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ny Piposzar reacted the way he did. When the county dropped the grant in aid program they compensated for it with a baffling plan to give the money back to municipal taxpayers via reduced taxes, worth about $20 to the owner of a $100,000 property. It is a plan that does not benefit the county – it loses the tax income – and takes the money away from the towns.

Piposzar's suggestion to increase unincorporated sewer fees is a bad idea. But even if the increase had been supported by the rest of the council, it would not have begun a tit-for-tat – the beginning would be when the county dropped the grant-in-aid program.

Piposzar vented – you really can't blame him.

Who knows what mysteries in vault

THE BRIGHT SIDE

BY KEVIN HEMSTOCK

EDITOR



It's not quite Al Capone's vault.

But it is a vault — a room about 8 by 10 with a thick steel door — in the Millington town office. ItIt's old. Very old. Who knows what's inside?

There's something fascinating about old safes and vaults. They're mysterious. Maybe that's why Geraldo Rivera got the ratings he did from that show years ago, about Al Capone's secret vault.

The one in the Millington town office isn't secret. It's out there in plain site. And, the history is fairly well documented.

The vault was likely the same one put in when the building was constructed in 1904. Back then, it was the Millington Bank. Two months after the bank started doing business there, most of the town burned down in a fire that started at a nearby blacksmiths. The bank was mostly destroyed, but the vault was, according to the *Kent News*, "uninjured and the contents are safe."

The bank was rebuilt and years later became the Farmers Bank of Maryland which used it as a bank branch until 1977. During that time, the vault was used for what banks vaults are usually used – safe deposit boxes and as a storage place for money.

In 1977, the bank moved into a nice new building with a shiny new vault.

Soon after, the old bank building became the new town hall. Complete with the vault.

But the vault isn't much used. The door, manufactured by Steiffel-Freeman, is constructed with a combination lock, and latching handle, like you'd see on an old safe. The door is locked. Nobody knows the combination.

"I don't know the combination," said long-time Millington resident Carville Robinson, who was the chief operating officer of the branch for awhile. Also, he said he's not sure what, if anything, remained in the vault when the bank moved.

"I think Jimmy Hoffa's body is hidden in there," joked Mike Kessler, the Millington town clerk, whose desk is within a couple of feet of the door of the vault.

Currently the town leases the building from the bank, but the town hopes one day to get the building, permanently. That, says Mayor Dennis Hager, would be ideal, since the building is centrally located, and there is ample room for the town office and a council meeting room.

If the town gets the building, Mike hopes the vault comes with it. But then, where would it go – you just don't go moving vaults around.

Mike says the vault would be a great place to store town

READERS WRITE

Need more entries

To the editor: There's got to be more people out there who could enter the open division at county fair!

I should be the last to complain about the lack of entries, since less entries meant that I brought home more blue ribbons; but, I would like to see how well I do against more people.

There's got to be other people who still put by most of their garden's bounty by canning, and still sew clothing for their family's members. Where are you folks? How about showing your talents in economic living skills to everyone by entering some of your handiwork at county fair?

Because of lack of entries, some classes are combined – for instance, in needlecrafts, crochet and knitting is a combined class. I do both, so it is hard for me to decide which item to enter. Also, I crochet both with wool and doily thread. Yet, it's all one class. Maybe, if more entries were offered, they'd have separate classes for knitted (e.g. Sweaters, mittens, etc.) wool yarn crochet (e.g. Afghans, shawls) and a separate class for the more intricate doilies. If I had to judge, it would be very hard for me to choose when three different media techniques were grouped in the same class.

I overheard another person entering that there should be a separate division for "organic" products. Right now, organics is just becoming an alternative method of production. I've been growing my vegetables that way all my life, since that's how my father did it (though not using the term "organic") but these past couple fairs, I've noted on my entry ticket that the product was grown organically. I do it in a way that until the ticket is opened to reveal my name, the judges do not know that it is grown differently. By keeping secret that way, when those who have questions about organic being better quality wise see that organic placed higher than conventional

someones, took offense that your newspaper would print such a thing. I daresay that the photographer didn't even notice the offending banner or even the other banners being displayed. My hunch is the picture was of people. People enjoying a holiday that celebrates our freedom to print that photograph.

Now, what if! What if the American Indians started taking offense to the flag of the United States because it represented broken promises, stolen lands and other ideas. What if one or more of the animal rights groups complained about the bear on the California State Flag as being disrespectful or such toward bears? What if certain religious groups took offense to the crosses on the Maryland Flag? I could go on, but I will not. For almost one hundred and fifty years no one was truly offended by anything Confederate. Now a wheel has squeaked and started more squeaks. The south will not rise again no matter how many banners fly. It is history, no more, no less, be it good or bad.

History is nice to know. With it we can see some actions we should not take. We can get hints of what we should do. That is what history is good for, to make today and our future better. Like spilled milk, it definitely need not be cried over and it will not change. There isn't enough grease for all the squeaking wheels. Therefore, we need to grow up, change if need be and adapt for the future.

Allen Capel
Worton

Dunk booth thanks

To the editor: I want to thank everyone involved for making our Dunking Booth at the Kent County 4H Fair a success. Special thanks goes to those who withstood all the "dunking" and were such good sports: Jim Corns, Gayle Gill, Brian Kirby, Trish McGee, John Price, Rusty Pritzlaff, John Schrecongost, John Silcox, Ed

Hilty played Civil War music on a keyboard and Peebles Department Store loaned the manikins for the display of Civil War uniforms loaned by Stuart Barroll and Ward Stevenson. The highlight of the final day of the three-week program was a visit from local Civil War re-enactors; John Wyman, Gerald Chance, Tom Hayman and Jack Raffetto.

The American Civil War program was designed to help students improve their reading and math skills while learning more about this significant event in our history. Students gained an understanding of the differences in life during that period of history and how we live today. It was an exciting educational experience.

Barbara Stevenson Lynch

Professional rescue

To the editor: On Saturday evening, July 14, while at an outdoor picnic here in Betterton, I became dizzy and fainted. A doctor began immediate CPR and 911 was called. Within five minutes the E.M.T. unit from Betterton Volunteer Fire Company arrived. I opened my eyes to see several of my neighbors in their full E.M.T. regalia. They administered oxygen, began a saline drip and were in all respects thoroughly professional.

Fifteen minutes later, the ambulance arrived from Chestertown to transport me to Kent & Queen Anne's Hospital, where I spent the night. No particular problems were uncovered and this episode seems to have been the result of dehydration.

Both Linda and I are grateful to the Betterton Volunteer Fire Company for being there for me. They are a well-trained, highly professional group of our good neighbors.

Rob and Linda Hall
Betterton

Party funded letter

played *no* part in this mailing. The printing and postage were paid for from the funds of the local Republican Party, and local Republican volunteers assembled the mailing.

We welcome the many Democrats and Independents who have switched to the Republican Party. We encourage anyone interested in joining the Republican Party to obtain a voter registration form, or change of affiliation form, from the local election office, or from any State agency that displays voter registration forms. For the few who have taken offense to our overture, please know that no offense was intended. If you would like to express your sentiments, they would be more appropriately addressed to the Kent County Republican Party at Post Office Box 744, Chestertown, Maryland 21620.

Joseph L. Holt
Chairman
Kent County Republican
Central Committee

Fundraiser a success

To the editor: Crossroads Community, Inc. would like to thank everyone who helped make our Awards Banquet and Silent Auction a huge success. It was good to see so many friends and family come out in support of our consumers. We would also like to thank the following businesses and individuals for their kind donations to our silent auction:

Downeys, JBK Hardware, Bennett's Auto, Superfresh, Dockside Emporium, Lowes, Kings Town Tractor, Pardoe Lawn & Tree Service, Hair We Are, JR's Antiques, Stam's Pharmacy, Roses Department Store, Chestertown Pharmacy, The Pet Shop, Ellens, Parts Plus, Ramsey Pontiac Olds, Town Sporting Goods, Pizza Hut, La Ruota Restaurant, Red Shutters, Unruhs, Sherwin Williams, Scotties Shoe Store, Ye Olde Barber Shop, Cornucopia of Treasures, Chester River Marine Services, Queen Anne Bowling

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