

The DISPATCH

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You can read these and past articles from the Dispatch online.
emmitsburg.net/dispatch

Chorus to present Christmas concert

The Emmitsburg Community Chorus will be celebrating "The World in Harmony: the Peace and Love of Christmas," on Sunday, December 3, at 3:15 p.m. The chorus's 37th annual Christmas concert will take place at the Basilica Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, 333 South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg.

Director Sandy Soffe returns after three years' absence to lead the chorus in beautiful Christmas selections, both familiar and new. Talented solo performers will be featured, including many of Ms. Soffe's vocal students. The chorus will be accompanied by Pat McEllroy, sound engineering will be provided by Frank Capella, and the concert will be recorded by Doug Benson of Harvest Recording Studio.

The concert is free to the public; however, there will be a free-will offering. The facilities are accessible to the physically challenged. For further information, call Sandy at 301-447-6450 or Shannon Boyle at 301-447-3121.



The Emmitsburg Community Chorus and vocal students of Sandy Soffe.

Holiday decorating volunteers wanted: Meet at the town garage behind the town office Saturday, Dec. 2, at 9 a.m. for the making of Christmas swags to decorate the pole lights in town for the holidays. Men and women, teens and youngsters are needed to cut off branches, twist and cut wire, tie on bows and carry supplies. This is a 20-year tradition carried out by a dedicated group that grows older every year. We need new and young blood! Come out and be a part of this happy group! Bring work gloves, clippers and wire cutters. "Many hands make light work!"

Children's Christmas party planned

The 71st Annual Christmas Party for the Children of Emmitsburg sponsored by the Ambulance Co, American Legion, Lions Club, and VFW will be held on Saturday, December 16th from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Emmitsburg Ambulance Company.

10:00-Christmas decoration work-

shop for children conducted by the Girl Scouts.

11:00-MAGEE THE CLOWN entertains.

12:00-Refreshments & Door Prizes (must be present to win).

12:30-Santa distributes gifts to children and Polaroid pictures of each child to take home.

Act of Entrustment may be the 'sign for this October'

BY RAYMOND BUCHHEISTER
 Dispatch Writer

Emmitsburg has held the attention of many since the September 8th directive of the Archdiocese of Baltimore to discontinue Thursday evening prayer services at St Joseph's Catholic Church where crowds of 600 to 1000 participated each week. The services, according to the archdiocese, were the platform for the alleged apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Gianna Talone-Sullivan. The reason for the prolonged attention has been due to a message of July 13, 2000, which predicted "a sign for this October." Many waited in anticipation for a miraculous event up to the midnight hour of Tuesday October 31st. A group of about 40 people, myself, a Washington DC reporter and cameraman, and Mercy Foundation camera crew waited in anticipation. In the final hour, the group standing under the streetlight outside the sanctuary entrance of St. Joseph's church prayed the rosary in 30-degree temperatures.

Questions are raised in regard to why there was no sign in the way many people anticipated. Were the apparitions false? Did the messenger (Sullivan) misunderstand? Was the sign diminished because the prayer services were halted? Or was it allegedly as Our Lady of Emmitsburg said in her message of July 20, 2000, "Be gentle and show acts of love and charity or you will not be able to recognize any sign from heaven because of your own pride and arrogance."

The phrase "a sign for this October" could have many interpretations. The message did not say *miracle*. Did many misinterpret what "a sign" meant? Individuals speculating that the October sign did, in fact, occur have concluded that the sign was Pope John Paul II's "Act of Entrustment" of the church, the world, and new millennium to the Blessed Virgin Mary on October 8th.

The headline of a press release

(See SIGN on Page 5)



A DISPATCH PHOTO

Santa makes an early visit to Zora Village

Letters to the Editor

The *Dispatch* encourages its readers to express their thoughts 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.

Suggests *Dispatch* add church column

The Consistory (governing body) of the United Church of Christ, Emmitsburg, has voted unanimously to encourage the publishers of the *Emmitsburg Dispatch* to provide space each month titled "Church Briefs." It is our hope that all churches will submit articles outlining their respective activities and the services they each provide. We feel that, with the large influx of new residents to our community, this column would be an excellent reference to the places of worship our community has to offer. At UCC our Sunday morning worship begins at 10:00 a.m., as does our Sunday school. We have just completed a nursery which may be used during services.

Our children participate in the beginning of each service, after which they retreat to their classroom. After services on the 1st Sunday of each month a refreshment fellowship hour is hosted in our fellowship hall which has proven very successful. Visitors are encouraged and welcomed. For information contact Rev. Margaret Dodds, Pastor, at 301-447-2270.

Herb Gingell
Consistory Member, U.C.C.

[Ed. note: We think this is a good idea and plans are under way to start the column in 2001.]

Dispatch seeks new stories via emmitsburg.net site

The *Dispatch* has a close operating relationship with the increasingly popular website emmitsburg.net. In last month's issue we published a news story that came to us from Yakima, Washington, of the discovery of family links "back east." The writer discovered family ties in Rocky Ridge.

This opened our eyes.

If an interesting news story can come from as far away as Washington State through the website, then think of the great potential for the website's being an avenue for stories from our readers and subscribers. We want to tap that potential. As more and more local people get "on the internet" they gain an easy and convenient way to submit stories to the paper.

The *Dispatch* prints only stories from around the region—Emmitsburg, Taneytown, Fairfield, and Gettysburg. This area was selected because there are family relationships that tie these communities together. We are looking for stories that strengthen these relationships. The *Dispatch* can become the tool to share with others information about births, weddings, engagements, family reunions, special events, awards and honors, and all the other things that our extended families celebrate.

Over 95% of all the stories and

articles in the *Dispatch* are written by volunteers. These different voices blend to give the paper its own unique flavor. Imagine the richness that can be added to the publication if other readers would learn to submit their stories via the website.

Some people feel they can't write, or spell, or punctuate. Writing seems to be a frightening task. We are happy to report that 100% of the people who have submitted stories to the paper survived. Yes, we edit the stories—gently. We cross the "t's" dot the "i's," and move a few words around to make a sentence easier to read. But we don't mess with your voice.

According to Webmaster Mike Hillman, "People interested in sending stories or articles to the *Emmitsburg Dispatch* can do so easily via the *Emmitsburg* community portal."

How to submit a story through emmitsburg.net:

- 1.) Open emmitsburg.net
- 2.) Click on the *Emmitsburg Regional Dispatch*
- 3.) In the left column near the top of the page is the Submit button. Click on this button and an e-mail dialogue box appears already addressed to the *Dispatch*
- 5.) Type News in the subject line and enter your story
- 6.) Send

Town News...

Emmitsburg wins lawsuit

A federal judge has dismissed a requested injunction against the Town of Emmitsburg brought by a Pennsylvania building contractor. The Town Council chose the second lowest bidder to construct the Town's much-needed new water plant. The lowest bidder, a Pennsylvania contractor, sued the Town, saying in essence that the Community had to choose the lowest bidder.

Emmitsburg's attorney, John C. Clapp, a Frederick lawyer, successfully presented the Town's case in Baltimore Federal

Court on Friday, November 10th, before Judge Benson Legg. The hearing was attended by Mayor William Carr, Town Manager David L. Haller, Councilman Clifford Sweeney, and Town Project Consultant James E. Fitzgerald.

At 5:00 p.m. on November 15th, the Town government was notified of the Judge's decision in the Town's favor. The decision allows the immediate start of construction on the new water plant for Emmitsburg!

Council presents books to local schools

At the November 6 town meeting, the town council presented to the *Emmitsburg Elementary School* and the *Mother Seton School* sets of books to be used as references about local government. The set consists of the Maryland Municipal League's "Towns and Communities throughout the State of Maryland;" the *Emmitsburg* reference booklet prepared by the *Emmitsburg Council of Churches*; a collection of essays about town government; and the booklet *Know Your County*. The presentations were made to help students learn more about local government.

"We are proud of the work that is being done by our schools, and hope that these references will be of help to all our children. We want you to know that we are behind you 100%," said Mayor Carr as he presented the books to Wanda Severance, principal, *Emmitsburg Elementary School*, and

Sr. Mary Catherine, principal of *Mother Seton School*.

At the November 13 workshop the council voted to continue the practice of donating all of the money collected from the parking meters between Dec. 1 and Dec. 31 to the Bob Koontz Fund which is used to support activities for local children. Currently monies from the fund are supporting the After School Program.

The council added corrugated aluminum drain pipes to the list of approved materials to be used for storm water management systems. Aluminum pipes have been used successfully in the past, but each case required a special request.

The council agreed to accept Ordinance 00-14, the final agreement with the State Department of Environment to borrow \$775,000 needed to build the new water processing plant.

EES music program needs instruments

The instrumental music program at *Emmitsburg Elementary School* is comprised of 34 students who have chosen to learn to play flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, percussion, or violin. The students meet once a week to acquire the skills necessary for instrumental performance. This year, the program has experienced tremendous growth! The students are hard working and dedicated, and many can already play several songs on their instruments.

As more and more students sign up, it is becoming a real challenge trying to get instruments into the

hands of every child. If you or somebody you know has an instrument that is not being used, please consider donating it to the EES instrumental music program. Call Mr. Hanson at 240-236-1000 ext. 61066.

The band and orchestra students are eager to begin performing for their families, friends, and the public. If you know of an organization or group that could provide a performance opportunity for the students, please contact Mr. Hanson. Feel free to also call with any questions or comments you may have.

Craft show and dance to benefit Up-County, Food Bank

BY JANE COUNSELLOR
Up-County Family Center

A craft show and dance will be held on December 9th at the Emmitsburg Ambulance Building. These events will benefit Up-County Family Center and the Emmitsburg Food Bank. Jamie, Janet, and Tina from the Emmitsburg Family Barber Shop and Salon are sponsoring the event. They have worked very hard since October to organize this event, from locating the building to receiving donations from area businesses to be given away at the dance. Jamie said they would like to have this become a yearly event for the

Community.

Jamie and the staff have not only volunteered a lot of time but Jamie is also donating items from her shop for a gift basket to be given away in a drawing, providing a D.J. for the dance with Karaoke along with the cash prizes which will be given away at karaoke contests. The donations received from businesses will be given away periodically during the evening.

The Emmitsburg Family Barbershop is currently offering \$1.00 off the price of a haircut if you donate a can of food to be donated to the food bank. Also, if you have at least ten inches of hair you would like cut, they are

offering free hair cuts and the hair will be donated to Locks of Love, the charity which makes wigs for sick children.

The craft show hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and spaces are still available for \$5.00 per table. The dance hours are 8 p.m. to midnight [B.Y.O.B]. Tickets

are \$8.00 for a single person and \$12.00 per couple and may be purchased at the Family Barbershop and Up-County Family Center. For more information please call the barbershop at 301-447-3660 or 301-447-3305 or Up-County Family Center at 301-447-2810.

G-burg Holistic health center is alive!

BY LOLLY POLVINALE
Dispatch Correspondent

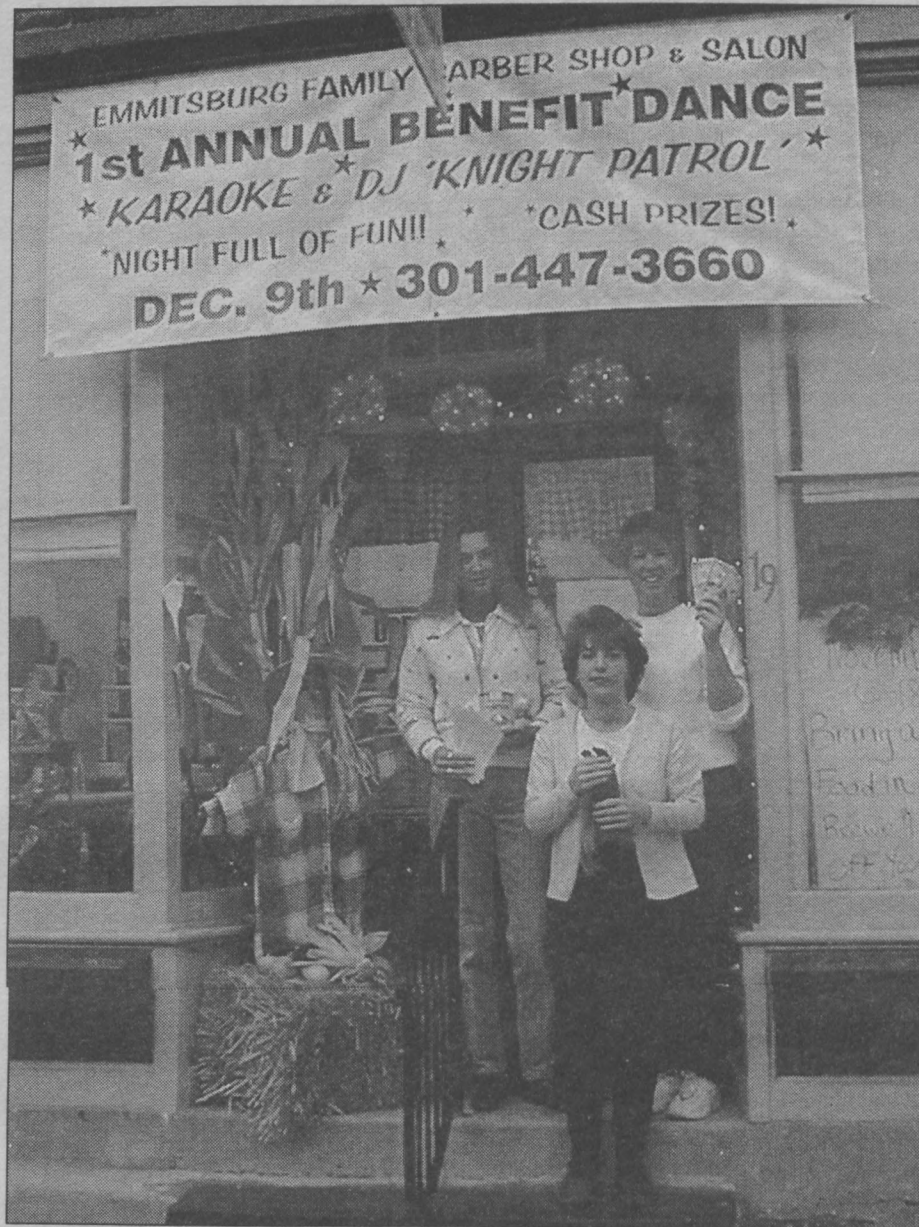
On Sunday, November 12, the Gettysburg Holistic Health Center hosted a grand opening celebration. The GHHC, which is located at 2311 Fairfield Road, 3 miles west of Gettysburg, offered complimentary seated massage all day, with massage therapists Becky Miller, Philip Schindel, Cindy Keller, William Elliott, and Lolly Polvinale. Shirley Trostle offered complimentary reflexology treatments. Simone Heurich held several half-hour yoga classes. Marti Thomas and Peggy Fitzpatrick did mini-massage sessions in the office they will be sharing there, and Linda Terry did guided meditation sessions. Margie Erickson did a Tai-Chi demonstration, and Michael Tasto, from Hanover, offered aura photography for \$20 a session. Brenda Medhi was also available to answer questions about the homeopathic/naturopathic/medical practice that will be housed at GHHC.



Lolly Polvinale and William Elliott standing on the canvas floor Labyrinth during the open house.

Labyrinth which was painted an astonishing array of purple hues. The Labyrinth is an ancient meditation tool that dates back over 5000 years, and was used in almost every known civilization in the world. Though many of the people who stopped by to walk the Labyrinth were unsure of its specific purpose, they all seemed to be more relaxed and calm when they finished.

The Gettysburg Holistic Health Center has set up a schedule of ongoing classes and services that will be offered at the center. If you are interested in receiving the schedule please call the center at 717-338-9777 and leave your name, address and phone number.



Organizers of the "Locks of Love" Benefit Dance (l-r) Janet Birch, Tina Wivell, and Jamie Regnier holding food, hair for wigs, and money symbolizing the purpose of the dance.

A Dispatch Photo

Studio Gallery to close its doors

Studio Gallery Gifts, 304 E Main Street, Emmitsburg, will be closing its doors on December 31st. Ten years ago Linda Postelle opened Her Studio Gallery in this location. It was used as a working studio for the first five years. The Gallery was open Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays and featured Linda's watercolors, pastels, acrylics, and painted furniture. In 1995 Linda asked if anyone in the Emmitsburg Art League would be interested in forming a cooperative gallery. Nine artists came forward and it was decided to hold the membership at ten. The gallery space became a nice mix of original art work which included paintings and crafts.

Recently the name was changed to Studio Gallery Gifts to publicize that gift items were available.

Over the years a number of artists have been part of the cooperative. They include Linda Postelle, Jan Lamb, Eloise Bralove, Rena Damskey, Annie DeGeorge, Barbara Johnson, Michele Spruill, Silvie Damskey, Beth Helwig, Joanne Bast, Jen Anderson, Ann Norwich, Valerie Parsons, Elizabeth Prongas, Peggy Schadler, Sally Fraser, Lori Rubeling, and Dorothy Smith.

Please stop by the gallery during November and December. Our Holiday Open House will be from 12:00 to 6 p.m. on December 3rd.

Audit presentation of Town Budget at Dec. 4 town meeting, 7:30 p.m.

Lions Annual Christmas Basket Drive now in progress. See details on page 23.



*At Christmas play and make good cheer,
For Christmas comes but once a year.*

The Emmitsburg Regional Dispatch

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Neither the publisher nor the editors will be liable for misinformation, misprinting, or typographical errors. The publishers reserve the right to edit any submitted material.

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Be an informed citizen!

An audit presentation of
the Town Budget will be
made by Linton, Shaffer &
Company, Dec 4, 7:30 at
the town hall.

Residents are invited to
attend this review of how
town monies were spent
over the past fiscal year
(1999-2000).

Key information includes
debt service, salaries, and
allocations for building the
new water system.

The (Retired) Ecologist's Corner THE FIVE SEASONS

BY BILL MEREDITH
Dispatch Writer

Fall didn't live up to expectations this year. An unusually wet summer led us to expect the leaves would be brilliant, but we got almost no rain in October, so they shriveled up and showed as much brown as red and yellow, and they gradually began drifting off the trees after the middle of that month. Then came November 8, the Day the Leaves Came Down; we got an inch of rain that evening, accompanied by high winds, and the next day the trees were bare. When I went out to get the paper that morning and saw them, my mind went back to an idea that has been bothering me for the past ten years or so. As usual, it involves some bizarre connections; bear with me.

Theodore Geisel must have known that the odds were against his name becoming a household word; it's hard to remember, and doesn't roll off the tongue musically. So, wisely as it turned out, he appended his academic title and his middle name to his literary works, and became known instantly and for all time as Dr. Seuss.

His genius was to write children's books using a minimum of different words, repeated in a variety of patterns, so pre-schoolers could memorize the stories easily and begin to associate the written words with their sounds. Our kids, and I expect those of everyone who will read this, grew up on Green Eggs and Ham and Yertle the Turtle, and they learned to read more easily as a result. Most of the stories were told in rhyme, the likes of which no one had seen since Ogden Nash, and illustrated with wackily original drawings; and each ended with a moral youngsters could understand.

My favorite was Bartholomew and the Oobleck. The hero, Bartholomew, was a servant boy in the royal palace, and evidently the only person in the whole kingdom with any common sense... a ten-year-old worry-wart. The trouble began when Old King Grimulkin decided four seasons were not enough for his kingdom; winter, spring, summer, and fall, with their snow, rain, sun, and fog, were not sufficient. So he ordered his Royal Magicians to create a fifth season, when something new should come down from the sky; and as you probably recall, the result was disastrous.

I always think of Dr. Seuss and Old King Grimulkin this time of year. Autumn, it seems to me, is not a well-designed season. I'm too much of a tra-

ditionalist to want to get rid of it altogether, but I do think there is a serious need for improvement. It is supposed to be the time when crops are harvested, birds migrate south, and leaves turn color. All of those things happen in late September and October, but then around the first week of November we always get a storm and all the leaves come down. Then we still have nearly two months of autumn left until winter gets here... not a satisfactory state of affairs at all. What we really need is a new season to put in this time of the year.

The basis for having seasons in the first place was established independently by many prehistoric cultures. Even on different continents, ancient astronomers came up with surprisingly accurate determinations of the solstices and equinoxes, and more remarkable still, they did it without knowing why the seasons exist. When I first learned these things, sometime in elementary school, it gave me a sense of pleasure to contemplate a year perfectly divided into quarters on the basis of the orderly progression of the earth around the sun. I liked things that were logical and orderly; so later I was dismayed to find that the seasons really occur because the solar system is not perfectly or logically organized. The seasons actually occur because the earth's axis of rotation is tilted over some 27 degrees; and things are further complicated because our orbit around the sun is an ellipse rather than a circle. It was disturbingly illogical for me to learn that in the Northern Hemisphere we have our summer when we are farthest from the sun, because at that time we are tilted so its rays hit us directly and are absorbed, heating us up. Likewise, in winter we are closer to the sun but tilted away from it, so the radiation comes in at an angle and reflects away, leaving us colder. I thought to myself, with the arrogance only a child can get away with, that if I had designed the solar system the earth's axis would have been straight and the orbits circular... not realizing that under those conditions we would have no seasons at all.

It took many years, but eventually I came to accept the fact that things aren't necessarily perfect or logical; and now I even like it that way. I have come to think it isn't so important to have four equal and symmetrical seasons; instead, what we need is a system that reflects reality more accurately. It would make more sense to have a new

(See ECOLOGIST on Page 6)

Sign

(Continued from Page 1)

issued by Caritas of Birmingham stated, "The world will change for the next 1000 years on October 8, 2000." The non-profit organization and community located in Birmingham, Alabama is dedicated to living and spreading the message of "Our Lady of Medjugorje." The press release quoted the scripture verse Rev 20: 1-3 and encouraged people to be part of this event which it said, "is beyond historic." On October 7th and 8th the Vatican celebrated the Jubilee of Bishops. On October 8th, after the celebration of the mass, bishops united with the Holy Father in an "Act of Entrustment" to the Blessed Virgin Mary. In a newsletter numbered vol.63 and entitled "Words of the Harvesters" Caritas of Birmingham described the events, "In Rome, those from our community who were present expressed to us that there was a strong sense of something in the air, something like what one feels awaiting Christmas. Everyone felt it. Even many of the Cardinals, Bishops and Priests expressed the same. There were 1,156 Bishops and 80 Cardinals present from every corner of the world. Not since the time of the Second Vatican Council has there been so vast a representation of a gathering of the world's Bishops. The Universal Church was truly present in this historic event." The publication went further to say, "We believe this moment of entrustment was the moment Our Lady was given the graces to crush the power of Satan. This will lead to the moment of triumph, the victory of Her Immaculate Heart. In time, we will see the physical manifestation appear of what has already taken place in the spiritual realm, a complete victory over all hearts who desire Jesus to rule as King."

On the evening of October 7, 2000 there was a local gathering of the faithful that was well attended at the Basilica of St Elizabeth Ann Seton. They participated in a candle light pro-

"Satan's reign is ending this year and now I am moving swiftly on his turf to reclaim all those who were deceived and lost. I am determined to bring all of my children back to my son."

From Message of July 13 to Gianna Talone-Sullivan

cession with the pilgrim statue of Fatima and recited a similar consecration in union with the Holy Father, and the bishops in Rome. Those speculating that this "Act of Entrustment" was the sign, tied the event to the message of July 13 in which allegedly Our Lady of Emmitsburg said, "Satan's reign is ending this year and now I am moving swiftly on his turf to reclaim all those who were deceived and lost. I am determined to bring all of my children back to my son." She repeated the prophecy ending the message in the words, "Watch and see for I am about to meet Satan on his own turf and extinguish his ways forever. Watch and see."

Some speculate the sign was the Sullivans unscheduled private audience with the Holy Father. They rationed the meeting to be extra ordinary sighting the normal formalities which one needs to overcome in order to see Pope John Paul II are difficult enough. They believe this due to the fact that their meeting was unscheduled, private, and occurred on October 13th, the same day of the miracle, which authenticated the apparitions at Fatima. The Sullivans, in their commitment of obedience to the archdiocese, continue to remain silent and are unwilling to confirm or deny any speculation in regard to the sign.

Time will provide enlightenment to these events that have occurred here in Emmitsburg for the past seven years. One thing does remain, Gianna Talone-Sullivan truly believes she sees the Blessed Virgin Mary and many others

believe this as well. Since the prayer services were discontinued, both parishioners and pilgrims have continued to gather every Thursday evening at various homes in Emmitsburg to pray. At one particular parishioner's home, crowds between 60 and 180 have gathered each week. On November 2nd, the first Thursday after October, a group of approximately 90 people gathered. Most had their own personal stories and convictions about the events but their primary reason for gathering was to continue to pray. Several stated, "a sign isn't necessary or needed for us to believe."

The Archdiocese of Baltimore took no action against the majority of the messages; 221 of the 302 are published in the last two books of a six-volume set entitled "I am Your Jesus of Mercy." The action that was taken, however, was directly concerned with the prophetic and apocalyptic aspects, which the July 13th message was apart. The Archdiocese, speaking about the

messages, stated, "it finds elements in them that cannot be reconciled with the teaching of the Church, including material that deals with predictions for the future and visions of an apocalyptic nature." The material contained in the messages prior to their statement of September 8 were not strong enough to provoke any action. The church likes to give events like these the benefit of time. Only in time do we understand the fullness of mystical experiences. The apparitions at Fatima occurred over 80 years ago, were authenticated with the "miracle of the sun," and approved by a formal commission study of the church, but it wasn't until May of this year that part of the message referred to as "the third secret" was revealed by the church and given explanation. No one knows without doubt all the answers to the questions surrounding these events in Emmitsburg, but in time the answers will become clear. We continue to watch and see.

Local fine artist inspired by regional talent, religious art

BY MARION LEE
Dispatch Writer

Off a mountain road a few miles from Emmitsburg sits a house surrounded by a panoramic pastoral view that provides a perfect backdrop for an artist's palette. The house belongs to Raymond Buchheister, who lives there with his wife Jennifer and stepdaughter Rebecca. In addition to being a staff writer for the Dispatch, Ray is a fine artist. He does his painting in a makeshift studio which used to be the master bedroom, but is in the process of renovating his barn into a professional-sized studio.

Like most artists, Ray was very young when he first manifested an interest in creating pictures. Just recently, his grandmother presented him with one of his childhood drawings that she had tucked away in her safety deposit box. Ray says that the first piece of art that got

attention was a drawing of JFK's boat, PT-109, complete with deckmen aboard. It was a grade school assignment and the teacher was impressed, noting that the boy was blessed with an exceptional talent.

In high school, Ray's parents and counselors insisted he concentrate on academics. He took college prep courses up to his junior year when he was able to squeeze in an elective in art. The course lasted two years and the art teacher pulled Ray aside one day telling him how few of her students had real talent. She felt so strongly about his ability that she urged him to study art full time. Being the oldest of seven children, Ray's family lacked the means to provide college tuition for him to pursue art seriously. His father was the supervisor of a technical writing

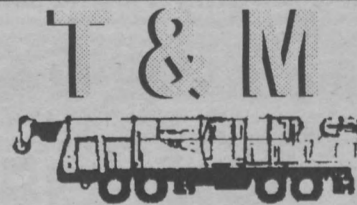
(See ARTIST on Page 14)

Water Color

Open studio Classes - Wed. 9-12 a.m.

Instructor: Elizabeth Prongas, M.F.A.
Place: Incarnation United Church of Christ
124. W. Main Street, Emmitsburg, Md.
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Remembering the days of Rocky Ridge's witty newspaper

BY JEANNETTE THOMAS
Dispatch Writer

Mother Teresa is quoted as once having said "I am just a pencil in the hand of the creator." Edith Tabler writes similarly: "If any of you have done anything immoral, illegal, or funny please let me know so I'll have something to write about."

Who is Mother Teresa? Almost all of us know. But who is Edith Tabler and why didn't she acquire more fame?

Between 1972 and 1974, Ms. Tabler was the roving reporter of the *Rocky Ridge Newspaper*. Yes, Rocky Ridge had its own newspaper, of which she states, "There may not be much to see in a small town, but what you hear makes up for it."

For three years she wrote about the lives and foibles of an out-of-the-way rural farm community—making people laugh and laughing at herself as she went along. "If anyone thinks I got hit on the chin by a disgruntled reader of this paper they have been misinformed (the dentist did it) though I will admit I have been threatened a couple of times."

Edith—along with a small staff who wrote the disclaimer, "We are not responsible"—collected news, typed, edited, dittoed (it was the days before Xerox) and sometimes simply carbon-copied a two or three page newsletter that I'm told sold for 25 cents. "I put my paper, typewriter and two tired fingers together and that is what emerged. Remember a nickel doesn't buy much these days," she declared.

Nothing was sacred to Edith. She

"There may not be much to see in a small town, but what you hear makes up for it."

- Edith Tabler

wrote poems on current events or new trends or just community happenings. She pointedly reflected on fellow townsmen's mishaps or embarrassments, sometimes asking a simple question that only those in the "know" would understand—but you got the gist. She did it all in good humor, and as I've said, laughed at herself the most: "I hope this page is worth the price. I never claimed to be a poet, you know, (or a writer either for that matter). Anyone want this job? The pay isn't very good and a lot of people quit talking when I come around. There must be some benefit. If you can think of any, let me know!"

What I can think of is that Edith Tabler, the spinster sister of the more widely known auctioneer, Albert Tabler, preserved a small segment of history. The everyday workings of ordinary people, in laughter and fun, their sicknesses and their triumphs, in scattered poetry and broken prose, with rough hands and a gentle heart. She connected people, for after all, that is what the newspaper is all about. And she did it in her own humble style, railing at seatbelts that now buzz, good naturedly complaining about the trend from red fire trucks to yellow ("Did you know that 'Red is dead?'"), keeping the community posted on upcoming events, and just generally telling every-

body: "I hope to contact more people and let you know what your neighbors are doing."

I never knew these papers existed until a neighbor brought out a stack to share a few months ago. When I began talking about it, others said they had their copies. I spent one night, reading them cover to cover and enjoying her literary

Senior News

BY KATE WARTHEN
Dispatch Writer

The Senior Citizens had a great bazaar. The food was good, the company good and there were door prizes galore. The Talking Turkey at the White Elephant Table was won by Kitty Kelly. The Fancy Table chanced a green quilt which was won by Kathleen Shorb. The rummage table offered a Basket of Bears and Sarah Green won them. The Baked Goods Table chanced a train which was won by Eunice Neighbors. The Flower Table offered a Singing Santa won by Betty Kaas and a wreath won by Anna Little. The Country Store offered a crock pot, which Elly Wiker won, and a Christmas door hanging, won by Karen Leppo. Dorothy Seiss won the door prize, a basket of groceries, and the biggest prize, the handmade quilt, was won by Bob Kaas. Congratulations to all our winners.

The Senior Center Christmas Dinner will be Dec. 27th. Reservations must be made by Dec. 20th. Please register early.

Flu shots will be given in the Senior

"genius" immensely.

Mother Teresa she may not have been, but she put a pencil in the hand and created, and someone should bind these for the archives of posterity.

Thank you, Edith Tabler, for your service to journalism.

Center on December 8th, from 1-4 p.m. Mark your calendar.

The bowling group continue to bowl on Mondays. The group leave the Senior Center at 12:45. New people are welcome. It is a lot of fun, plus good exercise.

Line dancing continues at present on Friday evenings at 6:00. We have a great teacher. We have ten people registered but all do not come every Friday evening. If you are interested in joining the group please call Katie at 301-447-2560. It is a lot of fun. You do not have to be a senior to join. Please come out and enjoy the physical exercise; it is a great workout.

We hope to resume the bridge group. Some of our members have been on vacation and some have been on the disabled list. One of our members, Irene Allen, has moved to Frederick. We miss her. If you would like to join us, please call Linda at 301-447-6253.

The weight training class meets every Tuesday and Thursday at 1:00 p.m. Good for balance and muscle strength that all seniors need. See you there.

Ecologist

(Continued from Page 4)

season, of variable length, between fall and winter. Fall would end on The Day the Leaves Come Down; winter would begin on The Day of the First Real Snow. In some years, if we didn't get a real snow the new season would go clear through to spring and we could skip winter... no loss there... and in other years we might skip the new season if it was a real snow that made the leaves come down. Flexibility might be good for us.

There would be some problems, of course. Leaves and snow come down at different times in different parts of the country, so the new season would not start and end at the same time everywhere; but that would add to our individual uniqueness and make each place more special. We would have to resurrect Antonio Vivaldi long enough for him to write an additional piece of music for the new season; but failing that, we could commission someone

else to do it in his style. We would have to come up with a suitable name for the new season, but that could be assigned as a contest for school children, with appropriate prizes. Other problems could be assigned to a bipartisan commission and dealt with as they come up.

I would suggest that the new season be dedicated to contemplation. At least in Emmitsburg, it would usually include Thanksgiving, which doesn't get the thought it deserves most of the time. Election Day would usually come around the beginning of it; that would give us something to ponder about, assuming the votes were counted before the season ended. We could have TV specials devoted to the art of contemplation; or, better yet, we could ban television and make people read books until the season ended. Old King Grimulkin may have been right after all; four seasons are not enough. A kingdom like ours needs at least five.

Read more Bill Meredith online
emmitsburg.net

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Daughters of Charity archivist seeks local documents

Sr. Betty Ann McNeil, archivist of the Daughters of Charity, is searching for documents bearing the handwriting or signature of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton. "There is probably stuff squirreled away in attics that is valuable," said Sr. McNeil. "Children of Emmitsburg families received education at Saint Joseph's Academy and Day School and it is possible that documents we are seeking have been passed down the family through time. We are hoping to locate some of these. They would be real treasures to the Daughters of Charity," Sr. McNeil said. The value of these documents to the Daughters of Charity would far exceed any monetary value.

According to Sr. McNeil, Mother Seton was a prolific writer who wrote many letters to the parents of her students and persons associated with the Sisters of Charity. Her academy also awarded many premiums and certificates to the students recognizing their achievement. Some documents carry Mother Seton's signature. An original receipt for board and tuition for Miss Sarah Coale, dated 9 September 1811, turned up recently in Libertytown among the family papers of Thomas A. Sappington and will be published with other Seton writings by New City Press. This document is certainly one of the earliest of its kind by our local saint who referred to herself once as a "citizen of the world."

Emmitsburg families were closely connected with Mother Seton. The first two women to join the sisterhood in July 1809 were Emmitsburg residents—Sally and Ellen Thompson, soon followed by other locals—Rebecca Bickworth and the Shirley girls, Ann and Nancy. Pupil rosters read like a "Who's Who of Frederick County." Day pupils at Saint Joseph's from the Emmitsburg area included girls from the Boyle, Brawner, Cafferty, Danner, Emmet, Hughes, Livers, Long, McCann, McGruder, Troxell,



Painting of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton by Elizabeth Prongas.

and Welty families, among others. Work is proceeding on positively identifying other area families. "It is possible that some of the documents and mementoes we are seeking could be found right here, in this place," said Sr. McNeil.

In 1810, Saint Joseph's Academy opened just beyond the town limits of Emmitsburg and was often described as being located "near Emmitsburg in Saint Joseph's Vale." Two women, Hannah and Betsy,

worked as paid laundresses. There is also reference in the history to "DeDe" Custermann, who worked as a gardener. Many locals like the Brawners, Shorbs, and McCanns worked at Saint Joseph's in maintenance, construction and on the extensive farm. Other residents like White & Grover grocers, Thomas Radford, John Armstrong, and Dr. Moore had business dealings with the sisterhood. The search continues for Seton letters, receipts, and memoranda to such individuals or any historical documents and artifacts related to the Sisters of Charity in the nineteenth century.

Sr. McNeil is gathering the documents to include them in the second volume of the writings of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, which will cover the Maryland period. In August, New City Press published the first volume of Elizabeth Bayley Seton's Collected Writings, which deals with the New York period. The work, edited by Regina Bechtle, SC, and Judith Metz, SC, contains many letters from Elizabeth Seton to her husband, family, and friends, including the journal about the Setons' futile trip to Italy in 1803 for her husband's health, from which she returned a penniless widow. A third volume is being planned which will include meditations, reflections, translations, instructions, and poems by Mother Seton. Ellin Kelly, a devotee of Elizabeth Seton has been transcribing these documents for over twenty years. The publication is available in the Seton Shrine Gift Shop.

Any leads to the location of these valuable documents or any Seton memorabilia related to the Seton family or Saint Joseph's Academy can be forwarded to Sr. Betty Ann McNeil, Archivist, St. Joseph's Provincial House, 333 South Seton Ave, Emmitsburg, MD 21727. Other contact information: phone (301) 447-3121, fax (301)-447-6038, e-mail BAMcNeil@doc.org.

Homeschooling

Raptors: They aren't just dinosaurs

BY KRISTINE PORTER
Dispatch Writer

When you hear the word raptor, many people think of the ferocious dinosaurs from the movie Jurassic Park. In fact, raptors are also all birds of prey such as eagles, hawks, falcons, and owls.

On November 10th, Wendy Looker gave a presentation to the children of an area homeschool group. A parent from

the Parent Educators of Adams County organized the very interesting and educational field trip. It was attended by 47 children and many parents.

Ms. Looker is from a non-profit volunteer organization called Rehabitat. They rescue injured and starving raptors, bring them to health and release them. She started her presentation with a slide show of the many types of birds of prey. With each slide she gave enlightening information. The adults learned new things about these birds along with the children. She talked about the differences between

owls and other raptors. In addition, she spoke about the physical characteristics, capturing an injured raptor, rehabilitation of the birds, their roles in rodent control and as education/foster parents, and how we can help these birds.

She then brought out three different birds, one at a time. The first bird we saw was a Saw-Whet Owl. It is the smallest owl in Pennsylvania. This little owl looked so cuddly, but the talons brought to reality its predatory nature. It looked around at the numerous gathering. Sometimes it would turn its head

270 degrees. Owls have this amazing ability, because their eyes are fixed. They must move their heads to see around them.

The second bird was the Red-tailed Hawk. It is pretty big with a length of up to 25 inches and a wingspan of up to 58 inches. This one didn't look to be quite that big. But after the mask was removed from its eyes, it did seem to look over the smaller children quite attentively. Since it can hunt for rabbits and skunks, a small child might be a consideration. In all truth, these birds

(See RAPTOR on Page 21)



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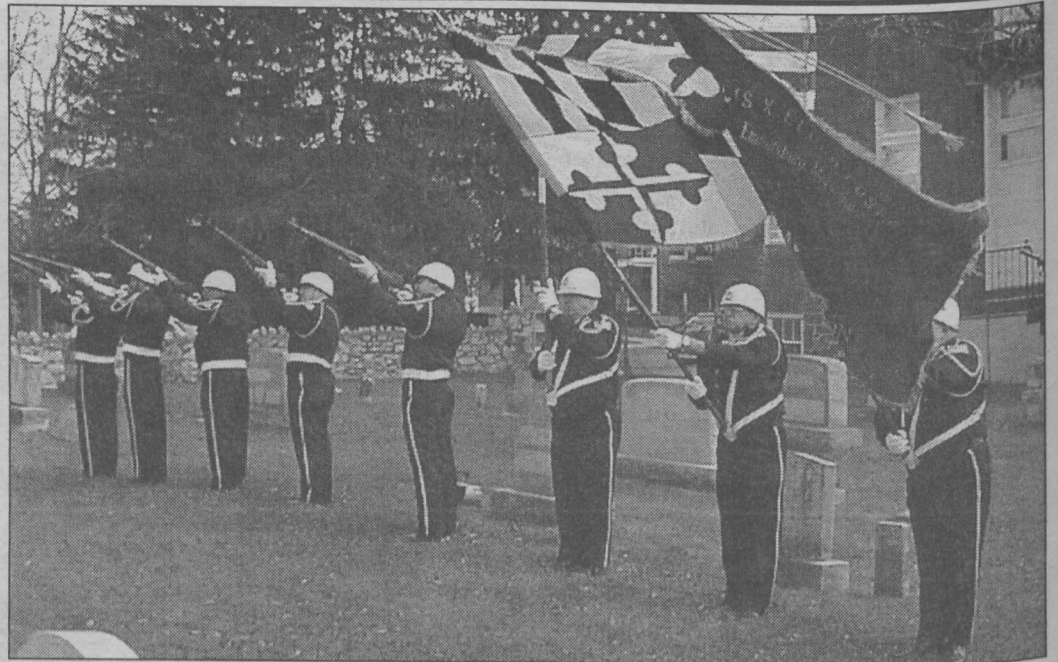
24 West Main Street, Emmitsburg, MD 301-447-6700

Catoctin-Aires baton twirlers announce national winners

The Rampage Dance-Twirl Teams, a part of Catoctin-Aires Baton Twirling Corps, is pleased to announce their winnings at the National Baton Twirling Association's annual championships held at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Ind. The team placed in the top ten in all but one of the categories entered at the national championships with the following results: Beginner Large Twirl Team - 2nd place, Beginner Tot Small Twirl Team - 3rd place, Beginner Juvenile Large Dance-Twirl Team - 3rd place, Beginner Juvenile Small Twirl Team - 4th place, Beginner Large Junior Twirl Team - 5th place, and Beginner Tot Small Dance-Twirl Team - 6th place.

The Rampage teams are a competitive group of dance-twirl and twirling teams which go beyond the parade-style corps competition that the Catoctin-Aires Twirling Corps offers. These teams compete on the state, regional and national level under the sanctions of the National Baton Twirling Association and the Capital Area Marching Association.

The Catoctin-Aires is now holding registration for new members in all levels of twirling. A free, 4-week baton twirling course is being offered to the community for those interested in learning the sport of baton twirling. For more information or registration, please call 301-2714795 or 301-2714326 or 717-334-5567.



A Dispatch Photo

A color guard remembered all veterans "on the 11th hour, of the 11th day of the 11th month" by firing a salute at the grave of Francis X. Elder in the St. Joseph's Church Cemetery. The color guard included members of the American Legion Post 121, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6658, and The Sons of the American Legion.



VETERANS HONORED -- St. Catherine's resident veterans were honored at a ceremony held Friday, November 10, in St. Catherine's Activity Room. The program was sponsored jointly by the Emmitsburg American Legion and St. Catherine's Nursing Center. Veterans honored were Mr. Russell Pierce, Mr. John Ridenour, Mr. William Martin, Mrs. Mae Solomon, Mr. Joseph Lohmann, Mr. Joseph Payne, Sr. Regina Linder, and Mr. John Shank.



Among many who participated in this year's Halloween parade was lion tamer Kayla Knott and her lion brother Kyle. The 5-year-old twins live on Federal Ave, Emmitsburg.

Halloween Night Sights



Boo!

Stop by the *Dispatch* office, 120 S. Seton Avenue, and pick up your photos. We will hold them until 1/15/01. Phone us at 301-447-3039.

Births

Congratulations to these new parents:

Samantha and Mark Golibart, Emmitsburg, a son, October 10

BOWHUNTER BAGS BUCK -- Bob Eiker of Emmitsburg with a 6-point buck he successfully harvested on October 18, 2000, using a compound bow without sights or a mechanical release. "Crossbows are for the handicapped and old people," said Mr. Eiker, who will soon be 84 years of age.



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Mount wins Potomac Rugby Union Championship

BY DON BRIGGS
Coach MSM Rugby

The setting: October 4, 2000—a perfect Maryland fall day, a well-groomed emerald green “pitch” nestled into the resplendent Catoctin Mountains and a large, involved crowd to boot. Grantland Rice could not have penned a better backdrop for any of his fabled coverage of Notre Dame football.

The plot: a small upstart college going up against a large perennial champion state university in a very BIG GAME: the Potomac Rugby Union (PRU)

Championship.

The upstart college was none other than the Mount and the state school with seven consecutive championships was Salisbury State University.

Both teams came into the game undefeated in Union play. The Mount had beaten American U., Frostburg State, George Washington, and UMBC to win the West Division and Johns Hopkins in a playoff match the previous weekend. Salisbury State had beaten Navy, Johns Hopkins, Catholic, and St Mary's to win the East Division and American U. in its first round play-off match.

What was at stake on October 4th was not only the Potomac Union Division II Collegiate Men's Championship, but also home-field advantage in the first round of the Mid-Atlantic Rugby Union (MARFU) Championships (“Elite 8”) next spring. The two teams had tied last year in a regulation-time match, and Salisbury State had won the championship in a shortened tournament format that was dropped this year. Last year's tie with the Mount was the only blemish on Salisbury State's Union match record over the last seven years.

The game was everything it was built up to be—80 minutes of intense effort for both teams. Salisbury went ahead early, 3-0, on a penalty kick. The Mount came back on a try by center Mike Williams to go up 5-3. The Mount stretched the lead to 10-3 on a try by flyhalf Mike Dougherty in the corner (X-rays later revealed that Mike had separated his shoulder on this play, but chose to stay on to finish the game).

Not ready to roll over by any means, the defending Salisbury champs roared back for two converted tries (made the 2 point kicks after each try) to take the lead 17-10 at the half and then opened up the second half with a long breakaway converted try to pull farther ahead 24-10. It did not look good for the Mount.

But then the Mount settled down and responded with a try on a burst by fullback Ian Monigle. Mike Dougherty converted to

close the gap to 24-17. Mike Williams then broke through the middle of the Salisbury defense to set up a key conversion kick by Mike Dougherty, which tied it up at 24-24.

Each team went on in regulation time to miss several tries and kicking opportunities. In the end the score was tied and it was determined that two 10-minute overtime periods would be played. If the score were still tied at that point, a series of 10-minute “sudden death” periods would be played until the winner was decided.

Halfway through the first period, Mike Dougherty made a 40-meter penalty kick to put the Mount up 27-24. Then Mike Williams played a ball off the ground, put in good position by wing Chuck Ziegler, and raced 60 meters down the sideline to score to complete his “hat trick” and Mike Dougherty converted to make the score 34-24 to end the first overtime period.

In the second period, the defending champs again were not to be counted out. They scored on a penalty kick and ended up on the Mount's one-meter line when time ran out. Finally the whistle blew, and after 100 minutes of play it was over. The final score: Mount 34, Salisbury State 27. The crowd erupted and we had a new PRU Rugby Champion to open up the third millennium: Mount St. Mary's College.

*Link to Mount Rugby from
emmitsburg.net*



Mike Williams passes to Chuck Zitrick as Mike Dougherty and Bill Potter give support.

Purello to leave the Mount

Joseph Purello, the Director of Community Service and Service Learning at Mount St. Mary's College, has accepted the position of Director of the Office of Justice and Peace for the Diocese of Charlotte, North Carolina. He will begin his new position in January of 2001.

An employee of Mount St. Mary's College since August of 1995, Mr. Purello was the first full-time Director of Community Service in the Office of Campus Ministry and Community Service. With the development and faculty approval of a curriculum-based service learning program in the spring semester of 1997, Purello's responsibilities expanded to include initiating and managing various service learning partnerships, between the Mount and Frederick County agencies and organizations. Partnering agencies with the Mount's service learning program include Big Brothers/Big Sisters Alternative to School Suspension Program, Up County Family Center, After School Adventures Program, and the Emmitsburg Dispatch.

Under Purello's leadership, significant growth has occurred in the number of opportunities offered at Mount St.



JOSEPH PURELLO

Mary's to serve the community and those in need. Some of Purello's initiatives and developments in volunteer programming include service leadership retreats, an annual Hunger Awareness Meal, Habitat for Humanity and L'Arche service trip partnerships. In addition, an America Reads Program placing work-study tutors in Emmitsburg elementary schools, was initiated by Purello and now is in its fourth year. The Office of Community Service was selected as a finalist for the J.C. Penney Golden Rule Award in

(See PURELLO on Page 10)

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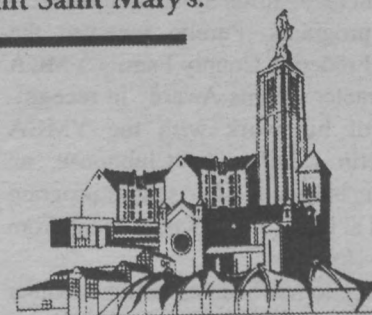
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Thurmont Seniors: On the road again

Thurmont Seniors' scheduled trips are open to the general public, all ages. Trip sheets containing detailed information are available at the main desk in the Thurmont Senior Center or you may call 301-2271-7911.

Day trips require a reservation deposit of \$10, unless otherwise noted

Overnight trips require a larger deposit, as shown on the trip sheet, along with the itinerary. Copies may be picked up between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. daily. You may call and have them mailed to you.

Scheduled trips

Wed., Feb. 21: Day Trip- Paradise, Pa. - Rainbow Dinner Theater, Whose Wife Is It Anyway?

Tues., March 20: Day Trip-Boiling Springs, Pa. - Allenberry Playhouse, Funny Old Moon.

Sun., April 8: Day Trip-Baltimore - Meyerhoff Symphony Hall, Give My Regards to Broadway

Mon., May 14 - May 19: Ottawa, 1000 Islands, Kingston, Toronto, Niagara Falls & Rochester.

Wed., May 23: Day Trip- Baltimore - Ladew Topiary Gardens (near Baltimore) & Museum of Industry

Thurs., June 21: Day Trip- Washington, D.C. - Patriotic Day

Sat., July 28 - July 29: Cumberland, Md. - Drum & Bugle Corps Championship

July-August: Day Trip-Washington, D.C. -Kiss Me, Kate. Date not yet determined

Wed., August 22: Day Trip- Gettysburg - Totem Pole Playhouse, A Grand Night for Singing. Thurs., Sept 13:

Day Trip - The Inns & Castles of the Alleghenies—A Progressive Dine- A-Round

Wed., Oct. 24: Day Trip - Mystery Color Trip

Mon., November 12 - November 16: Asheville, N.C.- Pigeon Forge,

Dollywood & Gatlinburg, Tenn., Christmas in the Smokies- includes Biltmore Estate

Wed., Dec. 5: Day Trip -Baltimore - Valley View Farms & the Bay Lady Harbor Cruise.

Employee of the Month

St. Catherine's Nursing Center Employee of the Month for October 2000 is Janet Hess. Janet has been employed as a GNA since November 1995. According to her co-workers, Janet is very dedicated to her job. She always helps out when needed and is always cheerful and friendly. Janet is very dependable and faithful, and she loves to make the residents smile. She is very much appreciated by her fellow co-workers. Janet is always willing to go the extra mile. Janet is very deserving of the honor of Employee of the Month. Congratulations, Janet.!



JANET HESS

Team St. Catherine



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Purello

(Continued from Page 9)

1997 in recognition of its volunteer service programs. Purello received the 1998 Frederick County Family YMCA "Character Counts Award" in recognition of his work with the YMCA Catocin Community Clubhouse, an Emmitsburg area after-school program based at the Mount's Knott Arena from 1995-1998.

Purello has been an active member and leader of several Frederick County committees and organizations. He was a founding member of the Emmitsburg Coalition for a Better Community,

Chair of the Emmitsburg Housing Coalition, serves on the county's Volunteer Advisory Board, the Catocin CASS Advisory Council, the Emmitsburg School Partnership, and the Maryland Special Olympics, Fall Sports Management Team. For the past two years he also has been a Learn and Serve America Service Learning "Peer Mentor," an advisor to Mid-Atlantic Church World Service, and a member of Catholic Relief Service's Education for Justice Planning Committee.

St. John's at Prospect Hall sets admissions test

St. John's Literary Institution at Prospect Hall, a Catholic, Coeducational, College Preparatory High School, located at the intersection of Rt. 180 & Butterfly Lane in Frederick, Maryland, will be hosting the Archdiocese of Baltimore admissions test for the Class of 2005 on Saturday, December 9, 2000. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Testing

will take place from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Applications for the academic year 2001-2002 are now being accepted. For more information, please call the Director of Admissions at 301-662-4210.

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Obituaries

Mr. John Crowley

Mr. John Joseph Crowley, 90, of Emmitsburg, died Friday, Nov. 3, in Gettysburg.

He was the husband of the late Dorothy Crowley.

He is survived by two sons, John William Crowley and wife Dorothy, and James Robert Crowley and wife Rose Marie; one daughter, Marie Dorothea Newman and husband Barry of Emmitsburg; 17 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; and one sister, Mae McClure of Corning, N.Y.

Funeral services were held at the Lee funeral Home in Clinton. Interment in Cedar Hill Cemetery.

Sister Gabriel O'Byrne, D.C.

Sister Gabriel O'Byrne, a Daughter of Charity for 68 years, died on Monday, October 30, at Villa St. Michael, the province's retirement residence in Emmitsburg for elderly and infirm sisters. She was 87.

Sister Gabriel was born in Amsterdam, N. Y., and entered the Daughters of Charity in 1932. Her first assignment as a Daughter of Charity was as a group worker at St. Vincent's Infant Home in Baltimore in 1933, and in 1934 continued in this capacity at St. Joseph Home in Philadelphia. Sister Gabriel was changed to Soldiers Home in Washington, D.C., in 1935 where she served as a practical nurse until 1949. Due to ill health, Sister spent the next year recuperating at St. Joseph's Provincial House in Emmitsburg.

A word about pre-arrangements and pre-financing



The funeral serves a wide range of purposes, with religious, psychological, and physical significance. There are many aspects and details to the meaningful funeral that are arranged with the assistance of the professional funeral director, usually at the time of need. However, some people prefer counseling prior to need.

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During this time she received a letter of commendation from Brigadier General (Ret) Robert C. McDonald, the Chief Surgeon at Soldiers Home. He wrote: "...We will miss the splendid work you did so well here for so many years, Yours was the most difficult assignment—so very many patients to look after and often so many were seriously ill. Your devotion to duty was outstanding.... We want you to know that we appreciate your devotion to duty and the high standard of nursing care which our patients received under your supervision The Staff and patients of the Home Hospital join me in sending kindest regards and very best wishes."

In 1949 when her recuperation was complete, Sister was sent to St. Vincent's Infant Home in Baltimore once again and remained there for the next four years. Soldiers Home would be "home" again to Sister Gabriel in 1953. She returned to her duty as practical nurse and served there for the next twenty-two years.

In 1975, at the age of sixty-two, Sister Gabriel was assigned to Villa St. Michael in Emmitsburg and continued her service as a practical nurse there until 1986. She then transferred to the Northeast Province of Daughters of Charity in Albany, N.Y., to be near her sister. After her sister's death in 1992 and Sister Gabriel's active career at an end, she returned to the Emmitsburg Province as a resident of Villa St. Michael.

A Mass of Christian burial for Sister Gabriel was offered on November 2 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Emmitsburg. The last of her immediate family, Sister Gabriel's closest relative is a distant cousin.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Daughters of Charity Sisters Support Fund for the Elderly and Infirm, 333 S. Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, MD 21727.

Other Obituaries can be seen in our archives on emmitsburg.net

Codori Memorials

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A grand slam for season finale

The Catoctin-Aires Twirling Corps has finished another very successful marching season with grand slam results. The corps' majorette line has captured the Capital Area Marching Association's highest award of Maryland State Advanced Grand Champion Corps. This event was held as the conclusion to the C.A.M.A. marching season.

In addition to this prestigious title win, the corps also won the titles of Md. State Advanced Majorette Champions as well as the Md. State Intermediate Color Guard Champions, having earned the honor of ffigh General Effect for an Intermediate level color guard. Both of these wins compiled led to the overall advanced title.

During the two-day championships, the corps also won the titles

of Advanced Best Tiny Tot unit and Best Complementary Unit. In the dance-twirl team competition, the corps' beginner Tiny Tot Dance-Twirl Team won its title for the state championship with an exciting Pac-Man theme number. Rampage, the corps' spin-off advanced dance-twirl team, also captured its title events in both Tiny Tot and Juvenile Dance-Twirl Teams with a lively number executed to the music of Looney Tunes.

The corps is now open for registration and is accepting twirlers of all levels for its ongoing program. A free, 4-week beginner course is now offered for those interested in twirling from ages 5 and up. For registration or more information on this program or corps' registration, please call 301-2714795 or 301-271-4326 or 717-334-5567.

Bartlett offers veterans' workshop

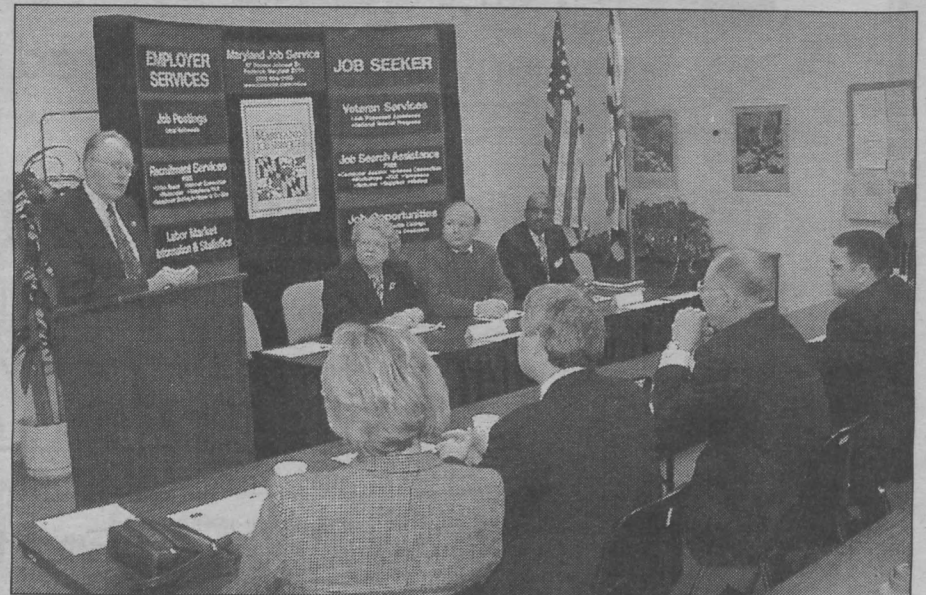
Congressman Roscoe G. Bartlett (R-6-MD) sponsored a free two-hour veterans' entrepreneur workshop on November 20 at the Maryland Job Service office in Frederick. Those attending were introduced to FastTrac, a nationally known entrepreneurship training program.

"I am proud that hearings and legislation that I initiated as chairman of the House Small Business Oversight Subcommittee led to the enactment into law in 1999 of the Veterans Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development Act to improve the federal government's assistance to veteran

small business owners," said Congressman Bartlett. "I am pleased to be able to sponsor this conference spearheaded by Bea Checket and the Women's Business Institute as just one concrete benefit of this new law for veterans in the Sixth District."

The workshop was cosponsored by the Women's Business Institute and the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulations.

For more information about future workshops, contact the Women's Business Institute at 410-756-2334 or via email at WBIreception@access.net.



A Dispatch Photo

Congressman Roscoe Bartlett addresses veterans at Entrepreneur Workshop sponsored by WBI and US Job Service.

Neighbors

BY KATE WARTHEN
Dispatch Writer

The library book club met at the home of Caryl Austrian on Nov. 10th. Lovely refreshments were served. The next meeting will be at the home of Annetta Rapp on December 13th at 1:00. The book to be discussed is the *Girl's Guide to Hunting and Fishing*.

The Friends of the Emmitsburg Library met on Nov. 16th at the Library. One of the ongoing projects is to donate a box of children's books to a school in Hartford, Conn., so that less fortunate children may have access to their own class library. You may donate a good used or new child's book at the local library.

Library volunteers are invited to a party at the home of Elizabeth Prongas on Dec. 8th at 6:00 p.m. Bring a dish of finger food for the party.

The Emmitsburg Community Chorus will perform on Sunday, Dec. 3, at 3:15 p.m. at the Basilica Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. All are welcome. The concert is free, but a free-will offering may be made. The group will perform at Saint Catherine's on Tuesday, Dec. 5th at 7:30.

Mr. and Mrs. James Deegan spent the weekend with their son and family in Bowie, Md. They also spent some time in Florida recently.

The Sodality of the Blessed Virgin will sponsor a Christmas Country Craft Fare on December 1st from 12:00 noon until 7:00 p.m. and on December 2nd from 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. Featured will be homemade baked goods, soups, and sandwiches will be available both days. Also arts, crafts, and holiday items. Located at St. Joseph's Parish Hall on DePaul Street beside the Catholic Rectory. Phone 301-447-2326 for information.

Mr. John Adelsberger has moved to his new home in Fairfield, Pa. John formerly lived in West Virginia. Welcome back, John.

The Share Group continues to distribute food. You must do two hours of volunteer work in the community to be eligible to join. Next distribution will be on Dec. 16th. Volunteering is a great way to help your community and help yourself.

Alicia LaCroix and John Mansfield are visiting her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. James Adelsberger over the Thanksgiving holidays. Alicia resides with her parents on Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

Rev. Margaret Dodd is visiting in Seattle, Washington. She is welcoming a new grandchild.

Nathan Adelsberger, a student at Mt. St. Mary's, played in the

Mainstage production of *The Last Night of Ballyhoo* by Alfred Uhry. At the Saturday night performance, Nathan assumed the role of Peachy Weil. A great performance was directed by guest director Genevieve Williams, MSM class of 1991. Genevieve is the artistic director, Spellbound Theatre Works, New York.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Seidel have returned from a visit to Mr. Seidel's sister who lives in Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Golibart and family recently visited with his mother, Mrs. Chica Golibart.

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Golibart are the proud parents of a new baby boy, a baby brother for their little daughter Emma. Congratulations, Mark and Sam.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Marcus Folger on the birth of a son. Mrs. Folger is the former Beth Zanella.

Congratulations to Mr. Joseph Zanella. Joel recently retired from Mt. St. Mary's College. Joe was the financial aid advisor for many years. Good job, Joseph. Enjoy your years of retirement.

Mr. and Mrs. L. Wintermeyer and family of Crystal Fountain Road attended the cello concert at Hood College on Sunday, Nov. 12th. Also attending the concert were cello player Leah Adelsberger, Karen Adelsberger, and Kate Warthen.

Mrs. Judy Beale of Emmit Gardens is spending a week with her son Douglas and family, who reside in Portland, Maine.

Mrs. Ginny Ridenour and family have just returned from a visit to Florida.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Baker and family of Burke, Va., are planning to spend the Christmas holidays with their son Brian and Catherine, who currently reside in Sydney, Australia. Brian is the grandson of Yvonne Baker of Emmitsburg.



Women's Business Institute Staff

Photo courtesy Charles Covell

Women's Business Institute offers aid for current and future entrepreneurs

In the first year of funded operation (ending in June of 2000), the Women's Business Institute (WBI) trained or counseled over 1000 clients. The numbers for the first quarter of this year project growth well over and above these established numbers.

New workshops and ideas are always being explored. An example is "Smart Students Finish Rich," a program aimed at helping young women to learn personal and business investment strategies.

Another pilot for WBI, beginning on March 21, 2001, will be a distance learning program: *How to Really Start Your Own Business*. The live session will take place at Carroll Community College in Westminster and will be simulcast in classrooms at Hagerstown Community College and Allegany Community College in Cumberland.

WBI Program Director Pam Wilson indicates: "a major goal of ours at WBI is to constantly re-evaluate our course material and provide new topics that are consistent with a rapidly evolving business world. The distance learning project is part of this goal by providing clients in different geographical areas access to information in a timely manner. The technology and the amount of educational material available today makes starting a business more accessi-

ble than ever. We try to keep pace with current trends to keep our clients ahead of the curve and prepared to compete in local, national and global markets."

One of the current trends that WBI has recently explored is aiding small business in doing business with the Government. This past September, the Women's Business Institute, with the help of many sponsors and associates, sponsored the First Annual Procurement Fair at Ft. Detrick in Frederick, Md. This provided local businesses of all sizes the opportunity to meet individual purchasing officers from participating agencies and obtain instructional materials specifying how to do business with them as well as whom to contact. There was also a special focus on women, minority and small business opportunities. Congressman Roscoe G. Bartlett provided the keynote address to the over 300 local businesses that were in attendance. In addition, over 200 individuals attended the workshops that were provided throughout the day on working with the government.

It is clear to see that Bea Checket's dream of creating this organization has become a reality and WBI is providing a valuable service to many local busi-

(See BUSINESS on Page 14)

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Artist

(Continued from Page 5)

team for Bendix Field Engineering Corporation where there was a position open for a junior draftsman in the engineering department. He suggested that Ray apply. Realizing that it was a position which could be forged into a career, Ray decided to go for it and was accepted. He worked days and in an effort to master his craft, began taking courses at night, completing his almost two years of study in mechanical engineering at Pennsylvania State University, York campus.

After fifteen years of work experience, Ray is currently a designer specializing in computer modeling. He now works independently through a technical contractor. This arrangement enables him to follow his passion which was and always will be art.

When his desire to express himself artistically reemerged in the early 1990's, it was Elizabeth Prongas, another Emmitsburg artist, who gave Ray the

focus he needed.

Painting was a catharsis for him, but something was still missing. He set out on a spiritual journey seeking answers to life's difficult questions. During this quest, he became fascinated with religious art and believes that God led him to his next teacher, Gray Stevens. Stevens, an artist from Annapolis, made Ray wait for six months before agreeing to take him on as a student and then made him promise to commit to every Saturday, all day. Gray opened up Ray's world by introducing him to oil painting in the style of the Old Masters. Ray studied with Stevens as an apprentice for about two years, eventually assisting with an eight-foot replica of a mural by Peter Paul Rubens. The replica now hangs in an outreach church in Annapolis.

In 1994, Ray had an opportunity to join a group on a pilgrimage to Russia. While at the Hermitage Museum and in the Orthodox churches, he experienced Russian iconography firsthand. Some of his friends on that trip were planning to

attend an icon workshop upon their return to the States. It was to be conducted by iconographer Peter Pearson, from Pittsburgh, and they invited Ray to join them. [Peter is the artist who created the impressive icon for the Catholic-Orthodox dialogue which took place in Emmitsburg this past July.] After attending the workshop, Ray studied for a time with Pearson.

Ray's icons are considered "western style" in that they are three dimensional rather than two. Because of the deeply spiritual significance of iconography, an authentic icon is said to be written. Pearson creates icons in acrylic but some would argue that authentic sacred icons must be done with natural earth media. A genuine icon would be in egg tempera. Ray eventually returned to his first love which is oil painting. However, he is still in contact with his mentor and they often collaborate on projects.

When the Emmitsburg Art League sponsored a "Visit the Artists" tour in 1995, a list of artists, the location of their studios, and a map were given to anyone interested. One of the artists on the list, Dennis Blalock, intrigued Ray. Dennis works in oils and is also a Bonsai tree artist. Ray was so impressed with Blalock's work that he asked if Dennis would be willing to take him on as a student. Like Gray Stevens, Blalock made Ray wait—this time, it was a period of one year. He wanted to test Ray's mettle to see if he truly possessed a passion for art. He also insisted that Ray come to him on a weekday. Blalock reasoned that if he was going to teach, Ray had to be willing to take the time. It was at this point that Ray quit his full-time job and began to take on independent contracts. In addition to Blalock's artwork, Ray was drawn to his spirituality. For Ray, art has always been a deeply spiritual experience. It's at the very core of all that he sees with the eye and attempts to capture with his brush. At the present time, Ray is no longer studying art, but Dennis Blalock remains his mentor.

I had the privilege to visit Ray



This oil painting in progress is that of Marie Bernadette, daughter of Marty and Sherry Grenchik of Fairfield, PA.

Buchheister's studio and my eyes feasted on the beautiful still lifes, landscapes, and his western rendition of icons. From my perspective, his talent seemed to have no bounds, but perhaps the greatest gift Ray has been blessed with is his ability to paint portraits. While looking at a variety of his work, my eyes were drawn to an unfinished portrait on an easel in the middle of the room. The face of the beautiful little girl looked so familiar. Suddenly I realized it was a local child whom I had seen on many occasions. The painting is exquisite and I marveled at Ray's ability to portray her expression so perfectly on canvas.

For Ray Buchheister, art is truthfulness and sincerity. He believes that an artist is closely connected to God. "Artists do not create from nothingness; rather, they utilize what the Father of all creation has given them," Ray says. It's been a long journey since the PT-109 drawing and he has learned much along the way. Ray is currently working on a series of paintings for a show, and recently began teaching art to youngsters in the area, mostly homeschooled children.

If you would like to visit Ray's home studio, he can be contacted at 717-334-

Business

(Continued from Page 13)

nesses. Checket's enthusiasm is infectious and is passed on to every member of her staff. The future looks bright for the Women's Business Institute as success stories grow from business owners who work with WBI and achieve success. WBI is still growing and is striving to offer even more services to the communities it serves.

Among the challenges that the organization faces is building a strong fiscal base to fund its programs. WBI is searching for corporate sponsors and partners as well as private support in the form of volunteerism and funding.

Checket hopes that the net result of the Women's Business Institute will be to strengthen women's economic position in society, and, as the WBI motto states—"Changing the Face of Maryland's Economy." Checket firmly believes that education and self-sufficiency are the best ways to do this. She cites the parable about how giving people fish will feed them for a day, while teaching them to fish allows them to eat for a lifetime: "I'm teaching them

to fish," she says. For more information, contact WBI at 410-756-2334.

Since the inception of WBI in the Taneytown headquarters office, additional offices have been established throughout the area: in LaVale at the County Club Mall; in Bel Air at the Small Business Resource Center at Harford Community College; in La Plata at the Economic & Community Development Institute at the College of Southern Maryland; and in Keyser, W.Va. at the Grand Central Business Center. WBI also offers a wide-range of workshops and services to assist business owners throughout the state and in West Virginia. Program sites include: the Taneytown Corporate office; Carroll Community College; Hood College; Hagerstown Community College; Allegany Community College; Harford Community College; College of Southern Maryland; Grand Central Business Center and Farmers & Mechanics National Bank Headquarters in Frederick.

Submit your news story via the internet. (See page 4)

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Emmitsburg Elementary News

Exemplary Attendance

The following students have missed 3 school days or less:

Pre-K: Koryne Andres, Marialison Bailey, Dan Biser, Jody Brunty, Shantel Buchholtz, Sarah Collins, Johathan Cool, Madeline Damskey, Chelsea Den Bleyker, Christopher Faulkner, Emily Giannini, Larry Glass, Amanda Hackney, Landon Hollinger, Paulina Hollinger, Josiah Julian, Joy Julian, Josie Keilholtz, Nicholas Kubala, Adam Marshall, Justin Martin, Nicole McCarty, Lindsey McClendon, Kurstin Metz, Ines Mrkanovic, Nejra Mrkanovic, Graham Nettleton, Mariah Piazzola, Caroline Sachs, Amber Sanders, Jozalyn Sauve, Jacob Shriver, Shelby Skipper, Justin Tobery, Patricia Turner, Jade Vaughn, Ciara Woodby, Shawn Youngblood.

Kindergarten: Kirstyn Andrew, Stephanie Andrew, Austin Brunty, Taylor Clarke, Maryann Cockrell, Amber Collins, Logan Crepeau, Joseph Droneburg, Brian Faulkner, Bret Fraley, Annette Giannini, Dylon Grubic, Brandon Hall, Jacob Hanvey, Shane Heward, Angela Javor, Duston Kahler, Corey Kreun, Jessica Lookingbill, Shelby Maly, Andrew McGlaughlin, Shelby Miller, Garrett Millison, Nicholas Myers, Katelynn Parsley, Kasey Price, Laura Ridge, Summer Roberts, Parker Rohbaugh, Tye Russell, Shontara Sauve, Evelyn Smith, Corey Stoner, Justin Tamminga, Bryan Troxell, Lovette Turner, Megan Watkins, Rachael Wilt, Jenifer Woodby, Peter Wright, Andrew Yeager, Robert Youngblood.

First Grade: Andrew Boller, Joshua Dal-Favero, Katie Davis, Lori Douglass, Nicholas Elias, Brandon Fogle, Michael Frazier, Sarah Glacken, Danielle Hoke, Joseph Hunt, Jordan Jason, Stephanie Jenkins, Joseph Johnson, Kristen Kesselring, Phillip Lawrence, Kristopher Lowery, Darren Milter, Irma Mrkanovic, Amelia Poole, Brandon Robinson, Garrett Rohrbach, Elizabeth Shriver, Travis Skipper, Brittany Smith, Corey Smith, Eric Stone, Jared Suit-Hill, Jed Wachter, Melissa Wachter, Travis Wagerman, David Wantz IV, Michael Welty, Wean Willette, James Woody III.

Second Grade: Daniel Baer, Cody Baugher, Jareth Beeman, Tyler Bodnar, Courtney Bomberger, Candace Butler, Travis Cool, Jacob Droneburg, Milton Frech 111, Chelsea Gelwicks, Laken Grossnickle, Nicholas Heaton, Nicole Hollinger, Luke Howard, Gary Hughes Jr., Trei Jackson, Brandon Kahler, Kayla Lenhart, Carrie Little, Katherine Metz, Ryan Pittinger, Jessica Potts, Heather Pozzouli, Alicia Rhodes, Travis Rohbaugh, Shaleigh Saylor, Tiffany Sloane, Zeth Smith, Brandon Stouter, Ashley Trout, Savrina Wantz, Trey Wafts, Lamonte Williams Jr., Joseph Wolfe, Juliann Youngblood.

Third Grade: Zachary Amato, Benjamin Andrew, Dylan Baadte, Jessica Boller, Misti Bradshaw, Candice Brooks, Cody Brunk, Jessica Clarke, Tara Collins, Rebecca Fields, Carrie Gelwicks, Donald Giannini, Josefa Hanvey, Justin Kerns, Ashley Kesselring, Jeffrey Kreitz, Jessica Little, Robert Lowery, Kolby Maly,

Sidney McClendon, Nicole Medve, Erin Nell, Cody Oft, Joshua Poole, Danielle Pozzouli, Amanda Rand-Campbell.

Fourth Grade: Montana Bailey, Robert Bodnar, Matthew Bradshaw, Joshua Brotherton, Justin Buchholtz, Hannah Claytor, Samantha Cool, Erin Courts, Rayneka Davis, Manda Delphey, Ashley Delphey, Myra Derbyshire, Victoria Farmer-Long, Ashley Hansbrough, Christopher Hardy, Colleen Heaton, Daniel Hobbs, Rachael Hoover, John Javor, Jerreft Jenkins, Jonathan Kubala, Shawn Little, Jordan Martin, Brancy McCarty, Tabitha McGlaughlin, Robert Myers IV, Amber Poole, Alexander Porter, Jessica Reckley, Amanda Ridenour, Ian Ridenour, Kourtney Roman, Brook Sickle, Miriah Stone, Tonya Tester, Kyle Vaughn, Antonio Vitiello, Bradley Wilt.

Fifth Grade: Amber Bentz, Ashley Coleman, Elyssa Cool, Randy Cool, Richard Cool, Amy Eyer, Becca Fink, Stephanie Franklin, Olivia Frech, Crystal Hardy, Briana Kwarta, Joshua Lookingbill, DJ Mrcelle, Sara Maring, Sean Mayer, Earl Metz Jr., Amanda Miller, Matthew O'Donnell, Matthew Ohler Jr., Tasha Ray, Joshua Roman, Jury Rubeling-Kain, Justin Shank, Morgan Shoemaker, Deborah Sloane, Joshua Stinnett, Amanda Stottlemeyer, Joseph Tester, Kassondra Topper, Amber Weikert, Ryan Wilt, Matthew Wolfe.

Third Grade News

On October 27 the third grade class had a pumpkin day. They made pumpkin foods. They also talked about resources needed to make the foods, weighing, measuring the pumpkins, and learning about how they are harvested. Each third grader received a pumpkin donated by JUBILEE FOODS.

1st Quarter Recognition GOOD WORKERS

Mrs. Miller's 1st grade class: Sarah Glacken, Kristen Kesseiring, Irma Mrkanovic, Darren Milter, Elizabeth

Shriver, Travis Skipper, Corey Smith, Travis Wagerman

Miss. Corl's 1st grade class: Andrew Boller, Katie Davis, Trevor Eckenrode, Kris Lowery, Garrett Rohrbach, Brittany Smith, David Wantz, James Woodby.

Miss. VanPelt's 1st grade class: Stephanie Jenkins, Emily Poole, Jed Wachter, Yancy Wilson.

Mrs. Baumgardner's 2nd grade class: Cody Baugher, Travis Cool,

Jacob Fisher, Laken Grossnickle, Nicole Hollinger, Carrie Little, Zeth

Smith, Brandon Stouter, Ashley Trout, Sabrina Wantz, Juliann Youngblood.

Ms. Wilfong's 2nd grade class: Tyler Bodnar, Courtney Bomberger, Milton Frech, Chelsea Gelwicks, Nick Heaton, Brandon Kahler, Kayla Lenhart, Katie Metz, Ryan Pittinger, Jessica Potts, Heather Pozzouli, Alicia Rhodes, Shaleigh Saylor, Tiffany Sloane, Kayla Springer.

EAGLE CLUB

Mrs. Adam's 3rd grade class: Nicole Medve, Kolby Maly, Jessica Little, Carrie Gelwicks, Tara Collins, Jessica Clarke, Jessica Boller, Kaitlin Stouter.

Mrs. Reed's 4th grade class: Jarrett Jenkins, Amber Poole.

Mrs. Hoffman's 4th grade class: Chris Bodnar, Ashley Delphey, Myrz Derbyshire, Colleen Heaton, Rachel Hoover, Kourtney Roman, Chelsea Tasker, Jessica Reckley.

Miss. Sorbello's 4th grade class: Justin Buchholz, Amanda Delphey, Victoria Farmer-Long, Ashley Hansbrough, Jonathan Kubala, Miriah Stone, Kyle Vaughn, Tonya Tester.

Mrs. Progar's 5th grade class: DJ Marcelle, Kassondra Topper, Amber Weikert.

Mr. Saterlee's 5th grade class: Ashley Coleman, Becca Fink, Matthew O'Donnell, Tasha Ray, Josh Roman, Jury

(Continued on Page 16 and 17)



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Quilters

BY MARY ELLEN CUMMINGS
Dispatch Writer

This is the day to start a small quilt project. Buy a kit; ask a friend; or visit a group that quilts.

Of course, you are citing all the reasons you can't find the time to quilt. First came Thanksgiving with all its food, football, and friends. Immediately after that, Christmas! Gift buying, crafting and decorating start now. Unless you're like my sister-in-law who always waited until Christmas Eve to do everything.

Now there are plays and pageants to rehearse; musical presentations to perfect; Christmas dinner theater and light shows to attend. Don't forget cards to address and invitations to send out. Your days are already getting hectic; your nerves are beginning to "jingle." You must continue the family's non-holiday activities— chauffeuring, school conferences, laundry, cleaning.

Stop! Sit down; breathe deeply and exercise your brain. What does the time between Thanksgiving and January 10 mean to you? Each of you will have your own priorities and are so busy that you can't appreciate and enjoy what the season offers. Whether it is secular or religious, you should be able to enjoy the holidays and not be stressed out to the max.

Today is the day to start a quilting project!

There is a therapeutic side to quilting with each stitch following another according to a plan. Each piece of fabric also has a defined order in a pattern. If cutting and piecing does not appeal to you, there are some "panel" fabrics that you can quilt. Fabric store personnel will help you with advice.

When the holiday music gets monotonous; the ball game's whistle screeches at you, and the bantering of siblings turns to shouting—it's time to sit down, pick up your little project and begin stitching. Don't set a time deadline. That would ruin the magic. Just quilt.

Happy Holidays to you all. Read more quilting news on emmitsburg.net

Elementary, cont.

Rubeling-Kain, Matt Wolfe.

1st Quarter Character Counts Awards
3rd Grade

Mrs. Minoglio's: Candi Brooks and
Robbie Lowery.

Mrs. Adam's: Nicole Medve and
Kolby Maly.

4th Grade

Mrs. Reed's: Amber Poole and
Jerrett Jenkins.

Mrs. Hoffman's: Kourtney Roman

(Continued on Page 17)

St. Anthony/OLMC News

BY ANN MARSHALL
Dispatch Writer

A Farewell Party for Father Leo Tittler, who is stepping down as pastor at the end of this year, is scheduled for Saturday, January 20, 2001. A planning meeting for this event will be held on December 2, at 9:00 a.m., at OLMC Parish Center. If you can't attend but would like to help, please call the office, 301447 2367.

Family Night at the ARCC at Mount St. Mary's, Friday, December 15, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., has been scheduled by the Religious Education Office. Activities include basketball, wallyball, swimming. Friends are welcome. Admission is \$3.00/person.

The Parishes Christmas Pageant and Pot Luck Supper will be held on Sunday, December 17, from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. at OLMC Parish Center. Please bring a dish indicated by the first letter of your last name: A-F Hot Entree; G-J, Hot Vegetable; K-P, Green Salad with dressing; Q-U, Bread and butter; V-Z Desserts. Parish will provide drinks and paper goods.

How to Choose a Confirmation Name or What Saint Do I Want to Model My Life After? will be discussed at a meeting at St. Anthony School House, December 10, 2000, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

Several High School and College Scholarships are available to Catholic students through the Maryland State Council of the Knights of Columbus. Applications are due by March 1, 2001. For more information or for information about the Knott Scholarships for grade school and high school students, please call the office, 301-447-2367.

Adopt-A-Family for Christmas by taking home an ornament from the tree in the back of the church. Each ornament has information about a person who needs extra cheer at Christmas. Bring the unwrapped gifts you purchased for that person, wrapping paper, and the ornament to the parish office by Sunday, December 10. Gifts will be distributed by Seton Center.

The Knights of Columbus invite everyone to join in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, on Monday, December 11, 7:00 p.m., at OLMC Church. The Knights thank everyone who bought "Keep-Christ-in-Christmas" cards. This fund raiser was sold out. The Knights continue to collect beverage pull-tabs off cans for the benefit of Ronald McDonald House in Baltimore. A collection box is in the Church.

Remember your Departed Loved Ones with a donation for Christmas decorations for the church. Donation

are, due by Sunday, December 17, and may be put in a marked envelope and dropped in the collection basket. A memorial listing for those remembered will be published the weekend before Christmas.

Many thanks to Bev Zienda and Colorfest Inc, who donated the profit from their Appreciation Dinner on November 14, to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church. This generous donation amounted to \$543.

Congratulations: to Sterling and Linda Bollinger, parishioners at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, who recently celebrated their 50th anniversary, and to Joseph and Sarah Marcinko, parishioners at St. Anthony Shrine, who celebrated their 40th anniversary on October 28. St. Anthony Shrine Parish welcomes into the Catholic Faith Community Ashley Marie Glass, daughter of John and Tammy Glass, who was baptized November 5, 2000.

Elementary, cont.

and Chris Bodnar.

Miss. Sorbello's: Justin Buchholz and Shawn Little.

5th Grade- Mr. Satterlee: Tasha Ray and Joshua Roman.; Mrs. Progar: Kassondra Topper, DJ Marcelle.

Emmitsburg Elementary conducted a school-wide election on November 3, 2000. The results are as follows:

Mr. Al Gore 51; Mr. George Bush 132
Mr. Ralph Nader 1

Thank you, Myra Derbyshire, for your help with this election.

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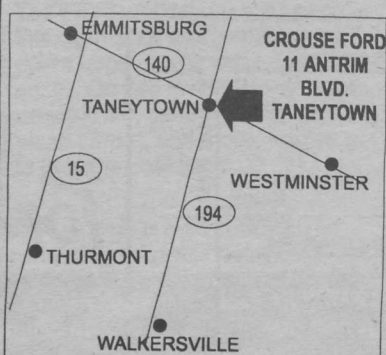


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Mother Seton School News

BY VAL MENTZER
Dispatch Writer

Protect an Acre of the Rain Forest with the help of the Mother Seton School's 8th graders, particularly Alison Binder and Addy Reuling, and Sister Regina Hlavac. The 8th grader religion program is focusing on the environment and loving this planet we all call home. Students designed the front hall showcase with posters and displays answering the question, "Earth - It's the Only One We Have; Do You Care?"

Of particular concern is the destruction of our valuable rain forests. Each second, 2.47 acres are burned and destroyed - 78,000,000 acres each year! The "Protect-An-Acre" Project, sponsored through the Association for Progressive Communications, gives students a chance to get involved in saving our planet. The Association is a network of groups working for peace, human rights, development and protection of the environment. With this Association, every \$35.00 that is raised saves an acre of the rain forest.

Our MSS students decided to have a school-wide bake sale to raise funds to "Protect-An-Acre" of the rain forest. Several homemade pies, brownies, cookies and cupcakes later, MSS students collected \$121.00 toward this cause! Thanks to all of the families for baking and buying these goodies for this worthy cause. If you are interested in offering a donation to this project, please send it c/o "Rain Forest Project" to Sister Regina Hlavac.

Colonial America Never Tasted So Good! Mrs. Ott's 2nd graders were studying all about the life and times and tastes of Colonial America! The students created corn husk dolls, made paper woodcutters, and churned butter that they later enjoyed on a piece of homemade cornbread! What a delicious way to discover America!

Another Successful Homeschool

Association Gala was held on Saturday, November 18, at the Holly Hills Country Club in Frederick. Guests enjoyed a very delicious buffet dinner consisting of appetizers, salads, crab cakes, carved beef, chicken florentine and dessert. The evening featured a Silent Auction, a Treasure Chest, Classroom Theme Baskets, and a special raffle for a beautiful Hafco Victorian Country Home Doll house valued at over \$3,500.00. Thanks to Robyn Giangrande, Alicia Dirk, and Kim Benjamin for spearheading this event, and for all of the school families who volunteered for, donated to and attended this Gala.

A Special Thanksgiving Tribute was given to Father Leo Tittler at the MSS Thanksgiving paraliturgy. Along with classroom decorated posters describing what our students are thankful for during this holiday season, Father Leo was recognized for his many, many contributions, both spiritual and financial, to our Mother Seton School families.

Preparing Our Hearts For Christmas

Advent is a special time of preparation and anticipation. Mother Seton School is observing the Advent season with many classroom outreach activities, adopting needy families for gifts, participating in prayer partner activities, and preparing Pastor/Parish Christmas Cards. Our MSS Chorus will be entertaining at the Provincial House Employee Christmas Luncheon. Our HSA is sponsoring the St. Nick's Workshop again for our students this year. We celebrate the Immaculate Conception with a Liturgy, and enjoy the MSS Christmas Program headed up by our music teacher Mrs. Cheryl Carney, and band director Mr. Dave Metcalf. What a wonderfully prayerful time to prepare and share fellowship within our MSS Community! Happy Holidays!



Karla Slowey is the owner and talented crafter of many of the items at Joyful Heart Creations at Zora Village.

Joyful Heart joins Zora Village

BY ANNETTA RAPP
Dispatch Writer

Joyful Heart Creations—a wonderland of Christmas objects

"Unique Items at Reasonable Prices" is the theme of Joyful Heart Creations, the latest addition to the shops in Zora Village at the intersection of Routes 140 and 116 in Pennsylvania. A Grand Opening will be held on Saturday, December 9th, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Currently, the cottage is a wonderland of Christmas objects and a wide assortment of merchandise for gift giving. Tapestry wall hangings, pulls, and pillows with seasonal and hobby themes; pewter accessories; Wee Bears, wreaths, candles, notepaper, nostalgic miniatures, etc. Stock will rotate with the seasons and garden accessories will be added on the back patio in the spring.

Karla Slowey is the owner and tal-

ented crafter of many of the items. She will take orders for personalized wreaths; and also will create pins from sentimental objects. Her love of animals is reflected throughout the store where plush ostriches, otters, pigs, frogs, elephants, owls, and a host of other critters join cuddly creatures such as bears, cats, and dogs. Playful sculptured cats romp over doorways or lie nestled in baskets. A collection of animal figurines by Lou Rankin is also available.

Karla recently crafted at The Virginia Peddler in Gaithersburg. She and her husband Bob live in the Silo Hills section of Emmitsburg. Their family includes 6 children and 18 grandchildren.

Store hours are Mon., Thurs., Fri., Sat., 10 to 5; Sun., 1-5, Wed., 12-5. Closed Tuesdays.

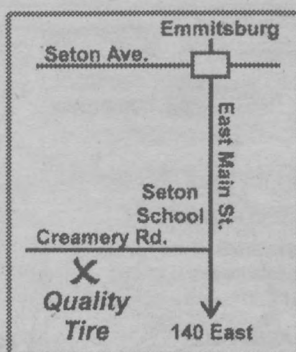
Evening hours will be initiated during the Christmas Season.

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Rocky Ridge News

BY EMMA KEENEY
Dispatch Writer

Winners in the annual Halloween party contests were the following:

- Costume
- 0-5 years
- Scariest - Spiderman, Colby Staub
- Cutest - Sheep, Cyrus Staub
- Prettiest - Cow, Tyler Summer
- Most original - Pumpkin, Cornet Staub
- Fuzziest - Tiger, Amber Kaetzel
- 6-9 years
- Scariest - Scream, Brandon Eves
- Cutest - Veil, Abigail Smith
- Prettiest - Pink princess, Courtney Staub
- Most original - Poodle skirt, Amanda Smith
- 10-14 years
- Scariest - Scream with blood, Nathan Kelly
- Ugliest - Horned thing, David Cockrill
- Prettiest - Toga lady, Brittany Miller
- Most original - Wizard, James Stambaugh
- 15-18 years
- Everything - Cow, Glen Haines
- 19-up
- Cutest - Cow, Larue Summer

- Most original - Hippie, Carol Keilholtz
- Carved pumpkins
- 0-5
- Prettiest - Tyler Summer
- Most original - Amber Kaetzel
- Scariest - Cyrus Staub
- Ugliest - Colby Staub
- 6-9 years
- Prettiest - Courtney Staub
- 10-14 years
- Prettiest - Sarah Eckenrode
- Most original (Tie): Brittany Miller and David Cockerill
- Scariest - Brian Eckenrode
- Ugliest - (Tie): Kathleen Ballew and Jeanette Miller
- 15 - 18 years
- Most original - Glen Haines
- 19 - up
- Most original - Marie Stambaugh
- Prettiest - Doris Sharrer
- Birthdays for December: Happy Birthday to Carl Setherley, Erin Eiker, Betty Ann Moser, Joann Wetzel, Carol Larue Summer, Donald Lee Brown.
- Bingo—the game you love to play—will be held each Saturday night at the Rocky Ridge Fire Hall. Come enjoy the games and the delicious food prepared by the firemen and auxiliary.

Century 21 expands service

CENTURY 21 Mountain View Realty, located at 5580 Fairfield Road in Carroll Valley, has been serving the real estate needs of folks in Pennsylvania for more than ten years and now has expanded services to include Maryland as well.

"We are excited for the opportunity to serve the needs of our neighbors in Emmitsburg, Thurmont and the surrounding areas," said Jale Dalton, Owner/Broker of Century 21 Mountain View Realty. Mrs. Dalton has been an active real estate broker since 1984 and

has strived to establish and maintain a reputation of honesty and integrity. She is informed and knowledgeable, maintaining a company that people can trust. "We like doing what's in the best interest of our clients. We are about substance, not gimmicks. We love what we do and we love people, we care," Jale said.

"As well as having access to the powerful Century 21 advertising network, we are members of the Metropolitan Regional Information Systems, Inc., which reaches more than 27,000 real estate professionals in Maryland and Pennsylvania, and the Multiple Listing Service of York and Adams Counties. Our listings are advertised in print throughout the region and can also be viewed at several locations on the web at Realtor.com and Century21.com. We strive to keep the edge in up to date information and technology, which we believe to be essential in today's business," stated Mrs. Dalton.



JALE DALTON

Century 21 Mountain View Realty has six dedicated full-time agents. For more information, call Century 21 Mountain View Realty at (717) 642-5844 or 1-800-377 3006.

Church of the Brethren

BY PAT FREE
Church Correspondent

On Sunday, October 8th, the Rocky Ridge Church of the Brethren held an luncheon immediately after morning worship service for Donald and Jane Stine in appreciation of 13 years of ser-

vice as leader and pastor of our congregation. The Stines were also presented with a "Circle of Love" coverlet from the church. We wish Donald and Jane many more years of health and happiness in the work of the Lord.

Upcoming Events

Dec. 3rd - Christmas Social, 5 p.m.

(each family bring a covered dish)

Dec. 10th - Candlelight Service, 7 p.m.


Dec. 17th - Children Service, 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome!

December Birthdays: Donna Ritchie - 12/2, Kathy Peters (Simpson) - 12/6, Heather Crone - 12/8, Wilbert Smith -

12/12, John Wantz - 12/13, Frank Free-12/13, Jean Knipple - 12/23, Mary Portner - 12/31, Ralph Rice - 12/31

December Anniversaries: Ralph and Naomi Rice - 12/25, Ronnie and Alice Eyler - 12/6

More Rocky Ridge news located online at emmitsburg.net/dispatch





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Dec. 8, 9 - Turn the Page
Dec. 15, 16 - Loose Change
Dec. 22, 23 - The Fringe
Dec. 29, 30 - Vinyl Cats

Customer Appreciation Night - December 13
7:00 p.m. until...

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

Fitness

Have a Holly, Healthy Christmas

BY LINDA STULTZ
Certified Fitness Trainer

Dear Santa,

I've tried to be good this year. I help my family and friends when they need me. I get all of my work done on time. I do all I can for everyone else. For Christmas I would like lower blood pressure & cholesterol, less stress, better mobility, stronger bones and muscles, to lose weight and yes, MORE ENERGY. Something else I would like is someone to teach me how to improve my nutrition habits.

Does this sound like a letter you might write to Santa? If it does, don't feel bad: hundreds of other people just like you feel the same way. Well, help is as close as a phone and now is the time to reach for it.

For years, when my husband asked me what I wanted for Christmas or my birthday, I would say "a personal trainer." I always thought I could not afford one, but I could. I needed someone to lead me through each step and tell me exactly what to do. That's just the help I got. Now, as a personal trainer myself, I realize the financial concern of people

and have set costs that are affordable. Just think how much you have spent on those diets and gimmicks that didn't work. This will work, if you commit to it and it will be worth every penny by improving your health as well as your appearance and self esteem.

Over the years, I tried every diet, every diet aid, fad, and miracle. Of course, nothing worked. The only real way to lose weight, keep it off, and improve your eating habits is the old-fashioned way—to develop a healthy eating and exercise program. There is no quick fix. The weight and health problems did not develop overnight and they can not be corrected overnight. By consulting with a trainer, you will learn the proper form and necessary information to exercise on your own and be able to maintain and keep improving. Exercise is not as hard as you may think and can even become fun and something you look forward to.

Start out this holiday season with a healthy outlook and carry it into the new year. Get a family member, a friend, or a group together and call me for more information and a FREE consultation at 717-334-6009.

LOOK FOR THE OPEN HOUSE INFO IN JANUARY'S ISSUE. Remember, Keep Moving!!!

Move on the emmitsburg.net/dispatch for more fitness information.

Pet show results announced



Left to right: Jerry Liblick, Manager of Thurmont Cooperative, Inc.; Gail Powell, Judge; Christina Head with her Reserve Champion cat; John Barber, with his Grand Champion dog; and Dr. Sarah Link, Judge.

The Thurmont and Emmitsburg Community Show Pet Show was held Saturday, September 9, at Catoctin High School. Judges Dr. Sarah Link, Thurmont veterinarian, and Gail Powell, local Angus breeder, selected the winners: John Barber with his dog as Grand Champion and Christina Head with her cat as Reserve Champion. Thurmont Cooperative, Inc.

provided pet food for those participating and a gift certificate to the grand champion.

Results were as listed: first, second, third and honorable mention respectively; Cat With Prettiest Eyes-Samantha Zimmerman, Dawn Free, Nicole Abarca, Warren Zentz

Cat With Longest Whiskers-Samantha Zimmerman, Christina Head, Carroll Zentz, Warren Zentz

Cutest Cat-Elizabeth Wold, Nikole Abarca, Tammy Faulkner, Ivan Abarca

Best Trained Pet-John Barber, Collin and Donna Abarca, Taylor Zentz, Janelle Little

Dog With Wiggliest Tail-Jessica Zentz, Dee Beard, Justin Sizemore, Matthew Cline

Prettiest Dog-(25 pounds and under)-Jennifer and Jessica Wetzel,

Chelsea Minnick, Heather Rice, Tyler Cuff

Prettiest Dog-(26 pounds and over)- Matthew Cline, Taylor Zentz, Tina Wolf, John Barber

Best Costumed Pet-Christina Head, Christa Allen, Gracie Schramm, Jennifer and Jessica Wetzel

Pet With Most Spots-Katy Stackhouse, Dave Glass, Collin Abarca
Pet With Most Unusual Name-Warren Zentz, Elizabeth Wold, Brittney Wright, Tammy Faulkner

Pet With Most Appropriate Name-Jackie Burrier, Erin Moser, Darryl Hann, Christa Allen

Most Unusual Pet-Christa Allen, Brittney Wright, Bradley Faulkner, Jessica Free

Smallest Pet-Amanda Wright, Brittney Wright, Jessica Free, Bradley Faulkner

Largest Pet-Jackie Burrier, Rachel Murray, John Barber

A Thanksgiving Feast



Emmitsburg Child Care Center held its 5th Thanksgiving Day celebration attended by an overflowing crowd including some Pilgrims and Indians. Shown from left are Molly Phelan, Hannah Dale, Sophie Eureka, Pherease Masser, William Plank, Patrick Welty, with Derrick Hockensmith keeping an eye out for the turkey. The Center is in its fifth year of providing child care services to the community. Programs include Pre-School, ages 2 - 5; Before-and-After-School Care, including transportation; and Drop Ins for convenience of parents and emergencies.

Photo courtesy of Mrs. Al Opac

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\$9.99 16" BIG DOMINATOR

With Two Toppings

Second Pizza \$8

Exp. 1/28/01

Limited delivery area designed with safety in mind.

Raptor

(Continued from Page)

were kept well under control by a short tether.

The Red-tailed Hawk is named for its distinctive rusty red-colored tail feathers. The adolescent birds have black feathers with a horizontal white stripe. As the bird gets older, the red feathers come in one at a time.

The last bird we observed was the Screech Owl. It is a small owl of ten inches long. It is recognized by the feather tufts that look like ears. The sound of this owl has been said to sound like a "mournful wail." It produces a whistle that is repeated in short, quick intervals.

There are numerous differences between owls and other raptors. Owls hunt at night. Their eyes have extremely large retinas with vision 50 to 100 times better than ours. In fact, the size of the eyes of the Barn Owl and Great Horned Owl are the same size as human eyes. But their heads are the size of baseballs. Their ear openings are set at different levels to enable them to hunt better at night. The facial disk of feathers is another aid they use for hunting in the darkness. Feather tufts on top of some owl heads look like ears or horns.

These feathers are the birds' form of camouflage. A round head is easier to distinguish than one with spiky feathers. Raptors such as hawks, eagles, and falcons do not have this type of head feathers.

Hawks, eagle, and falcons hunt during the day, eating their prey in small chunks, while owls, feeding at night, swallow small prey whole. Both, of course, have sharp beaks and raptors to seize the prey. About seven hours later, owls will regurgitate the parts of the prey that are not digestible. Raptors only do this if they have accidentally swallowed a non-digestible part. The length of raptors ranges from nine to twenty-six inches, while owls can range in size from eight to twenty inches.

All raptors including owls are great in controlling rodent populations. One owl can consume 1000 mice in a year. One mouse can eat a \$28 bag of grain, so an owl can save a farmer \$28,000 a year. For this reason they are protected by the law. Sometimes people with or without knowledge of the law hurt them. For instance, the Saw-Whet Owl we saw was missing a wing. The rehabilitation center sets free all

the birds who are healed enough to survive the wilderness. Even damaged feathers can hinder these birds' ability to fly and cause them to starve. Those raptors who are handicapped by injuries and are not releasable serve as educational birds and as foster parents. They help to nurture and teach the young birds that needed human intervention to rescue them.

If you see a bird of prey that appears to need help, watch it for a few hours to be certain. When you have decided it is in trouble, then prepare a cardboard box by putting holes for air in the sides. Gently place a blanket over the bird, being sure to wear thick leather gloves to protect your hands. Place the bird in the box and remove the blanket. With the box closed, take it to a rehabilitation center, where the staff have the certified training to care for the bird. Rehabitat is located in Dillsburg, Pennsylvania. They can be telephoned at 717-432-9483.

The center can also be helped in many ways. They are always in need of basic supplies to care for the birds and volunteers. Since they are not federally funded, they depend on donations to keep them open. Please consider helping them in some way. Birds of prey are incredibly important in keeping rodent and other animal populations in check.



Great Horned Owl, Encarta 97, Encyclopedia

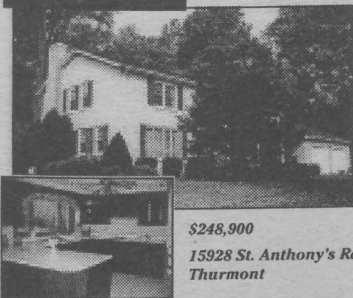
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NEW LISTING



\$198,500
208 Westview Dr.,
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Traditional colonial, yesterday's farmhouse charm and today's creature comforts; inviting front porch, fenced backyard, brick walkway, landscaped lawn, garden shed, above ground pool and 2 car garage. Formal living and dining rms; main level family rm with stone fireplace, kitchen with both breakfast bar and dining area with bay window and French doors to deck; 4 bedrooms, master bath with garden tub and full shower. Room to grow: large full basement with all the preliminary work completed and ready to drywall. Shown by appointment, call Holly Clabaugh, 301-271-3487, x30. View on net at www.homesdatabase.com/fr3348547.

NEW LISTING



\$185,000
481 East Gateway Dr.,
Thurmont

Scenic mountain view plus the convenient location enhance the value of this comfortable brick rancher on one acre lot. Amenities include: 3 bdrms, 2 baths, dining rm with glass slider, large living rm with fireplace, full unfinished basement, central air enclosed breezeway and two car garage. Pleasant backyard with fruit trees and garden shed. Shown by appointment, call Holly Clabaugh, 301-271-3487, x30. View at www.homesdatabase.com/fr3359564.

NEW LISTING



\$249,000
7914 Apples Church Rd.,
Thurmont

10 Plus Acres or More! Owner is subdividing house and farm lot of approximately 10 acres. Traditional farmhouse with 4 bedrooms, quality cherry wood kitchen cabinets, wood floors, fireplace, front porch and charming summer kitchen with loft. Buyer can purchase additional pasture land, 10 or more acres of adjacent field for \$3,500/acre. Property to be surveyed prior to settlement. Shown by appointment, call Holly Clabaugh, 301-271-3487, x30. View at www.homesdatabase.com/fr3340804.

HALF-ACRE LOT!

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6770 Keysville Rd.,
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Fantastic view from this country location! Quality brick rancher on half-acre lot with full unfinished basement, one car garage, and enclosed breezeway. Lovely hardwood floors and a formal brick fireplace accent the interior. Call Holly Clabaugh, 301-271-3487 x30. View on the net, www.homesdatabase.com/cr3334643.

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Building Healthy Families - *A monthly column sponsored by Catocin CASS*

Childcare Providers Needed

BY BARBARA HOWARD
Referral Counselor

"It's Homework, It's Heartwork, It's Family Child Care" is a campaign by Child Care Choices and the Maryland Child Care Resource Network to heighten awareness of the need for registered family child care providers in all areas of Maryland, and to recruit new talent to the field of family child care.

If you have been in need of child care lately, you are probably aware of the current shortage of quality child care providers in Frederick County. In fact, the number of family child care providers has been declining over the past five years. This loss is magnified by the county's rapid population growth and the lowest unemployment rate in 20 years.

Students send handmade ornaments to Annapolis

Emmitsburg Elementary students will have their handmade Christmas tree ornaments on display at Government House in Annapolis during the month of December. Thirteen fifth graders were selected to represent the school and will visit Government House to see their artwork in place. Each student will also get to shake the hand of Governor Glendening! Congratulations to DJ Marcell, Elyssa Cool, Joey Tester, Briana Kwart, Jury Rubling-Kain, Sean Mayer, Becca Fink, Joshua Roman, Morgan Shoemaker, Stephanie Franklin, Ashley Coleman, Olivia Frech and Cassandra Topper.

Perhaps you or someone you know is interested in a career in family child care. If so, Child Care Choices can help! Expert advice from the TECHNIC staff is available on all aspects of a family day care business, including resources available and links to other providers and professional associations. Prospective providers can attend classes on child development, manag-

ing a child care business, nutrition, health and safety.

Child Care Choices can also help parents with their child care needs. In Frederick County, there are about 10,000 children whose parents are at work before or after school hours. About half of these children are without adult supervision during some or all of these hours. Being home alone can

be dangerous, and against the law. It is illegal for any child under the age of 8 to be home alone, and a child must be at least 13 years old to legally supervise a child under the age of 8. There are care alternatives for latchkey children. Child Care Choices can give referrals of regulated providers and group programs. Parents can also receive infor-

(See FAMILIES on Page 24)

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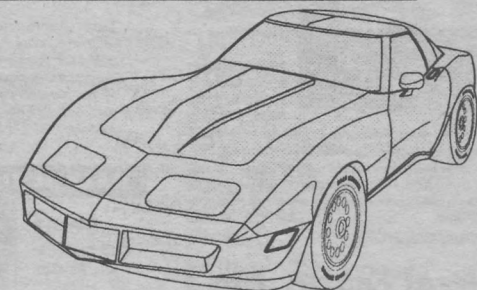
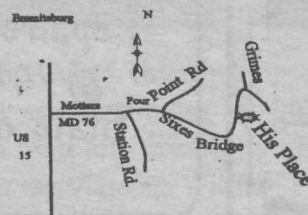
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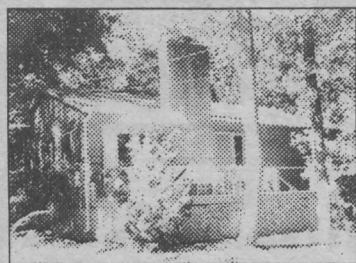
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Something to Eat

Meat burns in the pan, pasta boils over, and chili scorches ONLY when I leave the kitchen!

BY JACK DEATHERAGE, JR.
Dispatch Writer

"Dad. I found a Molluskmon "Ocher" Guide Book on the Internet. Can you order it—now, PLEASE?"

I grumbled curses on the Net as I dropped two Shriver's hamburgers into the cast-iron frying pan. The Italian meatballs I'd just finished browning were moved to the outer reaches so they could simmer while the burgers got direct heat at the center. Water had been added so I could put a lid on and steam the meatballs.

I turned the heat up past medium on the electric stove, checked the 12-quart stock pot of simmering meat/vegetable stew on another burner and headed for the computer. Placing the order would take a minute and there was plenty of liquid to cook off before the meat would need turning.

The web site Jack had found was an "official" site. Meaning every kid who could drag an adult with a credit card to the Internet was buying something. We waited as each page was slowly sought, found, and opened. By the time I had placed an order Jack had memorized the credit card number. (Fortunately his memory is shorter than mine. Too much TV and video games. No thinking necessary.)

Before I could get back to the kitchen Jack asked if I could find a "back-lit screen light bulb" for his

machine. So on we went, clicking, waiting, searching, and waiting.

"Stop there! No that's not it. Wait, what's that? No, go on. There it is! What's that smell?"

"AAAHHH! GO FLIP THE HAMBURGERS!"

Once more I am reminded that meat burns in the pan, pasta boils over and, chili scorches ONLY when I leave the kitchen! I don't understand why these things happen, but they do. I can stand at the sink or root through the 'fridge and rarely does anything get out of control. But let me leave the kitchen for "just a minute" and everything goes wrong. And I always make sure the heat is right and the liquid content is correct for the time I will be away. But things still burn or boil over.

I dumped the Internet, knowing that it will operate without my ever logging on again, and returned to my kitchen. The hamburgers were barely edible with enough mustard, peppers and salt. The meatballs were mostly unhurt and went on to prove a second mistake. Don't season food when you have a head cold! My pasta sauce was bland, salty and over done with hot sauce. (The dogs are eating it happily, I can add.)

With two meals ending up far from perfect, I turned my attention to the 12 quarts of stew. The broth was weak. Dare I add anything to it? Wanda hadn't begun complaining about the greasy

smoke that filled the kitchen, living room and hallway—I had every candle burning I could find but messing with the stew she had asked me to make was pushing my luck.

I added salt, hot sauce, marjoram, thyme, rosemary and 4 cubes of Knorr's™ beef bullion. The stew tasted salty!

My stew/chili mantra began running through my head. "Let it simmer and blend, four days without end."

To my horror, Wanda ladled out a bowl of stew on the second day. "Perfect." She sighed filling the bowl again.

"But it ain't ready." I protested. "It needs at least two more days on the stove!"

"If you want to poison yourself, go ahead." She said smiling. "It's good and I'm eating it now."

How could I argue? I still feel the charred burgers in my stomach and have two pounds of pasta in the 'fridge to feed to the dogs.

Other of Jack's kitchen adventures can be read in our archives at emmitsburg.net/dispatch

Lions Christmas Basket Drive

The greater Emmitsburg Area Annual Christmas Basket Drive has begun. Food collected will go to persons or families in need. This year, for donors' convenience, several sites with secured drop boxes will be available.

The sites are:

Trout's Jubilee, E. Main Street - 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Emmitsburg Town Office, East Main Street, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Crouse's On the Square - Noon - 6 p.m.

Getty Station, S. Seton Ave. - 24/7

Emmitsburg Library, Community Center, S. Seton, - Library hours

The Emmitsburg Flea Market, N. Seton Ave. Wed through Sun. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

If you know of a family or person in need of a Christmas Food Basket please contact Lion Hope at 301-447-6522. Leave a message.



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Happy Hour (In the Lounge) Tues.-Fri. 4-7 p.m.
(Friday - Free Appetizer Buffet - 4-7 p.m.)

WEEKEND MUSIC IN THE LOUNGE

Dec. 1 Clubber Band; Dec. 2 Grumpy Guss; Dec. 8 The Inside;
Dec. 9 Breech; Dec. 25 Rhyme McCormick; Dec. 13 Phipps Bros.
Dec. 22 Darcie Miner; Dec. 23 John Charney
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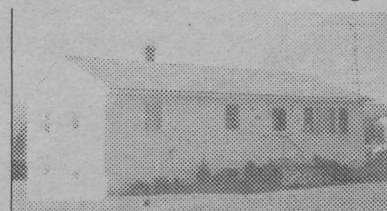
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Use candles with care during the holidays, urges the Vigilant Hose Company

Many families put their homes — and lives — at risk by using candles carelessly, particularly during the holiday season.

With the growing popularity of candles as decorative lighting, there has been a significant increase in home fires attributed to their misuse across the country according to the Hartford Insurance Company of Connecticut.

Statistics from both the United States Fire Administration located here in Frederick County and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) in Massachusetts confirm that people often leave burning candles unattended or place them too close to drapes, upholstery and other combustible materials.

In fact, in a recent study by the NFPA, residential fires sparked by candles are twice as likely to occur in December than any other month of the year. And, the increase comes at a time when residential fires have otherwise dropped in frequency.

Candles show no sign of losing their fashionable appeal. With their soft light, rich fragrances and cozy glow, they're trendier than ever this holiday season.

Yet, while candles can offer a warm ambiance and a festive mood, they can be very dangerous if used carelessly.

We urge everyone to take common-sense precautions when decorating with candles this holiday season.

In concert with leading fire safety authorities across the country, the members of Vigilant Hose recommend:

- Never leave burning candles unattended.
- Place candles well away from curtains, bedding and other flammable materials.
- Keep candles away from table decorations, trees and other greenery.
- Don't place lighted candles in windows.
- Don't use candles to decorate a tree.
- Extinguish taper-type candles when they are less than two inches tall.
- Trim candle wicks to 1/4 inch.
- Extinguish all candles before going to sleep.

The public's use of these simple recommendations can mean that we, too, will be able to spend the holidays safely with our families. Thanks!

Frank Davis, Fire/Rescue Chief
Tim Clarke, President
Vigilant Hose Company
Emmitsburg

Looking Ahead

Saturday, Dec 16

A Christmas Cookie and Candy Sale will be held by St. Marks Lutheran Church, Rt. 550 Sabillasville, Md. from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Soups and sandwiches to go, available upon pick-up. We are taking orders for mince meat pies. The deadline to order is Dec. 8. Call 301-241-3287 and leave a message.

Saturday, Dec 16 & Sun. Dec. 17
Catoctin Mountain Christmas

Show will feature crafts, ceramics, wreaths, poinsettias, and centerpieces sale. Hours: Dec 16, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sun. Dec 17 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. 7209 Black Rd. Thurmont. For more information call 301-416-0163 or 301-241-3242.

Sunday, December 17

A Live Nativity with animals will take place two miles east of Emmitsburg on Route 140. This is a new ministry of Tom's Creek United Methodist Church. For further information contact Pastor Bill Warehime at 301-447-2693

Sunday, December 17

A Good Old Country Breakfast will be held at the Taneytown Rod & Gun Club from 7 a.m. until 11 a.m. Menu is pancakes, buck wheat cakes, sausage, eggs, toast, sausage gravy, chipped-beef gravy, pudding and hominy, fried potatoes, hot cheese, hot apples, fruit cocktail, orange juice, coffee. Adults \$5, Children 8-12 \$3.50. Santa will be there.

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Help Wanted: Man or woman to do odd jobs in and about the house. E.g.: gutter cleaning, garage and basement cleaning, window washing, cupboard cleaning, and more.

All are paying jobs, of course. Those interested please leave names and phone numbers at the Dispatch office, 130 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg, or call 301-447-3039.

For Sale: SEARS Power Spray Carpet Cleaner with "Spraymate" cleaner attachment. In excellent condition \$60. Call 301-447-2462.

Families

(Continued from Page 22)

mation on evaluating child care options and quality, developing and maintaining good relations with their child care providers, and other related topics.

Don't delay! Call Child Care Choices for information on becoming a child care provider or for referrals to licensed child care programs!

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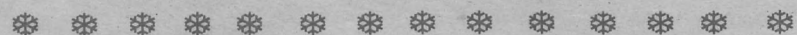


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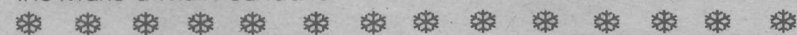
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Free \$25 Gift Certificate to Tony's Café and Pizzeria with every new and used vehicle purchase from December 1, 2000 to December 31, 2000.

On behalf of the entire staff of Wantz Chevrolet, we wish you and your loved ones a warm and joyful Holiday.

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