

Covering the Emmitsburg Region

The DISPATCH

Vol.V, No. 1

Gaining Strength from One Another

January 1998

Catoctin CASS Program forms partnership with Counseling Services, Inc.



Seated from left to right: Linda Natoli, Counseling Services, Inc. Mike Stovall, CASS Executive Board, Debbie Swiderski, Catoctin CASS Coordinator. Standing from left to right: Norine Haas, Frederick County Mental Health Association, Cornelia Reynolds, Linganore CASS Coordinator. Photo courtesy of CASS.

Community Agency School Services (CASS) recently entered into a partnership with Counseling Services, Inc. located in Frederick to provide outreach counseling services in out-lying areas of Frederick County. Through this partnership on-site counseling services will be provided at Catoctin High School and at the Catoctin CASS office located at the Emmitsburg Community Center. Weekly counseling services will be provided on a sliding-scale basis.

Other services available at CASS include counseling services provided by Frederick County Mental Health

which is on-site at Thurmont Middle School and Heartly House Outreach Counseling held at the CASS office for individuals affected by domestic violence and rape/sexual assault.

The Frederick County Health Department also provides a number of outreach clinics held at the Emmitsburg Community Center to include childhood immunizations, school-linked clinic, and women's health clinic. For information on these and other services available through the Catoctin CASS Program, please call Debbie Wivell Swiderski at (301) 447-3611.

Proposed crossing for Tom's Creek

The Frederick County Commissioners asked the Department of Public Works to investigate the need for a low-water crossing of Tom's Creek that would accommodate large farm equipment. A low-water crossing at Dern Road was proposed at that time.

I am sending out survey letters to farmers in the Four Points area. If you have not gotten a letter and would like to participate in this survey, please call me at 301-696-2937. Ask for Ken Harwood. If I am not in, please leave a message with your name, address, and phone number and I will send out a survey letter to you.

Thank you for your help in resolving this problem.
Kenneth C. Harwood, Project Manager,
Frederick County Dept. Public Works

EBPA calls for participants in planning fall festival

A small group from the Emmitsburg Business and Professional Assoc. met recently to begin the planning for the new Mason-Dixon Fall Festival scheduled for Oct. 3 and 4, 1998.

"We are inviting all who reside in and around the historic Emmitsburg area to participate in the planning of the festival," said EBPA president Bob Gauss. "We'll be meeting Jan. 14, 7 p.m., at the Gourmet Grill and urge individuals or groups who want to participate to bring their creative ideas and energy." The group is seeking food booths, crafters, artistic displays, tours, etc.

The Emmitsburg Business and Professional Association was asked by Town Commissioner Phil Postelle

to coordinate planning and activities for the Mason-Dixon Fall Festival.

According to Gauss there are several important reasons for the event to occur, and he encourages interested citizens and groups to participate in the planning.

Major purposes of the event are to participate in Frederick County's 250th Birthday Celebration and to gain a marketing advantage by reviving the idea of a fall festival in Emmitsburg.

"Our hope is to celebrate the town's slogan 'An Historic Mason-Dixon Line Community,' and to distinguish ourselves from the legions of fall festivals that have sprung up around the area by tying our celebration to the historic Mason-Dixon Line."

They did good work - volunteers turn Main Street into Charm Street

By Chata Carr

Editor's note: Once again the magic of the Christmas Season has descended upon folk 'in this place' through the transformation of ordinary citizens into Santa's elves who merrily assembled the decorations for which the town is becoming known.

On Saturday, Nov. 29, at 9 a.m. in the warming glow of the town garage, the transformation occurred. Becoming a bit more than mortal for a few hours were Leanne Adams, April Adams, Jessica Adams, Melissa Adams, Cindy Adams, Julie Davis, Mark Adams, Guy Baker, Betty Ann Baker, Gabe Baker, Ann Gingell, Nancy Neighbours, Leslie DePaola, William Carr, Chata Carr, Carolyn Keilholtz, Bea Keilholtz, Vernon Keilholtz, Margy Myers, Jeanne Myers, Loretta Adelsberger,

Nathan Adelsberger, Annetta Rapp, Melisa Gavor, Francis Gavor, Jean Gavor, and Tiffany Stahley.

By 1 p.m. that day over 250 swags had been created for the street lights and poles of the town. During the following week Rick Kreitz and Jim Click of the town maintenance staff hung most of the swags, wreaths, and roping, and put up the Christmas tree. The decorating was finally completed when a number of the Saturday volunteers came back on Thursday afternoon and evening to finish the job.

We feel the results of all the work is beautiful and wish to express our deep appreciation to all those who contributed to the effort. Also to the Indian Lookout Club, Ralph Irelan, and the town council who gave donations toward the project. Many thanks to everyone for an outstanding job.

Letters to the Editor

The *Dispatch* encourages its readers to express their thought about issues that appear in this paper or affect the community. Letters must be exclusive to the *Dispatch*. They should be brief and must be signed and include the writer's address and daytime phone number to be used for verification. Deadline for letters is the 3rd Thursday of each month.

To the managers of Jubilee

We, the Senior Citizens who shop at your store, want to suggest a couple of items that should help the older or handicapped members of the community. We could use a couple of benches (not too low) for us to rest between shopping. Also please lower your [produce] scales for us. Also make the shelves lower

so we can reach them without calling for help.

I shop quite often and I am pleased with your services, but I could use the above suggestions.

Good luck with the new addition in the coming New Year.

Anna Margaret Martin
Co-ordinator of Emmitsburg Seniors.

Community Center revisited: proposal for new site of ambulance building

The Community Center is historic because hundreds of Emmitsburg citizens have spent 12 years in the building as students. It is in a beautiful location and is going to be even busier than it is now with the renovation and possible relocation of the library and also its use for other activities, such as Senior Citizens, and archives for artifacts of organizations such as the Homemakers and Lions Clubs. Also there are the Girl Scouts, Visitors Center, teen center, CASS, and police—all using this building.

All this activity will cause an increase in the amount of parking space. When the elementary school has a function, the library has a function and the ambulance corps has a function, it is almost impossible to find a place to park. There is a need to keep this building (the Community Center) beautiful.

However, there is a conflict. The ambulance corps needs more space, and is advocating the possibility of using even more space in front of the Community Center to add on to the Ambulance Building. This would really further spoil the Community Center.

It has been suggested that it would be appropriate if persons who own property, perhaps on Creamery Road or another nearby area could donate land to move the ambulance building so that there would be space for all the wonderful and very necessary service and other functions that the ambulance corps have sponsored for the community. There would also be plenty of parking space. There

would be other advantages of moving the ambulance building out of the center of town. Perhaps even the Fire Company could use some space for their Tower truck or other machinery. Instead of having to contend with the traffic of the town, there would be immediate access to Route 15 and clear access to Route 140.

Is there anyone out there who would be able to contribute to this worthy project? Perhaps there is someone or a group of people who could donate land or money and make it a fitting memorial to David Copenhagen. The National Fire Academy, Saint Catherine's Nursing Home; the Provincial House, and Mt. Saint Mary's all benefit by the excellent services rendered by the Ambulance Corps and they might wish to help finance the project.

Mount Saint Mary's College has been successful in obtaining donations for many improvements and additions to the campus, such as specific facilities in the ARCC—furnishing racquetball courts, weight rooms, and even entire buildings.

Even those who are alumni of Emmitsburg Elementary and High School would be willing to help with this project so as to save the beauty and facade of the Community Center. Donors who have large capital gains stock could get very profitable tax benefits for them if they donate the stock that has appreciated a lot.

It is a win-win-win situation for anyone concerned. The Ambulance Corps would have its own space for

Town News...

Updates:

Eagle Oil and Southgate Subdivision

Construction of the Eagle Oil gas and convenience store is going at a rapid pace. The building is in place and the electrical service is ready to be connected. In approximately two weeks the concrete for island under the canopy will be poured. This is based on favorable weather conditions. The storm-water management pond has been dug and a water discharge system

will be functional in the forthcoming week. Final touches on the project such as the installation of a berm, additional paving, and land-

scaping are next on the list. These items should be completed by the middle of January if the weather permits. January 19th is the delivery date for the canopy which is expected to take three to four days to erect. The anticipated opening date is late January.

The developers of the Southgate subdivision will be requesting an extension of the preliminary plans from the Planning and Zoning Commission and Town Council. The Planning and Zoning Commission will hear the case January 26th, 1998 at 7:00 p.m. at the town office. The request will then be presented to the Town Council at the February town meeting.

all its services and activities and events, as well as plenty of parking space. And the Community Center facade could be put back to what it was in 1955.

Lucille Beale
Emmitsburg, MD

Thank you:

Our heartfelt thanks for all your prayers and support during our recent trial

Alan and Rita Carroll

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6th Annual EBPA Christmas decorations awards

The Emmitsburg Business and Professional Association wishes to thank all of Emmitsburg's citizenry who helped decorate the town and their homes for this Christmas season. A special thanks goes to the judges who spent hours touring the town to find the winners. We are pleased that more and more homes and businesses are decorating with live greens, red ribbons, and lights each year. No other town can compare to Emmitsburg aglow in all its Christmas finery.

This year's winners in the Single Family Home category:
1st Place - 700 West Main Street, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Haller

2nd Place - 101 East Main Street, Mr. & Mrs. Larry Pavak.
3rd Place - 659 West Main Street, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Rice.
Honorable mention - 115 DePaul St., Mr. and Mrs. Donald Shorb, and 500 West Main St., Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Seidel, Jr.

Businesses, Offices, Multi-units, etc.:

1st Place - Vigilant Hose Co.
2nd Place - Skiles Funeral Home
3rd Place - Ott House
(Please note that last year's 1st place winners were ineligible for an award this year, but will be judged again next year.)

Thanks! from the Hance family

The Hance family wish to thank everyone who made their annual "Evening of Christmas Spirit" at the Carriage House a wonderful event. We appreciate the sharing of spirit from Bob Gauss, Jr., Jeff and Brian Glass, "The Ladies from F & M," Dee Dee and Ashton, the St. Joseph's

Choir, Charlene Koontz, Chris Petrocelli, the Town of Emmitsburg, Sysco Foods, Carroll County Foods, JP Foodservice, Paul Karsteter, all the Bakers, the Carriage House crew, Mt. St. Mary's Choir, Frank Schmearsal family, and the Provincial House.

Also, thanks for all donations made to the Lions Food Drive.

Happy New Year to all!

The Hance Family

Carolers

On Dec. 23, area residents got together for their 1st Christmas Carol Sing-A-Long that they hope will become an annual event. Popular Christmas carols were sung at various homes throughout Emmitsburg. Participants included Bobby, Denise

and Thea Maddox; Andy, Maryjo, Brittany, and Ryan Trout; Bobby Albin; Courtney Phillips; Jeff and Paula Smith; Claudia Hawkins; Zayna Null; Frank Wagerman; and Frank, Leslie, Kyle, and Jessica Potts. Everybody had lots of fun participating in this Christmas tradition. We hope that next year we will see you.

The intersection:

Dr. Emmitsburg seeking a cure

Calling all readers who are civil engineers, sidewalk superintendents, highway engineer wannabe's, or citizens with solutions

Do you think there is a problem with the Silo Hill-Route 140-Emmit Gardens intersection? If you believe there is a problem, do you have a possible solution that does not involve traffic signals? If you do, and it does not involve traffic lights of any kind, please bring your drawings, scale models, etc. to Emmitsburg Branch Library where they will all be placed on public display beginning January 20 to 31, 1998, for public comment. Dr. Emmitsburg will take the best solutions to the State Highways Department.

This contest is open to all ages. Perhaps local students at the college, Mother Seton Elementary School, Emmitsburg Elementary, Catocin High

School, Maria Groetti or Delone schools could do this as a class or group problem-solving project. Senior citizens have ideas that would work for them when driving to and from Silo Hill Road.

If you feel the best solution is to keep the intersection as it presently is configured you need to let Dr. Emmitsburg know your feelings on this matter also. I will report the results in the February issue of this paper if time and space allow and will report the reaction if any from SHA in the March issue of the same.

Dr. Emmitsburg is always willing to consult or study problems that need solutions in Emmitsburg and vicinity.

Ed. note: Dr. Emmitsburg writes (with apologies to Dr. Gridlock) from the Emmitsburg area but wishes to remain anonymous. Correspondence to him may come through the Letters to the Editor column.



Santa's elves come in all sizes and some look surprisingly like your neighbors or their kids. Girl Scout Troop 108 were caught busy at work early in the morning making goodies for the annual Lions Club Christmas Party held at the Ambulance Building.
A Dispatch

Memo: Re Silo Hill EXXON To: Emmitsburg residents From: Eagle Oil Company, Inc.

We anticipate a mid-January opening. Our dispensers will be credit card activated as well as cashier operated. We will stock a full line of convenience products. The facility is being constructed to blend in with the surrounding area. All petroleum handling equipment is state-of-the-art, with double-walled tanks and lines and continuous tank and line testing. The site will be landscaped with evergreens and flowering trees.

Ken Kacmarski, Company Representative

NOW HIRING

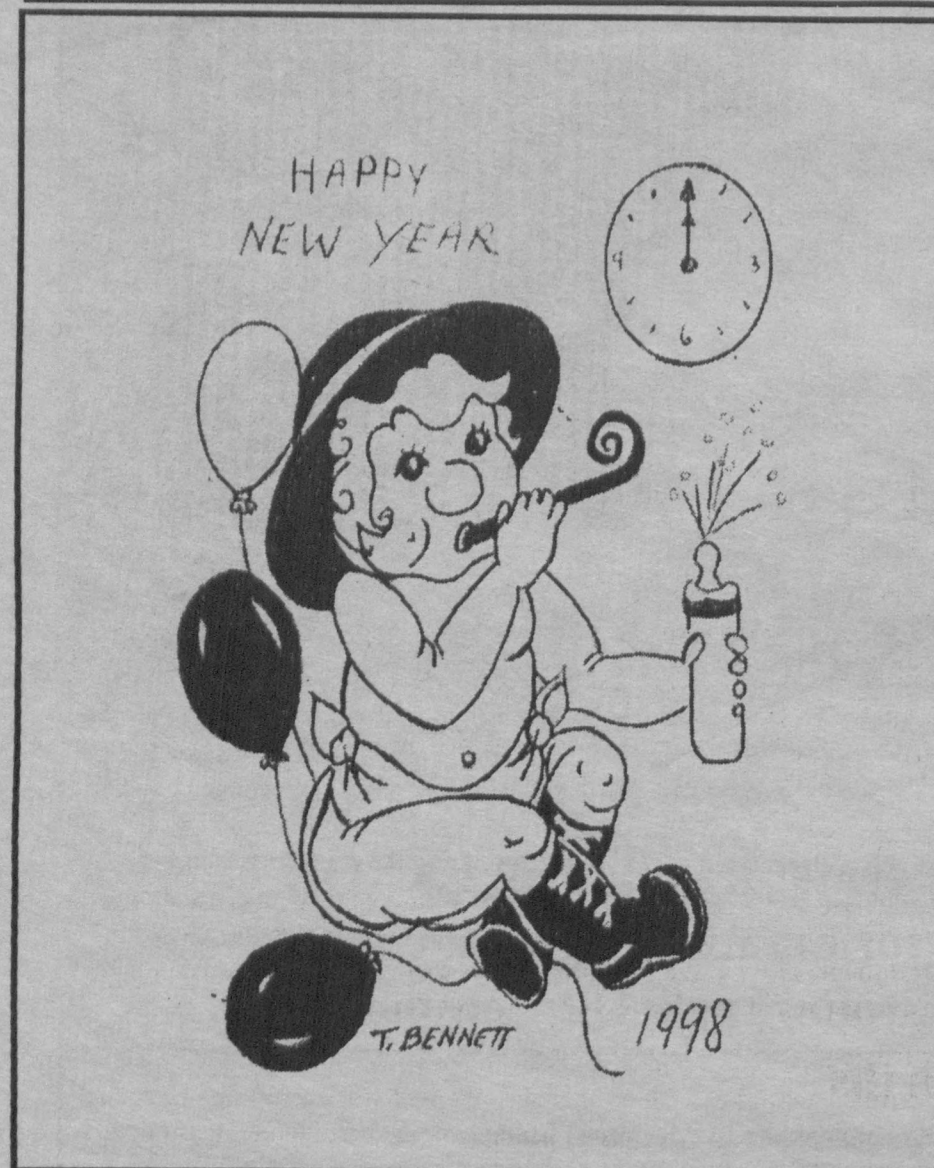
Silo Hill EXXON 110 Silo Hill Rd Emmitsburg, MD

We have openings for all shifts Flexible Hours

Applications accepted on the following dates.

Jan 12 & 13, 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Jan 14 & 15, 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Apply at Silo Hill Site



100 Years Ago "In this place"

from the *Emmitsburg Chronicle*

Afraid of Salt

Isaac Simon, a Russian merchant, of near Hagerstown, applied for protection from the alleged witchcraft of a fellow countryman, named Solomon Saltzman. Simon accuses Saltzman of being possessed of a witch. He says every morning early he finds salt on his door and pavement and is afraid some morning he will not be able to open his store on account of the charm. He is also afraid that his wife will be spirited away. She is a very good looking woman.

The Soap Swindler

There is a man traveling through the country selling soap who uses a scheme to create a demand for his goods. He alleges that there is another man who represents his company that will follow in a few days distributing rugs to customers who purchase \$1 worth of soap. He makes a sale of five bars for one dollar, issues a coupon for the rug,

but the rug fails to come. If he comes this way let him go.

Town taxes

Emmitsburg raised from taxes in 1896 \$822.60. Emmitsburg had an indebtedness of nothing. Water and fire purposes cost Emmitsburg \$250.

Fairfield Items

Mr. and Mrs. Birely, of Liberty township, a newly married couple, made their appearance in church on last Sunday.

Take Warning Farmers

Our farmers and others will do well to be on the lookout for these fellows:

"If reports are true, and we have reason to believe that they are, our farmers are being confidentially 'taken in' by strangers traveling around this section selling porcelain preserving kettles at almost two prices. To one party they sold a three quart and four quart kettle for 90 cents, when our dealer never asked more than 25 cents for the three quart, and 30 cents for the four quart or 55 cents for the two. Now wouldn't it be far better for our people to always deal with reputable home merchants?" Deal at home, friends; it's a safe policy.

Surprise Party

A surprise party was given Miss Marian Hoke by her friends at her residence on Main Street, during Monday evening. Mr. Matthew Kaufman, of Baltimore, sang, while Miss Sallie Hoke performed on the piano. Refreshments were served at a late hour. Those present were Misses Marion Hoke, Gertrude Lawrence, Nellie Eyster, Carrie Rowe, Fannie Krise, Belle Hartman, Sallie Krise, Fannie Hoke, May Kerrigan, Sallie Hoke, Messrs. Harry Hoke, Matthew Kaufman, of Baltimore, George Gillelan, Leslie Maxell, Clarence Zeck, Elmer Lambdin, of Baltimore, Norman Hoke, and Bruce Morrison.

Old Timers

Residing on a turnpike between Thurmont and Franklin Mills are five persons whose ages combined, aggregate 433 years and some months, or an average age of nearly 86.

The Emmitsburg Regional Dispatch

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Commentary: A Dialogic Space

The "times" — a time of real and projected growth and development — puts an increasing strain on the regular schedule of town meetings and hearings. Even the normal operations of a municipality have become more complex and extended.

One result is a filled agenda not always conducive to a considered carrying out of the town's business especially with the ticking of the clock in the background of everyone's mind. Meetings address a wide variety of topics (concerns) and run long. Often, to save time, ideas have to be expressed in a 3-minute time period. Few of us possess the oratorical skills to clearly express a point, and speakers often leave the microphone with the feeling that they have not been heard.

People want to talk and they want to be heard. Perhaps a business meeting does not offer the place nor the time for the consideration of concerns and feelings. In their book on community planning, placemakers (some call them planners) Schenkloth and Shibley, call for the creation of a dialogic space, a place

which is created by the willingness of us all to take part in a continual conversation about the way that we want to work and live "in this place." A place where hopes, fears, ideas, and frustrations about our place and the people who live here are discussed. "A place where," according to Schenkloth and Shibley, "we can share insights of what is and what could be. A place of openness to any points of view."

Dialogue includes the possibility of conflict but in the proper setting can lead to discovery and transformation and agreement. Striving toward agreement through dialogue means we confirm each other in our shared experiences. Hiding behind disagreement, we only affirm in each other our differences.

Creating a dialogic space may take some time. We could begin with a gathering of officers of the town's organizations, citizens, and officials who would come together to listen and be heard and discover. We hope the new year will provide such an opportunity.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO HOLD TOWN MEETINGS

"Participate in The Future of Your Community!"

Become a vital part of your community, participate in the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) ongoing dialogues to frame the future of Frederick County. In celebration of the 250th Anniversary of Frederick County and to continue with the May 1997 Community Conversation, the BOCC will host "Town Meetings" throughout the County in 1998.

The BOCC will go on the road to inform citizens of the important role of County government in addressing local concerns and to encourage citizen participation in the search for solutions. During the "Town Meetings" discussions will be held on: (1) Governance - Charter Government/Forms of Government; (2) Planning - strategic planning, solid waste plan, controlled growth, comprehensive planning, transportation issues, aging issues; (3) Economic Development - agriculture, commercial/residential tax base, workforce development, schools to careers, diversified workforce, and business recruitment and

retention; (4) Education - school construction, school board membership, education funding, cost reduction measures, year round schools and technology plan; and (5) Finance - revenue sources, taxing districts, capital improvements program, consolidation of resources. The "Town Meetings" will also provide an opportunity for citizens to have a voice in the future of their community by raising any individual and/or community issues for discussion with the BOCC.

Each meeting is being held on the date and/or year of the town's settlement, founding or incorporation.

The following is the "Town Meeting" schedule for 1998:

JANUARY:

Wednesday, January 14
Thurmont (1894) 7-9 p.m.
Catoctin High School

AUGUST:

Wednesday, August 12,
Emmitsburg (1785)
7-9 p.m.
Location to be announced



The students of Emmitsburg Elementary collected canned and boxed food to donate to the less fortunate of Frederick County. The food was collected by the students and kept in a box in each teacher's room, where it was counted periodically throughout the drive. All classes participated and the classroom

with the students who collected the most cans will be awarded with a popcorn party. The students in Ms. Soisson's class were in charge of running the Food Drive and graphed the results in their mathematics class using a bar graph. The food was picked up by the Salvation Army for distribution.

Births

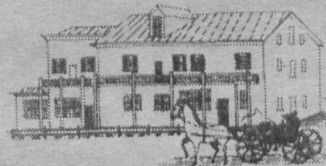
Congratulations to these proud parents -

Born to Tammy Cool and Charles Sayler, a daughter, Nove. 20, 1997,

Born to Donna R. Sweeney, a son, Nov. 24, 1997,

Born to Leo Edward Ridenour, Jr. and Tina Marie Ridenour, a son, Garrett Leo Ridenour, on December 9, 1997. Garrett weighed 8 lbs. 13³/₄ ounces. Grandparents are Brooke and Corinne Miller and the late Mr. and Mrs. Leo Ridenour.

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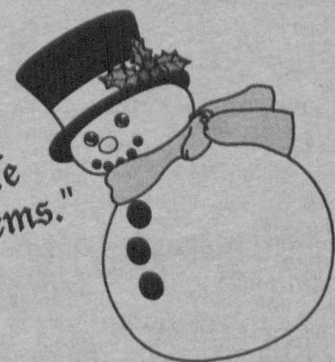
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SENIOR CITIZENS NEWS

By Anna Margaret Martin
Christmas has come and passed and a new year is here. My, time does fly! May you all experience a happy, joyous, and lively new year!

The seniors enjoyed a delicious Christmas dinner catered by Mountain Gate on December 15. Our guests included four persons from St. Catherine's: Dora Wormley, Kermit Glass, Maude Baumgardner, and Catherine Smith. Also, Pat and Arthur Throne joined us. Gifts were given to Anna Margaret from the center. We had lots of fellowship with our friends.

We have new officers for the next two years: President, Kathleen Shorb; Vice President, Eleanor Humerick; Secretary, Loretta Adelsberger; and Treasurer, Faine Rodgers. Good luck to you all.

Wivell Christmas Party

By Helen Reaver

The descendants of the late Roy and Helen Wivell held their annual Christmas Party on December 29 at the Rocky Ridge Firehall. Attendance was 218.

Blessing was given by Helen Reaver; prayer for deceased members was given by Kevin Wivell.

Entertainment this year was by the Eugene Wivell Family. They portrayed the "Night before Christmas" with *visions* of what each Wivell brother's or sister's future might be - a lot of laughs, a job well done.

Paul, our narrator, gave an update on the family calendar and welcomed the new babies born in 1997 and presented them with a small poinsettia. New married members were also welcomed.

The "Roses and Thorn Club" (62 & over) gained 4 new members: Mary Jo Wivell, Kathleen Wivell, Helen Wivell, and Eugene Wivell,

Phyllis Green (our historian) continued to update on the family history, always very interesting.

Tentative activities for January are as follows:

Thursday, Jan. 8 and 22, 1:00 p.m. - "500" card party
Tuesday, Jan. 13, 1:00 p.m. - Frederick shopping
Thursday, Jan 15 and 29, 1:00 p.m. - Bingo
Tuesday, Jan. 20 - Meeting Day

Any other programs will be announced by the new co-ordinator and meal manager, Linda Umbel. Linda is a native of the community and has been working for the Commission on Aging in Frederick. *You must call for meal reservations 24 hours in advance.* Please support the programs.

We chanced off the train donated by Daniel Kaas on Thursday, Dec. 18. Anna Law is now the conductor of the "Christmas Express." Have fun, Anna!

Paul also acknowledged Tom & Mary Jo's 40th wedding anniversary and presented them with a beautiful poinsettia.

Door prizes of a poinsettia/\$5.00 cash were won by the following: Joe Wivell, Norrie Topper, Lauryn Hoff, Nathan Goetz, Scott Wivell, Danielle Hoff, and Brenda Wolfe.

Following all the announcements came the traditional nativity scene portrayed by the greatgrandkids, ST. JOSEPH - Vincent Reaver, Jr.; BLESSED MOTHER - Amanda Wivell, BABY JESUS - David Shields, Jr.; ANGELS - Cassandra Wagman, Kathy Shields, Liz Reaver, Jenna Wivell; SHEPHERDS - Brittany Reaver, Hunter Wivell, Rikki Lynn Wivell; KINGS - Patrick Reaver, Ashley Reaver and Scan Reaver. During the pageant, songs were sung by the nephews and nieces. Thanks guys, beautifully done.

A most enjoyable day was spent by all with too many delicious casseroles.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!

ATTENTION, ARTISTS!

By Francis Smith

The Emmitsburg Senior Art Group is seeking additional members. Although we are currently involved in the visual arts, we welcome artists of every genre: poets, potters, musicians, actors, dancers, photographers, essayists, gourmets, ecologists, florists, gardeners, writers, sculptors, jewelers, weavers — in short, everyone who is not afraid to share a talent (and a brown bag lunch) with the rest of us wannabe's. We may even bend the rules to

welcome some not yet into their golden years.

As a rule, we meet on Tuesdays, from 10 a.m. until... (your option). If you are interested, please contact Francis Smith (301) 447-2236, or consult our generous Emmitsburg public librarians, Kate Warthen or Kathy Link (447-2682).

Next meeting: January 6, 1998, lower floor of the Emmitsburg Community Center, South Seton Avenue. See you there!

Merry Mulch Your Tree!! Christmas Tree Recycling Program

During this holiday season, if you decided to use the real thing - a live Christmas tree - to decorate your home, think about recycling it instead of simply putting it out for the trash. Each year the county provides a number of locations to take your Christmas tree for recycling. But remember to remove all ornaments, tinsel, garland, tree stands, and plastic bags before leaving the tree at the collection site!

Dates: Now to January 24, 1998.

Hours: All sites, except the Landfill, seven days a week from dawn to dusk. Landfill, Mon. - Sat., 7 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Collection sites:

Emmitsburg Recycling Center
Thurmont Recycling Center.



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Jan. 23 & 24 Ravin'

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5 West Main Street Emmitsburg, MD 301-447-2625

New behavioral health care office opens in Emmitsburg

"The Right Professional at the Right Time in Emmitsburg, Md."

Are you looking for quality assured behavioral health care? With one phone call you reach a multi-disciplinary team of experienced, licensed mental health professionals and certified addictions counselors.

Behavioral Health Professionals, P.C. is a family of local providers in practice, each with an established, positive community reputation. The main office is located in Gettysburg, Pa. Our newest location is in Emmitsburg, Md., where S. Eugene Long, M.D., Psychiatrist, and Mary Lynne Ziegler, LCSW-C, will be residing. We will also have full resources of the other BHP clinicians and consultants available at the Emmitsburg office.

Dr. Long has been with BHP since October, 1996. He has had a private practice in Columbia, Md. for over 20 years. He is actively involved as Resident Medical Director with Starflight, a non-profit agency in Columbia that provides shelter and clinical care for individuals who are developmentally delayed with psychiatric illness.

Ms. Ziegler is a new member to the BHP team. She first opened her office in Emmitsburg in 1991 after moving her practice from the Baltimore area. She is currently working with Archdiocesan Project Rachel office providing weekend retreats for post abortive men and women. She is also Executive Director and Foundress of the

DeMarillac Center, a non-profit agency dedicated to helping families grieve and memorialize their unborn children.

Our Emmitsburg Office will be open from 10 am - 5 pm.

Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays by appointment only.

Scheduling can be done by calling the Emmitsburg Office at (301) 447-3690 or our main office in Gettysburg, Pa., at (717) 334-5502 or toll free (800) 213-0073.

BHP is managed-care friendly and competent at providing the following services:

Outpatient Psychiatry, Psychological Evaluation, and Psychotherapy: Evaluation and treatment of all ages, from toddlers to older adults. Psychiatry and medical management, individual, couple, family and group psychotherapy. Research-based treatment protocols, including brief solution-focused, cognitive-behavioral family systems, and psychodynamic modalities. Specialists available for specific needs such as eating disorders, ADHD, etc. Evaluations and treatment off site in homes and nursing homes for those unable to come to the office.

Outpatient Drug and Alcohol Treatment: Through The Recovery Place we offer individually designed treatment programs, with an emphasis on community-based recovery, family involvement, and proven techniques. If inpatient stay is med-

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Carpe Diem

Library Board takes on its future.

At the regular meeting of Emmitsburg Branch Library Advisory Board new officers were chosen. David Martin succeeds Francis Smith as president, Chata Carr succeeds Mary Hoke as treasurer, and Annetta Rapp will fill the vacancy of secretary following the retirement of Sheila Chatlos. Mr. Smith served as president for 13 years, Mrs. Hoke served as treasurer for 34 years, and Mrs. Chatlos served as secretary for 37 years.

President Martin addressed the current situation of the facility and traced some time benchmarks concerning the development and renovation of the library. He reported the following:

1990's - Town citizens successfully petition the Board of Commissioners to save the Community Center building rather than to tear down this historic structure to avoid the costs of upgrading to meet the ADA access

law's requirements.

1994 - September - Completion of study entitled "Independent Evaluation of Emmitsburg Community Center." (Copies available at the library.)

1997- June - Hazardous materials mitigation in Community center.

July - Ground broken for elevator and stairs and related access issues (bathrooms etc.)

November - Frederick County Library Board minutes approved and signed by President Peter Sicilia, stating plans for the Thurmont Planning Region, where there are branches in both Thurmont and Emmitsburg: FCPL to build a regional-sized library in Thurmont while maintaining and upgrading Emmitsburg Branch to a quality library facility of approximately 6,500 sq.ft. Eventually the Thurmont regional library to be enlarged from 15,000 to 25,000 or 30,000 sq.ft.

November 20 - Emmitsburg Branch Library Advisory Board approves unanimously the motion to move the Emmitsburg Branch library to occupy the whole 3rd or top floor of the Community Center

Please see LIBRARY on page 9



With the "pinky" held just so, kids enjoy a Christmas Tea Party sponsored by the Emmitsburg Branch of FCPL.

A Dispatch Photo

Who done it?

Emmitsburg Branch Library is hosting a program by Michael Hillman of the *Emmitsburg Regional Dispatch* on January 5 at 7:30. He will talk about the Feliz Munchower murder case in which James Wetzel was murdered in Moser Woods. The murder took place near Toms Creek Bridge in December, 1879. Come to the library to find out about this fascinating case.

The program is sponsored by Frederick County Public Libraries which join Frederick County in cele-

brating 250 years of county history. Throughout the year FCPL branch libraries will celebrate their communities through special programs and events. Topics will change seasonally: January through March - local history, April through June - business and civic organizations, July through August - youth in our community, and September through November - the arts. Right now there are special local history programs and exhibits at all FCPL branches.

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LIBRARY from page 8

utilizing all of 6500+ sq. ft..

November 21- Friends of the Emmitsburg Library approves without dissent the Library's occupying all of the 3rd or top floor of the Emmitsburg Community Center.

December 1- Emmitsburg town Commissioners approve (if feasible) the request of the Emmitsburg Branch Library Advisory Board of Trustees and the Friends of the Emmitsburg Library to move the Emmitsburg Library to the 3rd or top floor of the Emmitsburg Community Center. FCPL Board of Directors president Sicilia informed by phone conversation of the concept approval of the Town of Emmitsburg for the Library to occupy the top or third floor of the Community Center.

December 15 - A meeting

held with Frederick County Commissioner Hogan, FCPL liaison, informing her of concept approval by the various groups mentioned above. Commissioner Hogan suggests that the library occupy two floors of the community center.

Local branch Advisory Board president David Martin will seek a spot on the January 5th agenda of Emmitsburg's regular Town Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. to present his ideas on expanding the library renovations.

"This is an ambitious project," says Martin. "But, if we can dream it, we can do it."

Martin calls for persons interested in working for the library expansion to contact him or any member of the Library Board of Trustees, or leave their names at the library check-out desk.

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January Storytime, ages 3-5, Jan. 7 - 29, Wed. at 7:00

p.m. and Thurs. at 10:30 a.m.

Jan 7 & 8 - It's a Mystery!

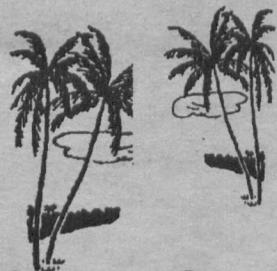
Jan. 14 & 15 - Dinosaur Days

Jan. 21 & 22 - Has it Snowed Yet?

Jan. 28 & 29 - A, B, C - 1, 2, 3.

Substance Abuse Prevention Grants

The Frederick County Health Dept. is offering mini-grants to assist community-based organizations to design, develop, and implement substance abuse prevention program for youth ages 8 - 18. Mini-grants awards can be as much as \$1,000. For details, contact Todd Crum, Prevention Specialist, at (301) 631-3285.



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Angleberger Family Cruise

By Jeanne Angleberger

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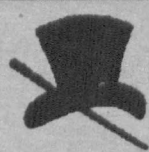
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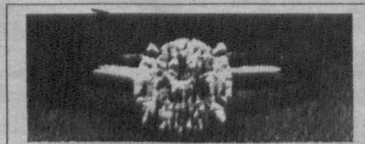
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Over the white board fence

By Mike Hillman
Lefthanded

Organization has never been one of my strong points. Not a day goes by that I don't misplace something or other, and every morning is started off with a ritual of asking Audrey where I left my wallet, glasses, and car keys. Over the years I've gotten used to my absentmindedness, and now when I misplace something, I just shrug my shoulders and figure whatever it is will show up eventually. For example, Audrey's car keys, which I lost a year ago, have just been discovered in my winter coat jacket.

Always looking to put a positive spin on something, I look at lack of organization as being an outgrowth of my 'spontaneous,' (i.e. 'Comp-de-un') attitude. Audrey, however, has another definition of what happens around me, and it includes words like confusion and chaos.

I've always heard that opposites attract, and in this one area that old saying couldn't be more true. I half jokingly tell people that Audrey is so organized that she has lists of her lists. Her daily to-do list begins with 'Get up,' and ends with 'make list for tomorrow and go to bed.' In between is a catalog of her activities which I've been retrieving secretly from our well kept trash can, to sell to an alien race studying the day-to-day habits of competent earthlings.

While Audrey's organization does sometimes impact on my spontaneity, it definitely has its up side, like coffee every morning, bills being paid on time, and the lawn being mowed regularly. More important, however, is the effect it has had on creating an excellent environment for our animals. Under her daily routine, they always know when they will go out, when they will eat, and when they can sleep. Of course, having things so organized makes this place a real zoo when she goes away and things shift over to my way of doing things.

The Friday before Thanksgiving, I took off to do some research on the valley. Before I left, however, I decided to let my horse Worf out for some hand grazing. Now Audrey's routine for hand walking Worf, who

is extremely fit having just come off the competition season, is very particular, and as I would soon learn, for just cause.

After grazing for 15 minutes on the front lawn, I headed towards the gate into the field next to the barn. Unbeknown to me, Worf had been pulling some antics at this gate recently, and as I went through it, he jumped into the air, twisting and kicking out with all four feet. The kicks were not out of malice, but at the happy thought that he was going to be turned out. Unfortunately, one hoof made contact.

The kick came so fast and so hard that my arm never moved. Audrey, hearing the commotion, and figuring something had gone wrong, came running to put things back in order. Two operations and a steel plate later, I found myself suddenly having something new in common with Audrey, being lefthanded.

My mother, who is left handed, blames her poor penmanship on nuns, who hit her with a ruler every time she tried to write with her left hand. I too have bad penmanship due to ruler blast, but it had nothing to do with trying to write left handed. Since marrying Audrey, I've thought I had come to appreciate the difficulties left-handed people have in this world, but as I have recently discovered, you really can't unless you have to live it.

Using regular scissors, for instance, is a nightmare. While left-handed scissors do exist, they are limited in shape and size. So instead, left handers end up using right-handed scissors, albeit upside down, no mean feat when done routinely. Audrey's favorite nit is the coffee pot. To read the fill-level marks, left handers must hold the pot with the right hand, and only a right hand can put it under the coffee maker properly.

As I began to get used to doing things with my left hand, I mentally noted the daily inconveniences we right-handed people throw at left handers. For instance, stick shifts, unless you're a mail man or in England, you have to use your right hand. Opening doors; well let's just say, try opening doors with your left

hand for a week or two, the only thing I can figure is that having only right-handed doors is part of a deep, secret conspiracy to make the left-handed race feel inferior.

Now while there are many down sides to having broken my arm, e.g. pain, doctor bills, pain, and pain, it has provided me the perfect excuse for ignoring Audrey's honey-do list, and has gotten me out of doing my barn chores. As I sat in the hospital waiting for the doctor, it occurred to me that this would be an excellent time to make a final push on collecting the material I needed for my stories on the valley of Stony Branch [every dark cloud *does* have a silver lining]. Which brings me back to the opening topic: Organization.

When I first set out to uncover the history of our farm, all the material I collected was piled wherever I last sat, which was all right when my focus was on just the farm. As time went on, however, I began to wonder about the history of the people who once lived on this farm or owned the land upon which it sits. Families like the Zachariases, who, as I discovered and you will soon learn, settled here in 1754, bought

the land upon which half of our farm sits, and then over the next 140 years, bought or controlled half the land in valley, and in doing so set the pace of life here.

Inundated with family names such as Biggs, Diggs, Seabold, Troxel, Whitmores, Martin, Valintine, Close, Shealy, Forney, Maxel, Fuss, Baumgardner, and Welty; and faced with hundreds of land transactions on well over 2600 acres of land over a 245-year time period, I suddenly had a very real appreciation for Library Science and Audrey's organizational skills.

The first task before me was to organize my piles of deeds and records into distinct entities. Surprisingly, with just few exceptions, the boundaries of the original large land grants still form boundaries for many present property owners. As a result, each of the piles now bears a name such as "Better Than I Expected," "Black Flint," and "Single Delight." Next everything had to be put in chronological order, and then, and only

Please see Lefty on page 13

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LEFT ▽ from page 12

then, read and analyzed with a host of material I've collected over the past year.

In spite of all my efforts, however, I'm still not any closer to knowing how old my house is, which is what got me studying the history in the first place. The key to uncovering this lies in finding descendants of William and Mary Welty, and Albert and Mary Welty Valentine, both of whom were children of a Casper Welty. Any help in this area would be greatly appreciated, as would any stories or information relevant to this valley, or the families who lived here.

Over the past year, many people

have given me information or leads to sources. These include Eugene Zacharias, the great, great, great, grandson of one of the first settlers; Mary Krom, who provided stories on going to school in the Stony Branch School House, which once stood next door; Rick Yinger and Joe Wivell Jr., who have humored me by walking old boundaries; Betty Six Glass, who provided to me the history of her family's life in this house, as did Anna Bollinger, who bought the farm in 1940, and now resides at St. Catherine's; and Bonnie Fuss, who has been an enormous help and a constant source of smiles. Also, thanks to Bill and Judy Kuhn and Tom and Sue Long for their information on the Forney Family.

Lastly, I'd like to thank Audrey, who through her organization created an environment where I've been able to focus, correlate, and write the history of Stony Branch Valley.

Next month, the first Land Barons.

Michael lives with his wife Audrey on their farm in Stony Branch Valley, southeast of Emmitsburg, and while not writing is busy spreading the rumor that Worf's kick was a direct result of Audrey's hitting him with a rock from a sling shot.

Looking Ahead

An All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast will be held at St. Joseph's Parish, Emmitsburg, on Sunday, Jan. 11, from 7:30 a.m. til 12 noon. Breakfast will include sausage, pancakes, eggs, sausage gravy, toast, home fries, fruit, juice, and coffee. Cost is \$4.50 for adults, \$2.50 for children under 12, and children under 5 FREE. A bake sale will be held in conjunction with the breakfast. Lots of home-made goodies to tempt you. All are welcome.

The Women's Aglow Meeting will be held Jan. 12, Mountain Gate Restaurant, 6:15 p.m. Call for reservations by Jan 9th. 301-447-2283 or 301-271-4346.

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Assorted cheeses and crackers
Asst. meats, cheese & crackers
Fresh veggie tray
Deli party tray (serves 25)
Nacho chips & salsa
Homemade potato salad, macaroni, pasta salads (qt.)
Pickled or deviled eggs
Asst. fruit trays

At your Site: Pig Roast,
BBQ Chicken halves
Pit BBQ Beef

Correction

Writers work hard searching for the correct word to convey their meaning. It is a difficult craft. In the Nov. issue story on Honor O'Toole by Katie Vickers the word mien was incorrectly printed as men.

We sincerely apologize for that error.



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Obituaries

Mr. Franklin Eugene Wastler

Mr. Franklin Eugene "Frank" Wastler, Sr., 67, wellknown local businessman of 5962 Ford Road, Frederick, died Sunday, Dec. 21, at Frederick Memorial Hospital.

He was the husband of Lola M. Liller Wastler.

Born Nov. 11, 1930, in Thurmont, he was the son of the late Les G. and Violet Ashbaugh Wastler, Sr.

Mr Wastler was a barber for 51 years, most of which he spent in downtown Frederick at the Wastler and Walter Barber Shop.

He was a member of Brookhill United Methodist Church and the Frederick County Fish and Game Protective Association. In his early years, he was active with the Boy Scouts.

Surviving in addition to his wife are two sons, Franklin E. Wastler, Jr., and wife Debora, and Roger A. Wastler and wife Holly, all of Frederick; two brothers, Lester G. Wastler of Thurmont and Allen Wastler of Littlestown, Pa.; two sisters, Doris Delmonico of Lancaster, Pa., and Carolyn Welker of Annapolis; four grandchildren, Franklin, Wastler, Beth A. Wastler, Jared Ceder, and Amy J. Wastler, all of Frederick, and many nieces and nephews.

Mr Wastler was preceded in death by two sisters, Lillian Kessler and Jean Frock.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, Dec. 24, at Brookhill United Methodist Church, Yellow Springs, with the Rev. Dr. Conrad O. Link, pastor, officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to Brookhill United Methodist Church, 8946 Indian Springs Road, Frederick, MD. 21702

Master Hunter McManus

Master Hunter Clayton McManus, 2-year-old son of Christopher Clayton and Anna Mary Wastler McManus, of 9 Adams Ave., Emmitsburg, died Thursday, Dec. 25, at Frederick Memorial Hospital. He was born July 5, 1995, in Frederick.

Surviving in addition to his parents are a sister, Amber Marie McManus, at home; maternal grandparents, Charles J. and Rachel F. Wastler of Thurmont; paternal grandparents, Margaret and Henry Joseph McManus Mountindale; maternal greatgrandmother, Anna Mary Wastler of Thurmont; and paternal great-grandmothers, Katherine G. Horberger of Mountindale and Margaret M. McManus of Baltimore; two aunts, Vickie Linton of Yellow Springs and Kimmy Conder of Mountindale; three uncles, Chuck Linton of Yellow Springs, Greg Conder of Mountindale, and Mike McManus of Emmitsburg; several great-aunts and great-uncles; and five cousins, Chastity Linton, Justin Conder, Brad Conder, Ryan McManus, and Kathleen McManus.

He also will be remembered by many friends and special baby sitter Kathy Miller and family of Thurmont.

Funeral services were held Monday, Dec. 29 with the Rev. Mark Wastler officiating. Interment in Graceham Cemetery, Graceham.

Master Christopher Duncan

Master Christopher Alan Duncan, 11, of Sixes Bridge Road, Emmitsburg, died Saturday, Dec. 27, at Gettysburg Hospital.

Born Jan. 28, 1986, in Silver Spring, he was the son of Alan Xavier and Julia Ann Thompson Duncan of Emmitsburg.

Master Duncan was a member of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Emmitsburg, and a student at Rock Creek School, Frederick.

Surviving in addition to his parents are a stepbrother, Bradford Lee Meyers of Emmitsburg; a stepsister, Sara Ann Duncan of Emmitsburg; maternal grandparents, Clarence Allen and Julia Harrison Thompson of Deltona, Fla.; paternal grandparents, Robert Francis and Anna Louise Duncan of Emmitsburg; and a special "Uncle Tommy."

He also will be remembered by many friends.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, Dec. 31, with the Rev. Michael J. Kennedy as celebrant. Interment will be in New St. Joseph Cemetery, Emmitsburg.

Memorial contributions may be made to Rock Creek School, 191 Waverly Drive, Frederick, Md., 21702. Arrangements by Skiles Funeral Home, Emmitsburg.

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A word about pre-arrangements and pre-financing



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St. Anthony's/OLMC News

By Ann Marshall

Christmas Music Programs were provided at St. Anthony's at the 5:00 p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve by the Folk Group, coordinated by Penny Jurchak. Emily Hemler was soloist and the instrumentalists were youth from the Williams and McCarthy families. At the 10:00 p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve, music was provided by John and Peggy Oflutt. At the 9:30 Mass Christmas morning, the organ was played by

Mary Lou Sanders with Jennifer Durski and Linda Pitri singing.

Christmas Music at OLMC began at the Christmas Eve Mass at 5:00 p.m. with the Youth Choir, directed by Sally Hill, featuring Elissa Weeks, pianist, and Matt Lechowicz, guitarist. Music at the

10:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass was by the combined Adult Choir from both parishes. Michael Murphy was director and soloist. Mary Lou Sanders played the piano. This Christmas Eve program was coordinated by Diane Decker. Music at the 9:30 a.m. Christmas Day Mass was provided by pianist Charlotte

Thompson and singers Sue Soisson and Elissa Weeks.

Christmas Decorations for both churches were supplied through memorial donations. At St. Anthony Shrine, 138 people remembered their departed loved ones; Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church received memorial offerings from 65 people. A list of those remembered was published in the church bulletin of December 21.

Anniversary snapshots are available. After all Masses on the first and second weekends in January, pictures taken during St. Anthony's Centennial Year will be on display in the Church Hall. There are pictures of individuals as well as of ceremonies and events. St. Anthony Anniversary Committee members will be on hand to take orders for reprints at nominal cost. There will also be a box of "freebies" — snapshots to rummage among and take if desired.

Mary Myers, who celebrated her 102nd birthday in December, thanks Father Leo and all those in both parishes for their kind remembrances of Mass, prayers, flowers, and cards.

Tax Time is Coming and any parishioner who would like to request an Offertory Contribution Statement for 1997 is asked to call the Parish Office (301) 447-2367 by Friday, January 30.

New Location for Confirmation Class which, starting January 4, 1998, will meet at OLMC Parish Center from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Classes will continue through April.

Congratulations to New Babies. St. Anthony Shrine Parish welcomes two new members into its Faith Community. Baptized on December 21 were Nikolas David Root, son of Lynn and Marjorie Root, and Ryan Douglas Wivell, son of Douglas and Kim Wivell.

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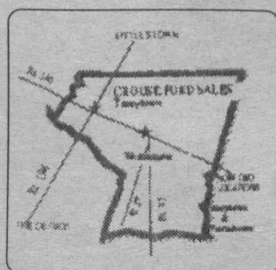


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Mt. Tabor Quilters

By Inspector 13

Another year is here to challenge us. Will this be the year that you want to make a quilt? Or will it be the year you finish the one you started 10 years ago?

We've all just lived through two months of festivals, bazaars, and Christmas shows (sales), and have seen so many beautifully crafted and quilted items. Some of us are afire with a desire to create our own works of art. There's this urgency to rush to the nearest specialty store for project supplies. And, since this is January, we must be ready before the first big snow.

However, before spending big bucks for supplies, there are some basic truths to consider. If exact duplicates of the materials in the original are not used, your project will not look like the one you saw—no matter how skilled you are. Change is sometimes good, better than the original, perhaps. However, the results of change could be disappointment and discouragement.

Another factor to remember is that some of the items you saw were made from kits—preplanned and sometimes precut. Also keep in mind the person who made the wall hanging you like has made many and has discovered unwritten tricks and techniques for creating the look you want to copy.

Mt. Tabor Quilters, individually and as a group, explore new ideas, techniques and designs on a regular basis. We encourage everyone, regardless of age or gender, to try quilt crafting, at least once. You might be the one to create tomorrow's heirlooms and museum pieces.

But before you plunge into an ocean of supplies, talk to someone who creates quilted items. Check out the pitfalls and rewards.

If you're planning a project to work on when you are snowbound, remember your kids and spouses will be snowbound too. You know what that means in your household!

Quicken Computer Record-Keeping Class Offered

The University of Maryland Cooperative Extension Service, Frederick County Office, will be conducting a workshop in farm business computer record keeping using Quicken. The workshops will be

held Mondays, January 5 and 12 from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. at Frederick Community College.

Cost for the workshop is \$50 per farm or business (up to two people per computer.)

Classes are hands-on and will stress farm financial management principles as well as how to use the Quicken computer program. No pre-

vious knowledge of computers is required, but familiarity with computers and Windows will be helpful.

For more information call 301-694-1594 ext.- 3578

The Cooperative Extension Service's programs are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin.

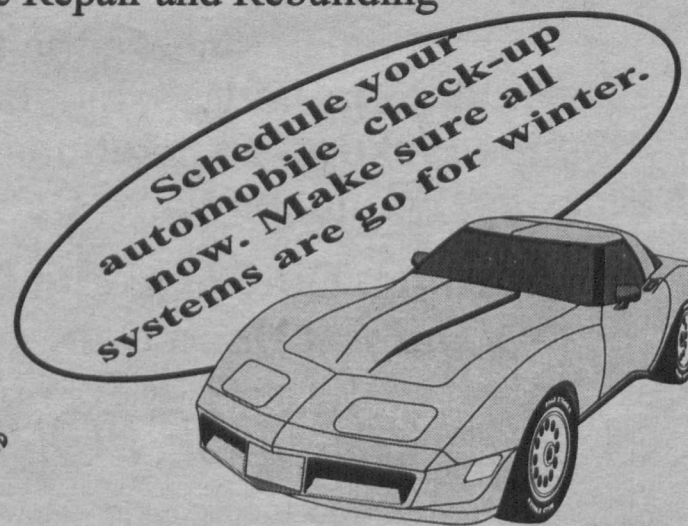
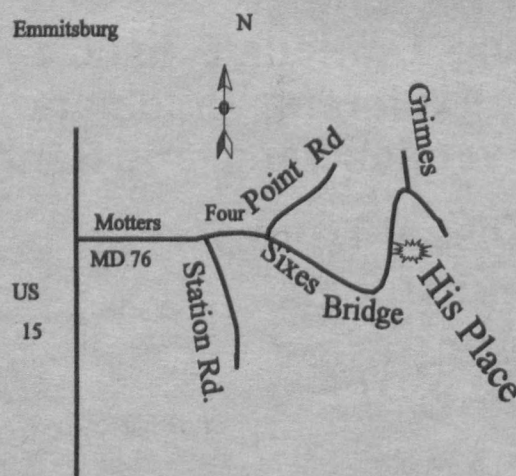
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Mother Seton School News

By Val Mentzer

Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree...

Once again, Mother Seton students celebrated the Christmas season with a lovely performance of Christmas carols sung by our Kindergartners, First and Second graders, directed by the Music Director Cheryl Carney. The Mother Seton School band, directed by Dave Metcalf, performed many festive melodies especially a special rendition of "White Christmas" performed by the eighth grade band students. And, the very first performance of Christmas songs sung by the Mother Seton School Chorus. Congratulations to all involved with this lovely program!

Christmas Merriment Visits St. Catherine's Nursing Center

The Mother Seton School Sixth graders paid a special visit to the residents of St. Catherine's Nursing Center. The students shared music, craft decorating and cookies to send a "Merry Christmas" message to the residents.

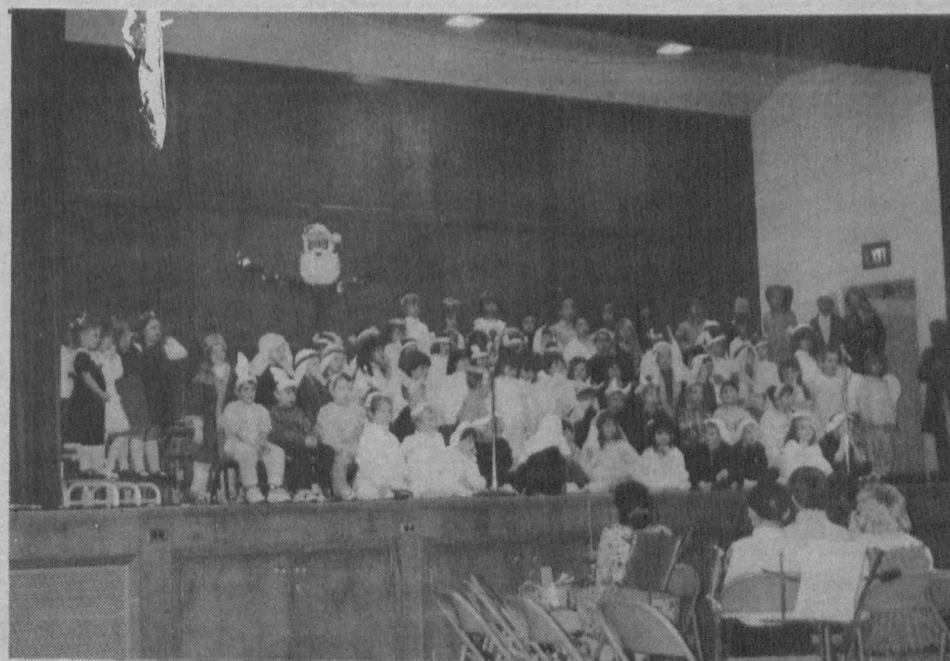
Around the Globe...

Sixth grader Zane Craig won this

year's school-level National Geography Bee for the second consecutive year. Zane has a chance at a \$25,000 college scholarship. The school-level bee, at which students answered oral questions on geography, was the first round in the tenth annual National Geography Bee. The bee is sponsored by the National Geographic Society and the Sylvan Learning Centers, which provide supplemental education services to students at all skill levels.

Thousands of schools around the United States and in the five U.S. territories are participating in the kick-off for this year's bee. The school winners, including Zane Craig, will now take a written test; up to 100 of the top scorers in each state and territory will be eligible to compete in their state bee later in the spring.

The National Geographic Society will provide an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C. for state champions and their teacher-escorts for the National Championship. The first place national winner will receive a \$25,000 college scholarship.



Christmas carols sung by Mother Seton School Kindergartners, First and Second graders, directed by the Music Director Cheryl Carney.

Photo courtesy of Val Mentzer

Attention Students: Learn Trash

Students are encouraged to visit the Reich Ford Road Recycling Education Center, an excellent self-serve source for student reports and projects on trash and recycling. The center is available to the public during normal Landfill days and hours providing magazines, handout, books, and tapes (for loan only) regarding all aspects of trash and recycling.

Tours are available to interested organizations by calling 301-696-2960.



Mother Seton students share a special "Merry Christmas" with the residents of St. Catherine's Nursing Center.

Photo courtesy of Val Mentzer

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Making music - dobro style



By Kathleen O'Connor

About 7 years ago, Elwood Eiker was browsing through a flea market on Water Street in Gettysburg when he saw it. It was all in pieces, but he clearly noticed the name on the square-neck, steel-string dobro which read "Walter E. Preston - 'Hawaiian Tomboys' - 1933." Elwood had had a guitar when he was a kid. "I fooled around with it," he said, "but made no headway. Then I went in the service and my mom loaned it to another kid and he beat it up." This time, Elwood brought a new instrument home, figured out how to put it together, and taught himself to play dobro. His success at teaching himself, he said, was practice and more practice. "I was playing when my wife went to bingo, and I was still playing when she came home, and I'd be playing 'til late at night."

A dobro is like a steel-string guitar, but very different in some ways. The neck is square in back, instead of rounded and the nut at the top of the neck is higher; thus, it is difficult to fret with the fingers and it must be fretted with a steel bar. Although dulcimer players use a similar wooden bar, Elwood is sure the steel bar is of unique Hawaiian origin. The dobro is held on his lap, much like a dulcimer, by a strap that runs across his shoulders. Like a dulcimer, it is plucked, but with steel picks instead of the fingers.

Also unlike the usual steel-string guitar, the dobro has a res-

onator inserted into the body below the plucked strings. Inside the resonator are 8 fingers or narrow arms that support the various cavities in the layered resonator. Over the resonator, is a spotted bridge or cover with a designed opening to capture the sound into the body of the dobro and send it out again enlarged. For this reason, the dobro is also called a "rectophonic guitar," perhaps also

because the fingers of the resonator may meet at right angles and retain the sound interiorly until it re-emerges.

The dobro is also strung and tuned differently than the usual steel-string guitar. The strings are of a heavier gauge steel than usual so that they will not hit the frets when the bar is slid across them. Their gauges correspond to 14, 16, 22, 34, 44, and 54. Also, instead of tuning the G string first, and then tuning each of the other five strings by pressing on the fret with the fingers, the dobro is tuned so that one can play with the steel bar major chords A on the 2nd fret, C on the 5th fret, D on the 7th fret, E on the 9th fret, and G open without fretting the neck with the steel bar. A major bar G is fretting on the 12th fret. Moreover, Elwood doesn't tune by ear with a pitch pipe. "It's not accurate enough," he says. Watching him tune, I was amazed at how accurate his Seiko Chromatic Auto Tuner was!

Elwood's second career as a dobro player really began to take off a few years ago when he met Dave Wineberg, of Boy, MD, who was playing his "Showbud" at the Village Hall in Fairfield. Dave showed him how to tune his dobro for the chords GBDGBD. "You can play far more songs in G," he had said. Elwood tuned his "Preston" to the new chording.

Then, about 5 years ago, he met Clarence Marshall, of

Chambersburg, who played a "National" metal body mandolin. "I sure wish you lived closer to me, Elwood," he had crooned.

Clarence then introduced Elwood to Crawford Brekvill, of Fayetteville, who played Friday nights at the hardware store in Waynesboro. Crawford invited Elwood to come and play at his house and the house jams began. The ensemble grew and Elwood found himself introduced to others like George Benchoff, of Blue Ridge Summit, who plays tenor banjo, Floyd Benchoff, of Fairfield, who plays mandolin and the 12-string guitar, and Charles Schindlecker, of Fairfield, who plays harmonica and sings for the bands. Elwood also plays the terminator (an electric guitar with a metal nut) and the jews harp.

The Dusty Mountain String Band plays Wednesdays at the Fairfield Village Hall and Thursdays at Saint Catherine's Care Center.

You can hear some very nice dancin' tunes such as "Steel Guitar Rag," "Country Church," "Candy Kisses," "Hold You in My Heart 'Til I Can Hold You in My Arms," and "Crazy Arms." Elwood played all these for me and they were toe tappin'!

One should know that the proceeds all go for a big picnic "shebang" at the Amvets in Fairfield in the summertime. No charge to regular weekly supporters. All others only \$7.00.

Elwood may be in yet for a new "turn of the screw" to tighten up and fine-tune his dobro career. Blair Daniels, of Everett, PA, plays live for a radio station 1/2 hour each Sunday. He invited the boys all to tape record some hymns at his home. Then, he aired the tapes on the radio station and another professional band leader called in asking for the "dobro player." Perhaps, by this summer, Elwood Eiker, of Emmitsburg, Maryland, will be playing the big time!

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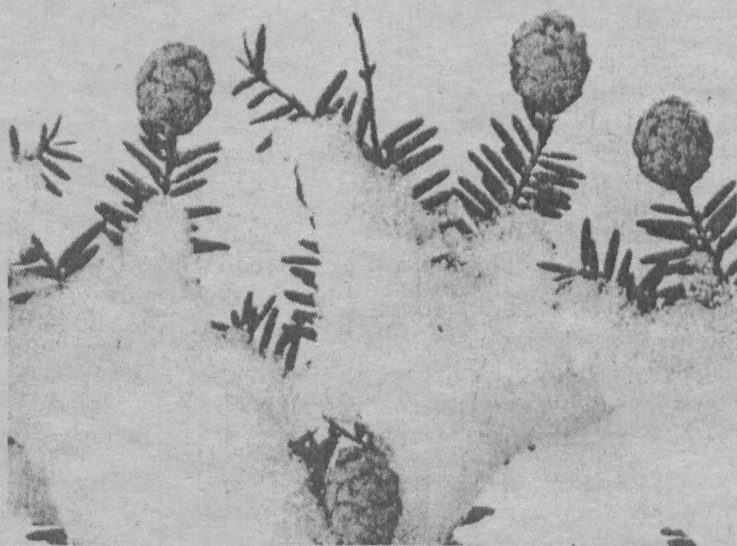
Reflections on the land

TWO OUNCES OF LIFE

By Robert B. Streeter

Last Saturday morning I arose at the usual time, just a few minutes before sunshine entered the cabin. I stepped outside, saluted the morning, then stepped back in. It was a fine winter morning; blue sky and white snow. I prepared the pancakes, a fine winter breakfast. Those with apple-sauce topping were especially delicious.

Snow covers the hemlock tree.



After breakfast I rinsed dishes with the cleanest, clearest, coldest water I have known, then rinsed my face. It was refreshing, invigorating, potent. Cold water and morning skin have united for eons.

With bright eyes and purring belly I drove the four miles to our tiny post office. My box was filled mostly with impersonal junk, and I headed home with food for the woodstove. I passed the one-room library, the town hall, the country store. A few people stirred, wood smoke blended with the winter sky here and there. I turned off the main road and started up Lock Hill.

The road had been plowed a couple of days earlier, and small groups of birds were exploring the exposed earth along the sides. I identified some as juncos, but most flew quickly and frantically as the car approached.

Wild animals seem to make few mistakes. Instinct usually sees to that, but halfway up the hill a tiny bird made a big mistake. It did not follow the group as they flew, instead flying into the path of the car. Two ounces of bird collided with two thousand pounds of metal. I winced. It was not the first time I have hit an animal with a vehicle, or heard that awful thud.... One can never forget or grow used to such a sound, the sound of violence to a fellow creature.

A haunting remorse came over me. I slowed the car and watched the rear view mirror, looking for a tumbling

bird. Nothing appeared. I had hit it. I drove the final mile to the cabin and found the bird where I expected to—tangled in the grill of the car.

I was certain the bird was dead, but

touched it and got a spunky response. I freed it from the grill as gently as possible, then carried it inside. This was a handsome bird, a red crossbill, and the mottled and beautiful burnt orange plumage identified it as an immature male. A young bird in a dangerous world. An older bird might not have made the same mistake.

The bird was dazed, listless, one eye half closed. A small amount of blood came from within and around the beak. The wings and legs looked fine; the small heart beat rapidly against my fingers.

When I first freed him from the grill I thought killing him was the most humane action. As I stood in the cabin, the bird cupped in my hands while drinking warm water from a dish, I changed my mind. I felt hope.

I prepared a box containing a towel, water, millet, and hemlock cones. It was a small box, only big enough for the bird and other materials. This would keep him from trying to fly and possibly injuring himself further.

The night passed quickly, and my apprehension built as I prepared to check the box that morning. I reached in slowly and discovered a strong, alert, bright-eyed red crossbill. We stepped outside, the bird and I, to another fine winter morning. I opened my hand and he took flight without hesitation, landing high on a snow covered hemlock. A fine morning, indeed, as I watched two ounces of life fly away.

Substance Abuse Prevention Grants

The Frederick County Health Department, Substance Abuse Division is offering mini-grants to assist community-based organizations to design, develop, and implement substance abuse prevention programs for youth, ages 8 to 18. Mini-grants awards can range as much as \$1,000.00. For more details and application packet, contact Todd Crum, Prevention Specialist at 301-631-3285.

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S P O R T S



Fans flock to the tables to purchase hats, T-shirts, and other memorabilia from the 1998 Holiday Baseball Clinic Saturday, Jan. 3, at Catoctin High School.

Baseball clinic a financial success

Catoctin netted nearly \$1,000 for its high school baseball program after the 1998 Holiday Baseball Clinic, presented by the Cal Ripken Baseball School.

The financial success of the Baseball School's summer camps at Mount St. Mary's in past years has allowed Catoctin to consistently upgrade its facilities.

"I was real pleased ... there was good attendance, and comments were overwhelmingly positive," Catoctin athletic director and baseball coach Tom Sherald said. "We'd like it to be a little more hands-on if it could, but with so many kids of

different ages, it's just difficult to do that. The real serious baseball people can move from session to session... and pick up lots of information."

The clinics have allowed Sherald to add luxuries that, at other schools in the county, are considered commonplace.

"We (had) probably one of the poorest baseball facilities in the county," Sherald said.

Last season Catoctin was able to construct new dugouts. Before 1997, however, "it was just a couple benches on a hill. Now, we have real nice dugouts."

Cal Ripken Sr. visits Thurmont

By Kevin Spradlin

For more than a dozen years, children across the country have picked up gloves and trotted out to the shortstop position to imitate Baltimore Orioles star Cal Ripken Jr.

Like kids today, Cal Ripken Jr. knew years ago the man he was going to follow.

"One time we were tied 3-3 in the bottom of the ninth inning," said Cal Ripken Sr. during the 1998 Holiday Baseball Clinic.

The clinic was sponsored by the Cal Ripken Baseball School.

It was the basic fundamentals of the game of baseball that Ripken stressed to more than 230 children and parents Saturday at Catoctin High School.

"There are three important keys to all phases of the game," Ripken said. "Two eyes, your brain, front shoulder -- Hitting, pitching, throwing. Your two eyes focus the fastest computer in the world."

After a brief welcome and introduction by Catoctin Athletic Director Tom Sherald and Ripken, participants broke down into groups of about 50 each to watch experts teaching the finer points of baseball: Hedgesville (W.Va.) High School Ben Merica - techniques of the outfielder; former Frostburg University standout Stan Fitzwater - running the base paths; longtime Orioles scout Jim Gilbert - catching; Orioles scout based in North Carolina Terry Brewer - the basics of infield play; and Bob Ackerman, former hurler in the Houston orga-

nization - the proper mechanics of pitching.

Participants came from as far as New Jersey to the clinic.

Eric Williams, 7, came with his father, Mark Williams, from Maple Glenn, Pa., about 25 miles north of Philadelphia.

Williams plays for the Indians in the Horsham Township Little League. His favorite part was the hitting.

"When I went to the Phillies camp (last summer) I hit triples," Williams said. "In my Little League, I always struck out ... because I didn't like the Indians."

Little League coach Jim Ball and his son, Tommy Dame, 9, made the 45-minute trip from Olney, Md., to Thurmont. While Tommy had desired a more "hands-on" clinic, his father was in awe of the wealth of knowledge learned from the Cal Ripken Baseball School.

"I learned more from (Ben Merica) in the half-hour he spoke than in 10 years of coaching," Ball said. "I didn't know the center fielder was to be the general of the outfield. And fielders matching what hand they are ... in all my years of coaching and playing ball it never dawned on me. It will definitely change the way I coach."

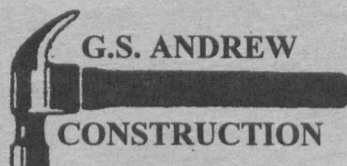
Ripken said that the concept of baseball is not hard to understand.

"This is the greatest game in the world. Have fun, go out and work hard at your job, and enjoy playing the game of baseball."

The clinic has a more immediate impact on the Catoctin High baseball program. Part of the proceeds will be used for new equipment.

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