

# Covering the Emmitsburg Region

# The DISPATCH

Vol. VIII, No. 2

Gaining Strength from One Another

February 2001

## Bush has Emmitsburg roots

BY MICHAEL HILLMAN  
Emmitsburg Historical Society

The historical society recently received this e-mail from Alice Cates, a genealogical researcher in Vista, California.

"I don't know if you're aware of it, but George W. Bush has links to Emmitsburg. Joseph Beachey [Beahey] and his wife, Catherine Shriner, are buried in the Emmitsburg Catholic cemetery. They are the President's great-great-great grandparents. The line goes Joseph Beachey-Josephy Ambrose Beakey-Martha Adela Beakey who married David Davis Walker in St. Louis-George Herbert Walker-Dorothy Walker who married Sen. Prescott Sheldon Bush-President G. H. W. Bush-President George W. Bush.

"Another link with Emmitsburg is that George E. Walker attended grammar school at Mt. St. Mary's in 1811. Of English parents but himself born in New Jersey, he had been

orphaned before he reached his majority and his sister's husband, a Dr. James Scanlan who was a Catholic in Cecil and Kent Cos., became his guardian and sent him off to school. About that time the War of 1812 occurred and George E. only attended school in Emmitsburg one year. Several of Joseph Beachey's sons attended, too. I do not know if it was coincidence but George E. Walker's youngest son, David Davis Walker, married Joseph Beachey's granddaughter, Martha Adela. This happened in St. Louis in 1862. The George E. Walker family had moved from Cecil Co. to Bloomington, Illinois, in 1838."

Interesting tidbits such as this can always be found on [emmitsburg.net/history](http://emmitsburg.net/history). Check'em out.

Join the Emmitsburg Historical Society at their next meeting on Monday, Feb. 11 at 7 p.m. in the Emmitsburg Library building and discover for yourself, just how rich Emmitsburg's history really is. For more local genealogy see [emmitsburg.net/historical\\_society](http://emmitsburg.net/historical_society)



Nicholas and Matthew Porter have Great Expectations! To discover what is happening behind the curtain at the Emmitsburg Branch Library see Library Activities on page 13  
A Dispatch Photo

## Head Start to open doors at Up-County Family Center

Head Start will open its doors in Emmitsburg in February. Made possible by a recent Federal Head Start expansion grant, the Head Start center will be located in the Up-County Family Center at 303 W. Lincoln Avenue. The center can accommodate approximately 17 children and will operate full-day, on a year-round basis.

Frederick County Head Start's 35-

year-old program is managed by Frederick County Government under the Citizens Services Division. The program provides a unique preschool program for three and four-year-old children. The learning environment encourages their social, emotional, intellectual, and physical development. Transportation is provided to and from the center via a mini school bus. Head Start also ensures that all enrolled children have timely immunizations and screenings for cognitive development, basic health, speech, language, and hearing. Every day in the Head Start program, children brush their teeth and eat nutritious meals and snacks prepared on the premises. Periodic home visits enhance the classroom experience.

Parents are involved in every aspect

of the Head Start program. Head Start empowers parents to achieve skills in decision making, group process, and leadership through their participation in parent meetings and policy council. Volunteer opportunities in the classroom, the main office, and on the bus give parents the experience they need to pursue paid positions within the program or in the business community.

Because of the collaboration with the Up-County Family Center, Emmitsburg Head Start families will also be able to participate in the full range of family support services.

Since Head Start is not an entitlement program, there are specific guidelines which govern the process of selection for a child's enrollment. These

guidelines are based on Federal poverty levels. When parents or guardians fill out the application, they are asked to bring along with them proof of the family's income, as well as the child's birth certificate and social security number. Then, if they are found to be eligible, the family is contacted and the enrollment process begins. For the Emmitsburg Head Start center, applications will be accepted on-going, and selection for enrollment will continue until all vacancies are filled.

If you or someone you know has a child who may qualify for enrollment in the Emmitsburg Head Start program, please call Head Start at 301-694-1014, or stop by the main office at 401 Sagner Avenue in downtown Frederick (diagonally across from McCutcheon's Apple Products). The office hours are 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, with extended hours on Wednesday nights until 7:00 p.m.. The office is also open to the public on the third Saturday of each month, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.. Head Start staff can also arrange to meet with a family to complete the application process in the Emmitsburg area.

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### Dispatch is community listening post

The Dispatch is your paper and we, the staff, would like to invite you to our office located at 130 S. Seton Avenue. We can swap stories, catch up on the latest news and just get to know each other. Beginning the week of February 5, every Tuesday and Friday morning, we'll have the coffee brewing along with some baked goodies. If you're in the neighborhood, please drop in for a chat.



## Letters to the Editor

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

### With love and appreciation

It is fitting that at the time of our father's [Josef Engelstatter] passing, which was in close proximity to the fortieth anniversary of our arrival to this country, that we attempt to express our appreciation to all of you who have been so much a part of our lives throughout these years. Words cannot adequately express our deep felt gratitude for the outpouring of love and kindness which you showed us during this most difficult time. And even more importantly, our appreciation for the kindness and support which has always characterized the people of our adopted home—the special people who make up the Emmitsburg community.

Our father's life essentially took him all the way from the "gates of hell" and finally to heaven. It was a life in which he experienced the loss of his own mother at an early age, survived the horrors of war, was forced to cope with the terror of hand-to-hand combat, and endured the abuse as well as indignities of concentration camp imprisonment. During these years, he was severely wounded five times, dealt with the loss of home, friends and family, was exposed to starvation, experienced the pain of separation, and suffered abuse as well as indignities which are too difficult to even imagine. Yet, in growing up my brother and I never heard him say a bad word about anyone, even those who may have perpetrated wrongs against him; and in his home everyone was welcome regard-

less of background.

It is with a deep sense of appreciation that we can tell you that the second portion of our father's life was dramatically different from his earlier years. There is absolutely no doubt that the forty years he spent in Emmitsburg were also his happiest and indeed, the very best years of his life. It was in the community of Emmitsburg where he was blessed with the best of friends—friends who over the years truly became our family. It was in Emmitsburg where he was able to ultimately put the suffering of his earlier life to rest, where he lived with a great sense of peace, and where literally all his dreams came true. He always considered it an act of divine providence that we ended up in Emmitsburg, Maryland, to begin with and considered it a great blessing to be able to live in this country, but most importantly he felt blessed to be part of such a loving community—the community of Emmitsburg which we have now been privileged to call our home for forty years.

Each of you has touched our lives in ways you no doubt cannot imagine, and words can simply not adequately express our gratitude. For all you have done and all you meant to our father and all of our family, we shall be eternally grateful.

With love and appreciation,  
The Engelstatter Family

### Responds to controversy about October 'sign'

I feel the need to respond to the continuing controversy about the apparitions at Emmitsburg. Regarding the "sign" in October, there has been much speculation about what the "sign" actually was. I believe that the entrustment on October was the "sign." I think that people were expecting the extraordinary, like the Miracle of the Sun in Fatima witnessed by about seventy thousand people. In the message of July 22nd, Our Lady warned that if we didn't remain "little" that we would not recognize any "sign" from heaven because of pride or arrogance."

In response to Steve Klimblowski's letter stating that "the Blessed Virgin would not predict an event already pre-announced by the Vatican," perhaps he should look at the apparitions of Garabandal, Spain, that occurred from June 18, 1961, to November 13th, 1965.

During one of the apparitions, Mary stated that the council would be a great success. This may seem insignificant but it is an example of Mary's speaking about an event that was occurring or was about to happen in the world.

Regarding the Archdiocese of Baltimore's statement and position on the apparitions of Emmitsburg: With due respect to the decision of the diocese, some errors exist. In the official statement that said the video Unbridled Mercy, was "produced by and about Mrs Sullivan" is completely incorrect. The Mercy Foundation produced the video.

In regards to the context of the messages, the theologians who viewed them misunderstood some of them. The main stumbling block was about Jesus returning as a child. Our Lady makes it clear that this is not to be taken in the literal

## Town News...

### Community development plan to include town office relocation

The town council took another step towards the relocation of the town office from its present location on E. Main Street to the 3rd floor of the soon-to-be-renovated community center building located on S. Seton Avenue. The councilmen agreed to borrow the funds for the renovations through a 20-year loan carrying an interest rate of 5.75%. Town Manager David Haller estimated the town's cost would be \$1,402 per month. Legal costs for producing the Bond will not exceed 3% of the amount borrowed, approximately \$6,600.

The loan will be obtained through the Local Government Infrastructure Financing Program which is run by the Community Development Administration, an agency in the Division of Development Finance of the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development.

The new town offices are a part of a current plan to renovate the interior of the community center which will

include a new library and office space and meeting areas for agencies and organizations presently using the building. The project scheduled to start this year is about a year behind schedule.

In other business the council approved Ordinance 01-01 clarifying the types of water meters approved for use and the procedures for installation of residential water meters. The council passed Ordinance 01-02, which set the connection fee at \$3,000 for each new residential unit.

The council tabled and sent back to the Planning and Zoning Committee Ordinance 01-03 dealing with signage in the Village Zone. This ordinance is directed toward maintaining the historical value of the area.

Mike Hillman, led a discussion of appropriate and desirable content for the town's website, which is part of the community portal [www.emmitsburg.net](http://www.emmitsburg.net) developed by Mr. Hillman.

See [emmitsburg.net/town](http://emmitsburg.net/town) for more information about Emmitsburg.

### Resident Deputy Report for December

DFC MARK CULLEMBER

AND

DFC MARK RATLIFF

Accidents: investigated - 5, miscellaneous traffic duties - 4

Criminal Investigations: commercial alarms - 4, 911 calls - 3, attempt to locate - 2, destruction of property - 3, disturbances and domestics - 4, juvenile

complaint - 1, missing person report - 2, noise-2, request officer - 9, radar enforcement 3, suspicious vehicle 2, thefts -7, warrant service - 1, and welfare check - 1.

General patrol duties included business contacts, foot patrols, school contacts, FCSO staff meeting, and patrol checks.

The deputies attended 3 court cases, and had special assignments at the Emmitsburg Elementary school for an agreement signing ceremony, assisting with SAT investigation, MAAR's training and attending the town meeting.

Statistical data: citations issued - 6, warnings issued - 1, repair orders issued - 0, traffic arrest - 0, DWI - 0, adult criminal arrest - 1, juvenile arrest - 0, and municipal citations - 6.

Numerous citizens have made unofficial reports of unknown person(s) going through their unlocked vehicles. These incidents occurred on the north and west area of town. Most advised that small pocket change, CD's and cigarettes appeared to be the items taken.

Both Deputies have made it a point to advise citizens to lock their vehicles and homes.

Raymond Sanders  
Emmitsburg



# VHC members honored

## A STAFF REPORT

The Vigilant Hose Co. held its 117th annual banquet January 6, 2001, at which time new officers were installed and company members recognized for their service to the company.

Tim Clarke, president of the company, said he was amazed at the time and effort volunteered by the members and that he was proud of everyone. He expressed special gratitude to the VHC auxiliary for their surprise gift of a 2000 Ford Expedition XLT to be used as the command vehicle.

The company responded to 490 calls last year with an average number of 11 personnel per call. One hundred seventy-five of those calls were for medical assists; 85 were for structure responses and 61 auto accidents.

The top responder for 2000 was Randy Myers (with 450 points) followed by Ronnie Topper (235), Larry Glass (227), Vince Boyle (221), John Glass (193), Charles Maddox (192), Chris Byard (191), Gabe Baker (183), Paul Eyler (146), and Dave Vaughn (143).

The top ten length of service award winners, based on total activities, were Carl Angleberger (with 171 points), John S. Hollinger (130), Carl White (108), Chad Umbel (108), Cliff Shriner (107 points), Gabe Baker (104 points), Chris Stahley (103.25), Jim Click (100), Steve Hollinger (100), and Steve Valentine (99).

Years of service awards were presented to:

John A. Damskey, Michael R. Damskey, Thomas E. Vaughn, and Michael A. Working - five years; William D. Boyd, Jr., Eugene F. Grimes - 10 years; Carl A. White - 15 years; Jimmy A. Glass, R. Wayne Powell - 20 years; Charles J. Champlain, Monroe J. Hewitt - 30 years; W. Larry Little, E. Eugene Myers - 35 years; and James E. Fitzgerald, Sr. - 40 years.

The top 3 fire police responders were Sam Cool, Mike Boyle, and Steve Orndorff.

An honorary membership was awarded to Bruce Hollinger for creating an outstanding web site for the company.

Chad Umbel and Carl White received the in-station training award for attending the most hours of training. Mr. Umbel also received the formal training award.

The Chief's Award was presented to Carl Angleberger. Jimmy Glass received the President's Award.

The member of the year award went to Austin Umbel. Linda Umbel accepted the award for her husband who was unable to be present.

Inducted into the Hall of Fame (the company's highest award category) were: Irvin Tokar and Lloyd Fite (deceased members) and James E. (Jef) Fitzgerald, Sr., Charles Hartdagen, and E. Eugene Myers.

A memorial service was held for deceased member Paul A. Keepers.



A Dispatch Photo

Newly elected administrative officers of the Vigilant Hose Company are 1<sup>st</sup> row left to right: Timothy M. Clarke, president; Guy A. Baker III, vice president; Steven M. Hollinger, treasurer; Carl E. Angleberger, assistant treasurer; Steven W. Valentine, secretary; Scott Maly, assistant secretary. Standing are board of director members William D. Boyd Jr., Leo M. Boyle, John Damskey, Robert Rosensteel, Sr., and Thomas E. Vaughn. John S. Hollinger is not pictured.



A Dispatch Photo

Line Officers of the Vigilant Hose Company for 2001, are first row left to right: A. Frank Davis, chief; James E. Click, deputy chief; Clifton E. Shriner, assistant chief; Robert Rosensteel Jr., captain; and lieutenants Carl E. Angleberger, Christopher A. Stahley, and Glenn Swain. In the second row are lieutenants Chad M. Umbel and Carl A. White; Stephen P. Orndorff, captain of fire police; Paul Krietz, first lieutenant of fire police; and Samuel B. Cool, second lieutenant of fire police.



A Dispatch Photo

Vigilant Hose Company auxiliary officers for 2001 are left to right, Dorothy D. Davis, president; Jo Ann Boyd, treasurer; Joyce E. Glass, secretary; Tiffany R. Stahley, financial secretary; and Wanda E. Myers, historian. Not pictured is Betty Ann Baker, vice president.

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\* -W. Somerset Maugham

## Recalling top stories from 2000

### JANUARY

Dan Kaas shares his World War II diary in the *Dispatch* offering a first-hand look at life in a POW camp. He was captured by the Germans on Jan. 5, 1945, and released April 29, 1945.

### FEBRUARY

Council of Churches considers sponsoring resettlement of a refugee family in Emmitsburg.

The "EMS Provider of the Year" award is presented to the entire membership of Ambulance Co. 26 for their teamwork in revitalizing the company.

### MARCH

"Gala" fundraiser for the *Dispatch* is a social and financial success.

Library initiates "Babies with Books" program for children under 24 months of age.

### APRIL

Emmitsburg gets website. Have you checked it out at Emmitsburg.net?

Skateboard Park opens. Town contributes \$4000 for materials. Parents and friends construct ramps. New Engine/Tanker #64 arrives at the Vigilant Hose Company.

### MAY

Mayor proclaims May 15 "Emmitsburg Cares About Kids Day".

Town mourns the loss of civic

leader, Robert F. Gauss, Sr.

### JUNE

1999 state study shows a 31% increase in traffic on Main Street from 1998.

Guy Baker receives the Brute Medal, which is the highest award given to a graduate from Mt. St. Mary's.

### JULY

Hess Hotel Group breaks ground for 79-room Sleep Inn and Suites at Routes 15 and 140.

Church delegates from around the world attend theological conference between Catholic and Orthodox Churches at Mt. St. Mary's College.

### AUGUST

The Outlaws, District 2 All-Stars, win the Girls' fast pitch softball state tournament.

SNL Food Group purchases Jubilee Store.

Town officials pledge \$26,000 to support local schools, clubs, and activities.

### SEPTEMBER

Bosnian Family arrives through efforts of the Council of Churches and volunteers.

See Events on page 5

## The Emmitsburg Regional Dispatch

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## Entering the Power-House

One woman's courageous story: joining the ARCC

BY JEANETTE THOMAS  
Dispatch Writer

My job is usually to write human interest stories about my little town of Rocky Ridge. But if this article is printed, you'll know my editor allowed the muse to move me in a different direction today.

You have to understand, first of all how hard it is for me to get out of the house and go places. I love new adventures, but it is excruciating to get there.

This was the case last week.

I've been wanting a membership at the ARCC at the Mount for some time. I wanted to swim. But I had to save up awhile to get there. So I found a store in Frederick that sells all sizes of bathing suits, all year long, and I bought a suit first.

There it hung, reminding me of my intention. Sleek, blue, Olympic-looking—I put it in my room and waited.

I don't make New Year's resolutions, but it just so happened that that's when my finances would pan out to comfortably spend a lump sum.

But somehow I got ahead in the holiday week and jumped at the chance. I say jumped. Well, with knees knocking and heart pounding I grabbed my suit and towel and a change of clothes and headed up to the formidable edifice

standing like a giant in the open field across the highway from the college.

I circled around.

I smoked two or three cigarettes to get up courage. I drove into town and ordered a Big Mac and coffee. I drove back.

Finally, I couldn't put it off any longer and I hiked up what seemed like the mile-long entrance to the front door. Quaking with fear. No one around. I searched....

Finally I arrived at the check-in desk and congratulated myself for a tremendous feat accomplished. I waited in line breathless. My turn came. I managed to squeak out: "I'd like a membership," and gulped at the experience of daring.

"I'm sorry but the ID office is closed. I'm the only one here because of the holiday—no memberships till after the new year," the young boy told me.

"Do you know what I had to overcome just to get here?!" I wanted to yell at no one in particular...

With a heavy heart I turned around and went home wondering what it would take to get me up those steps again.

It was hard to wait through that week. I really wanted to swim. But finally the day came.

Mrs. Henke greeted me at the door and directed me to Carol Hobbs' office down a long corridor overlooking the

pool.

No fear. Only anticipation. Excitement. Megan gave me a tour. No Big Mac this time. Confident. The coveted membership was in my hands in no time.

And the glory! The glory of my own brand new suit, a warm and welcoming locker room, a sauna for pete's sake, and then—the pool itself.

I felt like a kid on a warm summer day as I squirmed and squirreled in the water. The joy of a new-found friend, abandon in the elements. Freedom and fluidity of movement.

I did not stop for 20 minutes—back-float, sidestroke, doggie paddle, go back to the wall and kick again.

It was mine. All mine. And I was in Heaven.

No, I have gone on the walking track (which actually looked ominous on my first day of fear), trod on one of the running machines, and dreamed of the day my arm would be healed so that I could use the punching bag to work out my aggression, as I did in days of old.

There is much to see. Come join me. It is not so bad this power house that stand right outside Emmitsburg proper. It was worth waiting for.



## Poetic response given by auxiliary at banquet

At the annual banquet of the Vigilant Hose Company, President Tim Clarke presented a certificate of appreciation to the VHC auxiliary for their gift of the command vehicle received in June.

Mr. Clarke said there were no words

to express their appreciation for the Ford Expedition XLT.

Dot Davis, president of the auxiliary, accepted the certificate and responded light heartedly in verse as she presented the company with another gift.

POEM BY BEV ADAMS

Another year has come and gone  
And here I [Dot] stand again.  
I usually read a poem to tell you  
What we're givin' the men.

Tonight is different than the past  
'Cause strange as it may seem,  
There's not much money in the bank,  
Yet we still have reason to gleam.

You see 'bout halfway through the year  
It came to our attention  
That VHC had a special need;  
A bit costly, I might mention

It seems as though Car 6 was old  
And clunkin' down the road

Just how long she'd continue to run,  
No one really "knowed".

This year we saw the special need  
And so we broke tradition  
We spent our dough some time ago  
And bought an Expedition

4 wheel drive, transmission, motor,  
Muffler, mats on the floor  
Power steering, carburetor,  
It even has a running board!

It's purty white with a big red stripe,  
It's paid for, I might add.  
No loan, no lien, no IOU's!  
For that we're really glad!

Thirty thousand, two hundred

### Events

(Continued from page 4)

Thursday night prayer service at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church is halted.

Mother Seton breaks ground for new addition.

#### OCTOBER

Dance and Car Show raises funds for scholarships in memory of Dave Copenhaver, Greg Hollinger, Tom Topper and Terry Myers.

Mt. Tabor Church of Rocky Ridge

celebrates its 125th anniversary.

#### NOVEMBER

Emmitsburg wins lawsuit allowing the construction of a new water plant to go forward.

#### DECEMBER

Christmas activities include Children's Christmas Party; Tom's Creek Church's living nativity scene, and the traditional decorating of the town with live evergreens.



The Vigilant Hose Company Auxiliary donated this 2000 Ford Expedition XLT to the company in June 2000. The vehicle is being used as the command vehicle and responds to all emergency calls prior to the fire apparatus.

Fifty-three is lots of dough  
But when it's for a worthy cause,  
There's no other way to go.

It's sitting outside in front of the school  
For everyone here to see  
So you just might wanna go take a look  
If you have to get up to ...

And just in case you might forget  
Just where you got your wheels  
We're giving you this photo,

Courtesy of Bob Rosensteel.

So hang it up, admire it too  
And know within your hearts  
The auxiliary's here to help you out,  
We'll continue to do our part.

The vehicle's nice and needed too  
But other expenses still mount  
So here's another \$5,000 bucks  
To add to your savings account.

## Emmitsburg Baseball and Softball League prepares for opening day

BY DEAN TORGERSON  
Secretary

Emmitsburg Baseball and Softball League met on January 10 as it continues to prepare for the 2001 season. Opening day for girls softball is scheduled for April 7 and opening day for baseball is scheduled for April 21.

To assist the managers and coaches in teaching the fundamentals of softball and baseball, the league announced that it will be sponsoring the "Hit and Run Clinic" on March 10 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., which will be held in the gym at the Emmitsburg Community Center. The clinic fee for each participant is \$25. Either the manager or coach of each team will be required to attend.

Parents are also welcome to participate. Please note that this is not a clinic for the players.

The league is still in need of some volunteers. We need two tee-ball managers, an assistant manager for the concession stand, and umpires. If interested in volunteering your time, please call league president, Lisa Krom at (301) 447-6844 or attend our next meeting which is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on February 7th at the Trinity United Methodist Church on West Main Street in Emmitsburg.

The league is also in the process of upgrading the appliances for the concession stand. Any financial contributions would be greatly appreciated.

### Emmitsburg Baseball and Softball Little League Registration

February 3, 4, 17, 18  
From 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

At

Trinity United Methodist Church  
On West Main Street in Emmitsburg

Note: If this is the player's first year playing in the Emmitsburg League, he or she will have to bring a copy of their birth certificate to registration.



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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

Feb. 2, *Unprovoked Mousse Attack*; Feb. 3 *Roadhead*;  
Feb. 9, *J & B*; Feb. 10, *Paul and Mark*;  
Feb. 16, *Grumpy Gus- Psyphon*, Feb. 17, *Induced*;  
Feb. 23, *Roadhead*; Feb. 25, *John Charney*

Known for our Jumbo Lump Crab Cakes and Roasted Prime Rib

- CLOSED MONDAYS -

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# A 'thank you' to prayer partners and friends

BY BONNIE PORTIER, D. O.

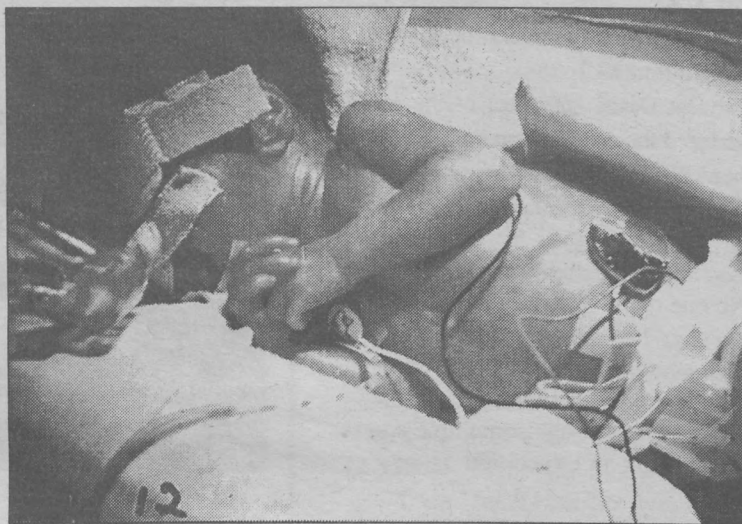
The Portier and Portier-Young family extend our grateful thanks to the people of Emmitsburg and to our neighbors north and south for all your prayers and well wishes and support as we experienced our crisis-turned-miracle.

On September 8th, a rainy Friday with a full moon attached, just home from work, I got a call from our daughter Anatheia. She had just been helicoptered to Cape Fear Valley Medical Center, Fayetteville, N.C., from Duke University Hospital where she was found to be in premature labor, 4 centimeters dilated after completing her 5th month of pregnancy. The chances were slim for her to keep her baby, already called Sebastian Cole. If the baby came now his chances of survival were about ten percent. If he survived he would be blind with many other handicaps as well.

Between 6:30 and 8:00 that night, I called my folks, my children and husband to begin prayer and to travel to be with Thea and her husband Steve. My Bill started out on his two-day journey to Fayetteville from Dayton, Ohio, and I from Emmitsburg. When we arrived, Thea was on a very high dose of magnesium sulfate, given IV. She was weak from the medicine and very scared. Her husband Steve was very quiet and stoic, hiding his fears to give encouragement to Thea.

Bed bound for the next several weeks, Thea learned each day about prematurity, all by asking questions or having people read to her. We learned that 10% of all pregnancies end in premature labor. Thyroid problems, poor nutrition, infections and drug use could all be causes. None of these applied to Thea. A specific cause could not be found. The reality remained. The treatment of continuous magnesium sulfate remained. Thea was not able to graduate to the oral medicine of Procardia, a blood pressure medicine that could also stop uterine contractions.

The medicine gave her double vision and sometimes she saw five of the same object or person. Sometimes she was too weak to hold the phone as the medicine took away most of her muscle tone, including blocking the uterus from contracting. Very early in her care the medicine put Thea into congestive heart failure. After treatment with oxygen and Lasix and dropping back a bit on the dosing of the magnesium sulfate, she recovered in a couple of days. We



Sebastian learning to survive.



Sebastian thriving.

counted the days one by one—every day Sebastian was not delivered was a day for growth and development.

Ever since that first day, people were praying. Dr. Alan Carroll and Rita and their family gave prayers. Dr. Carroll, Dr. Cooper, Dr. Moore, Dr. Hammett took extra medical call to allow me to be away from my office while I made my many trips to North Carolina. My patients tried extra hard to stay well, and prayed for us. Everyone prayed that little Sebastian would stay on the inside. Prayer support was given at church, at Villa St. Michael's and St. Catherine nursing center, the operators at the switchboard at Gettysburg Hospital. Elisa Hopkins, born at 24 weeks and blind, and loving her life, said "Tell them I AM PRAYING." Dr. Michael Posner of obstetrician fame, Gettysburg, said "Don't worry, I have this side of the Mason-Dixon line praying. Dr. John Vitarello, cardiologist, Frederick, Md., said he was praying and had good prayer connections.

The Students of Mother Seton School made little Sebastian Cole their prayer project "until he comes home from the hospital." We had friends and relatives coast to coast and overseas praying. I envisioned the heavenly switchboard operator busily routing incoming calls on Sebastian's behalf and the heavenly council being quite amazed.

Days added up to weeks. The ordeal became a miracle. Sebastian had made it to six months' gestation, the big 28-week mark. The nurses at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center helped throw a party celebrat-

ing the milestone. Due date was still December 30th—a good way to end the year 2000. On October 10th, a diagnostic ultrasound caught Sebastian doing breathing movements and drinking his amniotic fluid and finding a wrist with one hand and an elbow with the other hand. Sebastian was given an eight out of possible eight points for developmental activity. There was now a 90% chance that Sebastian would live even if he were born at 28 weeks. The chance of birth defects, however, was 65%. More time was needed for brain and eye development.

However, Sebastian must have felt that if there were to be a party, he should come. On October 11, Wednesday morning at 2:30 a.m., I got a call from Thea. She was unable to reach Steve by phone, she was alone. The water broke, the baby was being born, they had turned off the magnesium sulfate so she would have the strength to deliver the baby. A burst of phone calls: many households were disturbed. One of them was Dr. Alan Carroll who assured me he would care for my patients over the next several days and that he would pray. I woke up Bill and Linda Junker. Bill then got on the computer and e-mailed many prayer partners. I woke up Rosemary McDermott who prayed for my safety as I went to North Carolina, sleep deprived. I woke up my office staff Brenda Miller and Dot Sweeney—they would be at the office, take phone calls as they could, reschedule patients, and they prayed. I called Doris, the operator at the

(See BABY on Page 8)

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STAFF ACCOUNTANT



## Gingells report on Cancun trip

### Log of Herb & Ann Gingell

*On Herb's retirement from Wolf's Bus Lines, Inc., in June 2000 after thirty-three and a half years, the management of the company presented to Herb and Ann a trip to Cancun, Mexico.*

Our adventure began on December 3, 2000. Our grandson Jeremy and Jay Enders (a friend of Jeremy's and family friend) arrived at our home dressed in their finest and drove us to the Marriott Hotel at BWI Airport. On December 4, 2000, we departed BWI for Cancun, Mexico.

Upon arrival in Cancun we were transported to the Marriott Casa Magna Resort for our eight-day vacation. We would like to say this was the most luxurious facility we have ever experienced. After checking in we immediately hit the beach. During our entire stay in Cancun we enjoyed 85-degree weather.

Our experiences at various restaurants were more than we expected. The quality and quantity of service and food were superb. We immediate-

ly befriended many hotel personnel, who proved to be very helpful to us.

Two highlights were a trip to the second largest coral reef in the world and an all-day visit to the Mayan Ruins at Chichen Itza (largest ruins site in Mexico) located in the interior of the Yucatan Peninsula. The latter was very hot and involved a lot of walking but was well worth the effort. These ruins date back 1,500 years and work is still underway to reveal the mysteries of the past. The Mayan culture is still alive and practiced in the Yucatan. This was a trip never to be forgotten.

Upon our arrival at BWI on December 11, 2000, Jeremy and Jay were there to transport us back to "good ol' Emmitsburg." Our deepest appreciation and heartfelt thanks go out to the Wolf Family, not only for this fantastic trip, but for the many years of being in their employ and the close friendship shared by our families..

**Herb & Ann Gingell**  
Emmitsburg, Maryland

**Mary Ann Gill and Jeanne Nolte of Flowers For You, Inc.**

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## 11-year-old ambassador to travel to Europe with People to People

Hello,

My name is T.J. Fry. I am 11 years old and in the 6th Grade at Thurmont Middle School. I am a member of Saint Anthony's Parish where I am an altar server. It has been my honor to have been chosen as a member of the People to People Maryland Delegation representing the United States in Europe during the summer of 2001 as a student ambassador. As an ambassador, I will travel to England, Scotland, and Ireland and experience their unique cultures.

In England I will personally meet a member of parliament who will tell my delegation about the evolution of the government in Great Britain. I will witness the Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace, visit Kensington Palace, cruise the River Thames, see Big Ben, the Tower of London, and St. Paul's Cathedral. I will be able to strut the stage of Shakespeare's Globe Theater and participate in a fun-filled drama workshop.

In Scotland I will walk the cobblestone streets of Edinburgh, Scotland's capital, experience the lively spirit of Scottish people during an evening of Ceilidh (folk dancing) and bagpipe music. I will visit Edinburgh Castle and listen to tales of Scottish heroes such as William "Braveheart" Wallace and Robert the Bruce.

In Ireland I will explore the colorful and lively streets of Dublin, home of many of the world's greatest contributors to music and literature. At the Blessington Outdoor Center I will canoe, ride a pony, and learn archery. I will hike along the shore of an ancient lake to the ruins of a medieval abbey.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower founded People to People in 1956. It was his vision to create a global community based on trust, respect, and understanding of other cultures, economies, and political systems. One of the most important components of his vision was based on the direct interaction between students of different nations which would connect the people of the world in a network of friendship.



**T. J. FRY**

Student ambassadors represent America overseas, experience new cultures, and make life-long friendships. My delegation has approximately 55 students and at least five teacher leaders, and we will be abroad 14 days. I will be keeping a journal of my odyssey which, after the completion of my trip, will be turned in to Eastern Washington University where I will receive high school credits.

As with many good things and exceptional opportunities, there is a cost involved. My trip will cost over \$3,500, excluding personal items. My parents are paying most of this and I am doing odd jobs to help with the costs. If anyone would be interested in assisting me financially with this opportunity of a lifetime I would be most grateful. Donations can be made payable to People to People, with my name and Student ID # 568298 on the memo line and mailed to: Attention: Accounting Dwight D. Eisenhower Building, 110 South Ferrall Street, Spokane, Washington 99202-8000

I am looking forward to my trip, especially learning and trying new things. If you would like to know more about this program or becoming a delegate or leader, please contact their web site: [www.studentambassadors.org](http://www.studentambassadors.org) or call me at 301-447-3352.

Thank you,  
T.J. Fry  
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# Local woodcarver has carved more than 6,000 birds

BY MARION LEE  
Dispatch Writer

Chip Corl, a quiet self-effacing man with a droll sense of humor, enjoys reminiscing about the "Good Old Days." He has many fond memories of growing up in Emmitsburg. It was a time of innocence at home and violence abroad. World War II was raging and Chip's father, an Army chaplain, was stationed overseas. During that period, Chip's family lived with his grandfather who was the then pastor of United Church of the Incarnation.

After graduating from college, Chip came back to Emmitsburg to launch a teaching career. He taught math in the Emmitsburg Middle School and later, at a school in Thurmont. Chip's fascination with wood crafting came about while he was still teaching. After observing the shop teacher making a

duck decoy, Chip decided to try making one himself. He soon discovered that it was possible to transform a block of wood into a beautiful work of art. At first, he concentrated on birds (small ones, large ones, shore birds) but later he added a variety of multi-colored fish to his collection. While Chip is far too modest to call himself an artist, after showing me samples of crafts that he had hewn from white pine, I would have to disagree.

When he retired from teaching, Chip devoted most of his free time to wood carving. Magazines and catalogs like L.L.Bean provided fresh ideas. His natural talent suddenly turned a hobby into a means of earning extra spending money. In the beginning, he displayed his wares at craft shows but, eventually, a gift shop in Fairfield started buying the carved birds. Before long, he had a difficult time keeping up

with the demand. A single piece can take anywhere from one to three days to complete, depending on how long a drying time is needed. Each piece is antiqued, adding just the right finishing touch. In 1997, an article about Chip, along with photographs of his wood carvings, was featured in Country magazine's summer issue.

In the past 16 years, Chip has carved more than 6,000 birds—a truly impressive accomplishment for a person who just thought he would try something out for the fun of it. Although he has cut back somewhat, he is still creating new pieces. In fact, if you are looking for a truly unique, one-of-a-kind gift, an original carving by Chip Corl may be just the thing. They are moderately priced and can be purchased at Callie's Collectibles on West Main Street in Emmitsburg.



Chip Corl with some of his carved birds.

## Baby

(Continued from Page 6)

hospital, and turned call over to Dr. Carroll; she wished me safety.

As I drove down the road I was scolding that full moon that had sent Thea into labor in September, and here it was finishing its work again in October. However, my way was well lit. At 4:09 a.m., October 11, Sebastian was born: 2 lbs. 7.4 ounces of tininess. How many things were done on his behalf: at first Sebastian needed intubation of his tiny lungs and then C-pap; IV caffeine was given to help his lungs and keep his heart rate; intravenous feedings and IV antibiotics; monitors and resuscitation. Each day we realized how many miracles it took to make a healthy baby.

Slowly, Sebastian took root. After losing weight—down to 2 lbs.—he began to gain weight. Gradually he became able to be fed through a feeding tube, then to nurse and take a bottle.

Learning to breathe while eating was a project for Sebastian. His hearing is good. Sebastian likes it to be a little noisy so he can sleep. If it gets too quiet, he gets nervous. Sebastian's eye exam showed some retinopathy of prematurity, but there is a good chance he will see fairly well. Just yet, he is not able to focus, but his eyes open with each new voice and then, a smile, first out of one corner of his little mouth and then out of the other. He did get a little brain bruising during his delivery, but this seems to have cleared. He did not need heart surgery, another blessing and miracle. To us, Sebastian is so beautiful. Sebastian came home on December 13, 2000. He is now over six pounds.

Thank you one and all for each prayerful gift.

For other articles by Dr. Portier visit [emmitsburg.net/dispatch](http://emmitsburg.net/dispatch)

## Catoctin-Aires offer free beginner course

The Catoctin-Aires Majorette and Color Guard Corps is now accepting registration for its annual free, four-week beginner baton twirling course. The session is being offered for youngsters from age 5 and up who are new to baton.

Taught by qualified teachers, these classes are absolutely free of any charge. This is a wonderful opportunity for parents and children

to determine an interest level in this growing sport with no financial costs whatsoever.

The classes are planned to be held at the Emmitsburg Elementary School. All those interested must be pre-registered, by Feb. 15th. For registration or more information, please call 301-271-4795 or 301-271-4326 or 717-334-5567.

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# New members of library staff

By KRISTINE PORTER  
Dispatch Writer

The Emmitsburg Public Library recently hired two staff members. Their staff currently involves four full-time employees and one part-time employ-



RICHARD WEDDLE

ee.

The first new hire is James Richard Weddle. But everyone calls him Richard. He started the job on November 20th. He is a retiree from 35 years of service with the post office. He and his wife, Patricia, live in Woodsboro. He has three children and nine grandchildren, most of whom live in the area.

His most favorite hobby is golfing, but he also enjoys bowling. Another sport he participates in is the Firemen's Softball league. He is a retired member of the Woodsboro Volunteer Fire Department. As a lifetime resident of Frederick County, he describes himself as a "laid back, country boy". And indeed, he does have a very easy going personality.

One question I asked was how his post office experience has helped him in this job. He commented that working at the stamp window helped him gain skills in assisting the public. Also, his many years of sorting and categorizing is especially applicable to a library. He feels the opportunity for people to gain knowledge from books and other medium for free is a great public service. Books can be expensive. He likes knowing he can help people find the information they need and supply this knowledge. He really enjoys meeting people.

Upon being hired by the Frederick County Public Library, he spent two weeks in training at the C.Burr Artz in Frederick. He is a valuable staff member. In addition to his daily duties, he handles the needs of the library patrons while the other staff conduct special

activities.

Coming to Emmitsburg after being at C.Burr Artz was a welcome change. He likes the slower pace of our small town. And he says the small office is just like a "big family". The staff here has been very helpful to him in learning his new job.

The second new employee started just two weeks later on December 4th. She is Sue Cardella from Frederick. At first she was a little hesitant about the commute, but the drive is nice and she fell in love with the building and people. As she says, "I won the library lottery by coming up here. The small town atmosphere, friendly citizens and good co-workers make the library feel like a home away from home."

Sue and her husband, Dave, have lived in Frederick County for 16 years. They have an adult son, Dan, who also lives in the area. Her family pets include five cats, three kittens, and two big dogs. The kittens are quite fun.

Her academic background consists of two degrees. She received an Associates Degree from Frederick



SUE CARDELLA

Community College. Then she went on to Hood College where she received her Bachelor's Degree in art education and art history. Currently, she teaches an art history course at Frederick Community College. She strongly endorses Community Colleges. They are a great way to get an Associates Degree or begin your college career. In addition to college, she, too, received two weeks of training at C.Burr Artz.

With an academic background in art, she is using her creativity to handle all of the children's programs at the library. She does puppet shows, class visits and the Storytime which is held everyweek on Wednesday at 7 p.m. and Thursday at 10:30 a.m.. She makes needed signs and other attractive sprucings of the library. In addition, she has agreed to write about the library's

upcoming events for the Emmitsburg Dispatch. An aspect of her work she loves is finding information for someone when she doesn't know exactly where it is located. It's a challenge, a treasure hunt, a discovery.

In her spare time, she enjoys attending to her big perennial garden. She also enjoys making contemporary style quilts. In 1999, she won first place in a competition at Rose Hill

Manor Museum. She would like to incorporate her interests of quilts with the work at the library, but hasn't worked out the details yet.

So citizens of Emmitsburg and other local areas, stop by the library and give Richard and Sue a warm, small town welcome. They'll be happy to meet every single one of you.



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## Park super addresses EBPA

### A STAFF REPORT

Catoctin Mountains State Park Superintendent, Mel Poole, kicked off the 2001 round of EBPA luncheon meetings Jan. 16. The meetings cut across territorial boundaries and bring information into the community as well as serve as a venue in which organizational leaders and officials from other areas can become acquainted with Emmitsburg.

Mr. Poole has served as the park superintendent under four presidents. He discussed the early history of the park and its purposes as part of the National Park Service. "We are working to preserve and protect our memories for future generations. We focus on the legacy we leave for future generations," said Mr. Poole.

In the 1730s as settlers began to arrive in the Monocacy River Valley, Indians were seldom seen. Tradition says, however, that the name "Catoctin" came from a tribe, the Kittoctons, who lived at the foot of the mountains near the Potomac. The park was used by loggers and charcoal makers to supply the Catoctin Iron Furnace.

In 1935 10,000 acres were



Mel Poole, State Park Superintendent, chats with Sam Castleman.

acquired by the federal government and developed as the Catoctin Recreational Demonstration area. Development began as a WPA project. The park today is home to 735 plant species, 300 different species of wildlife, and 200 species of birds. It is the home of 11 state-listed endangered species. Along with providing a home for these species it provides activities and programs for about 750,000 visitors a year who participate as hikers, campers, birdwatchers and attend educational camps within the park.

## Thurmont Grange honors couple for years of service in community

On November 27, Thurmont Grange hosted a surprise covered-dish supper to honor Robert and Helen Troxell. Sixty-five members and guests attended. State Grange Master John Thompson and wife Betty and Frederick County Pomona Grange Master Leroy Burall and wife Vern were among those present.

In November the Troxells had taken a two-week trip to Minnesota to visit Bob's cousin Carolee and were accompanied by Bob's cousin Robert and wife Patty. They visited the Kelly Farm, sponsored by the National Grange, and then traveled to Louisville, Kentucky, where Robert and Helen received the Honorary American Farmer Degree during the National FFA Convention. They are active in community organizations such as the FFA, 4-H, FFA Alumni, Grange and the Thurmont and Emmitsburg Community Show.

Speakers at the Thurmont celebration included Margaret Garner, Helen's sister, who spoke of the Staub Family; cousin Robert who spoke of the Troxell Family; Robert Beavan, Catoctin FFA advisor; Frederick County 4-H agent Dan Braucher; Denise Valentine, Catoctin FFA alumni president; Robert Valentine, Vice-President of the Thurmont and Emmitsburg Community Show and Patty Johnston, Thurmont Grange member. Ethel Brauer, former Thurmont Junior Grange leader, spoke about Bob and Helen's children, Stacey, Eric, and Jessica, who were active members of Thurmont Junior Grange.

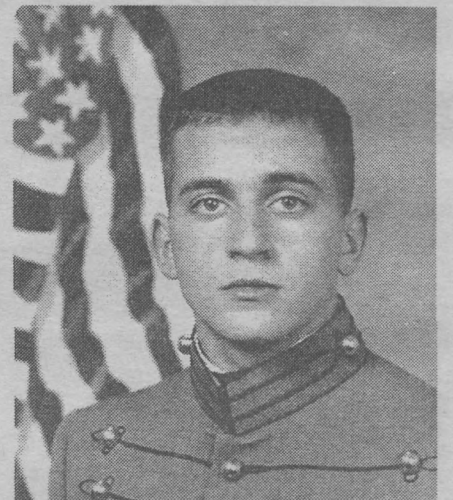
James Moser presented Bob and Helen with a gift certificate, and Rodman Myers presented a citation from Maryland Department of Agriculture Secretary Henry Virts.

A cake and ice cream social followed a fun evening of fellowship.

## Seidel marches in inaugural parade

Cadet Robert Seidel, III of the U.S. Military Academy, recently had the honor of marching in the Presidential Inaugural parade in Washington, D.C. Cadet Seidel is assigned to Bravo Company, 4th Regiment, which was selected by academy officials as the best marching unit for drill and parade ceremonies among the 32 companies in the Corps of Cadets. Consequently, Company B4 was selected to represent West Point in the Inaugural parade.

This was the 22nd time members of the Corps of Cadets have marched in an inaugural parade. The tradition started in 1873, when cadets marched for the second inauguration of President Ulysses S. Grant. In 1913, a contingent of cadets that included then Cadet Dwight D. Eisenhower marched in honor of President Wilson. Forty years later, another group marched in



CADET ROBERT SEIDEL III honor of President Eisenhower.

Cadet Seidel is a recent graduate of Catoctin High School, and is the son of Bob and Sandy Seidel of Emmitsburg.

## Grange Christmas party, caroling held

Thurmont Grange #409 held its annual Christmas Party and Caroling Sunday, December 3, at their hall where they enjoyed a meal provided by Mountingate Family Restaurant.

Members donated 50 gifts and 35 food items to a family adopted through the Seton Center of Emmitsburg.

Following dinner, the attendees continued the annual tradition of caroling at the homes of area citizens, with each receiving a fruit basket. Those visited were Albert and Beulah Zentz, John Amery, Charles Anders, Harold Late, Alan Miller, Luella Kreitz, Charles Brauer, Harry Swomley,

Clifford Marshall, Ray Seiss, Gene and Joe Fox, Sally Hill, Jessica Troxell, Marie McNair, Marty Wivell, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Spangler, and the late Margaret Fogle.

The Grange also remembered those in area nursing homes, including Elizabeth Weddle, Ella Troxell, Grace Porter; and Margaret Boyer at St. Catherine's; Harold Waskey, College View; Frances Rosensteel, Maryland Odd Fellows Home; John Martin, Northampton; Mary Troxell, Sunrise; and Blanche Beard Stine, Fahrney Keedy Home.

Peggy Koontz

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## VFW Auxiliary News

BY DOLORES HENKE  
Auxiliary Secretary

The regular monthly meeting of the Ladies Auxiliary to Emmitsburg Memorial VFW Post 6658 was held recently at the Post Home; President Mary Topper presided. Following the reading of minutes, correspondence, and Treasurer's Report, other information was provided for discussion or

comments.

A report was given on the annual Christmas party hosted by the Auxiliary on December 10 at the V.A. Medical Center in Martinsburg. Six Auxiliary members and three Post members participated in this affair. Anniversary pens were distributed to veterans on the 5th and 6th floors; toiletries, slipper socks, regular socks and other incidentals were also given out.

The refreshments for the party consisted of homemade cookies, cakes, punch, chips, candy and pretzels. Each veteran received an individual fruit basket. Seven members had worked to make 80 fruit baskets. The Auxiliary and the Post each made a monetary donation for shaves and haircuts. The next monthly visit to the VA Center will be on January 21, weather permitting.

A gift from the Department of Maryland was given to Gloria Bauerline, Chairperson for the Rehabilitation Committee, for her reports of the past year. A Citation for Rehabilitation was presented to the Auxiliary for this committee at the Department Conference in June.

A report was then given by Chaplain Gloria Bauerline on her activities at Christmastime for local shut-ins and those in nursing homes. She visited six people at St. Catherine's Nursing Home and distributed gifts from the Auxiliary, a gift was given to a local person at the Odd Fellows Home in Frederick, and a gift was given to Gold Star member, Betty Krom. Gloria visited eleven shut-ins in the area and presented a gift to each one. She stated that many of those she visited said they enjoyed the visit as much as the gift.

At the Christmas party of the Auxiliary, each member brought a gift for a child at the Catocin Pregnancy Center; a monetary gift was also given to the Pregnancy Center. A donation was also given to the Gettysburg Hospital.

Following the meeting, refreshments were served by Mary Topper and Rita Byard. Refreshments for the Post meeting in January were served by Mary Topper, Evelyn Ott, Bea Umbel, and Rita Byard. Refreshments for the Post in February will be served by Lois Hartdagen and Joan Tracey; the Auxiliary refreshments for the meeting in February will be served by Rita Byard and Evelyn Ott. Evelyn Ott's name was drawn for the monthly door prize.

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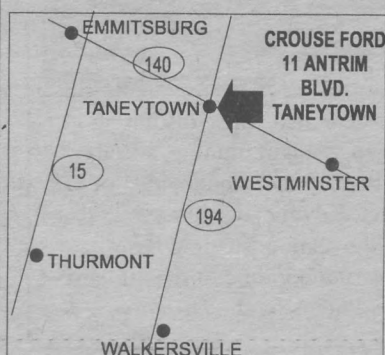
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## Catoctin Senior Projects

### A STAFF REPORT

Catoctin High School's third annual Senior Project Presentation Night was held January 16, 2001. For two hours, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., the open space outside the auditorium was filled with tables which flowed down the hallways in both directions, holding a variety of senior projects. They displayed artwork, artifacts, videos, notebooks, charts, and in some cases food. Several projects involving computers were being exhibited in the nearby computer lab.

Mr. Mike Miller, Catoctin's English chairman, was one of the teachers going from one project to the next, talking to the students and making a final evaluation of their projects. "There are many interesting projects this year," he said. "The number has increased

from last year, making it a little difficult to manage, but it does give the students a chance to display something that interests them." The evening also provides an opportunity for the community to see what the younger generation is interested in.

Jack Dale, Superintendent of Frederick County Schools, said Catoctin High School is one of two schools in Frederick County to sponsor the Senior Project program. "Right now it is being done on a voluntary basis," he said, "but in a few years the school system will require all seniors to do a project." Mr. Dale said the program gives the students a chance to experiment and to connect their interests with what they learn in school. The power of the program, he added, is to see the students' creativity when we turn them loose.



Heather Blake, daughter of Harold and Tammy Blake of Graceham, described her sport—drag racing. Heather's display consisted of photographs, equipment, and a model of a staging light used to start a race. Seventeen-year-old Heather drives a '70 Monte Carlo and in 12 races has finished 2nd four times. Heather also serves as pit crew for her father. Her enthusiastic account of her racing experiences convinces one of her desire to continue to race.

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Jenny Butler, daughter of Jeb and Linda Butler of Simmons Road, did a project titled "How To Eat Healthy Without Eating Meat." Jenny has been a vegetarian since grade eight. She said that many youth her age are interested in the subject but don't know very much about it. The project was a good

way to share information with them. Not only did her display provide interesting facts, she also served tortilla chips and a pot of vegetable chili that was very popular.

Robbie Copenhaver of Emmitsburg, son of Cindy Harbaugh and grandson of Ann Marie Green, presented the mechanics of setting up a computer system. Robbie also does programming in C++ and Visual Basic. Robbie's interest in computers has led him onto the path of electrical engineering which he will pursue in the future.



Kevin Favorite, son of Linda Favorite of Emmitsburg, researched "Speed Running - Improving 40-Yard Dash Time." His project included studying weight training, speed-specific drills, and the correct form of running. Part of his display included a video of last year's Olympic runners showing the correct form of running. Kevin chose this project because he plays baseball, and his coach wants him to lead the team in stealing bases. From what he's learned, Kevin has been able to decrease his running time of the 40-yard dash from 4.98 seconds to 4.8 seconds.

Photos by the Dispatch



# The (Retired) Ecologist's Corner

## Preserving the Islands of Emmitsburg

BY BILL MEREDITH  
Dispatch Writer

Since I started keeping systematic records, the largest number of bird species I had ever recorded in January was 47. So I did not begin the month with high hopes. January is usually a good time to stay inside and think about the environment instead of being out in it, and this year started out that way. Snow was on the ground continually through the first half of the month, accompanied by temperatures that were below freezing most of the time. I bundled up and took my usual weekend walks, but never saw more than 25 species in any one day; yet the numbers mounted, and on January 16, I was surprised to record my 48th species. I had broken my record with the month just half gone.

No. 48 was a ringbilled gull that sailed in and perched on a light pole in the Food Lion parking lot in Taneytown, where I was waiting for my wife. Taneytown would not rank high on the list of places where most people would expect to find seagulls in January; in fact, when I started keeping records in 1979, gulls appeared in my notes only when I went to Baltimore. But one of the significant environmental changes of the past 20 years is the proliferation of multi-acre paved parking lots around malls and supermarkets; and those parking lots always come

**"... places like the narrow strip of woodland along Toms Creek are islands, in an ecological sense. They are remnants of what was once a forest that stretched hundreds of miles; they are now isolated patches, separated by farmland, highways, suburban developments and supermarket parking lots."**

with a supply of garbage. When it comes to eating, seagulls are the avian equivalents of billy-goats. They root through open dumpsters with perverse glee; they relish cookies and hot dog fragments that kids didn't have time to finish before their harried moms yanked them into the car; and they forage in the surrounding fields when early plowing and manure-spreading is done. They have discovered that it is at least as easy to make a living here in January as it is in their ancestral habitat along the Bay, and I have recorded them around here in each of the past four years.

A couple of the other birds on my list are the result of ecological phenomena 1,000 miles north of here—in a way, the stuff of legends. In the tundra regions of Canada, one of the most abundant small mammals is the lemming, which one of my favorite writers, Ed Deevey, has called "rat-sized hyperborean field mice." They are eaten in

great quantities by a number of predators, particularly the Snowy Owl, a beautiful bird with a wingspan of about 4 ½ feet. Most people have heard the fantastical stories of lemmings committing mass suicide by migrating down the mountains in Norway and jumping into the sea... stories that are exaggerated, though not entirely untrue. In Canada, lemmings don't migrate, but they do reproduce with remarkable enthusiasm, so that every three or four years there is a population explosion. Lemmings are everywhere. Snowy owls gorge on them, and produce large families of their own; the owl population surges upward also, and in the following year the lemming population declines under its impact (it's really more complicated than this, but you get the idea). The result is that every few years there are more owls than the food supply can sustain; and rather than stay home and starve, they migrate south. This is apparently such a year. A snowy owl turned up near Buckeystown a few weeks ago; it was reported on the Internet, and I was one of several hundred birders who made the pilgrimage to see it. During the same week, alerted by some Audubon Society friends, I was lucky enough to see four short-eared owls, another boreal species that had wandered south to the Gettysburg area for the same reason.

The rest of my list was comprised of species I have seen regularly over the

past two decades, though never before all in the same month. Perhaps the severe weather had something to do with that; birds need food and shelter, and they tend to concentrate where these things are available. The flood plain along Toms Creek is such a place, and I visit it frequently. This month it yielded a yellow-bellied sapsucker, numerous myrtle warblers and an extended family of bluebirds, in addition to the usual chickadees, titmice, nuthatches and woodpeckers.

Walking through the flood plain after a recent snow afforded the chance to watch mammals as well as birds—not directly, of course, because most mammals are nocturnal, but by the tracks that show their presence. After one of the most successful hunting seasons on record, there were still plenty of deer. Dogs and cats had been there; it's a pity there is not a hunting season for them, because they are destructive to native wildlife. Squirrels are abundant this year, and there were the usual numbers of rabbit tracks. At least two kinds of mice, raccoons, beaver, foxes, a frostbitten possum, and what I am pretty sure was a weasel left their records in the snow. People had been there too; there will be fewer wildflowers next spring in the places where the soil was torn up by "4-wheelers."

I never walk through that area with-

(See ISLAND on Page 15)

## Library Events

BY SUE CARDELLA  
Children's Librarian

The Emmitsburg Library offers some rewarding events and programs to keep your mind off the long winter nights.

Chess is the perfect winter game. Imagine yourself sitting fireside absorbed in this challenging activity. If you've always wanted to learn, this is your opportunity—the Chess Club is starting up again. Learn through competitive tournaments and by instruction from Bill Goble. This program is suitable for ages 10 and up. The club meets every Wednesday from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m.

Find out how a clever cat becomes a hero in the puppet show Puss in Boots. There will be two showings: Wednesday, February 14th at 7:00 p.m. and Thursday, February 15th at 10:30 a.m. Come one, come all.

Before you add to your spring

wardrobe come to the library for your personal Color Analysis. Discover your season based on your hair and eye color plus your skin tone. For teens and adults, the event is scheduled for Monday, February 26th at 7:00 p.m. Registration is required, please call 301-447-2682.

For the art aficionado Francis Smith will have a showing of his nature and bird paintings during the month of February. Check it out for that needed hint of spring.

Of course, the library continues to offer story time each week—Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. and Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. Story time is for ages 3-5. Books for Babies is the third Tuesday of the month at 10:30 a.m., so it will be on the 20th in February. See you there.

For further information about any of these programs or events, call 301-447-2682.

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# A light in the Mountains

By DON BRIGGS

On December 8th Father (Monsignor) Ralph W. Beiting came to Emmitsburg to receive Mount Saint Mary's College and Seminary's Founder's Medal.

The award, first given in 1983, the College's 175th anniversary, honors its founder, John DuBois, and "celebrates the values for which the Mount has stood for nearly two centuries," and is typically given to the Catholic, "who has significantly and in a seemly manner, affected the lives of others."

Father Beiting presently is *Chairman Emeritus* (1999) of the Christian Appalachian Project, (CAP). CAP is an interdenominational organization Father Beiting founded 40 years ago simply to serve the poor in the hills of eastern Kentucky. This *mustard seed* has grown to where it now serves over 1,000,000 people annually in all 13 Appalachian states (and yes, that includes the overlooked rural area of Maryland, Pennsylvania, and New York).

CAP does its *fishes and loaves* through many of its own programs and in affiliation with 1193 church groups with 300 full time employees, 70 full time volunteers, and 700 part time volunteers. This also includes cash donations to 112 organizations in 64 counties. It centers a lot of its focus around creating jobs with greenhouses, stores and warehouses. Today, CAP's annual budget is \$75 million.

As if the Mass and presentation were not stirring enough to those present, many of whom had served CAP, the main celebrant was Bishop Peter Tu Trann of Viet Nam. The Bishop was in Emmitsburg visiting one of the seminarians, his nephew. Though President Clinton's recent visit seemed to reflect a less suppressive era in that country, seminaries are still not allowed.

Later at a dinner in his honor, Father Beiting, who was recently featured in the November 4th issue of *People* magazine as the "Appalachian trailblazer," remarked that he receives lots of awards, but what makes "this award so special and different is who is giving it. It is very special because of what Mount St Mary's has done and

stood for now almost 200 years." This was also a special moment for the College as Father Beiting has been the recipient of some very special awards including Catholic University's Theology School's Distinguished Graduate

Award (1999), the National Youth Leadership Council Service Leadership Award (1999), and the Good Samaritan award, that has as one of its recipients Mother Teresa.

I was first introduced to CAP in 1998 as an advisor on a fall break service trip with ten Mount students. It was a very simple communal regimen centered around two construction projects in the poverty belt of eastern Kentucky. It was a terrific experience. In the fall of 1999 Father visited the Mount, said a Mass at the Grotto, and gave a talk to (of course) the rugby team.

My third experience was more like the Bataan Death March. In June of 1999 I paid a visit to Father Beiting in Louisa, Kentucky. Father works out of a converted carport office situated not far from the banks of the Big Sandy. The walls of these humble surroundings are covered with letters and/or photos from Popes Paul VI and John Paul II, Presidents Reagan, Bush, and Clinton, and Colin Powell, John Wayne, and Fess Parker to name a few. What I thought would be a wonderful day of riding around the hills conversing turned out to be a day of unloading furniture from a warehouse; cleaning out a "gifted" mobile home, from a woman who had 15 cats; and weed-whacking a hillside along a Corps of Engineers lake for four hours. Finally at 2:30, the good father said let's take a break, at which time we shared a coke

and banana.

He is a passionate evangelizer. Last year, to celebrate his 50th year as priest he again set off with several minister friends from Huntington, on a two-week boat evangelization tour

along the Ohio River. The four State trip had fourteen stops including Cincinnati, Louisville, and ending up in Evansville, Ind. This was the same tour he made several years ago that was featured on CBS with Charles Kuralt.

What is he doing now? While many a retirement dream consists of riding off into the sunset

in a golden golf cart in the land of chads and honey; his is slightly different; as he puts it "Well, I'm opening up a third closed school, and turning it

into a community center. With the Christian Appalachian Project, we would do it one person at a time; now we are doing a community at a time. I believe it is the wave of the future. One person at a time but in unity." His "retirement package" is called *Schools Are Us*. Like Emmitsburg, school consolidations have left many towns in Kentucky devastated. And as here, these deserted buildings are coming alive again, housing among other things, museums, theaters, recreational facilities, computer training facilities, and employment skills development resources. Important to this revitalization effort is bringing back alumni for special events.

Father Beiting's docile and detached manner, though comforting, is somewhat misleading. As evident through growth of CAP, it masked the traits of his strong German stock and his deliberate signature approach. Today with 31% of the population of Appalachia still living in poverty and in some counties over 50% children living in poverty, Father's approach in third millennium is the same as it was in 1949 when he first came to Appalachia; to free the area of poverty and despair.



Fr. Ray Harris, Chaplain of Mount Saint Mary's College, on the left, and Monsignor Ralph W. Beiting who received the college's Founder's Medal at the Founder's Day Mass on December 8.

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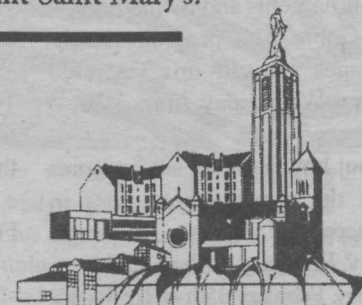
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## Obituaries

### Mr. Leroy Langley

Mr. Leroy Langley, 50, of Emmitsburg, died Wednesday, Jan. 10, at Middlesburg Hospital of cardiac arrest.

He was the husband of Diane Langley, his wife of 26 years.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by three children, Donna Brown and husband Dino, and Tracy Langley, all of Walkersville, and Leroy Langley Jr. of Emmitsburg; three grandchildren, Davey, Dyesheena and Destiny Brown, all of Walkersville; his mother and father; two sisters; three brothers; six nieces; two nephews; and many relatives and friends.

Memorial services were held Saturday, Jan. 20, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 199 North Place, Frederick.

### Mr. Richard Martin

Mr. Richard Allen Martin, 58, of Rose Court, Emmitsburg, died Saturday, Jan. 13, at Gettysburg Hospital.

He was the husband of Mary

Frances Sutton Martin.

Born June 27, 1942, in Keymar, he was a son of the late Clayton Joseph and Sarah Hoffman Martin.

Mr. Martin worked at Redland Brick Co., Rocky Ridge, for 32 years.

He was a member of Beaver Branch Hunting Club in Rocky Ridge, Blue Ridge Sportsman's Club and the National Rifle Association.

Surviving in addition to his wife are three children, Susan King of Taneytown, Lisa Shetter of Gettysburg, Pa., and Richard A. Martin Jr. of Emmitsburg; four grandchildren; Robert King, Marcus Shetter, Steven Shetter and Justin Shetter; two great-grandchildren, Jordan Mandy King and Zachary Robert King; and three sisters, Marguerite Koontz of Littlestown, Pa., and Shirley Moss and Alice Harley, both of Frederick.

Mr. Martin was preceded in death by five brothers, Donald Martin, Russell Martin, Charles Martin, Glen Martin, and Maurice Martin. He was survived by two brothers, Floyd Martin of Florida, and Kenneth Martin of Colorado

Funeral services were held January 16 with the Rev. James Hannon officiating.

Interment was in St. Anthony's Shrine Cemetery, Emmitsburg.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Emmitsburg Ambulance Co., P.O. Box 1101, Emmitsburg, Md. 21727-1101.

### Mr. Raymond Topper

Mr. Raymond L. "Sonny" Topper, 58, of Citrus Heights, Calif., died Sunday, Dec. 24.

He was the husband of Anne Topper, his wife of 31 years.

He was the son of Agnes Topper of Emmitsburg, and James L. Topper, who died in 1980.

He retired from Beale Air Force Base in July 2000 after 20 years of service in the U.S. Air Force and then 20

years in civil service.

He loved bowling, gardening and spending time with his grandchildren.

Surviving in addition to his wife are three children and their spouses, Debbie and Jeff Dodson, Bill and Jeannette King, and Ken Topper; five grandchildren, Joel, Kaelii, Kristina, Gavin and Rachell; one brother, James Topper and his wife of Owensboro, Ky.; five sisters, Marie Sellman of Hanover, Pa., Bonnie Lingg and husband Francis of Emmitsburg, Jean Orndorff and husband of Baltimore, Dianna Papini and husband of Rockville, and Pam Cool and husband of Tucson, Ariz.; numerous nieces, nephews and other relatives.

He was preceded in death by one sister, Dorothy A. Standback in 1985.

A memorial Mass was held Sunday, Jan. 28, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Emmitsburg.

## Thurmont Senior Center trips set

The trips listed below are open to the general public. Trip sheets (containing detailed info) are available at the main desk from 9-2 daily, or call 301-271-7911. All checks are to be made out to the Thurmont senior citizens' center. Day trips require a reservation deposit of \$10.00. One-night trip deposit is \$25.00.

Wednesday, February 21: Day trip - Paradise, Pa. - Rainbow Dinner Theater, *Whose Wife Is It Anyway?* Don't miss this hysterical comedy. Richard Wiley's political affair goes awry when a dead body is found in his hotel room. The hilarious cover-up climaxes when the disgruntled husband and the not-so-dead body check into the room next door. Sign up now for this trip.

Tuesday, March 20: Day trip - Boiling Springs, Pa. - Allenberry Playhouse, *Funny Old Moon*. Start

off with a delicious lunch before taking in this new musical play, returning to visit the Wildflower Inn. We will stop at Ashcomb Nursery before returning to Thurmont.

Sunday April 8: Day trip - Baltimore, Md. Meyerhoff Symphony Hall, *Give My Regards to Broadway*.

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

Wednesday, May 23: Day trip - Baltimore, Md. Ladew Topiary Gardens (near Baltimore) & Museum of Industry.

Thursday, June 21: Day trip - Washington, D.C. Patriotic Day.

(See Seniors on page 21)

## Islands

(Continued from Page 13)

out thinking of Robert MacArthur. He was an ecologist who finished his doctoral work just as I was beginning mine; his research on the ecological niches of warblers provided the theoretical basis for my studies of crayfish, so he was one of my idols. At the height of his career, just before his untimely death in the early 1970's, he wrote a book entitled *Island Biogeography*, which became a landmark for everyone concerned with the threat to biodiversity. He showed that a given amount of space (islands in the Caribbean, in his studies) could support only a limited number of species of plants and animals; that number depended on the size of the island and its distance from other islands. The smaller the islands and the farther apart they are, the fewer species they can sustain.

I was not nearly as smart as MacArthur, so it took a long while for me to understand that this concept applies to places other than islands in the ocean. But eventually, even I realized that places like the narrow strip of woodland along Toms Creek are islands, in an ecological sense. They are remnants of what was once a forest that stretched hundreds of miles; they are now isolated patches, separated by farmland, highways, suburban develop-

ments and supermarket parking lots. And as such, they are the only places in which native wildlife can find the food and shelter necessary to survive in harsh times like this winter.

As "progress" comes to the Emmitsburg area, we see more and more housing developments springing up, commercial concerns paving former farms and woodland, and megafarm complexes ripping out fence rows and trees to create larger fields for monoculture cropland. Our local natural islands are shrinking and becoming farther apart; the inevitable consequence will be a loss of diversity in wild plants and animals. The Toms Creek flood plain is a particular treasure in this respect; it houses a rich variety of native plants and animals, and it should be preserved and protected. The town could do this fairly simply by buying the land, declaring it a natural area, and banning motorized vehicles from it. It would require a few dollars and some courage and foresight on the part of local leaders; but it would be worth it. Nature would take care of the maintenance.

Read more by Bill Meredith on [emmitsburg.net/dispatch](http://emmitsburg.net/dispatch)

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



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## Looking Ahead

### Monday, February 11

**The Emmitsburg Historical Society** will hold its regular monthly meeting. Mon, Feb 11, at 7 p.m., in the Emmitsburg Community Center (the Library Building). The subject of this month's meeting will be status on the revised History of Emmitsburg. Everyone interested in Emmitsburg History is welcome. Those interested in having their family's history represented in the new revised Emmitsburg history book should plan on attending.

### Sunday, February 18

**A good old country breakfast** will be served at the Taneytown Rod & Gun Club, 12380 Shoemaker Rd., on Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2001, from 7:00 am to 11:00 am. If the snow emergency plan is in effect it will be held on February 25, 2001.

The menu consists of pancakes, buckwheat cakes, sausage, eggs, toast, sausage gravy, chipped-beef gravy, pudding & hominy, fried potatoes, hot cheese, hot apples. Fruit cocktail, orange juice. Coffee. Adults \$5.00; children 8 to 12 \$3.50. For information call Godfrey Miller at 410-751-1685.

### Tuesday, February 20

**EBPA Luncheon** will be held at the Carriage House Inn at 11:30. Mr.

Trenton C. Hightower, Director Customized Training at the Frederick Community College will speak to the group.

### Saturday, February 24

**A Buffet Breakfast** (all you can eat), sponsored by Tom's Creek United Methodist Church on Tom's Creek Church Road (off Route 140 between Taneytown and Emmitsburg) will be held Saturday, February 24, 2001, from 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., featuring pancakes, scrambled eggs, home fries, sausage, chipped-beef and sausage gravies, fruit cocktail, coffee and juice. Adults \$5.00; ages 5-10 \$2.25. Bake & Craft Table available. Advance orders for sausage, pork chops and scrapple can be made by calling 410-756-6878 or 301-447-6384.

### Saturday, February 24

**A Pot Luck Luncheon for Senior Citizens** sponsored by St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Route 550, Sabillasville will begin at 11:30 a.m. Meat and drinks will be provided. Please bring a dish to share. The luncheon will be hosted by the Cascade Action Committee.

### Friday, March 2

**Catoctin FFA is holding a country butchering** in cooperation with the Catoctin FFA Alumni Association.

The butchering will be held at Catoctin High School in the agriculture center. Harold Lenhart will again be the head butcher and is providing much of the equipment needed. Twelve hogs will be cut up and sold. A large variety of meat will be available for sale including sausage, pork chops, pudding, ham, ribs and roasts.

If you would like to place an order or need more information please call Mr. Beavan at 240-236-8100, Kirra at 271-4654, Beth at 271-4903, Carrie at 271-3730 or Jessica at 447-6816. We would appreciate all orders by February 20th. Orders may be picked up between 4:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. on Friday March 2nd or on Saturday, March 3rd from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon in the agriculture shop at Catoctin High School. Extra meat will be sold on a first come basis on Saturday, March 3rd.

### Friday, March 2

**The Philadelphi Brass**, in concert at 8 p.m., sponsored by the Adams County Arts Council, Gettysburg College Music Department, and Performing Arts Committee. It will be held in Paul Recital Hall, Schumucker Hall, Gettysburg College. Admission is free; seating is limited. For more information call the Arts Hotline at 717-334-5006.

### Saturday, March 3

**Elias Lutheran Church will hold its annual Spring Supper and Bazaar** on Saturday, March 3, starting at 1:00 p.m. Beef, turkey, and ham will be served with apple fritters, mashed potatoes, filling, gravy, green beans, stewed tomatoes, cole slaw, applesauce, and cake. Adults \$8.00; children \$3.00; carryouts \$9.00. Craft, white elephant, and bake tables. "Churches of Emmitsburg" coverlets available for sale at \$40.00.

## Emmitsburg Churches

### Incarnation United Church of Christ

124 West Main Street  
Emmitsburg, Md. 21727  
Sunday service: 10 a.m.  
Pastor Rev. Margaret L. Dodds  
301-447-2270

Founded in 1758 as a German Reformed Congregation. In 1860's the church moved into town. The current brick building was rebuilt after a fire in 1950. The current congregation is now UCC.

### Saint Joseph's Roman Catholic Church

100 N. Seton Avenue  
Emmitsburg, Md. 21727  
Weekly services: Monday - 7:30 p.m. (with the Miraculous Medal Novena); Tuesday through Saturday - 8:30 a.m.; Saturday Evening - 4:30 p.m.; Sundays - 8:00, 10:15, 11:45 a.m.  
Pastor: Reverend James O. Kiernan, C.M.  
301-447-2326  
St. Joseph's Parish dates its begin-

ning to 1786. Rev. John Dubois, the future bishop of New York, was the first resident Pastor. The Parish has been administered by the Vincentian Community since 1852. The present Church was completed in 1842.

### St. Anthony Shrine

16150 St. Anthony Road  
Emmitsburg, MD 21727  
Mass schedule; Saturday, 4:00 p.m., Sunday, 7:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.  
Pastor: Reverend James W. Mannon

St. Anthony's roots intertwine with the old St. Mary's on the Hill and date back to the 1700s. Our present church, St. Anthony's Shrine, opened its doors on October 26, 1897,

(Area churches are invited to include their information in this column.)

## Adams County Women's Health



Left to Right: Dr. Bettina M. Ellsworth; Dr. Charles H. Marks, III; Dr. Natasha L. Flemens; and Dr. Michael H. Posner

The Adams County Women's Health Associates team welcomes the following new members to its professional staff:

### Bettina M. Ellsworth, M.D.

- Doctorate of Medicine from Medical College of Virginia
- Board Certified by the American Board of Obstetrics & Gynecology

### Michael H. Posner, D.O.


- Doctorate of Osteopathic Medicine from the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Board Certified by the American Board of Obstetrics & Gynecology

Joining the Adams County Women's Health Associates team that includes Natasha L. Flemens, M.D. and Charles H. Marks, III, D.O. in the practice of obstetrics and gynecology

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## St. Anthony's/OLMC News —

BY ANN MARSHALL  
Dispatch Writer



FATHER LEO TITTLER

A Farewell Dinner on January 20 honored Father Leo Tittler who has resigned as pastor of St. Anthony Shrine and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parishes. Following a Saturday afternoon Mass at St. Anthony's, some four hundred friends and parishioners gathered at Mother Seton School for a catered dinner and an evening of light-hearted tributes to Father Leo. A gag gift as well as a purse and a birthday cake were presented to the departing pastor whose new address is: St. John's Hall, Long Crandon, 2300 Dulaney Valley Rd, Timonium, MD 21093.

Father James Hannon, new pastor for the joint parishes, arrived January 10, and is busy getting acquainted with his parishioners and his new churches. He attended the monthly joint council meeting on January 16, and delighted the gathering by being able to name almost perfectly the more than twenty people who attended the meeting.

The Knights of Columbus will meet on Monday, February 5, at OLMC Parish Center. The Knights continue to collect beverage pull tabs to benefit the Ronald McDonald House in Baltimore. There is a collection box in the rear of each church. Each tab provides 2 seconds of dialysis for a patient.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is held at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church every Monday from 3:00 to 8:00 p.m. Food for the Thurmont and Emmitsburg Food Banks is collected by our parishes each third weekend of the month. Just place your nonperishable donations in the back of the church. The Thurmont Bank reports that in November they received 4,283 items and aided 164 individuals.

Join the Youth Group. All youth ages 12-17 are invited to our first youth group meeting on Saturday, February 3, 7:00- 9:00 p.m., at St. Anthony's Parish Hall. This is a time

talk about important things, pray, eat, and celebrate God in their lives. Adults who can give time and talent to support this ministry, please call Joanne Woodward 301-416-0025 or Yvette Leith 301-271-4099.

Youth Night at Mount St. Mary's ARCC is Tuesday, February 6, 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. This event is for students in grades 7-12. Friends in that age range are welcome. The cost is \$3.00 per student and activities include basketball, wallyball, swim-

ming, etc. Adult volunteers are needed, indeed must be recruited, for these ARCC youth events or the events will have to be canceled. Call 301-271-4099 for information.

Family Night at Mount St. Mary's ARCC is Friday, February 16, 6:30-8:30, Cost is \$3.00 per person, friends welcome. Basketball, wallyball, swimming.

Congratulations. St. Anthony Shrine Parish welcomes into the Catholic community of faith, Robert

Steiner Maichle, son of Joseph and Stacie Maichle, who was baptized January 7, 2001.

Congratulations. Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish welcomes into the Catholic community of faith Caitlyn Marie Kinsey, daughter of John and Enver Kinsey on Sunday, January 21, 2001. Altar flowers for the weekend were presented by the family in honor of the occasion.

Visit [emmitsburg.net](http://emmitsburg.net) for other stories about churches.

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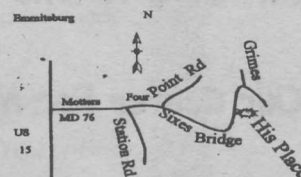
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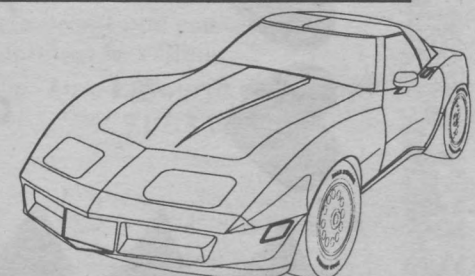
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## Quilters

BY MARY ELLEN CUMMINGS  
Dispatch Writer

Mt. Tabor Quilters' annual family dinner was held January 8, in spite of the wet snow flurries and black ice. The covered-dish dinner was generous and delicious. Since the icy conditions worsened by the minute, one game was played and gifts exchanged and we headed for home.

Our area is now in the "January Thaw"—typical winter conditions—except on my driveway. There snow became black ice. Thawing a little in time for the nightly freeze.

As I write, a glance outside reveals a dull gray pall reminding us that more winter will come. These days are perfect for reading about, planning for, and starting something quilted. Choose bright, happy colors to lift your spirit, and a simple pattern, easy to assemble. Easy to follow designs are 9-patch, 9-patch improved, Mock Log Cabin, a 9-patch variation. An Amish design, "Square-in-a-Square," is easy to assemble and can be done in plain colors (Amish) or combination of print and plain fabric.

Avoid dark and dull colors and fabrics that are difficult to work with—sheer, knit, polyester, and silks. Personally, I use "eye" appeal in choos-

ing colors.

Quilting magazines and quilt class instructors use color wheels to teach color selections for quilted projects. Alex Anderson, teacher, designer, lecturer says, "It's not whether you like a particular color. It is simply a matter of understanding how various colors work together." Ms. Anderson lists three basic color combination, complementary, triadic, and analogous.

Complementary colors are opposite on the color wheel; such as, red and green. Triadic colors; such as red, green, and yellow, are determined by placing an equilateral triangle over the color wheel. Analogous color appear next to each other on the color wheel; orange, orange-yellow, and yellow. The purchase of a color wheel is a good investment if you have trouble selecting colors for your quilt. Art supply stores, school supply stores and some quilt shops carry color wheels.

I would like to add a fourth color combination to the age-old basic three. I would call it abstract color design. In the quilt art of newer quilters, it appears the "picture" they want is obtained by using color combinations other than the basic three. The effects are shocking and dramatic, interesting and sometimes pleasing.

See [emmitsburg.net](http://emmitsburg.net) for other quilting articles.

## Rocky Ridge News

BY EMMA KEENEY  
Dispatch Writer

Happy Birthday to Emma Lou Harris, Jonathan Moser, Jeanette Miller, Bradley Greene, Philip Dinterman, David Dinterman, Bruce Beall, Scott Moser, Michel Sponsellar, Albert Stambaugh, Chris Rose, Gregg Moser, Lamar Wagerman, and Lamar Wagerman III.

Happy February anniversary to Donald and Betty Brown.

### Fire Company News

BY LINDA NORTHRUP

The Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company will be sponsoring a Country Butchering at the Rocky Ridge Fire Hall on February 17. To place a meat order, call 301-271-2880 or 301-447-2488. The Ladies Auxiliary will be

serving a Country Buffet Breakfast from 6 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Money Bingo will be held every Saturday night at the Fire Company's activity building. Doors open at 5 p.m., games at 7 p.m. Delicious food for sale.

### Church of the Brethren

BY PATSY FREE

Happy birthday to Greta Lambert, Feb. 3; Lacey Wolfe, Feb. 7; Naomi Rice, Feb. 11, Patricia Lutz, Feb. 12; Vick Kelly, Feb. 12; Frances Bostian, Feb. 16; Rachel Eichelberger, Feb. 15; Shayna Beard, Feb. 17; Daisy Smith, Feb. 28; Orville Black, Feb. 26; Maurice Rice, Feb. 27; and Wayne Hooper, Feb. 29.

Anniversary wishes to Brian and Lynn Ott, Feb. 11 and Dick and Nancy Glass, Feb. 15.

## Annual Wivell Christmas party held

BY HELEN REAVER

The descendants of Roy and Helen Wivell held their family Christmas Party at the Rocky Ridge Fire Hall on December 31 from noon to 4:30 p.m. Blessing was led by Tom Wivell. The attendance was 230. The family now totals 375 living members.

Paul Wivell, our narrator, had an update on the family—we had 7 new babies and 3 weddings in 2000. Phyllis Green, our historian, had a very interesting talk on our ancestry...quite a few "kings and saints" centuries ago.

Entertainment this year was provided by the Paul and Mary Wivell families. Their grandkids participated in "Kids Say the Darndest Things," emceed by Brian Weaver. The family was involved in a skit, "Who Let the Cows Out?," and the women even dressed in cow outfits, while the guys wore cowboy hats. Paul also showed his grandkids, the technique of "how to milk a cow." A job well done!

The highlight of the year was a special recognition of Phyllis Green, who was selected regional and state employee of the year at Frederick Home Care. We are very proud of her.

Door prizes were then given: \$10 winners, Barb and Chris Wivell and Danny Favret; \$5 winners, Robin Wivell and Stephanie Harrington; fruit basket, Laurie Dillman.

A very lovely memorial tribute to Doug Wivell titled "My First Christmas in Heaven" was read by Jenny Little. A scholarship fund in

honor of Mike and Doug Wivell is being handled by the F&M Bank, 16 E. Main Street, Thurmont, MD 21788, if anyone would like to contribute. Therese Topper ended with a prayer for all of our deceased members.

Special recognition was given to Emil and Monica Panait from Romania. They are friends of Fred and Janie Hoff.

Paul was inducted into our "Roses and Thorns Young at Heart Club," for those 62 and over.

Next, the Nativity Scene was presented, narrated by Linda Wivell, and involving many grandchildren of Paul's family. Joseph, Hunter Wivell; Blessed Mother, Cassie Wagman; Jesus, Victoria Weaver; Shepherds, Heather Wivell, David Bellet, Cody Wivell, and Justin Squires; Wisemen, Joshua, Jordan, and Jarret Fullam; Angels, Jenna, Julie Wivell, Sydney Reaver, and Andria Wivell.

Mr. And Mrs. Santa arrived and distributed gifts to all. A most enjoyable and noisy afternoon was had by all. The Wivell family wish everyone a holy, healthy and happy new year.

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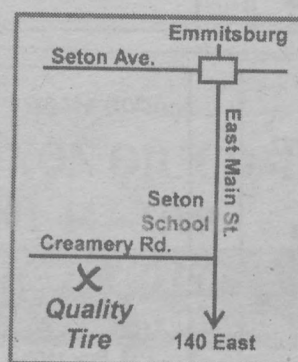
See page 13

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## Mother Seton News

BY VAL MENTZER  
Dispatch Writer

### Catholic Schools Week Celebrations!

Every year, Catholic Schools around the country celebrate their heritage, history and successes by observing Catholic Schools Week. This year, Catholic Schools Week was celebrated January 27th through February 4th. The students and staff at MSS shared many fun activities together during this week.

The week began with an MSS Band Concert held at the Francis Scott Key Mall on Saturday, January 27. Sunday, January 28 was Parish Appreciation where our MSS students wore their school uniforms to their church liturgies.

Monday brought Staff Appreciation Day where the staff enjoyed a delicious luncheon specially prepared for them!

Tuesday, students expressed gratitude to pastors, MSS Board members, Volunteers, etc. on Community Appreciation Day.

Wednesday was National Appreciation Day for Catholic Schools which was celebrated with a Family Liturgy.

A Talent Show and Prayer Partner Bingo were shared by the students on Thursday's Student Appreciation Day. Students also were out of uniform and had a special treat of no homework that evening!

Friday was Staff Retreat Day at ThorpeWood in Thurmont.

Sunday, February 4th, ended the celebrations with a Teacher


Appreciation Dinner at the Cozy Restaurant sponsored by Friends of Catholic Education, Inc.

### National Geography Bee

Congratulations to Kevin Moore, this year's MSS school-wide winner of the National Geography Bee. Kevin will now take a written test to determine up to 100 top scorers to go on to compete in the state bee on April 6. The other classroom winners who competed in the MSS bee were Chris Thomas, Nicholas Galinaitis, Jonathan Cogan, Joel Portier, Sarah Crum, Alex Matijevic, Nina Krauss, Caitlin Ott, and Joe Hansbrough.

## GOAT TAILS

By Christine Maccabee  
with sketches by Marie Maccabee



On-going true life adventures and reflections as I've raised my Nubians over the past five years. It includes fun photographs, including one of my Great-grandmother and her goat in Baltimore in the 1900s and delightful sketches of goats by Marie Maccabee \$10 call 301-271-2307

Christine

## Catoctin FFA members attend national convention in Kentucky

Jane Savage took five FFA members to the National Convention in Louisville Kentucky. Members going were Star Greenhand, Chad Hahn; Jason Savage; Beth Shriner; Kirra Pilson and Melissa Sharrer. Shaun Shriner and Laura Keilholtz received their American FFA Degrees, and Bob and Helen Troxell received their Honorary American Degrees.

Bulb sales concluded with 419 units being sold. A total of 27 different members participated. The top 12 salespeople for the bulbs were: Josh Beall, 39 units; Steve Little, 36 units; Jen Butler, 35 units; Beth Shriner, 32 units; Carrie Muller, 30 units; Liz Molino, 27 units; Lauren Rabbitt, 22 units; Shawn Favorite, 20 units; Justin Harbaugh, 20 units; Stacey Sink, 18 units; Becca Bentz, 17 units and Tom Hood, 17 units.

Citrus fruit sales finished in December with 630 cases being sold. The top salespersons were: Penny Eyler, 47 cases; Josh Bentz, 37 cases; Chad Hahn, 35 cases; Josh Beall, 32 cases; Jacob Flohr, 31 cases; Jessica Valentine, 29 cases; Beth Shriner, 26 cases; Mike Bradshaw, 21 cases; Carrie Muller, 21 cases; and Justin Willard, 15 cases. Thanks to all who participated and made these endeavors a success.

The following students participated from the FFA in the school's Winter Workshop: Amanda Wivell, Ashley Keilholtz, Becca Bentz, Bernie Troxell, Beth Shriner, Brooke Hoffinan, Carrie Muller, Chrissy

Frime, Jacob Flohr, Jen Butler, Josh Beall, Justin Harbaugh, Justin Willard, Kirra Pilson, Laura Kieffer, Mike Lewis, Penny Eyler, Sarah Roberts, Shannon Whipp, Stacey Sink, and Thomas Hood. The students made ornaments from pine cones and entertained the kindergarteners with various animal exhibits.

Project PALS has started with Penny Eyler as chairperson. The FFA students have been going to Emmitsburg Elementary for the past four months. The students visit the school to teach the young children about agriculturally related topics.

National FFA week will be held on February 17th - 24th. A variety of activities have been planned including: breakfast, a pizza party, bowling, a Greenhand program and promotional

The FFA pork butchering will take place on March 2nd. Advance orders are needed by February 20th. Call Mr. Beavan for more information at 240-236-8100.

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## Neighbors

BY KATE WARTHEN  
Dispatch Writer

Mrs. Inez Gunn of Delanco, New Jersey, visited over the holidays with her brother Don Topper and family as well as her sister Faine Rodgers.

Mary Theresa Miller and Marie Long recently spent four days in Canada.

Jenny Lou Ridenour, Danielle White, and others spent four days in New York.

Mr. and Mrs. William Melvin have relocated to Miami, Florida, having retired from the school system in Mons, Belgium. Ms. Melvin is the former Maryon Wasilifsky of Emmitsburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Boyle spent their holidays in Baton Rouge with their daughter and her family.

Mrs. Vernon (Bea) Keilholtz attended an international symposium on celiac disease, more commonly known as *sprue*. Doctors and researchers from 29 counties and 40 states were present at the Hunt Valley Club in Towson. Bea has lived with celiac disease all her life and is active in a support group which meets at GBMC in Towson. For information about the February meeting, call Bea at 301-447-2100.

Mrs. Margaret Krone and daughter Joan spent the Thanksgiving holidays in West Palm Beach with Mary Lou Royer and other family members.

In December, thirty members of the Friends of the Library celebrated the season at a lovely party at the home of Elizabeth Prongas. A pot luck dinner featured many unusual dishes. Mr. and Mrs. John Treadwell were special guests. Francis Smith entertained with a delightful reading of "The Cremation of Sam McGee," followed by a recitation of many of his own wonderful poems.

Outgoing Friends of the Library President Annetta Rapp welcomed Natalie Williams as the new president. Outgoing secretary Pat Bell has turned the job of secretary over to Caryl Austrian. Kris Porter was thanked for all her diligent work in the past. She and her husband Michael and family will relocate to Bradford, Pa., where Michael has accepted a new position.

Beth Fragale of Clarksburg, W. Va., and granddaughter of Yvonne Baker, spent the weekend in New York recently. She was able to see the *Today* show.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Gingell traveled to Cancun, Mexico, in December as

a part of Herb's retirement celebration.

Mrs. Doris Warthen and her daughter Lisa Wyatt also spent a week in Cancun, Mexico, in December.

Mrs. Patricia Warthen became the grandmother of twins. Peter Christopher was born on December 7 at 10:30 a.m. weighing 6 lbs., 12 ½ ounces. Sara Elizabeth was born at 10:40, weighing 5 lbs. The babies' parents are Dan and Cathy Warthen.

A surprise birthday party honoring Mary Goetz on her seventieth birthday was given by her husband Paul at Saint Joseph's parish hall. Among the eighty-five guests were their daughter Debbie and granddaughters Jennifer and Nicole, who flew in from California. Other family members who attended were Sharon and Jim Meredith and girls, Liz and Bill Baker, granddaughter Melissa and great-granddaughter Vickie, Charlie and Cindy Goetz, granddaughter Stacy and grandson Chris, Dave and Angie Goetz and grandchildren, Becca, Jessica, Daniel, and Nathan, Lisa and Phil Krom and grandchildren Jason and Scott. Christine Maccabee entertained by singing and playing guitar and piano. The party was catered by Classic Affairs.

## Lewistown 4-H report

The Lewistown Mt. View 4-H Club's Halloween Party, was held at Lawyers Party near Thurmont. The 4-Hers enjoyed a hayride to the corn maze where many became lost. After a lot of fun and a little consternation, the members loaded up on the hay wagon and headed back to the barn. Games, snacks and friendship were enjoyed by all.

The highlight of the November meeting for the club was the election of officers for the year 2001. The new officers are Amanda Lenhart, president; Ashley Mayer, vice president; Ashley Lenhart, secretary; Amanda Lambert, treasurer; Samantha Valentine, assistant/corresponding secretary; Jacob Leach, reporter; Ben Leach, Rachel Hill, Jamie Hill, and Jessica Lambert, historians.

Lisa Garst, Travis Harris, Rachel Hill, Kandice Lenhart and Camelia Powell are members of the phone committee.

The Lewistown 4-H Club enjoyed their Christmas Party, held at Mount Saint Mary's ARCC. The members swam, played walleyball, volleyball, and basketball. A brief business meeting was held and pizza and snacks were enjoyed by the 4-Hers and their families. The club voted to help a needy family in the Catocin High School area.

For more information about 4-H please call Jacob Leach at 301-694-1594.

## Seniors

(Continued from page 15)

Saturday, July 28 - Sunday, July 29: Cumberland, Md. Drum & Bugle Corps championship.

July-August (date to be announced): Day trip - Washington, D.C. *Kiss Me, Kate*.

Wednesday, August 22: Day trip - Gettysburg, Pa. Totem Pole Playhouse, *A Grand Night for Singing*

Thursday, September 13: Day trip - the inns & castles of the Alleghenies - a progressive dine-a-round.

Wednesday, October 24: Day trip - mystery color trip.

Monday, November 12 - Friday, November 16: Asheville, N.C., Pigeon Forge, Dollywood, Gatlinburg, Tenn., *Christmas in the Smokies* - includes Biltmore estate.

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# What's a Tree Worth?

BY CHRISTINE MACCABEE  
Dispatch Writer

In this day and age, nothing can be taken for granted. The recent presidential election vividly illustrated for us all how important our votes can be in a close election. Similarly, if we are at all attuned to the various environmental challenges at hand, we know that what we do or do not do will definitely have an affect on the future well being of our planet and all its occupants. If every vote counts in the political world, then surely every tree must count in the world of ecology. The problem for us is getting beyond cumbersome politics in order to acknowledge the value of our trees and to protect them.

Far from using our Earth well, we are using it up. The most extreme example of a used-up ecosystem are the rainforests of Central and South America. Scientists are mostly in agreement that due to extreme deforestation, the rainfall in these areas will lessen, possibly to the detriment of the remaining tropical areas. About 4.5 million acres of tropical forest are heavily logged each year and it is generally agreed that they will never be able to restore or regenerate themselves. Our planet is getting hotter, and in many parts of the world, drier.

Helplessly we watch on. What can we really do about it, we ask? There is a little slogan which I have on an old Earth Day pin which says "Think Globally, Act Locally." No, we probably will not be able to convince loggers and oil companies to leave the rainforests alone, and refusing to eat burgers made from cattle raised in ruined rainforest regions will likely not keep it from happening. Our lives are here, and it is here where we are challenged to "cast a vote" that will make a difference. Personally, I cast my vote in favor of preserving as many good, old trees as possible, wherever possible. No, this does not make me a "tree hugger," thank you. In truth, it makes me a good scientist and a good citizen.

Anyone who is cognizant of the escalation of human population on this planet (about five billion people, to be doubled in ten years) knows that there is a simultaneous escalation of cars, trucks, planes, buses, and ships. All these transporters require huge quantities of fossil fuel, the use of which continues to heat up the atmosphere creating what is known as global warming. More trees will be needed to absorb the carbon dioxide and to cool down the environment, not less trees.

This problem is deemed so significant that a meeting on global warming was attended by representatives of 175 nations last year. These talks resulted, however, in temporary failure when they foundered over how much credit toward emissions countries should get for using forests and farmland to absorb CO<sub>2</sub>, the main greenhouse gas. For the scientists at this meeting there is no question of what a tree is worth. If the issue of deforestation and global warming is serious enough to bring 175 countries together to discuss it (another meeting is slated for this May, so they haven't given up) then would it not seem logical that we should be discussing it as well, here, where we live?

So, the question remains, what will we/can we do here where we live? One thing that always occurs to me is the necessity to buy recycled paper products. However, only a small number of people go out of their way to support the recycled paper industry, and as long as the demand is small, so will be the production. But this type of industry needs our support and is one answer to the problem of deforestation.

What else can we do?

If we were truly brave we might climb up into a tree and stay there for two years as Julia "Butterfly" Hill did in California. Perhaps you know of her. She is being called a modern day "saint" by her admirers. Between 1998 and 2000 her feet did not touch the ground as she lived 180 feet up in a 1000-year-old redwood tree she named Luna. The tree grows near a clear cut at the origin of a massive mudslide which destroyed seven homes in 1997. Mud slides are common problems due to clear cutting. By force of sheer determination, endurance and above all love and conviction, Julia managed to strike a deal with the Pacific Lumber Company, protecting Luna and some acreage surrounding her from timbering. However, just last month an enemy purposely and ignorantly tore deep into Luna with a chainsaw in an attempt to mortally wound this ancient giant. Luna has been stabilized, but her health is questionable. I ask, what is this warfare, this battle of life and death, all about? Should we just give up, or should we sit in that tree with Julia and ride out the terrifying storms? I know what my answer is. What's yours?

Locally we may not have giant redwood trees to save, but now and then a situation does arise which deserves our attention. Presently there is an on-going battle to save 576 acres of woods on the

battlefields of Gettysburg. A minority of over-zealous historians wish to see some 144,000 trees, some well over 100 years old, removed so as to return the battlefield to its 1863 appearance. A majority of ordinary citizens wish to see these trees preserved. Have you ever been out on a treeless battlefield on a hot 4th of July? Then you know how truly uncomfortable it is. Working around these life-giving, shade-producing trees is a much better idea than clear-cutting.

To leave the trees standing on the Gettysburg battlefield would be the ecologically wiser and more honorable thing to do. After all, historically speaking, long before there ever was a war there and prior to the deforestation habits of the colonists, this very land was heavily forested with old growth trees. At this point in time, are not the trees more valuable than some wartime sentimentality?

I am truly heartened to hear of the Clinton administration's recent efforts to spare from timbering millions of acres of old growth trees in our nation-

al forests. They are indeed on the right track and I do not see how such a noble move could ever be questioned. It was the right thing to do. It speaks of reverence. Since the beginning of time, one of the highest spiritual precepts was reverence for life. Honoring and respecting one another along with the natural world around us in all its diversity and wonder may yet be the only way to save this gift of a world.

What is a tree worth? It is up to you. You can cut it down, trash it, and consume it, or you can honor it. Native Americans innately understood this concept and they lived it. They were abiding by an ancient formula for preservation of the Earth...Reverence. Oh, were we all to abide by this highest of "laws," what a different world it would be!

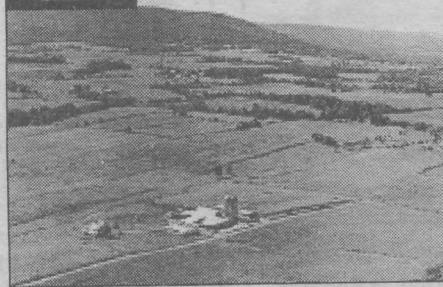
If you wish to be a part of the Gettysburg "battle," or to sign a petition, be in touch with Sue or Pat Naugle at 717-334-1142 or me at 301-271-2307.

To read more by Christine visit [emmitsburg.net/dispatch](http://emmitsburg.net/dispatch)

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**Farm museum seeks students as museum guides**

The Carroll County Farm Museum is seeking students who are interested in training to become volunteer museum guides. This program would enhance school curriculums by adding an 1800s period history training program. Students would serve as house tour guides, sharing this knowledge with school group tours and during special events. If you are at least 10 years of age, are outgoing and friendly, are available during the week (Tuesdays through Fridays), and wish to be considered for this special training program, please contact Pat Brodowski at 410-848-7775.

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BY LINDA STULTZ  
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Several people stopped in to check out the facility and equipment. They were also pleased to have a facility available so close to home. People had many interesting questions and comments about exercise and how it can help with disease, aging, sports and overall health.

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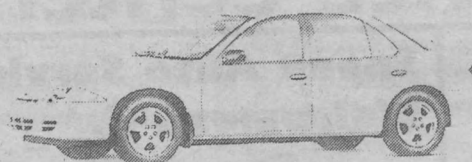


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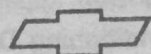
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