

Woodsboro - Walkersville NEWS-JOURNAL

VOLUME 3, NO. 9

"EXALTING THE IMPORTANCE OF IDEAS AND INFORMATION" — EDWARD R. MURROW

SEPTEMBER 2023

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NEWS

Woodsboro To tackle Grass Clippings in Gutters

Clippings have built up to a point where they are blocking storm water flow. **Page 2**

Speeds Limit Signs To Be Placed On 2nd Street

Signs to be placed at entrance, middle and exit of street. **Page 2**

EDC Visits WBPA

Groups members set to meet in September to facilitate engagement. **Page 3**

Historic Designation Stirs Questions

County proposes to declare buildings in Fount Rock Park historic. **Page 3**

Unsung Hero

A look at Vaughn Zimmerman's Lifelong commitment to Walkersville. **Page 20**

COMMENTARY

Words From Winterbilt

Exploring the line between free speech and speech that has consequences. **Page 8**

The Liberal Patriot

America has a good case for optimism. **Page 9**

Good Day, Neighbor

Gifted and trained teachers can help children build the foundations for a successful life. **Page 9**

ARTICLES

The Book Of Days

The history of jelly & jelly making. **Page 11**

Ecology

The American Beech tree. **Page 12**

Science Matters

Female scientists you should know about. **Page 13**

In The Country

Are we witnessing the extinction of the Monarch butterfly? **Page 15**

Gardening

Frequently asked questions of Master Gardeners. **Page 16**

History

The History of Woodsboro—business & organizations. **Page 22**

Four Years At The Mount

Recognizing unsung heroes. **Page 28**

Cooking

Recipes for the fussy school age eater. **Page 31**

78th Glade Valley Community Show set to go

The Glade Valley Community Show is going on its 78th Year. This year's show will be held September 26, 27 and 28th at the Walker's Overlook.

The Glade Valley Community Show was started in 1945 by the Glade Valley Grange. The show started at the old Walkersville Elementary/High School which is now FCPS Staff Development Center. The show was then held in the old firehall upstairs which is now Walkersville Town Hall and at the activities/bingo building at the Walkersville carnival grounds. It was moved to the new high school in 1978 or 1979. The show was unable to return this year to the high school due to the increased number of athletic classes and sports.

The Glade Valley Community show is now a collaborative effort between the Walkersville FFA Alumni, Walkersville FFA Chapter, Glade Valley Lions Club, Johnsville Ruritan Club, Mt. Pleasant Ruritan Club, and the Walkersville Business Professional Association, all non-profit organi-

zations which have all united in a common cause to educate, support, and promote agriculture and agriculture education in the Glade Valley Community.

The show provides the opportunity for all residents in the Walkersville High School feeder school area as well as members of sponsoring organizations to put on display their best home-grown produce, yummy baked goods, and finest selection of handiwork within the last year. Handiwork ranges from crafts and food preservation to photography and artwork.

Every year the show hosts a cake auction, the cakes, pies, cookies, and breads entered by exhibitors. This cake auction is a huge part of the Glade Valley Community show. In 2022, the auction brought in \$18,000. The funds raised from the cake auction are used to help off-set expenses associated with putting on the show, but more importantly are used by the partner organizations for use in providing scholarships and helping with travel for the Walkersville FFA members to attend



For the first time, this year's show will also include a petting zoo to allow kids to get up and close to farm animals.

conventions, contest, and leadership events.

"We are grateful for the generosity extended to the show by Mark Lynch, owner of the Overlook, in providing the use of this beautiful facility again and in upcoming years," said Brittany Sanders, Community Show Chair in announcing the return to Walker's Overlook, "His generosity has allowed us to continue a tradition for the community."

The community show is a non-

profit charitable organization. Premium funding is provided by the Maryland Agriculture Fair Board through a grant.

Community Show Books are always available at local businesses throughout the Glade Valley Community. The show's premium book has a full listing of classes to enter items as well as exhibiting rules and regulations. For more information visit the community show website at www.gladevalley-communityshow.com.

Historical Society to host antique appraisal

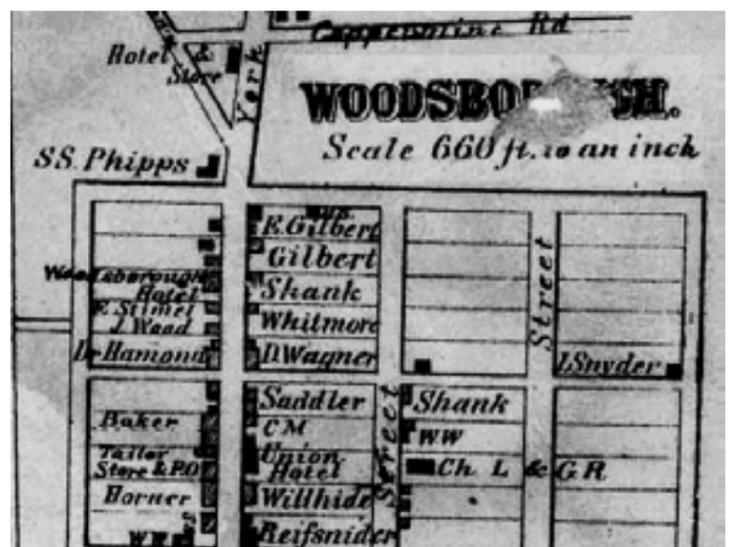
The Woodsboro Historical Society strives to promote education and celebration of Frederick county's history, especially through its numerous lectures and public events. A particularly special event is returning September 30th, after more than 20 years, as the Woodsboro Historical Society is bringing back its Antique Appraisal Fair! The main appraiser of the event will be Robert Harrison, who has over 30 years of experience as an appraiser.

One doesn't have to be a member of the society to attend the fair, which will be hosted at the Woodsboro American Legion, or even to bring items to be appraised. The appraisal is mainly looking for small antique items of any kind, and there is a short list of prohibited items, including guns, jewelry, and ammo, to be noted. Besides this list, "the sky is the limit. Anything unique they want to bring by, we will appreciate it," said Steele Michael, chair of the appraisal fair. He also explained that the fair is "built as a fundraiser, but really it's a way to celebrate the community, bring people out, and return to something the society did years and years ago."

The appraisal will support the Woodsboro Historical Society's overall mission, future events, and

its train station museum, which houses a unique collection of historical items of Frederick County for the public to enjoy. Along with being a fundraiser, Steele said that "the appraisal is giving people the chance to bring in items they are interested in the value of, but also is helping people bring in local Woodsboro items so we can celebrate the history."

The goals and focus of the Woodsboro Historical Society have largely remained the same since the society was founded in the 1960's, and is run entirely by volunteers. Steele said that it became especially "prominent in 1976 for the Bicentennial; that's when the society published a book called Woodsboro Remembers. The Historical Society has always been a place to preserve Woodsboro's place in Frederick County history, and our collection shows that—we've had lots of history-related items donated to the society over the years, and our ongoing work to preserve the Woodsboro train station has been a labor of love since the 1970's; by next year we'll have completed that restoration." The central collection will be rotated in and out with what is kept in the storage collection over the years, so that there is always something new to see at the museum.



Have an original old map? You may be surprised to discover you have the only copy in existence!

If you are interested in joining the Woodsboro Historical Society, Steele recommended to start by attending a general meeting. The Society meets every third Wednesday of the month from 7-8:30 p.m. "We definitely welcome anyone interested in his-

tory and wanting to support this little group," Steele said. "We welcome anyone with grant writing experience, anyone who has museum management experience, interested in display, and historians—we really welcome historians."

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WOODSBORO NEWS

2nd Street to get speed limit signs

At the suggestion of Commissioner Cutshall, speed limit signs will be placed on Second Street. Cutshall told the Council that he was surprised to discover that the street did not have any speed limit signs at all, and suggested that two be placed on every block—each facing on coming traffic.

Cutshall noted that with the number of kids he sees playing on the streets, that sooner or later someone was going to be hurt and that when it happened, the question as to why the Town had not chosen to install speed limit signs would be raised.

Cutshall's recommendation to place two signs on every block, however, failed when the council was informed that the town had just paid \$225 for the four signs that had recently been installed on Main Street, and that Cutshall's

request would cost the town an additional \$900.

Commissioner Case recommended that, at a minimum, signs be placed at the entrance to Second Street and half way down the street, met with everyone approval.

In spite of the Commissioner's agreement, the Council expressed concern that speed limit signs would have no effect until there was a way to enforce the speed limit.

Barnes told the Council that he was in active discussion with the State in hopes of gaining funding for the town's acquisition of speed cameras. The only drawback, Barnes noted, was that the State currently requires a police officer to read the photos taken and to issue the tickets.

Barnes told the Council that he had approached Thurmont Mayor Kinnard about the possibility of the

Thurmont Police Department reading the photos, and had received a positive response.

Barnes, however, informed the Council that there is a proposal in the State legislature to change the rule by replacing the requirement of a 'police officer' to read the photos to a 'trained individual' and recommended that the Town look into sending one of its staff to receive the training and be certified to read the camera's results.

"Tickets from cameras max out at \$40. If we have a policeman from another town read the results, we have to pay them. If we have our own staff read the results, we get to keep all the money."

Barnes said he would keep the Council informed as he hears more from the State on the schedule for getting the speed cameras.

Council vexed by grass in gutters

A significant portion of the August Town Council meeting was occupied with a discussion on how to handle grass clippings that are being blown into the town streets by residents when they cut their lawns.

While the issue may seem insignificant to many, it does have ramifications, Burgess Heath Barnes noted. It affects the flow, and more importantly quality of storm water that flows into the town's storm water drainage system, and eventually into the Chesapeake Bay.

The issue was brought to the Council's attention by resident Brenda Hedges during the public comment period of the Council's meeting. She

told the Council that in some areas of town, the clippings have gotten so thick that it's almost impossible to tell where the curb ends and the street begins, which could prove to be a tripping hazard for those like herself, who enjoy walking through the town everyday, not to mention "taking away from the aesthetics of the town," she said.

Barnes confirmed that in some areas of the town, the clippings have gotten so thick that grass and weeds are actually now growing out of the dead clippings and taking root in such a way that the town's hand pushed gutter cleaner is incapable of removing them.

Councilman Jessie Case picked up on Hedges' concerns about the accu-

mulation of clippings being a tripping hazard, and added that the blowing of grass into the street created a more immediate concern for bicyclists and motorcyclists who could easily lose control of their bikes on the grass in the street, especially when it is wet.

Councilman Cutshall noted that wet grass will also affect the braking of cars. Given that the greatest accumulation of grass clippings in the streets is in the more heavily residential areas, with kids often in the streets, an "accident is just waiting to happen."

Vexed by the situation, the Council debated how to address the public's justified concerns. Barnes noted that there is no town regulation prohibiting

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the blowing of grass clippings into the street, and admitted that the best time to have addressed it would have been when the town passed the changes to allowable grass height this spring.

"If we want to insert language into the code, we will have to start the process all over again, starting with a public notice and public hearing," Barnes said. "It's not something we are going

to be able to fix overnight."

The Council agreed to at least see what the town staff could do on the more egregious areas where clippings have built up to a point that the gutters are no longer visible.

How to address the root of the issue—the blowing of grass clippings into the streets—was deferred until a future date.

News Briefs . . .

Council Denies Temporary Trailer Parking Variance

The Council denied Howard Sparkman a temporary variance to park his yard care trailer on the street in front of his home in the Woodbury subdivision.

Sparkman, who has parked his trailer for 13 years in front of his home, was recently served with a

notice that he was in violation of the town code prohibiting the parking of trailers on town streets.

Sparkman told the Council in its July meeting that since he was served, he had to drive his trailer every night to his father's home in Thurmont and retrieve it every morning, which adds almost an hour to his day.

He only parks the trailer in front of

his home during yard care season. In the winter, the trailer is stored at his father's house.

The town zoning enforcer noted that while Sparkman would be allowed to park the trailer in his driveway, the length of his driveway was not sufficient to house the 16-foot trailer.

Burgess Heath Barnes and the Town Commissioners were caught off guard by the request, as they were unsure if they had the power to grant a variance to the town code.

All the Commissioners expressed sympathy for Sparkman at the July meeting and voted to approve a temporary variance to the code, allowing the parking of the trailer on the street until the Planning & Zoning Commission could take the issue up and make a final ruling at their August meeting. The Planning & Zoning Commission, however, threw the case back into the lap of the Town Council.

Commissioner Bud Eckenrode suggested allowing Sparkman to continue to park his trailer until the end of the lawn care season, which would allow him the Winter to find a better solution to its storage.

Commissioner John Cutshall however expressed concern that if the Town was not going to enforce the town's codes, "why have them? If we ignore this code, it opens the door for people to ask us to ignore other codes. It's just not a good idea. We should revoke on the temporary variance right away."

Commissioner Case, who found himself as the deciding vote, as Commissioner Rittelmeyer was absent from the meeting, was swayed by the reminder that the Town had received numerous complaints about the trailer, but wanted to give Sparkman until the end of the month to make plans for the trailer's nightly storage. "Sparkman, after all, did come to us

and ask for permission, so it's only fair that we give him notice so he can use the next few weeks to make his plans."

Eckenrode and Cutshall concurred with Case's recommendation.

Woodsboro Historical Society Opts Not To Continue With 5K on Woodsboro Days

At the August Town Council meeting, Burgess Heath Barnes informed the Council that the Woodsboro Historical Society's has decided to discontinue its annual Woodsboro 5K Run/Walk and fundraiser, which has traditionally served as the unofficial kicking off the Town's festival. The yearly event was one of the main events that supports the ongoing activities and efforts of the Woodsboro Historical Society.

The decision was a setback to plans to expand the festival to a full two days. Barnes told the Council that he explored options to move the music festival portion of Woodsboro Days to Saturday to coincide with the yard sale that would be taking place all over town, but unfortunately all the bands are scheduled to play on Sunday. The music festival portion of Woodsboro Days were already locked into other arrangements that Saturday, as were all the food trucks, so the town has no other option but to continue with the two-day format—for this year, at least.



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WALKERSVILLE NEWS

EDC visits WBPA

On Thursday morning August 17th Linda Morgan, President of the Walkersville Economic Development Commission, (EDC) visited with and spoke to the assembled members of the Walkersville Business and Professional Association (WBPA) during their monthly meeting held at the Walkersville Public Library.

Both the EDC and the WBPA find themselves in very similar positions, and are hopeful to leverage the knowledge and resources of the other to aid themselves in their efforts to solidify a purpose, vision, and direc-

tion for their respective entity's.

The WBPA was founded in 2010. It had an early vision of being a smaller, hometown version of a Chamber of Commerce. An organization where any type of business was openly welcomed and the prerequisites for membership were performing some portion of your business in or around the 21793 zip code, and a genuine desire to help the Walkersville business community interconnect and thrive.

Looking back on the WBPA's first 13 years of existence, some might use the term 'mixed' to describe its results. Like

most things that are new and different, the organization got some early traction, and its membership grew. Local Businesspeople attended meetings, and many ideas were shared. Unfortunately, like so many other businesses, organizations, or groups of any kind, COVID-19 took its toll. Even now in August of 2023 the organization is working hard to regain its bearings, and attempting to understand how it can best serve this community in a meaningful and productive way.

The EDC has existed within Walkersville Town Government for some time, and has recently been revamped and reintroduced. At its core the pur-

pose would be a liaison between the Walkersville business community and the Town. Helping understand needs and gaps amongst the business community, and having some advice on the potential growth of the community.

The EDC and the WBPA find themselves in very similar places. Working hard to find committed membership, and at the same time struggling to establish a recognized 'Brand' that the business community and the community at large can recognize, understand, and most importantly, support.

Both groups are tasked with serving a wonderful little town that still hasn't figured out exactly what it

wants to be when it grows up. Will it remain a quaint bedroom community surrounded by pastoral farmlands, or does it pursue bringing more "destination" types of entities to town? Tough questions, and finding the answers, and a consensus around those answers won't be easy.

The EDC and the WBPA will absolutely need each other's support and cooperation to obtain their respective highest goods. A prominent theme for both groups is their never-ending search for additional membership and volunteers. The two groups will come together again at a planned mixer on September 18th at 7 p.m. at town hall.

Fount Rock Park historic designation stirs questions

During a meeting on August 8, the planning commission noted the recent appearance of a sign at Fountain Rock Park. Posted by Frederick County, the sign suggests future designation of several landmarks within the park—including the limestone quarry and kilns—as historical sites. These landmarks hold a rich historical significance, dating back to their construction between 1857 and 1867, with quarrying operations commencing in 1874.

The proposed historical designation carries more than symbolic weight, as it comes with legal protection that acknowledges the property's importance according to criteria set forth by

the state of Maryland. According to the Maryland Historic Trust website, "Properties must be historically significant at the local, state, or national level for one of the following reasons: associated with important events or broad patterns of history; associated with the life of a significant person; representative of a type or style of architecture, or the work of a master; or have the ability to yield new information (generally for archeological sites). Properties must also possess integrity – the physical features that convey the property's significance."

Although Fountain Rock is technically within the county's jurisdiction, the sign posted at the park stirred discus-

sion within the commission, with commission member Dick Brady bringing attention to the apparent lack of communication from the county to the town regarding their intentions. Brady explained that his concerns mainly lie in any unintentional consequences on surrounding Walkersville property, such as changes in home value.

Although the county's Historic Preservation Planner feels strongly that this will not occur, the larger issue at hand is inadequate consultation with town staff in a matter which involves Walkersville properties, even if indirectly. Brady mentioned several other instances in which this behav-

ior had been previously repeated. "I think the exception has been when they talked about farm preservation programs, but even that came through farm preservation staff, not the planning staff or commission," said Brady.

Said Town Planner Susan Hauver, "I think it's a matter of courtesy—in the past, there was an agreement that if things were in what they call a 'growth area,' they're supposed to notify us—but it's kind of fallen apart." Although this could be a result of staff changes, it highlights the importance of reinstating a strong relationship between town and county.

The commission also pointed out that in the particular case of Fountain Rock, surrounding properties are not the only concern as the park property contains town water facilities on its premises. "I think it would be appropriate for us to at least make our feelings on the subject known to the county, as in, if [they're] going to do something in our growth area, our zone of influence, we feel that we should be notified and invited to participate in the discussion," said commission member Mike Kuster.

The County Council does plan to hold a public hearing about Fountain Rock Park on September 15.

Parks improvements under consideration

During the Parks Commission meeting on August 2, several improvements to Walkersville's parks were discussed, promising better recreational opportunities for residents and visitors alike. The meeting shed light on a range of projects that aim to foster community engagement, environmental stewardship, and family connection.

Hoping to start her Girl Scout Silver Project, Paige-Maree May Woods of Troop 81369 requested that she

be allowed to install a "Family Night Fun Box" at Community Park. Similar to a "Little Free Library," which have become popular in recent years, her proposed design includes a small box mounted on wooden stakes with double doors and two shelves to hold books and board games. Woods expressed her hope that the box will encourage local families to "come together and play games or read books they may not have access to otherwise."

To ensure the box's contents will be protected against the elements, Woods intends to utilize storage bags for individual books and games, which will be donated, collected, and purchased with funds raised by Woods. The box will also be adorned with Walkersville's signature blue and gold colors. With only brief discussion, Woods' project received full approval from the commission and should be installed in mid-August.

At Trout Park, tree planting efforts

initiated by the Maryland Forest Service are scheduled to take place at the end of September with the help of local Boy Scout Troop 1011. The project, which includes the planting of 20 large 15-gallon trees, is expected to be completed on September 30, and will improve water and erosion control as well as park aesthetic.

A significant portion of the meeting was dedicated to discussing the much-awaited playground replacement at

Heritage Farm Park. Parks maintenance technician Kelly Woods recommended that the commission prioritize revitalization of the main playground and delay swing set refurbishment due to high costs. With a budget of approximately \$120,000, the Commission unanimously approved the installation of an option which includes a small climbing wall and a Poured-in-Place rubber surface. Additionally, it was decided to postpone installation of sunshades pending final determination of their size and exact location.

News Briefs...

Maple & Maryland Ave. Road Work
Reconstruction of Maple Ave and Maryland Ave has been ongoing for a large portion of the summer. Ideally, the repairs will improve safety and accessibility for residents, business owners, and essential services. At the August 9 meeting, questions were raised by resident Laurie Haims about the newly designed sidewalk's configuration, which extends further into the roadway than it previously had. Haims expressed concerns about emergency equipment navigation, bus turns, snow management, and issues with line of sight. In response, Director of Public Works Joe Birch clarified that the expansion was necessary to make the sidewalk ADA compliant, and that the change was carefully planned with the help of a traffic engineer to ensure that the roadway would still remain functional in all aspects.

In addition, the town council approved an additional \$64,240 expenditure for the Maple and Maryland Avenues project, which

will help fortify the stone base underneath the roadway.

Town Code Changes

Amendments to the town code and charter secured unanimous approval following a public hearing session that yielded no comments. These revisions align with the recommendations of

a firm commissioned by the town to review outdated and inconsistent items in preparation for the electronic publication of these documents.

Playground Equipment Funding

Director of Public Works, Joe Birch, presented a funding proposal for the construction of a new playground slide at Heritage Farm Park, prompted by safety concerns surrounding the

current spiral slide. The proposed budget of \$7,150 for this project was approved, with the project expected to take place in the fall.

Birch also sought funding from the town for the replacement of the fire alarm and sprinkler control system at the water treatment plant. A total of \$8,506 was sanctioned for this critical upgrade.

Birch also introduced four companies to choose from in the bid for

repaving the walking paths at Heritage Farm Park. The paths are five feet wide and 800 feet long in total. Bids ranged from \$20 a foot to \$118 a foot with the winning bid being the lowest with D&H Paving based in Frederick. The total job will cost \$16,000 and D&H Paving will tear out the old pavement, grade the paths, put new stone base down and do the final paving.



Walkersville Economic Development Commission
Meet & Greet
Monday, September 18 - 7 p.m.
Walkersville Town Hall
The Walkersville Economic Development Commission (EDC) invites members of the Walkersville Business and Professionals Association (WBPA), as well as all businesses within the 21793 zip code to join us for a Meet & Greet. Members of the EDC will be available to meet with business owners and representatives to answer questions and learn what is needed to be successful in business in Walkersville.
Light refreshments will be served.
RSVP to edc@walkersvillemd.gov by Monday, September 11 at 5 p.m.

WALKERSVILLE INFO

Fri., Sept. 4 - Town Office Closed - Labor Day
Tues., Sept. 6 - 7 p.m. - Parks Commission Meeting
Tues., Sept. 12 - 7 p.m. - Planning Commission Meeting
Wed., Sept. 13 - 7 p.m. - Town Meeting
Tues., Sept. 18 - 7 p.m. - EDC Meeting - Meet and Greet
Tues., Sept. 26 - 7 p.m. - Planning Commission Meeting - Public Hearing - Comprehensive Plan
Wed., Sept. 27 - 7 p.m. - Town Meeting

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FROM THE DESK OF...

Congressman David Trone

For my entire life, I've been someone who gets things done. Throughout the challenges I've faced — seeing the bank take my parent's farm and our family home, growing my small business and disrupting the industry, and standing up for what's right in Congress — I've found that I'm not one to sit on the sidelines. I find hope in action. That's why, when my nephew Ian called me years ago and told me he was struggling with opioid addiction, I was sure that I could help.

I worked with him to find him the best treatment options. Multiple 28-day inpatient detox and recovery. Top-tier mental health care. Lawyers to work through five arrests. I thought that Ian's illness could be overcome, just as I'd beaten the odds of other seemingly insurmountable challenges throughout my life.

I was wrong. Ian died of a fentanyl overdose on New Year's Eve 2016. Losing him was like losing a son. After receiving that dreaded call, I rolled up my sleeves and went to work to make sure that no other family had to feel that pain.

Ian's story is proof that, even with the best treatment available, the disease of addiction can be deadly. As we celebrate National Recovery Month this September, I join countless Marylanders in celebrating those who overcame the immense challenge of substance use disorder.

Ian's story showed me just how dif-

icult it can be to stay clean, and I'm inspired by the stories of those who continue to do that day by day. But in honor of National Recovery Month, I'm also recommitting myself to doing whatever I can to ensure that more folks across the country can celebrate those milestones and can live fulfilling lives free from the grip of addiction. As much as anything, I again make this commitment so fewer families receive a phone call like mine did.

Ian was one of over 60,000 Americans who died of a drug overdose in 2016. Now, that number has increased to over 100,000 each year. That's enough people to fill Camden Yards more than twice over. More than 1 million lives have been lost since 1999. That is simply unacceptable to me.

There is no one-size-fits-all solution to this problem. Locking up offenders won't solve the problem. Ian was arrested 5 times, and like most people in jail or prison, there was no treatment during his incarceration. Residential inpatient treatment produces success less than half the time. Mental health treatment doesn't always get to the root of the problem. Success requires all of these and then some. But the first step is to break the stigma that surrounds addiction.

The simple truth is that addiction is a disease. Just like cancer, diabetes, or heart disease, it is a medical affliction — not a choice. The reason that I spend so much time telling Ian's story, no mat-

ter how tired some may get of hearing it, is because I know that it makes a difference. If one teenager hears me talking about Ian and is empowered to talk about their struggles and seek help, then it's worth it. All of us, as friends, neighbors, and Americans, should encourage and empower those around us to feel comfortable raising their hand and admitting that they're not okay.

Last year, I helped to launch the Bipartisan Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Task Force, dedicated to making a difference in this crisis. In one year alone, we passed 26 bills into law, funding billions of dollars in treatment and harm reduction efforts, expanding mental health care in schools, prisons, and communities, and giving our law enforcement officers the tools they need to curb the flow of opioids, especially synthetic opioids like fentanyl, in our communities.

We've also made progress to stop fentanyl on an international level, giving federal law enforcement expanded power to stop synthetic opioids coming from China, Mexico, and through our mail system. I've found that this issue is one that impacts all of us — Republican or Democrat, white or Black, rich or poor. We've tackled it on a bipartisan basis in Congress, and the same should be done across the country.

I'm in this fight because it's personal. And I know it is personal to so many Americans, too. Oftentimes when it comes to policy issues and legislative

Senior Services Advisory Board Listening Sessions Scheduled

The Frederick County Senior Services Advisory Board has scheduled five listening sessions this September for seniors and caregivers to share their issues and concerns to successfully live well in place. This is an important matter as one in five Frederick County residents is 60 years of age or older. It is estimated that there are about 60,000 residents who are seniors living in the county. This number is increasing three times the rate of the county as a whole, according to the Maryland Department of Planning.

Board members believe that input directly from seniors and caregivers within the five county districts will assist the advisory board in identifying the issues and concerns that are most important for them to live well in place as they grow older. The results will be shared with the County Executive, the County Council and the larger community so that better informed decisions and effective policies affecting seniors can be made.

"This is an opportunity for seniors and caregivers to share their needs and concerns that will enable them to successfully live well in

place as they age," said Thea Ruff, Chair of the Senior Services Advisory Board. "We encourage seniors and caregivers to attend one of our listening sessions and share their issues and concerns with us."

The listening sessions do not require advanced registration unless you choose to reserve lunch or attend the virtual session. They are scheduled for:

September 12, 6:30 pm at the Mt. Pleasant Ruritan Club, 8101 Crum Road, Walkersville. Light refreshments served.

September 15, 1:30 pm at the Emmitsburg Senior Center, 300 S Seton Ave, Emmitsburg. An optional box lunch available at 12:30 pm. Please call 301-600-6350 to make a lunch reservation at least one week in advance.

September 28, 4:00 pm at Virtual Senior Center. Email: virtualSeniorCenter@FrederickCountyMD.gov. Registration must be received at least two days before program.

For additional information, please contact the Frederick County Division of Aging and Independence at 301-600-1234.

changes, our leaders can get lost in the weeds of data and statistics. But behind each of those numbers is a real life lost to

this deadly disease. A life just like Ian's. For him, and for all of them, I'm not backing down.

County Council President Brad Young

I wanted to take this opportunity to update you on a couple of recent actions of the Frederick County Council. Most recently I just returned from my first Maryland Association of Counties Summer Conference. These conferences allow for wide ranging networking opportunities to speak directly with the Governor, his cabinet and various state and local elected officials from around Maryland to advocate directly on your behalf with the law and policy makers. It also permits many training opportunities for me to grow as an elected official and lead our great county.

On a local level I wanted to make everyone aware of an upcoming meeting where the Council will receive a briefing regarding coming changes to

Montevue Assisted Living.

Montevue is going through a transition from an institutional model to a serviced coordination model of care. The Council will receive additional information, but now we know that Montevue Assisted Living is undergoing a transition to phase out the institutional model of care and transition to meet people where they are. The new model is called service coordination and includes engaging and assessing seniors proactively, developing individual service plans based on what matters to the client, and providing care management to ensure the many agencies and services are working together.

I can assure you that Frederick County is committed to assisting all current Montevue Assisted Liv-

ing residents with housing and care options between now and June 30, 2024. This may include identifying living arrangements, such as other assisted living facilities, returning to the community, or long-term nursing home care at Citizens or another comparable nursing facility of one's choice; and providing ongoing one-on-one support from Aurora Health Management to create an individualized transition plan for each resident.

The independent senior living apartments announced recently are in Frederick County's long term capital improvement plan — years out — as part of the service coordination model expansion. The initial design work for this project is expected to begin in late 2027 or early 2028. This design work is required prior to

moving forward with construction. The final completion date is yet to be determined. The County will keep the public informed as the project progresses and make everyone aware of opportunities as they arise.

For more information about the transition plans for current Montevue Assisted Living residents, please contact Rachele Ayers at 240-772-9141. For future inquiries about the senior living apartments, please contact Kathan McCarthy at 301-600-6083 or constituent-services@frederickcountymd.gov. There will be more information available at our August 29th Council meeting.

Frederick County Government is also currently in the midst of audio/visual upgrades to the public meet-

ing rooms. Currently the First Floor Hearing Room is closed and undergoing an upgrade. The County Council meetings for our meetings through September 12, 2023, will be held starting at our usual 5:30 p.m. start time in the third-floor meeting room in Winchester Hall. We are tentatively scheduled to return to the First Floor Hearing Room on Tuesday, September 19. Please consult the Council's agenda webpage for our weekly agenda at: [Agendas and Minutes | Frederick County MD - Official Website](https://www.frederickcountymd.gov/Agendas-and-Minutes).

I am happy that I can give you an update on current Council activities. If there is ever anything I can do for you, please feel free to reach out to me and my office. You can contact me via email at: BYoung@FrederickCountyMD.gov, or you can call my office at 301-600-1108.

SPORTSMAN'S CALENDAR GUN RAFFLE 2024

THE 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS IS A \$1000 A DAY PRIZE

Annual Fundraising Event to support the Emmitsburg

Vigilant Hose Company #6 Fire & Rescue

Caleendars will be available starting the middle of September
at the VHC Fire Hall and Stateline Gun Exchange, Emmitsburg

For more information contact the Vigilant Hose Co. at:

240-674-0154 or visit www.VHC6.com



GOVERNMENT

County Executive Jessica Fitzwater

Students are back in class. Temperatures are cooling off. Community shows and the Great Frederick Fair are right around the corner. It must be September! This September, for the first time, we will celebrate Deaf Awareness Month at Winchester Hall. Frederick County is home to a thriving community of people who are deaf or hard of hearing. We're partnering with the nonprofit Maryland Deaf Community Center to hold a proclamation ceremony on Wednesday, September 6th at 2 p.m. Maryland School for the Deaf Superintendent John Serrano will be on hand, as well. I hope you can join us!

Crisis Care Center

This month, Frederick County's first walk-in crisis care center opens for people experiencing mental health or substance use emergencies. Behavioral health issues account for about 1 out of every 5 visits to Frederick Health Hospital's emergency department. By opening a 24/7 walk-in crisis care center, people can get the help they need when they need it, without going to a hospital.

Frederick County is the first county

in Maryland to open this kind of center for behavioral health emergencies, officially known as a crisis stabilization center. When someone comes to the center, they will receive care for their immediate crisis, speak with peer support counselors, and be connected to resources for ongoing care in our community.

The Mental Health Association will operate the center, located at 340 Montevue Lane in Frederick, under the direction of the Frederick County Health Department. MHA's existing walk-in clinic will move to the new center and begin offering services around the clock.

People can walk in to receive care, or they can be referred to the center by a long list of community partners: local crisis hotlines (211 and 988), first responders, law enforcement, mobile crisis response teams, community providers, and families of those who are in crisis.

We are able to bring this important service to our community thanks in part to our State and Federal partners, who together contributed over \$2.5 million. A portion of the county's American Rescue Plan funds also

are dedicated to the walk-in crisis care center. Legal settlement money that Frederick County receives from opioid manufacturers and distributors will also go toward the center's operation. Frederick County's share of the settlements is \$11.2 million paid out over 18 years.

Rural Historic Preservation Grants

Our Rural Historic Preservation Grant Program helps to protect Frederick County's rich history. We've made some changes to the program this year to improve the process for property owners. People can begin applying now for one of these competitive grants, which are used to restore historic structures in our unincorporated areas.

Applications will be accepted through November, with awards made next spring. Previously, the grant cycle started later in the year. That meant that by the time applications were reviewed and ranked, and agreements signed, money wasn't distributed until late in the summer. The timing made it difficult for projects to be completed before winter weather sets in.

Grants can total up to \$50,000. To be eligible, a property must be either designated on the County Register of Historic Places or as a contributing resource in a County-designated historic district. If the property or district is not yet listed, a letter of determination by the Historic Preservation Commission will need to be included with the application.

Several workshops are scheduled to provide information about the program and how to apply. The next workshop is planned for September 14th at 5:30 p.m. at the C. Burr Artz Library. A virtual session is planned for October 9th. You can register for one of the workshops online at FrederickCountyMD.gov/Rural-HPGrant. If you have any questions, contact Historic Preservation Planner Amanda Whitmore at AWhitmore@FrederickCountyMD.gov.

Agritourism

I am excited to see the progress being made by the Agritourism Workgroup that began meeting this summer. I appointed the group to examine the laws, regulations and programs in place today that affect this growing industry. At their August 24th meet-

ing, farmers brought their ideas for ways the County can support them. You can follow the workgroup's efforts online at FrederickCountyMD.gov/Agritourism.

Farming has changed substantially over the years. Our laws and regulations need to catch up. By modernizing our system, we can lay a foundation to support innovation in the years to come so our farms, and our farmers, can continue to thrive.

Data Centers (for Brunswick editions)

While the Agritourism Workgroup is helping to modernize one of Frederick County's oldest industries, another workgroup is examining one of our emerging industries – data centers. Residents had an opportunity to weigh in at a recent community meeting in Adamstown. The meeting took place after the News-Journal went to press, but the video should be online to watch now at www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/DataCenters.

Upcoming meetings are scheduled for September 27, October 18, and November 15. A final report will be submitted by January 5, 2024. You can stay abreast of the workgroup's progress at the same website.

Woodsboro Burgess Heath Barnes

Greetings welcome back to school to all the students, teachers, and staff. My wish is that this is a safe and productive school year for you all.

As all residents should have seen on their last water bills, we are in the process of changing out the water meters. This will allow us to begin taking electronic payments also, but we cannot move forward until all are updated. It does require the tech to enter your home as stated on the water bills. Please be sure to set up your appointment with them. The sooner we get them all changed out in town the sooner we can move forward with the system that many of you all have asked for regarding electronic payments for your water bills.

I am happy to announce that groundbreaking for the new bath-

rooms on the east side of the park will begin to take place soon. Electricity to the east side of the park has begun also and will hopefully be completed and run to the stage before the Woodsboro Days festival that is scheduled to happen on October 22nd. If you are a vendor and would like to participate, please reach out to me.

The latest town hall update is that I signed several documents for the county permits three weeks ago and we should have the process to start the bidding to build the town hall out by mid-September. This is very exciting as a groundbreaking will take place shortly after that. With a mild winter, we should be able to be in it by mid-spring.

The construction of the new

skate park should begin in early September. The excitement around it is very high. It will be built between the concession stand and tennis courts. I am very excited to see these projects happening.

As always, I encourage everyone to support Glade Valley Community Services (GVCS) if you have clothes or food donations as they are always in need of items for members of the community. For more information, please contact GVCS by email at gvcs.inc@verizon.net, or call 301-845-0213.

If you have any questions, concerns, complaints, or compliments please feel free to reach out to me at hbarnes@woodsboro.org or by phone at 301-401-7164. Burgess Heath Barnes

Woodsboro Town meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. In addition, Planning and Zoning meetings are at 6pm on the First Monday of the month as needed. If you have an item for the

agenda, it needs to be submitted 14 days before the P&Z meeting. The current location for meetings is the St. Johns United Church of Christ located at 8 N 2nd Street. The public is always invited to attend.



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Woodsboro Days

October 21 - 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Yard Sales ~ Food Sales

at the Woodsboro Lutheran Church

October 22 - Noon to 6 p.m.

Free Music Festival in Woodsboro Park w/

Forever Young, Saskia & the Truly Unruly Band

and Debbie Williams & the Open Road Band



Forever Young
Noon - 1:30 p.m.



Saskia & the Truly Unruly Band
1:45 - 3:45 p.m.



Debbie Williams & the Open Road Band
4 - 6 p.m.

Live Music • Face Painting • Yard Sales • Food Trucks • Beer • Wine • Moonshine • Vendors • So Much More

For more information or to be a vendor, contact Burgess Heath Barnes at 301-401-7164

COUNTY NOTES

Application Period For Rural Historic Preservation Grant Program To Open

Frederick County is seeking eligible owners of historic properties in unincorporated areas of the County to apply for the Rural Historic Preservation Grant Program beginning September 1. The grant application period is an earlier application window than previous years to allow more time for notification of approval and signing of the agreement to start projects.

“The December through Feb-

ruary application window was resulting in applicants not being able to start their projects until late summer at the earliest once all approvals were received and the grant agreement had been signed,” said Amanda Whitmore, Historic Preservation Planner. Grant applications will be accepted from September 1 through November 30 until 5 p.m. with notification of awards being made in early Spring.

Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis. Applicants may request up to \$50,000. To be eligible for funding, properties must

be located in unincorporated areas of Frederick County; be either designated on the County Register of Historic Places, or a contributing resource in a County designated Historic District; and be in good standing with the County. If the property or district is not currently designated to the County Register of Historic Places, a determination of eligibility must be made by the Historic Preservation Commission prior to applying for a grant. This letter of determination must be included with the application.

Workshops will be held on the following dates to provide information about the program and how to apply. Those interested in attending will only need to participate in one workshop. Please register on the website below. Prior to the virtual workshops, registrants will receive an email including the virtual Microsoft Teams login information.

- September 14 at 5:30 pm, C. Burr Artz Programming Room
- October 9 at 6:30 pm, VIRTUAL
- October 24 at 2:00 pm, Location TBD

For additional information or to register for a workshop, visit FrederickCountyMD.gov/RuralHPGrant. Questions about the grant program can be emailed to Amanda Whitmore, Historic Preservation Planner at AWhitmore@FrederickCountyMD.gov.

9-1-1 Center, Emergency Management Improve

Communications Capabilities
Frederick County will become the first county in Maryland to offer an enhanced 9-1-1 system. Starting Sept. 1, people who call or text Frederick County’s 9-1-1 center will find a range of improved capabilities, including language translation for over 170 languages and dialects, and precise location of mobile phone callers.

“Every person should be able to call 9-1-1 and know that help is on the way,” Frederick County Executive Jessica Fitzwater said. “Improving access for everyone is essential, and this enhanced service is just one of the many ways Frederick County is growing into a more vibrant and inclusive community.”

The Frederick County Division of Emergency Management is partnering with Baltimore-based Convey911 to add a series of capabilities to support the division’s 9-1-1 specialists. With the new capabilities, staff will be able to deliver quicker, more accurate, more inclusive, and accessible 9-1-1 text and voice services to the residents of and visitors to Frederick County during emergency incidents. The improved capabilities include:

Language interpretation for both parties in a 9-1-1 call or text conversation in over 170 languages and dialects, with automatic detection of the language. Census data show over 35,000 Frederick County residents speak a language other than English;

Precise location of mobile devices contacting 9-1-1, in partnership with RapidSOS (latitude/longitude) and NextNav (vertical axis);

Sending text messages requesting location tracking in an emergency to phones that did not directly dial 9-1-1. This can happen in cases of lost people, welfare checks, or when a call is transferred to 9-1-1 from 9-8-8 or a non-emergency line;

Beginning Oct. 1, the County will activate ConveyConnect live interpretation service with over 22,000 public safety trained interpreters available to support over 350 languages and dialects, including sign language (ASL, SSL, SEE, PSE and Hungarian). After the initial roll-out to the 9-1-1 center, the County will make the critical capability available to public safety staff in the field, who need to directly communicate with residents and visitors they are serving. Convey911’s patented process to securely and reliably remove language barriers to facilitate service



★ URGENT ★

To All Residents of Woodsboro

Second Sight, the company replacing water meters, will only be in town until September 7.

It is very important that **Every** resident complies with their request and allow them into your home to perform this change out that takes 10 minutes.

Failure to comply will result in your water being turned off starting September 8.

To schedule your change out call the **Second Sight call center at 301-450-5165.**

If you have any questions call the town office at **301-898-3800**



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COUNTY NOTES

delivery is initially being deployed to 9-1-1 services in Frederick County. Convey911 can also provide the same language translation services to other county agencies as needs are identified.

Affordable Housing Council Releases Policy Priorities

On August 11, Frederick County's Affordable Housing Council released its 2023-2024 affordable housing policy priorities.

The Council advises Frederick City and County government officials on housing policy and advocates for safe, stable and affordable housing opportunities for all Frederick County citizens, but especially for those with low to moderate incomes.

According to Malcolm Furgol, vice-chair of the Council and policy committee chair, "These policy priorities build on past recommendations by the Affordable Housing Council and progress made by Frederick County and the City of Frederick towards realizing a positive environment for safe, stable and affordable housing for all residents."

The Council recommended the following policy priorities for 2023-2024:

Update the 2016 Frederick County Affordable Housing Needs Assessment report to better reflect 2023 housing and economic realities and to develop a strategic plan to address the findings. Such an assessment and plan would guide county and city programs and resources to better serve residents in need

of affordable housing.

Develop a new moderately priced dwelling unit (MPDU) ordinance for Frederick County municipalities. The proposed ordinance would bring the city and county municipalities into alignment with Frederick County to maximize the development of affordable housing opportunities. The county's MPDU ordinance requires developers to designate a certain percentage of dwelling units as affordable to residents with low to moderate incomes.

Increase the portion of the county's recodation tax revenue that is earmarked for the housing initiative fund (HIF) in one-time increments and consider permanent changes to the formula that funds the initiative. The HIF is used to provide resources that make home ownership accessible to county residents.

Streamline Frederick County's permitting processes to accelerate affordable housing projects. A particular need is to increase staff capacity and use a customer service-based approach to incentivize and encourage affordable housing projects.

Encourage the implementation of area plans as part of the Livable Frederick Master Plan to include priorities such as implementing an affordable housing overlay, allowing more density in designated areas, aligning available public transportation with affordable housing developments and encouraging municipalities in the county to allow construction of accessory dwelling units (ADUs).

Waive or defer impact fees in Frederick County charged to buyers that meet income requirements for affordable housing purchases from a developer. Further, City of Frederick should formalize the waiving of property taxes and impact fees for developers while they are building or renovating homes for sale or rent to residents meeting income requirements for affordable housing.

Hugh Gordon, chair of the Council, commented that accomplishing these priorities demonstrate a proactive effort on the part of the Frederick County Affordable Housing Council to address one of the greatest needs existing in the Frederick community. "The need for affecting implementation and the potential for assisting seniors, school teachers, policemen, firefighters, restaurant workers, and the most vulnerable residents of Frederick County is critically important."

The Frederick County Affordable

Housing Council meets the second Tuesday of each month at 2:30 pm at a location designated by the Council. Confirm meeting dates and location by checking www.frederickcountymd.gov or by calling the Frederick County Department of Housing and Community Development at 301-600-6091.

Data Centers Workgroup to Hold Community Meeting

The Frederick County Data Centers Workgroup held a community meeting to hear from residents on August 30. The purpose of the meeting was to hear from Frederick County residents and from grassroots organizations representing county residents.

In addition to the Aug. 30 meeting, the Data Centers Workgroup will meet on the following dates:

- September 27 to learn about other jurisdictions' experiences with data centers
- October 18 to learn about quality of life and community benefits

- November 15 to learn about economic impact and industry perspectives

All meetings will begin at 6 p.m., with locations to be determined. About the Data Centers Workgroup.

County Executive Jessica Fitzwater convened the Workgroup to consider appropriate locations for data centers; taxation of data centers; water, power, and other infrastructure needs of data centers; community benefits that can be derived from the data center industry; and potential amendments to the County's critical digital infrastructure law. The panel is co-chaired by Councilwoman Renee Knapp and nonprofit leader Karen Cannon and includes 10 additional members representing a cross-section of Frederick County residents and industries. The Workgroup will publish its final report by Jan. 5, 2024.

To read past County Notes articles, visit Walkersville.net.



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COMMENTARY

Words From Winterbilt

Distrust of government?

Shannon Bohrer

The distrust of the American government by its own citizens has a long history. A valid assumption would be that it started when we were a colony ruled by the King of England. That distrust eventually resulted in our democracy. Distrust of your government is not necessarily a bad thing, with free speech and a free press we as citizens, at least theoretically have some influence on our government.

While freedom of speech allows us to complain about the government there is a line between what is protected speech and speech that can have consequences. The adage that one cannot yell fire in a theater is commonly used as an example of prohibited speech. The reality is that yelling fire in a theater that is on fire, is allowed. Lately we have heard political arguments supporting free speech, even when the speech involves suspected crimes. Some people apparently think the country is on fire.

The distrust and free speech that we have is also reflected in the often-heard jokes about our ineffective government. Many of the disparaging remarks are from politicians, who are theoretically running the show. President Reagan said that “the most terrifying words

in the English language are; I’m from the government and I’m here to help.” He also said that “government is not the solution to our problem, government is the problem.” Strange, for someone that was elected president, did he really have such a distrust in Government?

Yet, while we make jokes about how bad our government is, if someone does not stand for the national anthem they are labeled as unpatriotic. We complain about our government, then defend it. We want everyone to stand for the national anthem, say the pledge of allegiance, respect the military, the police, and firefighters, then we turn around and complain about the same government. It is like a love-hate relationship.

While we complain about the government, we also tout American exceptionalism, as if we are different than other free societies. It can seem incongruous that we think of ourselves as exceptional and simultaneously find fault with the country that is exceptional, if that makes sense. Many believe that American is great, not because of the government, but because of capitalism. A common belief, at least with the complainers, is the idea that private industry is efficient and government is bloated and inefficient. There is a continuing idea that to promote capitalism

we need to get government out of the way. Many believe that capitalism made this country a leader in the world, making us exceptional.

Capitalism is touted as being more effective than government, because of competition. The idea is that competing businesses need to be efficient to be competitive, which should benefit society. However, at the turn of the 20th century, there was a lack of competition, because the so-called robber barons created monopolies. Unbridled capitalism at the turn of the 20th century created problems. There was a middle class, that was small and a smaller wealthy class, called the robber barons. Most of the population was poor. In that sense capitalism at that time was good for a few, but not for the masses.

Responding to the robber barons’ monopolies, the government stepped in with anti-trust laws, and broke up the companies that had no or little competition. This created real competition that helped capitalism flourish. After which, private industry flourished. It seemed that capitalism works well with competition. So, is American exceptional because of capitalism, or because the government broke up the monopolies?

Capitalism has made other mistakes. The great depression, the one in the 1930s, was caused by fiscal mismanagement in private industry. It was the government and

government programs that got the country through the hard times, by creating laws, like the “Glass Steagall Act” that limited speculative risk-taking investments by main street banks. It was also the government that instituted Social Security, a protection for retired citizens. President Roosevelt was often criticized for creating social programs that benefited the poor. The complaints from capitalists in the 1930’s was that the government was overregulating private industry and was creating a socialist society.

The same complaints about socialism still existed years later. President Harry Truman once addressed the issue, “All of you, I am sure, have heard many cries about Government interference with business and about ‘creeping socialism.’ I should like to remind the gentleman who make these complaints that if events had been allowed to continue as they were going prior to March 4, 1933, most of them would have no businesses left for the Government or anyone else to interfere with – and almost surely, we would have socialism in this country, real socialism.” Of course, we continue to hear the same arguments today.

Early in the 1970s, prior to the clean air and clean water act, our air and waters were heavily polluted by private industry. A list of over 17,000 hazardous waste sites was created. Remember the love canal, the infamous site in New York, polluted because of toxic

chemicals being dumped by private industry. It took 21 years to clean the site. Today, we have over 40,000 super fund sites, all created by private industries. What would the country look like without the Environmental Protection Agency? Private capitalism can and does work for the benefit of the country, when regulated. Unregulated it can harm and even kill the citizens.

The dislike of our government goes beyond the labeling of being bloated and ineffective. The public’s trust has been eroding for years. In a 1964 poll, 64 percent “said that the government was run for the benefit of all”. In a 2022 poll, only 20 percent of the respondents “say they trust the government in Washington to do the right thing, just about always or most of the time...” What happened during those sixty years?

The love-hate relationship we have with our government can be confusing. Without the government, would we still have monopolies and robber barons. Social Security and Medicare would not exist, and our air and water would still be polluted.

“The care of human life and happiness, and not their destruction, is the first and only object of good government”.

—Thomas Jefferson

To read past editions of Words From Winterbilt, visit the Authors section of Walkersville.net.

The Bulwark

The end of magical thinking

Charlie Sykes

The GOP has been telling itself stories for years now. Like this classic:

“What is the downside for humoring him for this little bit of time? No one seriously thinks the results will change,” the official said. “He went golfing this weekend. It’s not like he’s plotting how to prevent Joe Biden from taking power on Jan. 20. He’s tweeting about filing some lawsuits, those lawsuits will fail, then he’ll tweet some more about how the election was stolen, and then he’ll leave.”

We know how that worked out. But the soothing self-talk continued. After January 7, there was a brief moment when the GOP worthies thought that Trump had essentially handled himself. There was, explained Mitch McConnell, no reason for the Senate to convict him because surely Something Else would take care of it.

This has been the essence of GOP Deep Thoughts on how to deal with Trump. Waiting for a Unicorn. An indictment. An asteroid. Maybe an aneurysm. Any damn thing. A deus ex machina that would not require them to anger the base by telling them the truth.

McKay Coppins captured the mindset back in January. Repub-

licans, he reported, “are quietly rooting for something to happen that will make him go away. And they would strongly prefer not to make it happen themselves.”

In his recent book Thank You for Your Servitude, my colleague Mark Leibovich quoted a former Republican representative who bluntly summarized his party’s plan for dealing with Trump: “We’re just waiting for him to die.” As it turns out, this is not an uncommon sentiment. In my conversations with Republicans, I heard repeatedly that the least disruptive path to getting rid of Trump, grim as it sounds, might be to wait for his expiration.

So Ron Desantis raged against Disney, picked fights with the LGBTQ community, crusaded against wokism, and waited for Trump to eat a deadly Big Mac or be indicted. What, after all, was the downside of defending him against the deep state and a “weaponized” criminal justice?

Why not suggest he’d even help Trump defy extradition? Why not humor him and amplify his claims of victimization?

When Trump actually got stronger with every felony charge, DeSantis World privately whispered that maybe everything would change after the Georgia indictments came down, because

they would be so . . . something, something, something.

Well, here we are. Let’s review, shall we?

But in the new Quinnipiac poll, Trump still leads DeSantis by (deep breath) 39 points.

Trump gets support from 57% of Republican registered voters, DeSantis gets 18%, businessman Vivek Ramaswamy gets 5% and former Vice President Mike Pence gets 4%. No other Republican candidate gets more than 3% in the national Quinnipiac poll.

The AP/NORC poll shows pretty much the same thing: an overwhelming majority of GOP voters — 63 percent — still want Trump to run again. “That’s up slightly from the 55% who said the same in April when Trump began facing a series of criminal charges.” The Fox News poll gives Trump a 37-point lead over his nearest rival.

To sum up - there are no unicorns on the horizon.

But who’s up for a reality check?

Apparently not the GOP, which seems addicted to that sweet, sweet Orange meth. Even so, this should be sobering.

The AP/NORC poll finds that nearly two thirds of Americans — 64 percent — would definitely or probably not support Trump in a general election.

There’s more.

As the Washington Post’s

Aaron Blake notes, the same poll found that “1 in 5 or fewer Americans said they believed Trump did ‘nothing wrong’ in each of his four legal cases.”

Of his role in the January 6 insurrection, 21 percent said he did “nothing wrong.” In both the classified documents case and the Georgia case (the poll was conducted before this week’s indictment there), it was 15 percent. And just 14 percent said Trump did “nothing wrong” in the Manhattan case involving an alleged coverup of hush money payments.

When Blake asked the pollsters to dive into the data to find how many voters thought that Trump did “nothing wrong” in all four cases, they found that the “truest of the true believers in Trump’s denials,” constituted only 7 percent of Americans overall and just 16 percent of Republicans.

“What that suggests,” Blake concludes, is “despite the GOP standing by Trump, there is a significant and growing universe of right-leaning voters who object to his actions in these cases. They might continue to stick with Trump out of partisan loyalty or even a belief that he’s being persecuted — only about 1 in 10 Republicans in these polls generally believe he broke the law — but that doesn’t mean they approve.”

And via Semafor: “A new poll shared exclusively with Sema-

for finds that Donald Trump’s legal troubles could prove fatal in a general election.... “It finds that 24% of Republicans say the charges make them less likely to vote for Trump against President Joe Biden — “more than enough to swing a close general election,” according to a memo accompanying the results.

“He is in a much weakened position than he was even compared to 2020, which is the election he lost,” Benenson told Semafor’s Jordan Weissmann.”

As if you needed it, here’s more evidence that the GOP base has become a cult. In a lengthy story about the DeSantis Slump, the New Yorker’s Benjamin Wallace-Wells includes this nugget:

Even attaching Trump’s name to an otherwise effective message had a tendency to invert the results, this source said. If a moderator said that the COVID lockdowns destroyed small businesses and facilitated the largest upward wealth transfer in modern American history, seventy per cent of the Republicans surveyed would agree. But, if the moderator said that Trump’s COVID lockdowns destroyed small businesses and facilitated the largest upward wealth transfer in modern American history, the source said, seventy per cent would disagree.

To read past editions of the Bulwark, visit the Authors section of Walkersville.net.

The Liberal Patriot

A not-so-cruel summer

Peter Juul

Americans have good cause for optimism about their nation and its future as the summer of 2023 draws to a close

The doom and gloom that's been omnipresent in our national life—see virtually any statement former president Donald Trump has made since 2015 or those supposedly progressive voices who can't admit America ever has made any progress—slowly but surely seems to be giving way to a renewed sense of optimism. This more positive outlook remains exceedingly fragile and somewhat subterranean, and it can be hard to discern in the wider miasma of national dependency.

But many of us have simply grown tired of the unending pessimism of the past few years, exhausted with the relentless cynicism and casual cruelty that have pervaded and corroded our public life. A number of Americans seem hungry for a more hopeful outlook, and the country does feel as though it's turned something of a corner.

This past summer has seen its fair share of positive news, from some incipient signs of real progress in our national economy to Trump himself finally being held to account for his crimes against democracy. As the summer of 2023 comes to a close, we have good, justified reasons—however

tenuous—for optimism about the nation and its immediate future.

Consider

America's economy seems to be heading for a post-pandemic "soft landing" as inflation steadily recedes without the sort of massive unemployment many mainstream economists expected. Indeed, inflation cooled to a reasonable 3.2 percent in July while unemployment remained at 3.5 percent that same month. At the same time, the Atlanta branch of the Federal Reserve projects that America's gross domestic product may grow by an astounding 5.8 percent in the third quarter of this fiscal year.

As inflation comes down without an increase in unemployment, real wages are finally starting to tick up and outpace inflation—the Bureau of Labor Statistics estimated that real wages for "production and nonsupervisory employees" increased by 1.3 percent over the year ending in July 2023. That's the second straight month of real wages have increased, and it comes after over two years of declines.

Big investments in industrial policy and infrastructure are slowly but surely starting to come online and crowd in private investment. According to the Financial Times, since the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act and CHIPS and Science Act last year, clean energy and semiconductor companies have announced investments in 110 "large-scale" manufacturing projects worth some \$224 billion and with the potential to create over 100,000 jobs.

COVID-19 now seems to be firmly

in our collective rearview mirror, despite a slight summer spike in cases and the emergence of yet another new variant. The number of Americans dying every day from any cause, New York Times reporter David Leonhardt notes, "is no longer historically abnormal"—meaning COVID almost certainly isn't killing as many Americans as it had even six months ago.

Former President Trump is finally being held accountable for his crimes against democracy, most notably the attempt to nullify his loss in the 2020 presidential election that culminated in the January 6, 2021 assault on the Capitol. He's also been indicted for his brazen refusal to return some of the nation's highest secrets to the government despite multiple requests.

Ukraine has finally received NATO-standard tanks and looks set to get F-16 fighter jets sometime this winter. It's also launched a counteroffensive against Russian occupation forces that's made some gains over the summer, though these have proven slower and harder-going than many had hoped.

Long-time U.S. allies—and bitter historical antagonists—Japan and South Korea have drawn closer and closer together in a number of ways, with President Biden hosting a summit with the Japanese prime minister and South Korean president at Camp David this past Friday. This meeting produced a commitment to solidify strategic among the three nations via plans for annual joint military exercises and annual summits of their leaders.

There have also been a number of reasons for excitement on the frontiers of science, technology, and engi-

neering this summer: the James Webb Space Telescope continues to beam back spectacular images of the early universe, the first new commercial nuclear reactor to be built in the United States in decades has come online, and scientists at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory repeated their earlier experiment to ignite a fusion reaction that produces more energy than it takes to start it.

It takes time for a nation's mood to lift, of course, and some of the most important causes for optimism—namely solid inflation, unemployment, economic growth, and real wage data—remain the newest and most fragile. Many (if not most) Americans have yet to fully feel the effects of this good economic news, and it'll probably take several months at least for them to do so. In general, more progress needs to be made across the board to convert these recent advances into lasting gains.

Nonetheless, the events of this past summer make a solid, justified—if tentative—case for national confidence. It's still frail and delicate at the moment, and no one should go around declaring that it's morning in America just yet. After all, we're only now beginning to feel the sense of optimism that so many of us have longed for during our recent national trials and tribulations.

And there are still undercurrents that can knock the nation off course or drag it down—a lot of them:

Trump remains the frontrunner for the GOP nomination despite four criminal indictments, and therefore stands a chance of returning to the presidency in 2024.

America flirted seriously with default this past spring, and to avoid that disastrous outcome Congress and the Biden administration put the nation in a fiscal straitjacket for the next two years. That was the right move considering political reality, but it does come with negative consequences for a number of federal agencies and program.

Big bets made on renewable energy and electric vehicles by the Inflation Reduction Act may not pan out, or they may take significantly longer to come online and cost more than the Biden administration and its supporters hope and expect.

The international scene remains unstable: Vladimir Putin keeps on fighting in Ukraine, inflicting suffering on ordinary Ukrainians and the world at large in the hope that he can outlast the United States and its allies. Israel faces a democratic meltdown and Britain an economic one. Meanwhile, the United States and China continue to feel their way unsteadily toward new patterns of behavior.

Still, there's good cause for optimism about the country and its immediate future. They're fragile and vulnerable, so we need to nurture and sustain these trends—not deny or minimize them. It'll be hard work moving forward, of course, but we could well look back on 2023 as the year America finally took a turn for the better.

That's more than enough of a reason to feel good about the country as the sun sets on this hopeful summer.

To read past editions of *The Liberal Patriot* visit the Authors section of Walkersville.net.

Good Day, Neighbor

School's in!

Dorothea Mordan

The first day of school everything is possible, everything is new. Or hopefully hand-me-downs that are in really great shape. We have a time tested tradition of shopping for school supplies and clothes. Support organizations and socially conscious individuals do their best to get low income families prepared. One and all we send our kids back to school to learn the structure of our society—reading, writing, arithmetic. And to find common ground—a space where we learn why manners matter.

Public school in America was begun as the place to learn common understanding of concepts and cultural norms. In 200+ years it has evolved alongside our understanding of science and the needs of individuals in our society. Special education has a special importance for individuals in our household. Inclusive PreK, and for one year Unified PreK (the program was not funded this year), are programs that bring children into the classroom not only for an advance on the structured learning of kindergarten, but also a beginning of knowing the individuals who make up their

community. Gifted and trained teachers give our kids the foundation of practical learning and start them out with understanding that manners matter. We are not educating children to fit into your house or mine, we raise them to fit our society. That means everyone in society, to the best of our ability. Right now in 2023 our society is made of the entire spectrum of God's Children. The black the brown the white the lesbian the bisexual the gay the straight the transgender the questioning the certain the bleeding hearts the self centered. This author won't even separate us with commas in a list.

That the pandemic rattled our educated brains, is old news. The lesson that it is still teaching us is that when we grownups abdicate our connection to the public school, we lose a lot of our connection to a changing world. We grown ups responded to virtual learning in different ways. Some found new ways to embrace connections with their kids. Some lashed out at teachers and books. With a truly new year before us, we have an opportunity to renew our commitment to our schools. Getting involved with school activities directly, and with our neighbors at community events are great options.

Business owners small and large, get requests for donations all the time. One day several years ago, I received such a call, asking me if I would donate to the football team at a high school in a nearby county. Asking for more information on the purpose of the requested funds, the caller identified themselves as an employee of an advertising and marketing firm in a western state, 2000 miles from Maryland, that was hired to print promotional material and fundraise for an east coast high school team (and many others, no doubt). I am all for commerce, economic growth, and savin' a buck, however I saw this as a lost opportunity of having the same high school's art and graphics students learn their trade alongside the football team. Obviously, art and graphics study produces trades that support big businesses that reach across our vast economy. Our public schools are part of our community and as such, parents and local business should be equally welcome to give our kids life experience.

Here in Woodsboro and Walkersville there are business groups and agencies to be aware of. The Walkersville Economic Development Commission and the Walkersville Business and professional (WBPA), support business development and our community. Many of our local business own-

ers have long histories of school support at the Walkersville feeder schools, elementary through Walkersville High School.

Do you know about the Walkersville Economic Development Commission (EDC)? This department of the Walkersville Town Council "...will work to retain existing businesses, attract desirable new businesses, and improve economic activities benefiting local businesses and residents." The EDC supports community events such as the Glade Valley Community Show, coming up September 26th - 28th? This is the 78th year for "...the opportunity for all residents of the Walkersville High School district to display their best home grown produce and finest selection of handiwork."

The show opens to the public on Wednesday 9/27 at 3pm, and Thursday 9/28 at 4pm at Walkersville Overlook. There will be entries of food, crafts, photography, artwork. Food trucks on site.

Upcoming on October 22, 12pm - 6pm, is Woodsboro Days. This is becoming wide ranging community venue for a great autumn day in our park. At the bandstand there will be live music, three bands this year. A variety of vendors and food trucks will be on site. I have met local business owners such as farmers from Moon Valley Farm, a Community Sup-

ported Agriculture (CSA) farm right here in Woodsboro. Contact Woodsboro Burgess Heath Barnes for event information.

Each of these community opportunities supports our families and schools, directly or indirectly. Come out and participate with your local businesses and schools to get a fresh perspective on our fabulous community—your home—all without the expense of a vacation.

The principle of the school I mentioned agreed with me. All students should get the opportunity to advance their understanding of a future career. Administrative forces dictated otherwise. We as community members can make a difference.

- Town of Woodsboro - www.woodsboro.org/
- Walkersville Economic Development Commission - www.walkersvillemd.gov/economic-development-commission
- Glade Valley Community Show - www.gladevalleycommunityshow.com/
- The Walkersville Business and Professional Association - www.walkersvillebusinesses.com/about/
- Walkersville Overlook - www.theoverlooks.com/

To learn more about Woodsboro's own Dorothea, visit her site at <https://channeldesignslimited.com>.

PASTOR'S DESK

Clothed with Christ

Pastor Beth Firme
Apple's Church

Did you ever stop to think about what physical appearances really mean? Crimes worth millions have been committed by those wearing the "right" clothes, while some of the richest persons in the world choose to dress well under the standard of societal acceptance. Some people would say that the clothing makes the man, and others would be of the exact opposite opinion. The well-heeled person has a better chance of making a good impression, my instructors always said. But what if none of that matters and the clothing that is of the most importance is clothing we can't really see, but must instead don daily as part of who we are?

What kind of clothes do have in your closet? If we're anything alike, your clothing, like mine, covers a myriad of uses - shorts, t-shirts, work-out clothes, dress pants and shirts, skirts and ties, jackets and belts and blouses. Don't forget socks and underclothes, and certainly don't forget the shoes (Imelda Marcos, eat your heart out!!). And don't forget the outer wear - Jackets, scarves, hats, mittens - you name it, we've got it. We have clothes to cover every contingency, from hot to cold, dress up

to dress down, sneakers, 3" stilettos, boots, cycling shoes and everything else in between. But have you ever seen clothing like that which Paul describes in Colossians 3, 12-17?

"As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts, sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

What color compassion? What texture kindness? What shade patience? What pattern love? What weave for meekness and humility?

These are clothes that our poor, human eyes cannot see, but can only be perceived by the Spirit. The must be fabricated within the heart and worn in the soul, and practiced by those who are the hands and feet of Christ. These clothes are shown in our physical actions - reach out to others in compassion, love, and kindness, show patience and be meek and humble by not putting yourself above others in destructive pride.

Paul says, that in order to wear the "new clothing of Christ" we must get

rid of all such things - meaning that we must remove from our thoughts the blackness of hatred, the violent reds of anger, the sickly-green poison of slander, and the purple of bruises left by abusive language that comes from our mouths. We must listen to Paul's admonishment and set our minds on the things that are above, not things that are of this earth; we must build each other up, not tear each other down. We must also put to death within ourselves those earthly impurities that would keep us from God - passion, evil, impurity - the things that are not of God's heaven.

We are no strangers to things we shouldn't do. All we have to do is look around - repeated politicians in "compromising" positions and numerous robberies, shootings, and attacks that leave us wondering why? Even the little things - the doubts we express about a boss, the criticism leveled at a colleague, a lie told to keep up appearances, a truth omitted out of fear, a snarky comment made about someone who is different - perhaps gay, lesbian, eccentric. The gossip, slander, and judgmental comments we make every day without thinking.

We all know these things exist - they touch our lives every day, in some format or another. And at times, we despair. We forget that there is more to life than this - that we are but temporary fixtures here and that we are really citizens of heaven.

And these aren't even only about us as individuals, but also as a church community. The part of the lesson that reads -

"Bear with one another and if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe



yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body." - is really about how the church should behave, about how the body of the church should be clothed in love, and harmony, and forgiveness.

And yet, there is hope!!! The birth of the baby in the manger led to the teaching of the man who died on the Cross out of love for us and to remove the stain of sin from us that we might know His love. The birth of Jesus leads not only to His death, but also to His resurrection, and in the resurrected Son of God lies our ultimate hope.

In addition to the message of birth, death, and resurrection of Christ comes the message of redemption and purification of the people of God. For now, with Jesus birth and ultimate resurrection, we can approach God once again, through Christ, and become the People of God.

This season is about repentance, rebirth, renewal, change, hope and love. Paul reminds us in Colossians 3: 9-11 that we should not lie to one another seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and

have clothed yourselves with the new self which is being renewed in knowledge according to the images of its creator. In that renewal, there is no Greek, Jew, circumcised, uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is in all and in all. We are all equal and fully participant in God's kingdom. We are renewed, and reborn, just as Jesus is born. Hope and Love have changed us into the people of God. We have stripped away the old, and have become clothed in love of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus the Son of God has claimed us for His own and clothed us in the fabric of His love.

The fruits of the spirit adorn those who love Jesus the Savior. As Christians we are called to wear the clothes of our redemption and to practice those elements of Jesus's teaching that would mark us as those who are zealous for good deeds. Hope, love, mercy, kindness, forgiveness, compassion, patience, peace. These all adorn those who would call themselves by His name - Christians.

Does your daily ensemble include a scarf of peace? Shoes of humility? A jacket of compassion? A belt of love, to tie it all together?

Are you wearing the dazzling raiment of hope, love, and renewal that Jesus gives?

Or are you clothed in the finery of the world, the things valued by people that have no bearing in heaven?

These clothes, which are invisible to human eyes, will become more fully visible in the eyes of God, because once you allow Jesus Christ, the change agent, into your life, your outerwear will never be the same.

Maybe it's time to change our wardrobe. Amen.

To learn more about Apple's Church, visit them on-line at applesucc.org or better yet, join them for Sunday service.

Walkersville Community Church

Food trucks every Wednesday night from 5 to 7:30.
207 Braeburn Dr. Walkersville.
For more information visit Walkersvillecc.org.

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Join us on Sunday mornings at 10 a.m.
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Visit our website for more information about all of our upcoming events at www.woodsborolutheranchurch.com



THE BOOK OF DAYS

Jam and Jelly making



Sept 26

In Galt's Annals of the Parish, in which the Rev. Micah Balwhidder quaintly chronicles the occurrences of his district from 1760 downwards, the following entry occurs relative to an important epoch in the parochial history:

"I should not, in my notations, forget to mark a new luxury that got in among the commonalty at this time. By the opening of new roads, and the traffic thereon with carts and carriers, and by our young men that were sailors going to the Clyde, and sailing to Jamaica and the West Indies, heaps of sugar and coffee-beans were brought home, while many, among the hail-stocks and cabbages in their yards, had planted groset and berry bushes; which two things happening together, the fashion to make jam and jelly, which hitherto had been only known in the kitchens and confectionaries of the gentry, came to be introduced into the village. All this, however, was not without a plausible pretext; for it was found that jelly was an excellent medicine for a sore throat, and jam a remedy as good as London candy for a cough or a cold, or a shortness of breath. I could not, however, say that this gave me so much concern as the smuggling trade; only it occasioned a great fasherie to Mrs. Balwhidder; for in the berry-time, there was no end to the borrowing of her brass-pan to make jelly and jam, till Mrs. Toddy of the Cross-Keys bought one, which in its turn came into request, and saved ours."

This manufacture of jam and jelly

may now be said to form an undertaking of some importance in every Scottish household, occupying a position in the social scale above the humblest. In South Britain, the process is also extensively carried on, but not with the universality or earnestness of purpose observable in the north. To purchase their preserves at the confectioner's, or to present to their guests sweetmeats, stored in those mendacious pots, which belie so egregiously the expectations entertained of them at first sight, in regard to cubic contents, would in the eyes of the generality of Scottish lathes (those of the old school at least), be held to indicate a sad lack of good housewifeship. Even when the household store was exhausted, as very frequently happens about the months of May or June, we have seen the proposal to remedy the deficiency by purchasing a supply from a shop rejected with scorn.

The jelly-making season may be said to extend over three months—from the beginning of July to the end of September, beginning with strawberries and going out with apples and plums. Great care is exercised in the selection of a dry day for the operation, to insure the proper thickening of the boiled juice. As is well known, this last circumstance constitutes the most critical part of the process; and the obstinate syrup, resolutely refusing to coalesce, not unfrequently tries sadly the patience and temper. In such cases, there is no remedy but to boil the mixture over again with an additional supply of sugar, the grudging

of which, by the way, is a fertile cause of the difficulties in getting the juice thoroughly inspissated.

Like washing-day, the manufacture of jam and jelly, whilst it lasts, entails a total disregard of the lords of the creation and their requirements, unless, indeed, as not frequently happens, the 'men-folk' of the family are pressed into the service as assistants.

A huge pan of fruit and sugar is sometimes a difficult matter to convey to, and place properly on, the fire, and we have seen a great stalwart fellow, now an officer in her Majesty's army, summoned from the parlour to the kitchen, to give his aid in accomplishing this domestic operation.

Should a student be spending the recess in the country, during the summer, he is very likely to be pounced on by the ladies of the family to assist them in gathering and sorting the fruit, or snipping, off its noses and stalks with a pair of scissors. Of course, in general, the young man is only too happy to avail himself of so favourable an opportunity for flirtation, where the companions of his toils are young, good-looking, and blessed with a fair share of juvenile spirits.

The Boole of Days is not a cookery-book, and, therefore, any directions or recipes in connection with jelly-making, would here be wholly out of place. Yet in connection with so familiar a custom of Scottish domestic life, we may allude to the difference of opinion prevalent among those versed in jam-lore, as to the proper time which should be allowed for the syrup remaining on the fire, after having reached the point of ebullition.

Some recommend the space of twenty minutes, others half-an-hour, whilst a few, determined that the preserves shall be thoroughly subjected to the action of Vulcan, keep the pan bubbling away for three-quarters or even an entire hour. An esteemed relative of our own always insisted on this last period being allowed, with the result, it must be stated, sometimes of the jam becoming a veritable decoction, in which the original shape of the fruit could scarcely be recognised, whilst the substance itself became, after having cooled, so indurated as to be almost impracticable for any other use than as a lollipop.

In country places, besides the ordinary fruits of the garden, many of the wild products of the woods and fields are made use of in the manufacture of preserves. The bilberry or blaeberry,

the barberry, and above all the bramble, are largely employed for this purpose; while in the High-lands and moorland districts, the cranberry, the whortleberry, and even the harsh and unsavoury berries of the rowan or mountain-ash are made into jam.

On the shores of the Argyleshire lochs, where, from their sheltered position, the fuchsia grows with remarkable luxuriance, its berries are sometimes made into a very palatable compote. Bramble-gathering forms a favourite ploy amid the juvenile members of a Scottish family, and we have a very distinct recollection in connection therewith, of wild brakes where the purple fruit grew luxuriantly, amid ferns, hazel-nuts, and wild-raspberry bushes, with the invigorating brightness of a September sun overhead, and the brilliant varieties of a September foliage. Faces stained with livid hues, hands scratched with thorns and briars, and shoes and stockings drenched with ditch-water, are among the reminiscences of, the joyous days of bramble-gathering.

The inconvenient number of applications recorded by Mr. Balwhidder, as having been made to his wife for the use of her brass jelly-pan, is quite consonant with the actual state of matters in a country town in Scotland in former times. These culinary conveniences being rare, the fortunate possessor of one was beset on all sides by her neighbours with requests for it, and if she were good-natured and unselfish, she ran a considerable risk of being entirely excluded herself from participation in its use. Now, however, that these utensils have become an appendage to every kitchen of the least pretension to gentility, such a state of matters has come to be ranked fairly among the legendary reminiscences of the past.

The institution of jelly and jam, as already observed, has experienced a much more extended development in North than South Britain. In the former division of the island, the condiments in question are regarded as an indispensable appendage to every social tea-drinking, and are also invariably brought out on the occasion of any friend dropping in during the afternoon and remaining to partake of tea. To refrain from producing them, and allow the guest to make his evening repast on bread and butter, would be regarded as in the highest degree niggardly and inhospitable.

When no stranger is present, these luxuries are rarely indulged in by the family—that is to say, during the week—but an exception always holds in the case of Sunday evening. On that occasion the children of a Scottish household expect to be regaled ad libitum with sweets, and the quantities of jelly then consumed in comparison with the rest of the week might form a curious question for statist.

The Sunday-tea, too, is enjoyed with all the more relish that the previous dinner has been generally rather meagre, to avoid as much as possible the necessity of cooking on the Sabbath, and also somewhat hurried, being partaken of 'between sermons,' as the very short interval between the morning and afternoon services is termed in Scotland.

Whatever may be said of the rigour of Sunday observance in the north, our recollections of the evening of that day are of the most pleasant description, and will doubtless be corroborated by the memories of many of our Scottish readers.

To read other selections from the Book of Days visit www.thebookofdays.com.

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ECOLOGY

The rebellious beauty of American Beech

Anne Gageby
Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve

There's a wild, rebellious beauty to the American beech tree. It does what it wants, grows in soil too poor for many trees, and quite literally stands out amongst the crowd. It's simply a cool tree.

American beech, *Fagus grandifolia*, is also known as 'elephant bark tree' or 'elephant skin tree' for the way its bark grows a particular shade of gray with a grainy-like texture unique amongst a forest of deeply grooved oaks and plated pines. Take a walk through Strawberry Hill's campus and you'll easily spot these magnificent trees every couple of feet. They stand out for their interesting color and bark but also for their rebellious, rule-breaking nature. Beech is a deciduous tree, meaning its leaves are supposed to change color in autumn and fall like the rest of its deciduous brethren. Instead, beech leaves fade to gold then turn brown as they die but continue clinging to branches through winter. It's an interesting twist on the rules.

Scientists call the process of holding onto dead plant matter marcescence and it's more common in young trees. Of course, beeches don't care about the rules so you'll find beeches of all ages retaining leaves. But why do beech trees hold onto their leaves? There are a couple of theories. One theory suggests that beech marcescence is an adaptation to growing in poor, dry soil. Holding onto leaves until spring slows

the decomposition of said leaves and allows the beech to deliver nutrients to itself right when it needs it most. Another theory states the shade produced by a beech canopy allows snow to linger longer than if it were in direct sunlight, thereby allowing the tree to control the moisture content of the soil. Another suggests that old dead leaves create a protective barrier for fresh buds in spring. Dead leaves are ignored while fresh buds make tasty treats for passing deer.

The American beech is a foundational tree species native to eastern North American forests. Its range stretches from southern Ontario and Nova Scotia to eastern Texas and northern Florida. This vital hardwood plays an important role in forest ecology, supporting nesting sites and providing an essential food source for a variety of vertebrates from black bears to squirrels and birds. Beech leaves create a dense canopy which moderates the amount of light reaching the forest floor. As the leaves fall, they create a thick carpet of leaf litter, contributing to nutrient cycling and providing shelter for understory insects and fauna.

A slow-growing tree, beech can reach heights between 60-80 feet with a canopy spread of up to 40 feet. Unlike rough bark trees such as black walnut or spruce, beech's heartwood grows at the same rate as its periderm, or outer bark. This equal rate produces an outer bark that's thin, smooth, and relatively soft. This smooth bark protects the tree from insects and climbing plants like ivy and Virginia creeper.

Unfortunately, it also makes an attractive canvas for anyone determined to leave their mark. Beech has solidified its place in American culture as a popular tree for carving initials, hearts, dates, and so on. It's not uncommon to find carvings decades old. After all, a healthy beech can live to be 400 years old.

Whether you appreciate American beech trees for their important role in forest ecology or simply because they're beautiful trees, it's important to note that beech trees are facing a major challenge: beech leaf disease. This disease is new and could drastically change forests here on the East Coast, especially in areas where another threat – beech bark disease – hasn't yet been found. In a doubly sad twist, beech leaf disease will compound the crisis for areas already hit with beech bark disease. Tree dieback and mortality could likely skyrocket.

Beech leaf disease was first discovered in 2012 in Lake County, Ohio, and is characterized by dark interveinal banding of leaves. To get the best view of this banding, stand under a beech and look up. Sunlight filtering through the leaves highlights these dark bands. Leaves affected look green but dry and have



The American beech is a foundational tree species native to eastern North American forests.

the appearance of wrinkled paper. Damaged leaves fall and the stricken tree is forced to grow new ones. The cost to regrow leaves is high. More energy is spent on this process than the tree is able to produce and eventually the tree's fate is sealed. Small trees die within 3-5 years. It's currently unknown how beech leaf disease will affect mature beech trees, but it's been reported that larger trees are dying within six or seven years.

American beech isn't the only species affected. Non-native European and oriental beech (*F. sylvatica*, and

F. orientalis) are also susceptible to this new threat. It's also unclear what role climate change could be playing in the spread of this scourge. So, what can be done? There is currently no known treatment or cure, putting large swaths of trees or even entire forests in jeopardy. Monitoring plots have been set up around the East Coast over the last couple of years with funding from the USDA Forest Service. Here in Pennsylvania, researchers with Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences are collaborating with U.S. Forest Service to tackle the problem and studies are being conducted as I type.

As of this writing we know that beech leaf disease is spread via nematodes but what role they play exactly is uncertain. For now, we'll just have to be patient. As for me, I'll monitor our trees at Strawberry Hill and hope for the best. I use beech as a teaching tool when going out on guided hikes. American beech trees make excellent examples when teaching identification skills as they're easily identified and visually striking no matter the season. Not to mention their foundational nature makes them critical to a healthy forest and can tell us a lot about the local ecosystem. Plus, there's just something decidedly cool about them. They're kingly in their own way and don't bother with rules. Sometimes the forest likes to show a little sass. And after all, who doesn't love a rebel?

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SCIENCE MATTERS

Female scientists you should know about

Boyce Rensberger

Ordinarily, I am quite proud of the scientific enterprise. It is a genuine quest for accurate knowledge about how the world works, from the subatomic realm to the conscious brain to the cosmos, past, present, and future. But—shocker!—science is practiced by human beings, and some of them do not always separate their work from their prejudices.

One of the worst manifestations of this is the way male scientists have viewed female scientists. It is a problem today, and it was a gross injustice in years past.

I know a bit about this because I had a hand in bringing the work of Dr. Nancy Hopkins at MIT to public attention. She was a prominent molecular biologist who identified many genes that control embryonic development. In the 1990s she organized a small group of women on the faculty to study how much pay and how much lab space women were given at MIT compared with what men had. They found that female faculty members were treated way worse than men with equivalent credentials and experience—especially receiving lower pay and less lab space. She presented the hard numbers to MIT's then-president, Charles Vest, and he, an engineer by trade and a respecter of hard data, agreed. He set in motion a series of reforms.

When Hopkins told me about that, I saw a good story that the rest of the world should know. I tipped off reporters at the *The Boston Globe* and *The New York Times*. Their stories and her willingness to speak out triggered a serious movement in academia.

So, in the space I have here, let me make a small contribution to the visibility of some of the most important women in science anywhere who, sadly, remain largely unknown. Most of us have heard of Marie Curie, Jane Goodall, Rachel Carson and maybe even Ada Lovelace, who in the 1880s developed the idea for a computing machine and how to program it.

But here are a few more whom you should know. There are many more, but these are at the top of my list.

Cecelia Payne (1900-1979) discovered what the universe is made of. Based on her observations of stars and galaxies, she asserted in the early 20th century that the known universe was made almost entirely of hydrogen and helium. That contradicted the leading theory of the day, which held that the Earth's composition was typical of all the universe. We know today that Payne was right. Only 1 percent of normal matter consists of heavier elements such as carbon, oxygen, iron, silicon and all the other elements that we know and love. Earth is, of course, made mostly of such heavier elements, but plan-

ets amount to only a tiny fraction of what exists in the universe.

Payne was born in Britain and went to Cambridge University, but the school refused to give her a degree because she was a woman. So, she moved to the U.S. and earned a doctorate from Radcliffe College, then the women-only branch of Harvard. The editor of a prestigious astrophysics journal, a man of course, said Payne wrote "the most brilliant Ph.D. thesis ever written in astronomy."

Payne was, eventually, the first woman promoted to a full professorship at Harvard. She continued research on the nature of stars, including our sun. She died in 1979, never having received a major award.

Eunice Foote (1819-1888) discovered what we know today as the greenhouse effect, and she did it in the 1850s. She filled glass cylinders with various gases and measured temperature changes as sunlight shined through them. She found that the greatest warming effect came from water vapor and carbon dioxide. She speculated that if those gases increased in the atmosphere, they could affect the climate. Today both gases are known to be the main drivers of global warming.

Foote was an amateur scientist or what today we call an independent scientist, working in her home laboratory. Still, her scientific papers on this and other discoveries were published in serious academic journals and read at major scientific meetings, read by male scientists. In later years, men performed similar experiments and one of them, John Tyndall, gets most of the credit today for what Foote discovered and published.

Foote and her husband were also inventors. Among other things,



Cecelia Payne



Eunice Foote



Lise Meitner



Rosalind Franklin



Grace Hopper

These are some of the most important women in science who, sadly, remain largely unknown. Most of us have heard of Marie Curie, Jane Goodall, Rachel Carson and maybe even Ada Lovelace, who in the 1880's developed the idea for a computing machine and how to program it. But here are a few more whom you should know. There are many more, but these are at the top of my list.

she patented a thermostatically controlled cooking stove and a paper-making machine.

Lise Meitner (1878-1968) developed the world's first method of producing nuclear fission, the phenomenon responsible for nuclear energy and, of course, atomic bombs. Born in Austria, she studied physics at the University of Vienna and, when the Nazis took over Austria, moved to Sweden. Meitner went on to develop a theoretical understanding of how nuclear fission works. When others, notably Otto Hahn, used her method of splitting the uranium atom, it proved successful. When the Nobel Prize was awarded for this, it went to Hahn and another man. Meitner was not even mentioned.

In later years, this omission would be seen as one of the Nobel commit-

tee's greatest mistakes.

Rosalind Franklin (1920-1958) was another woman denied a Nobel. She was a British chemist and expert in a technique called x-ray crystallography. Her analysis of her x-ray results showed that the structure of DNA was a helix. That evidence tipped off the famous team of James Watson and Francis Crick who published the well-known "double helix." The men got the Nobels.

Grace Hopper (1906-1992) was an American computer scientist, mathematician, and a rear admiral in the Navy. She did pioneering work to develop computer programming languages and invented the first compiler, an essential type of software that converts programming language that a trained human can write and read into machine language that the computer can follow. She also created the widely used programming language COBOL.

There are more women I could mention. Perhaps in a future column I will tell you about them.

Boyce Rensberger retired to New Midway after more than 40 years as a science writer and editor, mostly for The New York Times and The Washington Post. Write him at boycerensberger@gmail.com.

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IN THE COUNTRY

Ants, molasses, and compassion

McKenna Snow
MSMU Class of 2023

Seeing ants in one's kitchen typically results in some response like, "quick! Get the ant killer!" Or, perhaps, the reaction is a call to an exterminator. Whatever the case, rarely does anyone ever just say to the ants, "here, you look hungry—let me provide some food for you!"

There is at least one person with such a compassionate response: Audrey Hillman. To the surprise of likely many households, she keeps a small feeding station on her kitchen counter for a little colony of ants that first paid her a visit a few months ago. They are given a robust menu of leftover salmon, molasses, cookie crumbs, pumpkin seeds, and more, all in a serving size applicable to an ant table, if there ever was such a thing.

Her kitchen counter is ordinary enough, with a little coffee maker, tea collection, sink, bowl of fruit, and a lamp. A little trail of ants gravitates to the assortment of ant food over by the lamp, and, notably, they do not stray anywhere else. When the ants first arrived, Audrey had the same reaction as most people: "I got the ant traps," Audrey explained, "and they ignored them. They just didn't bother. And I said, 'well if I can't beat them, I'm going to join them.'... I had a couple of crumbs of cake out on the counter [which the ants loved] and I said, 'okay, that's how I'm going to keep them away from

crawling all over this kitchen.' So I set up a feeding station, and I just put out cake and a little molasses and whatever else happened to be out, and they were great! They just stayed pretty much over there."

The ants were coming from a small hole on the side of the counter, and walked up and across the counter to the food. Audrey explained that at first, the ants coming out of the counter found the food and would wander around to the edge of the counter, and over to the other side, and all around taking long ways to the food. Eventually, the ants "figured out the shortest point between a and b," and efficiently made use of that route on a daily basis. Since then, the rest of the counter was devoid of ants. It was almost as though they knew what was out specifically for them, and what was off-limits.

At one point, however, Audrey said that she found the ants all over the sink. Though startled at first, Audrey then said she realized, "well if I was thirsty, I would go to where the water is." With a smile, she continued, "so I put out a little puddle of water [by their food] and they went to the water that was over there, and that was the end of dealing with them in the sink." It seemed too simple to be true, but as I watched the little ants explore the cookie crumbs, I knew they were content with what they had been given.

After glancing back at the sink, Audrey said, "if you're observant and you give it a little bit of thought,

rather than just turning on the faucet and flushing them down the drain every day, [just consider that] they're looking for water." The ants' need for water reminds us that we share much in common with nature. How quick we are to take on an us versus them mentality, separating ourselves from nature in a way we were never meant to be separated.

With a background in professional gardening, Audrey stated, "I'm more of a plant person than an insect person, but the two go hand in hand." Modern agricultural practices seem to have largely forgotten this fact. One does not have to look far to see how man has tried to sterilize and curate the world he lives in so that nature is treated more like a machine than as living creatures and plants. Consider modern agriculture practices, especially industrial corporations, whose heavily-structured monoculture fields—endless rows of the same, one crop—deny the plants and soil their need for biodiversity. Insects, birds, and other visitors are told they are unwelcome, as they would hurt the overall yield and quality of the crops. The consequences of this imposed dynamic? The pitting of man and his needs against nature and its own needs; in reality, they can and should interdepend on one another. Man is not meant to be an alien to the natural world, but a steward and a guardian of it. A man only becomes an alien to the natural world when this identity is flipped so that he merely becomes a miner of the finite soil he works with.

Insects, especially bees, are harmed by excessive habitat destruction and pesticide, for example, Audrey explained. All of nature becomes "in trouble... it's detrimental to the invertebrates, [and] they're what make the world go round, because they are at the bottom of the food chain." Audrey glanced out the window, where bird feeders hung. "I



Yes, we get a lot of weird stares from visitors when they discover we have given a portion of our kitchen counter to an ant colony. But, it never fails; before the night is out, everyone has gravitated to watch them as they come and go, and the subject always turns to the need to get along with nature rather than fight it.

look at the birds, and the birds need food for their babies; they don't need beetles and the hard shell things, they need caterpillars that are soft, that can support the baby birds as they're growing; so with fewer moths there's fewer caterpillars... so there's been a plummet in bird populations as well. So I try to do my bit. I try to support what I can on this little bit of land."

How do we heal this broken bond between man and the land he cultivates? How do we heal the broken relationship between human beings and the natural world? We cannot all change the practices of industrial farms so that they are more sustainable, regenerative, and conducive for human and animal flourishing. But, we all can practice integrity and respect for nature starting in the home, cultivating compassion for wildlife, and supporting one's local farmers.

However, not everyone needs to welcome ants in their home in the same way Audrey has. Notably, Audrey stated that if it were a different insect, such as a wasp, she would "try to catch them and throw them back out." Those insects are not allowed to "stay long enough to set up shop," so they are caught and put back outside. Reflecting on the rural topography of Emmitsburg, Audrey

said, "We live in the country. We can't make this [home] impenetrable to nature, so we just send them back out." Certainly, insects belong outside, and it would be insensible to turn one's home so inside out that its function to shelter human beings no longer protects them from the natural elements and other creatures. However, practicing compassion for the creatures who do make it inside, especially by simply sending them back outside, would be a helpful place to begin in healing the modern mindset of "us versus them." Human beings certainly are different from animals and plants, but this should not put us at such drastic odds with them.

"I like to try to encourage the wildlife," Audrey said. "Every animal, everything has a purpose; whether we appreciate it or not is another thing. And, how well we tolerate it is another thing." Appreciation for nature is a virtue worth cultivating. Growing in this aspect can occur in surprising ways, but ants, a little bit of molasses, and compassion can teach us quite a lot.

To read other articles by McKenna Snow, visit the Authors section of Walkersville.net.

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IN THE COUNTRY

Butterfly blitz

Tim Iverson
Naturalist

When you conjure up images of a butterfly you may think of one listlessly flapping its wings and gently gliding through the air, or perhaps it's resting elegantly on a surface nearby. Chances are though the archetype you imagine is one with orange wings and black stripes. That butterfly would be the Monarch Butterfly. This proverbial king of the butterflies once reigned supreme, but troubled times rest at the throne for this regal insect. The Monarch Butterfly has an incredible life cycle and journey every year, and has proven its chops to the natural world through and through.

Monarchs will begin their annual life cycle in their overwintering sites in central Mexico. They spend their winters hibernating in fir forests. In February they'll awaken and shake off that groggy feeling and immediately begin to seek out a suitable mate. Shortly thereafter they'll begin their wayward journey to points north. Some will fly as far north as Canada and the adjacent border states. This will be the first of four generations in a calendar year. Sometime in March or April these butterflies will lay their eggs on milkweed plants in the northern latitudes they've journeyed towards. It will only take a few days for these eggs to hatch and this will begin the second generation.

This newly hatched caterpillar will spend approximately the next two weeks doing nothing but eating milkweed plants and seeking out more milkweeds to eat. Over the course of this time the toxins from the milkweeds will accumulate in the caterpillar causing them to taste foul to would be predators. After this 14 day gluttony binge the corpulent caterpillar will be ready to enter its next stage of development – the chrysalis stage! The caterpillar will attach itself to the plant leaf or stem using silk and transform into a chrysalis. From the outside things seem pretty lackluster, dull, or even stagnant. On the inside, however, there is a whole lot of change going on. Over the next 10 days rapid growth and development is underway! At the end a newly changed insect will emerge as a beautiful butterfly.

This second generation, born in May or June, will begin the process anew and will live its short life over a period of about two to six weeks. The third generation will be born in July or August and will go through the same life cycle and stages as the previous generation, while the fourth will be born in September or October. The fourth generation of the year is unique compared to the previous generations. This final generation will live considerably longer than the second and third generations. While the second and third live only a few short weeks, this last generation will become the first generation for the next year. Unlike the previous generations that die off after about two months this one can live for six to eight months. This generation is responsible for retracing the route south that their great-great grandparents followed north. They instinctively know to begin moving south when the weather begins to cool, and many even find the very same forests and trees that were used by their very own progenitors. The migratory instinct is poorly understood at the

moment. There are a few theories about how it most likely works though.

Scientists believe that Monarch Butterflies, like turtles and birds, possess an inherited geomagnetic compass. This compass relies on the magnetic field generated by the earth which works like a built in GPS to tell them where to go. It is also reported that within their antennae there is a special protein that reacts with UV light emitted from the sun. When the sunlight reaches a certain wavelength it sets off an internal alarm clock that tells them it's time to move south. It's at this point that their internal GPS, aided by the earth's magnetic field, guides them to the overwintering sites that have been used by generations of ancestors before them.

There is some trouble in the kingdom though. All indicators point to steep population decline. Monarchs historically covered approximately 50 acres worth of fir forests at wintering sites in Mexico. Based on recent research conducted during 2011-2012 winter by the WWF-Telcel Alliance and the Mexican National Commission of Protected Areas it appears a total of nine colonies occupied about seven acres of total forest. A similar study conducted over the 2012-2013 winter showed a sharp decrease of Monarchs occupying just less than 3 acres of total forest. These are drastic decreases, and there are several factors contributing to these heavy losses.

Habitat loss is the leading contributing factor in the sharp drop in population. Milkweed is exclusively what the Monarch caterpillar feeds on. Increased use of pesticides at farms, along roadsides, and at home has taken its toll. Milkweed tends to grow on roadsides,

fields, and prairies. Development over decades has destroyed much of this valuable land. The use of new genetically modified crops allows farmers to use new pesticides that have destroyed millions of acres of milkweed.

Another issue causing problems is a plant known as the Black Swallow-Wort. The introduction of this non-native European plant is taking its toll. This plant is a relative of the milkweed, and has similar features which attract Monarchs to lay their eggs on this plant. However, even though it is in the same family it is actually toxic for monarch caterpillars and poison these newly hatched larvae. They say that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, but this imposter is wreaking havoc on an already unstable population. These two compounding factors, along with some natural disasters along migratory routes have attributed to the spiraling population size for this royal butterfly.

The alarming rate that this butterfly is disappearing has raised some to action, and you too can rally to the cause. Monarch Watch, based out of the University of Kansas, is a nonprofit education, conservation, and research program that focuses on the monarch butterfly, its habitat, and its spectacular fall migration. They host a citizen scientist project that allows interested people to sign up for population monitoring. They also provide tiny little stickers that are placed on the wings of the butterfly (when done correctly will not cause any harm or detriment to the bug). These stickers allow researchers in Mexico to see where these butterflies are migrating from, and they will update a website so you can see if your butterflies made it all the way there!

Milkweeds are the host plant for the Monarch butterfly and occur naturally throughout the continent. Planting



When we first moved to our farm 33 years ago, my wife's gardens were swarmed with so many Monarchs that it was impossible to count them. But this year, we've only seen two; last year, we saw four. It is impossible to deny that we are witnessing, in real time, the extinction of beautiful pollinator species as a result of the actions of mankind.

more of these in our area and yards will greatly increase the likelihood of regional success. By planting areas of milkweeds you can create "way stations" that will provide necessary resources for their long term survival. These habitats can be planted in home gardens, schools, along roadways, and any where there is open and available land. The greater number of way stations that are created and maintained the greater the chance of survival Monarch Butterflies will have.

For most people the quintessential image when we conjure up a butterfly in

our heads is the Monarch. With a little help from us it may be able to continue to flutter and fly through the sky, but that will require some leg work from us. Seek out opportunities at state and local parks to get involved and learn about projects that can have a positive impact on our natural world. This king of the butterflies needs some help to restore the throne, and with some small tangible gestures we just may be able to do so.

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Maritta Perry Grau,
Frederick County
Master Gardener

Even though I'm a veteran gardener, I still have questions almost every time I enter my garden. When's a good time to start a mulch pile? Whoa! Where did that powdery mildew come from? Should I spray? Leave it alone? Cut it out of the plant? Can I prune my spring-flowering shrubs now? No? Then when? How about the summer-flowering ones?

You get the picture. Chances are, you have a lot of the same chores and mutter a lot of the same questions when you garden. Whether you're wondering about what kind of native plants will work best in the sun or shade; you want advice on how to create a pollinator garden; or you want to know what practices you can implement around your house and garden to help protect the Chesapeake Bay, you might want to consider attending some of September's Master Gardener events and get answers to your questions.

One place you can get answers to many of your gardening questions is the annual Great Frederick Fair, September 15–23. We have created a permanent pollinator garden with native plants and fall bloomers along one side of the "City Streets, Country Roads" Building (#44), across from the Animal Birthing Center. At our booth inside Building 44, we'll have

displays highlighting window box and other small-space plantings, attracting pollinators, growing vegetables, and exploring edible roots such as peanuts, noted Amy Rembold, Bay-Wise committee chair and Fair team member.

Another place to get answers to your questions is at our free Saturday seminars. The seminars run from 10 to noon, all at the University of Maryland Extension Building, 330 Montevue Lane, Frederick.

Upcoming seminars include:

September 9, "Mindfulness in the Garden." MG John Schlee will discuss the benefits of plants to your well-being and then lead a walk in the demonstration gardens for mindfulness activities.

September 16, "Advanced Gardening Techniques." Comfortable growing standard vegetables? Looking for more of a challenge? MG Don Ludke will give you tips and techniques to expand your options and growing seasons.

September 23, "Pawpaws, a Little Known Treasure." Discover a native fruit you can grow right in your own backyard! MG Kim Leahy will show you how to grow this large, tasty fruit, *Asimina triloba*, which tastes like a cross between a banana and mango. She'll discuss how native plants can help your entire garden thrive. Then she will take you to the pawpaw patch in our demo gardens.

September 30, "Fall Cleanup and

Winterizing the Garden." MG Tiger Waddell will discuss the best way to start the spring season—with fall clean-up! She'll teach you about final harvesting, plant overwintering, soil preparation for next year, and planting onions and garlic for harvest in the spring.

Besides the fair and the Saturday seminars, you'll have more opportunities to ask questions when you bring your munchkins to "Storytime in the Garden," held the first Wednesday of the month at 10:00 a.m., May through October. It's always held outside in the Children's Garden, part of the demonstration gardens at the back of the UMD Extension Offices on Montevue Lane. As you face the Demonstration Gardens behind our building, you'll see the Children's Garden inside the tall, deer-proof fence at the far left. The next Story Time, and last for this year, will be October 4th, with October 11th as the rain date. Please be sure to close the gate as you enter and leave the gardens.

One question people sometimes ask us this time of year is when/how much debris to clean off the garden beds. Should you cut everything down to bare soil and rake it all away? For now, content yourself with just gathering the remains of healthy plants for the compost pile. For example, you may cut and dispose of the dead canes of blackberries and raspberries, leaving the still-fruiting canes for harvesting later (or feeding the birds).

I leave most of the debris until late winter. I love watching the yellow finches feeding on those seedheads in the fall. Even if "Tidy" is your middle name, leave some garden debris on your garden beds—shredded leaves, hollow stalks, seedheads of coneflowers, bee balm, black-eyed Susans, or other plants, if just in small patches here and there, so that insects and even birds can have winter shelter (Of course, do this only with healthy plants). You'll find more suggestions and answers about that winter shelter in our October 5th column.

Another question we get is how/when to make compost. Start it right



Pictured are pawpaws. Discover a native fruit you can grow right in your own backyard! The Pawpaw tree produces a large, tasty fruit—*Asimina triloba*—which tastes like a cross between a banana and a mango.

now! Layer healthy leaves and stalks and left-over lawn clippings in a pile, in a three-sided bin, or even in a commercially made tumbler; water the layers periodically so that they are damp but not soaking wet. You can find lots of good information online for how to build and maintain compost and how to gauge whether your compost is ready to be added to the garden. In addition, you are welcome check out the compost bins in our demonstration gardens.

This summer we've also gotten a few questions about powdery mildew. What is it? Why is it happening? How should you treat it? It's a grayish, powdery coating of a fungal disease that sometimes attack trees, shrubs, and perennials such as pin oak, roses, lilacs, phlox, and monarda (bee balm). In my gardens, it's making merry with our heirloom peonies.

Powdery mildew likes high humidity, according to the UMD extension service web site, although it doesn't have to have wet weather. UMD says we don't need to use chemicals to control it, and while not usually fatal to plants, it does "cause leaf yellowing and browning, leaf distortion, pre-

mature leaf drop and blemished or aborted flowers, and slower-than-normal growth."

The site also notes that it most often affects plants grown in heavy shade—and yep, that's what's happened with our peonies. Most were gifts from my grandmother and were planted about 1974 or so, soon after we built our house. Young saplings—a tulip magnolia and two Kwanzan cherries—planted near different groupings of peonies have now grown huge and wide, providing that heavy shade. I'll have to add transplanting the peonies to my fall/spring gardening chores. But where to put them!?

Have you been eyeing your beds with thoughts of moving, renovating, or starting fresh beds, too? As you do so, look for native plants to add to your beds. They often are more disease- and insect-resistant than non-natives. Now through October is probably your last chance to plant spring bulbs, new trees and shrubs, and to divide and replant perennials. If your perennials or established bulbs didn't bloom much last spring or this summer or if you've noticed bulbs popping up out of the soil, possibly they are too crowded and need to be redistributed.

I know you're itching to snip away at trees and shrubs, but don't prune now. Wait until after the first frost or even January/February. Pruning stimulates growth while the "sap is running" in the plant, and unfortunately, new growth produced now will not have a chance to harden off before winter.

Finally, not necessarily a question but more often a complaint: tiny wild critters, such as stink bugs, boxelder beetles, crickets, ants, and mice, will soon seek warmth and shelter in your house. Check that cracks and other entry points around your house are sealed, as a warm house may seem like just the place, with all the cool weather we'll be getting in the next few weeks.

More questions? Frederick County Master Gardeners Extension Office, 330 Montevue Lane, Frederick, is open to the public Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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

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THE MASTER GARDENER



This is the time of year gardeners are starting to think about cutting back their dying perennials in an effort to have tidier gardens. Hold your clippers! It's highly likely that birds, especially American Goldfinches, will be feeding on your seed heads in the near future. Seedheads are beneficial not only because they provide seeds, but because they reduce the birds' reliance on feeders in the winter.

Small Town Gardener

Live with your space

Marianne Willburn

As the autumn planting season is about to pummel our wallets – and particularly tempt those who, against all odds, have moved house this summer – I thought I'd share a few thoughts about having patience in your garden building.

Back in the very first days of planting my last garden – a garden I would live with for the next ten years – I wanted thick growth, fast. There was an oasis to be created and patience was in short-supply. Consequently, choices were made that every gardener has made before me, and that each has lived to regret. Not too many years later, the reversal of these decisions made for hours of hard work, made harder by the fact that I was solely responsible for my back-breaking misery.

However, at the time I couldn't be told. I couldn't be told by the books, by the websites, by gardener friends who had committed the same crimes in the past. I was sure that not one of them understood my



particular garden and my particular needs.

Well, it turns out, they did. Some truths are universal; but, just like learning not to date the impossibly gorgeous guy with a vintage Land Rover, can only be learned with age.

Years have gone by (and so have gardens), and I in turn have tried to counsel others toward smarter planting patterns when asked what I thought of a new plan.

Predictably perhaps, I have met with the same resistance. We all have our road to walk, and knowing that the hardest learned lessons are perhaps the most valu-

able, I no longer push the issue.

Instead I ask them to consider waiting a year.

A year is not a long time in the life of a garden. Sure, it's an age-an-a-half when you are trying to potty-train your two-year old, or recovering from a horseback accident, or waiting for your hair to grow back after an unfortunate shearing; but on a planet that counts its birthdays in billions, it is laughably short.

Take your time, live with your space. Invest in a garden bench instead of those ten Leyland cypresses, and watch the patterns of the sun on the house, on the back yard...on the deck. Figure out where your wet spots are and where it's dry more often than not. You may need some privacy on the west side, but not the entire west side. You may want a wind break on the east side, and a break from neighbors on the north.

And then there are the plants that are already in situ – plants you're ready to take a shovel or chainsaw to. Sheath that sword, and think about it for a year. Trees you might think terrible, may just be doing a bit of good.

Sure we want change. We want to put our stamp on a new home. But moving into a house and immediately cutting down a fully laden fig tree because you "needed a lawn" will only tick off your neighbors who wanted to beg a few figs in September. If you live with that fig for a year you might end up praising the last owner who brought a bit of Italy to the mediocrity of the American suburbs.

Time is precious. And it becomes ever more precious the older we get and the more our back aches. Don't give your ten-years-from-now-self more reasons to hate you. They're already annoyed over the decisions you're making with your 401K. – MW

Marianne Willburn is the author of Tropical Plants and How to Love Them, and Big Dreams, Small Garden. She writes from her home in Lovettsville, Virginia. Read more at GardenRant.com.

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PETS

The Rescuer's Rainbow Bridge

Jennifer Vanderau
Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter

No one picked her up. She'd been on the road for days.

I remember the first day that I was driving by and I saw here there, a little cat, hit by a car, lying on the berm, looking for all intents and purposes like she was just sleeping.

I knew she wasn't just sleeping. It hurt my heart to see her. She had pretty white fur and an orange spot or two, and for a minute, I thought about what I would do if it were one of my cats along the road like that.

I couldn't stand it. Luckily, none of my babies ever leaves the house – no matter how intently they like to look out the windows. I tell them, no way. I can't take the chance that something could happen to you.

Something like what happened to this little cat.

I remember thinking on that first day how hard it would be for her owners to find her there, but I know sometimes the closure is what you really need. I've talked to so many people who told me how awful it was when they lost a cat and never found out what happened to him.

Was he hurt? Was he injured? Did someone else take him in?

Never getting that answer can sometimes be more painful than knowing.

That's what I thought about

for this little girl. Someone would know soon and they would have to say goodbye. I remember sending a thought into the universe of understanding and hope that the people could work through their grief. I wanted them to know that I knew what it was like to have to say goodbye.

Days later, she was still there along the side of the road.

No one picked her up.

And now the questions were in my mind. Did no one care? Didn't they miss her? Weren't they upset that she was gone?

She was on a relatively well-traveled road. Surely her people would have found her by now, right?

If they did, they didn't move her. She was still lying where she had died.

The next time I drove by, she was gone. By that point, I can only assume it was probably a road crew or cleanup person from the township who took her. I had lost faith that her people had come for her.

She looked too clean that first day to not have had someone caring for her. Were they really not upset that she was gone? Didn't it mean something that she was here, on this earth, for however short a time? Wasn't she special to someone? Anyone?

It's then that I realized she was special to me.

I remembered the place in heaven, adjacent to the Rain-

bow Bridge. Many of us know the Rainbow Bridge is the spot where animals wait for their owners to crossover so they can all be reunited in heaven together. The animals there are no longer hurt or ill or sick. They're happy in the meadow until the day when they see their human. Then it is joy all around.

Well there's another place, close to the Rainbow Bridge, for the rescuers of the world. This is the spot where the animals who didn't have people they shared a connection with on earth wait for the humans who helped animals while they were here.

It's the Rescuer's Rainbow Bridge and I thought to myself, maybe this little girl I saw along the side of the road will be there. I told her I wouldn't forget her on my way through. I'd see her and take her with me into heaven.

I hoped it was enough to give her soul a little bit of peace and let her know she was seen. Even for a little while. Even though it had been too late.

I saw her. She meant something.

And I went home that night and snuggled my cats extra hard, even though I could tell they wondered what had come over me. I simply told them I needed to hear them purr. They seemed okay with providing that.

For all the other rescuers out there, I may not speak to you or know you personally, but there is a connection we form that transcends words and we know that we will have a whole lot of souls crossing over with us into heaven. Even the ones we couldn't save.

Thank you, all of you, for seeing them, for helping those you can and for loving all the planet's creatures.

Even the ones who no one picks up.

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



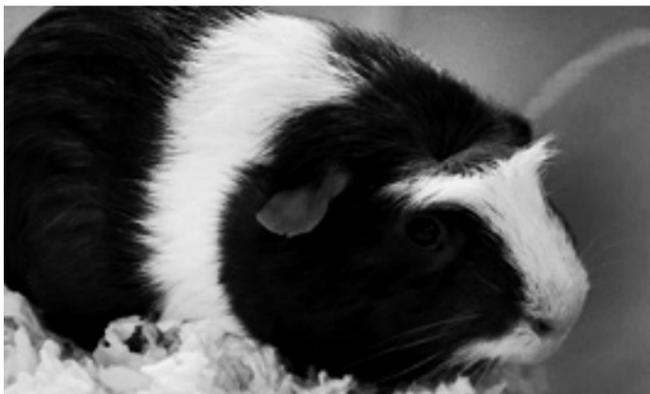
Pop Socket is 6-month-old gray-and-white girl who loves attention. She came into the shelter as a stray and is one curious cat! She enjoys playing and exploring new things. Pop Socket is going to make someone a really fun companion. Could that someone be you?



Jinx is a playful, happy 2-year-old German Shepherd who can be a little anxious if she is unsure, and will need someone that knows and understands the Shepherd breed. She does mouth when excited and will need someone that can continue to work with her on this. She can be dog selective. Do you have the right spot for Jinx?



Quail came into the shelter as a stray in June and is currently at Petsmart in Chambersburg. He's a 4-year-old orange boy who is super sweet and super cute. Could Quail be your new four-legged friend?



Big Poppa was abandoned in a crate in front of the shelter with eight other guinea pigs. He is a big boy who loves to eat his veggies! Big Poppa is currently housed on his own, but may do well with another guinea his size. Do you have the right place for this big Poppa?

For more information about Pop Socket, Jinx, Quail, or Big Poppa call the Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter at 717-263-5791, or visit them online at www.cvaspets.org or better yet, visit them in person at the shelter.

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

To a poor and lonely stray I'd give:

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

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

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

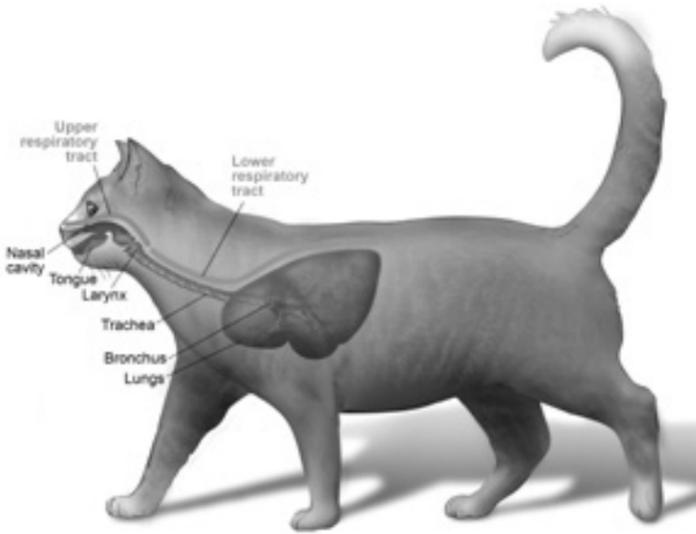
Instead, go find an unloved dog, one whose life has held no joy or hope and give MY place to HIM.

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

-- Author Unknown

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Bethany Davidson
Humane Educator, Frederick County Animal Shelter

Have you ever walked through FCAC's cat adoption floor and wondered why some of the animals have green dots on their cage cards and others don't? Well, those green dots are a simple way for us to identify which of our felines have had upper respiratory infections (URIs) and which haven't. For some the thought of adopting a cat who has been sick is concerning, but the truth is respiratory infections among cats are very common especially in high-density populations like animal shelters.

As with humans these infec-

tions can be caused by a variety of viruses and bacteria and can be highly contagious. To prevent the spread of these infections and keep our residents healthy, Frederick County Animal Control encourages all staff, volunteers, and visitors to sanitize their hands between feline interactions. It's also why our cat floor is divided into non-green dot and green dot sections and visitors are directed to interact with cats who have not had URIs first.

Upper respiratory tract infection symptoms include sneezing, discharge from the eyes and/or nose, coughing, conjunctivitis, ulcers in the mouth, lethargy, anorexia and in some case difficulty breathing. Treatment

begins for FCAC cats with the onset of symptoms and treatment varies depending on the severity of the infection.

Some felines are treated on the adoption floor while those experiencing more severe symptoms are transferred to FCAC's sick room. All receive appropriate medical care which can include nasal decongestants, antivirals and antibiotics while also maintaining adequate nutrition and hydration.

The most common upper respiratory infection at FCAC is the feline herpes virus or feline viral rhinotracheitis (FVR). According to the Cornell Feline Health Center "up to 97% of cats are exposed to feline herpes virus in their lifetime, and the virus causes a lifelong infection in up to 80% of exposed cats." Because cats carry the infection for life, they may experience periodic flare-ups especially in times of stress. The Center states that these flare-ups are often mild and clear up on their own.

FCAC's cat population is relatively low at present, but several of our feline residents are currently being treated for URIs both on and off the adoption floor. Once such cat is 7-year-old Oreo. While he's been taking a few more cat naps than usual during his treatment, Oreo is still his normal attention-seeking self. He happily greets those who enter the kitty kabana. He enjoys both petting sessions and playtime and is totally comfortable sneezing in your face during both. Right now, Oreo lives alone in kabana one but as he completes his treatment, a new roommate will be moving in.

If you're interested in adopting a cat from Frederick County Animal Control and Pet Adoption Center, but have questions or concerns about adopting an animal who has been treated for an upper respiratory infection please mention it to the staff. We can arrange for you to speak with a member of our medical team regarding your concerns.



Sibby is a sweet lady who loves a good ear scratching. She arrived at the shelter after she was trapped by a property owner. Sibby's friendly personality indicates she must have been someone's pet; however, no one came to the shelter to reclaim her. Quick movements, loud noises and suddenly being picked up startles Sibby, so she would do best with a family that understands her boundaries.



At 9 months old, Dixie is not a crazy puppy but rather a well manner adolescent dog. She walks nicely on a leash, keeps her paws on the ground and knows a few basic commands. Dixie loves to play outside and is an active girl; she would make an excellent hiking or walking companion. Dixie has a lot to offer her next family, however, she prefers a home without cats or small animals.



Big cat lovers meet Oreo. At fifteen pounds, he's not overweight, just a big guy. Oreo resides in one of the shelter's kitty kabanans and shares the space with two other cats. He is a nice, mature cat and is calm, friendly as well as playful. Oreo will make a great addition to almost any family since he has lived with other cats, a dog and is recommended for kids of any age.



At six months old, Sunny is a work in progress. She needs a family that is willing to provide her consistent rules, training and daily exercise. Sunny has a friendly disposition and of course she is also energetic and playful. She shared her previous home with another dog and is recommended for families with older children because of her exuberant nature.

For more information about Sibby, Dixie, Oreo, and Sunny call the Frederick County Animal Shelter at 301-600-1319 or visit them online at www.frederickcountymd.gov/fcac.



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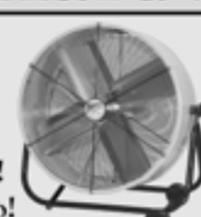
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Congressman David Trone works with Brooke's House in Washington County to help women overcome substance abuse.

Families Are Suffering

Opioid and other addictions are hurting American families, including mine. Last year, 100,000 people died of a drug overdose. That’s enough people to fill Camden Yards more than twice over. More than 1 million lives have been lost since 1999. In 2016, we had a tragedy in our family. My nephew Ian died from his battle with opioid addiction. That is simply unacceptable to me.

September Is National Recovery Month

As we celebrate National Recovery Month this September, I join countless Marylanders in celebrating those who overcame the immense challenge of substance use disorder. Ian’s story showed me just how difficult it can be to stay clean — and I’m inspired by the stories of those who continue to do that day by day. But in honor of National Recovery Month, I’m also recommitting myself to doing whatever I can to ensure that more folks across the country can celebrate those milestones, so more children can live a fulfilling life free from the grip of addiction and fewer families receive a call like mine did.

I Find Hope In Action

Last year, I helped launch the Bipartisan Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Task Force, dedicated to making a difference. In one year alone, we passed 26 bills into law, funding billions of dollars in treatment and harm reduction efforts, expanding mental health care in schools, prisons, and communities, and giving our law enforcement officers the tools they need to curb the flow of opioids, especially synthetic opioids like fentanyl, in our communities. We’ve also made progress to stop fentanyl on an international level, giving federal law enforcement expanded power to stop synthetic opioids coming from China and Mexico. And I’ll continue to work with both Republicans and Democrats to find solutions to help families in need.

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NEWS-JOURNAL SECTION 2

Vaughn Zimmerman's lifelong commitment to community

In nearly every small town in America, there are individuals who embody the spirit of community and serve as its backbone. These dedicated people commit themselves to making their hometowns better places, leaving a lasting impact on generations to come. Walkersville proudly boasts many such individuals, with one shining example being Vaughn Zimmerman. A lifelong resident of Walkersville, Zimmerman has been involved in almost every aspect of community life, from sports to emergency services to town government. Moreover, he has played a pivotal role in establishing several important programs within the town and greater Frederick area that continue to thrive today.

Zimmerman's ties to Walkersville run deep, tracing back to his family's roots in the town. In the 1920s, his family built a home on West Frederick Street, a residence he proudly owns today. He recalls his attendance at the original Walkersville School during the first years of his education, as well as the changes he experienced as a growing need for space prompted the construction of a new facility—now Walkersville Middle.

Zimmerman was heavily involved with sports during his student years, playing both basketball and soccer for Walkersville. After graduating from high school, he became a Little League team manager and began to get more involved with the Glade Valley Athletic Association. His passion intensified as he raised his two children, coaching them in baseball, softball, and even golf. For almost a decade, he volunteered as an umpire for local baseball games before joining a slow pitch softball league in Frederick.

Beyond sports, Zimmerman's most significant contribution to Walkersville lies in his work with the Walkersville Volunteer Fire Company. With over 50 years of continuous active service, Zimmerman has devoted much of his life to serving the community through emergency response, helping to form the foundation of fire and rescue organizations across the county today. He joined the Volunteer Fire Co. in 1965 and quickly rose in rank due to his commitment, serving 11 years as Second Assistant Chief while working in town at Aunt Lucy Hams, Inc. and five years as Rescue Chief, including the plane crash of 1981. In 1977, he played a key role in establishing the Walkersville Ambulance Company. "Before that, Woodsboro was taking care of our ambulance service," said Zimmerman. "[The Walkersville Ambulance Co.] helped with response time and also allowed us to involve women, since there were no women really allowed at that time."

Zimmerman has been profoundly influenced by the people around

him, and in turn, he has played a crucial role in shaping the lives of others. He recalls several pivotal moments in his role as a firefighter, one of which occurred early in his career as he was called to the scene of a fire near Ceresville Mansion where a young boy was killed. "That really instilled in me that if there was anything I could ever do to help, I would do it," said Zimmerman.

As he continued his journey, he participated in many educational programs for local students, teaching them how to "stop, drop, and roll" and take proper precautions in their daily lives. Later, Zimmerman saw many of these children return to the Fire Company as adults hoping to volunteer their time and service. "It makes you feel really good to see them come back all these years later [remembering] you and the stuff you taught them," said Zimmerman.

And although the job comes with its fair share of challenges, as first responders are often witnesses of great tragedy, Zimmerman believes that the joys of working in emergency services far outweigh the hardships. "It's really something that brings people together," he said. "Everybody can agree that they want to do good in the community we live in, no matter how they feel politically, religiously, or otherwise. And that community spirit is what it's all about."

Each year, the Fire Company hosts the Walkersville Carnival, and although its primary goal is to raise funds for the Company, it has also been bringing townspeople together since 1940. For years, the carnival was the home of the only public Fourth of July fireworks show in Frederick County. Perhaps more notably, the carnival has been enlisting one of the most impressive volunteer forces in the county since its creation. Today, the Fire Company is joined by about 120 volunteers each year, most of whom have already been volunteering with the organization for years.

With a shifting demand for volunteerism especially since the pandemic, many local organizations struggle to find individuals willing to dedicate their spare time to social and civic efforts. Yet individuals like Zimmerman set an inspiring example for people of all ages and backgrounds. "Once you do something like this, the satisfaction of it is so huge," says Zimmerman. "The feeling of helping someone in need is so unbelievable, and it...[fosters] these connections where we're still receiving letters from people that have either been involved with us or helped by us...and we have generations of people supporting us."

Zimmerman's compassion and contributions have not been lost on members of the community, both near and far. In Walkersville, he was

elected as a town commissioner for two consecutive four-year terms between 1988 and 1996, providing a firm but compassionate voice on the town council. Now, he serves on the Board of Appeals, where he has been a member for nearly 20 years.

In the greater Frederick County area, he has received numerous recognitions. For ten years, he served as secretary of the Frederick County Fire Chiefs Association, where he helped institute the house numbering system in Frederick County. He also served as president of the Frederick County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association and served as a Trustee on the Budget Committee for over 20 years. In 2002, Zimmerman was named Volunteer Firefighter of the Year by the county, and in 2015 he received the Wertheimer Fellow for Excellence in Volunteerism Award from the Community Foundation. With the award money from the latter, he presents two scholarships each year to fire and rescue members to further their education.

Zimmerman remains humbly ded-



When we were thinking about a series on a local unsung hero, it was the need to tell Vaughn Zimmerman's story that was driving us.

icated to the well-being of his community, asking not for rewards but simply for donations of time and funds to the organizations he has cared so deeply about throughout his life. "We haven't

always been supported very well [in every aspect]," said Zimmerman. "But as this community grows, our needs grow, and everyone who volunteers to help [makes a difference]."

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HISTORY

Woodsboro Remembers

Francis Meehan Smith

Part 7: Organization

The Woodsboro Concert Band

The Woodsboro Concert Band was organized in 1870. The membership numbered between twenty-five and thirty men and boys.

The band was a popular attraction at picnics, parades and other ceremonies. At one time it was considered one of the best bands in the county. The Woodsboro Band ceased to function in the 1930's.

Baseball Teams

On Saturdays during the period just after World War I and before the beginning of World War II, the towns people of Woodsboro made a general exodus to the local ballpark or that of an adjoining town in order to watch their team play in the Frederick County League of which it was a charter member.

Old timers took their baseball seriously and defended its honor with baseball bats, umbrellas, choice words, and anything that came to hand or mind. In return the team won five pennants for

their loyal followers. Everyone was on a first name basis with all of the players so that an injury or a questionable call by the "ump" was a personal insult to all onlookers. Sometimes more action took place on the stands between rival supporters than on the playing field. Thurmont was a particularly bitter enemy and brought forth some of the best remembered fights.

It was a special era, as the whole town followed the ratings, scores, illnesses, and performances of players and with a single thought win! Children learned baseball rules early, even girls, and the whole family attended the game together usually with the automobile packed to capacity.

Possibly the people in town were united as they never have been before or since. After all, it was their team!!!

Woodsboro Fire Company

In the year 1952 or 1953, a group of citizens gathered in the Woodsboro Hall over the bank building to decide what to do with the \$30,000 they had in their bank account. This money was the proceeds from carnivals held to pay the balance of



Woodsboro Concert Band: front row, left of drum, Pearce Sirine, right of drum, Ed Wallace. Second Row - Walter Smith, William Smith, James Smith, Cramer Powell, Hirsch Eichelberger, Ben Saxten. William Eyler, William Powell. Third row: Robert Eyler, Roy Strine. Prof. Harvey, Lynn Smith, Oscar Whitmore, Charlie Wills, Raymond Smith, Joe Price, Luther Powell. Man in straw hat - Reno Crum. James Smith bandwagon in front of Harvey Boone's shed at Rocky Hill.

expenses on the town war memorial. It was called the Community Betterment Fund.

A motion was made to give the town \$5,000 to start a water system and up to \$15,000 if water was put in, and the balance was to buy a fire engine.

The first president of the company was L. Cramer Powell. A new fire engine was bought and received in 1955.

Lawrence Dorsey was elected president in December, 1955. He served for fifteen years and is a

Director at the present time.

The first thing he faced was a new fire engine and to place to keep it. With the help of many loyal citizens who signed \$1,000 notes, not knowing if they could be

Repaid, the contract for the first community hall and fire station was signed with on July 9, 1956, to be completed by November 9, 1956. The cost of the contract was \$19,645.78.

Forty members were asked to canvass the community for dona-

tions. They collected a total of \$2,891.00. Lawrence Dorsey loaned \$4,000 interest free to the Ladies Auxiliary to equip the kitchen and which they paid back in twenty-three months.

Claude Barrick served as Chairman of the Building Commission. Following Mr. Powell's term as president of the company. Mr. Glenn Lenhart served part of one year as president. Mr. Kenneth Morgan was the following President and Dorsey Rippeon became the fifth President and is still serv-

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HISTORY



Woodsboro Baseball Team - 1925 Frederick County Champions: J.E. Stoner, Manager, LeRoy Barrick, Smith Cramer, Roger Crum, Steiner Smith, Jesse Jacobs, Lester Fox, Maurice Donsife, Arthur Winebrenner, Lynn Smith, John Drenning, John Winebrenner. Emory Cutshall, Elwood Powell (Scorer). Marshall Stitely (B. Manager), Claude Barrick and John Krenzer (Bat Boys).

ing. All of these leaders continue to improve and add to the service for the community.

Rest room tiling was donated and laid by James Misner and Paul Main, who also laid the auditorium floor free of charge, saving the company thousands of dollars.

Henry Huffman promoted teen-age dances. The men and women held Sunday dinners and the Ladies Auxiliary held many fund raising projects for four years in order to pay off the debt.

With a carnival ground, two buildings on it, two ambulances, two engines, and one rescue truck, all fully equipped, the citizens of Woodsboro can be proud that

they have been a part of the debt free Community Center.

The Ladies Auxiliary to the Woodsboro Fire Company

The Ladies Auxiliary to the Woodsboro Fire Company held their first meeting on November 28th, 1956 at the Woodsboro Elementary School. The meeting was conducted by Mr. Lawrence Dorsey with twenty-nine ladies in attendance. The group

elected Mrs. Maxine Murray as their first President.

The Charter was presented on June 12, 1957 with eighty-nine chartered members and twelve non-chartered members. The Constitution and By-Laws were thus adopted on May 8th, 1957.

The kitchen itself, and the necessary items to furnish the kitchen, was adopted as their first main project.

Members of this fine organization always give willingly their support and effort at functions such as their annual carnival, Sunday dinners, banquets, anniversary dinners and receptions and their biggest project, the feeding of the Glade Valley Lions the first and third Thursday of each month.

Other projects they undertook were bake sales: selling of calendars for the benefit of fire prevention; making their own cookbook of recipes of auxiliary members and guests.

This organization has always found it in their hearts to give donations of money to the Bessie Marshal Memorial Fund; the Hospital Aid program; the Woodsboro Community Park; and of course,

the fire company which has always been our first concern.

The tip money realized from the Lions and other banquets and such are put aside in a special fund and during the year is used to eat out somewhere or take a trip.

The Fire Company and the Aux-

iliary work together at the Sunday dinners which are held from September through May of each year.

The Auxiliary took it upon themselves to organize a Marching Unit and purchased uniforms so they could march in parades. Many prizes were received for their efforts.

With the helping hand of each and every member, the auxiliary has come a long way.

To learn more about Woodsboro's history, visit the History section of Woodsboro.net.

continued next month



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100 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

September 7

School Enrollment Breaks All Records

From all over Frederick County come reports of a record-breaking enrollment in high and public schools. It is believed that enrollment will exceed 13,000.

Walkersville High School reports a student body of over 200. The enrollment in the grammar grades totaled 198 and 30 pupils were rolled in the two high school grades. The enrollment of the school by grades follows; first grade - 25; second - 35; third - 30; fourth - 35; fifth - 25; six - 18; seven - 30; eighth - 15; and ninth grade - 15.

Liberty High School has an enrollment of 82. Of this number 32 are in the high school grades. The enrollment of pupils in the high school proper follows by grades, first - 5; second - 12; third - 5; and, fourth - 5.

Woodsboro Public School reports 73 students enrolled this year. 29 of these are in the primary department; 25 in the intermediate department, and 29 in advance grades.

Woman Commit Suicide

Margarita Klein, age 23, wife of Earl Klein of Ladiesburg, committed suicide on Friday afternoon by shooting herself in the head with a 22-caliber rifle. Two weeks before, Mrs. Klein attempted suicide by cutting an artery in her left wrist, said to have been due to despondency.

Klein shot herself in the forehead at the home of her husband's parents while her husband was working on a well in the yard, about 50 feet away. When he heard the shot of the rifle, he headed into the house. As he entered the kitchen he found the unconscious

form of his wife lying on the floor with a bullet wound in her forehead. She died a few minutes later.

Sometime ago, Mrs. Klein suffered a nervous breakdown and made an attempt on her life by cutting a blood vessel on the back of her hand. About a week ago her husband brought her to the house of his parents at the advice of a physician, thinking the change might improve her health.

Friday morning she seemed fine and after putting out a small wash, went to the yard, where her husband and his father were at work. After leaving her husband in the yard, Mrs. Klein went directly to the kitchen where she selected the rifle, which was kept loaded in a corner with two other guns to shoot Chicken Hawks.

With a weapon in hand she seated herself on a chair, press the muscle against her forehead and pulled the trigger. The ball made a clean round powder burn, and lodged in the back of her head. There were no fractures where the bullet entered. Besides her husband, the woman is survived by an infant about two weeks old.

Petty Thieving Alarming County

Petty thieving in the vicinity of Johnsville, Unionville and along with Frederick and Carroll County line near Union Bridge has caused a feeling of apprehension an alarm among farmers of those localities.

Houses and out buildings have been broken into and meat, lard, poultry and household articles have been stolen and carried away in automobiles. It is said that an organize gang with headquarters near Johnsville is operating in that section of the county, day and night.

A building on the premise of R. A.

Kenny, near Woodsboro, was entered Sunday night and a quantity of oil was stolen. The house of Mr. McKenny, near Johnsville was broken into several nights ago and a quantity of lard, meat and clothing stolen. Thieves drew a quantity of oil from the tractor of Harry Peddicord and the same parties visited the premise of Laura Clemson and Charles Ernest, near Johnsville and stole poultry and whatever they could conveniently carry away. It was stated that several farmers in the same locality have been robbed of corn.

Two farmers near Johnsville, whose premises have been visited by thieves, stated that persons in remote sections along the Frederick and Carroll County lines were afraid to leave their homes day or night. Both declared that a gang of young man was responsible for the thieving.

While the persons from near Jonesville did not care to have their names mention for fear of revenge both declared that they had armed themselves and were ready to receive anyone after dark.

September 14

Child Hit By Automobile

Ruth Pallinstar, the eight-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Pallinstar of Walkersville, had a narrow escape from severe injuries when she was struck by a Ford roadster Wednesday morning.

The little girl had been taken to school in her father's automobile and had just climbed out of the machine to cross the road to the schoolhouse when she was struck by the Ford, said to have been driven by a man named Stall. Before it was traveling towards Freder-



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ick at what was described as a good rate of speed. Although the driver swerved to the side of the road as soon as he saw the child, the little girl was struck by a fender on the car and badly bruised and slightly cut.

The child retained consciousness and was taken home where medical aid was given. While her injuries are painful they are not thought to be serious and her condition is satisfactory.

The same cannot be said for Stall, who received a severe thrashing following the accident, but upon being questioned by police, none of the bystanders were able to recall who had struck Stall repeatedly about the head and body.

Shoots Two

And unsuccessful attempt was made to rob the trading booth of A. R. Favor-

ite on the property of the Monocracy Valley Canning Company, about midnight Friday. Two young men made an attempt to force an entrance to the booth by ripping off a plank in the rear were shot by Mr. Favorite who is standing guard inside.

The boys, David Hetterly, 18 of Walkersville, and Robert Wagerman, age 19 of Emmitsburg, were later arrested on the charge of attempting the robbery. Both are alleged to have confessed and have been committed to jail.

Two or three nights ago a plank was ripped off the rear of the booth and the place robbed of an electric fan and some cigars, cigarettes, etc. A second attempt was made to rob the place the next night, but was foiled by the night watchman of the canning company.

Friday night Favorite himself stood guard inside the booth, about midnight he saw the board which was still loose ripped off. He immediately open fire with his 32-caliber revolver, and struck one of the men in the arm.

Both fled, but Favorite fired again. Hetterly threw up his hands and it was struck by the bullet. He immediately was made prisoner by Favorite.

Police were notified and dispatched to the scene of the attempted robbery. Favorite was removed to the jail after having his wound dressed. He was shot through the wrist, the bullet going clear through.

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100 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

About one o'clock in the morning, Wagerman was located and placed under arrest. He was shot in the arm but the bullet lodged against the bone. The bullet was removed and the wound was dressed. Wagerman was also committed to the jail.

The parents of Hetterly were apparently unaware of his predicament are they are said to have sent to the factory a note asking if he wanted his breakfast sent to him.

Test Of Auto Operators

Representatives of 13 Midwest states have been invited to attend the conference of Motor Vehicle Administrators, representing state automobile licensing bureaus, to be held in Chicago, at which time plans will be made for working out safety first laws for automobilist and pedestrians. The movement is being fostered by the National Safety Council.

There is a real need, according to the official sponsoring the conference, for uniform laws of driving to lessen the death rate. One suggestion is to prevent a man who never has handled a car before from buying a machine and properly setting forth as if he were an experienced driver. This prevalent custom could be prevented, they say, by forcing the dealer by law to see that everyone to whom he sells a car is thoroughly instructed before he is permitted to operate it on the public highways.

Accidents, as a rule, do not happen to licensed chauffeurs - they happen to unskilled drivers, and women - women making up the majority of auto accidents due to their well-recognized inability to understand complex equipment.

The conference will make plans for uniform laws to govern the licensing of an automobile operator to see if they are sufficiently competent mentally to handle a motor driven vehicle. Some form of intelligence test is likely to be devised.

Cramer Bank Barn Burns

A large bank barn of the farm of Clinton Cramer, about three miles east of Woodsboro was destroyed by fire. Besides the barn there were burned about 13,00 bushels of wheat, about 25 tons of hay, and a frame hog house with several hogs. The threshing machine, which belongs to Milton Fogle, of Ladiesburg, was also destroyed.

September 21

Community Association To Meet At Walkersville

The Glade Valley Community Association of Walkersville has re-organized in preparation to beginning the regular monthly meetings for the Winter. The first meeting of the season will be held Monday evening at the Walkersville schoolhouse.

The Glade Valley Community Association is an open organization and is made up of representatives from the Walkersville area. Meetings are held regularly on the second Monday of each month, at which time community problems are brought up for discussion. The Association is in our growth of a parent teacher association founded some years ago. The objective of the Association is the welfare of the community in general.

After the business meeting a program is rendered. A debate will be one of the features on Monday evening's meetings. There will also be community singing and a short address. Plans are being made for the Winter and interesting programs are expected.

The Glade Valley Community Association is an open organization and claims as its members everyone residing in Walkersville.

Petition Against Lime Company

A bill on behalf of Walter Zimmerman of Walkersville, has been filed against in the McAleer Lime Company near Walkersville, asking that a receiver be appointed, and alleging that the company has defaulted in payment of interest due under the mortgage of deed of trust for \$30,000 executed in 1916.

Sale of the property has been asked to satisfy claims of creditors. The company is said to be indebted to Mr. Zimmerman in the sum of \$1,800 with interest. The property is located at Clear Station, between Woodsboro and Walkersville, and consist of about 30 acres of land. It is improved with good quarries, eight kilns, and is equipped with improved machinery.

The company is incorporated under the laws in Maryland for \$100,000. The defendant operator is order to show before September 10 why the bill filed against it should not be granted.

Nighttime Temperatures To Remain Cool

The mercury took quite a slight Sunday night and landed at 52° mark for it's low. This is the coldest earliest September

night since 1915 and the coldest night this year since August 23 when the temperature of 50° was registered.

The cool weather which has characterized the last few days is expected to continue for a few more days, at least. Then the local weatherman looks for warmer weather. He says that it will likely get warmer about the middle of the day, but in the evening things will continue to be cool.

September 28

80 Gallons Of Alcohol Found In Wrecked Machine

Discovery of 80 gallons of grain alcohol in a roadster wrecked on the Woodsboro Pike, shortly after dark Wednesday night led to the confiscation of both the car and the liquor by the state police.

According to all indications the machine had skidded on the wet highway and slid into the ditch. The car bore evidence of the impact with one broken front wheel and a bent fender. No sign of the occupancy could be found.

While the machine had hit the bottom of the ditch with some force, it is believed that the driver was not injured. No one was seen in the vicinity of the car when police reach the scene and no arrests were made.

The alleged grain alcohol found in the car it said to be worth a fabulous sum. It is now stored in the State Police headquarters where it is being sampled hourly to ensure it does not go bad.

Community Pageant

"The Makers of America", will be presented on the lawn in front of the schoolhouse at Walkersville Saturday evening. The pageant is presented to the community to convey in dignified and adequate matter the exalted privilege of American citizenship and is intended to impress upon all the blessings and privileges of American life. One unique and important aspect of the ceremony is that it does not limit the induction into citizenship of aliens only, but provides an equal opportunity for the welcoming into citizenship of all American youth, who have during the previous year attain their majority.

The native born here are said to be as much in need for the development of respect for law and the familiarity with the American institutions as the foreign born. About 100 persons will take part in the pageant.

To read past editions of 100 Years Ago this month, visit the History section of Walkersville.net.



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LIBRARY NEWS

September at the Walkersville Library

Fall into September with Walkersville Branch Library! As summer vacations wrap up and school starts up again, stop by the library to pick out a new book and stay for one of our many programs. There are story-times, events and programs for folks aged one to 101! Whether you learn how to prepare your fall garden, your teenager meets friends afterschool or the whole family watches a hot air balloon launch, you're bound to have a good day when it includes the Walkersville Library.

All branches of Frederick County Public Libraries will be closed September 3rd and 4th in observance of Labor Day. Make sure to pick up some extra reading material before the long weekend!

Start your Labor Day weekend off with a BANG! On Saturdays at 10am, we have Freedom BANG, a pre-choreographed fusion of boxing, HIIT, hip hop, world dance, optional weighted gloves, and a touch of attitude, offering a wide range of options to customize your workout. Interested in Zumba but want something that's lower intensity? Join us for a Zumba Gold class, a fun dance workout at ten on Tuesdays.

A gentler form of exercise is Tai Chi,

a self-paced system of gentle physical exercise and stretching. It is practiced for defense training, health benefits and meditation! A Tai Chi Class will be presented by Inner Court, Tai-Ji on September 12 from 10:30-11:30. Looking for an evening class to add to your routine? Put on your comfy clothes and join Sol Yoga on the 25th at 6 to melt away the stress of Monday during this free drop-in yoga class. Hop into a lower intensity Zumba class designed for all fitness levels on September 26th at 10.

This month's Sensory Program for Adults with Intellectual Disabilities will be on September 13 at 10:30 and is all about music. Listen as a Music and Arts instructor demonstrates instruments and then try them for yourself!

Are you looking to freshen up your garden this fall and start planning for the spring? Master Gardener Tiger Waddell will be here to answer your plant-based questions during an informal plant swap. Bring in your extra plants or seeds to swap and share with other local gardeners on September 9 from 11 to 1. Another Master Gardener, Kimberly Leahy, will be at the library on September 26 at 6 to present on pollinator gardens and talk

about the short life of the elusive Paw Paw fruit.

Sweet and well-trained therapy dogs from Go Team Therapy will be waiting for you to read your favorite book to them at the library. Improve your reading confidence and make a new friend when you read aloud four-legged listener on Thursday, September 14th from 6:30-7:30!

We welcome adults who want to practice their English to a conversation class hosted by the Literacy Council of Frederick County. Classes will be Monday evenings from 6:30 to 7, starting September 11th. Students will practice their speaking and listening skills with conversations guided by an instructor from the Literacy Council of Frederick County. Please note, registration is required by the Literacy Council of Frederick County. If interested, please register or call the Walkersville Branch Library to assist with registration.

Stop by the Walkersville Farmer's Market on your way into the library Saturday September 2nd for the last time this summer. You can enjoy a variety of goods from local vendors and artisans at our Farmer's Market on Saturdays from 9 to 1.

Is your summer garden so bountiful that you're not sure what to do with all your produce? September 10 at 1:30, Joi Vogin from University of Maryland will give a basic introduction to food preservation techniques including home canning, freezing, drying, and fermenting. Fermentation will include a discussion on yogurt, sauerkraut, kombucha, kefir, and kimchee.

Author Bernice Simpson is a nurse

with over 29 years of experience; she provides insight to healthcare professionals and families who are managing someone's end-of-life care. Bernice will come to the Walkersville Branch Library on September 24 from 1:30 to 3 to discuss her book "Are You Really Listening" as well as the differences between Hospice and Palliative Care and Five Wishes vs. a Living Will. She will share some of her enlightening experiences as a nurse in many capacities, including Oncology.

Do you need help expunging your record from a past conviction? Meet with an attorney from Maryland Legal Aid to discuss your options and begin the process during the Expungement Clinic at Walkersville Branch Library on September 14 from 4 to 7.

There's nothing more magical than a hot air balloon taking off at sunset, so please join us and our special guests from Monocacy Elementary School and Tailwinds Over Frederick for a spectacular program to kick off the new school year! We'll start at 5 with a read aloud, followed by the opportunity to take pictures with and ask questions about one of Tailwinds amazing hot air balloons! Finally, at 5:30 the team from Tailwinds launch their hot air balloon from our very own backyard! Rain Date: Tuesday, September 12th.

If you're a teen in need of volunteer hours or you want to have a say in the goings-on at the Walkersville Branch Library, join us at the monthly Teen Library Council Meeting (TLC) to help make the library the best place it can be for you! Attendees will not only receive volunteer hours, but also develop marketable leadership skills,

credentials for future job and college applications, and have a fun time with other teens. This month the meeting is on September 26 at 3:30.

Calling all teens who love to explore, create, and innovate! Head over to the Walkersville Branch Library on Tuesday afternoons at 3:30 for our Teen Innovation Hour. Each week we will explore a new concept and then get hands-on. Bring a friend or two and see what's in store for the day—tie dye, programming, engineering and more await!

Are you looking for a safe space to engage with friends outside of school? Maybe looking for peer mentors or teen-oriented community resources? Teen Connect happens every Tuesday from 3:30-4:30pm. Ease your back-to-school nerves with a visit from a cute, professional pup; on September 1st, we will welcome a junior handler from Go Team Therapy Dogs to meet her dog to learn all about owning, training, and working with a therapy dog.

A special program just for "tweens"—10- to 13-year-olds—will be held on September 11 at 6. They will learn all about the process of creating and producing movie magic with a short presentation from Black Fox Pictures and a hands-on activity about the technology behind video production.

Every Wednesday from 11 to noon, preschoolers and their caregivers have the opportunity to build school ready skills while having fun and exploring their social-emotional selves with peers! Our weekly Fri-YAY! Program will continue into the fall, starting September 8th from 11 to noon. An informal educational program to round out the week, this Friday program includes a variety of topics, performers, and hands-on activities for children of all ages. Topics include dinosaurs, spies, literacy, and live animals!

"Science Is All Around Us" will be the focus for September's weekly program on Friday afternoons, from 1:00-1:45pm. Perfect for elementary age children, each program will feature a guest with special knowledge on a fascinating subject such as engineering, electricity, natural elements and more!

Bilingual Storytime will be on Wednesday September 6 and 20 at 6. An all-ages story time featuring songs, stories and rhymes in Spanish and English, this program is open to families who speak Spanish, and those looking to learn!



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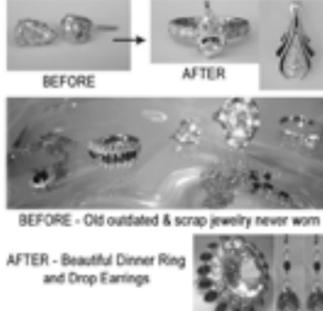
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SCHOOL NEWS

Frederick County Public Schools

Karen Yoho
Frederick County
Board of Education

Frederick County Public Schools students started their academic year on August 23. Of course, many students had already attended band camps, pre-season sports training, and other summer programs. And the school-based staff had returned the week before to join the 12-month folks. Being one of the first school systems in the state to start, FCPS was on many morning news programs. Dr. Dyson, members of her cabinet, and Board members spread out and made visits to all the school buildings over the first few days of instruction. From our observations, students and teachers were already getting into their routines and were well on their way with instruction and learning. Brooke Lieberman, the newest Student Member of the Board, was one of those who appeared on television incredibly early in the morning on the first day. Brooke is a junior at Urbana High School and wants to be the voice of the students, so be sure to contact

her at studentmemberboe@fcps.org or through her Instagram account, fcps_smob. FCPS has been blessed by the caliber of our student members and Brooke is already proving that she will be a valued member of our Board.

At the August 30th meeting, the BOE heard from PCG, the independent company hired to audit FCPS special education programs. You can access the 146-page report on the FCPS website. There is also an executive summary provided. The school system and the Board will take these recommendations into consideration as we look at our budget and programs. The idea of an independent audit came from the Special Education Blue Ribbon Task force which included parents, community members, and FCPS staff. We are always seeking to do the best for all our students.

FCPS added more than 400 new teachers to our classrooms. There was a great deal of energy and enthusiasm during the new teacher training. If you have looked at the staffing reports on Board Docs, you might have noticed that FCPS is the recip-

ient of more and more experienced teachers who are choosing to come to the fastest growing county in Maryland. We thank our Human Resources Department for their concerted efforts, as well as the personnel who provide the early training and support for our newest employees. The students are the beneficiaries of everyone working together.

From the FCPS website, "Frederick County Public Schools, Food and Nutrition Services announces participation in the School Breakfast Program and National School Lunch Program for school year 2023-2024. Free and reduced-price meal benefits are available at all Frederick County Public Schools. Online applications for the 2023-2024 school year are available at <https://linqconnect.com>."

Congratulations to students from the Frederick County Public Schools Career and Technology Center (CTC), ten of whom recently placed in the top ten at the 59th Annual SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Championships in Atlanta. To read the rest of the article, look at the FCPS website on the homepage. We love our CTC and all the other career and technology programs throughout the system. The Board is always looking for ways to expand and hone our CTC course offerings.

Our Public Affairs department reports that the FCPS Financial Reporting Department has once again been honored for excellence by both the U.S. Govern-

ment Finance Officers Association (14th year in a row) and the Association of School Business Officials (15th consecutive year). FCPS earned the Certificate of Achievement of Excellence for the annual FCPS comprehensive financial report for the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2022.

An impartial panel said the report demonstrates a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users to read the document. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government

and its management.

We appreciate how knowledgeable our Finance Department personnel are and how hard they work to present a transparent budget for the citizens of Frederick County. Congratulations on these well-deserved honors.

The Great Frederick Fair will once again happen later this month. Best of luck to the many students who will have entries in the Fair. Be sure to look for FCPS personnel and Board members, meeting and greeting students and their families.

For all FCPS families, we hope your students had a successful start to the 2023-24 school year. And enjoy your Labor Day weekend.



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FOUR YEARS AT THE MOUNT

This month we asked our students to write about why it's important to recognize people who go above and beyond to help their communities.

Sophomore

The importance of kindness in the community

Devin Owen
MSMU Class of 2026

Kindness and doing good are both concepts that are often overlooked in our society today—concepts that people know are right but still stray from for whatever reason. Over my first year at the Mount, though, I learned that Emmitsburg is a small town that thrives off doing good and spreading kindness throughout the community. Quite frankly, it is an incredibly refreshing sight to see. Doing good and spreading kindness is even something I have seen quite frequently on campus at the Mount; many students and professors put a great deal of effort into being kind, and they emphasize the importance of doing good.

When I first started writing for the News-Journal, I had no clue what I was doing—it was one of those moments where I was thrown in the deep end and told to swim when I didn't know how. Most people would think that some-

thing such as that is unfair or unethical, but in the long run it helped me learn more quickly; I adapted to different writing styles and situations. A memory that pops up while I think of my first few times writing for the Emmitsburg News-Journal is when I was asked to conduct an interview with Kadeem Brim for a feature article on the local farmers market in town. Not only was Brim welcoming, friendly, and honest, but he was also willing to overlook that I had never done an interview before and showed me kindness. This showing of kindness only emphasized Brim's excitement to do good for his community. When we spoke about what changes were being made to the market this year, he had said that new specialties, such as activities for children and different breweries/wineries, were being added in a rotation each week to not only entice families to come out, but also give everyone something fun to look forward to. Brim had said that he made it his goal to have the market grow, thrive, and “have the life breathed back into it,” not just for sake of the local businesses, but for the sake of everyone in the town because it's something good to do as a part of and for the community.

Acknowledging the good that those around us do is not only important for the purpose of making them feel good about what they did, but also about showing appreciation for the actions that were carried out.

Another interview comes to mind when I speak of appreciating actions and effort: the Blue Ridge Summit Library held a vintage book sale back on a dreary morning in March this year, and multiple members of the community came out to support it. The members of the Library Association spoke of how excited they were to put together this event and give the community something to do; something to look forward to. As a bookworm myself, the thought of any kind of book sale immediately piques my interest; it also warmed my heart to think that the library is trying to not only bring the community together for something fun, but also attempting to breathe new life into old books that seemed not to have gotten a lot of attention in recent years. I'll admit I was also incredibly excited when I saw a first edition Winnie the Pooh songbook—Pooh is a big thing in my family, has been for generations, but my niece recently became obsessed with anything pooh bear related—and

I wish I could've been the one to buy it, but maybe my excitement was similar to another's over the same book. It makes me think of the connections we can make to those around us just by something simple like that. Although that might not have been the intention of holding the event, it was still a good outcome, a welcome surprise.

Reflecting back on my own experiences, I remember holding a bake sale every year for our local SPCA center—I am a huge dog lover—and held it in the gazebo in my mom's neighborhood at the time. I absolutely loved planning, baking, and organizing the whole event but, getting to see everyone come out to support a cause that I loved so much was uplifting, heart-warming. The third year I did the sale, a local elementary school received the flyer that was posted on social media by the principal of my middle school; they had a class that volunteered to bake and donate goods for the bake sale that year. Not only did they save me a great deal of time in the kitchen the night prior, but they also reminded me that I wasn't alone in this: people wanted to help just as much as I did. The best part of all of it, though, was getting to bring the money to the

shelter each time; getting to see the way the face of the volunteers working lit up with joy and appreciation, not to mention that I got to go back to the kennels and play and bond with all of the dogs that they had at the time. That moment replays over in my head and reminds me why it's so good to do good, to be kind and giving.

In a way, this article is a form of recognition itself, honoring those who I have noticed do good and spread kindness in the community. That being said, thank you to everyone who does good and spreads kindness, even when you yourself may be going through a difficult time. You never know just how wonderful the outcome can be when good is done, for others and yourself. Again, recognizing those who do good in the community is important for a plethora of reasons, but the best of them all is to remind others that doing good—for selfless reasons—is something that everyone should strive to do, and by recognizing those who already do good we are also spreading kindness.

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

Senior

My feature article journey

Claire Doll
MSMU Class of 2024

When I first joined the staff of the Emmitsburg News-Journal, I was a sophomore at the Mount. I remember getting an email with the subject line: “Writers Needed for Local Paper!” As a student who only had experience writing creatively, I decided that this might be an opportunity to expand my skills and commit to a monthly writing assignment. It felt transactional, almost. At the beginning of every month, I'd respond to a prompt. Then I'd edit. Then I'd do it all over again. One article a month was all it was supposed to be.

I recall in November getting an email from my Managing Editor at

the time, Harry Scherer. “Gig—Let me know if interested!” was the subject line. Harry was wondering—on behalf of our Editor, Michael Hillman—if anyone was interested in writing a feature article. The Fairfield Fire Company was celebrating its 100th anniversary, and the Emmitsburg News-Journal wanted a long form piece about the historical milestone. It would be double the number of words my usual monthly articles were, and it would require me to do some hefty research and even interviews some community members.

I had to do it. While I loved responding to prompts from my own perspective, I craved to go out in the community and learn about the people and places around me. I also pictured my name and article in the news-journal, belonging to its own page. So, naturally, I said yes.

On a crisp Saturday morning, I drove up to the Fairfield Fire Company

for an interview with Charles Deardorff and Edward Hartzell, two longtime members of the company, and spoke with them for hours about the history of their fire department. I listened to personal stories and experiences from the members, looked through vintage photos of the fire company, and even took a tour of the firehouse. When I left, I drove past the arching mountains of Fairfield and wondered how I had never been up here before, a small town just fifteen minutes from Mount St. Mary's. My feature article was published in the December 2021 edition of the Emmitsburg News-Journal, and I hung the full-page article on my fridge at home.

And then I got more feature articles assigned to me. The Fountaindale Fire Department's 75th anniversary. A celebration at Blue Ridge Summit Free Library for 100 years. The Gettysburg Choral Society, and local authors in the Woodsboro and Walkersville

areas. Even a 4,000-word piece on the history of Union Bridge, where I had to attend a town meeting and type out words on an airplane to meet my deadline. My writing has covered stories miles and miles away from my college, in nearby towns, and have made impacts on those people. I would get as many as three or four feature articles assigned in a month, along with my usual Four Years at the Mount column, and I'd love it. I still do.

Meeting with members in the community and hearing their stories, while also giving them the gift of exposure and a voice in their town, is a rich and amazing experience. Plus, I can learn about their community. But the most beautiful part about these articles is being personable and learning about other people—people I would never have crossed paths with, if it weren't for the news-journal.

One of the most memorable assignments, however, has been writing about memorial and candlelight service of Nick Hani, a beloved Walkersville community member. In June of 2022, I published an article about the cat that lived in the Walkersville Feed Store with Nick Hani, the store's owner. I interviewed Nick and recorded our conversation, as I do with all articles. I met his cat and published the story—that was all. In September, however, I learned of the death of Nick Hani.

It was heartbreaking and shocking, to learn that someone I had interviewed and crossed paths with, had died. I didn't even know Nick—just the surface-level details that related to my article—but this news struck me in a way I couldn't comprehend. My editor wanted me to go to his candlelight service and write about his life, his impact as a person on the town of Walkersville. At first, I was so nervous. I didn't know who Nick was, and I was about to go to his memorial service to

write an article about his life.

But upon arriving to the service, I met Nick Hani's family and shared the audio recording of our interview from June. I hugged his wife, talked to his sisters, and listened intently during the service. The speakers were beautiful, and the prayers were intimate. Unlike any other feature article I've worked on, I didn't write down any notes. I soaked everything in—the setting sun, the conversation, the gathering of a family I didn't know. And it was beautiful.

Writing this feature article, I found myself coming up with words to describe such an experience, found myself painting an image of Nick Hani and portraying him within his community. This has been the most impactful and emotional article I've written, and it taught me how important it is to recognize those within the community. Communities are intimate, a portrayal of how humans blend to represent values. They are more than council meetings and town halls (though those are super important); communities are togetherness, but also individuality.

It has been a privilege writing feature articles for the Emmitsburg News-Journal and the Woodsboro-Walkersville News-Journal, and I am so excited to continue doing so for one more year. Venturing into communities foreign to me and exposing the goodness in people's hearts is a beautiful experience, and one I even hope to involve somehow in my career.

I have collected and treasured each feature article I've written, and I will someday look back on each one and remember the transformational time in college when, for just moments, I would peek into the life of another community and connect with those who belonged in it.

To read other articles by Claire Doll, visit the Author's section of Walkersville.net.



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RECOGNIZING THOSE WHO GO ABOVE AND BEYOND

Meet Claire Doll, our new Managing Editor

McKenna Snow
MSMU Class of 2023

I would like to introduce you to Claire Doll who has assumed the role as Managing Editor of Emmitsburg News-Journal. I have had the honor of working with her through this past year and a half, and have utmost confidence that she will do incredible things as the next Managing Editor. Claire has already done so much for the News-Journals that I could hardly fit it all into one article. But she, who constantly highlights the best of others in her work, is certainly deserving of her own spotlight here.

Claire will be entering her senior year at Mount Saint Mary's University this Fall, which means she is one step closer to beginning the next major phase of her life: teaching full-time after graduation. While she is still determining which grade she wants to teach, it is clear from the love she has for teaching English that she will serve her students well. I have no doubt that the enthusiasm, patience and hard work that she brings to the News-Journals will also be brought to her next workplace.

For now, Claire will be continuing her studies as an English major, and taking on the role as Managing Editor. The team of student writ-

ers is excited to have her as a leader, but in some ways, she has already been just that throughout this past year. Claire has been the Assistant Managing Editor for the past year, which means that during some months out of the semester, all of the articles would go to her first before they went to the Managing Editor. She gave them a careful read-through and edited where it was needed, and then she would send the articles on their way. Even at the beginning of her time as the Assistant Managing Editor, I could see Claire's skills as an editor already that showcased her commitment to accuracy in the punctuation, grammar and flow of every sentence. I also knew immediately that I could send my own articles to her and could count on her to help me improve my writing.

Claire did not just happen upon this new position as Managing Editor, either; the Four Years at the Mount section is structured in such a way that each year, the writers receive a new level of responsibility. As a freshman writer, one's only job, really, is to write and edit as needed. As the sophomore, the junior trains the sophomore on what to expect as the Assistant Managing Editor, which is the position assigned to the junior writer. The junior writer gives the sophomore instruction on what the new expectations are when the second year is completed, and up the writer

goes. The Assistant Managing Editor finds himself or herself quite busy, working closely with the senior writer. Once a writer has finished junior year, they become the Managing Editor of the paper—a role that the graduating writer should be preparing them for throughout the spring semester. As the graduate writer, I have tried to prepare Claire as much as possible for this position, and have sent her tips, reminders, and short lists of expectations and instructions.

As has been the case for me and a graduate writer, Emmy, above me, graduating early made our tracks a little out of the ordinary. Similarly, Claire hasn't necessarily "followed" the usual four-year structure. Her original position on the team was the Arts writer, and she became a writer for FYATM as various writers shifted around their graduation timelines. Claire's eye for beauty and poetry made her a great candidate for the Arts column, but her excellence in journalism and creative writing made it apparent to us that she would thrive in the FYATM position. And she has not only met but exceeded expectations in her roles at the News-Journal.

As the Assistant Managing Editor, Claire was always punctual—with everything. It was her responsibility to schedule our monthly meetings as a team; the monthly meetings have a very narrow window in which they

need to happen at the beginning of each month. Despite the wildly different schedules of seven college students, Claire found a time that worked for everyone, and made the meetings well in advance. At the meetings, Claire was the one who had her computer out, taking notes on what the leaders had to say, and on what we could improve on as a team. She wrote down every prompt idea, every follow-up question she and I would have for Mike or particular writers, and had the budget email ready to go right after the meeting. That way, the writers could receive their prompts as soon as possible, so they had plenty of time to get their articles done before the deadline.

I could also always count on her to be the first to submit her articles to me—sometimes within a day of the prompts going out. Her skills at time managing never cease to amaze me, even when I'm just thinking back on them. During this past school year, I would mosey into the café at the Mount to get my morning coffee at an "early" 8:30 a.m., and would see Claire at a booth with her computer, notebook, and coffee all around her. At that point in the morning, she would have been up for at least two hours already, have gone for her sunrise walk with a friend, and have finished much of her homework. She and I would have a brief chat about News-Journal updates and where we were with writing, and

then she would go right to work. It would be no surprise for me to receive an email from her with at least two completed articles before noon. And each one would be thoughtfully written, as if she had been musing on the topic for the past several weeks and finally sat down to write it.

And that is one of my favorite things about Claire, an aspect I am sure you as readers have also noticed: Claire puts so much care into the person in front of her, and so much care into every sentence she writes. Her love of poetry echoes through her prose, as each sentence has an air of story behind it. I love the enthusiasm she brings to each prompt, to each feature article, and to each interview she hosts for an article. I am sure she will continue to bring the wonder she has for the world everywhere she goes—and for now, she is going into this role as the new Managing Editor.

Claire has not only been a fantastic and dependable coworker for me, on whom I could always count—she has also been a wonderful friend. I am grateful for the opportunity I had this past year to work with her, and am so glad that she is the one who I am handing on this beloved role to. Trust me when I say it, the EmmitsburgNews-Journal is in good hands with Claire Doll!

The Graduate

A good neighbor

McKenna Snow
MSMU Class of 2023

Why write a feature story on those who do good in our local communities? This question shows that it is all too easy to take someone's good efforts for granted. "It's what is to be expected," we often tell ourselves. "They should work hard or be virtuous. It's part of the basics of being a good human being."

These are all true statements, but they often discount the efforts, goodwill, and care that someone has put into what they do. Being grateful is an afterthought, since your neighbor being a good person seems like a silly thing to be thankful for.

It'd be like being thankful for water, shelter, food... see what I mean?

Being a good neighbor is something of a basic necessity in one's local community. This not only applies in one's personal life, but in public life through one's job, as well. How well we choose to do our jobs—not necessarily with skill but with care and attention—impacts those around us, even if we don't see it. We should be a good neighbor to those around us in how we live our family life and our occupations. The question of 'who is my neighbor?' famously asked about by a scholar of the law to Jesus in the gospels draws this point out. Jesus responds with the story about the Good Samaritan, who saves the man he meets on the side of the road, who had been a victim to robbers and left

for dead. To be a good neighbor is to treat those we encounter on our daily road—as the Good Samaritan did—with mercy.

As social and rational creatures, we interact with each other on a daily basis, even if it's in passive interactions like getting our mail and never saying hello to the mailman. In this case, we are 'cared for' by our neighbor, the mailman. This is a brief encounter with another person's actions, even if we don't see the mailman dropping off the letter. The mailman dropping off the right letter to the right house makes quite a big difference in one's experience of getting the mail. When the mailman chooses to be a 'good neighbor' by being thorough, most of the time the proper letters are delivered. And when there is a mix-up, rarely does it have to do with the ill will of a mailman; usually it is just inevitable human error, which is also a part of life. We give each other grace for that mix-up, get it sorted out, and move on.

We shouldn't take our neighbors' good actions for granted, even if they're something of a basic necessity in order for societies to thrive. These actions are an encounter with virtue—a conscious, deliberate choice or habit to do the right thing, whether it be in one's job or in caring for one's family. It is easy to be impatient, to give up and go an easier route, to cut corners, or to simply complete one's job begrudgingly. It is an inspiring thing to do what is more arduous for the sake of something greater—serving one's community with joy, patience, and love.

That is why members of our community who do good are worthy of all the feature articles we can write. I think it is incredibly important to highlight those in our communities who do good—oftentimes, who I interview for feature articles have been doing many small tasks over the course of a year or even 35 years, and I am writing about that. Often, it isn't that they did one major feat that must go on the front page, but that they have lived well in their corner of the world, and have loved those they meet on their own roads well. They haven't helped every person around the globe as they walk down their road; they've simply loved those on their road well, in their everyday life choices. Most of us won't know what they've done for others until we ask them about it. I bet most of your decisions to be patient with a coworker, to go the extra mile in volunteering on your Saturday off, to play one more round of that board game your child loves, go unnoticed. That is alright. God noticed, and your neighbor noticed. It is still worth it.

Feature articles are some of my favorite articles to write because I get to hear the stories, memories, and cares of members of the community. No two people are the same, so each time I am tasked with interviewing someone new, I am excited and interested in what I might learn about the new person and what their road is like. I think it's important to highlight those who do good because it shows that 'ordinary people' like you and me really do make an impact on our communities. Feature articles are also a way to express gratitude for the people in our communities who do good, so that there is

some recognition we can give back to them for all that they've given us.

As a newspaper, we have the platform to recognize the people in our community who spend years doing good without being spotlighted, and offer them a chance to share their story with others. Everyone has different gifts, talents, and interests, and feature articles allow for a chance to celebrate that. It is important to recognize these members in our community who do good because, like shelter or water, our communities need them. We need them and we need to express our gratitude where we can—whether it be through a feature article or through a Christ-

mas card left out by your mailbox for your mailman.

"And who is my neighbor?" The question hangs in the air as Jesus looks at the scholar of the law with love. A story is then told to show him the answer. We know the answer now, too.

Perhaps our own stories won't all be in feature articles, but we know there is still great value both in being a good neighbor, and appreciating our neighbors. May we all be 'good Samaritans' to those we encounter on the road ahead of us.

To read other articles by McKenna Snow, visit the Author's section of Walkersville.net.

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ARTS

GCCA announces 80th concert season

As the summer season winds down, now is a great time to look ahead to fall and add the Gettysburg Community Concert Association's 80th Concert Season's programs to your datebook. Plan to join the Gettysburg Community Concert Association for the 2023-2024 season. A GCCA membership offers four concerts in Gettysburg with the extra value of a reciprocal agreement with the Hagerstown, MD and Waynesboro, PA concert associations adding ten more shows for free.

GCCA fulfills its mission of bringing great classical performers to the area by opening the 80th concert season with Taiwanese American pianist Ching-Yun on Tuesday, September 19, performing masterworks by Chopin, Liszt and Rachmaninoff.

Ching-Yun has been praised by audiences and critics across the globe for her dazzling virtuosity, captivating musicianship, and magnetic stage presence. At the heart of Ching-Yun's success is a

story of strength, dedication, and resilience that has powered her dream of becoming a world-class artist. Moving to the United States from Taiwan at age 14 without her parents to begin studies at The Juilliard School was the first of many challenges Ching-Yun has overcome in building her illustrious career — one that's included winning top prizes at the 12th Arthur Rubinstein International Piano Competition and the Concert Artists Guild Competition, performing on classical music's biggest stages including Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, Wigmore Hall, and Taipei National Concert Hall, and fostering the next generation of musicians as an educator and through entrepreneurial and philanthropic initiatives.

But for Ching-Yun, being a musician in the 21st century isn't just about playing the piano well — it's about making classical music more accessible through captivating programs that tell human stories inclusive of gender and race. By

juxtaposing audience favorites with underperformed treasures Ching-Yun's recitals consistently cover musical and narrative contrasts that encourage people to listen deeply and discover anew the work of even the most well-known composers. A concert of Chopin, Liszt and Rachmaninoff, in celebration of his 150th birthday, is planned.

On Tuesday, November 14, Frisson Ensemble will feature some of the best and brightest of classical music's stars. Frisson performs engaging programs for winds, piano trio and piano quartet, and features oboist, Thomas Gallant.

After a winter hiatus, GCCA presents ensemble132, a roster-based chamber music collective with innovative programming centered around new arrangements of existing masterworks and classic repertoire. Enjoy this concert on Tuesday, April 9.

The concert season concludes on Tuesday, May 7, with the Hyperion String Quartet, an exciting talent

emerging within the field of chamber music since their formation in 1999 at the Eastman School of Music.

Both of the regional partners in Hagerstown and Waynesboro appeal to a variety of musical tastes with programming ranging from country to rock and roll to classical. A Garth Brooks tribute, some country swing, a throwback tribute to the 70's folk scene, a female trio tribute to doo wop, Motown and R & B, and a mini-Trans Siberian Orchestra experience then wrapping it all up with the popular Dallas Brass, to name a few, make for a season of nostalgia and fun.

An adult membership is \$50. Children to age 18 and college students with ID are free. The concert venue for GCCA concerts is the St. James Lutheran Church, 109 York Street, in downtown Gettysburg, at 7:30 p.m.

The Gettysburg Community Concert Association (a non-profit member-



ship organization) 2023-2024 Season is supported in part by a grant from PA Council for the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of PA and the NEA, a federal agency; the Adams County Arts Council's STAR Grant Program which is funded by the Adams County Commissioners and the Borough of Gettysburg.

For more information call 717-339-9610; e-mail info@gettysburgcca.org, or visit www.gettysburgcca.org.

Frederick speaker series 2024 lineup announced

Entering its eleventh year, The Frederick Speaker Series has developed a reputation for bringing world-class speakers to the Frederick community. The 2024 line-up includes social activist, producer, and contributing editor to Vanity Fair Monica Lewinsky, host of Fox News Sunday, chief legal corre-

spondent for Fox News Channel and bestselling author, Shannon Bream, former director of the FBI and #1 New York Times best-selling author, James Comey, Public Enemy frontman and Rock & Roll Hall of Famer, Chuck D, and #1 New York Times best-selling author of Wild and Tiny Beautiful Things, Cheryl Strayed. All Series events are held at the Weinberg Center for the Arts.

A separately ticketed Meet-and-Greet reception will take place immediately following each presentation. These exclusive events provide a chance for fans to meet the speakers, take pictures, and obtain autographs.

Monica Lewinsky, January 18 - Monica Lewinsky is a producer, social activist, global public speaker, and a contributing editor to Vanity Fair. Her focus is on storytelling that moves the conversation forward — around shame, reclaiming identities, and justice for women. As an activist, Lewinsky advocates for a safer social media environment and addresses such topics as digital resilience, privacy, and cultivating compassion online. She was a speaker at the 2015 TED Conference in Vancouver. Her speech, "The Price of Shame," has been viewed over 21 million times.

Shannon Bream, February 15 - Shannon Bream is the anchor of FOX News Sunday and chief legal correspondent for FOX News Channel. She has covered numerous political campaigns, landmark Supreme Court decisions, and Washington scandals. Before entering the world of media, she was a labor and employment attorney who specialized in race discrimination and sexual harassment cases.

James Comey, March 21 - James Comey led the FBI from 2013 to 2017, appointed to the post by President Barack Obama. His tenure was tested by new forces within and outside America's borders: foreign intelligence operations, mass shootings, questionable police responses, ISIS's surge, cyber threats, and more. Related to his dealings with these explosive issues, Comey shares behind-the-scenes insight and intriguing accounts, along with his personal take on "truth, lies and leadership" and how his moral compass guided his decision-making, issuing a call for ethical leadership no matter the circumstance.

Cheryl Strayed, May 2 - Cheryl Strayed's #1 New York Times best-seller Wild, about her hike on the Pacific Crest Trail, was an international hit that was later released as an Academy Award-nominated motion picture starring Reese Witherspoon. Tiny Beautiful Things, her beloved bestselling collection of Dear Sugar advice columns, was adapted into a Hulu television series starring Kathryn Hahn and adapted for the stage by Nia Vardalos. A warm, candid, funny, and engaging speaker, Cheryl Strayed talks about love, loss, adventure, courage, empathy, and the power we possess to blaze our own wild trails.

Tickets may be purchased online at weinbergcenter.org, by calling the Weinberg Center Box Office at 301-600-2828, or in person at 20 W. Patrick Street in Frederick, Maryland.

The Weinberg Center for the Arts is one of the region's premier performing arts presenters, offering film, music, dance, theater, and family-focused programming. Located in the historic Tivoli Movie Theater in downtown Frederick, MD, the Weinberg Center strives to ensure that the arts remain accessible and affordable to local and regional audiences alike. Weinberg Center events are made possible this season with major support from the City of Frederick, the Maryland State Arts Council, Plamondon Hospitality Partners, the Maryland Heritage Area Authority, and other corporate and individual donors.

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School daze

Sonya Verlaque

The beginning of school is always a whirlwind of activity, with meeting the teacher, getting supplies and finishing up end of summer fun activities. I feel like August just flies by, but also every day is jam packed with checklist items to do. Planning for the morning meal and getting ready time table along with daily lunches brings not a small amount of dread as September approaches, because I have a picky eater. I swear he may be part fern, because some days I feel like he lives on air and a spritz of water. This month's article is a little different; because I want to share some ways we have reduced the mental burden of feeding kids when school starts again.

Making breakfasts with enough calories and a good mix of carbohydrates, protein and fat to make it to lunch time is hard to do. Not every morning can be a Denny's grand slam breakfast. For this I take a note from Kendra Adachi, author of "The Lazy Genius" who talks about making a meal matrix to make decision-making less painful. For the mornings, Mondays can be egg sandwiches - egg, toast and they can pick cheese or ham or spinach (yeah, right).

The kids get to pick the fruit. Tuesdays is smoothies - some greek yogurt, a frozen fruit and a liquid and blend.). Wednesdays is overnight oats (a.k.a.: breakfast pudding) which you can prep while making smoothies for the next day because you will have most of the ingredients out already. Maybe Thursday is toaster waffles because, it's already Thursday. But you'll pair

it with some yogurt. And Friday can be bagels, because you have made it to Friday and should celebrate with a bagel.

Breakfast Pudding

Ok, this is actually overnight oats but if you "powderize" the oats by blending them dry in a blender, it makes it more pudding like once it sets overnight with the liquids, which my kids enjoy, and then will eat more readily. Truthfully, actual oatmeal is called 'hot cereal' in our house also. With the basic ratio it is easy to increase in amount and can be made in a variety of flavors. They provide a lot of protein to get kids and adults to snack or lunchtime.

The overnight oats ratio is: 1 cup rolled oats (powderize) + 1 cup milk + 2/3 cup yogurt (plain)+ 1 tbsp sweetener (honey, maple syrup, brown sugar, coconut sugar, half a banana mashed) + pinch of salt. As a note, if you use vanilla yogurt and not plain, reduced the sweetener or omit completely.

Preparation: First, mix all the base ingredients together in a bowl. These are the rolled oats, milk, yogurt, sweetener and pinch of salt. Add in any flavor additions. Pour the oat mixture into an airtight container, my favorite option is a mason jar, but any airtight container is fine as long as you seal it with a lid or cover it with plastic wrap. Place the overnight oats in the fridge overnight to let the oats fully absorb all the liquid. In the morning before you serve, give the oats a quick stir. Next, add any favorite toppings including, berries, sliced banana, shredded coconut, dried cranberries, raisins, apple slices, dark chocolate chips, nut butter, cinnamon. Whether it's

hot or cold oats, kids like to make it feel like their own.

Varieties

- Chocolate: make your base like above, and add 2 tbsp of chocolate chips and 1 tbsp cocoa powder
- Apple Pie: ½ cup chopped apple (small dice), 2 tsp cinnamon and be sure to mix evenly all together.
- Carrot Cake: ¼ cup shredded carrots (about one medium carrot), ¼ cup raisins, 1 tsp cinnamon, ¼ tsp ginger powder.
- Strawberry Cheesecake: ½ cup chopped fresh strawberries, ¼ cup crushed graham crackers, 1 Tbsp softened cream cheese (room temperature) – or softened mascarpone cheese, 1 tsp vanilla extract.
- Vanilla: If I just make vanilla (by adding 1 tsp of vanilla extract), I like to top it with peanut butter caramel. Which the family dies for because it's "caramel" but not really. It is made by just 1/2 cup of maple syrup, 1/4 cup creamy peanut butter, 1/2 tsp vanilla extract and 1/8 tsp salt if your nut butter has none. Warm it up and mix. I then put it on top of the overnight oats and chill it all together. In this way you might run the risk of the kids just eating the topping - so you may want to give it a stir before serving.

For my selective eater, lunch at school is very trying. A lot of the problem was the decision making. Asking him "what do you want for lunch?" Was too big of a question. After a lot of



work (a lot of work) - I decided two things. One: he eats well at breakfast and dinner, lunch does not have to be a "Big Deal." And we were making it a big deal, so I decided that I don't care what he eats at lunch. And two: he has total control because school is stressful enough, lunch with your friends should be easy.

We made a menu together, listing the things he could choose from each day and he had to pick at least one from each category. This took so much pressure off of the situation. Did he choose chicken and rice (microwave chicken tikka masala) and a side of strawberries for two weeks for lunch? Yes. Was this super repetitive? Yes. Did I feel like it was ok since his other meals had variety so it was ok? Also yes.

These are the categories for our lunch menu that we made. It is a laminated menu and if there was something that I can't offer after grocery shopping I cross it off with a dry erase marker. He had to pick at least one of each. And these were

all "safe foods," he knows he likes them and because he could choose so there was no surprise in the middle of the day at school.

Protein: ham sandwich, turkey sandwich, cheese sandwich, pepperoni sandwich, black beans and rice, cheese and crackers, pasta and meatball, chicken and rice, soup (black bean soup, Italian wedding soup), hard boiled eggs, cheesy eggs.

Fruit or Veggie: apple slices, grapes, broccoli and dip, cucumber and dip, strawberries, apple sauce or fruit pouch, pickles (yes we count this as a lunch vegetable), carrots and dip, ants on a log (celery and raisins), salad (literally lettuce mix), tomatoes

A snack food: goldfish, pretzels, cereal, granola bar, graham cracker

Overall, I hope that you and your family can find something here that may help your school days run smoother. And here's to a great school year for everyone.

To read other cooking articles, visit the Authors section of Walkersville.net.



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ASTRONOMY

The night sky of September

Professor Wayne Wooten

For September 2023, the rare Blue Moon, is on August 30th; it is the second full moon in the month of August 2023. The moon lies to the lower left of Saturn, which reached opposition on August 26th. The waning gibbous moon sits just to the right of brighter Jupiter on September 5th. The last quarter moon is September 6th. The waning crescent moon lies to the upper left of bright Venus in the dawn on September 11th.

The new moon is on September 14, exactly a month before the annular eclipse in October. More on it next month! The first quarter moon is on September 22nd. The next day, fall begins with the Autumnal Equinox at 12:50 a.m. on September 26th. The waxing gibbous moon passes below Saturn in the SE dusk on September 26th. The Full Moon, the Harvest Moon, will be on September 29th.

Mercury lies too close to the Sun for visibility from Earth this month, but will emerge at dusk in October. But Venus is back, now west of the rising sun in the dawn, and dominating the morning skies. She is 28% sunlit and at her brightest on the morning of September 19th. Mars is lost on the far side of the Sun this month.

Jupiter reaches opposition in early November, and rises about 10 PM in the northeast in Taurus at mid-month. But Saturn is at its best this month, reaching opposition on August 26th, rising in the SE at sunset. It rings are now tilted about six degrees to our line of sight, and closing become edge on at its equinox in May 2025, almost invisible from earth for weeks. Note two of Sat-



M-6, the beautiful Butterfly nebula. Note it appears to be fluttering down and to the left among the stars of the Milky Way.

urn's moons, Dione and Rhea, to the lower right.

To the northwest, we find the familiar Big Dipper getting lower each evening. Most know how to use the two pointers at the lower part of the bowl to find Polaris, our Pole Star, sitting about 30 degrees high all night in the northern sky for the Gulf Coast.

From the Dipper's handle, we "arc" SE to bright orange Arcturus, the brightest star of Spring, and still well up in the western twilight. Spike south to Spica, the hot blue star in Virgo. Note that Spica is now low in the SW, and by September's end, will be lost in the Sun's glare due to our annual revolution of the Sun making it appear to move one degree per day eastward. To the Greeks, Spica and Virgo were associated with Persephone, the daughter of Ceres, goddess of the harvest.

In their version of "Judge Judy", the beautiful young daughter falls for the gruff, dark god of the underworld, Pluto. He elopes with her,

much to the disapproval of mother Ceres, and they marry in his underworld kingdom of Hades...a honeymoon in hell...really, he does love her as well, and the marriage itself works well. But it is the reaction of Ceres that creates alarm.

Very despondent over the loss of her young daughter to a fate as bad as death, Ceres abandons the crops, which wither. Soon famine sets in, and humanity appeals to Jupiter to save us all. Calling all together, Jupiter hears that Ceres wants the marriage annulled, Persephone loves them both, and Pluto wants his mother-in-law to stop meddling. Solomon style, Jupiter decides to split her up, not literally, but in terms of time. In the compromise (aren't all marriages so?), when you can see Spica rising in the east in March, it means to plant your peas. For the next six months, she visits upstairs with as very happy mama, and the crops will prosper. But now, as Spica heads west (to the kingdom of death, in most ancient legends) for six months of conjugal bliss with Pluto, it is time to get your corn in the crib. This simple story, told in some form for as long as Noah's flood, was one of the ways our ancestors 7,000 years ago knew the solar calendar and when to plant and harvest. As you watch Spica fade, thank this star for agriculture, and even our own civilization.

To the south, Antares marks the heart of Scorpius. It appears reddish (its Greek name means rival of Ares or Mars to the Romans) 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! Near the tail of the Scorpion are two fine open clusters, faintly visible to the naked eye, and spectacular in binoculars. The clusters lie to the upper left of the bright double star that marks the stinger in the Scorpion's tail.

The brighter, M-7, is also known as Ptolemy's Cluster, since he included it in his star catalog about 200 AD. Here is the fainter but more beautiful Butterfly, M-6, taken with the \$400 Dwarf II robotic telescope and my Samsung Galaxy S 8 in early August. Note he appears to be fluttering down and to the left among the stars of the Milky Way here.

East of the Scorpion's tail is the teapot shape of Sagittarius, which marks the heart of our Milky Way galaxy. Looking like a cloud of steam coming out of the teapot's spout is the fine Lagoon Nebula, M-8, easily visible with the naked eye.

The brightest star of the northern hemisphere, Vega dominates the NE sky. Binoculars reveal the small star just to the NE of Vega, epsilon Lyrae, as a nice double. Larger telescopes at 150X reveal each of this pair is another close double, hence its nickname, "The Double Double". This is fine sight under steady seeing con-

ditions over 150X with scopes 4" or larger. Between the two bottom stars; the Ring Nebula, marked "M-57" on the Skymap, is a ring of gas and dust expelled by a dying red giant star while its core collapsed to a white dwarf. A similar fate is expected for our own sun in perhaps five billion more years.

To the northeast of Vega is Deneb, the brightest star of Cygnus the Swan. It was just NW of it that I discovered the brightest nova of my lifetime, Nova Cygni, on August 27, 1975. Here a shell of hydrogen around a white dwarf exploded suddenly, becoming a record (for a nova, at least) 20 million times brighter in a matter of hours. It went from not visible in any telescope to the sixth brightest star in the summer sky in less than a day, and I was looking at the right place and time to catch it still on the rise. But the total amount of expelled gases was much less than in the Ring Nebula, and it faded below naked eye visibility in only two weeks. Fun while it lasted! Typically several nova outbursts are found every year in our Galaxy, and they do often recur, for neither star in the close binary system was destroyed, and the mass transfer can resume soon.

At the other end of the "northern Cross" that makes up the body of Cygnus is Albireo, the finest and most colorful double star in the sky. Its orange and blue members (I call them the "Gator Stars") are well resolved at 20X by any small scope. To the south is Altair, the brightest star of Aquila the Eagle, the third member of the three bright stars that make the Summer Triangle so obvious in the NE these clear September evenings. To the east, the Square of Pegasus rises. The long axis of the square points to the SE to Saturn in Aquarius. Jupiter will join the evening planet parade in October.

Farmers' Almanac

"Labor Day is a glorious holiday because your child will be going back to school the next day. It would have been called Independence Day, but that name was already taken".
—Bill Dodds (1952 -)

Mid-Atlantic Weather Watch: Seasonably warm and humid with isolated late afternoon showers and thunderstorms west (1, 2, 3); seasonably warm with PM thunderstorms central and east (4, 5, 6); dry and quite warm with late afternoon showers, then turning less humid (7, 8, 9); mainly dry and comfortable (11, 12, 13, 14, 15); warm and humid with late afternoon isolated showers at first, then dry and cooler (16, 17, 18, 19, 20); few afternoon showers at first, then turning unseasonably cool (21, 22, 23, 24, 25); pleasant at first, then warm and humid with afternoon showers and thunderstorms followed by cooler, less humid conditions (26, 27, 28, 29, 30).

Severe Weather Watch: The Town and Country Almanack sees severe thunderstorms, heavy rain (4) with more severe thunderstorms (28, 29).

Full Moon: September's Full Moon is most famously known as the Harvest Moon. It is the Full Moon that falls closest to the Autumnal Equinox. During this time, the moon would rise very soon after the sun would set on several successive days, giving the farmer a few extra hours of 'light' and a little more time to finish up their daily chores. This year, the Autumnal Equinox will occur on Saturday, September 23rd and signals the beginning of Autumn. The Full Moon closest to that date will occur on Friday, September 29th and is therefore, the Harvest Moon of 2023.

Special Notes: We must never forget that on September 11th, 2001, America was attacked like never before and that it has never been the same since. Today, we honor those who perished then on that day and we must never forget the brave first-responders, many who also perished, trying to minimize the loss of life.

Holidays: Labor Day falls on the first Monday of the month, which falls on September 4th in 2023. Citizenship Day is observed on Sunday, September 17th and Rosh Hashana begins on Friday, September 15th at sunset.

The Garden: Fall is a great time to plant and divide perennials and shrubs for next year's garden. By planting in the fall, your plants do not endure the stressful summer heat during establishment and have time to form sufficient root systems before the onset of winter dormancy. Start taking cuttings of your annual plants to bring indoors and carry through the winter. Geranium, coleus, fuschia, and other plants do best when stem cuttings are rooted and kept in pots indoors through the winter.

The Farm: Best days for planting root crops (4, 5); weeding and stirring the soil (11, 12); planting above-ground crops (18, 19, 20); harvesting all crops (29, 30); best days for setting hens and incubators (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30); the slaughtering and butchering of meat (14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21); transplanting (14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21); the weaning of all small animals and livestock (1, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28); the harvesting and storing of grains (6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13).

J. Gruber's Thought For Today's Living

"No one is more tired than one who does nothing"

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Joshua Faust
Frederick Memorial Hospital

For over 120 years, Frederick Health, the largest healthcare network in Frederick County, has been expanding its access to award-winning care to communities throughout the area. Whether these improvements mean the opening of a new Primary Care office or developing a new type of treatment option or specialty practice, the healthcare system is constantly adding to its list of available services and locations.

Recently, Frederick Health has also been prioritizing one of the most common ailments impacting the population – orthopedics.

But what exactly is orthopedics? Orthopedics is the field of medicine that focuses on treating issues and symptoms impacting the musculoskeletal system. This system comprises muscles, bones, joints, ligaments, and tendons. A person specializing in orthopedics is an orthopedist or an orthopedic surgeon. The Centers for Disease Control says that nearly 7 million orthopedic procedures are performed in the United States each year, making it one of the most

accessible surgeries practiced by surgeons, and around 25% of the population will need orthopedic surgery at some point in their lifetimes.

To meet the community's needs, Frederick Health is pleased to have a dedicated team of orthopedic surgeons ready to treat various issues. One of those providers is Dr. David Maish.

With 20 years of experience and having conducted over 5,000 surgeries, specifically hip and knee replacements, Dr. Maish still has a true passion for treating patients. He arrived as a member of the Frederick Health team in 2021 as a board-certified, fellowship-trained orthopedic surgeon. Coming from a larger healthcare system, Dr. Maish saw much potential in Frederick Health for growth in orthopedics and a patient-centered approach. That is part of the reason he took this job.

"There is so much potential at Frederick Health and in the Frederick community. As part of that, I have the experience to make these kinds of surgeries as patient friendly as possible," said Dr. Maish.

Before arriving at Frederick Health, Dr. Maish began a fellowship at the Geisinger Com-

monwealth School of Medicine in Scranton, Pennsylvania. Dr. Maish started a fellowship at the Geisinger School focused on complex orthopedic problems.

"In orthopedics, if we can evaluate your painful hips and knees or other joints, we can proactively work to determine what we can do. As with all things, being honest and aware of what your body tells you can make a difference in diagnosis and recovery," he added.

Dr. Maish has spent the last two decades working in orthopedics and still enjoys his work. He enjoys treating patients for who they are, not as just another number in a system.

"No two patients are the same, regardless of if their experiences are similar. Finding out what makes that patient better or to live a better life is why I come to work each day," he continued. His hands-on approach and dedication to personalized medicine is something that residents of the area can count on, especially as they age, and their bodies may experience certain orthopedic issues.

Census data shows that while Frederick County continues to grow, it does have an aging population. While Dr. Maish has per-

formed orthopedic procedures on patients of all ages, most of his patients are over the age of 50. Dr. Maish is also available to perform repair surgeries that other surgeons initially performed.

Dr. Maish has performed hundreds of surgeries on patients who may have had work done at another hospital or surgical center. Sometimes, those patients have driven hours away, not realizing they could have received surgery closer to home at Frederick Health.

"No matter kind of surgery, whether it is your first surgery, follow-up procedure, or another treatment option that you're looking for, we are here to listen and respond to your concerns. I am part of a team of experts here to care for this community," added Maish.

One area of particular interest for Dr. Maish is kinematic alignment, a specific method of orthopedic treatment that involves reviewing a patient's unique bodily structure and factoring that into a knee replacement. Dr. Maish has used this philosophy while treating patients and has seen great results. This approach factors in things like a patient's bone structure, walking gait, and other

factors to develop a surgical option that is tailor-made to the patient.

Frederick Health also offers a robust network of physical therapy and consultation follow-up procedures to ensure patients get back to doing what they love sooner.

"If you're having knee or hip pain and want to know what can be done – either with or without surgery – I am happy to discuss that. I also like to discuss non-surgical options with patients who see me. Being honest and listening to the patient is an important part of treatment and recovery," Maish explained.

Surgeries of any kind can be challenging, both physically and emotionally. Recoveries can vary, but in the hands of Dr. Maish, patients can trust that they are getting experienced, personalized care.

"It's important to me to be friendly, convenient, get you in the door, and get you back on the road to recovery," Dr. Maish concluded. "We are going to care for you like you're family."

To learn more about the orthopedic specialty services being offered by Frederick Health, please visit www.frederickhealth.org/ortho.

Inspirational Corner

Monica Love

True Power:

We will continue to suffer if we have emotional reactions to everything that is said to us; true power is sitting back and observing everything with restraint of words. If words control you, that means everyone else controls you... Breathe and allow things to pass.

Be disciplined about what you respond to not everyone or everything deserves your time, energy, and attention. Stay in your light.

You can't control someone else's negative behavior, but you can control your participation in it!

Instinct / Perspective:

Never discount your gut instinct, you are not paranoid, your body can pick up on deceitful vibrations. If something deep inside you says something is not right about someone/something... trust!

Sometimes you don't need to hear their excuses or what they have to say for themselves because their actions already spoke the truth.

When your perception shifts, that's when your life changes to reflect your new perspective!

Healthy Boundaries:

A lack of boundaries invites a lack of respect!

Maturity is learning to walk away from people and situations that threaten your peace of mind, self-respect, values, morals, and self-worth.

Pause a moment, stand on the earth, and sense the spiral of your life. You have not come to this place by chance, all of your choices have brought you here. You created this life by the people you let in and the people you shut out, by giving your time to the rest that matter, and by letting hours trickle toward lesser goals, through the pursuit to which you gave your energy by the pressures to which you give heed. Every decision you've ever made step-by-step brought you to this pass, in short, your boundaries or your defenses created a corridor through which your life moved.

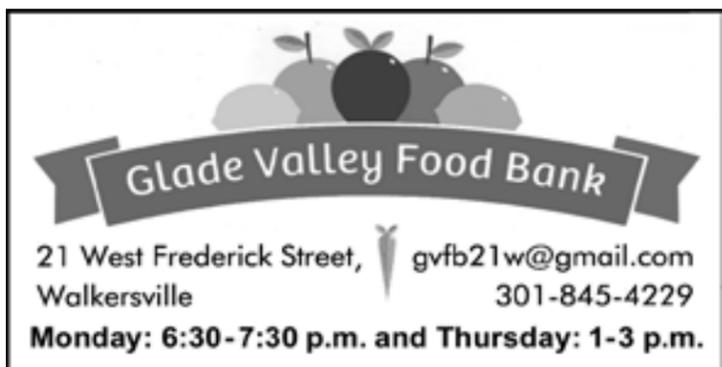
Life is supposed to be fun...

Don't wait for things to get easier, simpler, or better, life can seem complicated sometimes, learn to be happy right now, unconditionally! When we allow conditions good or bad to be the reason your happy/sad, we will never be grounded.

When your need to be happy becomes more important than your need to be right, that's when you've got this!

You can't change the way people feel about you, don't try, just live your life and be happy!

Please feel free to reach out with any inspirational stories you would like to share; I am a Life Coach and would be happy to offer any help within my abilities. Together we can make this life the joyous expanding experience it's meant to be. Fee free to contact me at Divinefunlife@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY NOTES

Glade Valley Lions Club 27th golf tournament

On August 4, the Glade Valley Lions Club hosted their 27th Annual Golf Tournament at the Maple Run Golf Course. Thanks to the hard work of many Glade Valley Lions, twenty-nine foursomes participated in the tournament. With the financial support of many business and private sponsors, proceeds from this event will help fund college and trade school scholarships for Walkersville High School Seniors, eyeglasses for the needy, Leader Dog for the Blind, Lions Vision Research at the Wilmer Institute, Glade Valley Community Services, Glade Valley Food Bank, Boy Scout Troop 1070, the Leos Clubs at Walkersville Middle School and Walkersville High School, and other worthwhile causes.



Gold Flight Winners: Jim Corley GVLC President; Winning Team - First United: Steve Brady, Tom Roedersheimer, Mark Weber, Logan McCoy; Henry Wilson GVLC Tournament Chairman



Blue Flight Winners: Jim Corley GVLC President; Winning Team - Howard Cunningham, Tim Bennett Frank Bennett, John Ford; Henry Wilson GVLC Tournament Chairman



Glade Valley Lions Club September Activities

- Renewing Sponsorship of the Walkersville Middle School and Walkersville High School Leos Clubs
- Sept. 26 - 28 - Co-sponsoring Glade Valley Community Show
- Sponsoring Lions Club International Peace Poster Contest with students at Walkersville Middle School
- Sept. 21 - Club Meeting - Hosting new teachers and administrators from schools in Walkersville, Woodsboro and New Midway

To find out more about the Glade Valley Lions Club visit:
Our website: www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/gladevalley
Our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/GVLCCLIONS
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September 16 - 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

BBQ Chicken Dinner
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Registration fee: \$15
(Includes 1 Meal)

Additional meal tickets: \$11

Dash Plaques to the first 100 registered
Trophies awarded at 1 p.m.
Music/DJ by Joe Brown
Door Prizes ~ Raffle ~ 50/50

Mail all pre-registration forms to: 8 Brown Ave., Thurmont, MD 21788
(Pre-registration encouraged)

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COMMUNITY NOTES

Walkersville resident publishes youth fiction book

Claire Doll
MSMU Class of 2024

Randy Gray, a fellow Walkersville resident, has written a youth fiction book geared towards children between the ages of 8 and 14.

The Adventures of Brooks and Rip is not only entirely fictional, but also inspired by the beautiful Frederick County and areas in-and-around Walkersville. "While I grew up in Baltimore City," says Gray, "I have lived in Frederick County for more than 30 years, my wife and I raising two children here. This was the perfect setting for kids to play outside, ride bikes, and play sports."

However, the book is also inspired by Gray's childhood in Baltimore City. The title character in the book, a 12-year-old boy, is named after the Orioles legend Brooks Robinson. Rip, who is Brooks' loyal dog, is named after the team's famous Cal Ripken Jr.

The story tells the adventures of Brooks, Rip, and their friends riding bikes everywhere, building forts in the woods, having snowball fights, and playing outside until the streetlights flickered on. *The Adventures of Brooks and Rip* will appeal to children but will also allow adults to reminisce on "the good ole days" and what it meant to grow up in a different generation than today. The 8-14 age range is so important because "this is when many of us adults had carefree lives, before high

school complicated our routines, since we were then growing up." Gray's book idealizes the pre-Internet days and glorifies the special and adventurous experiences with friends during childhood.

"While I respect all of today's technology," says Gray, "I believe kids need to socialize more with each other and play outside more. I know the world is more dangerous than when I was a kid, but parents can be involved in supervising outdoor events and activities."

Randy Gray, a public relations specialist and former broadcast news anchor/reporter, has been writing his entire career. However, being that he focuses on fact-based writing only, Gray decided to try his hand at creative fiction, and he really enjoyed it. Gray also found that writing the book was fun, editing was tedious, and publishing was easier than he could ever have imagined.

"During my career I was fortunate to work with some first-rate journalists," says Gray. "Our teams

won many broadcast awards from both the Associated Press and the United Press International. Perhaps the most personal career rewarding accomplishment was being named Maryland's best radio news anchor by the AP."

Gray has also been an adjunct professor at Mount St. Mary's University for more than 20 years and has served as faculty advisor for the college's radio station WMTB. During his time at the Mount, he met Ellen Salvatore, a student of his in a Broadcast Journalism class. Gray says, "She did a great job illustrating the book, and I am so grateful for her help!"

When asked what his favorite part of the book is, Gray's answer was simple: "Pages 1-86, lol!"

The Adventures of Brooks and Rip is on sale through Amazon.com. Simply plug in the name of the book in the Amazon search box. Read Randy Gray's book to support the community and feel right at home in beautiful Walkersville.



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