

Burkittsville News

Summer 2017 July,
August, & September



Photo by Andrea Cox

DATES TO WATCH

Events & Notices

TOWN MEETINGS are ODD

Meetings are now held every other month, on the *odd-numbered months* of the year, that is. Meetings are still held on the second Monday of each month, starting 7 pm, at 500 East Main Street, Ruritan Club Building, unless otherwise noted.

PLANNING & ZONING

The P&Z Commission Meets on the first Monday of each month starting 7:00 pm at the SMHS, 3 E. Main Street, unless otherwise noted.

GREEN TEAM

The Green Team meets the 4th Thursday of Every Month, 7pm at 3 East Main, the SMHS Building. Contact Team Leader edeckerorr@comcast.net

SMHS MUSEUM OPEN

First Saturdays of the Month through September, 10 - 3 3 East Main Street, in the historic Resurrection Reformed Church. DONATE BOOKS ANYTIME, book container is at side door (facing parking lot).

YARD WASTE PICK UP

Yard Waste is picked up on the **First Tuesday** of the month. **IN JULY PICK UP WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY 5TH DUE TO THE HOLIDAY.**

Yard Waste pick-up 1st Tues./month

Guidelines

Keep it biodegradable! Yard waste must fit inside the yard waste bags, branches wider than 3 inches in diameter cannot be processed, bundle yard waste with biodegradable string or twine - no tape, plastic or wire ties, please. As usual, no dirt, rocks, or household trash. Contact Key Sanitation with questions.



Meet the Future of Agriculture, the FFA

Our Mayor and your Editor went on a field trip to speak with several of the young people responsible for the natural beauty that so many people marvel at when they visit our town and the surrounding area. They work on the land that we not only enjoy, but benefit from in so many ways. That beauty takes a lot of work to maintain. These young people work on the farms before and after school.

We crashed a pool party to get the interviews, but these young adults took it in stride, and had a whole lot to say about their chosen careers, the FFA, their dedication to family farming and agriculture, as well as a word or two for those who travel to or through the area.

“Slow down!”

They said, almost in unison, when asked what they'd like to say to commuters. To people who get impatient with sharing the road with agricultural equipment, they suggest looking around at some of the most beautiful land on earth while you drive slowly through it. Instead of getting impatient with the pace of farming vehicles, remember how many times you ate that day. You can thank a farmer. *Yes, a group of teenagers just told the adults to drive more slowly, and with more consideration.*

This is the next generation dedicated to the family farms surrounding Burkittsville. These young people are hardworking and dedicated. They're all members of Brunswick HS Future Farmers of America, and plan on being involved with the farms in some capacity. About half of them want to farm or be involved in animal husbandry in some way, and the other half will focus on the business end of farming- somebody has to keep up with all of the regulations!

They love what they do. Megan Pelan is going to be a large animal veterinarian, Ryan Allan wants to pursue dairy farming, Bailey Drake, in addition to keeping up his award-winning tractor driving, sees himself working on a farm, too. Jack Wilson will always be available to help on the family farm, and plans to pursue the business and legal aspect of family farming.

It's good to hear from these members of the FFA that the farms in the area all support one another. We already know that Burkittsville benefits from this cooperation. We have fresh have eggs, milk, beef and more, all within 0 to 8 miles from home.

When asked what else they wanted non-farming people to know, they laughed and said “Strawberry and chocolate milk does not come from red or brown cows!” On a more serious note, they wanted people concerned about animal welfare to know that their animals are very well cared for, and, like members of the family, these animals are loved.

Mayor Deb Burgoyne & A.

Elwell Cox

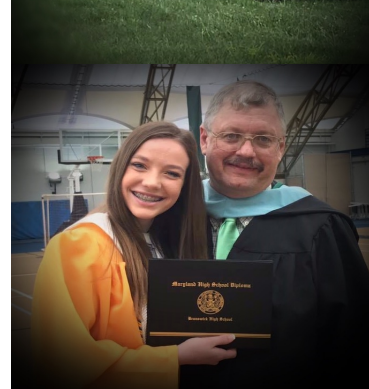
In October, the FFA hosts a Community Show at Brunswick High School. There's an age group and category for all. From Clover to Crafts, Potatoes to Photographs, the 38th annual Community Show has a place for you. Keep an eye out for more info, so you can enter your home-grown & home-made treasures- **Go ahead and get involved!**

First Row:

Morgan DeFriece, Reporter
Maddie Gooding, Historian
Katherena Armstrong, Chaplin
Jill Allen, Secretary
Caroline Edwards, Treasurer

Back Row:

Bailey Drake, Vice President
Megan Pelan, Vice President
Jack Wilson, President
Ryan Allen, Parliamentarian



Top: Megan Pelan and her livestock steal the show!

Middle: Bailey Drake places first at FFA Region 2 CDE, and he's going on to State! **Way to go, Bailey!**

Bottom: Mikayla Stockman, named Farm Bureau Young Farmers Unsung Hero, and teacher Mr. Harrington

The enthusiasm does not end here! Go to page 4 for a Graduate's reflections on the FFA

DATES TO WATCH

Events & Notices

TOWN MEETING

Monday, July 10th, 7 p.m.
500 E. Main Street
(unless otherwise announced)

**56TH ANNUAL
BURKITTVILLE RURITAN
CARNIVAL**

July 16 - 22nd, 2017
500 East Main Street, Food
stalls open 5 p.m.
Games & Rides open 6 p.m.
Music starts every night at 7 p.m.
See more in this newsletter!

CHURCH PICNIC

Sunday, July 30th, 2017
Catocin Creek Park & Nature
Center, 2929 Sumantown Road,
Jefferson, MD. Pastor Veronica
Webber Smith to presiding over
the service that Sunday.

SAINT PAUL'S

4th ANNUAL MUSIC FESTIVAL
August 19th from 5 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Watch for more information, coming
soon!

**HUNTER SAFETY CLASSES
SPONSORED BY THE
RURITAN**

Aug. 7, 8 & 11- 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.
& Aug. 12th, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Held at the Brownsville Church of the
Brethren, call Call Gary Himes (301)
834-9815 or Sam Brown (301) 834-
8796 for more information.

Next Class:

Aug. 21, 22 & 25th 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Aug. 26, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Held at the Burkittsville Ruritan Club,
500 East Main Street, Burkittsville
call John King (240) 575-4600 or
Sam Brown (301) 834-8796 for more
information.

The Wye Oak Lives On

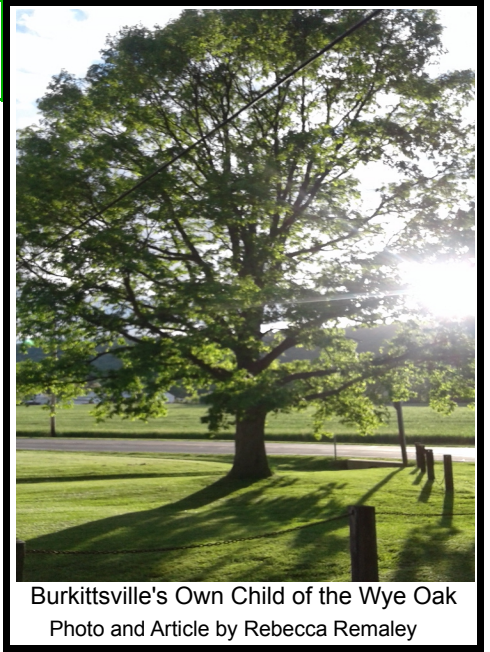
There is a tree growing by the town pond here in Burkittsville. You have probably walked and driven by it more times than you can count. That tree, like so many things in this town, holds secrets and has history. *That tree is the offspring of the Wye Oak*, long recognized to be the largest white oak in the nation, and the living symbol of the state of Maryland. Burkittsville's tree was planted in the 1970s by resident Barbara Winslow and her neighbor, then Mayor, Larry Way. It was a tiny sapling then, fresh from the state nursery and grown from a small acorn from the great Wye Oak.

The Wye Oak's life began in the 1500s, while Native Americans lived and hunted in the area which would come to be called Talbot County. The tree was close to the Choptank Trail, which ran down the east side of the Chesapeake Bay. This ancient trail became a road traveled by the early settlers.

During the tree's life, it grew on many properties. In 1665 it was part of a tract of land known as Wilton, owned by Thomas Williams. From 1831-1867, the tree was part of Dr. Sydenham Russum's property, and folks began to recognize it, calling it simply "Russum's Oak." In the 1900s, the tree founds its forever name, the "Wye Oak", after the nearby village of Wye Mills. In 1909, the tree was first officially noted for its size, and visitors began making trips to see it. In 1939, the State of Maryland purchased the tree and the American Forestry Association, which put it in its Tree Hall of Fame.

The Maryland Legislature declared the Wye Oak to be the living symbol of our state tree, the white oak. Years passed and the tree was well cared for and admired by the public. The tree was important, more than just a living symbol of Maryland, but on a more emotional and humanistic level, it represented what we had been. Its reaching branches pointed our way to what we would be in the future.

The desire to have this historic tree live on led to seedlings being grown at the state nursery.



Burkittsville's Own Child of the Wye Oak
Photo and Article by Rebecca Remaley

Our tree in Burkittsville came from one of those seedlings. They were planted across Maryland and throughout the rest of the country. The tree's legacy was secured. But, even with the tender care it received, the great Wye Oak itself could not live forever. On June 6, 2002, this regal white oak toppled during a heavy thunderstorm. Its reign of nearly 500 years was over, but thanks to the state nursery, its children live on.

Next time you go by the tree at the pond, remember, it is kin to the tree that symbolized the tree of our state, kin to a tree that witnessed the fall of an early civilization, and the birth of a new nation.

Our tree is a good size for about 40 years old, and it's busy cleaning our air, and intercepting 3,808 gallons of storm water run off each year, and providing us with shade and beauty. Who knows all it will witness in its life? I hope it will be there even after we are gone, standing sentry as the world goes forward, but reminding us of the past.

Belated Congratulations to Burkittsville's Volunteer of the Year 2016, Bill Susa

The Burkittsville News usually announces the MML Municipal Government Works Month Volunteer of the Year. This time, the article was lost during the formatting process.

For those who are not aware, **Bill Susa** was chosen as **Volunteer of the Year 2016**, Burkittsville, Maryland. **Congratulations, Bill!**

Bill Susa is well known for his very successful fund-raising project, the Spook Hill Cider and Wine 4 mile Run, which benefits the South Mountain Heritage Society. He is the driving force behind other fund raisers in the area, the newest of which is Makin' Hay 4K, which also is designed to help the nonprofit SMHS. What many people do not realize is that Bill is an energetic and often unrecognized helper around town.

Bill steps in where there is a need, a good example that made him perfect for the nomination is his work to shovel his neighbors out of deeply drifted snow, often at the break of day. Did you wake up to find a path had been cleared for you last winter? That might have been Bill's work. This is the kind of activity, looking out for our small municipality and stepping up to the challenge of living in a town which runs on volunteerism, that personifies a MML Municipal Government Works Month Volunteer of the Year.

This year, the town asks that you send nominations for the MML Municipal Government Works Month Volunteer of the Year 2017 to the Town Office in writing (townoffice@burkittsville-md.gov, or PO Box 485) **by September 25th, 2017.**

(Left: Bill receiving Volunteer of The Year 2016 certificate from Mayor Deborah Burgoyne)



DATES TO WATCH

Events & Notices

TOWN FARM TO FORK PICNIC

September 6, 2017

Starts late afternoon, held in the Food Forest and on West Main Street. Contact Kim Hughes at gardengatemom@yahoo.com to help out, and watch for more information!

ADOPT-A-ROAD

September 9 -10, 2017

Help keep our area clean, safe and beautiful. Adopt-A-Road volunteers clean short stretches of road, so it doesn't take long at all.

As usual, vests, bags and gloves will be at 305 E. Main St in the parking area. You can volunteer when it fits your schedule.

Contact **Green Team Leader Lisa Orr** at edeckerorr@comcast.net to join in. Take a look at www.sustainableburkittsville.org, too!

155th ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF CRAMPTON'S GAP REENACTMENT

Saturday, September 16th

Please see page 4 for more details.

Important:

Burkittsville's police department is the Frederick County Sheriff's Office. If you think something is wrong, please contact their nonemergency number, (301) 600-2071. In a life-threatening emergency always dial 911.

You, as an involved citizen and a witness to the crime, need to contact the Sheriff's Office directly and file a report in order to have it addressed by law-enforcement.

Please be aware that the Town cannot call in an incident it has not witnessed. If you feel the need to let the town government know after you have contacted the Sheriff's Office, contact the Town Office, PO Box 485 or townoffice@burkittsville-md.gov or the Mayor, mayor@burkittsville-md.gov

Thank you!

TOWN CLERK/TREASURER'S OFFICE HOURS & MORE

Chuck Rounds here. In April and through May, I slowly began assuming the role and responsibilities of your Town Clerk and Treasurer. In June, I assumed the duties in full.

If you have an issue with which you need the town's assistance, don't hesitate to contact either [\(301\) 834-6780](tel:3018346780) or townoffice@burkittsville-md.gov. Every working day, I follow up on phone calls and emails to the town office.

I am happy to announce that through September 5, 2017, I will be holding actual, physical office hours every Tuesday between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. On these days (or by special arrangement), I will be personally available to you. Set up an appointment in advance, or drop in. I live and work at 101 West Main Street. As they say, "Come on down."

I am happy and proud to be of service to our Town of Burkittsville. I so much enjoyed hearing Burkittsville introduced at a recent Maryland Municipal League meeting as "The biggest little town in Maryland."

Speed Humps On The Way

Burkittsville will be replacing the disintegrating speed humps at either end of town with regulation speed humps.

The type of humps we will be using can be seen and driven over on residential streets surrounding Baker Park. These streets around Baker Park, like Burkittsville, have heavy commuter traffic using their streets as short cuts.

At the beginning of this process, these types of speed humps were reviewed by area Farmers, and they had no problem with them in regard to their vehicles. Our local farmers are just as concerned about speeding commuter traffic as the rest of us. Here's to a safer Burkittsville!



IT'S THE 56TH ANNUAL BURKITTVILLE RURITAN CARNIVAL!

The 56th Annual Burkittsville Ruritan Club Carnival will be held during the week of 16-22 July 2017 at the Ruritan Club Community Center, 500 East Main Street, Burkittsville, MD.

There will be plenty of good food, games, pony rides and inflatables for the kids. The food stand will open at 5 PM each evening, games and rides at 6 PM, and musical entertainment at 7 PM.

Live bands scheduled to perform include Sunday, July 16 - Southern Valley Gospel Singers, Monday, July 17 - Donnie Wood and the Front Porch Boys, Tuesday, July 18- Ernie Bradley and Grassy Ridge, Wednesday, July 19 - Rivers Bend Band, Thursday, July 20 - The Shades, Friday, July 21 - Brushfire, and Saturday, July 22 - Silver Eagle Band. For information call 301-371-7795.

Check your GATs,

they're working hard for you!

A SPECIAL THANKS TO:

ROB MILLER, PAUL GILLIGAN & BILL SUSA

🌸🌸🌸 FOR THEIR WORK ON ADOPT-A-ROAD! 🌸🌸🌸



**155TH ANNIVERSARY THE BATTLE OF
CRAMPTON'S GAP
SEPTEMBER 15 – 17
WITH THE BURKITTVILLE PRESERVATION
ASSOCIATION**

ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2017, BETWEEN 4:00 AND 6:00 PM, CIVIL WAR REENACTORS WILL FIGHT THROUGH TOWN WITH HEATED BATTLES ON EAST AND WEST MAIN STREET CULMINATING IN A BATTLE BEYOND THE ARNOLD FARM.

MAIN STREET AND THE PARALLEL ALLEYS WILL BE CLOSED AND REOPENED AS THE FIGHTING MOVES THROUGH TOWN.

WE WOULD APPRECIATE AS FEW VEHICLES AS POSSIBLE PARKED ON MAIN STREET DURING THIS TIME. VISIT THE BPA WEBSITE TO SEE THE BATTLE PLANS AND MORE, HERE: WWW.BURKITTVILLEPRESERVATIONASSOCIATION.ORG

YOU ARE WELCOME TO INVITE FRIENDS TO WATCH, AND PLEASE SUPPORT THE TROOPS WITH WATER AND SNACKS AS THEY MOVE THROUGH TOWN, JUST AS THE TOWNSPEOPLE DID 155 YEARS AGO.

KEITH MURRAY, BPA

Words from Mikayla Stockman about the FFA

My favorite thing about FFA is that we are more than just an organization. We are a family. The fact that FFA has transformed me from a shy student into a confident goal-setting leader is amazing.

My *absolute* favorite thing about FFA is that we are more than just cows and plows, we are leaders and achievers, learners and servers, and teams with dreams.

I am currently running for a Maryland State FFA office, so I'll hopefully be busy with that for the next year. I am also majoring in Agriculture Education and hope to obtain my Master's degree so I can become an agriscience teacher and a FFA advisor. So I will be involved in FFA for the rest of my life!

Thank you for being so supportive towards the agriculture industry. It is really appreciated.

Burkittsville Celebrates Constitution Week,

September 17 – 23, 2017, and the

*230th Anniversary of the Signing of the
Constitution,*

September 17th, 2017 .

Constitution week is a time to re-read the document, learn more about what it means to all who live here, and to reflect on the event of its signing.

For more information on Constitution Week, visit

<http://www.dar.org/national-society/education/constitution-week>

Going For Gardener's Gold

Nature's Original Recycling: Managing organic waste in your backyard

Armed with nothing more than some simple tools and organic waste from around your kitchen and yard, you can create healthier and more environmentally-friendly gardens.

Compost is known as Gardener's Gold, and composting is a way to create all-natural, organic soil amendments for your soil and plants. Beneficial microbes in compost piles decompose organic matter and turn them into nutrient-rich products for trees and shrubs, flower beds, and vegetable gardens.

For information on how to start, see the "[Give Backyard Composting a Try](#)" fact sheet from Frederick County. To learn how you can purchase a composting bin and find classes on composting at Frederick County Public Libraries, see the [Frederick County Composting at Home website](#).

Elizabeth Ban

Commendations to Local Composters Made this May

The Municipality of Burkittsville celebrated International Compost Awareness Week this year, May 7 through the 13th, 2017. In addition, Council Member Rebecca Remaley and Clerk/Treasurer Chuck Rounds represented Burkittsville at the Frederick County Compost Summit on May 22, 2017.

A Proclamation was issued which commended farmers, households, landscapers, public workers (and others) for composting; **your efforts** are not only good for the environment and your crops, they cut down on garbage bills. *About 30% of "trash" sent to landfills is organic material.*

Thanks to all who reduce this amount through composting, at home, at work and elsewhere, who form policies that take the common-sense step of composting into account when running businesses & organizations, and those who spread the word about *all* the benefits of composting.

For the whole Proclamation, visit: <http://burkittsville-md.gov/Government/Proclamations/Compost%20Awareness%20Week.pdf>

Is composting is old news to you? We'd like to share your composting know-how, hints for beginners, and what to avoid - the Burkittsville Backyard Produce Exchange wants to hear from *you!* Visit us at

www.facebook.com/groups/BurkittsvilleBackyardProduceExchange

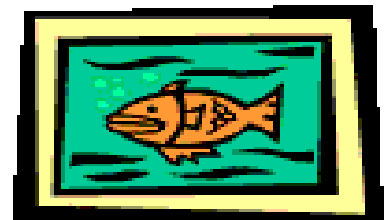
Spread the word, be another Compost Champion.

A. Elwell Cox

FISHING DERBY RESULTS!

52 children (ages 1-15) participated in the fishing derby. Winners in each age group were (ages 1-5) - Kendall Yinger with a 25" catfish, Jackson Yinger with a 20" catfish, and Mason Jones with a 19" catfish. (ages 6-10) - Madison Greenwood with a 22" catfish, Brianna Blickenstaff with a 20" catfish, and Ella Moser with a 19" catfish. (ages 11-15) - Aidan Marker with a 24" catfish, and Everett Moser with a 19" catfish.

- Randy Huffer





WHO TO CALL

**NON-EMERGENCY SHERIFF LINE:
301-600-2071**

Please use this or 911 to report crime, theft, vandalism, & trespassing. See something? Say something!

- Animal Control: 301-600-1546**
- Poison Control: 1-800-222-1222**
- Abuse Information: 1-800-422-4453**
- National Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255 (1-800-273-TALK)**

- Recycling questions: 301-600-2960**
- Trash Collection questions: 301-668-8282**

To report a non-life-threatening natural event, take shelter then call: **301-600-1603 or 911**

For traffic alerts and delay info: **511**

Town Meetings: 500 East Main Street
Phone: 301-834-6780
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 485, Burkittsville, MD 21718
Email: townoffice@burkittsville-md.gov

Mayor
Deborah Burgoyne
mayorburgoyne@gmail.com

Town Council
Rachel Carballo, John "Jad" Drake- Mayor Pro Tempore,
Rebecca Remaley

Clerk/Treasurer: Chuck Rounds TownOffice@burkittsville-md.gov

Board of Appeals: Joyce Brown, Paul Gilligan, Michele Jones

Planning & Zoning: Andrew Burgoyne-Hongell, Chair
PZCTofBurkittsville@outlook.com
Mark Carroll, Laurel Gilligan, Keith Murray, Rick Polowa

Post Office: 301-834-9592,
Window open: Mon. - Fri. 12-4 pm, Sat. 9-12 pm
P.O. Box access: Mon. - Sat. 9-8 pm

Town Website: www.burkittsville-md.gov
Webmaster: Carl Snook

Editor/PIO: A. Elwell Cox burkittsvillenewsletter@gmail.com
Town Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/Burkittsville.Maryland

What is the Burkittsville Backyard Produce Exchange? Find out:
www.facebook.com/groups/BurkittsvilleBackyardProduceExchange

Burkittsville News Quarterly

Please send contributions to BurkittsvilleNewsletter@gmail.com or Town Office, PO Box 485, Attn: Newsletter
Deadlines (allow 3 extra days for letters):

- Spring Edition** on or before March 15th
- Summer Edition** on or before June 15th
- Autumn Edition** on or before September 15th
- Winter Edition** on or before December 20th

Do you have questions about how to contribute?

Contact burkittsvillenewsletter@gmail.com

To have an issue placed on record with the town, placed on a town meeting agenda or to request Town Meeting minutes, put it in writing.

Mail to:
townoffice@burkittsville-md.gov or
Town of Burkittsville P.O. Box 485,
Burkittsville, MD 21718

The Town of Burkittsville and its Green Team to Hold
Second Annual Farm to Table Town Picnic!

The Town Picnic will be hosted again this year by the Green Team. Save the date: Sun., Sept. 3rd, 2017!

First, we'll meet in the Food Forest late afternoon for social hour. The potluck dinner will be held at West Main Street, with entertainment following.

If you would like to join the planning committee, email Kim Hughes at gardengatemom@yahoo.com.

Watch for more details coming soon!



Check out www.sustainableburkittsville.org for the latest in Green Team happenings!

RECYCLING:
For the entire year, visit the home page of www.burkittsville-md.gov and click the blue box

JULY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

SEPTEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30