

The Emmitsburg REGIONAL DISPATCH

Vol. No. III, No. 2

Gaining Strength Through Each Other

February, 1995

Dave's World ...



Four generations of Daves from left to right: David B. Wantz, Sr.; David B. Wantz, Jr.; David B. Wantz III; David B. Wantz IV. David IV was born Dec. 28 at Frederick Memorial Hospital to David III and his wife Stacy. David, David, David, and David are all from Emmitsburg. Photo courtesy of the Wantz family.

TOWN ELECTIONS SCHEDULED

Town elections will be held Tuesday, April 25, 1995, for three positions: the mayoral seat currently held by Mayor William H. Carr and two commissioner seats now held by John Hollinger, Sr. and David Copenhagen.

Any resident seeking office should file for candidacy by noon on Thursday, April 13.

The names of the candidates will be placed on the ballot chronologically as filed. To qualify as a candidate for commissioner a person must have been a resident of Emmitsburg for one year prior to election day. Those interested in filing as candidates for the

position of mayor must have been residents of Emmitsburg for two years prior to election day to qualify.

The last day to register to vote is Tuesday, April 17, 1995, by 4:30 p.m.

Citizens may register to vote Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. until April 17, 1995. Special evening registrations will be held on the first Monday of March (3/6/95) and the first Monday of April (4/3/95) from 7:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. To

(Please see ELECTION on page 3)

JIM CLICK TOP RESPONDER

In a small town many people wear several different hats to insure that all the necessary things are accomplished. These people are mostly volunteers. Jim Click is one of them. Employed in the town's maintenance department, he is also a volunteer member of the Vigilant Hose Company.

He was named the Top Responder of 1994 at the VHC's recent banquet.

Jim Click is a 1st Responder for the company which means he has taken classes to learn how to stabilize victims, render CPR, and help the Emergency Medical Technicians if needed. As Top Responder Jim answered 223 calls.

Jim said he was influenced by his father and brother who were both firefighters. Even as a child he wanted to be a firefighter. He and his playmates would play firemen with all of their "equipment" properly stored in their playhouse. When the sirens went off they would ride their bikes to the playhouse and put on their boots, coats, and hats. As Junior Firemen they joined in the parades as a marching unit and even won some trophies. When he was 18, Jim joined the VHC.

The most difficult part of being a firefighter is the rescue work, Click said. "When you have to extract those people who have been hurt . . . sometimes it's hard on all of us. You just don't know what you are going to find. The most rewarding thing is saving a life," he said. "It's great when you (Please see RESPONDER on page 3)

Town Meeting

Frigid temperatures did not discourage a number of residents from attending the public hearing held before the town meeting on February 6. They came to consider two proposed ordinances: one that would provide retirement and health insurance benefits for town officials (Ordinance 95-1), and the other to require all buildings within the town limits to be identified by numbers affixed to the structures so "as to be clearly visible and legible in the daytime and evening from the street" (Ordinance 95-2). Following a discussion, Commissioners Hollinger, Copenhaver, and Weaver rejected Ordinance 95-1 and approved 95-2. Commissioner Gingell was not present. (He is recuperating at home from a bout with pneumonia and we wish him a speedy recovery.) Mayor Carr was also absent.

At the town meeting, Commissioner Weaver thanked all the townspeople, council members, and town employees for their support in blocking the recently proposed connector road which was to run through the community park. Many of them spoke at the county hearing held in December to discuss the Comprehensive Plan for the Emmitsburg area. As a result of the testimony of many residents, the road was removed from the county's plan, and monies that were being held by the state have been released. "The town can now proceed with its development of the recreational area," Weaver said, "and your voices did make a difference."

Deputy Jerry Horner, in his report to the council, praised the town employees for the good job of snow removal during the recent storm. He also thanked the residents

of Northgate and Silo Hill for their cooperation in quickly getting their vehicles off the streets so the snow plows could get through.

Patty Ortner, of Silo Hill, queried the council regarding the much-needed sidewalk to run from East Main St. to Silo Hill Road. Ortner said that she contacted Nancy Jones of the State Highway Administration and was told that they were in the process of revising their plan in order to consider approval for a sidewalk, but that the fiscal responsibility for constructing it would belong to the town. Jones will be at the March town meeting with the new set of plans.

Commissioner Copenhaver pointed out that there was no money available for the project in the current budget and that not much could be done until a new budget was drawn up. Town manager Yvette Semeler said that they will begin to plan the new budget in March. She also noted that the state highway office continues to monitor the traffic situation at the intersection of Silo Hill Road and MD 140. The County engineer Doug Rose foresees no action being taken until the new mini-mall, scheduled to be constructed next to the Jubilee, is completed, Semeler said.

The council was asked by a local resident to consider making the portion of West Lincoln Avenue that intersects with Mountain View Road a one-way street exiting north. Willis Walbrecker, who resides on the corner of Main Street and West Lincoln Ave., told the council that the road is too narrow to handle more than one car. When cars enter the road from Mountain View, he said, it forces the out-going car on to his property. Last year the Walbreckers had to take down the iron fence that ran along their property line because it was hit so many times by cars. The commissioners agreed to study and review the situation and will place it on the agenda for the March town meeting.

In other business the council:

- accepted the bid of the Potomac Valley Pool Company to manage the swimming pool for next season;
- tabled until the next town meeting, when more estimates are expected to be in, the making of a decision regarding the American Disabilities Act renovation of

What You Said!

Readers who gave us a grade on last month's report card were pleased for the most part. Many readers have told us that "... We read every word, even the ads." Many pass the paper on to other family members, and there are also reports that some keep the *Dispatch* in the "library." One respondent said the paper was "newsy;" others would like more photos, more news from surrounding towns, lists of athletic and concerts events at MSM and classes at the ARCC. We will take your responses to heart and put them all on our "To-Do" list.

The reality is that we are also as busy as the proverbial "one-armed paperhanger." If you would like to be involved in the newspaper by collecting news or even writing an article, let us know. Our invitation still stands: give us a call or stop by for tea and discuss your ideas about making the *Dispatch* more relevant to community and individual's lives. You can reach us at 447-6275.

"Why bother with a small newspaper?" is clearly answered by Mr. Bill Morely who writes, "The *Dispatch* is an effective tool for revealing a small town's soul. Articles about church, school, civic groups, the arts, and politics bind a geographical area together and make it a grand place to root oneself."

We who contribute to this paper thank you for your interest and support of our efforts. We believe the *Dispatch* serves a very important role in the community. That is why we urge you to share your thoughts, ideas, and news through these columns.

the town office;

- considered water line replacement bid documentation for water lines along Mountain View Road, Waynesboro Pike, North Seton Avenue, and Emmit Ridge. The town has received a \$500,000 grant for the project.

Finally, it was noted that pesky pigeons persist in puzzling pundits. The current notion is to trap them. Pigeon pot-pie, people?

Meetings At The Town Office

Feb. 23 - Parks and Recreation,
7 p.m.

Feb. 27 - Planning and Zoning,
7 p.m.

Mar. 6 - Town Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

(RESPONDER from page 1)

rescue somebody and then get word back from the hospital that they made it." To enable them to accomplish such tasks, Click and his fellow firemen take Rescue Tech class at the University of Maryland. He spends about 20 volunteer hours a week in the various activities of the fire company.

Presently Jim and his fellow firemen are being trained in Aerial Operations and Truck Operation of the new tower truck. He pointed out that the new truck is 1st Line equipment. It is equipped with water and hoses and ladders and the lift bucket. He said that Chief Frank Davis has been coordinating with other fire companies to let them know that the new truck and its crew will be available to secure fire sites and help with salvage overhauls. "All the guys who work the truck know what they have to do," Click said.

"The company [Vigilant Hose Company] is like one big family," said Click. "We get a lot of support from our families and wives." When asked what he would like to see in the future of VHC, Jim was quick to say that he would like to see the Junior Firemen program start up again. "We need it to keep the company going," he said.

Jim Click is the son of Herbert and Edith Click of Emmitsburg, MD. He has worked in the town maintenance department for 3 years and describes his job as "all around," doing almost anything that has to be done—plowing snow, repairing water lines, painting, and all the little things that keep the town operating. Jim expressed his appreciation to the town officials for their flexibility and understanding in allowing him to answer calls when not engaged in critical tasks.

In his spare time, Jim said, he is a sports fan and is "especially big into NASCAR."



Jim Click, Vigilant Hose Company's Top Responder for 1994 A Dispatch Photo

((ELECTION from page 1)

register to vote one needs to have resided in Emmitsburg for thirty (30) days before the election date.

To qualify as an absentee voter and obtain an absentee ballot the registered voter must apply to the town clerk on or before the 13th day of April 1995. The application shall be written and shall state specifically the fact that the registered voter will be absent from Frederick County, Maryland, on April 25, 1995, during the time that the polls are open. The town clerk will deliver in person the absentee ballot to the registered voter or will mail the absentee ballot to the mailing address given by the voter. The absentee ballots must be signed by the voter and returned to the town clerk prior to 9:30 a.m. on April 25, 1995.


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COMMENTARY

The growth of a little town causes problems. The little town's becoming a bedroom community generates more problems. A growing little bedroom community at the end of the line in a rapidly growing county has even more problems. There are problems enough for us all: private citizen, local official, and county official. Dealing with these problems is the task of government. In her newsletter sent recently to the *Dispatch*, Commissioner Ilona Hogan, referring to the work facing the newly elected Board of County Commissioners, wrote, "We are a growing county and our workload grows commensurately." We are all in the "growth boat" together.

The image that comes to mind is rowing a lifeboat in storm-generated high seas. There is not a clear awareness of progress; often the horizon is not even visible, but if we all row together, each giving a fair tug on the oar we man, there is an excellent chance of not capsizing. Rowing requires strength, perseverance, awareness of what others are doing, and a willingness to work for the good of the boat. Energy spent cursing the wind might be better channeled.

People up our way live in a conservation zone. There is a "roller" coming our way generated by the MD Economic Growth, Resource Protection, and Planning Act of 1992. Requirements of this Act will affect 87,453 acres of land, 72% of which is privately owned. Who knows what this Act may bring? In her newsletter Commissioner Hogan states: "To my mind, this proposal raises complex legal issues, including environmental takeup as well as potential judicial scrutiny of our zoning text amendment process."

To tell the truth I'm not even sure of what all of this means. I'm sort of a "legalese" illiterate; some of you, however, must. The point here is that one of the folks who has her hand on the tiller of our "growth boat" has taken time to communicate with us up in the pointy end of the boat. This kind of keeping in touch keeps us from flailing madly away in all directions.

We applaud Commissioner Hogan for keeping in touch and hope she keeps those cards and letters coming. We invite the other commissioners to take advantage of this paper to communicate directly with the residents of an area that often seems to be isolated from all the "goings on" down county. Our readers deserve it.

100 YEARS AGO, "In This Place"
from *The Emmitsburg Chronicle*

The Snow Blizzard

Emmitsburg Cut off From The Outside World

Feb. 15, 1895 - The cold wave and snow blizzard which struck this section of the country on Wednesday of last week, continued in all its fury until Sunday morning, at which time the cold and fierce wind that had prevailed in full sway abated. Emmitsburg was practically cut off from the outside world, except by telegraphic communication, for four long and weary days. Friday and Saturday were the most disagreeable days that have been witnessed in this section for a long time, and it is hoped that the elements will not give us a repetition of these two days for a number of years to come. During these two days the wind carried the snow in blinding sheets, drifting all the roads leading to this place shut, and making traveling impossible. Friday morning the thermometer registered zero, and Saturday morning it was four degrees above. In some of the public roads the snow was drifted in banks, from 10 to 15 feet high. The streets in town were also considerably drifted, and only two teams passed the CHRONICLE office last Saturday, and in order to reach the public square, these teams were compelled to travel on the pavements for some distance, at different points. The storm is said to have been the worst that has visited this section of the country since 1857, at which time the roads were completely blockaded with snow, and remained in that condition for several days.

Eleven Hours in the Snow Storm

The Emmitsburg Railroad was blockaded worse than any time in the history of the road. On last Thursday night and Friday morning, while attempting to keep the road open by running the engine back and forward from this place to Rocky Ridge, the engine stuck fast in a large bank of snow a short distance north of Dry Bridge, and whilst trying to get the engine (Please see 100 YEARS on page 10)

The Emmitsburg Regional Dispatch

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The Emmitsburg Regional Dispatch
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Letters To The Editor

That Darned Light

Sir or Madam,

Your editorial about the problems with making turns at the square in Emmitsburg was very interesting. However you need to know some additional facts about that intersection.

The present traffic light system was installed with traffic sensors buried in the street at each of the four intersections. The controls were set up so that Main Street had a green light at all times. The traffic light on North and South Seton Avenues was red continuously until a vehicle drove over the buried sensors on Seton Avenue. (You can see where the sensors are in the street at the sign that says "stop here on red.")

The problem that was noted over and (Please see LETTER on page 19)

Winter Blues-Breaker Luncheon Series

For many, winter means shorter and colder days and the ever-present threat of snow causing an epidemic of "cabin fever" to strike. Strawberry Hill Nature Center and Preserve offers a cure with its "Winter Blues-Breaker Luncheon" series. The luncheons feature interesting and informative speakers, lively table conversation, and delicious food and atmosphere at various Adams County inns.

Emmitsburg surveyor Robert Gauss kicked off the series on Wednesday, January 25, at the Fairfield Inn with a program on the Mason-Dixon Line. Many of the marker stones are still in existence and Gauss, a member of the Mason-Dixon Line Preservation Partnership, has been active in the recovery and preservation of the stones. Following the viewing of a short video describing the work of a surveyor today, Gauss described how Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon surveyed the boundary line between Maryland and Pennsylvania in the years 1763 to 1768. He explained that the marker stones, quarried in Portland, England, marked with an M and a P on either side, were placed every mile; a crown stone was set every five miles. Maps and directions were provided to all those present showing the location of five marker stones in the Emmitsburg area.

To whet our appetites for spring, February's luncheon will feature Orrtanna Master Gardener Laura Morgan with a program on old-time garden games and remembrances, garden lore, and gardening with children. On Tuesday, February 21, at Hickory Bridge Farm, Morgan will recall a bygone era, where garden play was a part of daily life for many. She will speak about making dancing dolls from hollyhocks and poppies or daisy chains for jewelry and play: memories for many, which still fascinate and delight children of all ages.

Emmitsburg avian veterinarian, Dr. Gary Kubala, will present a program on basic medical care for wild birds Monday, March 20, at Herr's Tavern. Dr. Kubala worked with wildlife rehabilitators in Connecticut for four years before moving his practice to



A Dispatch Photo
Bob Gauss discussing history of the Mason-Dixon Line at Strawberry Hill's Blues-Breaker Luncheon

Emmitsburg a year and a half ago. He will share some case histories on avian care and other interesting information.

The luncheons will run from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.. Each presentation will be followed by a question-and-answer session. For luncheon costs or more information, call the nature center at (717) 642-5840. Pre-registration is required. Call now; don't be left out in the cold.

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Clubs and Organizations

SENIOR CITIZENS by Anna Margaret Martin

"Roses are red, violets are blue, the groundhog saw his shadow - did you?"

If the groundhog and the weather forecaster are correct, by the time you read this we should have some snow. I hope they're wrong, but it is winter and we have been lucky so far.

Can you believe January is over and February is here? Here at the center we have been busy and the attendance at "Food 'n Friends" has increased most days. We welcome our new friends from Lincoln on the Park and hope we can recruit some others to the center.

Our activities for February:

Feb. 9 & 23 - Card Party, 1:00 p.m.

Feb. 14 - Shopping in Frederick, 1:00 p.m.

Feb. 16 - Bingo, 1:00 p.m.

Feb. 21 - Meeting Day

Feb. 28 - Nutrition Program with Rachel Ford, 12:45 p.m.

On Monday, Feb. 20, we will be having lunch at Corney's because schools are closed for Presidents' Day.

Dates to remember in March:

March 2 - Bingo, 1:00 p.m.

March 9 - Card Party, 1:00 p.m. Mrs. Krietz's 5th grade class from Emmitsburg Elementary School will entertain us at 12:45 p.m. We enjoy the children so much and look forward to their coming all the rest of the year.

March 21 - The Catoctin High School Glee Club will entertain us at 1:00 p.m.

I'm now-taking reservations to "Sight and Sound" to see "Noah" on Sept. 6. It should be a wonderful production. The cost is \$50.00 which includes your bus fare, admission to "Noah," the "Water Show," and your lunch at the Family Time Restaurant. Those who saw the Christmas show know how well the productions are presented. For information call Anna Margaret at 447-6253 as soon as possible.

Remember the "Food 'n Friends" lunch each day. Reservations are required.

24 hours in advance by 1:00 p.m. come join us for fun, food, and friendship at noon.

Little League Registration Set

by Marta Hillis

Calling all baseball players! It's that time of the year again. Registration will be February 18 & 19 and on February 25 & 26 from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. at the Emmitsburg Ambulance Building.

All T-ball and minor league players (new and those returning from last season) need to register. Little League players already on one of our six teams do not need to re-register. Those wishing to play on the 13-year-old team or the 14/15-year-old teams need to note that a registration fee of \$30 (non-refundable) will be collected at sign-up time. For brothers playing in this age bracket the fee will be \$45 for both. The 16/18-year-old team players' registration fee is \$40 (non-refundable.)

Parents: please remember to bring a duplicate copy of your child's birth certificate to sign-ups. Thank you and we will see you there.

Reminder. The next Little League meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 28, 7:00 p.m. at the VFW.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The March meeting of the Emmitsburg Historical Society will be Tuesday, March 7 at 7:30 p.m. in the library meeting room of the Community Center. The speaker will be society president Dick Marsden. He will speak on the Emmitsburg Railroad. This small historic railroad covered only 7.3 miles, from Emmitsburg south to Rocky Ridge. Owned and operated by mostly local people, it played a significant role in Emmitsburg's progress from just after the Civil War until the start of WWII.

Due to the cancellation of the January meeting, the election of officers will also be held at the March meeting.

The Emmitsburg Historical Society meets on the first Tuesday evening of Jan., March, May, July, Sept., and Nov. at 7:30. Meetings are held in the Community Center. All are welcome.

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WIVELLS' ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

By Helen Reaver

The descendants of the late Roy and Helen Wivell held their annual Christmas Party at the Rocky Ridge Fire Hall on Jan. 1, 1995. Approximately 202 family members attended.

A prayer for blessing and for deceased members was led by Paul Wivell, who was the narrator for the party. Paul reported there were five weddings and twelve new children in 1994. The newest member of the Rose and Thorns (Retirement Club), Lorraine Wivell, was welcomed into the club. The evening's entertainment was provided by the Henry Wivell Family, who did a splendid job.

Door prizes were awarded to Brock Gregory, Emily Wivell, Wayne Wivell, and Tom Wivell. Michael Fullam won a large fruit basket. Following the fun/entertainment was the Nativity Scene presented by the great-grandchildren of Roy and Helen: Joshua Keeney (St. Joseph); Brittany Reaver (Blessed Mother); Wayne Wivell, Jr. (Baby Jesus); Ashley Reaver, Carolyn Shields, Rikkie Lynn Wivell, and Amanda Wivell (Angels); Joshua Fullam, Jordan Fullam, and Nick Putman (Kings); Evan Wivell, Brock Gregory, and Brandon Northrup (Shepherds). The children did a very nice job. Following the presentation, Santa arrived with candy, oranges, and gifts for everyone.


CONCERT FOR LOVE OF THE EARTH

On March 3 and 4, at 7:30 p.m. in the Incarnation United Church of Christ on West Main Street in Emmitsburg, there will be an event which will entertain and inspire you. Through the efforts of Christine Maccabee, her husband Bruce, local children and their parents, and Strawberry Hill members, a "Concert for Love of the Earth" will be offered as a fundraiser for Strawberry Hill. It will be dedicated to the founder of Strawberry Hill, Frances Froelicher, who passed away New Year's Eve.

Many people in this area and throughout the state know of Mrs. Froelicher and her heroic efforts to preserve precious forest land and fight pollution, particularly that of air and water. In the 1970's she formed a Better Air Coalition in Baltimore, which was her home, and great efforts were made to reduce air pollution in that city. Hearings were held, and Christine Maccabee, a part of the effort, stood up at a hearing with her guitar and sang a song she wrote called "Nature I Apologize." These hearings were aired on national news broadcasts. Later, Frances and Christine individually fled the pollution of Baltimore seeking, in their own ways, a place in the country where they could live out their values of simplicity and reverence for life.

Frances purchased 519 acres of land above Fairfield, PA, called it Strawberry Hill, and began to turn it into a nature center and preserve. Christine bought a small piece of land in the Catoctin Mountains and began her projects of gardening, wildflower preservation, and reforestation. Last summer they met again after 20 years. Frances, then 82 years old, explained how she managed to clean up the polluted stream running through her property, and the importance of assuring her property is never divided after her death, but kept in one piece.

Frances's impressive dedication and organization made Strawberry Hill what it is today. To keep Frances's vision alive there is (Please see CONCERT on page 8)

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Kate sez: "There are some really great books,
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UP-COUNTY

Up-County Family Center is offering a grief and loss support group led by Peg Whyte, Senior Administrator for Catholic Charities. This group is for anyone who has experienced a loss of any nature (divorce, death of a loved one) and feels the need for continuing support and direction. This group will support the participant to go from this loss. The next meetings will be February 14 and February 28 from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Up-County offices in the Seton Center on South Seton Ave., Emmitsburg, MD. Free childcare for children (0-3) and transportation will be provided. Call the Up-County Family Center for more information at 447-2810.

(CONCERT from page 7)

a need for continuing effort and, as in all ventures, money.

This fundraising concert will feature music which all nature lovers will appreciate. The spirit of the songs will reflect the love and determination of Frances Froelicher. Everything from folk to popular to classical will be included. Come prepared to laugh, to cry, to care, and to be empowered to do the mighty work at hand. Somehow, it seems appropriate that Christine will be picking up her guitar to sing in behalf of Frances's efforts. We hope you will be there. The concert is free, but you will have the opportunity to make a monetary contribution if you are able.

(Please see CONCERT on page 23)



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SPOTLIGHT ON LOCAL STUDENT

Emmitsburg's Marianne Martin, the student representative to the Frederick County Board of Education, said in a recent interview with the *Dispatch* that she wants "to be a voice" during her term of office on the county school board. The Catocin High School senior, selected last fall from among 13 applicants for the position, says she has written to the principals of each high school and middle school in the county asking to meet with a random sampling (two from each grade) of students. She feels this will give her a better understanding of what is on the minds of the students which will help her articulate their concerns and interests to the board.

"Much of the board's work is focused on buildings and programs," she said, "and I don't think the members consider enough how it will affect the students. I want to be able to tell them." Marianne has visited several schools so far and finds that the major concern of the students is how they will be affected by the proposed cuts in funding of school programs. "I'm so impressed," she said, "The kids are knowledgeable and on top of things." She would like to help students become more involved and also hopes to "change some points of view that kids don't know what's going on."

Marianne says the president of the Board of Education, Earl Robbins, has been very supportive. She admits she was nervous attending the first meeting but said, "You know, first impressions are everything, and when I walked into the room and saw my nameplate on the table with all the other members' names, I felt accepted. I didn't say much, but just tried to get the feel for it." She said she is serious about her role and added "I want to listen carefully and try to look at everything."

The student representative to the Board of Education attends all regular meetings and hearings, except for closed sessions in which personnel matters are decided. The student is a non-voting member of the board, but may offer suggestions or raise questions. Marianne hopes to strengthen the voice of the student representative and would like to see the student become a voting member of the board.

Marianne has been active in Maryland Model Legislature for three years and earned distinction last year by proposing to local legislators a bill which ultimately was passed by the Maryland Legislature and signed into law by the governor. Maryland House Bill 454: Abuse of Vulnerable Adults, which became law on October 1, 1994, was sponsored by Delegate George Littrell as a result of Marianne's efforts.

After that experience Marianne changed her thoughts of going into the field of medicine. Her long-range goals now "definitely include going into politics in order to bring humanitarian issues before the public." At this time she sees herself as a "regular kid



Marianne Martin

who likes to blow bubbles at the seashore." She also likes "feel good" movies, pasta, eating at Chi Chi's, and all kinds of music except rap. In her spare time she works at the Carriage House restaurant or hangs out in jeans and her dad's flannel shirts. The 17-year old Catocin High School senior participates in track and is the drum major of the band. She also attends classes part-time at Mt. St. Mary's. On

top of this schedule, twice a month she attends evening meetings of the Frederick County Board of Education.

Marianne lives on Welty Road with her parents, Dave and Barbara Martin, her sister Aimee, and her grandmother, Mrs. Mary Welty.

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(100 YEARS from page 4)
 out of its perilous condition, the two back wheels under the tender jumped off the track, when all hope of getting the engine out of the snow drift was abandoned. The persons on the engine when it ran into the snow bank, were the engineer, Mr. Cornelius Gelwicks, the fireman, Mr. Theodore Burdner, and the president of the road, Mr. Wm. H. Biggs. It was just three o'clock on Friday morning, when the engine became snow bound, and the above named gentlemen were compelled to remain in the engine, as an attempt to seek shelter at any near-by farm house would have proved fruitless and perhaps the men would have perished in the snow storm. The suffering the men went through with was almost beyond human endurance, and as there were no means by which they could better their condition, they made the best of their situation, and shivering and half frozen, waited patiently for day light to dawn, when they found that they were snowed in on all sides the engine being almost entirely covered with

snow. They remained eleven hours in the snow storm, it being two o'clock on Friday afternoon before the men got out of their perilous condition. Mr. Biggs managed to walk to town, and was about exhausted when he reached here, while the engineer and fireman found shelter and something to eat at a farm house. Mr. Gelwicks was so badly frozen that he has been on the sick list ever since.

Had to Quit Work

A large force of men went to work on Friday morning to shovel the drifted snow from the railroad tracks, but the cold was so intense, and the wind blew the snow so angrily that the men were compelled to quit work, not, however, until after some of the men had received frozen noses, ears, and feet. Their work amounted to nought as the snow blew in the cuts faster than the men could shovel it out. The same condition of affairs existed on Saturday and no efforts were made to clear the tracks.

Seventy Men at Work With Shovels

The railroad company offered 20 cents per hour for men to work on Sunday, and the wind being calm and the snow having stopped drifting, seventy men went to work with shovels on Sunday morning, and by evening the cuts were cleared as far as McCarren's crossing and the engine which was covered with snow several hundred yards beyond that point, was shoveled out of the snow.

Bringing the Engine Back to Town

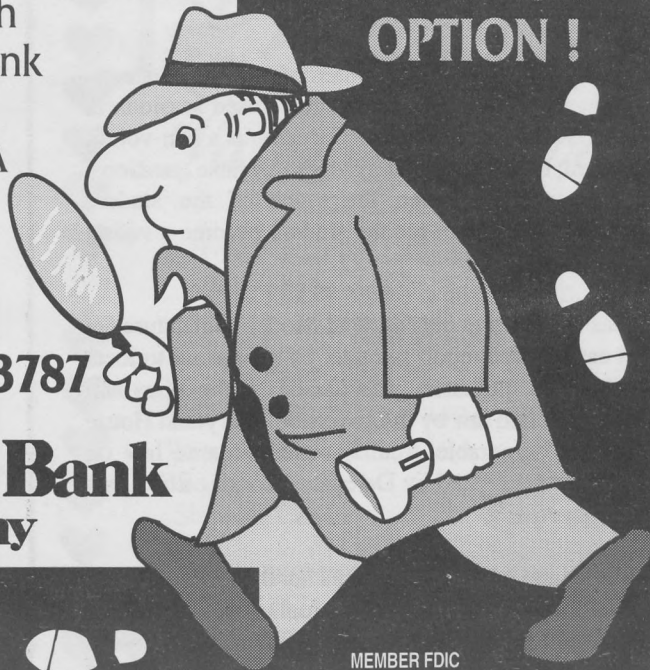
About noon Monday the track was cleared as far as the engine, and after considerable efforts the men succeeded in getting the two small wheels under the tender on the track again. There being no coal or water near to make fire in the engine, a large rope was fastened to it, and the men started to pull the engine to town. They had not gone very far when the rope broke and all hands fell to the ground. After gathering themselves up again and fastening the rope securely, they made a new start with their heavy load and succeeded in getting the engine safely to town about 1 o'clock in the afternoon.

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Garden Perplexities

by Barbara Steele

Dear Garden Perplexities,

I'm confused about teas—what is herb tea, and how does it differ from all other teas on the store shelf?

In general terms all teas are herb teas if any herb leaf is covered by boiling water and infused. China tea is the leaf of *Thea sinensis*, the tea plant shrub from the Orient. The Chinese claim discovery of the tea plant thousands of years ago. Dutch traders brought the "tea" to England in the 1600's and then later to the New World.

Originally tea drinking was used medicinally, but through time the "taking of tea" became an established tradition.

Herbal teas other than the China teas have been cultivated by humankind and were used originally for healing. During the infamous "tea tax rebellion," some herb teas such as Bergamot (bee balm), Ceonanthus (New Jersey Tea,) and Labrador teas were substituted for the restricted China tea thrown into the Boston harbor.

Herb teas make pleasant, relaxing beverages, both hot and iced. Perhaps everyone is familiar with mint teas or mint combined with China tea in summer drinks. When selecting packaged herb teas in the store, look for pure herbs and herb blends as opposed to flavored (sometime artificially) blends. Health food stores offer a wider selection of herb teas, many of which are used medicinally.

Better yet, why not plant a small herb "tea garden" to grow your own? Some herbs

that you might consider are, of course mint—spearmint, peppermint, even orange mint— bergamot, lemon balm, lemon verbena, chamomile, anise, rosemary, sweet goldenrod, sweet cicely, blackberry, and scented geraniums.

To make a cup of herb tea use one teaspoon of dry herb to one cup of boiling water. Cover and steep 5 to 10 minutes. Strain and serve. Note: the longer tea leaves sit in water the more the bitter tasting tannins increase. Serve herb tea with honey and lemon or orange slices.

The "taking of tea" was also a time to relax and to restore oneself; how appropriate for today's hectic pace!

Here are a few treats to go along with your herb tea.

Apricot Bars

1½ cups flour, 1 tsp. baking powder, ¼ tsp. salt, ¾ cup apricot preserves, 1½ cups quick-cooking oats, 1 cup brown sugar, ¾ cup margarine, softened.

Sift together the first three ingredients. Stir in oats and sugar. Cut in margarine until you have a crumbly mixture. Using an 11 by 7 inch pan, spread two-thirds of the mixture on the bottom and pat smooth. Spread with preserves. Top with remaining crumbs, bake at 375 degrees for 35 minutes. Cool and cut into squares.

Strawberry Bread

1-10 oz. pkg. frozen strawberries, packed in syrup, thawed and not drained, 2 eggs, ¾ cup oil, 1½ cups all purpose flour, 1 cup sugar, 1 tsp. cinnamon, ½ tsp. baking soda.

Puree strawberries in blender or food processor. Combine eggs and oil in small bowl and whisk thoroughly. Sift dry ingredients into large bowl. Make well in center. Pour in eggs and puree and blend well using wooden spoon. Pour into 9 x 5 loaf pan. Bake at 325 degrees until tester in center comes out clean—about one hour and ten minutes. Let cool completely. Makes one loaf.

The above recipes are from the *When the Dinner Bell Rings* cookbook by Ellie Bennett, Marlene Lufriu, and Barbara Steele, Littlestown, Pa. It is available at Alloway Gardens.

Books for Further Reading:

The Herbal Tea Garden by Marietta Marshall Marein - covers "planning, planting, harvesting and brewing of herbal tea" - Gardenway Book

Taking Tea by Andrea Israel - "the essential guide to brewing, serving, and entertaining with teas from around the world" - Grove Press, New York

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HALL OF FAME

Mount Saint Mary's College and Seminary will induct six alumni into its Sports Hall of Fame for outstanding career achievements as students and coaches.

The awards will be presented at the Hall of Fame Banquet on Saturday, Feb. 18, as part of Winter Homecoming festivities. The honorees are: Dr. Christine Anderson Curley, C'84 (track and cross country); Rev. James Delaney, C'57 (women's basketball coach); Richard Dohler, C'69 (basketball); William Harkins (posthumously), C'42 (basketball); Mark Landis, C'78 (track); and Joseph Reedy, C'84 (basketball).

Christine Curley was an outstanding distance runner for Mount track and cross country teams from 1980-84. She had record-breaking years while running for Coach Lynne Phelan Robinson, despite many injuries. She was named Most Valuable Player in 1982 at the Mason-Dixon Conference Championships and in 1983 for the Mount cross country team. Dr. Curley established seven individual school records in her shortened career. Of these, four still stand ten years later. Dr. Curley now resides in Fairfield, PA and has a family practice in Emmitsburg.

VOCAL RECITAL

Frédérique Barbier, mezzo-soprano, will present a vocal recital at Flynn Hall on the Mount Saint Mary's campus on Wednesday, Feb. 15, at 8:00 p.m.

Miss Barbier immigrated to the United States from France with her family in 1973. In 1981, she entered Mount Saint Mary's, graduating *summa cum laude* in 1984 with separate degrees in philosophy, economics, and foreign languages. After spending a year at the University of Freiburg, she earned a Master of Arts degree in comparative literature at The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. as Louis P. Bahner Scholar and Fellow.

Miss Barbier then decided to pursue a musical career and obtained a degree in voice from the Conservatory of Music and Performing Arts in Stuttgart, Germany. She is currently studying with opera coach Marlena Malas in New York City.

During her years at the Mount, Miss Barbier began voice lessons with Professor Mary Lou Schwartz, whom she considers her mentor, guide, and special friend. Ms. Barbier will be accompanied in the recital by Professor Schwartz, Lecturer in Music at

MSM - Sports Roundup, Jan. 30-Feb. 5, 1995

Men's Basketball (10-9, 8-3)

The Mount's men basketball team climbed over .500 by notching a pair of victories this week that left the team in sole possession of second place in the Northeast Conference.

MSM evened its record for the 5th time this season with an 81-66 victory over St. Francis (PA.) on Thursday. On Saturday evening the Mount lit up Robert Morris with an 81-62 victory.

Women's Basketball (13-5, 10-1)

The Mount women made short work of previously undefeated (in the NEC) St. Francis (Pa.) on Wednesday avenging their sole conference loss this season with a 79-52 victory. The women cruised to their tenth conference victory on Saturday with an 86-63 win over Robert Morris.

Mount Saint Mary's.

The program, which is free and open to the public, will include 17th and 18th century Italian art songs, Lieder of Mahler, operatic arias from works by Massenet and Mascagni, and more.



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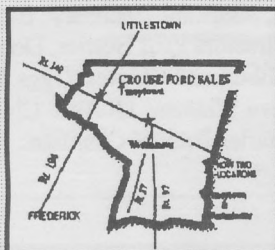
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ROCKY RIDGE FIREMEN'S BANQUET

The Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company, Company 13, held its annual awards banquet Jan. 26. Over 200 members, friends, fellow service providers, and firefighters from the surrounding communities joined state and county officials in the ceremony. Achievements of the individual volunteers and the company were recognized.

Mrs. Robert Mumma, president of the Ladies Auxiliary, set the tone of seriousness of purpose and good-natured kidding for the enjoyable evening by presenting a check for ten thousand dollars to the fire company's president, husband Robert Mumma, saying, "This is something I would never, never, never do in real life."

The prestigious C.W. Mumma Award was presented to Kenneth R. Mumma. Mumma was given recognition for his years of service and involvement in all phases of the company's mission: charter member, line officer, assistant chief, and director. According to President Robert Mumma, Kenneth now has locked up the chair of the "Fried Ham Sandwich" committee for all community fund-raising activities.

Paul Burrier received the Honorary Member Award for his service and support of the company over the years.

Robert Albaugh was honored as the crew's Top Responder, Robbie Eyler was second, and Ronnie Eyler was third. Steve Whetzel was Top Responder among the Line Officers, Kevin Albaugh placed second, and Bonnie Hurley, third.

Company 13 is a small group with 30 members total and 30 active members. According to president Robert Mumma, they have raised \$161,000 dollars to support their operations from sponsoring activities in the Rocky Ridge community. The company recently purchased a parcel of ground and is making plans for constructing a new engine building.

County Commissioner Bruce Reeder, in his remarks to the fire company, underlined the importance of the work and dedication to service of all voluntary fire (Please see BANQUET on page 15)



A Dispatch Photo.

Top Responders: 1st row left to right: Responder #1 Robert Albaugh, #2 Robert Eyler, #3 Ronnie Eyler, #4 Luke Humerick, Jr., and #5 Larry Eyler. Back row left to right: Responder #6 Alan Brauer, Sr., #7 Alan Hurley, #8 Tom Myerly, #9 Mat Moser, and #10 Robert Mumma.



A Dispatch Photo

Officers for 1995, back row left to right: Robert Mumma, President; Ronnie Eyler, Vice President; Paulette Mathias, Secretary; Joseph Ferguson, Assistant Secretary; Bernard Wivell, Treasurer; Tom Myerly, Assistant Treasurer; Directors Paul Burrier, Donnie Kaas, Robert Albaugh, Kenneth Mumma, Kenneth Frushour, and Charles Riggs. Front row, left to right: Line Officers Dan Whetzel, Chief; Steve Whetzel, 1st Asst. Chief; Dennis Mathias, 2nd Asst. Chief; Bonnie Hurley, Lt.; Charles Brauer, Chaplain. (Not shown Kevin Albaugh, Lt.)



A Dispatch Photo

For his years of service, Kenneth R. Mumma (on left) receives the Charles W. Mumma Award from Joseph Ferguson.

(BANQUET from page 14) companies throughout Frederick County. Reeder pointed out that neighboring Montgomery County spent over 76 million dollars for fire services last year while Frederick County spent only 6.5 million dollars.

ROCKY RIDGE

by Emma Keeney

The Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company will hold their next butchering Feb. 16-18. Meat will go on sale at 6:00 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 18. For advanced orders call 271-2880. A buffet breakfast will be served from 6 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Feb. 18 at the fire hall.

Family Fun Night will be held every Saturday night at the fire hall on Motters Station Road, Rocky Ridge. Door open at 6:00 p.m.. Early bird games will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Belated birthday wishes to Dave Wiles, Chris Day, Tonya Day, and Josephine Dinterman.

Happy Birthday to Ronnie E. Eyler, David Dinterman, Bruce Beall, Greta Lambert, Emma Lou Harris, Jonathan Moser, Jeanette Miller, Bradley Greene, Marshall Sharrer, Jr., Marshall Sharrer, Sr., and Philip Dinterman.

Happy anniversary to Chris and Tonya Day on their first anniversary and to Donald

and Betty Brown.

Ira Warner was a patient at the hospital and is now recovering at home.

Rocky Ridge Church of the Brethren will hold revival services March 26 through April 12. Edmond Rice will be the speaker.

Visitors at the homes of Cora, Carl Setherly, and Guy Pittinger: Gary Setherly and friend Alice, Falling Waters, West VA; Frank & Larue Thomas, Littlestown, PA; Bobby & Sharon Wilson and family, New Windsor; Hilda Wilson, Taneytown, MD; Keith & Debbie & Kortney Davis, Sabillasville, MD; Jeff & Karen Ferdock, Frederick, MD; Verna and Emma Keeney. Carl, Cora, and Guy returned the visits to these friends and family. Judy Ryan and Jimmy arrived on Fri. night for a visit with her father Guy Pittinger.

We extend our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of a number of local residents: Jessie Fox who died Jan 18; Mary Catherine Toms who died Jan. 21; Ruth Wolfe who died Jan 19; Grover Wolfe who died Jan. 23; and Ethel Peomroy who died Jan 24.

On Jan. 7, Paul and Helen Burrier flew to Honolulu, Hawaii, where they boarded the *S.S. Independence* and cruised around the islands of Hawaii. They had a very enjoyable time taking part in the activities on the ship and touring the islands.

Mount Tabor Quilters

January and February are usually not active months for the Quilters. Weather, illnesses, and trips to warmer climates take their toll on our attendance.

This is a big time for planning and we have big plans for the Fall of '95. We are looking forward to having a sale of quilts and quilt-related items, most of which will be made in the "old fashioned way"—scrap bag style. Quilts of traditional patterns and some Yo-Yo patterns of the 1930's styles will be featured. Do-it-yourself items will also be available. There will be at least one Victorian-style Crazy Patch quilt done in today's fabrics which will serve as a practical and useful cover.

Come on, all of you scissors operators and needlers! Have fun with us on Tuesday. Let's have a "block" party, brown-bag lunch together.

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ST. ANTHONY'S

by Ann Marshall

St. Anthony Shrine Church was built in 1897. A committee is now being formed to plan a 100th Anniversary celebration. Parishioners, past parishioners, friends, and local historians who feel they can contribute in any way to the celebration in 1997 are asked to please call the Parish Office, 447-2367.

Season II of RENEW will begin on the weekend of February 25/26. RENEW is a spiritual development program based on the prayer "Renew us, Lord, that we may renew the face of the earth." Its purpose is to build an active community of faith. Small groups meet weekly for six weeks either in private homes or at a church site and are led in scripture study and discussion by trained facilitators from within the parish. Small Group participants (six to ten members) may choose to belong to a general group or to one based on age, family situation, special interest, etc. Meeting times and places are chosen by the group. Call the Parish Office for more information, 447-2367.

There's dancing to live music at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish Center every other Saturday night from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Country Western, round-dancing, square-dancing! Dance, watch, enjoy refreshments! February dates are the 11th and 25th. Admission is \$2.00 per person or a contribution of non-perishable food to the Food Bank. These dances are for the benefit of the community and everyone is welcome. Movies are shown at the Center on alternate Saturdays. Information: 447-2367.

A Musical Note to people who like to sing: The parishes are now forming a joint choir for special services and/or funeral Masses. Also, if anyone who plays a brass horn would like to join a group or donate an instrument, please call 447-2367 for more information.

For a schedule of SPANISH LANGUAGE MASSES at St. John's Regional School, 112 E. Second St., Frederick, please call 874-5017 or 898-5914. The next Spanish Mass will be

in the school auditorium at 1 p.m., on Sunday, February 26.

A Marriage Preparation Day will be held at Mount-St. Mary's on Saturday, March 11, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For details, call the Office of Campus Ministry, 447-5223.

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel welcomes Samuel James Delauter into the Catholic Faith. Samuel, son of Kirby and Tina Delauter, was baptized on Sunday, January 15.

BEEF, TURKEY, & HAM SUPPER, with apple fritters

The Elias Lutheran Church of Emmitsburg will hold their Annual Spring Supper and Craft Bazaar on Saturday, March 4, starting at 1:00 p.m. There will be needlework, fancy table, and homebaked products. Adults - \$7, Children - \$3, Children under 6 - Free, Carryouts - \$8

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TRUTH IS STRANGER THAN FICTION

By Fr. Alfred R. Pehrsson, C.M.
St. Joseph's Catholic Church

Truth is stranger and more beautiful than fiction, simply because it's true. We can imagine the greatest true story the world has ever known or one of the greatest fictional stories about gathering people together in loving harmony, and truth will always win out. For instance, take the fictional tale of the war-weary soldier of centuries ago who, on his way home, passed through a small, poor, and war-weary village. He was hungry. No one had any food to offer him (so they said). He went out of town to a river bed, picked up a large, smoothly rounded stone and returned to the village square. He called the people together and bellowed out: "I have a magic stone that makes great stone soup... This soup does two things. It brings people together in loving harmony and it feeds everyone in the town. Can anyone bring me a big cooking pot?" He placed the stone in the middle of the pot. "Next we need some water. Has anyone got a bucket of water? Now the stone soup needs carrots. Has anyone got carrots?" A few people looked at one another. At last someone went off and brought back some carrots that had been hidden away. "Now we need some potatoes." Someone brought potatoes "And a head of cabbage, a bit of beef." All this went into the boiling water with the magic stone in the middle of the pot. All the townspeople had a party that night as they feasted on their stone soup. Finally the soldier bade them goodbye with the words, "I leave this magic stone with you. As long as you have this stone you shall not go hungry and it will always bring you together." From that day on, no one in town went hungry and they came to like the idea of coming together as friends in the village square.

We have no war-weary, clever soldier with his magical stone to bring us together these days in order to teach us how to be generous and how to share. The truth is (and it is infinitely greater than fiction) the Eternal, Divine Son of God, the word-wisdom of the Father was born almost 2,000 years ago in Bethlehem in order to "gather us together" as the Father's sons and daughters, to show by example unbounded loving generosity, to feed us not by a magical stone, but by His every consoling, Gospel word. To feed us with the Holy Eucharist. That is the truth and it boggles the mind. Divine truth is infinitely greater than man's fiction story.

As Saint Paul writes: The Grace of God has appeared in human form. This is our on-going good news. This Grace in the flesh is Jesus Christ, born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem as one of us, God dwelling among us, God wrapped in swaddling clothes, and placed in a manger! Sharing Himself and His love with us. He is the child of whom Isaiah the Prophet spoke: "He shall be called Wonder-Counsellor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, and Prince of Peace."

COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

By Paul Harner

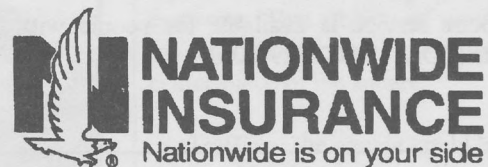
January's Council of Churches meeting was held on January 5 at the Seton Center.

A presentation was made by Ms. Doris Mercer, (301) 694-1733, of the Frederick County Health Department, on the Frederick County Immunization Program. This federally funded program is free to all persons 18 and under regardless of income, even if they do not live in the county. Immunizations include: Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DPT); Polio (OPV); Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR); Haemophilus, Influenza Type B, Conjugate (Hib) and Hepatitis B (HEP B). It was noted that vaccines are given at Frederick any day during the work week and at the Emmitsburg Community Center on the second Tuesday of each month between 1:30 and 3:30 p.m.

Ms. Janine Myers, (301) 694-1917, also of the Frederick County Health Department, made a presentation on the Frederick County Women's Cancer Prevention Program. This program is free to those women 50 and older depending upon their family (Please see COUNCIL on page 23)

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TAX ALERT

By Don Geiger, CPA

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•for the **local IRS office** in Frederick visit 922 East Street or call (301) 663-9245

•for people with **visual impairments** who would like Braille tax materials call 447-3346

•for **VITA** volunteer income tax assistance for people who **cannot afford professional help, with disabilities, and for those who do not speak English** (located at 806 E. Main Street in Thurmont) call **Pat Troxell 271-7911**

•for tax counseling for the **elderly** (over 60) 271-7911

•for **serious delinquency or problems** dealing with IRS agents call Don Geiger

•for information on the PRP (problem resolution program) 447-3346

•for **FREE forms & publications** 1-800-829-3676

•for **FREE forms in Emmitsburg** visit the Post Office, F&M Bank, or Don Geiger's office

•for tele-tax recorded information or **status of your refund** call 1-800-829-4477

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FUNERALS

Funeral services for Sister Germaine Gillooly, 97, of S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg, MD, who died Saturday, January 7, 1995, at Villa St. Michael, Emmitsburg, MD, were held Tuesday, January 10 with a Mass of Christian Burial from the Basilica of the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton at Emmitsburg, MD, with her pastor Rev. Fr. John King as the Principal Celebrant. Interment was in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Emmitsburg, MD. Arrangements by Skiles Funeral Home, Emmitsburg, MD.

Funeral services for Mrs. Julia M. Fitzgerald, 94, of Old Emmitsburg Rd., Emmitsburg, MD, who died Tuesday, January 10, 1995, at the Gettysburg Hospital, Gettysburg, PA, were held Saturday, January 14, with a Mass of Christian Burial from St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Emmitsburg, MD. Her pastor Rev. Fr. Alfred R. Pehrsson was the Principal Celebrant. Interment was in New St. Joseph's Cemetery, Emmitsburg, MD. Arrangements by Skiles Funeral Home, Emmitsburg, MD.

Funeral services for Mr. John William Greta Keilholtz, 76, of Lakeland, FL, who died Thursday, January 12, at the Lakeland Regional Medical Center, Lakeland, FL, were held Tuesday, January 17, from Elias Lutheran Church, Emmitsburg, MD, with his pastor Rev. W. Ronald Fearer officiating. Interment was in Creagerstown Lutheran Cemetery, Creagerstown, MD. Arrangements by Skiles Funeral Home, Emmitsburg, MD.

Funeral services for Mr. Harold Patrick "Pat" Johnson, 62, of Crossview Trail, Fairfield, PA, who died Wednesday, January 25, at the Gettysburg Hospital, Gettysburg, PA, were held Friday, January 27, from Skiles Funeral Home, Emmitsburg, MD. The Rev. W. Ronald

Fearer pastor of Elias Lutheran Church officiated. Interment was in Emmitsburg Memorial Cemetery, Emmitsburg, MD.

Funeral services for Mrs. Teresa Agnes (Manning) Mort, 85, of Frailey Road, Emmitsburg, MD, who died Sunday, January 29, at the Meridian Nursing Home, Frederick, MD, were held Wednesday, February 1, from the Skiles Funeral Home, Emmitsburg, MD, with the Rev. Stephen Hastings pastor of the Incarnation United Church of Christ officiating. Interment was in Keysville Union Cemetery, Keysville, MD.

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*A word about
pre-arrangements
and pre-financing*



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We offer complete information on pre-arrangements and pre-financing, available without cost or obligation of any kind. Feel free to contact us at your convenience.

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((LETTER from page 4)
and over again was that drivers did not stop at the sensors but would stop forward of the sensors just as the light was changing to red. Thus they would sit and wait and wait, but the light would not change until another vehicle behind them would activate the light or they would make an illegal entrance into the intersection on a red light.

Another problem with traffic-activated lights was that during "rush hour" Main Street traffic was being stopped every few seconds by traffic from Seton Avenue. Only one car on Main Street could make a left turn onto South Seton before the light would change again.

Still another problem was that pedestrians did not use the cross walk and the pedestrian button to activate the lights. As a result, traffic did not stop so they could cross safely.

These problems with the traffic and pedestrian-activated lights caused the SHA to change to timed lights so that every one would have a chance to use the intersection every 30 seconds or so regardless of whether or not there is any traffic on Seton Avenue.

I propose that some day when Emmitsburg has a truck by-pass for 140 traffic that perhaps, just perhaps, the historic Emmitsburg square could be returned to the way it looked when it had the most photographed identifiable object that represented Emmitsburg in the minds of everyone. That object, of course, was the fountain. The fountain was the heart and center-piece of the square.

Traffic at the square could be controlled by a traffic circle or roundabout such as in Gettysburg or New Oxford or like the one planned for highway 140 in the near future at Taneytown near McDonalds. Pedestrians would have the right of way at all times, and traffic already in the circle would have the right-of-way over traffic not in the circle. No traffic lights would be needed.

The quality of life in downtown Emmitsburg would be enhanced with fewer vehicles passing through the square. Because traffic would move more freely, less exhaust would be emitted by cars stopped in lines of traffic waiting for the lights to change.

Name withheld upon request.

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Fresh Water Fish, The Pet

By Jack Deatherage, Jr.

How many people have bought 10 gallon starter aquariums complete with filter and advice? How many of those aquariums are in the basement, attic, or garage collecting webs and dust?

Want to try fish keeping again? Or try it for the first time?

Pet shops can be of help, though the people working there aren't able to spend hours studying your needs and desires. They sell equipment, fish, and medicines. YOU are supposed to have some idea of what you want when you walk through their door.

Profit is a shop owner's motive. To insure that all bases are covered (when dealing with a customer who knows nothing about fish) a shop tends to over-sell filters, conditioners, and medicines in the hopes of keeping a customer's fish alive long enough for the customer to learn proper fish keeping habits!

Finding a hobbyist willing to show off his/her set-ups isn't hard to do. Most fish keepers I know love to talk about their pets and many of us enjoy helping beginners avoid the often costly mistakes we made. Local fish keepers may already know the conditions you have to work with and may even have experience with the fish you are interested in.

Fish keepers using Emmitsburg Municipal Water (EMW) are lucky. EMW, out of my tap, is moderately soft with a pH above 7, slightly alkaline (Base). After de-chlorinating, the water can easily be made acidic for discus and angelfish, or hard, alkaline for African Cichlids. The additives for either condition are inexpensive and aren't really needed unless the keeper is growing out baby fish (fry) or preparing to breed fish.

Well-water varies. Those I have tested are great for goldfish and African lake (Please see FISH on page 23)

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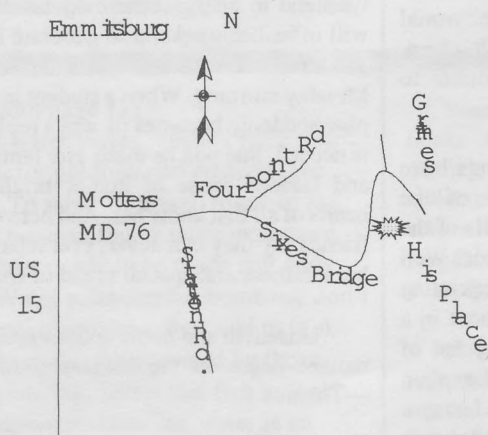
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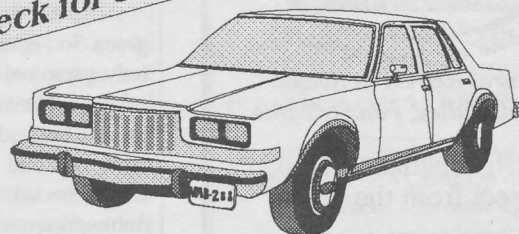
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Mother Seton School

February was started by celebrating "Catholic Schools Week." This year's theme was Bridging the Centuries. Following is a list of the events sponsored by Mother Seton School:

Student Appreciation Day - A prayer service and honors assembly began this day, and was followed by a special prayer partner activity. The Development Office provided the students with a special treat. Mrs. Meno's 6th grade presented their special arrangement of "We Are A Small Part of the World."

Volunteer and Benefactors Appreciation Day - Honoring these special people, the students presented a play depicting the life of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton followed by a video presentation of life at MSS today. Mrs. Meno's 6th grade sang again their special arrangement of "We Are A Small Part of the World." Refreshments were enjoyed by all.

Open House - Parents and grandparents enjoyed lunch with their children and returned with them to their classrooms to watch their afternoon schoolwork.

Liturgy - All of the families of Mother Seton School gathered in the school auditorium for a special Mass celebration of Catholic education.

Teacher and Staff Appreciation Day - The Student Council planned surprise activities for the faculty and staff. The staff appreciated all of the efforts shown by the dedicated students.



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MOTHER SETON SCHOOL

By Val Mentzer

Celebrating Valentine's Day means recognizing those people in your life that are very important and bring joy to your life. Mother Seton School celebrated this by honoring a very special member of the staff and faculty. The school proclaimed "Sue Ritz Day" and gathered the students in the school auditorium for a special presentation. Mrs. Ritz was adorned with red roses, a crown, and a guardian angel pin. The following describes what Mrs. Sue Ritz means to the Mother Seton School community.

Our Guardian Angel

It is said that we all have a guardian angel. Many believe this angel to be a spirit or a celestial being. But those of us that are members of the Mother Seton School community in Emmitsburg know that a guardian angel most definitely comes in the form of a flesh and blood human being. A human being with total commitment, unprecedented dedication, saintly unselfishness, and undying devotion to this Mother Seton School community. This angel's name is Sue Ritz.

Yes, all schools have very devoted staff, teachers, parents, students, and alumni. Not all schools, however, possess one person that falls into all of these categories. Several years ago, Sue Ritz sat in these students' desks and learned the "Good News" as was taught by the Sisters. Did she know that a generation later she would be watching her four children learn the same lessons in those desks? Did the Sisters know that a generation later Sue would tirelessly volunteer her time to wash, clean, and rearrange those desk every summer to prepare for the coming year?

The Mother Seton School students have given Sue Ritz the most esteemed title of "the only person allowed to run in the halls of the school." What has earned her that honor? Well she has flagged down a fleeing bus by sprinting from one end of the school to the next in a single bound. Perhaps the following list of duties, many of them volunteer, will explain her claim to fame: eight years of being a teachers' aide, cafeteria duty for all lunch periods 5 days a week, afternoon playground duty, resident proofreader for Development Office and School News, computer operator, typist, mimeograph operator, photocopying



Sue Ritz

and laminating person, tutoring reading in the summer, cleaning all of the school rugs in the summer, ordering the school textbooks, helping to organize the library during the summer, volunteering for our Colorfest booth, volunteering and helping to coordinate the weekly Friday night Bingo, handling the arrangements for our school liturgies as well as singing in them, volunteering at the kiddie booth at our annual spring Carnival, and volunteering to be a casting coach for our various Mother Seton School programs.

Although this list of jobs is very impressive, it is not the main reason why Sue Ritz is so loved and needed at Mother Seton School. Her goodheartedness and ability to make others smile and feel joy is her very essence. She will take work home over the weekend to help out the busy teachers. She will offer her weekend to decorate hallways and bulletin boards to surprise the teachers on Monday morning. When a student in a school play suddenly becomes ill and a replacement is needed, Sue will be there. Her familiar face and famous sense of humor brightens the hearts of all that know her. And her very close friends say they can never, ever repay her for her kindness and special brand of friendship.

"Unselfish and noble actions are the most radiant pages in the biography of souls."
—Thames

**EMMITSBURG
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
NEWS**

by Dianne L. Walbrecker

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

Bring your long, flowing skirt and a comfortable pair of shoes to participate in the Family Square Dance at 7 pm on February 16th. Snowdate February 17th. All families of Emmitsburg Elementary School children are welcome and encouraged to attend. Bring a dessert and the Emmitsburg PTA will provide the drinks.

For those whose feet can't wait to start moving, volunteers are invited to come to the school gym on Wednesday, February 15th at 9:15 am or Thursday, February 16th at 1:40 pm to help Slim Harrison teach our students how to square dance!

A crucial round table and parent advisory meeting is coming up February 22 at Catoctin Elementary to discuss issues concerning our budget, such as our educational programs, staff, supplies, funding for drainage for the school playground and more parking spaces. If we don't get involved, these issues will be decided for us. Please be at the meeting or send letters to Dr. Gadra.

For parents with little ones, registration for Pre-K and kindergarten students will take place on Thursday, March 9th from 5 - 8 pm. Please bring your child's birth certificate. An updated physical and immunization record will be required before entering schools. You may also come in during March at regular school hours to register.

(COUNCIL from page 17)
income.

Following the presentations a number of plans were made by the Council:

-The Emmitsburg church congregations are going to be asked if they would like to participate in a church softball or volleyball league.

-The Council is looking into the possibility of having the "Celebration Singers" perform at the new 500-seat auditorium at Mt. St. Mary's sometime in late April or early May. The "Celebration Singers" is a non-denominational organization of young gospel and religious singers from the Lancaster area.

-The Catoctin High School volunteer Baccalaureate Service is going to be held on June 2 this year at the Provincial House Basilica.

- The Emmitsburg CROP WALK will be held sometime in the fall this year.

- The Council is putting together a small "Welcome" booklet regarding Emmitsburg information which would be useful for new people moving into the Emmitsburg area.

(CONCERT from page 8)

There will also be displays on reforestation efforts around the world. This display is a special project of the children of the Incarnation church. The church has a special Wednesday evening children's program dedicated to Biblically based concern for the Earth. If you are interested in investigating this weekly venture with the Incarnation kids, or need more information call Pastor Steve Hastings at 447-2270.

(FISH from page 12)

Well-water varies. Those I have tested are great for goldfish and African lake species. To raise (or breed) many of the South American fish is more expensive. Their water needs to be made soft and acidic. Water softeners for home use don't work for this problem; they add to it. A reverse osmosis filter is used by those keeping healthy, soft-water fish in their hard well-water. Distilled water is an alternative, though expensive in large aquariums.

Summing up: Read a couple of the newer books on basic fish keeping. Find a pet shop dealing exclusively with fish and ask lots of questions. A fish club or society is a useful source of information. Most pet shops sell magazines about fish. Buy several and read everything!

Fish are tough and tolerate many of our mistakes, but we do harm them when our mistakes are large or many. The intent of this column is to help you avoid harming the fish. Understanding the needs of the fish is the easiest way to success.

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