

Summer 2014

# BURKITTSVILLE NEWS

## DATES & NOTICES TO WATCH:

### TWO OPENINGS ON PLANNING & ZONING

Please express your interest in serving on P&Z in writing by July 30<sup>th</sup> to either the Town Office or in email to [mayorburgoyne@gmail.com](mailto:mayorburgoyne@gmail.com)

### FOOD & CLOTHING DRIVE

First Sunday of every month  
9 AM – NOON  
Bring non-perishable food and gently worn clothing to Saint Paul's (Sat. may be added again.)

### ZUMBA

Tuesdays and Thursdays  
6:30PM - 7:30PM  
St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
Parish Hall, 5 E. Main St.  
\$5 a class.  
April Duruttya - Instructor

### POST OFFICE MEETING

Tuesday, July 8, 2 PM  
South Mountain Heritage  
Society, 3 East Main St.  
Burkittsville, MD

If you cannot come, send a signed letter with someone who can present it for you to the PO representative.  
See more in this issue ...

### SMHS CONCERT

Local folk musicians Rick Hill and John Durant  
Sat., July 5, 7:00 PM  
Held at the SMHS

Museum Open In conjunction with the 150th Anniversary of the Ransoming of Middletown  
Sat., July 14 10 AM - 3 PM

### TOWN MEETING

Mon., July 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:30 PM  
At the Ruritan  
PLEASE NOTE THE DIFFERENT DATE due to scheduling conflicts.  
See you there!

## The Ambassador from Burkittsville

Beginning about a month ago, I began processing several collections of old books which belong to SMHS and are stored in a cabinet which is original to the historic church in which we are located. These books comprise our Rare Book Collection and include novels, 19<sup>th</sup> century school books, hymnals, and Bibles. One of the subjects of this collection is **a very interesting son of Burkittsville who achieved international stature.**

**Joseph Wilcox Jenkins Lee** was born at Needwood on October 3, 1870. Joseph's great-great-grandfather, Governor Thomas Sim Lee, had built the family's estate at Needwood a century earlier. Educated at schools in Baltimore, Lee studied law at the University of Maryland. He visited *Brazil in the 1880s*, gaining insight into the politics of Latin America amid imperialistic efforts on the part of the United States in these regions. Lee made *another* journey to South America in 1902, *leading an expedition 2,000 miles up the Amazon River* in the effort of settling a boundary dispute between Brazil and Bolivia.

In 1898 at the age of 28, Lee enlisted with the **Rough Rider Regiment** and served under **Colonel Theodore Roosevelt** in the Spanish American War. His connection with Roosevelt would later become essential in the development of Lee's public career.



Processing one such rare book in the SMHS - essential work in preserving the history of local adventurers and accomplished figures.

Lee's knowledge of the culture and politics Latin America led President Theodore Roosevelt to appoint him as a **delegate to Panama** in 1904. A year later, he was **promoted to Consul General**. Later in 1905, **Roosevelt again promoted Lee: Minister to Ecuador**, later to Honduras and Guatemala. For the next three years, **Lee represented American interests in the Latin American World.**

In 1908, Lee stepped down from his post, citing ill health from prolonged residence in the tropics. He retired from public service to his home at Needwood Forest, where he lived until his death in 1949. During his retirement, Lee left a legacy to his home town of Burkittsville when, in the fall of 1927, he donated several volumes of his personal library to the "Community Foundation," which is assumed to have been a small community-operated library.



These books which are now part of the SMHS Rare Book Collection indicate the well-read intellect of Lee and are symbolic of his career as an ambassador. And while they may not seem like a useful collection for researching the history of Burkittsville, *this and other similar collections represent the achievements of our town's sons and daughters over the past two centuries.* SMHS is dedicated to preserving and documenting these collections so that future generations will understand and appreciate the importance and value of our shared heritage. - Mr. Jody Brumage, Curator, Acting Vice-President of the South Mountain Heritage Society

**DATES & NOTICES  
TO WATCH:****CHURCH PICNIC**

Sun., July 27  
Cotoctin Creek Nature Park  
Worship begins at 11 AM  
Meat and drinks will be served  
Please bring a side dish to  
share.

**MULTI-GENERATIONAL  
VACATION BIBLE  
SCHOOL**

Fri., Aug 1<sup>st</sup>, 6:30 - 8:30 PM  
Sat., Aug 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4 - 6 PM  
Sun., Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 11 AM During  
Worship

**SMHS MUSEUM OPEN**

Sat., August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10 AM- 3 PM

**SMHS CONCERT**

Craggy Island (celtic music)  
August 2, 7 PM

**SMHS All Members  
Meeting**

Sat., Aug. 2nd, 5:30 PM – 7 PM

**MUSIC FESTIVAL**

ROCK, GOSPEL, COUNTRY  
...and maybe BLUEGRASS!  
Sat., Aug. 9<sup>th</sup>, 4 PM  
at the Ruritan- Held by  
Saint Paul's!

**TOWN WORKSHOP**

Mon., Aug. 11<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 PM  
At the Ruritan

**SMHS MUSEUM****OPEN**

Sat, Sept. 6th, 10 AM - 3 PM

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING:  
PLEASE PLAN ON COMING**

Mon., Sep. 22<sup>nd</sup>, 7:30 PM

Held at the Ruritan.

A representative from the  
SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
will be attending this meeting.

Please have your  
safety, traffic, security  
and other questions  
ready for our Visitor. This is  
the time to ask them!

PLEASE NOTE THE DATE IS  
NOT THE USUAL ONE.

Thanks!

**YARD WASTE DATE  
CORRECTION**

Yard waste will be collected  
the  
First Tuesday of these

**ATTENTION ALL POST OFFICE PATRONS:**

*If you want to* **KEEP THE POST OFFICE OPEN**

**PLAN ON COMING TO THIS MEETING:**

**Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 PM**

**South Mountain Heritage Society  
3 East Main Street, Burkittsville**

**(The old white church building across from the Post Office.)**

The US Postal Service refused Mayor Debby's efforts to change the meeting to an evening or Saturday so that more of us could attend this Community Meeting, but she got it moved from *Brunswick* to here in Burkittsville!

If you absolutely cannot attend, write a letter saying you want to keep our Post Office, make sure to sign it and include your address, then find someone to present it on your behalf to the Postal Service Representative(s). This is it.

**Main Street Repairs**

The time has come. Our Main Street, both East and West, needs a major overhaul. You will see cones set up on East Main Street where the recent flooding has caused significant damage and erosion under the road. The town council is currently reviewing options and pursuing funding for repairs.

In addition, First Energy/Potomac Edison will be trimming trees on Main Street. We have met with the contractors doing work and with two professional Foresters in hopes of minimizing the alterations to street scape. For safety reasons the trees by the post office will be cut back significantly. All homeowners whose trees are due to be trimmed have been contacted by Asplundh by this time.

We thank you for your patience and support. If you have any questions or concerns about this please contact the Mayor or a councilperson.



BURKITTSVILLE IS HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE THAT IT WAS  
AWARDED **BANNER CITY STATUS FOR THE YEAR 2014**  
BY THE **MARYLAND MUNICIPAL LEAGUE.**

THIS HONOR IS BESTOWED UPON CITIES & TOWNS WHICH:

Foster goodwill by educating community and youth about municipal government, Are recognized among their peers as an active participant in municipal government awareness, Work together as a municipality, Maximize their MML membership by taking part in League programs and activities, and Sponsor the voice of their municipality so it is heard on issues relevant to the membership in matters of legislative priorities. When Burkittsville pulls together to act as our own Public Works department, recognizes a MML Volunteer of the Year, works together to renew our Historic Town through volunteerism and has a Mayor that is active in the MML, bringing back ideas and resources gathered at meetings to share with the citizenry, we ARE the essence of a Banner City.



**Chuck Rounds' Art**

Chuck Rounds, Burkittsville Artist, is currently working on several projects, many of which can be viewed at [www.chuckrounds.com](http://www.chuckrounds.com). One of his projects, MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING: THE SHADOWLANDS Copyright 2013-2014 can be viewed here: <http://www.chuckrounds.com/shadowlands.html>. Keep in mind that this portfolio is still a work in motion, and enter Chuck's journey into a dark place; different from most stereotypes that word evokes. His vision is that of darkness transformed, as he explains on his site: "This work is an attempt to visualize the territory I traverse during my shamanic journeys; it is created largely in a meditative state, induced by the work itself. It is part of my larger overall project to represent my understanding of the holiness of all landscapes. --It's the continuation of my project to attempt to create something sacred out of something profane.

These original images undergo a complex metamorphosis, both in appearance and, during his trance states of digital media manipulation, a move from what one could have considered life studies into landscapes. The energy remains. Prints from this series will be hanging at the Gordon Nash Library in New Hampton, New Hampshire during the month of September, closing out their summer art series.

Chuck Rounds has also had two of his current works from his Cenote Series accepted into the juried show: "Welcome to Wonderland: Rethinking Landscapes and Spatial Realities" by artdc. <http://www.artdc.com>

The opening reception was rescheduled to Wednesday evening July 2, 2014, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. and was very well attended. You can visit the gallery at The Lustine Center, 5710 Baltimore Ave., Hyattsville, MD 20781. The show runs from Monday, June 30th to Saturday, July 26th, 2014. Below:

Essential Water, Entrance to the Underworld, Home of the Rain Gods: Cenote #3, 40 x 30 in., digital print and acrylics on canvas, ©2014



**Burkittsville Joins Sustainable Maryland  
Green Team Members Sought**

On May 12, the Burkittsville Mayor and Council signed a resolution to participate in the Sustainable Maryland Certified program (SMC). SMC is a program of the Environmental Finance Center (EFC) at the University of Maryland, supports Maryland municipalities as they look for cost-effective and strategic ways to protect their natural assets and revitalize their communities.

Using best practices in resource areas like water, energy, planning, health, food, and economy, a municipality can earn points toward sustainability certification. SMC helps communities choose a direct their greening efforts; complete their chosen actions with help from program tools, trainings, case studies and other resources; and be recognized for their accomplishments. Other Frederick County municipalities participating in SMC include Brunswick and the City of Frederick, which became certified last year. To achieve certification, municipalities complete actions worth 150 points and submit evidence that SMC requirements have been satisfied.

The Mayor and Council authorized Lisa Orr, volunteer Sustainability Coordinator and Mayor Burgoyne to serve as agents for the SMC process. A first step in the process is to create a **Green Team** comprised of interested residents and community leaders. Green Team Training will be provided by EFC. Lisa Orr will be convening a **Green Team Interest Meeting** this summer to explain how the program works and share the first initiatives a Green Team typically undertakes to get started. **If you are interested in learning more about the SMC program and possibly participating in the Green Team, please contact Lisa Orr as soon as possible at [LOrr@FrederickCountyMD.gov](mailto:LOrr@FrederickCountyMD.gov) or 301.600.6864.** To learn more about SMC, visit [www.sustainablemaryland.com](http://www.sustainablemaryland.com)

**The Picnic in Pictures-** Thank you to Shelby Beaver and Michele Beller for pulling the whole picnic together! A special thanks goes to the Ruritan Ladies Auxillary, the Ruritan ([www.burkittsvilleruritan.org](http://www.burkittsvilleruritan.org)), Charlie Iseman for his smoked and BBQed dishes, Laura Renee Davis (<http://getpaintedonyournakedface.com>) who "painted the town" free of charge & The Main Line Gravy Soppers (<http://www.reverbnation.com/themainlinegravysoppers>), our fantastic adopted band!



Picnic photos by Laura Davis (Andrew Hongell Burgoyne) and A. Cox: dancing, painted government, band: Main Line Gravy Soppers, Charlie BBQing





Mayor Burgoyne presents Audrey Stadnick with a Certificate of Appreciation and a gift as a token of thanks for her 16 years of priceless service as Town Postmaster. Audrey also was the town's unofficial greeter and at times surprised Press Contact, as well. Her patience and knowledge of the town was a great asset to the *News*. Audrey will continue her career with the Postal Service. Stop in and say hello to our new Postmaster, Tom Miss.

**All residents of Burkittsville are invited to attend an All Members Meeting of South Mountain Heritage Society on Saturday, August 2, 2014.**

**Come by the museum and learn about our current projects to preserve Burkittsville's history. A meeting will be held in the historic church from 5:30 pm - 6:00 pm, and then everyone is invited to join for a reception in the exhibit room from 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm.**

**At 7:00 pm, everyone is invited to the Craggy Island Concert, the last performance of our 2014 Concert Series. Everyone is welcomed!**

## Grass Clippings and the Health of the Chesapeake Watershed – Chuck Rounds

When I was walking around town, Friday June 13, after several days of downpours and extensive flooding, I noticed that the storm drains were clogged with about a two-inch thick mat made mostly of grass clippings and leaves. I continued my daily walks and saw that many of us blow grass clippings into the roads, streets, and alleys. When most of us think about water pollution, we rarely consider that our actions in fields and yards (or through personal storm water management) have a far-reaching impact on the quality of our water. We live in the Chesapeake Watershed, and what happens here has a trickle-down effect on the whole ecosystem of our region.

How could grass clippings and leaves, such innocent seeming things, be dangerous to our fragile water system? After all, they are 85 to 90% water and they contain nutrients: approximately 4% nitrogen, 5% phosphorus, and 2% potassium.

First, they also may contain traces of yard, garden or field chemicals that are not friendly to introduce into our water. They have a harmful impact on our creeks and rivers before ending up in the Bay. Once they reach the Bay, they have devastating effects. Phosphorus and nitrogen from commercial and residential fertilizers used on grass alone contribute to massive algae overgrowth. The chemical pollution from herbicides, fungicides, and insecticides poison the very water and wildlife we want to protect.

Second, back to the organic and nutrient nature of the grass clippings and leaves; there are two aspects to consider in their contribution to the health of the Chesapeake Bay and watershed: *Excessive amounts of these nutrients* (particularly the nitrogen and phosphorus from clippings) end up feeding algae, causing it to grow to dangerous levels. The algae blocks sunlight from reaching beneficial aquatic plants that produce oxygen which water animals need. In addition, *decomposing organic material* from a large population of people mowing and blowing *clouds the water significantly*. Again, this blocks necessary sunlight and raises the water temperature. The process of decomposition of the organic matter by bacteria in the water **consumes up to seven times more oxygen than when the clippings and leaves decompose on land**. Innocent leaves and clipping are partially responsible for dead zones and fish kills.

There are nearly **14 million people** living in the watershed, many who treat their lawns with myriad chemicals; our collective organic and artificial pollution is overwhelming the Bay. Excessive levels of nutrients are being found in the Bay ecosystem today:

17 percent of phosphorus, 11 percent of nitrogen and 9 percent of sediment loads to the Bay come from storm water runoff. Chemical contaminants from this runoff often rivals or exceeds the amount reaching local waterways from industries, federal facilities and waste water treatment plants **combined**.

All Marylanders are stewards of our water resources, the delicate ecosystem of our watershed and the Bay. Your individual actions impact the quality and availability of our waters.

(Sources for this article include [www.chesapeakebay.net](http://www.chesapeakebay.net), [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov), CBP-APPROVED-FINAL-UNM-EXPERT-PANEL-REPORT-032514.pdf and [www.dnr.state.md.us](http://www.dnr.state.md.us)) **[The Town of Burkittsville also asks that you not blow or mow clippings onto the pavement.](#)**



**53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Burkittsville Ruritan**

# CARNIVAL



**JULY 13 - 19, 2014**

**FOOD!**

Sunday, July 13: Lost Highway Band  
 Monday, July 14: The Shades (Show #1)  
 Tuesday, July 15: Silver Eagle Band  
 Wednesday, July 16: Rivers Bend Band  
 Thursday, July 17: The Shades (Show #2)

**RIDES!**

**GAMES!**

Friday, July 18: Brushfire Band  
 Saturday, July 19: C.B. Pickers

**MUSIC!**



Burkittsville Ruritan Club - Chartered 1953  
[www.burkittsvilleruritan.org](http://www.burkittsvilleruritan.org)

[www.burkittsvilleruritan.org](http://www.burkittsvilleruritan.org)

**Congratulations to Burkittsville Ruritan 2014 Scholarship Recipients (\$1,000.00):**

Anna M. Thornton, Brunswick High School, Advertising  
 Emily J. White, Middletown High School, Agriculture  
 Nature R. Gemmell, Middletown H.S, Physical Therapy  
 Noah E. Zecher-Freeman, Urbana H.S., Engineering

**Congratulations to Burkittsville Ruritan Ladies Auxiliary 2014 Scholarship Recipient (\$1,000.00):**

Melissa A. King, member of the Ladies Aux. since 2010, Brunswick H.S., Medical Assistant.



To apply for these Scholarships,  
**Graduating Seniors**  
 need to ask a Guidance Counselor  
 for entry qualifications.

**Town Office:** 500 East Street

**Phone:** 301-834-6780

**Mail:** P.O. Box 485, Burkittsville, MD 21718

**Email** [townoffice@burkittsville-md.gov](mailto:townoffice@burkittsville-md.gov)

**Mayor**

Deborah Burgoyne  
[mayorburgoyne@gmail.com](mailto:mayorburgoyne@gmail.com)

**Council**

Shelby Beaver Larry Beller  
Catherine Cox-Murray

**Postmaster**

Tom Miss  
301-834-9592

**Clerk/Treasurer**

**Board of Appeals**

Joyce Brown Paul Gilligan  
Michele Jones

**Town Bailiff**

Robert Millard

**Planning & Zoning**

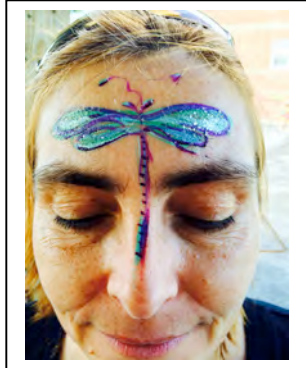
Andrew Burgoyne-Hongell  
Laurel Gilligan John 'Jad' Drake  
Joseph Nunberg

**Town Website** [www.burkittsville-md.gov](http://www.burkittsville-md.gov)

**Editor/Social Media** A. Elwell Cox  
[burkittsvillenewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:burkittsvillenewsletter@gmail.com)

**Don't forget to drop in and Like  
The Town's Facebook Page!**

**Get current news, art, E-Prep links and much more!**  
[www.facebook.com/pages/Burkittsville/249029468523473](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Burkittsville/249029468523473)



## How to Report Emergencies:

- If you want to report a natural event that does not involve current danger to a person's life, take shelter & call 1-301-600-1603. Make your report detailed & clear.
- If someone is in danger, or if there is a disaster (example: you see a tornado and wish to report it) take shelter immediately and call 911- your call will be routed to the right department. Do not endanger yourself- you could end up adding to the crisis.
- If you have questions about these instructions, you can call THE FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT and EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS at 1-301-600-6790 after reading the FAQs listed below. (This is **not** a 24-hour emergency number; in case of emergency that you are unsure of, get to safety & **call 911**, your information will be passed on to the correct emergency responders.)

Frederick County Emergency FAQs

<http://www.frederickcountymd.gov/FAQ/Topic?topic=60>

For emergencies and other sudden threats to public health, such as:

- Oil and/or chemical spills • Radiation emergencies • Biological discharges

Call the National Response Center at 1-800-424-8802.

For pesticide poisoning, call 911 if the person is unconscious, has trouble breathing, or has convulsions. Otherwise, call Poison Control at 1-800-222-1222.

If you are involved in or witness an environmental emergency(s) that presents a sudden threat to public health, you must call the National Response Center at: 1-800-424-8802.

For more information on what constitutes an Environmental Emergency please visit:

<http://www2.epa.gov/home/report-spills-and-environmental-violations>

In the case of an emergency, listen to commercial Radio Station 99.9 FM or 820 AM or as instructed.

**2014: RECYCLING DAYS ARE RED TUESDAYS - BINS OUT 6 A.M.**

**JULY**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	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
					1	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						

**SEPTEMBER**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	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				