The Frederick Torch Bulletin

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The Torch Club of Frederick, Maryland

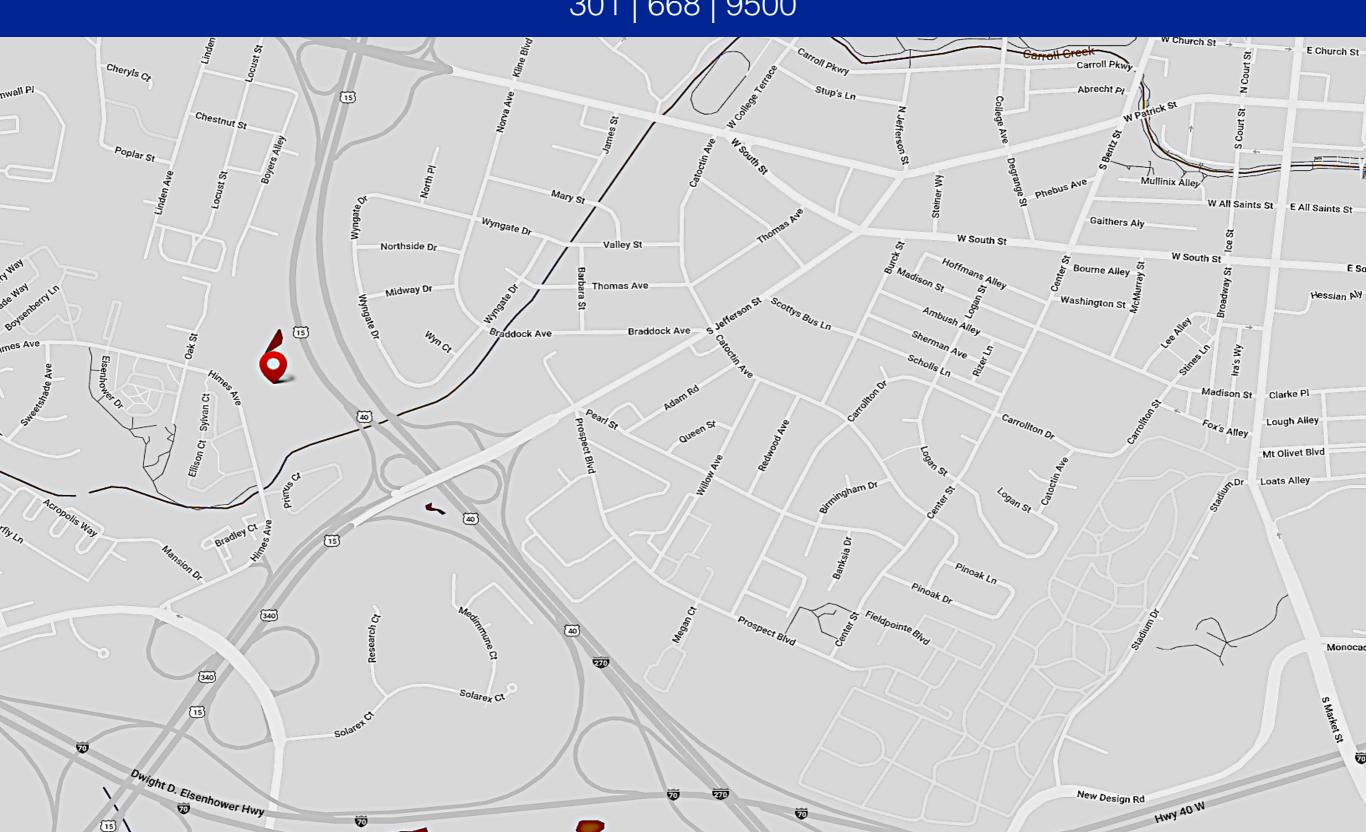






Dutch's Daughter

581 Himes Avenue, Frederick, Maryland 301 | 668 | 9500



Next Presentation

Monday, November 27, 2023

Ron Young on "Reimagining Frederick Then and Now"

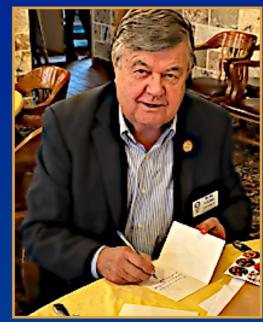
Frederick and Frederick County have their pantheon of heroes and heroines—explorers, presidents, governors, Members of Congress, fashion designers and more—but no one has made his mark on the City of Frederick as has Ron Young. When he entered local politics in the 1960s, Frederick was a sleepy faded vestige of the regional hub that it had been since its founding in 1745. Downtown needed fresh paint, phone poles removed, and new tenants where malls had sucked the life out of the commercial district.

But where others in the 1980s saw the city's 18th and 19th century architecture as decay, Young, by then Mayor Young, saw charm that just needed polishing. The vibrant, dressed-up, period-piece, foodie haven of today's Frederick came from Ron Young's imagination. He will put the Frederick revival story together for us on the 27th of this month.

This Month's Presenter

Ron Young

Young became involved in local politics in the late 1960s, served on the City of Frederick Board of Aldermen from 1970 to 1974, then four terms as mayor from 1974 at age 34 until 1990. As mayor, he initiated city revitalization projects including Carroll Creek flood control, Market Street underground wiring, Weinberg Center purchase, Harry Grove Stadium, and Clustered Spires Golf Course.



Young then served in the Governor's cabinet as Maryland Deputy Secretary of Natural Resources, then Deputy Secretary of Planning.

From 2011 to 2023, Ron Young served three terms in the Maryland State Senate representing the City of Frederick. He held key Senate appointments on the Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee and the Joint Committee on Program Open Space and Agricultural Preservation.

Senator Young retired in 2023 after 54 years of public service. As he has long done, he now enjoys painting scenes of Frederick in his easily recognized style and palette.

Lunch Sign-up

Attending or not, please let Reservations Chair John Hewetson know and, if you plan to attend, your seating requests and the names of your guests. Please respond to John at torchreservations@gmail.com or call him at 301.663.8130.

Sign-up Deadline— Preferably one week before the lunch but later OK Cost— \$30 per person (also payable if a signed-up no-show)

Cancellations— Email the address above before the day of the lunch.

Most Recent Presentation

Jo Butler on "Trenton Makes, The World Takes"

Retired United Nations officer Jo Butler told us of her life's journey from growing up in Trenton, New Jersey, to her career of high-level United Nations posts, to her current post-retirement role as philanthropist with ongoing ties to Ethiopian humanitarian projects that she founded. The title of her talk was that of her forthcoming autobiography.



New Members



At our next lunch, be sure to welcome new club members Avis Anderson, Alexandra Stone, Gail Osburn, Margaret and Michael Procario, Fanny Johnson, RoseAnn Lester, Jean Thompson, Peg Denton, Jim Gordon, Sharron Smith, Lois Jarman and Phil Hoagland.

As one of the largest of the 60+ Torch clubs, our success relies on strong recruiting. Our membership slipped 24% during Covid and has now rebuilt to nearly our pre-Covid size. Please invite your friends who enjoy stimulating company and fascinating presentations to attend a fine club lunch or two and then join.

Club Membership Chair Toni Clarke is here to help. Reach Toni at toniclarke 101@gmail.com or at 301.606.2694.

For more information and to download the club membership application, visit the website at fredtorch.org.

2023-24 Presentations

September - December

Many thanks to last year's Program Chair Norine Haas for lining up the following presentations for the 2023-24 Torch year.

September 25– John Fieseler on "From Dilapidated Cannery Warehouse to Visitor Center"

October 23- Jo Butler on "Trenton Makes, The World Takes"

November 27– Former State Senator Ron Young on "Reimagining Frederick Then and Now"

December 18– Margaret Procario on "What You Don't Know About Arguments Could Fool You"

2023-24 Presentations

January - May

January 22- Peter Michael on "Back from the Brink: The Miraculous Comeback of the American Indian"

February 26– Mark Gaffigan on "What is the U.S. Government Accountability Office?"

March 25- John George on "Hans Christian Andersen: His Life and Legacy"

April 22– Lynn Bernard on "Surprises and Coincidences: A Survey of Religious Architecture"

May 27- Claire Kondig on "Eisenhower, the Boy From Kansas"

2023-24 Board of Directors

Welcome

resident Marguerite Wilson and the club's board of directors hope you enjoy this year's interesting programs. The following members are serving as your 2023-24 directors and committee chairs.

Elected Officers

President Marguerite Wilson

Vice President John Hewetson

Secretary Peter Michael

Treasurer Claire Kondig

Committee Chairs

Assistant Treasurer John Kondig

Program Chair Open

Presentation Support John Clarke

Reservations Chair John Hewetson

Membership Chair Toni Clarke

Transportation Chair Frank Sledge

Website Editor Open

Club Archives

Torch Club of Frederick Bulletin

Past issues beginning with October 2017 are archived and may be viewed, downloaded or printed here.



2023-24 Program and Member Roster

The 2023-24 Program and the club's Member Roster are updated regularly. View, download or print here.



The Club Website

Board meeting minutes, past presentations and more may be reached at the club website here.



Member Survey

Survey results may be viewed, downloaded or printed here.