

The flag: A bit of history and etiquette

Yesterday was Flag Day, and July 4 is coming up, so we'll probably all be flying our U.S. flags a lot in the upcoming weeks. But, how much do we really know about the history of the flag and how it should be treated? Maybe we once knew the history behind this powerful symbol of our nation, while taking U.S. history in 11th grade. But most of us probably soon forgot the details. When I checked my Facebook page yesterday, one of my hometown friends, a retired teacher, had posted the following: "What we know fondly as the 'Stars and Stripes' was adopted by the Continental Congress as the official American flag on June 14, 1777, in the midst of the Revolutionary War. The first flag had 13 stars on a blue field and 13 alternating red and white stripes for the 13 original colonies. Now there are 50 stars, one for each state in the Union, but the 13 stripes remain. Although many people believe that Betsy Ross designed and sewed the first flag, there is no proof of that. Flag Day was first celebrated in 1877, on the flag's 100th birthday."



Phyliss Boatwright

After reading my friend's post, I decided to do a little research and discovered the following on the Smithsonian's Web site, <http://americanhistory.si.edu/starspangledbanner>: In the summer of 1813, Mary Pickersgill was contracted to sew two flags for Fort McHenry in Baltimore, Md. The one that became the Star-Spangled Banner was a 30 x 42-foot garrison flag; the other was a 17 x 25-foot storm flag for use in inclement weather. Pickersgill, a 37-year-old widow, was an experienced maker of ships' colors and signal flags. She filled orders for many of the military and merchant ships that sailed into Baltimore's port. Helping Pickersgill make the flags were her 13-year-old daughter Caroline; nieces Eliza Young (13) and Margaret Young (15); and a 13-year-old African American indentured servant, Grace Wisner. Pickersgill's elderly mother, Rebecca Young, from whom she had learned flagmaking, may have helped as well. Pickersgill and her assistants spent about seven weeks making

the two flags. They assembled the blue canton and the red and white stripes of the flag by piecing together strips of loosely woven English wool bunting that were only 12 or 18 inches wide. While Francis Scott Key's song was known to most Americans by the end of the Civil War, the flag that inspired it remained an Armistead family keepsake. It was exhibited occasionally at patriotic gatherings in Baltimore but largely unknown outside of that city until the 1870s. The flag remained the private property of Lieutenant Colonel Armistead's widow, Louisa, his daughter Georgiana Armistead Appleton, and his grandson Eben Appleton for 90 years. During that time, the increasing popularity of Key's anthem and the American public's developing sense of national heritage transformed the Star-Spangled Banner from a family keepsake into a national treasure, the

Smithsonian site states. That flag was donated to the Smithsonian by Eben Appelton and is still there today. It is now undergoing an extensive preservation attempt. You can read about it on the Web site. And here are some basic rules of flag etiquette: The flag should never be dipped to any person or thing. It is flown upside down only as a distress signal. The flag should never have placed on it, or attached to it, any mark, insignia, letter, word, number, figure, or drawing of any kind. The flag should never be used as a receptacle for receiving, holding, carrying, or delivering anything. When the flag is lowered, no part of it should touch the ground or any other object; it should be received by waiting hands and arms. To store the flag it should be folded neatly and ceremoniously. The flag should be lighted at all times, either by sunlight or by an appropriate light source. The flag should be cleaned and mended when necessary. When a flag is so worn it is no longer fit to serve as a symbol of our country, it should be destroyed by burning in a dignified manner.

The Latest Agenda

- MEETINGS**
- THE CHAMPION GROUP OF AA** holds open meetings at noon on Tuesdays; Wednesday at 8 p.m.; Friday at noon and Saturday at 1 p.m. at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 422 N. Main Street in the "Gray House." □□□
 - AA BACK ROOM GROUP** meets Sundays at 6 p.m. at the Hurdle Mills Fire Department. □□□
 - NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS** meets every Monday, Thursday and Friday at 8 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday at 7 p.m. at St. Mark's Episcopal Church. □□□
 - SAFE HAVEN OF PERSON COUNTY SUPPORT GROUP** meets on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at 119 S. Main St. Discussion is led by trained counselors and Safe Haven staff. □□□
 - The **PERSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION** will meet in closed session on Tuesday, June 21 at 6:30 p.m. to consider personnel matters. The meeting will be held in the board room in the Person County Office Building located at 304 S. Morgan Street. □□□
 - The **ROXBORO SERTOMA CLUB** will meet Thursday, June 16 at 6 p.m. at the Homestead Steakhouse.

ETC.

An American Red Cross **BLOOD DRIVE** will be held Friday, June 17 at Walmart, 1049 Durham Rd., from 1 to 5:30 p.m. Call Dale Eggert at 336-597-2927 for an appointment. Another Blood Drive will be held Sunday, June 19, hosted by Antioch Baptist Church, in the Palace Pointe parking lot, 5050 Durham Rd., Timberlake, due to ongoing renovations at the church, from 12 noon to 4:30 p.m. Call Scarlett Mooney at 336-593-2008 for an appointment.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Items for The Latest Agenda must be submitted in writing by noon Monday for Wednesday's edition and by noon Thursday for Saturday's edition. Announcements are not taken by phone.

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County man faces assault, drug charges

Deputies with the Person County Sheriff's Office arrested Brandon Edward Hardee, 25, of 5680 Hobgood Rd. in Rougemont Sunday on assault and drug-related charges. Hardee was arrested when deputies responded to a Mt. Harmony Church Road residence after receiving a report of a fight in progress involving knives. Hardee was taken into custody at the scene and charged with a felony count of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious injury. Deputies reportedly found Hardee to be in possession of multiple controlled substances, which led to a felony drug charge and misdemeanor charges of simple possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia. Hardee was held under a \$25,000 secured bond. He is scheduled to appear in Person County District Court on July 19.

struck a male victim multiple times Friday with brass knuckles at a residence on Spruce Court. Malinski was released after posting a \$5,000 secured bond. He is slated to appear in district court on July 19.

Larceny charge lodged
Sheriff's deputies arrested Joshua Adam Campbell, 26, of Henderson Monday on a felony charge of larceny. A warrant for Campbell's arrest was issued in January of this year. The incident that led to the charge against Campbell reportedly took place in March of 2010. Campbell was held under a \$5,000 secured bond. He is scheduled to appear in district court on June 28.

Drug-related arrest
Joshua Steven Rutledge, 23, of 319 Barnette Ave. was arrested Friday on a trio of drug charges following a search of his residence by Roxboro police and the North Carolina Department of Probation and Parole. The search of Rutledge's house was conducted after police had received tips that illegal narcotics were possibly being sold at the residence. During their search, authori-

ties reportedly seized six doses of Opana Er. Rutledge was subsequently charged with felony counts of possession with intent to manufacture, sell and deliver a controlled substance and maintaining a dwelling for a controlled

substance. In addition, he was charged with a misdemeanor count of possession of drug paraphernalia. Rutledge was released after posting a \$2,500 secured bond. He is slated to appear in district court on July 26.

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Sun.-Thurs. 1:10 4:10 7:00

GREEN LANTERN 3-D (PG13)
Fri.-Sat. 1:20 4:20 7:15 10:00
Sun.-Thurs. 1:20 4:20 7:15

HANGOVER 2 (R)
Fri.-Sat. 1:15 4:10 7:05 9:35
Sun.-Thurs. 1:15 4:10 7:05

JUDY MOODY & THE NOT BUMMER SUMMER (PG)
Fri.-Sat. 1:10 4:10 7:00 9:35
Sun.-Thurs. 1:10 4:10 7:00

KUNG FU PANDA: THE KABOOM OF DOOM 2D (PG)
Fri.-Sat. 1:05 4:05 7:05 9:40
Sun.-Thurs. 1:05 4:05 7:05

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: ON STRANGER TIDE 3D (PG13)
Fri.-Sat. 1:05 4:05 7:05 10:05
Sun.-Thurs. 1:05 4:05 7:05

SUPER 8 (PG13)
Fri.-Sat. 1:20 4:15 7:10 9:55
Sun.-Thurs. 1:20 4:15 7:10

X-MEN: FIRST CLASS (PG13)
Fri.-Sat. 1:00 4:05 7:10 10:10
Sun.-Thurs. 1:00 4:05 7:10

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Master's Degree
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By Cleve, Nancy, Bayard and Jan

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Roxboro staff, left to right: Dana Harper, Carol Strange, Missy Sears, Shady Terrell.

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