Burgess welcomes new officials

Arranges training tour

Waldorf Voice Burgess Chad Weddle is arranging a training tour for the newly elected commissioners (all but one are new to the office). Below is Mr. Weddle’s tentative agenda slated for March 9: 11:00am–11:30am – Meet for lunch with spouses at Town Hall for a time of meet and greet! 11:30 am- Noon – Tour Town Hall – get Maryland State Police and Food bank coordinated! 1:00pm - 1:00pm – Head to Maintenance Department Review all shop and water plant area and new water plant! Drive past bell property down Fr. Rock to old Rotorres Corporation then to Biggs Ford Rd community park to see Town wells! Past creamery park to trout pond! 1:00pm–2:00pm – Heritage farm park for tour of manor houses, bank barn, and the hoop–see if historical society wants to be present 2:00pm–3:00pm – Head to Watershed property – coordinator with Ron Layman – make sure nobody shoots at us! This part may be eliminated based on weather and to see if Mr. Layman thinks one hour would work—if so would reschedule for April 30pm–4:00pm – Back to town hall for budget review, open meetings, review of the day. Gloria for budget. Susan to talk about plans we drew by Bob and Kelly for Maintenance and Heritage Farm park and wells at community. Chad for Open meetings, etc.

Suicide not suicide if Maryland Bill passes

Ken Kellar

Local House Delegate Karen Lewis Young is co-sponsoring a bill to legalize physician-assisted suicide. On February 25, the Maryland House Health and Government Operations and Judiciary Committees held a joint legislative hearing on proposed physician-assisted suicide legislation—House Bill 399. According to Diane Coleman, advocates for multi-party were allowed to all speak first while opponents waited. She stated, “No coverage of the assisted suicide issue is fair and balanced without the perspective of disability organizations and individuals who practice it.” Today, the committees decided to allow all witnesses in favor of the bill to testify first, forcing opponents to wait . . . and wait. For disability advocates, often face complicated health and transportation issues, the committee’s biased decision may effectively block some from testifying. “At least one disability advocate, Sheryl Grossman, had to leave before testimony responding due to her own disability.”

“We live with a profit driven healthcare system facing tremendous cost-cutting pressures. Assisted suicide is the cheapest treatment,” said Anita Carpenter, Director of Minority Outreach, for Not Dead Yet. “These bills grant legal immunity to doctors and other who assist suicides of people who may have a terminal condition. They do not prevent mistakes, coercion or abuse and, therefore, endanger the lives of old, ill and disabled people.” House Bill 399 is about 23 pages long. Below are some excerpts from the bill.

The bill prohibits professional organization sanctions of its members for anything to do with “aid in dying.”

Bill text: “A PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION OR ASSOCIATION; A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER, OR A HEALTH OCCUPATION BOARD MAY NOT SUBJECT A PERSON TO CENSURE, DISCIPLINE, SUSPENSION, LOSS OF LICENSE, LOSS OF PRIVILEGES, LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP, OR ANY OTHER PENALTY FOR PARTICIPATING OR REFUSING TO PARTICIPATE IN GOOD-FAITH COMPLIANCE WITH THIS SUBTITLE.”

The bill prohibits any insurance, contract or agreement to be in default due to Maryland sanctioned suicide.

Bill text: “A PROVISION IN AN INSURANCE POLICY, AN ANNUTY, A CONTRACT, OR ANY OTHER AGREEMENT, ISSUED OR MADE ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2019, IS NOT VALID TO THE EXTENT THAT THE PROVISION WOULD ATTACH CONSEQUENCES TO OR OTHERWISE RESTRICT OR INFLUENCE AN INDIVIDUAL’S DECISION TO MAKE OR RESCIND A REQUEST FOR AID IN DYING UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.”

No opposition to the proposal was forthcoming with other commissioners either remaining silent on the subject or offering suggestions of what the legislation should contain.

At the earliest, a public hearing and vote on the charter amendment would take place on March 13 assuming the legislation was formally proposed on February 27.

The bill mandates legally declaring a suicide to be “death by natural causes.”


The bill prohibits declaring death caused by swallowing a big bottle of pills, suicide, or other terms commonly used in the English language for such a self-immolating action.

Bill text: “ACTIONS TAKEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH TITLE 5, SUBTITLE 6A OF THE 22 HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE DO NOT, FOR ANY PURPOSE, CONSTITUTE SUICIDE, 23 ASSISTED SUICIDE, MERCY KILLING, OR HOMICIDE.”

Woodsboro park improvements discussed

Ken Kellar

Recently Woodboro Commissioners discussed applications for the state’s annual Project Open Space (POS) funding. Applications are due in the spring. Burgess Rittelmeyer pointed out two factors that might result in little if any state-supported park improvements this year.

Many of the past park improvements were funded at 90% by POS funds with the Town providing the remaining 10%. Bur- gess stated the matching rate has now been raised from 10% to 25% likely resulting in the town being more discriminating regarding proposed park improvements.

Another factor affecting park improvements this year is the State Highway Administration-funded Israel Creek restoration project, which will disrupt significant portions of the park making many improvements impossible during the project. Creek restoration is expected to start around June 2019 and last about a year.

It was noted that the Frederick disc golf club suggested a pavilion near the sled riding hill parking lot would be good for golfers to start and finish their rounds. Commissioners noted that a pavilion there could also support sleds and skaters. Fredroc members have installed and maintained an 18-hole disc golf course in the Town park, not at cost to the Town.

Walkersville charter change for absent commissioners

Ken Kellar

Walkersville Commissioner Michael McNeish proposed teleconferencing during Town meetings for commissioners via telephone or video conference.

Legislation to change the charter to allow absent commissioners to participate in meetings was discussed. The commissioner would not be allowed to vote and would be considered absent for pay purposes.

No opposition to the proposal was forthcoming with other commissioners either remaining silent on the subject or offering suggestions of what the legislation should contain.

At the earliest, a public hearing and vote on the charter amendment would take place on March 13 assuming the legislation was formally proposed on February 27.

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CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Woodsboro developing Town Hall design criteria

Ken Kellar

Woodboro Commissioner Carl Pischowski drafted a list of features for a future Town Hall for Woodboro. Woodboro currently holds meetings at St. John’s church on 2nd Street and maintains an office in a rented construction trailer near the sewer plant at the end of Council Drive.

Mr. Pischowski’s draft list is being sent to the other Town Commissioners and Town employees to capture features and functions to be considered when purchasing or designing a new Town Hall. No immediate plans to acquire any property have been announced.

PRE-SORTED STANDARD U.S. Postage PAID Gettysburg, PA Permit No. 53
Young Lincoln on mob law

I recently had the lucky opportunity to read the entirety of Abra-
ham Lincoln's 1838 address before the Young Men's Lyceum of
Springfield, Illinois, on the subject of The Perpetuation of Our Po-
litical Institutions. I was lucky because I read it before I ever read
any of the various summaries and interpretations of his speech. I was
free to read the words as Lincoln spoke them, untainted by any pre-
conceptions implanted by scholars. Of course, I could not clear my
mind of post-1838 events that make Lincoln's speech seem both pro-
british and sadly optimistic.

I recommend you too read the speech (too long to print here) be-
fore reading my observations below. Go ahead; I'll wait.

No seriously, go read it! We're talking Abraham Lincoln. One of
the few Presidents both sides adored. Don't you want to experi-
ence him first hand as those who were in the room when he spoke?

Regardless, here's my take away from his speech.

At age 28, Lincoln was writ-
ing about 50 years after the es-
tablishment of the great experi-
ment called the United States of
America. Lincoln claims enough
time has passed to declare the ex-
periment to be over and that it is
a resounding success, "condemning
more essentially to the ends of civ-
al and religious liberty, than any of
which the history of former times
tells us..."

Then, he starts to develop the
case for a threat to our nation.
First, he says our generation (in
the parlance of his time) will be
the active agents in the advance-
ment of the noblest cause—that of
the nation and its successes. "The
question, then, is can that gratifi-
cation be found in supporting and
maintaining the nation and its successes. "The
respect, the remainder of our
people will be the agents..."

Moreover, he expects the na-
tion to deliberate and come to
an informed opinion of the case.

The doctor, Lincoln states, is to
perpetuate this great government
for our fathers, justice to ourselves,
and the posterity of our forebear-
s.

He then goes on to say that the
adventures of his time have been
with black men, and with the Black
Republic, and with the North and
South. "The nation, then, when we
are going to hang anyway..."

Lincoln fears ambitious men will
do great mischief if left unchecked.
"Let every American, every lover
of liberty, every well wisher to his
posterity, swear by the blood of
the Revolution, never to violate
in the least particular, the laws of
the country; and never to tolerate
their violation by others."

He then goes on to say that the
faithful following of even "bad
laws" until they are hopefully re-
pealed. He called, in vain history
tells us, for the abolition question
be addressed to the law its re.

He states, "There is no grievance
that has not been violated before
by our government."

He then speaks of two internal
factors that concern him: mob law
and ambition.

First, Lincoln speaks of recent
mob lynchings (1838). White
ghettossters were lynched in Vick-
burg, a black soldier was murdered
in St. Louis, blacks suspected of
planning insurrection were hung as
was a white man charged with support-
ning the insurre-
cution, then some white travelers
were murdered by a mob for un-
named reasons. A lack of prosecu-
tions exacerbates the problem, "...in
instances of the perpetrators of
such acts going unpunished, the
laws in spirit, are encouraged to
become lawless in practice."

Many historians focus on the
black riots and, thus, miss Lin-
coln's main point which is this,
"...whenever the vicious portion
of population shall be permitted
be our lot, we must ourselves be its
author and finisher. As a nation of
freemen, we must live through all
time, or die by suicide."

That's right, he claims our na-
tion can only die by suicide, not
by outside invasion.

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That's right, he claims our na-
tion can only die by suicide, not
by outside invasion.

The second danger he speaks of
is a bit more obscure and poor-
ly summarized by the historical
review I read. He contrasts the
mindset of establishing our noble
institutions to that of maintaining
them.

Lincoln says this about our
founding, "They succeeded. The
experiment is successful; and
thousands have won their death-
less names in making it so. But the
game is caught; and I believe it is
true, that with the catching, and the
pleasures of the chase. This
field of glory is harvested; and the
crop is already appropriated. But
new reapers will arise, and they,
too, will seek a field."

Lincoln fears ambitious men will
not be satisfied with maintaining
the nation and its successes. "The
question, then, is can that gratifi-
cation be found in supporting and
maintaining an edifice that has
been erected by others? Most cer-
tainly it cannot, unless the good
men sufficiently qualified for
any task they should undertake,
may ever be found, whose ambi-
tion would inspire to nothing be-

deyond a seat in Congress, a guer-

eratorial or a presidential chair; but
such belong not to the family of
the lion, or the tribe of the eagle.
What! Think these places would
satisfy an Alexander, a Caesar, or
a Napoleon!—Never! Towering ge-
diums detain a beaten path."

Lincoln goes on to state that
an ambitious man lacking ideas
will build to destroy, "Distinction
will be his paramount object, and
although he would as willingly,
perhaps more so, acquire it by do-
going good as harm; yet, that oppor-
tunity being past, and nothing left
to be done in the way of building
up, he would set boldly to the task
of pulling down."

Lincoln says that during the
Revolution, the passion of our people
were channelled towards the
British and a greater good, "..."Wil-

though the deep-rooted principles
of hate, and the powerful motive
of revenge, instead of being turned
towards each other, were direct-
ed exclusively against the British
country. And thus, from the force
of circumstances, the basest prin-
ciples of our nature, were either
made to lie dormant, or to become
the agents in the advance-
ment of the noblest cause—that of
establishing and maintaining civil
and religious liberty."

He proposes a path to avoid our
suicide, "Passion has helped us,
but can do so no more. It will in
future be our enemy. Reason, cold,
calculating, unimpassioned
reason, must furnish all the ma-
terials for our future support and
defence. Let these materials be
moulded into general intelligence,
sound morality, and, in particular,
reverence for the constitution and
law..."

Lincoln called for the absolute
rule of law, even bad law. Unfor-

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Suicide not suicide if Maryland Bill passes
continued from page 1

All contracts and policies must
be enacted or exercised as if the
person who customarily suicide
died of natural causes.

Bill text: "THE ACT BY AN
INSURED OF SELF-ADMINI-
ISTERED MEDICATION FOR 35 AID IN DYING UN-
DER TITLE 5, SUBTITLE 6A OF THE HEALTH — GEN-
ERAL, ARTICLE HOUSE BILL 399 231 MAY NOT HAVE AN EFFECT UNDER A LIFE

INSURANCE POLICY, A HEALTH INSURANCE POL-
ICY OR CONTRACT, OR AN ANNUITY CONTRACT THAT
DIFFERS FROM THE EF-
FECT UNDER THE POLICY OR CONTRACT OF THE INSURED’S OR ANNUITANT’S
DEATH FROM NATURAL
CAUSES."

To speak with Maryland and
national disability advocates who
oppose assisted suicide bills, please
contact: Sheryl Grossman, Maryland
resident, with the Nat’l Council on
Independent Living, 314-863-
3211
Amelia Cameron, Director of
Ministry Outreach, Not Dead
Yet, 585-259-8746

Woodsboro Walkersville Times

Executive Editor: Ken Kellar

English Editors: Barbara Forrester, Sharon Kelle, and Esther Kline
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News and interesting articles are welcome and may be submitted via regular mail to P.O. Box 502, Woodsboro, MD 21792
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To arrange advertising contact the editor.
March 4, 1919

100,000 workers to quit. Dulsdorf, Germany, where the Radicals have been in control, has been ordered by the Communists to get out a shot being fired. The Government troops when they entered the town arrested Mayor Schmidchen, the police chief, and circus director, and disarmd his followers.

March 10

Escape of insane man threatens life of deputy captive. Thrusting an 8-caliber rifle in the face of Deputy Sheriff L. J. Dutrow, daring him to go near, Baugher and telling him that “shoot his brains out” if he moved “a step further,” Clinton Baugher, pronounced insane, by Drs. Charles F. Goodell and William G. Comcas about a month ago and committed to Montevue House for the insane near here, when he escaped during the early part of last week, himself up in the stairs of the house, his grandmother, near Walkersvile.

In the face of gun and threat, the deputy rushed in and took the man prisoner, Baugher, who is still in jail, being in jail doing so. Baugher didn’t shoot for the reason that the gun was empty, but he did try to burn his “conscience” by attempting to beat the deputy across the head with the butt of the gun. His blow fell a bit short, striking Dutrow on the shoulders, rendering it almost harmless for some time. The injured arm was so stiff that it couldn’t be raised. When the scuffle was over, it was found that the gun was empty.

For trouble-making and causing a general disturbance in the Walkersville district, Baugher was arrested some time ago and placed in the Frederick County jail. Late last week, Baugher was mar- 

March 14

X-ray failed to discover object. For nearly a year, the physical condition of Mr. Williams, who is 63 years old, has puzzled phy- 

March 12

Operate on throat. For trouble-making and causing a general disturbance in the Walkersville district, Baugher was arrested some time ago and placed in the Frederick County jail. Late last week, Baugher was mar- 

March 11

Road chief scorns county’s offer. Road chief scorns county’s offer.

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March 11

Road chief scorns county’s offer. Road chief scorns county’s offer.
From the desk of County Executive Gardner

County Happenings!

There are a lot of good things happening in county government! It’s a busy time with the state legislature in session and work gearing up on the county budget.

Veterans Advisory Council

First, I am excited to share that our Veterans Advisory Council is taking shape after their first-ever meeting at the end of January. Frederick County is home to more than 17,000 veterans. The Veterans Advisory Council was created to connect our veterans to the services and support that they need, like education, job opportunities, and other resources. For years, traditional veteran organizations like the American Legion and VFW have provided support to service members, but we know that fewer of our young people are joining these organizations.

When I considered applicants for the Veterans Advisory Council, I did so with an eye to making sure that every geographic part of the county was represented as well as making sure members were from all the different branches of the military. The council also includes representatives of veterans’ organizations and agencies, higher education, Workforce Services, healthcare providers, and officials at the local, state, and federal levels.

At their first meeting, members selected Fred Schumacher to serve as chair of the council. Fred brings a lot of energy and enthusiasm to the job as well as a stellar military career. I am confident Fred will do an outstanding job! The group brings years of experience, knowledge, and commitment to make life better for our veterans. The Veterans Advisory Council will meet on the third Wednesday of every month in Winchester Hall at 6:30 p.m.

If you are a veteran, want to get involved or have your voice heard, please attend the next Veterans Advisory Council meeting and let them know what you think. It’s up to you to make a difference to our veterans and to the future of Frederick County.

State Legislature

We are halfway through this year’s General Assembly session in Annapolis. As County Executive, it’s my job to advocate for funding and for legislation that would help the citizens and businesses of Frederick County. It is also important to bring attention to bills that need changes or must be opposed because they might be detrimental to county government or local interests.

Some of the key priorities this year for the county are Next Generation 9-1-1, school construction and education funding, and paratransit.

Next Generation 9-1-1

You may have heard a little bit about Next Generation 9-1-1 and wondered just what it is. Our 9-1-1 emergency call centers were based on landline telephones. Now that most people use cell phones, we need to upgrade and modernize the technology. Next Generation 9-1-1 will allow our 9-1-1 call center to locate people who are calling from a cell phone almost instantly. It will accommodate text-to-911, which we already use, and allow callers to send video in case of an incident to the 9-1-1 center.

How we implement and pay for Next Generation 9-1-1 is under discussion in Annapolis. Frederick County is recognized as a leader in technology and 9-1-1 emergency services in Maryland for the work we are doing to bring Next Generation 9-1-1 to our citizens; we are leading the way on its implementation. Citizens deserve the best technology and 9-1-1 emergency services that are reliable and efficient. It is critically important that all 9-1-1 centers in Maryland work together to implement the same systems so we can communicate with each other and with surrounding jurisdictions in nearby states. Legislation has been introduced in Annapolis that will allow counties to make essential upgrades, coordinate our efforts, identify funding, and make sure we deliver the best technology has to offer. It’s all about keeping our community safe.

Education Funding

Education is a hot topic in Frederick County and around our state. There are several bills under consideration to jump start school construction using dedicated revenue from state casinos or gambling revenue. How this will work and how local governments can come up with their local match is under discussion. It is my intent to seize the opportunity and take advantage of new funding to help eliminate school overcrowding and retain some of our older schools.

At the same time, a two-year Kirwan Commission just completed its work and made recommendations on how to improve education across the state by implementing early childhood education, improving the career ladder for teachers, allowing more classroom time for teaching, and addressing special needs and students in poverty. While these recommendations are inspirational and would no doubt improve education outcomes, it comes with a huge estimated price tag of $3.8 billion over ten years which would need to be cost shared by state and local governments. Depending on how this advances, it could have significant implications to the county budget. I’ve been actively monitoring the discussion about how state education funding may be determined and distributed to the counties in the future.

Paratransit

One of the many services Frederick County’s Transit provides is Paratransit. Paratransit provides essential transportation to seniors and people with disabilities to medical appointments. More than a quarter of the Paratransit trips in Frederick County are to dialysis centers. Dialysis trips account for nearly $50,000 of the Paratransit budget in our county. The demand for dialysis transport has increased almost 10 percent over the last five years. With a growing senior population in our community, we can expect demand to continue to rise.

The County currently pays 70 percent of Paratransit costs. The State funds the remaining 30 percent. Dialysis providers, who are part of a billion-dollar, for-profit industry, do not pay anything. That’s why I am supporting legislation in Annapolis that would set up a commission to study ways to share the costs for non-emergency medical transportation with medical providers. I testified last month before the House Health and Government Operations Committee along with Delegation Chairwoman Carol Krimm, urging them to approve the legislation. This bill has passed out of the sub-committee.

Budget

It is budget season and I want to hear your ideas about how to shape Frederick County’s budget for the coming fiscal year. I believe the budget is my most important responsibility. How we allocate our communities dollars should reflect our values and priorities. For example, last spring residents from Brunswick and Jefferson packed the public hearing room to advocate for a regional park in the southwest part of the county. We have since broken ground on the new Orthello Regional Park.

I always hear advocacy for public education, public safety, and for our libraries and parks. I would like to hear from you. Stay tuned for an online survey that will allow you to identify your priorities.

This year’s public hearing on budget priorities is scheduled for Thursday, March 14, at 7 p.m. in Winchester Hall. Come share your thoughts on the county’s budget. If you are unable to attend, you can watch the discussion on FCG TV, cable channel 19 or online at www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/FCGTV.

If you have questions or concerns about any topic, please feel free to email me at gardner@fred-erickcounty.md.gov or call my office at 301-600-3190.
From the Desk of Alderman Roger Wilson

Infrastructure Matters

A question. How often are you stuck in traffic? For me, it seems like the roads in Frederick have gotten a little crowded these past few years—especially on Rt. 26 and US-15 through the city. And with all the ongoing road improvements that impact traffic throughout Frederick, such as the Monocacy River Bridge, sometimes just going out to eat can turn into a long and difficult journey. Just recently I was speaking to a constituent from the Worman’s Mill community, and she told me that she now has to schedule her day around the traffic! What used to be a ten-minute trip to the grocery store has turned into a half-hour car ride, all because of congestion on the roads. I am sure her story is not unique—and that is a problem.

In the City of Frederick today—particularly the northern part—roads and transportation are high priorities. The plan to expand and improve US-15 between the exit for I-70 and Rt. 26 through Frederick is at the top of our transportation priorities, and that complex project is moving along at pace.

The good news is that the US-15/ Monocacy Boulevard interchange project is complete, and the Park and Ride will be very soon. Residents can now drive and bike from Rt. 26 to Opossumtown Pike, and some of the traffic woes in that area will definitely improve with the expansion of Christopher Crossing.

Frederick is growing and we should embrace growth in our urban areas. We are going to have more cars, bicycles, and pedestrians. Let’s be proactive! We have to ensure that proper infrastructure is in place to handle that increased volume—that means sidewalks and bike trails with proper signage, so that pedestrians and students traveling to and from school can walk those routes safely. That also means having the appropriate level of law enforcement in place to monitor speeds through those secondary roads. As we approach budget season this year, I think it is important to boost funding in our Comprehensive Improvement Plan (CIP) for the infrastructure needed to support our growing city.

With new commercial and residential projects popping up all over Frederick, it is vital that we continue to be proactive, and ensure that essential infrastructure is in place for those new communities as well. If we plan ahead and manage our growth in a responsible way, future generations will thank us. Why create problems for ourselves tomorrow that we can prevent today? I am encouraged that the City is in the process of reviewing and strengthening the current Adequate Public Facilities Ordinances (APFO) policy, and revising the outdated three year wait-and-go policy into something more proactive.

An APFO is a growth management tool that connects the timing of a new development—with commercial or residential—to the availability of facilities; such as roads, water and sewer systems, schools, and the public safety needed to service it. Simply put, if the infrastructure is not in place—we should not build. It is paramount to wait for the supporting infrastructure first. The City, County, and the development community have a shared responsibility in that arena, and we need to take steps to ensure that our policies reflect that, so that Frederick can adapt well to growth and change, and continue to be a place where people want to live, work, play, and enjoy a high quality of life. We may not think about it in our day-to-day lives, but infrastructure matters. To you, to me, to all of us.

I love hearing from my constituents, so please don’t hesitate to contact me with any ideas, concerns, or observations. I am your representative! I am here for you. Write me at rwilson@cityoffrederick.com or call 301-600-1632. Thank you for reading.

From the desk of County Councilman Philip Dacey

February 2019 County Council News

Readers, I am pleased to have been invited to write a monthly column to update what has been happening on the Frederick County Council. I am pleased to report that as a group we have been working together well on the business of governing the county.

While we have philosophical disagreements on policy, we have been sticking to the issues and moving from one topic to the next. Recently, the Council has been tackling issues that deal with land use and property rights from various perspectives. I should close that I write from a perspective of general support for individual property rights, and look for ways for owners to be able to do what they want with their own property.

First, the Monocacy Scenic River Plan has been a topic that has been in the news for several years now with a very convoluted history. After several years and several drafts incorporating comments from Frederick and Carroll counties, this plan was adopted by the Carroll County Commissioners with the support of the adjacent landowners because of additional language which makes it clear that the Monocacy River Plan should not encumber the property owners’ current rights to utilize their land.

While this plan has been contentious, I believe that supporters and opponents are not so far apart. I believe that all sides share some values that everyone wants a plan that will protect the scenic Monocacy River and the treasure that it is without government encroaching upon an individual’s private use of their property. I am hopeful that we can bring this issue to a resolution with these shared principles.

Most recently, the Council voted down a proposed solar farm off of Biggs Ford Road in Walkersville. It was a unanimous decision because the application did not meet the criteria outlined in the law (size was too large, it covered 100% pure farmland, etc.). The neighbors played an important part in voicing their concerns about this location. Whether the ordinance is unnecessarily restrictive is something that will need further examination.

It does raise the issue of how to best meet state and federal goals of increased renewable energy production. We do need more solar energy in Frederick County. In fact, Frederick County is well positioned to provide renewable energy because of our proximity to London County Virginia. If you didn’t know, 70% of the world’s internet traffic is routed through web-servers in London County. All of those servers need a lot of energy, and we all benefit from not having that energy produced by coal power plants. So moving forward with what we have learned about the economics and feasibility of larger scale solar projects, the current ordinance may need some adjusting to allow more flexibility.

And bringing it back to the rights of property owners, if an owner wants to use their land to generate renewable electricity, which has benefits for all, general-ly the county should work to find ways to allow it.

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**This and That**

**Doing the Math**

Mary Klotz

The school bus slowed down, coming to a stop in the dim light before sunrise. The doors opened, even though nobody was there. And, the bus remained there in the gloom, headlights on, doors open in the cold, blocking the road in both directions. I started timing how long this would go on, wondering why the bus had stopped at all, when there were no passengers to pick up. After about a minute, a lone figure came down the sidewalk and boarded the bus, then another—eventually 6 people made their way out of the gloom and joined the others on the bus, which had its internal lights on. None of these late arrivals appeared to hurry. After about 3 minutes, the bus closed the door and drove away. True story.

Early school start times are at odds with biologically natural sleep cycles of teenagers, likely contributing to sleep deprivation. Some school districts have adjusted high school start times to begin at 9 am, more in sync with teen biology. Maybe the bus driver arrived a bit early that day. It seemed the students expected the bus to wait for them, keeping everyone else waiting, delaying the bus and all its passengers. The bus was expending fuel, spewing exhaust. Does this happen at most school pickup stops? How many stops does a bus make on its route? If this delay happens at each stop, does a bus make on its route? If so, how many minutes does a bus make on its route? Let's assume 437 buses in the fleet. Let's assume 30 minutes to the trip. There are 31,000 x 5 minutes: 2,583 hours of students waiting those 5 minutes, every day. It's not just 5 minutes. Over a 180-day school year, that's 465,000 hours of student's time, just in our county, waiting for the bus. How would that compare to walking times?

Doing the math, especially from different viewpoints, provides interesting perspectives. Commercials on television: a 30-minute show typically uses 8 minutes for commercials. Pivotal Research finds up to 20 minutes per programming hour are used for advertising. Last year the New York Times reported that Fox wants to decrease commercial time to 2 minutes per hour. Nielsen data: the 2017 hourly average was 13 minutes for broadcast TV; 15 minutes for cable. This information was found on https://money.cnn.com. Are you doing the math? Interestingly, while on that site researching this, an ad popped onto my screen at CNN. (https://money.cnn.com/2018/03/06/money/fox-advertising-commercial-time/index.html) On the other hand, those minutes that add up to so much time could be turned to your benefit: you could jump up every time a commercial is on TV and march in place; wave your arms in the air like an orchestra conductor; and stack up 16 hours of aerobic activity (or whatever else would benefit you) for each hour in front of the TV.

March 14 is Pi day (the date 3/14 is the first three digits of π = 3.1445965359…). Pi is the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter; in geometry, a very useful mathematical constant. Pi is the diameter of a circle = the circumference. Pi Pradina x radius = the area of the disc enclosed by the circle. Area of your pie pan x depth of fruit = the volume you’ll need to fill your pie to celebrate Pi. Pi day was founded by physicist Larry Shaw in 1988. Pi is also known as ‘Archimedes’ constant. For Big Bang Theory fans, Pi is involved in Heisenberg’s Uncertainty Principle, Kepler’s Third Law of Planetary Motion, and loads of other physics calculations. March 20 is the Vernal Equinox: exact equal amounts of day and night; the turning point from winter to spring. The days will grow incrementally longer until the summer solstice on June 21, the longest daylight day of the year. If your reading speed is average (200-250) words per minute, you have spent 3-4 minutes reading this column—the time of just one commercial break, or wait for the bus.

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**St. Patrick’s Day Celebration IRISH MENU**

March 8th thru 25th!

Regular Menu Items too...It’s ALL Good!

12 Days of IRISH MUSIC!

(See music schedule on our website)

Open Tuesday, March 12th with music by Kip & Dale!

(We are closed the other Tuesdays)

Purchase an Irish Coffee and take home our 2019 mug!

Shamrock St. Pat’s Tee-Shirts are here.

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‘The Westerner,’ by Badger Clark, 1947
(modified by the editor)

My fathers sleep on the sunrise plains,
And each one sleeps alone.
Their trails may dim to the grass and rains,
For I choose to make my own.
I lay proud claim to their blood and name,
But I lean on no dead kin;
My name is mine for the praise or scorn,
And the world began when I was born.
And the world is mine to win.

They built high towns on their old log sills,
Where the great, slow rivers gleamed,
But with new, live rock from the savage hills
I’ll build as they only dreamed.
The smoke scarce dies where the trail camp lies,
Till rails glint down the pass;
The desert springs into fruit and wheat
And I lay the stones of a solid street
Over yesterday’s untrod grass.

I want no thought on my neighbor’s birth
Or the way he makes his prayer.
I grant him room like mine on earth
If his game is only square.
While he plays it straight I’ll call him mate;
If he cheats I drop him flat.
Old class and rank are a worn-out lie.
And all clean men are as good as I,
And a king is only that.

A stout heart sings in the fray with fate
And the shock and sweat are good.
From noon to noon all the earthly boon
That I ask my God to spare
Is a little daily bread in store,
With the room to fight the strong for more,
And the weak shall get their share.

The sunrise plains are a tender haze
And the sunset seas are gray.
But I stand here, where the bright skies blare
Over me and the big today.
What good to me is a vague ‘maybe’
Or a mournful ‘might have been’?
For the sun wheels swift from morn to morn
And the world began when I was born.
And the world is mine to win.

Editor’s Note: The original text of The Westerner contains one line that makes the poem unsuitable by modern standards. The poem is too brilliant and inspiring to be condemned for reflecting the time when it was drafted. Friends advised on the dilemma: print as is, rewrite the line, rewrite the line but alert the reader. I followed the last advice and leave it as an exercise to the curious reader to determine which line I modified.
Local band releases new album

Ken Kellar

I didn’t know what to expect when I popped in a CD from a local group, Home Comfort titled Butternut and Gray (Songs of the Civil War) featuring Woodsboro’s Dahl Drenning. The guitar and banjo piece has a rich Blue Grass sound and the delightful lyrics give a historic account of the event where the Confederates took the field yet had their greater plans disrupted by the delay the battle caused.

About one third of the album’s 15 songs were written by Home Comfort with the remainder being popular Civil-War-era songs written between 1763 (Rock of Ages) and 1866 (Goober Peas and Lorena). The contemporary pieces blend seamlessly with the traditional songs as they commemorate local raids. Only the information on the detailed CD jacket reveals their recent generation.

The album opens with Butternut and Gray, a song about the Battle of the Monocacy written by Dahl Drenning. The guitar and banjo piece has a rich Blue Grass sound and the delightful lyrics give a historic account of the event where the Confederates took the field yet had their greater plans disrupted by the delay the battle caused.

The CD’s production quality is excellent (Basement Music Studios, Greenscastle, PA) as is the virtuosity of the instrumental work.

Home Comfort has previously released the following albums: Powered by the Spirit (Gospel), From the Hills We Call Home (Traditional Gospel and Secular), Our Favorite Swing Set (Acoustic swing), and All that Remains (Traditional Secular and Gospel).

You can acquire your own copies of this terrific local album by sending $15 per CD to 65 Bluebird Trail, Fairfield PA 1720 or contact mccullochanna@hotmail.com. Make checks payable to: Anna McCulloch Cox.

Way Off Broadway presents My Fair Lady

The Way Off Broadway Dinner Theatre is set to bring the most requested show by its audience members to the stage when it presents a brand new production of the classic Lerner & Loewe musical My Fair Lady. The beloved musical will be the dinner theatre’s area premiere production of Gilligan’s Island – The Musical. In My Fair Lady, Eliza Doolittle is a young flower seller with an unmistakable Cockney accent which keeps her in the lower rungs of Edwardian society. When Professor Henry Higgins tries to teach her how to speak like a proper lady, an unlikely friendship begins to flourish. This Broadway classic features one of musical theatre’s greatest scores, including “Wouldn’t It Be Loverly?,” “With a Little Bit of Luck,” “The Rain in Spain,” “I Could Have Danced All Night,” “On the Street Where You Live,” “Get Me to the Church On Time,” and “I’ve Grown Accustomed to Her Face.”

The musical, which has become a classic since it first appeared on Broadway, is based on the play Pygmalion by George Bernard Shaw, which was originaly presented in 1913. Interestingly, Alan Jay Lerner and Frederick Loewe were not the first Broadway writing team to try their hand at adapting the play into a musical. Oscar Hammerstein and Richard Rodgers had, at one time, tried to adapt the story but ended up abandoning the project.

In 1964, Warner Bros. released a film adaptation of the musical with Harrison starring as Higgins and Audrey Hepburn as Eliza. Producers offered Hepburn the role over Julie Andrews because they felt she had a bigger name and Andrews had no film experience. The film won eight Oscars including Best Picture and Best Actor (Harrison). (Julie Andrews won the Best Actress Oscar that year for her role as Mary Poppins.)

The Way Off Broadway’s cast is led by Megan E. West as Eliza Doolittle, and Zach McDonald as Freddy Eynsford-Hill. The Way Off Broadway’s cast is led by Megan E. West as Eliza Doolittle, and Zach McDonald as Freddy Eynsford-Hill. Round ing out the cast of characters are Jessica Billones, Nicky Kaider, Michelle Kane, Mary Emma King sley, Pete Meyers, Claudia Patterson, Chris Reed, Carrie Shaw, Sarah Walsh, and Cindi Webb.

The Way Off Broadway production will run from March 22nd through June 1st with performances every Friday and Saturday evening and matinees on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday of each month. There will also be a special added matinee for Mother’s Day on May 12th.

For evening performances, guests arrive for dinner at 6:00 p.m. with the show beginning at 8:00 p.m. For matinees, doors open at 12:30 p.m. for lunch with the show beginning at 2:15 p.m. Tickets for a Friday evening or Sunday matinee are $46, Saturday evenings, tickets are $50. Tickets may be purchased by calling the Box Office at (301) 662-6600.
Congratulations to WHS Lions swim team on a successful season

From WalkersvilleHS FundOut-First

Boys Team placed 4th at States overall,
Men 400yd Freestyle Relay placed 4th with a time of 3:25.68
Swimmers were Kameron Conley; Noah Wilson, Austin Rowland JR, Michael Flegel Sr
Men 100yd Breaststroke: Joseph Pieklo placed 6th with a school record time of 1:02.77
Men 200yd Freestyle Relay placed 8th with a time of 1:36.67
Swimmers were Joseph Pieklo, Evan Pinetti, Joseph McMahon, Austin Roland JR
Men 500yd Freestyle: Connor Cavanaugh placed 21 with a time of 5:48.05
Men 100yd Freestyle: Michael Flegel placed 3rd with a time of 49.61
Men 100yd Butterfly: Kameron Conley placed 8th with a time of 56.82, and Evan Pinetti placed 20th with a time of 1:01.66
Men 50yd Freestyle: Michael Flegel placed 6th with a time of 22.56
Men 200yd IM: Kameron Conley placed 10th with a time of 2:08.04
Men 200yd Freestyle: Noah Wilson placed 16th with a time of 1:59.42
Men 200yd Medley Relay placed 3rd with a time of 1:42.75
Swimmers were Noah Wilson, Joseph Pieklo, Kameron Conley, Michael Flegel
Girls Team placed 18th at States overall:
Women 200yd Medley Relay placed 10th with a time of 2:06.05
Swimmers were Sophie Engle, Brook Hanson, Madison Eyer, Kara Young
Women 200yd Freestyle, Kara Young placed 16th with a time of 2:12.93
Women 100yd Butterfly, Madison Eyer placed 18th with a time of 1:09.42

Women 500yd Freestyle: Sophie Engle placed 15th with a time of 5:53.46
Women 100yd Backstroke: Sophie Engle placed 17th with a time of 1:09.03
Women 400yd Freestyle Relay placed 9th with a time of 4:09.72
Swimmers were Madison Eyer, Brooke Hanson, Kara Young, Sophie Engle
Women 100yd Breaststroke: Brooke Hanson placed 12th with a time of 1:16.55
We are extremely proud of our Lions.

Advertise with us!
For more information, contact WoodsboroEditor@gmail.com
On Saturday, March 9, the Walkersville Branch Library will host three events to celebrate the one-year anniversary in the new building. Please join us for the fun!

For a complete listing of programs and events, please visit fcpl.org.

10:00 a.m. – Mark the Walkersville Branch Library’s birthday with a very special pup, who is always on the case. Meet and Greet with Chase from Paw Patrol.

11:00 a.m. – Prepare to laugh with Crickett the Danger Clown. Juggling. Unicycling. the works! Everything you would expect from a former Barnum and Bailey Circus Clown.

2:00 p.m. – Dance Party – Join your favorite librarians for a dance party!

Programs for Children
Storytime with the Cat in the Hat (Ages 3-10)
In celebration of Read Across America, a storytime followed by activities. Saturday, March 2 at 10:00 a.m.

Storyplay (Ages 3-5)
Read a story together followed by a hands-on dramatic themed playgroup. Mondays, March 4, 11, 18, 25 at 1:00 p.m.
Don’t Try This at Home (Grades K-5)
Get messy with fun projects you could never do at home. Glitter, playdough, paint, and more. Tuesdays, March 5, 12, 19, and 26 at 6:30 p.m.

Preschool STEM Lab (Ages 3-5)
Explore Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math concepts in the STEM Lab. Children under age 5 must be accompanied by an adult. Tuesdays, March 5, 12, 19, and 26 at 1:00 p.m.

Elementary STEM Lab (Grades K-5)
Explore Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math concepts in the STEM Lab. Children under age 8 must be accompanied by an adult. Tuesdays, March 5, 12, 19, and 26 at 6:30 p.m.

Nature Sprouts (Ages 3-5)
Explore the natural world through stories and fun activities. Thursdays, March 7, 14, 21, and 28 at 1:00 p.m.

Women’s History Month: Women in STEM (Grades 3-5, Homeschool)
A celebration of women’s history in a variety of STEM fields. Presented in conjunction with the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and Mount Saint Mary’s University. Fridays, March 8, 15, 22 and 29 at 2:30 p.m.

The Dancing Bookworm: Music, Movement, and Books with Dance Unlimited (Ages 0-3)
Dance Unlimited leads a special musical storytime. Designed for ages 0-3 with a caregiver. Friday, March 8 at 10:00 a.m.

Programs for Teens
Teen and Young Adult Job Fair (Ages 16-21)
Connect with employers about job and volunteer opportunities. Bring your resume and come dressed to impress. Saturday, March 2 at 1:00 p.m.

Teen Gaming Club (Grades 6-12)
Challenge your friends on our Xbox or PlayStation(R)4. Tuesdays, March 22 and 29 and Fridays, April 5 and 12 at 1:00 p.m.

Women’s History Month: The Dancing Bookworm presented by Crickett the Danger Clown.

Retirement Planning Fundamentals
Presented by Robin O’Brien, American Karate Academy. Thursdays, March 21 at 3:30 p.m.

Virtual Reality with Oculus Rift (Grades 6-12), Thursday, March 21 at 3:30 p.m.

Dungeons and Dragons Meet-Up (Grades 6-12), Friday, March 8 at 3:30 p.m.

Art Appreciation for Teens II (Grades 6-9, Homeschool)
A mix of basic recipes and DIY home projects. Thursday, March 14 at 3:30 p.m.

Small Business Help: How to Leverage the Web for your Business
Learn from business owners how to maintain a small business online and offline. Sponsored by Walkersville Business Professional Association. Thursday, March 7 at 6:00 p.m.

Sign-Up With Young Children (For Adults)
Join Infants and Toddlers of Frederick County in this exciting hands-on workshop to learn the steps to successfully sign with your child. Space is limited to the first 30 attendees. Tuesday, March 12 at 6:30 p.m.

Women’s History Month: Women of the Classical Guitar
Presented by Robin O’Brien, American Karate Academy. Thursdays, March 21 at 3:30 p.m.

Self Defense Class (Grades 6-12)
Presented by Robin O’Brien, American Karate Academy. Thursday, March 21 at 3:30 p.m.

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Macbeth comes to Walkersville

Starr McClatchie

On Saturday, February 23 at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, February 24 at 2:00 p.m., the Shakespeare Club at Walkersville High School (WHS) presents the classic, Scottish tale of Macbeth. With a rich literary script, the story reveals what happens when ambition goes unchecked by moral constraints. Hannah Benson and Erin Kopot co-direct this play along with English teacher and advisor, Bryan Stillman.

Noah Stillwell, a WHS freshman, plays the role of Macbeth. Regarding the task of learning his lines, he said, “Shakespeare’s writing can sometimes feel like a whole new language. This makes improvisation and understanding your character a bit more difficult.”

As a student director, Erin has learned that directing requires discovering an “overall interpretation of the show to guide the actors in the right direction as they create their characters.”

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With a cast and crew of over 20 local high school students, take a break from winter and come to the Scottish Highlands to rediscover or discover for the first time the tragic story of Macbeth.

(Note: In case of snow days, the show goes unchecked by moral constraints. Hannah Benson and Erin Kopot co-direct this play along with English teacher and advisor, Bryan Stillman.

Noah Stillwell (Macbeth) practices a scene with Liam Day (McDuff) as advisor. Bryan Stillman directs them. (Photo provided by Hannah Benson)

Hugs not Drugs

Classmates4Life Drug-Awareness Contest

The Classmates4Life Foundation invites students at all levels—elementary, middle and high schools—to enter a video & poster contest called Classmates4Life to curb drug abuse.

Contest Creator & Founder Billy Shreve says, “Drug abuse continues to be a serious problem in our county, our state, and our nation. Our community needs to do everything possible to make sure our young people are aware of the dangers of drugs. It’s also important that kids have the loudest voices rallying against drug abuse. The Classmates4Life video & poster contest is a creative approach to help make that happen.

The countywide video & poster contest began with a kick-off event at Walkersville High on Thursday, February 14. The contest is intended to send a message that preventing drug abuse is one of our country’s highest priorities. Several local organizations and businesses are collaborating as sponsors in the contest: Frederick County Public Schools, Frederick County Health Department, Rotary Clubs of Frederick County, Frederick County Sheriff’s Office, the PTA of Frederick County, the YMCA, Frederick Memorial Hospital, Frederick Community College, and Wells House.

The goal for students is to produce a creative video, 30-60 seconds long, that highlights drug abuse danger and motivates their peers to choose life. The video should answer one of two questions: at the elementary level, “How are drugs bad?” and at the secondary level, “How can drugs wreck your world?” Videos are due by Thursday, April 4, 2019.

This year, students are also being invited to submit posters that capture the same anti-drug message. Posters, also due by Thursday, April 4, can be dropped off at FCPS Central Office at 191 S. East Street, Frederick or at their School’s Principals Office.

The public can view each entry and vote on YouTube by clicking the thumbs up symbol for the one they deem best. Voting will take place from April 4-14. An expert panel of judges will also review the entries. Winners will receive prizes and attend a “red carpet” awards ceremony and resource fair at Frederick High School on Sunday, April 7.

Entries may be submitted at classmate4life.org with the following categories: elementary, middle, secondary, foreign language, and non-traditional. The winner of each category will receive a custom plaque and a gift certificate totaling $250.

Students are encouraged to get involved by forming a Classmates4Life club at their school. Contact Billy Shreve for more information: billyshreve2016@gmail.com

The Community Foundation Scholarship Committee leadership team announces the 2019-2020 scholarship application period. Pictured, from left: Colleen Chidester, Matt Wiley, Tatia Elliott, Cynthia Palmer and Brandon Cannon.

Community Foundation announces $1 million in scholarships

Online Application Opens March 1.

The Community Foundation of Frederick County is pleased to announce its scholarship application is available for the 2019-2020 academic year beginning Friday, March 1, 2019. For the fourth consecutive year, just over $1 million is available to students pursuing post-secondary education or vocational training. By completing one general application, students may qualify for more than 250 scholarships. The completed application with required attachments must be submitted online no later than 11:59 p.m. EST on Sunday, March 31, 2019.

Details about the scholarship program and the application are accessible through the Community Foundation website at www.scholarshipsFrederickCounty.com.

Students about to complete their senior year of high school, students already enrolled in a trade school, college or university, and non-traditional students over the age of 21 are eligible to apply. Scholarship criteria are established by the scholarship funds: donating donors. Some scholarships do not consider financial need.

All students are encouraged to apply.

The Community Foundation of Frederick County is a recognized leader in providing scholarships to area students, made possible by generous donors who establish funds or add to existing funds. For more information about creating or adding to an existing scholarship fund, visit www.frederickcountygives.org.
Rehearsals begin for musical

Are We There Yet? - The Story of Moses and the Exodus

Sue Koenig

Rehearsals will begin on Tuesday, March 26, 6 pm–7 pm, for the delightful children’s musical by Tom S. Long, Are We There Yet? - The Story of Moses and the Exodus. There will be a read-through of the musical on March 3 at 11:45 am. The musical will be performed on Mother’s Day, May 12 at 10:30 am at the Graceham Moravian Church, 8231-A Rocky Ridge Rd., Thurmont, Maryland. All rehearsals will take place at the church.

Children (ages 3 and up), youth, and adults are invited to participate. There are speaking and choir parts available. Everyone is invited to take part in this inter-generational performance of the musical. Children will be learning the songs for the musical at 9:15 am during the opening of Sunday school and during rehearsals.

Mrs. Susan Baltic, former art teacher at Walkersville Middle School, will be the Director. Mrs. Baltic worked with colleagues and students to present such popular plays as Beauty and the Beast and The Lion King. Please call the church office to sign up for Are We There Yet? to request a schedule of the rehearsals or for additional information, 301-271-2379. Everyone is welcome.

To reduce the stress of estate planning

When it’s time to do your estate planning – and it’s actually never too soon to begin – you may find the process, at first, to be somewhat bewildering. You’ll have many questions: What sort of arrangements should I make? Who should get what? And when? How can you address these and other issues?

You’ll need to get some help. In drawing up your estate plan, you will need to work with an attorney. And for guidance on the investments that can help fund your estate planning arrangements, such as a living trust, you can draw on the help of a financial advisor. You also may want to connect with a trust company, which can help facilitate your estate plans and coordinate the activities of your legal and financial professionals.

Of course, you might think that only the very wealthy need a trust company. But that’s not really the case – people of many income levels have long used these companies. As long as you have a reasonable amount of financial assets, you likely can benefit from the various services provided by a trust organization.

And these services can range from administration of a variety of trusts (such as living trusts and charitable trusts) to asset-management services (bill-paying, check-writing, etc.) to safekeeping services (such as providing secure vaults for jewelry and collectibles).

In short, using a trust company can make things a lot easier when it’s time to plan and execute your estate. A trust company can help you in the following ways:

Avoiding family squabbles – It’s unfortunate, but true: Dividing the assets of an estate can cause ill will and turmoil among family members. But a trust company can act as a neutral third party, thus minimizing any feelings of unfairness.

Providing greater control – When you establish an arrangement such as a living trust, administered by the trust company, you can give yourself great control over how you want your assets distributed. For example, you can specify that a certain child receive portions of your estate spaced out over several years – a move that may appeal to you if you think this child might not be ready to handle large sums all at once.

Saving time and effort – As mentioned above, when you work with a trust company, you can let it do all the “legwork” of coordinating your plans with your financial professionals, tax advisor and attorney. And these professionals are used to dealing with trust companies.

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Gaining Protection – Trust companies assume fiduciary responsibility for your financial well-being – which means that your best interests will always be considered in each service and transaction performed.

You can choose from among a variety of trust companies, large and small. Before choosing one, you may want to check out the services and fees of a few different firms. In any case, as you move toward that time of your life when estate planning becomes more essential, talk to your attorney, tax advisor and financial professional about whether using the services of a trust company might be right for you.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by Laura Beall your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors are not estate planners and cannot provide tax or legal advice. You should consult your estate-planning attorney or qualified tax advisor regarding your situation.

Tax aid available

The AARP Tax-Aide Program, Frederick County, Maryland offers free tax return preparation services to all residents. AARP membership is not required. It starts the first week of February and ends the second week of April. IRS certified volunteer counselors provide the service at seven different sites.

All are by appointment only.

Monday- Homewood at Crumland Farms, 7407 Willow Road Frederick, MD 21702 301-644-5600
Brunswick Senior Center, 12 East A Street, Brunswick, MD 21716 301-834-8115
C. Burr Artz Public Library 110 East Patrick Street 301-371-3264

Tuesday-Holy Family Catholic Church, 7321 Burkittsville Road, Middletown, MD 21769 301-371-3264
Wednesday- Crestwood Village Clubhouse, 6902 Crabapple Drive, Frederick, MD 21703 301-662-0401
Walkersville Library 2 South Glade Road, Walkersville, MD 21793 301-600-8200
Thursday- Homewood at Crumland Farms, 7407 Willow Road Frederick, MD 21702 301-644-5600
Friday- Buckingham’s Choice, 3200 Baker Circle, Adamstown, MD, 21710 301-644-1669

More information is available at https://www.aarp.org
The Glade Valley Lions Club (GVLC) recently held their annual Boy Scout night honoring Troop 1070. The GVLC has sponsored the Troop for over 50 years. Presently there are 35 boy scouts and 29 adult scout leaders in Troop 1070. This year there were 6 new Eagle Scouts. In the history of the troop, there have been 127 scouts who have earned the rank of Eagle. Some of the events the Troop was involved with during 2018 include: the annual Scouting for Food, which supports the Glade Valley Food Bank (5,000 pounds of food was collected); flag laying at Glade Cemetery on Veterans Day; summer camp at Camp Airy in Thurmont; Goose Scout Reservation in Virginia; an annual 150+ mile bike trip; and the annual Christmas Tree Sales fundraiser.

Rutter’s, the award-winning regional chain of convenience stores, is pleased to announce that on Friday, February 22, Rutter’s CEO Scott Hartman cut the ribbon and presented four local charities with donation checks during the grand opening. Located on Maryland Route 194 at 9210 Woodsboro Pike, their newest store and only store located in the state of Maryland is now open and serving as a comfortable, convenient rest stop for both local guests and travelers alike, 24/7.

As a family organization, Rutter’s is committed to becoming part of each community they serve with their convenience stores. During the Walkersville, MD ribbon cutting ceremony Rutter’s continued that tradition by donating $4,000 to those that serve their community. Recipients at the ceremony were Walkersville Volunteer Fire Company, Walkersville Volunteer Rescue Company, Walkersville Volunteer Fire Company, Glade Valley Athletic Association and the Glade Valley Food Bank.

Local guests, dignitaries, three generations of the Rutter’s family and customers enjoyed an afternoon of food sampling, prize drawings and more during the event. Also, in attendance at the Walkersville Rutter’s grand opening was John Zimmerman, a Walkersville Town Commissioner.

“Rutter’s has always been committed to being part of the communities they serve and we are excited to add Walkersville as our newest store,” said Scott Hartman. “We look forward to building a relationship within this community.”

The Walkersville Rutter’s is the 73rd store in their award-winning chain of convenience stores. Rutter’s singular focus on quality at a fair price is evident in their restaurant quality food, huge selection of beverages and grab-and-go food offerings, and their high-quality fuels offered at 10 auto fueling stations and 3 high-speed truck diesel bays. Customers have access to an award-winning food and beverage menu, indoor seating for up to 30 guests, free WiFi, and large restrooms.

For more information about the company, visit www.rutters.com.
Notes on “Butternut and Gray” the CD

Dahl Drenning

Four songs of Local interest (written by Dahl Drenning)

“Butternut and Gray” is the title song of the CD and tells the story of the Monocacy Battle of July 9, 1864. Butternut and gray were the colors of the uniforms of the Confederate Army. When the Confederacy ran out of gray dye they resorted to a brown coloration that became known as butternut thus by the summer of 1864 troops of Jubal Early’s Army of the Valley District (Second Corps; Army of Northern Virginia) en route to Washington waded the Monocacy River to face the Federal Forces of General Lew Wallace wearing uniforms of both gray and butternut. “The Old Wagon Road” is a reflection on an abandoned 18th century road that connected contemporary Cash Smith road to Renner Road. It likely provided access for early settlers to the saw mill and grist mill on Israel’s Creek established by Joseph Wood in the 1770s. Sometime in the nineteenth sixties I was walking the old road bed with my Grandfather J. W. Eyler when he suddenly stopped and said, “Listen, do you hear that”, to which I responded “what did you hear”? He replied, “Why that’s Jubal Early’s cavalry coming down this old wagon road”. It is entirely possible that an element of General Bradley Johnson’s cavalry brigade on their way to Baltimore following the Monocacy Battle did pass this way. For a moment I thought I heard the rattle of sabers and hoof beats on the old wagon road.

“Stuart’s Horse Raid” tells the story of the passage of General JEB Stuart’s cavalry through the town of Woodsboro on a rainy evening in October of 1862. During the passage of the mounted Confederates over a period of several hours five young residents of the town were made prisoners and taken on to Richmond where in time they were exchanged and returned home. The song reflects upon the experience of young John Cutshall one of the five captives and his family’s concern for his safety and well-being.

“Captain Schley”. Captain Alfred Schley Captain of Co. E, 5th MD. Infantry was home on leave in Libertytown on the rainy evening in October when the Stuart’s Confederate Cavalry moved on beyond Woodsboro to Libertytown. It seemed the Confederate horsemen had availed themselves of blue Union overcoats in Chambersburg and when Captain Schley stepped out on his porch in the misty shadows of night he thought the passing blue clad column was a contingent of Federal troops to which he made himself known. He was indeed mistaken and he became a prisoner as well. This was a story I heard told by my grandfather many times. The song tells the tale again.

“Chambersburg is Burning”, written by Mike Cox is about a post Monocacy engagement north of the Mason Dixon Line. Unlike the ransom of Frederick which was paid by local banks and saved the town from being burned to the ground Chambersburg was not able to meet the Confederate demands and the threat of burning was carried out. Mike Cox a talented guitarist and vocalist tells the story.

Note on the Photo – All of the photography was done by noted Frederick Photographer Harriet Wise. The photo on the inside and on the back cover show the band members walking on the road bed of the “Old Wagon Road”.

Note on hymn “Rock of Ages” – the hymn text was taken from the 1855 edition of “Lutheran Hymns” belonging the Sarah Wood Luck the granddaughter of Col. Joseph Wood the founder of Woodsboro.

The rest of the songs are traditional from the Civil War era.
Of late, eyes of the world have been intense on both the North and South Koreas. None though moreso that Russell Delauter, the Thurmont and Frederick County icon, who recently celebrated his 89th birthday. He was a 20-year-old soldier sent to South Korea in 1950 as the bitter war dragged on until 1953. Russ was raised mostly in Myersville/Ellerton, Frederick County. He and his cousin, Francis Delauter joined together, not drafted. Delauter survived the battles of the Chosin Reservoir. In November, the businessman and civic leader was honored for his distinctive military service. Making the presentation was Geun Seon Lee. Along with Delauter, they were among the last to leave the Hungnam battle scene. Delauter was given a chance to leave the Hungnam fighting early by superiors but declined as did others in his army unit as they faced a massive Chinese army. The Lee family created the award for Delauter, a neck medal made from fencing recently removed from the DMZ, the Demilitarized Zone. During the surprise presentation in Annandale, Virginia, Lee said: “If not for him and the Americans, he and his family ‘wouldn’t be alive today.’” It should be noted that the Chinese were then taking over North Korea. At Hungnam, U.S. soldiers faced Chinese hordes. Delauter’s neck medal is inscribed:


The Lee family and South Korean government are searching for Sgt. Delauter’s then 15-year-old ROK soldier Kim Kwon Joo and members of his family. He likely would be in his 80s. Delauter, then a tank commander, recalls the young soldier as terrific. “I have always been fond of him, almost as a son. I miss him.” Delauter was “completely shocked to receive the recognition. It was touching.”

Harry M. Covert is a frequent contributor. Contact: hmcovert@gmail.com.

Russell Delauter honored for Korean service
My Days Are Past (Job 17:11)

A simple statement, yet a profound one, when considered in the context of Job’s sufferings. Here is a man that had everything, and has lost it (except his life), and yet, he feels that his life is over. He believes that his good days are past, and hopes and dreams cut off. Before we condemn Job for his lack of faith and assumptions, we must consider that it is easy for any person, in such a state, to start thinking such thoughts. Please consider a few truths, along with this verse:

Our lives are not over, until they are over. The Bible puts forth the principle of “as long as there is life, there is hope.” This is applicable for many things, including salvation and Christian living. Our situation, we cannot assume that God will not be able to use us. God is able to use us despite our gender, age, circumstances, health, finances, and skill. He is able to labor together with us, and allow great fruit to come from such labor (should He desire). He is God, and He is not done with us, until He is. As long as there is life, there is hope. As long as there is a faithful, willing heart, there is great success, in God’s eyes. (Josh 1:8)

The great struggle in the story of Job comes from, not his physical suffering, but the misconception that the sinful are always suffering, while the righteous are always prosperous. This is a mistaken, and a lie especially of those that promote the Prosperity Gospel. But, Job and his friends had to learn this the hard way (as do we, at times).

For reference, consider Moses’ life. He thought himself a deliverer of Israel, and acted as such. Shortly thereafter, God had to humble him, and his desires went to poverty. Sure, the desire to help his people still existed, but the circumstances of the time did not allow for it. He was forced to live in the present (as we are all).

The point is this: sometimes we get comfortable, living in a rut, and being accustomed to a certain way of living (whatever that may be: rich, poor, sick, healthy, etc.). God’s Word repeatedly shows that, when His sheep get in a rut, they are in a spiritually dangerous position (consider the message of Psalms 23:1-3). Trouble tends to strengthen, refine, and refine us. We may feel like life is over, but God is often trying to show us just who He is, and what life is all about, so that we will become better Christians. A sick, poor man that has lost everything has different desires than those that are over.

We tend to use the opposite. The sick often just want to get better. The unloved just want to be loved. The bored just want to be comforted. Job states such things, in his book. These desires are not complex, but simple, and they make us to appreciate life, health, loved ones, and other precious parts of life much better. For instance, we usually hate to desire more riches. When we have not lost. It gets us back to basics. It draws us closer to God. At least, that is what it is intended to do. This is not the way to sinfully fall into despair of our selves and bitterness against God.

So, the challenge is this: 1) Wherever you are in life, remember that God put you there, and has a use for you. He is not done with you, until He is done. He is drawing you to salvation (believing on the Person and Work of Jesus Christ for forgiveness of sins [Ps 15:1-4], or for purification, as His child (to become more like Christ [P 1 Peter 1:7-12]). 2) Be grateful for your life. Things can always be worse. Health can be turned to sickness, love to hatred, influence to obscurity, and riches to poverty.

As long as there is life, there is hope, and, as long as there is a faithful, willing heart, there is success, in God’s sight, and, considering the grand scheme of things: His judgment is all that matters.

James Bauard is the pastor of Pinecrest Baptist Church in Signal Mountain, TN. For questions or comments about this article, please write him at PastorBauard@Gmail.com.

Just a Few Thoughts….from Nancy

Every morning as I prepare to start my day, I wonder what lies ahead. I pray that world events will not continue to spiral out of control. I hope all is well with my family and friends, and I pray that I may do some good in the course of the day. Sometimes it's not that simple, to try and be positive.

I am determined to change my way of thinking. Now with the occurrence of Lent especially, it’s time to give up looking at the dark side of life, and attempt to start reflecting on the possibilities of happiness. Of course, there will always be unpleasant and negative incidents, but we don't need to dwell on them. This is not good for us, and we do not know it.

So, let's pause for a moment and think… I did get up this morning, my family loves me, I have friends, the sun is out, I'm going shopping! Come up with your own list of blessings, it'll work for you, I promise. We will succeed more than fail if we can adjust to this new attitude. This thing called nothing else I add to my morning prayers, and I have this phrase in a frame on my wall, “Today is going to be a GREAT day!” Amen.

Nancy Sprinkel is the Lay Leader of St. John’s Church. If you are looking for a church experience, which is positive and uplifting, please join us. Sunday’s service begins at 9:00 AM. St. John’s Church is located at 8 North Second St. in Wood- shoor (up the street from the Olde Town Restaurant).

For more information, phone (301) 845-8466 or email us at: stjohn-woodsboro@gmail.com.
Almost as many countries arrogate the honour of having been the natal soil of St. Patrick, as made a similar claim with respect to Homer. Scotland, England, France, and Wales, each furnish their respective pretensions; but, whatever doubts may obscure his birthplace, all agree in stating that, as his name implies, he was of a patrician family. He was born about the year 372, and when only sixteen years of age, was carried off by pirates, who sold him into slavery in Ireland, where his master employed him as a swineherd on the well-known mountain of Sleamish, in the county of Antirin. Here he passed seven years, during which time he acquired a knowledge of the Irish language, and made himself acquainted with the manners, habits, and customs of the people. Escaping from captivity, and, after many adventures, reaching the Continent, he was successively ordained deacon, priest, and bishop: and then once more, with the authority of Pope Celestine, he returned to Ireland to preach the Gospel to its then heathen inhabitants.

The principal enemies that St. Patrick found to the introduction of Christianity into Ireland, were the Druidical priests of the more ancient faith, who, as might naturally be supposed, were exceedingly adverse to any innovation. These Druids, being great magicians, would have been formidable antagonists to any one of less miraculous and saintly powers than Patrick. Their obstinate antagonism was so great, that, in spite of his benevolent disposition, he was compelled to curse their fertile lands, so that they became dreary boges to curse their rivers, so that they produced no fish; to curse their very kettoiles, so that with no amount of fire and patience could they ever be made to boil; and, as a last resort, to curse the Druids themselves, so that the earth opened and swallowed them up.

A popular legend relates that the saint and his followers found themselves, one cold morning, on a mountain, without a fire to cook their break-fast, or warm their frozen limbs. Unheeding their complaints, Patrick desired them to collect a pile of ice and snow-balls: which having been done, he breathed upon it, and it instantly became a pleasant fire—a fire that long after served to point a poet's conceit in the following lines:

'Saint Patrick, as in legends told,
The morning being very cold,
In order to assuage the weather,
Collected bits of ice together;
Then gently breathed upon the pyre.

When every fragment blazed on fire,
Oft! if the saint had been so kind
As to have left the gift behind
To such a lovelorn wretch as me,
Who daily struggles to be free:
I'd be content—content with公用
I'd only ask to thaw the heart,
The frozen heart, of Polly Roe.

The greatest of St. Patrick's miracles was that of driving the venomous reptiles out of Ireland, and rendering the Irish soil, for ever after, so ominous to the serpent race, that they instantaneously die on touching it. Colgan seriously relates that St. Patrick accomplished this feat by bearing a drum, which he struck with such fervour that he knocked a hole in it, thereby endangering the success of the miracle. But an angel appearing mended the drum: and the patched instrument was long exhibited as a holy relic.

Almost as many countries arrogate the honour of having been the natal soil of St. Patrick, as made a similar claim with respect to Homer. Scotland, England, France, and Wales, each furnish a similar claim with respect to the natal soil of St. Patrick, as made a similar claim with respect to Homer.

Sturdy March, with brows full sternly bent,
And armed strongly, rode upon a ram,
The same which over Hellespontus swam,
Yet in his hand a spade he also bent
And in a bag all sorts of weeds, y same
Which on the earth he strewed as he went,
And filled her womb with fruitful hope of nourishment.

SPENSER
Hibernation

Ken Kellar

Last month I was out in the loft of my garage organizing my newspaper archives. By the way did you know that once a newspaper print run is complete, that’s it for copies. Newspapers are made using photo-printed aluminum plates that are placed on rollers that dip into vats of ink and then roll onto the continuous sheets of paper spinning off of giant rolls of paper that require a fork lift to move. Once the print run is over the aluminum plates are discarded. You can’t just run off a single copy of a newspaper.

Back to my archiving. IN the cold garage, I lifted a bundle of newspapers to reveal a dark blob about the size of a child’s fist. As I pondered what the blob was it slowly started to expand like a wadded plastic trash bag would do if you bunched it up with your hands and then released it. The blob started to take shape. I saw arms and then wings. A bat!

My initial impulse was fear/revulsion. Yuck! Rabies! Vampires! Vermin! And I pushed it off the ledge to drop 5 feet to the carpeted landing below. In a couple heart beats my emotions shifted to remorse and sadness. I had read that disturbed hibernating bats often die before they can find another shelter to hibernate. What to do?

The bat was going nowhere fast. After moving a bit on the carpet it tucked itself neatly apparently trying to go back to sleep. Our cats would soon find it there, or we’d step on it, or it might die of exposure. Then I noticed our bluebird box I had taken down to preserve it from the weather. I put on some thick leather gloves and gently as possible put the bat in the bird box. The bat didn’t cooperate as it clutched onto the carpet with all fours. After a gentle steady tugging it released and I put it in the box. I laid the box on its side with the door latched to keep the cats out and I placed it against the wall in a comparable location I had found the bat.

I hope to find an empty bird box this spring that will imply the little guy made it through the winter and is out and about gobbling up hundreds of mosquitoes and other pests. Time will tell.
A best life for cats

Linda Shea

A best life for a cat begins with a lifetime commitment from a human caretaker. That lifetime commitment should withstand lifestyle and family changes and relationships. Caring for a cat includes keeping your cat safe and healthy, making sure to visit the veterinarian on a regular basis, and when you suspect illness. Eliminate the risks imposed by toxins, predators, disease, and vehicles by keeping your cat indoors. At the very least, keep your cat on your property to demonstrate respect for neighbors and avoid nuisance complaints. Have a plan for an unexpected veterinary cost and be aware of the resources available to assist with providing financial or other help.

The shelter is open-admission, meaning we take in any animal from the community that is surrenderer by an owner or found stray. We hold stray animals for 5 days to give owners an opportunity to claim them. Our efforts prioritize reuniting pets and owners, placing animals in suitable homes, providing enrichment and socialization for less-socialized animals, and enforcing existing laws and policies. Feral and un-socialized species are divided almost evenly between stray intake and owners surrenders.

Each month, the Frederick County Division of Animal Control and Pet Adoption Center posts statistics on the County’s website. The statistics are real, raw numbers. We attempt to explain some of the “whys” behind an increase or decrease in euthanasia rates sometimes taken to a distorted turn and imply that somehow the shelter doesn’t do enough, or that the shelter is responsible for the poor health/behavior/temperament of the animals turned in. Much worse, discussions that highlight euthanasia rates imply that shelter employees and volunteers simply don’t care—which is simply not true.

Find children name report cards show that feral cat populations in Frederick County has seen a 30% decline in the last 10 years. This is due to a combination of community and city initiatives, including Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) and adoption efforts.

Community cat is an umbrella term that includes any un-owned cat. These cats include strays, lost or abandoned pets forced to survive on their own, as well as feral cats born outdoors. The cats may be domesticated and friendly or feral, un-socialized, and fearful of people, or anywhere in between. The term, community cat, reflects the belief that when cats are not owned by any individual, they become members of a community that is a whole, which collective responsibility for their care.

Though not always visible to us, they are active at night and avoid people, there are a lot of community cats. They are all around us, in our neighborhoods, parks, along roadways, and around business establishments, in both cities and more rural areas, they come in search of food. In Frederick County, we see how many community cats live in Frederick County. Using the shelter and outdoor cat population calculator developed by the University of California, Davis, Koret Shelter Medicine program, based on approximately 1,000 cats per 7 people in a community, there are an estimated 36,500 un-owned cats in the county.

Currently, Frederick County has no effective program to deal with the ever-growing number of community cats. Left unattended and allowed to roam, outdoors, cats are prolific breeders. If we factor in another 25,500 pet cats that are allowed outside, based on 2011 cat population estimate from 2012 AVMA Demographic sourcebook, we have approximately 62,000 free-roaming cats in the county.

Trap-and-Kill at the shelter will not reduce this overpopulation. Less than 4% of the estimated number of free-roaming cats in Frederick County were housed at the shelter in FY 2018. Recent science tells us that about 30% of the population needs to be removed through admission to a shelter or sterilized in order to achieve long term control. Shelter admissions don’t come anywhere near this level.

An alternative exists to the killing of community cats. Using the well-established targeted Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) strategy, these cats are trapped, sterilized, vaccinated, and released to their colonies, moved to safer locations or adopted out. Two-year study, “Effect of high-impact targeted trap-neuter-return and adoption of community cats on cat intake to a shelter,” focused on TNR efforts in Alachua County, Florida. The research was conducted by principal investigator Julie Levy, DVM, PhD, the Maddie’s Fund professor of shelter medicine at the UF College of Veterinary Medicine and published in The Veterinary Journal. Study participants sterilized 54% of the feral cat population in that area. Levy reported a 70 percent decline of animal control cat intake from a baseline of 54 cats per 1,000 customers to 4 cats per 1,000 residents at the end of the study. In contrast, outside the target area, the county saw only a 13 percent decrease in animal control intake. Study results showed that euthanasia declined 95 percent, from a baseline of eight cats per 1,000 residents to less than one per 1,000 residents. Euthanasia rates only dropped 30 percent in the surrounding non-target area.

TNR is the right, most cost-effective and humane approach for effectively dealing with community cats and has been adopted by many large and small cities across the nation including Baltimore City and County, and Anne Arundel County in Maryland. According to the Alliance for Contraception in Cats & Dogs, it costs between $52 to $123, average of $87, to euthanize a cat at the shelter and between $104 to $550, average of $327, to shelter and adopt, with no end in sight! It costs an average of $65 to TNR a cat and is often paid for by grants and private citizens. It’s time for Frederick County to implement the TNR approach to save cats’ lives and taxpayers dollars.

Frederick AdvoCats, a network of cat welfare advocates in Montgomery, Carroll and Howard counties are among those that said they work with animal advocates so some feral cats are neutered and released as stated in an article by Lisa Ross, entitled, “Feral Cat Isar Divides Counties, Residents in Maryland" published March 13, 2012 on Patch. Frederick AdvoCats is counting on our community coming together and for our elected leaders to do the right thing for cats and our community.

Submit by Carla Hodge

Each day, an average of 11 animals are admitted to Frederick County Animal Control. That adds up to a total of 3,895 in fiscal year (FY) 2018, 58% of which were cats, 26% dogs, and 16% other types of animals. Most dogs and cats that arrive at the shelter are owner or guardian surrenders and strays.

For these animals entering the shelter, there are six possible outcomes. They may be dead-on-arrival, die while there from illness or injury, or be euthanized. Other outcomes include positive outcome of adoption, transfer, to rescue, or are returned to their owner. In FY 2018, the live release rate, the percentage of animals leaving the shelter alive, was 84% of dogs and 51% of cats. Cats are euthanized at the shelter at double the rate of dogs (44% vs. 19%) and don’t get returned to owners anywhere near as often as dogs (4% vs. 38%). Disparities in the outcomes for cats and dogs suggest that many of the cats entering the shelter are community cats.

Sheltered animals in the community are not owned by any individual or family or committed caretaker. It means staying with its caring family or committed caretaker. It means not being abandoned or allowed to become a nuisance. But for those felines that are brought to us, we do the best we can to place them appropriately. The public should know we do everything we can to ensure the best life for cats.

Frederick County Council Urged to Amend Animal Ordinances

MARCH 2019 | WOODSBORO WALKERSVILLE TIMES | 19

IN THE COUNTRY

About Frederick AdvoCats

Frederick AdvoCats (www.fred. crickadvocats.weakly.com) is a network of cat welfare advocates who envision a world in which every cat enjoys a good life. As cat advocates, our mission is to protect the rights of cats in our community, promote policies that improve their quality of life, and hold our officials accountable for what happens to cats in Frederick County, Maryland. Working together, we seek coordinated solutions to stabilize the cat population and create a better life for felines and community members in our county. Follow Frederick AdvoCats on Facebook at https:// www.facebook.com/FrederickAd voCats

Last week we helped 18 senior cit-izens feed their cats and 22 feed their dogs.

All pets adopted from the shel-ter are spayed or neutered prior to adoption. All cats are tested for Feline Leukemia and Feline Immuno deficiency Virus. Adoption interviews to not only provide information about ani-mals, but to answer any questions that potential adopters have.

An adoption screening process to find the best possible forever home. The best life for a cat means not being brought to the shelter. It means staying with its caring family or committed caretaker. It means not being abandoned or allowed to become a nuisance. But for those felines that are brought to us, we do the best we can to place them appropriately. The public should know we do everything we can to ensure the best life for cats.

A spay/neuter grant from the Maryland Department of Agricultur-e to assist families in financial need.

Fraidy Cats. A program that identifies less social shelter fe-lines to increase their adoptability through socialization.

Barn Buddies. A program that places shelter cats that are better suited for farm life with committed caretakers.

Foster Care. We have over 80 families dedicated to fostering fe-lines from newborn orphans to se-niors that need respite.

Project Hope (through our aux-iliary group FFOCAS) that shares resources to help owners keep their pets.

A pet food bank to assist those experiencing financial hardship.

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Feral cats can be managed in various ways
County calls for land preservation applications
April 1 deadline set

The Frederick Agricultural Land Preservation Program has opened up an application cycle for the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF) Easement program. The MALPF program purchases agricultural preservation easements that forever restrict development on prime farmland and woodland. Since the MALPF program began in 1977, it has preserved more than 21,800 acres of farmland in Frederick County.

The Foundation was established by the Maryland General Assembly in 1977 and is part of the Maryland Department of Agriculture. MALPF is one of the most successful programs of its kind in the country. The State of Maryland, with the work of the Foundation and its state and local partners, has preserved in perpetuity more agricultural land than any other state in the country.

Applications will be accepted in the office of the Division of Planning & Permitting, 30 N. Market Street, until 4 p.m. on Monday, April 1, 2019.

Information about the program may be found by visiting www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/agpres. For more details, contact Land Preservation Planner Shannon O’Neil at 301-600-1411 or via email at soneil@frederickcountymd.gov.
**March sky**

For March 2019, the moon is waning gibbous. The sun sets on the morning of March 1st, and then just west of Venus the following morning. It is new on March 6th. The waning crescent passes south of Mars in the evening sky on March 11th. First quarter moon is March 14th, and the Full Moon, the Grass Moon, is on the 28th. The moon is last quarter on the 29th. Mars is at 8:43 PM CDT, while the full moon is at 4:58 PM CDT. As the sun sets on the evening of the Full Moon, the waning crescent is the date of Easter, this should make Easter three days earlier than the Full Moon, always falls on the 14th day of a lunar month; because ancient calendars did not account for accurate lunar months, it may differ slightly from the actual full moon date. Yes, it is indeed confusing, especially this year! The waning gibbous moon is just east of Jupiter in the dawn sky on March 27th. The moon is last quarter on March 28th. The waning crescent is East of Saturn on March 29th. On the 31st, it lies just west of Venus on the dawn horizon, with both rising about an hour before sunrise.

While the naked eye, dark adapted by several minutes away from any bright lights, is a wonderful instrument to stare up into deep space, far beyond our own Milky Way, binoculars are better for spotting specific deep sky objects. For a detailed map of northern hemisphere skies, about February 28th, visit the **www.skyandtelescope.com** website and download the map for March 2019; it will have a more extensive calendar, and list of deep sky objects for the naked eye, binoculars, and scopes on the back of the map. Also a wonderful video exploring the March 2019 sky available from the Hubble Space Telescope at: http://hubblesite.org/explore/astonomy/tonghts.sky/ Sky & Telescope has high lights of the best views for each week at: http://www.skyandtelescope.com/observing/astroimagine/. Mars is the only evening planet, in the SW sky. It passes below the Pleiades cluster at month’s end. In the morning sky, Jupiter is in Taurus to the north of the moon. It makes a striking W in the SW. South of Cassiopeia is Andromeda’s head, Perseus. Between him and Cassiopeia is the fine Double Cluster, faintly visible with the naked eye and two fine binocular objects in the same field. Perseus contains the famed eclipsing binary star Algol, where the Arabs imagined the eye of the gorgon Medusa would lie. It fades to a third in its natural brightness for six out of every 70 hours, as a larger but cooler orange giant covers about 80% of the smaller but hotter and thus brighter companion as seen from Earth. At Perseus’ feet for the famed Pleiades cluster; they lie southwest of the moon, and distinctly orange in color. It is an indication of its uniqueness. In large speed and direction through the Milky Way, many of its lost stars, being assimilated by our huge spiral galaxy. Many of its lost stars, like Arcturus, form a band across the sky at about a 70 degree angle to our galactic plane. Arcturus is at the tail of kite shaped Boo, the celestial bear driver chasing the two bears from his flocks. Spite south then to Spica in Virgo. But stop off on this arc just below the end star of the handle, and you will find our featured deep sky object, the famed Whirlpool Galaxy, M-51. This view of the colliding galaxies comes from EAA member Marc Glover shows how ourresolverthe spiral structure was observed in 1845 appears in our larger scopes at our deep sky glasses at Big Lagoon and Battery Worth on St. Augustine. At very small Milky Way is now interacting with three neighboring smaller galaxies; images complicated we look from the same top on varage point."}

**Farmers’ Almanac**

“It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold: when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade.”

Charles Dickens (1812-1870)

**HOLIDAY HINTS**

Holly: Ash Wednesday is March 6th in 2019 and the first Sunday in Lent is March 10th. Be sure to wear something green in honor of St. Patrick on Sunday, March 17th.

**THE FARM**: Best days for planting root crops (1,2); weeding and stirring the soil (13,14); transplanting (6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13); harvesting and storing grain (6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13). New moon is at 8:43 PM CDT, while the full moon is at 4:58 PM CDT. As the sun sets on the evening of the Full Moon, the waning crescent is the date of Easter, this should make Easter three days earlier than the Full Moon, always falls on the 14th day of a lunar month; because ancient calendars did not account for accurate lunar months, it may differ slightly from the actual full moon date. Yes, it is indeed confusing, especially this year! The waning gibbous moon is just east of Jupiter in the dawn sky on March 27th. The moon is last quarter on March 28th. The waning crescent is East of Saturn on March 29th. On the 31st, it lies just west of Venus on the dawn horizon, with both rising about an hour before sunrise.

While the naked eye, dark adapted by several minutes away from any bright lights, is a wonderful instrument to stare up into deep space, far beyond our own Milky Way, binoculars are better for spotting specific deep sky objects. For a detailed map of northern hemisphere skies, about February 28th, visit the **www.skyandtelescope.com** website and download the map for March 2019; it will have a more extensive calendar, and list of deep sky objects for the naked eye, binoculars, and scopes on the back of the map. Also a wonderful video exploring the March 2019 sky available from the Hubble Space Telescope at: http://hubblesite.org/explore/astonomy/tonghts.sky/ Sky & Telescope has high lights of the best views for each week at: http://www.skyandtelescope.com/observing/astroimagine/. Mars is the only evening planet, in the SW sky. It passes below the Pleiades cluster at month’s end. In the morning sky, Jupiter is in Taurus to the north of the moon. It makes a striking W in the SW. South of Cassiopeia is Andromeda’s head, Perseus. Between him and Cassiopeia is the fine Double Cluster, faintly visible with the na- ked eye and two fine binocular objects in the same field. Perseus contains the famed eclipsing binary star Algol, where the Arabs imagined the eye of the gorgon Medusa would lie. It fades to a third in its natural brightness for six out of every 70 hours, as a larger but cooler orange giant covers about 80% of the smaller but hotter and thus brighter companion as seen from Earth. At Perseus’ feet for the famed Pleiades cluster; they lie southwest of the moon, and distinctly orange in color. It is an indication of its uniqueness. In large speed and direction through the Milky Way, many of its lost stars, being assimilated by our huge spiral galaxy. Many of its lost stars, like Arcturus, form a band across the sky at about a 70 degree angle to our galactic plane. Arcturus is at the tail of kite shaped Boo, the celestial bear driver chasing the two bears from his flocks. Spite south then to Spica in Virgo. But stop off on this arc just below the end star of the handle, and you will find our featured deep sky object, the famed Whirlpool Galaxy, M-51. This view of the colliding galaxies comes from EAA member Marc Glover shows how ourresolverthe spiral structure was observed in 1845 appears in our larger scopes at our deep sky glasses at Big Lagoon and Battery Worth on St. Augustine. At very small Milky Way is now interacting with three neighboring smaller galaxies; images complicated we look from the same top on varage point."
Misunderstanding Wompas

Linda Shea

Wompas was surrendered to the Frederick County Division of Animal Control and Pet Adoption Center by his owner of 10 years last February 2018. At that point in time, he was over 20 pounds and turned in for “mis-guided aggression” and, per his owner, “bi-polar.” One phone call to the vet clinic listed on his paperwork determined that Wompas had not been to the vet since 2013, so the described behavior concerns had not been professionally diagnosed nor addressed. After a short stay with us last year, Wompas was adopted out only to be returned recently for “marking territory” and being “aggressive to other cats”—behavior that was not discussed with the family vet prior to bringing him back. Think what you want of medical and behavior evaluations, but labeling animals out of assumption or administering undescribed disciplinary action is not helpful—especially for an unwanted animal amidst a significant population of unwanted animals.

At 11-years-old now, senior-age Wompas is often overlooked for younger felines. He is down to 18 pounds, but is still in need of continued weight management to reach a healthy 13 pounds. He is neutered, micro-chipped, uses the litterbox, has no significant health issues, has tested negative for Feline Leukemia and Feline Immunodeficiency Virus, and has recovered from an upper respiratory infection. If you like big cats, Wompas is a very handsome, big cat. Even when he reaches his ideal weight of about 13 pounds, he will still have a solid body structure. Overall, he has more going for him than not. However, he comes with information that has been acquired from his previous owners as well as shelter staff and volunteers.

Reading Wompas’ body language is important. He is agreeable to companionship and (physically) close company. He demonstrates “soft eyes” indicating an attempt to make friends. He allows gentle petting, but will begin tail swishing once he’s had enough. He will let you move items like food bowls and toys around without pouncing on your hand. He prefers to come to you on his terms and does not tolerate being cornered or picked up quickly. In some sense, Wompas is a “gentle giant” with honest boundaries. He would do best in a cat-savvy home willing to allow him to simply be himself. In the meantime, we will continue to educate potential adopters to better understand Wompas and our feline residents.

Our featured pet, Wompas
UPCOMING EVENTS

Glade Valley Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA): Appointments for free assistance to prepare 2018 income tax returns in northern Frederick County are available. Call 301-845-0042, Monday–Friday, 9am–5pm. Assistance will be provided by experienced, IRS-certified volunteers at 3 locations (10am–4pm): Walkersville Town Hall (primarily on Wednesdays), Thurmont Regional Library (select Mondays and Fridays), and Emmitsburg Seton Center (select Mondays). Photo ID and Social Security documents are mandatory to verify identification. Income and other restrictions apply. Call for details, available dates and times, directions, and information on what documents to bring, including 2018 income and deduction documents and your 2017 tax return.

March 7
Small Business Help – How to Leverage the Web for your Business, 6pm – 7:30pm at the Walkersville Library. Presented by Alan Rugh with Firestride Media.

March 10
Daylight Savings Time begins at 2am

March 12
Gov’t – Woodsboro Town Meeting 7pm

March 13
Gov’t – Walkersville Town Meeting 7:30pm

March 17
Saint Patrick’s Day

March 22–23
Turkey & Oyster Dinner – Graceham Moravian Church – see ad page 16.

March 25
Gov’t – Woodsboro Town Meeting 7pm

March 27
Gov’t – Walkersville Town Meeting 7:30pm

April 1
April Fools’ Day

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