.

Frederick County has 11 Farmers' Markets running throughout the county from Emmitsburg to Brunswick, and everywhere in between on various days of the week encouraging residents to shop locally.

According to Frederick County's Virtual Farmers' Market website, the annual "Buy Local Challenge" week is set for July 18-July 26, 2009. Frederick County's Office of Economic Development encourages residents of the county to take the "Buy Local Challenge" by pledging to eat at least one product from a local farm every day during the "Buy Local Challenge" week.

For information on becoming a vendor, contact Amy Naills through the Emmittsburg Town Hall at 301-600-6300.



SENIOR NEWS

"June is busting out all over..." and we are bursting with news both good and bad. The bad news is that county budget cuts will cause the Emmitsburg center to close on Mondays. The good news is that our Monday activities bowling and our 9:00 a.m. walking group--will continue, and newcomers are welcome to join in. And remember that whatever the weather, it's always cool to come in and shoot some pool.

Special programs for June include Wii bowling on Fridays at 12:30 p.m., and a talk by Deb

vice on foods and nutrition, Wednesday, June 17.

The seniors encourage all eligible persons (50 years and older) to join them for regular program activities and special events. Our lunch program is open to those 60 and older. Programs are held in the Community Center on South Seton Avenue. Call for lunch reservations 24 hours in advance. The Senior Center will close whenever county offices are closed. To register for special events or for information, call program coordinator Linda Umbel, 301-600-6350.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Bowling: Mondays at Taneytown bowling center. Carpool; meet at center at 12:30 p.m.

Strength Training & Conditioning: Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. Dress comfortably, wear athletic shoes. Participants will use small weights. Free.

Bingo: June 3 & 17. Cards, 500, and Bridge Group: June 10 & 24.

Men's Pool: Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. Pinochle: Thursdays at 12:30 p.m. Canasta: Fridays at 12:30 p.m. Shopping at Jubilee Foods: Thursdays at 12:30 p.m.

FAIRFIELD SENIOR CENTER

The Fairfield Senior Center welcomes all seniors of the Fairfield, PA/Emmitsburg MD area.

June 11—Lunch at the Moose Lodge in Gettysburg, \$2.00, 11 a.m.

June 15—Garden Club - flower arranging. 10:30 a.m.

June 18—Bus Trip to Ephrata Cloisters, smorgasbord lunch, \$50 all-inclusive.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Exercise: Monday, Wednesday and Fridays, 9:30a-10:30. Dress comfortably and wear athletic

Needlework: Mondays, 10:30 a.m.-Noon. Bring your knitting, crochet or other project - beginners welcome.

Lunch: Monday through Friday at Noon, except for Special Events already noted.

Card games: your choice. Tuesdays and Fridays, 9:30am -

Call for lunch reservations 48 hours in advance. To register for special events, call 717-642-6170.

CALENDAR

UPCOMING EVENTS June 2009

1 Monday

Regular meeting of the Emmitsburg Town Council. Meeting begins at 7:30. Visit www. emmitsburgmd.gov for agenda items.

4 Thursday

Frederick Master Gardeners "Grow It - Eat It " Food Gardening Class. Classes are designed to encouraging residents to grow their own food, with help from Master Gardeners. Information can be found at www.growit.umd.edu but briefly, the mission is to help Marylanders improve health and save money by growing fresh vegetables, fruit, and herbs using sustainable practices, with the goal of 1 million Maryland food gardeners producing their own affordable, healthy food. To achieve this goal, the Frederick County Master Gardeners are presenting several classes at the Frederick County Libraries during the summer.

6/4-Thurs

7-9 P.M. Walkersville Branch "Raised Beds"

6/16-Tuesday

6:30-8:30 p.m. Thurmont Branch "Frugal Food Tips'

6/30-Tuesday

6:30-8:30 p.m. Emmitsburg Branch "Potager Design: Kitchen Gardens"

6 Saturday

Gettysburg Farmers Market on Lincoln Square: Lincoln Square, Gettysburg. Market opens at 7 a.m.

Historic Village of Boiling Springs' 23rd Annual Foundry Day Arts & Crafts Festival The juried festival will feature the original works of 100 fine artists and craftsmen of the Pennsylvania Guild of Craftsmen as well as professional artists and craftsmen from throughout the country. The event, running from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., rain or shine, takes over the streets surrounding the picturesque Children's Lake, spanning from the Memorial Clock Tower to the walking bridge.

3rd Annual Gettysburg Antique Appraisal Day. Ever wonder what your family heirlooms, attic treasures, childhood keepsakes, cherished collectibles, mysterious yard sale finds, and inherited antiques are really worth? Then bring your decorative items to Adams County Historical Society's first annual antique appraisal day and let professional appraisers help determine whether vou're holding onto trash or a real treasure! Gettysburg Fire Hall, 35 North Stratton Street, Gettysburg, 717-334-4723.

Ask a Master Gardener—Frederick County Master Gardeners will be at the West Frederick Farmer's Market on Baughman's Lane in Frederick every Saturday through August. The Market runs from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and the MGs will be at the "Ask a Master Gardener" booth to answer gardening questions and offer advice.

12 Friday

Tom's Creek UMC Yard Sale and Flea Market -at the Promised Land located on Rt. 140 between Four Points Bridge Rd and Tom's Creek Church Rd) from 7:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Spaces are available for \$10.00 per day for a 10 x 10 space. Call Jocelyn Wivell at 301-447-2082 for more information.

Elias Lutheran Church's Baked Fried Chicken Dinner 3:30—7:00 p.m. Proceeds benefit Emmitsburg Council of Churches Mission to Kenya. Come for Dinner stay for Coffee House! Cost: \$9.00 adults, \$4.00 for kids extra offerings appreciated. 301-447-6239.

13 Saturday

Gettysburg Farmers Market on Lincoln Square: Lincoln Square, Gettysburg. Market opens at 7 A.M.

Tom's Creek UMC Yard Sale and Flea Market-at the Promised Land located on Rt. 140 between Four Points Bridge Rd and Tom's Creek Church Rd) from 7:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Spaces are available for \$10.00 per day for a 10 x 10 space. Call Jocelyn Wivell at 301-447-2082 for more information

Tom's Creek UMC Strawberry Festival - at Promised Land located on Rt. 140 between Four Points Bridge Rd and Tom's Creek Church Rd) from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. - Join us for food, fellowship, music and of course, strawberries! All proceeds will benefit The Least of These Ministries.

St Johns' Evangelical Lutheran Churches Fried Chicken Dinner. Creagerstown, MD. Dinner

Civil War Era Dancing-Village Hall, Fairfield, PA. 19th Century or modern semi-formal attire and white gloves are required. Metal heel plates are not allowed on the dance floor. Light refreshments will be served. For more information call 717-337-0748 or visit www.civiliansofgettysburg.com. Dancing starts at 7 p.m.

Mt. Tabor Church of Rocky Ridge will hold a festival at Mt. Tabor Park, home of the Big Slide. Come enjoy good home-cooked food-Soup, Sandwiches, Pie, Iced Tea and Ice Cream & Strawberries beginning at 4:00 p.m. Also enjoy games including bingo. Music by "Bluegrass Chapel Band" begins at 7:00 p.m. Come join us in Christian Fellowship—surely a good time for everyone of all ages

9th Annual Michael L. and Douglas A. Wivell Memorial Walk. For more information and registrations from visit the upcoming events section of Emmitsburg.net.

15 Monday

Regular Monthly meeting of the Emmitsburg Historical Society-The Greater Emmitsburg Area Historical Society invites everyone to join them the third Monday of every Month at 7 p.m., in the community room at the Emmitsburg library. The subject of this meeting well be the Great Fire of 1863!

Regular meeting of the Emmitsburg Town Council. Meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Visit www.emmitsburgmd.gov for agenda items.

18 Thursday

Third Annual Historic Gettysburg-Adams County Barn Art Show. The Show this year will be held this year from June 18th to June 21st, 2009, as a part of the Gettysburg Arts Festival Celebrating America. All works of art must feature a barn from within Adams County and the art will be displayed in the GAR building at 53 East Middle Street. For more information call 717-334-5185.

12th Annual Gettysburg Brass Band Festival. Come to Historic Downtown Gettysburg for a grand celebration of the 12th Annual Gettysburg Brass Band Festival. Entirely free, the festival offers a variety of performances by some of the best brass bands from the Mid-Atlantic region and beyond. 113 Carlisle Street, Gettysburg. Continuous performances of brass band concerts begin Thursday evening and crescendo through the weekend, until the final notes are sounded Sunday evening. Performance venues throughout Gettysburg highlight some of the town's most historic and charming backdrops. For more information visit www. gettysburgfestival.org.

19 Friday

Third Annual Historic Gettysburg-Adams County Barn Art Show. (See entry for June 18 for more information)

Pennsylvania Lavender Festival-The only such event in the eastern U.S., the three-day Festival offers sensory delights and a wide variety of experiences for participants including tours of the farm's lavender fields and demonstration gardens, lectures and workshops by nationally known experts, and cut-your-own lavender from the farm's 2.5 acres of plantings. Willow Pond Farm, 145 Tract Road, Fairfield. 717-642-6387. Visit with venders, find practically everything lavender under our "Lavender Tent", or start your own lavender garden with some of the nearly 100 varieties available at our certified organic greenhouses. Three varieties-'Madeline Marie', 'Rebecca Kay', and 'Two Amys'-were developed at Willow Pond Farm.

20 Saturday

New Oxford Outdoor Antique Show - Antiques Dealers, Food, Crafts, Entertainment, over 160 Antiques Dealers plus permanent shops. On the streets of New Oxford, New Oxford, PA. Sponsored by the New Oxford Area Chamber of Commerce. For more information E-mail the show at info@newoxford.org or 717-624-2800.

Gettysburg Farmer's Market on Lincoln Square: Lincoln Square, Gettysburg. Market opens at 7 a.m.

Third Annual Historic Gettysburg-Adams County Barn Art Show (See entry for June 18 for more information)

Pennsylvania Lavender Festival (See entry for June 19 for more information)

Fitzgerald's Auto & Cycle Services Open House. For more information call 301-447-6274

21 Sunday

Third Annual Historic Gettysburg-Adams County Barn Art Show. (See entry for June 18 for more information)

Pennsylvania Lavender Festival (See entry for June 19 for more information)

22 Monday

St. Anthony Shrine Parish Vacation Bible School "Crocodile Dock" where fearless kids shine God's light .Contact Sara Miller at miller.sara@gmail.com or call at (301) 271-9871) or visit www.emmitsburg.net/sasolmc.

Trinity United Methodist Church Bible School: June 22-26 6:30 p.m.

Gettysburg Fire Department Carnival - Come and enjoy the rides and games at the annual Carnival Gettysburg Rec Park, Long Lane Gettysburg—717-334-2028 or www.gettysburg-pa.gov/ parks_recreation.htm

23 Tuesday

St. Anthony Shrine Parish Vacation Bible School-(see entry for June 22 for more information)

Trinity United Methodist Church Bible School (see entry for June 22 for more information)

Gettysburg Fire Department Carnival (see entry for June 22 for more information)

St. Anthony Shrine Parish Vacation Bible School—(see entry for June 22 for more information)

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Gettysburg Fire Department Carnival (see entry for June 22 for more information)

25 Thursday

St. Anthony Shrine Parish Vacation Bible School—(see entry for June 22 for more information)

Trinity United Methodist Church Bible School (see entry for June 22 for more information)

Gettysburg Fire Department Carnival (see entry for June 22 for more information)

26 Friday

St. Anthony Shrine Parish Vacation Bible School— (see entry for June 22 for more information)

Trinity United Methodist Church Bible School (see entry for June 22 for more in-

Gettysburg Fire Department Carnival (see entry for June 22 for more information)

27 Saturday

Gettysburg Farmer's Market on Lincoln Square: Lincoln Square, Gettysburg. Market opens at 7 a.m.

Annual Emmitsburg Community Day—See page 27 or visit www.emmitsburg.net/lions for more information and schedule of activities.

One Mountaintop Heritage Days weekend-The One Mountain Foundation along with the Monterey Pass Battlefield Association will be commemorating the 146th anniversary of the battle of Monterey Pass at the Rolando Woods Lions Club Park. A ceremony will be held at 1:00 p.m. to unveil the Pennsylvania Civil War Trails wayside exhibit in addition to the battle of Monterey Pass driving and walking tours. See page 7 or visit emmitsburg.net/ motereypass for more details.

St. Joseph's Parish summer golf outing—Visit www. emmitsburg.net/st.josephparish for more information.

Gettysburg Fire Department Carnival (see entry for June 22 for more information)

Thurmont Lions Club's first annual "Call to Artists"—Featuring quality artists in upper Frederick County working in various mediums of: painting, pottery, jewelry making, glass works, quilting, etc. Rain date Sunday, June 28, 2009, time: 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

28 Sunday

Gettysburg Fire Department Carnival (see entry for June 22 for more information)

For more upcoming events, visit the Upcoming Events Section of Emmitsburg.net.

MOUNT ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY

The Mount is built on four pillars—faith, discovery, leadership and community.

MORE THAN 100 EMMITSBURG RESIDENTS WORK AT MOUNT ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY.

The Mount thanks them for another great year and for helping to make the Mount such a special place!

Adams, Sean Andrew, Kimberly K. Bickel, David R. Birge SSJ, Mary K. Bradshaw, Kristyn L. Brannen, Brett A. Burns, Thomas J. Canadas, Alejandro A. Carey, Margaret A. Cool, Samuel B. Cregger, Sherry C. Crum, Cheryl L. Dabbs, Monica R. Danner, Michael L. Dietrich, John J. Donohue, James M. Dorsey, Peter A. Emrich, Carol L. Eshbach, Joseph D. Evler, Anna R. Eyler, Samuel C. Faulkner, Jr., Raymond E. Faulkner, Sr., Raymond E. Feeser, Sandra H. Fitzgerald, Kevin J. Flanagan, Brendan T. Fraga-Canadas, Cynthia P. Gelwicks, Sandra L. Getz, Jason L. Glass, Wanda L. Grisez, Germain Grisez, Mariazinha F. Haines, Roland E. Higgins, Anne M. Hochschild, Joshua P. Hochschild, Paige E. Hollenbaugh, Crystal E. Hollenbaugh, Zachary G. Janak, Justin R. Joy, David W. Junker, Linda K. Knott, Patricia A. Koenig, Brian M. Lane, Thomas J. Larrivee, John D. Lenfant, Jennifer M. Lippy, Daniel P. Little, Edward V. Lombardi, John J. Love, John D.

Marsh, Frandel K.

Martin, Nathaniel J. McCarthy, David M.

McGraw, Robert E. McVearry Jr., Kenneth L.

Mick, Rosemary S. Miller, Frederick L. Mindling, John D. Myers, Gloria J. Myers, Steven A. Nevins, Erika C. Nevins, James J. Nolan, Brian P. O'Donnell, Joy Anne M. Ott, Alexis M. Ott, Cathy A. Ott, Sharon A. Phillips, Dale A. Phillips, Jay S. Portier D.O., Bonita J. Portner, Harry L. Powell, Jason R. Powell, Thomas H. Prvor, Dianne M. Redmond, Paul V. Robinson, Kathryn R. Robinson, Lynne P. Robinson, Mary L. Rohlfs, Steven P. Rosenthal, Michael R. Ryan, Thomas D. Shaum, David W. Shields, Mary A. Shockey, Diane M. Shriner, Tammy K. Smaldone, Paula Q. Smith, Eric M. Speelman, Brantley B. Stackhouse, Eric J. Staiger, Jennifer L. Swain, Trevor R. Swetland, Stuart W. Topper, Maria L. Topper, Zachary R. Valentine, Mildred A. Valentine, Philip B. Velisek, Courtney E. Walton, Stephen R. Ward, Thomas J. Weller, John R. Wescott, Denise D. Williams, Kathleen E. Williams, Stacey L. Wivell, Jennifer S. Wivell, Shane M. Wolf, Monica R. Ziegler III, Frederick J.

Zylla, Robert

DID YOU KNOW...

... THE LOCAL COMMUNITY CAN PURCHASE MEMBERSHIPS TO THE ARCC?

The Knott Athletic Recreation Convocation Complex (ARCC) is a 105,000 square foot facility used for fitness and recreation, intercollegiate athletics, entertainment and cultural events. Included is the Knott Arena, which features a main arena/convocation center with a seating capacity of 3,500 for basketball and up to 5,000 for other events. The ARCC also contains the John J. Dillon Field House, which has four multipurpose basketball, tennis, volleyball and badminton courts and a jogging track. In addition to the Arena and Field House, the facility contains a 25-meter swimming pool; four racquetball/wallyball courts; a weight room and cardio room; an aerobics room; a trainer's room; student and faculty locker rooms; saunas; varsity and intramural equipment areas; and seminar and conference rooms.

Visit www.msmary.edu/arcc or call the recreational services office at 301-447-5290.

... YOU CAN USE THE MOUNT'S BEAUTIFUL CAMPUS FOR YOUR NEXT CONFERENCE OR RETREAT?

During the summer months of June through early August, we offer lodging, dining service, meeting space and recreational facilities for groups of 10 to 1,000 participants.

During the academic year, our meeting rooms and dining services are available for one-day programs.

For more information or to check availability, please contact conferences@msmary.edu or 301-447-5330.

...THE MOUNT IS "FAITHFUL AND AFFORDABLE?"

A new independent report on college costs published by The Center for the Study of Catholic Higher Education reveals that some of the most faithfully Catholic colleges and universities in the United States, which include Mount St Mary's University, also offer students significant cost savings.

Mount St Mary's University's average net cost per year for students is more than \$7100 lower than the average of private colleges in Maryland.

Mount St. Mary's is listed as one of the 21 Catholic colleges and universities in the United States which most faithfully live their Catholic identity and provide a quality undergraduate education according to *The Newman Guide to Choosing a Catholic College: What to Look for and Where to Find It*

Visit www.msmary.edu for more information.