



The Emmitsburg Dispatch

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News and Opinion in the service of Truth

JANUARY 6, 2005



-RAYMOND BUCHHEISTER / THE EMMITSBURG DISPATCH

Weather gets new year off to a good swing!

On New Year's Day a twosome putt to finish a round at Carroll Valley Golf Resort in Fairfield, Pa. The Resort sent out 85 golfers to enjoy the 60-degree temperatures. Thanks to an adequate snow base, the slopes of Ski Liberty (background) entertained its share of skiers at the same time.

Ethics committee releases allegations to the accused

Richard D. L. Fulton
News Editor

The Emmitsburg Ethics Committee sent written notification Dec. 23 to two town commissioners confirming that they are the targets of an on-going ethics investigation.

Commissioners William B. O'Neil, Jr. and Arthur "Art" Elder now have the allegations lodged against them, although the names of the two complainants were blacked out. The official notification follows on the heels of the controversial release of their names to an area newspaper, published in a story Dec. 23.

Two complaints

O'Neil and Elder received identical sets of the two complaints, along with a cover letter signed by ethics committee chairman Theodore "Ted" Brennan. One complaint is a letter and the other an e-mail sent to the committee.

David Runkle admits he is one of the complainants. Runkle's wife owns Custom Image Printing (CIP) a print shop competitor of Chronicle Press, owned by Lisa Elder, and formerly owned by Art Elder. Lisa Elder is Art Elder's cousin.

-See **Ethics** on page 3

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Looking Back... Emmitsburg 2004

A year of blood, sweat, and ...dinosaurs?

Richard D. L. Fulton
News Editor

Reviewing the major news stories for 2004 published in *The Emmitsburg Dispatch* revealed a town suffering from growth pains at the same time it must address decades of lackluster infrastructure maintenance.

The two phenomena converged to produce many of the top stories, as newcomers and long time residents tried to come to terms with the needs of the community, now and in the future.

The Emmitsburg Dispatch has compiled what it views as the top local stories of 2004.

1. Wastewater infrastructure

The town's antiquated wastewater collection system created a number of significant issues that impacted the town, from environmental agency enforcement action to the rate of new home construction.

At the Jan. 21 town meeting,

the debate about implementing a "moratorium" continued from 2003, an effort that ultimately resulted in the approval May 26 of a temporary moratorium on new construction.

In March the Maryland Department of the Environment

-See **2004** on page 10

Looking Ahead... Emmitsburg 2005

-see page 4

Print shop feud drains town resources

-see page 6

Emmitsburg Little League 50th Anniversary

-see page 14

Evidence - Samuel Emmit as town founder

-see page 17

Emmitsburg finally adopts election rules

On Dec. 20, 2004, the town board of commissioners unanimously adopted a revised election ordinance, having eliminated the provision that would have allowed poll watchers to oversee the voting process.

On a motion by Commissioner Dianne L. Walbrecker, seconded by Commissioner Arthur "Art" Elder, the revised ordinance was approved, pending review by the town attorney.

On Dec. 10 Emmitsburg Mayor James E. Hoover had vetoed the election regulations ordinance approved by the commissioners at their Dec. 6 meeting.

Hoover based his veto primarily on the fact that he could "not accept the poll watcher provision," and because the town attorney had not reviewed the final draft before passage.

The election ordinance was initially proposed by board

President William B. O'Neil, although past board President Patrick Boyle and former Commissioner Ted Brennan had previously stated election rules were needed after the last, often

contentious, town election.

(See related story "Mayor vetoes town's first election rules" in the Dec. 15, 2004 issue of *The Emmitsburg Dispatch*.)

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The *Emmitsburg Dispatch* encourages its readers to express their thoughts and opinions about issues that appear in this publication or affect the community. Letters must be exclusive to the *Dispatch* and should be no longer than 300 words in length. They must be signed and include the writer's address and phone number to be used for verification. The *Emmitsburg Dispatch* reserves the right to edit letters for content and space.

Poll Watching: Much Ado about Something

To allow poll watchers or not to allow poll watchers – that is the question posed at every town meeting lately. Poll watchers are not organized thugs who would sabotage an election. They are a trained few who would ensure that elections run smoothly, that voters and judges behave themselves, removing any doubt of the legitimacy of the election.

This year Mayor Hoover will run for re-election and will choose

the judges. One would think he would want poll watchers to verify the validity of this election – especially if the results are close. We are a growing population with disagreeing factions – a recipe that surely calls for poll watchers. They could allay future disputes.

This is not an experiment; municipalities throughout the state and country provide for poll watchers. Many are small towns like Emmitsburg.

The frequent cry of those who oppose poll watchers is that Emmitsburg doesn't need them. How can that be? Where can this vehement opposition stem from if not fear? Fear of change? Of an inability to throw an election? Or fear of the marginalized population whose worries poll watchers would assuage?

Let's be honest. Those who support a poll watcher provision were, themselves, not long ago, disenfranchised citizens, often rudely and regularly ridiculed by the then-elected town government.

Yes, we are skeptical, and rightly so, because somewhere along the line, either in Emmitsburg or somewhere else, we have either experienced discrimination, or have witnessed it directly. What we want is guaranteed fairness. Poll watchers would ensure that elections are fair – for all parties concerned.

We now have an election ordinance in Emmitsburg and we owe Commissioner O'Neil thanks for writing it and the commissioners for passing it. It has no poll watching provision.

Aye, there's the rub.

– Sabrina Paxton-Daily
President,
Citizens Organized to
Preserve Emmitsburg

Thanks from Slovenia with a note from the mayor

Dear Mr. Mayor,

I send some postcards the all country of Slovenia. I want one more time says thank you for beautiful days with live you in Emmitsburg. I never forget kindng moments. I will make contacts with you. I send beautiful greeting from Republic of Slovenia. I apologize for eventually mistakes in text and for to short letter. I wish all the best for yours town and you family too.

– Justin Vanovseq with family
Club Coach
Weightlifting of Slovenia

We received a letter from the Slovenia weight lifting coach and thought you might want to share it with your readers. Included with the letter were some beautiful postcards of the Slovenia countryside and brochures of their coal-mining museum. It truly was a learning experience for us meeting the athletes and students from all the countries that attended the World Weightlifting Championship this past July at Mount Saint Mary's.

– Jim and Diana Hoover
Emmitsburg

Disturbing vandalism

I noticed, on the 18th of December, one of the most disturbing acts of vandalism I have seen in a long time. At the intersection, on Federal Avenue, someone had spray-painted a swastika on the white siding of someone's home.

I have lived in this town for 14 years. I have seen a lot of dysfunctional childish acting-out behavior in that time. I have tolerated the robust intoxicated

behaviors of Mount students and townies at 2 a.m. I have endured neighbors that consistently scream curse words and have the police stop in on a somewhat regular basis. I have listened to thundering obscene singing coming from cars that have stereos so loud they rattle the glass in my windows. My family and I rarely walk out the front door of our home, so as to avoid being run over by speeding 18-wheelers. I

have adjusted to life in this town and consider the trade-offs, for the good things this town offers offset these problems.

I will not tolerate the sick-minded vandalism that was to this house. I hope the people who live in this house realize that most of their neighbors find this act intolerable. I live around this house and will take steps to watch more closely the comings and goings around our street and alley. I hope the police are actively attempting to apprehend the criminal.

– Ham Phillips
Emmitsburg

100 Years Ago "In this place" From *The Emmitsburg Chronicle*

This column offers a regular look back at Emmitsburg through the eyes of *The Emmitsburg Chronicle* which first appeared on June 14, 1879, published by Samuel Motter. In 1909 the paper became known as *The Weekly Chronicle*. It continued regular publication, allowing for a 5-year hiatus during World War II, until February 9, 1977.

Musk rats as Food

January 6, 1905 – Hunters are reaping a harvest: from muskrats, which are reported to be unusually plentiful. Each muskrat captured nets the hunter from 25 to 30 cents. They receive from 13 to 25 cents for the hide and 10 cents for the meat, for which they find ready sale. Many people will not eat muskrat meat, simply because the animal has the word "rat" attached to its name. The fact is that they are one of the cleanest animals that exist. While they live in the marshes and holes along the banks of the rivers and creeks, they will not eat anything but what is thoroughly clean. In the fall and early spring hunters get many muskrats by shooting them at night while they are feeding. The muskrat will come to the edge of the water to wash the roots he wants to eat, and the hunter, lying in wait for him in a boat, shoots. Usually several of the animals will be together, and a good shot quite often bags two or three at once. The principal way the hunter gets the muskrats is, however, by setting steel or jump traps for them. – *Sun*.

Snow Storm

January 6, 1905 – On New Year's Day the weather was delightful, being unusually warm for this season of the year. Monday was another fine day, but Monday night these conditions began to change, and early Tuesday morning it began to rain, which soon turned into sleet. The temperature continued to fall, and it soon began to snow. The snow continued to fall with unabated fury until late in the afternoon, when it stopped. Between five

and six inches of snow fell. The wind blew a strong gale all the time the snow was falling, and continued blowing until Wednesday morning. The snow was drifted to a considerable depth, and in places the roads were almost impassable. Tuesday was one of the most disagreeable days of the present winter. Wednesday morning the thermometer registered 10 degrees above zero.

Killed a Snake

January 13, 1905 -- On Monday, Jan. 2, Mr. John M. Bell, of near town, killed a viper snake in the front of his barn door. This is something unusual for this time of the year, and Mr. Bell, who is in his seventy-fourth year, says he never before saw or heard of a snake crawling about on the ground in this section of the country at this time in the winter season.

Wedded in Sheriff's Office

January 20, 1905 - An incident that has created more comment than anything that has occurred at the Adams County jail at Gettysburg for some time, was the Darr-Sponseller wedding which took place in the sheriff's office Monday evening. The groom, Jacob Darr, is a man of 61 summers, while the bride, Miss Lizzie Sponseller, is a blooming maiden of 22, and is at present a prisoner in the jail. This, however, is not the bride's first experience in jail, as it was during a former incarceration and while the groom held the position of turnkey under Sheriff Morrison that the loving spark was kindled. The ceremony was performed by Wm. P. Quimby, Esq., in the presence of about a dozen persons. – *Star and Sentinel*.

Stultz Fitness Training 5th Annual Open House



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New Year's Resolutions from an Emmitsburg resident

1. That McDonald's will not salt our French fries, as it is worrisome for those with high blood pressure. Fries are good; but let us salt them. Perhaps more prayers will let them hear the point I'm trying to get across.

2. That young people and the not-so-young people have respect and do not park in the handicapped space at the post

office unless you display the handicapped sign or tag.

3. That all people will not sit in their cars and read their mail. The post office lot is small. Get your mail and go!

4. That when you see flashing lights (especially ambulances) coming up behind you, you will pull over ASAP – Please!

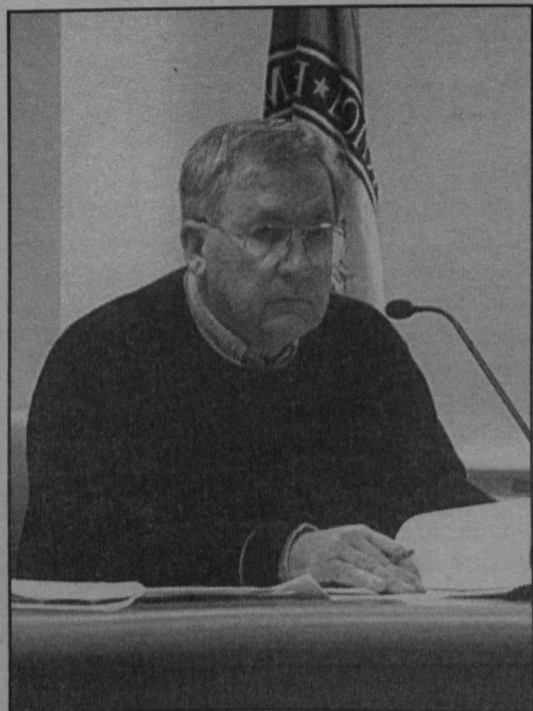
5. That you don't flick your

lit cigarette butt on the ground – put it out in its appropriate place, like your ashtray – after you've just gotten out of your car and shut the door. Duh!

Pray for me that you can help me keep my New Year's Resolutions.

Thank you!

– Lois Sears
Emmitsburg



-RAYMOND BUCHHEISTER / THE EMMITSBURG DISPATCH

Commissioner Arthur Elder, under scrutiny for possible ethics violations.

Ethics

-Continued from page 1

The e-mailed complaint appears to have been submitted by a representative of the Silo Hill Car Wash. Elder had stated previously he suspected the complainant was Kirby Delauter, co-owner of the car wash.

Delauter would not confirm his involvement when contacted by *The Emmitsburg Dispatch*.

Abuse of authority alleged

Generally, the letters suggest that O'Neil and Elder have abused

the powers of their elected positions on the town board of commissioners.

O'Neil was elected in the 2004 town election. Elder was elected in 2003, defeating incumbent Ted Brennan, who now chairs the ethics committee.

"I do believe that ... they are using their positions on the town board to harass business in the town," the e-mail stated. It went on, "I think it is clear that neither O'Neil or Elder have the town's best interest in

mind, (and) they look to use their positions to 'dictate' their terms for any given issue."

Runkle also questioned the legality of businesses allegedly being operated from the O'Neil and Elder homes. He said O'Neil works from home as part of his lobbyist position (with Blue Cross-Blue Shield), and Elder refurbishes antiques for resale.

"It is very curious that both Art Elder and William O'Neil know of the permit requirements to conduct business from one's home, yet each of these men work from home without the benefit of a home occupation permit."

Complaints center on CIP and car wash

A running skirmish has continued between CIP and the Elders since Runkle (as RyWest, Inc.) declared bankruptcy in 2003. (See related story "Print shop 'feud' may be draining town resources" in this issue of *The Emmitsburg Dispatch*)

In 1999, Art Elder sold the former company's press equipment, the rights to the name CPI, and the building that housed the operation to RyWest, Inc. Elder was tasked with selling off the printing assets after Runkle declared bankruptcy, and chose to sell them in 2004 to his cousin, Lisa Elder, and Christopher Price.

Runkle pointed out O'Neil's persistence in pursuing enforcement action regarding allegations lodged against his wife's printing operation, as well as against himself. He wrote the ethics commission, "I have received numerous complaints

from Lisa Elder and even Commissioner O'Neil has pursued these complaints."

Runkle's letter and the e-mailed complaint also address Silo Hill Car Wash.

Silo Hill Car Wash, co-owned by Delauter and Carl Athey, was the subject of a noise complaint during 2004 that brought on an investigation by the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE).

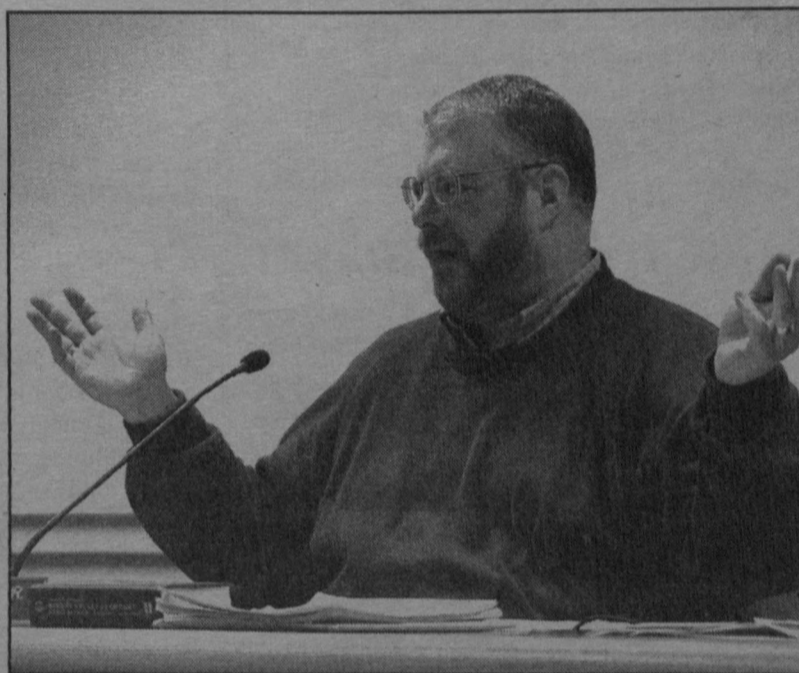
According to the e-mail, a member of the Citizens Organized to Preserve Emmitsburg (COPE), an organization to which Art Elder belongs, filed the noise complaint. Prior to the establishment of the

who have already achieved a great deal in their eight months in office," O'Neil stated. Commissioner Elder issued a written statement to *The Emmitsburg Dispatch* on Jan. 1. In it he said, "Runkle is bitter because I had to foreclose on him for non-payment. He declared bankruptcy and defaulted on agreements he had made to purchase my printing equipment and business assets."

Elder said he gave Runkle time to repay his debts, but believes Runkle still blames him for RyWest's failure in the printing business. He went on to say that he believes Runkle is "obsessed" with destroying Elder's name.

Regarding the ethics committee chair, Elder wrote, "Ted Brennan lost the 2003 election to me by 149 votes. He still holds a grudge and would like nothing better than to drag me through the mud. He has an axe to grind and should not be involved in this matter."

Elder commented on the car wash issue, "I have nothing against the owner of



-RAYMOND BUCHHEISTER / THE EMMITSBURG DISPATCH

Commission President William B. O'Neil, Jr., one of the targets of an ongoing ethics committee investigation.

Ethics committee president confirms names before official notification

Theodore "Ted" Brennan, President of the Emmitsburg Ethics Committee, confirmed the names of two individuals under investigation to an area newspaper before the two men were formally notified.

One of the complainants, David Runkle, admitted to *The Emmitsburg Dispatch* that he had leaked the names to the media initially.

Brennan explains his actions

Board of commissioner President William B. O'Neil, Jr. and Commissioner Arthur "Art" Elder were identified in a Dec. 23 article in *The Gazette* as being under ethics committee investigation, with Brennan's confirmation.

"The Gazette found out who it was and asked me who it was. What was I going to say?" Brennan told *The Emmitsburg Dispatch*.

Asked why he did not simply respond "no comment," Brennan explained that he answered the

reporter's question when he was stuck in traffic and aggravated by the congestion. He admitted, "If I had to do it over again, I wouldn't have said it."

"According to our attorney we have privacy rules and to the best of my ability I've kept all the names (complainants and the subjects of the investigation) confidential," he noted.

Runkle "leaked" names

Runkle told *The Emmitsburg Dispatch* that he had revealed O'Neil and Elder's names because he believes there is a relationship between them and the on-going print shop dispute in town.

Runkle's wife owns Custom Image Printing (CIP), a competitor of Chronicle Press, owned by Lisa Elder, and formerly owned by Arthur Elder. According to Runkle, the reporter had initially contacted him about Lisa Elder's allegations at the Dec. 20 town meeting. She had lambasted the town for not fully investigating Runkle's business operations.

Commissioner critical of Brennan's actions

O'Neil told *The Dispatch*, "I do not believe that the release of our names, without first having contacted us formally, was legal." He called Brennan's actions unprofessional and said they "taint the investigation entirely and expose it for the political witch-hunt that it is."

He claims that Brennan's actions sought to damage O'Neil's reputation in a public way, at a time when it would do most harm, Christmas, and did not provide an opportunity for O'Neil to defend himself.

"Such illegal and unprofessional conduct by Mr. Brennan and his committee can be intended for only one purpose, to reach a desired outcome," he told *The Dispatch*, calling it "nothing less than a kangaroo court."

"Mr. Brennan, clearly, seeks to build a path to congress upon the broken reputations of honorable men," O'Neil concluded.

Silo Hill Car Wash, Art Elder operated the only car wash in town.

Runkle wrote, "Why is it that so many complaints are lodged and investigations called for when Art Elder has financial interests in bringing down his competitor? It seems very apparent that Commissioner Art Elder has used his contacts and his position as commissioner for personal gain and self-interest."

Commissioners question motives

Regarding the allegation that O'Neil discriminately pursued enforcement action against CIP, O'Neil told *The Emmitsburg Dispatch*, "Mr. Price and Ms. Elder did the only thing they could do; contact me as their elected representative and ask me to make proper inquiries with (town planner) Mr. Lucas (regarding allegations against CIP). He said it is well within an elected representative's authority to continue to ask questions until matters are either fully explained or some action is taken.

"In essence, what Brennan, Delauter and Runkle could not achieve at the ballot box, they are attempting to achieve by sullyng the reputations of two good men

the Silo Hill Car Wash. As town commissioner, I voted to give his construction company a contract worth over \$1 million dollars for town water and sewer jobs."

Brennan says inquiry is non-political


"What the committee has been asked to do is an administrative action under the town ordinance. If someone complains we have to look into the complaint," Brennan told *The Emmitsburg Dispatch*.

In response to concerns about a closed-door investigation, Brennan said, "The McCarthy hearings and witch hunts were all done in public. If you do something like that in public, it doesn't matter if you're (the accused) right or wrong.

"The committee is trying to avoid that kind of spectacle. (It was) designed to keep the innocent people protected. There are a lot of things we are looking at," he told *The Emmitsburg Dispatch*.

Brennan said he just wants to finish the investigation, and maintains that it is not politically motivated.

"I pride myself on my integrity, not on my politics. When this is over, a lot of lessons will be learned, and part of the duties for the coming year would be to set guidelines for the committee," he said.



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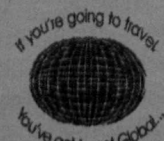


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Looking Ahead... Emmitsburg 2005 Sewers, sprinklers and historic preservation

Richard D. L. Fulton
 News Editor

Much that occurred within the community in 2004 set the stage for actions in 2005. In some cases, issues going back years might be resolved. There is not room here to credit those responsible for various activities, but proper credit will be given as the stories develop.

Improving infrastructure

Emmitsburg must rehabilitate its decrepit wastewater collection system, out of necessity and because the state has ordered it to do so. The town has taken steps to acquire state funding to assist with the costs of the overhaul, which will entail studies as well as physical replacements. The present system is subject to being overwhelmed by wild water, water that infiltrates the system from storms and snow melt, leading to diluted sewage spilling into area waterways, either directly or through percolation.

Expanding the business community

The degraded infrastructure provides challenges as Emmitsburg tries to promote commercial interests that would provide revenue to keep the town budget in the black. One essential project is the expansion of the Emmitsburg Glass Company.

Revamping town government

With the new election laws enacted, the town moved ahead with reform. The commissioner's seat on the appeals board was vanquished. Other steps might address re-adopting penalties for commissioners who fail to attend meetings regularly; eliminating all commissioner seats on boards and committees on which they can now vote, and ethics committee process reforms. There is also movement toward establishing a charter review committee that would develop ballot issues for voters.

Development pressure

During 2005, Emmitsburg will likely be impacted more by development outside the town, both in Maryland and Pennsylvania, than by anything likely to occur within town limits. Town planners will also likely need to re-examine the wisdom of resisting annexation, since property not annexed by the town can come under county jurisdiction, leaving the town with less direct control. Traffic control and overpopulated schools are just two issues to be faced with increasing development.

The environment

Two key issues are drinking water quality and damage to area streams. This year will likely see increased focus on drinking water in light of reports of "spikes" in lead and copper contamination,

and rumors of B12 deficiencies possibly caused by chlorination. Stream rehabilitation will become more of an issue if increasing development necessitates another regional sewer plant that would discharge into the runs.

Safeguarding new homeowners

An ordinance requiring that sprinkler systems be installed in new homes under construction is in the works. There has been an effort to provide financial assistance for owners of older homes to install sprinklers. Sprinklers don't just buy time for firefighters to arrive, but also provide a better window of escape time, and, in some cases, actually extinguish a fire entirely on their own.

Historic preservation

2005 may bring the re-creation of the old town fountain which once stood in the center of the town "square." The Emmitsburg Area Historical Society has made great strides and essential contacts in bringing back this significant piece of town history. Nomination of the "Lost Dinosaur Quarry," located off North Seton Avenue, to National Historic Landmark status seems likely. Efforts will continue to preserve this prehistoric site known for its 200-million-year-old dinosaur tracks. The town will also move forward in securing Main Street funding for downtown commercial revitalization from the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

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After addressing the board, State Delegate Joseph "Joe" Bartlett (C) sits through Emmitsburg's Dec. 20 town meeting. Former Commissioner Patrick Boyle can be seen sitting just behind him (L).

Bartlett offers support for town efforts, addresses some continuing state issues

Richard D. L. Fulton
News Editor

State Delegate Joseph "Joe" Bartlett promised town commissioners more "interaction" in community affairs at the board's Dec. 20 meeting.

Bartlett also addressed some of the important issues Maryland faces in the coming year, including medical malpractice insurance, slot machines, and the sale of public lands.

Malpractice insurance

"Medical malpractice insurance is far too high," Bartlett stated, pointing out that it could run as high as \$200,000 a year for one policy, more than most medical practices can afford.

As a result, the state is losing medical practitioners, which prompted the governor to convene a special state legislative session Dec. 27 and 28. (See Editor's Note below.)

According to Bartlett, the problem with the special session, "is that none of the details (for a proposed solution) have been worked out."

Bartlett feels a \$650,000 ceiling for economic damages should be reduced to \$350,000 or \$400,000. "The economic damages has a direct effect on insurance rates," he said.

Slot machines unnecessary

"I'm not an overall thrilled champion of slots," Bartlett told the board.

The slot machine issue came up when the state was in dire need of revenue, but Bartlett says the need has diminished under Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.

"We're crawling out of that deficit and not nearly in the kind of shape we were in a couple of years ago," he confirmed.

Bartlett warned that the slot machine issue was not likely to go away in the coming year.

"There are a lot of politics going on," he said. "The Democrats are not going to give the governor a victory during an election year."

Sale of public land misunderstood

Addressing concerns over the sale of state-owned land by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Bartlett said this was not an effort to transfer land from the state solely to the private sector.

He told the commissioners the governor had challenged every department to inventory assets and determine which ones were of no great benefit to the state.

DNR then generated a list of land parcels it felt were not essential state property.

"These were pieces of property the state technically owned but was unable to maintain," he said, "not a wholesale release of property to private parties."

Bartlett noted that some of the tracts under consideration for disposal "will probably be given to municipalities."

Issues to be pursued

Commissioner Dianne L. Walbrecker told Bartlett that the town has been faced with a "crumbling infrastructure," and that the mayor and board are "looking for different sources for help on that."

Commissioner Arthur "Art" Elder shared his concerns about perimeter development and the

traffic that could result, in addition to a possible closure of the North Seton Avenue access to Route 15.

Commission President William B. O'Neil, Jr. emphasized his desire to pursue funding from the National Trust for Historic Preservation to attract more business to Main Street, and to develop ways to bring the town more business in general.

Bartlett agrees to set up meetings

"I came to realize that there is not enough interaction between state and local governments," Bartlett told the commissioners during his brief appearance at the town's biweekly meeting.

He agreed to set up meetings with various government bodies to address town concerns, such as exploring the possibility of a town bypass to alleviate on-going traffic problems.

Bartlett has been a member of Maryland State House of Delegates since Jan. 13, 1999, and a member of the Ways and Means Committee since 1999.

He served on the Children & Youth Subcommittee from 1999 to 2000, and from 2003 to 2004, the Finance Resources Subcommittee from 2001 to 2003, and the Transportation Subcommittee since 2004.

Editor's Note: Legislators agreed on a malpractice reform bill during the special session in December, but Governor Ehrlich has threatened to veto it, despite the fact that leaders of the state's doctors and hospitals say the bill provides immediate relief from skyrocketing malpractice premiums, and threatened on Jan. 4 to back a legislative veto override.

TOWN NEWS

Charter Review Committee proposed document presented

Richard D. L. Fulton
News Editor

At their Dec. 20 meeting, the town board of commissioners reviewed a proposal to create a committee that might formulate ballot questions for voters.

Commission President William B. O'Neil, Jr., who drafted the ordinance, wants to establish a "charter review committee" that could take on potential "controversial," community-related issues that should be put before town voters.

This new committee would consider issues presented by the mayor and commissioners, and determine if any aspect of a given issue warranted consideration as a ballot question.

Committee would consider ballot questions

According to the draft ordinance, committee members would be appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the commissioners.

The committee would be

charged with "reviewing the town charter for necessary updates and revisions, and receiving ideas and concepts for non-planning and zoning-related referendum questions to be submitted to the electorate for a vote."

The committee would conduct public hearings, and make recommendations to the mayor and commissioners regarding the wording of ballot questions.

If the commissioners agreed with the committee's recommendations, the questions would be added to the next town election ballot.

'Founding Date' - a typical issue

According to O'Neil, a typical issue for committee consideration might be establishing a voter-approved, official founding date for the town.

Allowing the proposed committee to guide the process of selecting a town founding date would "provide a more democratic means of

-See Charter Review on page 6



The "Little Moore Team" would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support.

Wishing each and everyone a Happy Holiday and a prosperous New Year!



*Sincerely,
Tony & Jane Cinnamon*

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Emmitsburg

Print shop feud drains town resources

Richard D. L. Fulton
News Editor

The ongoing battle between Chronicle Press and Custom Image Printing (CIP) has cost Emmitsburg an extraordinary amount of time and money, according to Town Planner Michael Lucas.

"In 15 years I have never seen a zoning matter generate this amount of paperwork or (use) town staff," Lucas told the commissioners Dec. 20, pointing out the more than 90 pages of print shops' complaints and counter-complaints, attorney letters and printed e-mails.

Commissioner Dianne L. Walbrecker asked him to compile a breakdown of town expenditures and a list of work that can't be done

because town staff is working on the print shop complaints.

'Feud' spills over into town meeting

Lisa Elder, co-owner of Chronicle Press, presented her grievances against CIP and town staff during public comments at the meeting.

"This has been very frustrating," Elder said, adding that Chronicle Press' attorney, Diana M. Schobel, has been told to address allegations to Emmitsburg's attorney John R. Clapp, not to town staff.

One of the most recent Chronicle allegations maintains that David Runkle, whose wife owns CIP, has driver's licenses from two states, and does not actually live at the Emmitsburg address where his wife

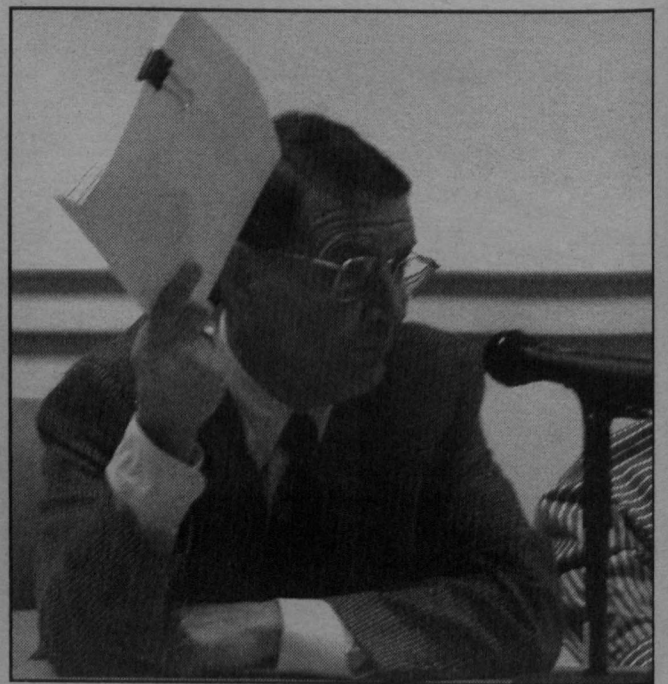
Donna is permitted to run CIP as an in-home business.

Elder said Clapp advised Schobel that the town would have to prove that the Runkles cannot claim the CIP location as their legal residence, and the town "does not have the resources to investigate."

Elder countered, saying, "The town (claims it) does not have the resources to enforce its ordinances. The lack of any action whatsoever makes a mockery of the town."

Commission President William B. O'Neil, Jr. responded, "I sense that neither party is going to let this rope go. We should make sure we are doing everything we can to investigate both parties' issues. My concern is I do not

-See Feud on page 7



-RAYMOND BUCHHEISTER / THE EMMITSBURG DISPATCH

Town Planner Michael Lucas holds up more than 90 pages of complaints and counter-complaints, attorney letters and printed e-mails generated by rival print shops.

Town News Update ...

Town grants letter of credit reduction to Pembroke Woods developer

On Dec. 20 the commissioners voted unanimously to reduce the town's letters of credit (LOC) with Buckeye Development as proposed by Town Planner Michael Lucas, based on recommendations by the Frederick County Public Works Department.

Having satisfactorily removed all sediment and erosion

controls in Phase III of the Pembroke Woods subdivision, Buckeye Development was unanimously granted a \$25,099 decrease in its public works agreement.

Fran Denmark of Buckeye Development noted that Buckeye's storm water efforts were not yet completed.

Town finding it hard to replace code enforcement officer

Emmitsburg still has not filled the code enforcement officer position, vacant because of a recent retirement.

Eva Miller retired as town code enforcement officer for health reasons on Dec. 31, 2004. The town wants to restructure the job from full-time to two part-time employees.

A recent applicant began training for one of the positions, but then told the town she did

not think she could do the job. Town Planner Michael Lucas confirmed that the town currently has no one working in the job.

Lucas said the town has received 11 resumes, and has interviewed seven of the applicants. Since, according to Lucas, "Most didn't want to work part-time," the town is re-evaluating the idea of the part-time positions.

Former board president changes stance on town square parking

A former town commissioner threw in the towel at the Dec. 20 town meeting, removing his previous opposition to eliminating some of the town square parking.

Former board President Patrick Boyle said, "I'm going against everything I've stood for. I'm going to agree with the mayor." His word choice met with a round of chuckles from the audience.

Boyle was referring to the debate over how best to address traffic flow problems associated with the town square, and the configuration of current parking spaces.

He told commissioners that a number of new developments in Maryland and Pennsylvania could worsen the already problematic flow of traffic through Emmitsburg.

"I've disagreed with the mayor for the last six years on this project," Boyle confirmed, but said that now

something has to be done.

The State Highway Administration (SHA), as far back as 1997, had recommended establishing turning lanes at the square to help resolve the traffic problems. But the turning lanes would have removed some of the square's parking spaces.

Mayor James E. Hoover had proposed a town square beautification plan, which would have added decorative brick, trees, grass areas and park benches, making the area a place where people could sit and talk with friends and neighbors. He had also suggested compensating for lost parking at the square by adding spaces along Lincoln Avenue.

Unwilling to add turning lanes and lose parking at the square, the commissioners defeated the SHA turn lane proposal at their June 7, 2004 meeting.

Swastika incident lands local in hospital

An individual alleged to have painted swastikas on a DePaul Street residence Dec. 17 was apprehended and transported to the Frederick Memorial Hospital for evaluation.

The 44-year old male suspect was alleged to have painted the symbols, often associated with the German Nazi Party of the 1930s and 1940s and the American Nazi Party, around 6 p.m. on Dec. 17, according to Deputy Jennifer Bailey, spokesperson for the Frederick County Sheriff's Office.

Patrol Deputy Mark Cullember responded, and was told the individual had been seen "screaming things as he was walking around the neighborhood."

While investigating the incident, Cullember also found a can of spray paint allegedly used to paint the symbols.

The suspect, whom Bailey would not name since charges have not been filed, was transported to Frederick Memorial Hospital for "medical evaluation." The suspect was identified only as an Emmitsburg resident.

The DePaul Street homeowner was supplied with information to file criminal charges against the suspect, but apparently has not done so to date.

Bailey said there was no indication the incident was a hate crime. Damage to the residence was estimated at \$150.

Editor's Note: See "Concerns over parking loss thwart town square improvements," in the June 23, 2004 issue of The Emmitsburg Dispatch.

Charter Review

-Continued from page 5

determining the will of all the people on this contentious question," he wrote in a Nov. 3, 2004 e-mail to town administrators.

The process would further "enable groups supporting various dates to make their case," he stated, and in the end would "enable the town as a whole to, finally, unite behind one date and begin the work to plan for anniversaries."

O'Neil told his fellow commissioners that issues like this "should rest in the hands of the residents. Let them decide when it is a matter of great importance."

He said commissioners should not be making decisions regarding the history of the town "and its remembrances."

Mayor backs proposal

Mayor James E. Hoover supports the proposed new committee and recommended that it meet at least twice a year to review impending issues.

"I think the concept makes very good sense. It's a very good suggestion," he said.

Former board president Patrick Boyle told the commissioners that under no circumstances should anyone serve on the committee who is not a resident of the town.

"The proposal sounds good but who is going to be on it?" he asked, urging, "If they are local people, then okay. It's got to be the people of Emmitsburg."

O'Neil will continue work on the proposed ordinance for presentation at a future town meeting.

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BUSINESS

Glass company receives conditional plan approval

Emmitsburg Glass Company was granted conditional plan approval at a Dec. 27 town planning board meeting, although for over an hour it appeared the commissioners might require that a connector road servicing the site be built.

Un-named road becomes point of contention

The "un-named road," which would be put in by Emmitsburg Glass primarily to allow access to their new facility on the east side of Route 15 at its intersection with Creamery Road, will be located in a dedicated public right-of-way.

The right-of-way conforms to the "vision" of the comprehensive plan that indicates that a "connector road" would be constructed along the designated tract.

A question arose during the review as to whether or not the proposed road would have to be built-out to include curbs, gutters and sidewalks because that service road was located within a dedicated right-of-way.

Additionally, the 24-foot wide access road proposed might have to be upgraded to a 34-foot wide road to comply with connector road status.

The debate stemmed from concerns regarding future development that might access the road, and who would pay for the upgrade if the glass company put in the road as a private drive.

Board initially pushes for expensive redesign

The site plan proposes a road using swales as part of its storm water management system, an idea that did not sit well with board member and Commissioner Dianne L. Walbrecker.

"Swales is like a dirty word in Emmitsburg," she said, in obvious reference to on-going Pembroke Woods issues, "I would prefer curb and gutter."

Planning Board President Christopher Staiger said, "I want curb and gutter and for it to be built to collector status. It should be built as envisioned by the (town) comprehensive plan," he stated.

Town Planner Michael Lucas stated that if the developer were not required to pay for a road built to connector status, that responsibility would then fall to whoever ultimately owns the road.

Plans call for the road to be dedicated to the town, and Lucas said he assumed that if and when that dedication occurs, the town would have to pay for the upgrade.

Gregory Reaver, co-owner of Emmitsburg Glass, told the planning board, "It is not economically feasible for us to build curb and gutter."

Sheridan "Dan" Reaver, co-owner, said the glass company should not be forced to construct a connector road. "Right now it's a private driveway (as proposed)," he said, and indicated that it is just speculation that there will be further development of the immediate area.

Commission compromises

No one representing the town at the meeting could determine

whether or not the Reavers could construct a road that did not comply with either connector road or local access industrial road status within a dedicated right-of-way.

Given that the next planning board meeting is a month away and the developer needs to meet impending project deadlines, the board struggled to reach a compromise that would allow work to proceed.

Ultimately board members agreed they could tolerate a swale-based storm water management system, as opposed to requiring curbs and gutters.

The board's approval of a 34-foot wide road with swale-based storm water management included a condition to allow for a 24-foot wide road, if the glass company can legally build a road that width within a public right-of-way. Other conditions for site plan approval included those for signage and tree plantings.

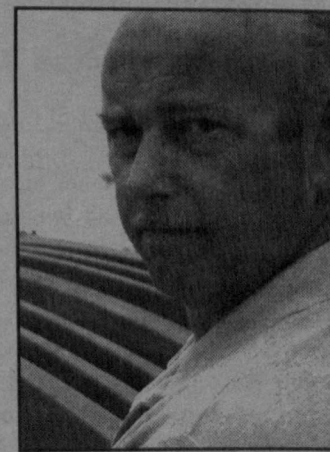
Business Association selects Director of Marketing

The Emmitsburg Business & Professional Association (EBPA), a group of local business and professional men and women, has selected David Runkle as its Director of Marketing & Recruitment. Runkle will head up the membership drive for the upcoming year. He has an extensive marketing, advertising and sales background, and runs the local printing company, CIP Printing.

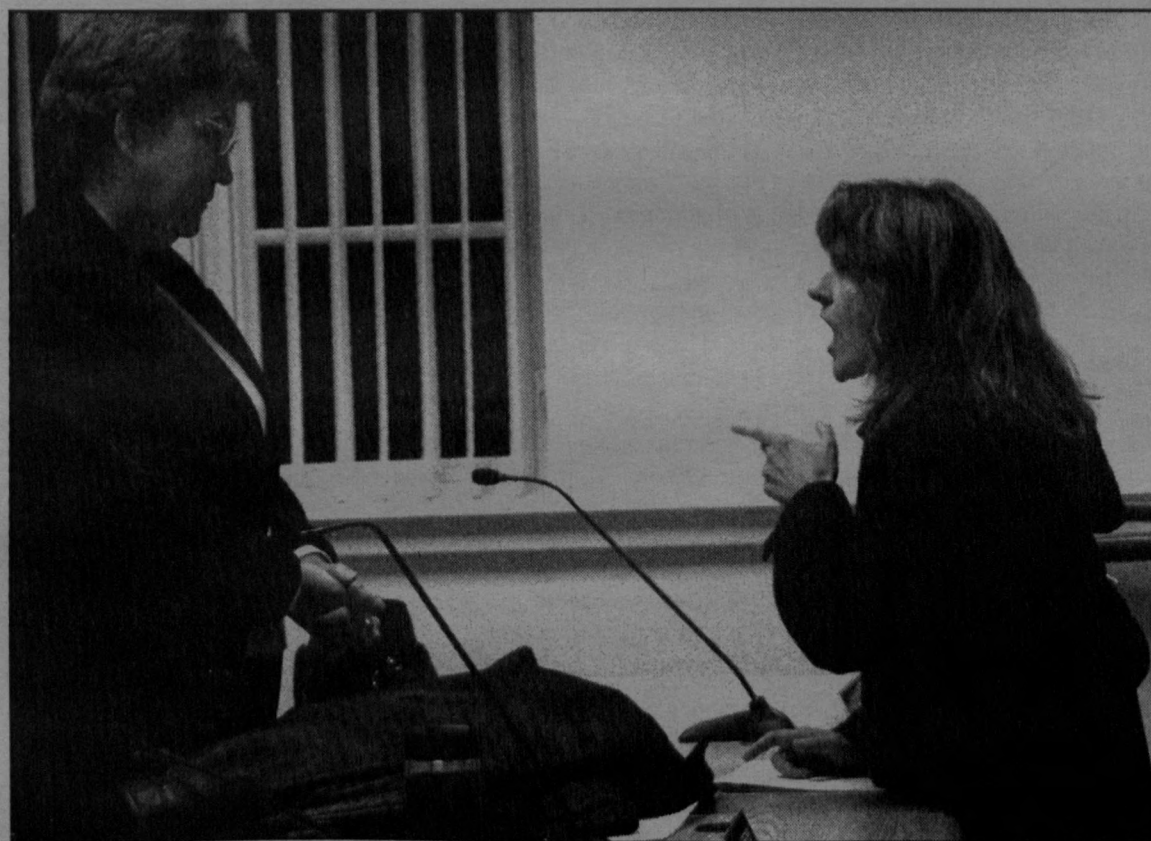
Runkle hopes to encourage others to join EBPA. He wants to have a group member at every town meeting who will report back to members on decisions that effect local business. He also wants EBPA to support new community projects, develop a newsletter, bring in outside speakers for general meetings and sponsor networking meetings.

The EBPA has been instrumental in enhancing and promoting the community since its beginning. The organization created the Emmitsburg Endowment Fund which provides scholarships at the post-secondary level, and financial support to nonprofit charitable organizations serving Emmitsburg residents. The group has also supported the Mason-Dixon Fall Festival and the Lamplight and Holly Festival.

For more information or to join EBPA, call Runkle at 301-447-3301.



David Runkle



RAYMOND BUCHHEISTER / THE EMMITSBURG DISPATCH

Lisa Elder (R), co-owner of Chronicle Press, expresses her frustrations at the Dec. 20 town meeting to Commissioner Dianne L. Walbrecker (L). Elder says the town has not followed through on her complaints about CIP Printing as she thinks it should.

Feud

-Continued from page 6

want to see our town de-evolve into a paper tiger with (regard to) ordinances."

Mayor James E. Hoover backed town staff, saying they have "done their job." Hoover noted, "There is very bad blood between these two businesses. The town has gotten into the middle of this and being a referee here."

Town says some issues outside its jurisdiction

Lucas told the commissioners, "This is a

unique case. Some issues alleged are non-zoning related and relate to laws that we do not (have the authority to) enforce," such as investigating the claim that Runkle holds multiple driver's licenses.

Regarding the allegation that Runkle does not actually live at the Emmitsburg residence, Lucas commented, "(Wrongfully) claiming that this is their residence is not as clear-cut as a violation on a setback," Lucas commented.

"We don't regulate people's hours. If someone is in violation of a state (residency) code, that's not something we can regulate with regard to zoning," he said. "It is a residential structure. It is

a residential lease and has all the necessary amenities to qualify as a residence."

Runkle told *The Emmitsburg Dispatch*, "I only have a Maryland driver's license. I had to surrender my Pennsylvania permit (when issued the Maryland one)."

The town staff and board will meet with their attorney to determine how to handle this continuing conflict.

Dispute precedes CIP bankruptcy

In 1999 Arthur Elder sold the Chronicle Press, Inc. (CPI), the former company's press equipment, the rights to the name

CPI, and the building housing the operation to RyWest, Inc., owned by David Runkle.

Runkle told *The Emmitsburg Dispatch* the dispute goes back to just before he settled on the business purchase on Jan. 4, 1999. At that point Elder "gave everyone a raise," without the new owner's knowledge.

According to Runkle, Elder's action played a key role in triggering his bankruptcy in 2003. He said, "That was the beginning."

Runkle sold the building in 2004 to James Hess. Lisa Elder and Christopher Price subsequently purchased the printing equipment from Arthur Elder, who had been appointed by the bankruptcy trustee to sell it.

Between 2003 and 2004, Donna Runkle established CIP, initially at 107 South Seton Avenue, the current building housing CIP, and then at its present location, 106 East Main Street.

Donna Runkle's residence is Hanover, Pa., according to her husband. However, Runkle told *The Emmitsburg Dispatch*, "I'm in the process of acquiring the business from Donna. I would be the sole owner."

Not long into 2004, the two print shop operations began their ongoing skirmish. In July 2004, both filed complaints that the other was operating without proper permits and certificates.

As a result, the town shut them both down temporarily until they had received all the necessary county and town permits. There has been a steady stream of complaints and counter-complaints ever since.

RELIGION

Separation of church and state concerns: Town avoids monetary donation to St. Joseph's

The town board of commissioners voted Dec. 20 against making a cash donation to St. Joseph's Church renovation project, citing concerns over tax dollars supporting church efforts.

Commissioner Dianne L. Walbrecker said, "St. Joseph's is an important part of our community, but I'm concerned about spending public money on a church." She said, "In concept, we support all the churches in the community."

The board indicated it might be willing to consider certain fee waivers as a way to show support

for community projects.

Pastor Vincent J. O'Malley wrote to the commissioners asking the town to consider participating in a proposed "Journal of Business Patrons" the church is producing as a fundraiser. The journal will be distributed to over 700 households, and will acknowledge contributors.

St. Joseph's Church apparently does not have historic designation status, which could have helped avert the separation of church and state issue regarding renovations.

However, official historic status could have placed undesirable

constraints on the renovation itself, according to a source at the church.

The current church, built in 1842, replaced a former church built on the site in 1793.

The church began its proposed \$750,000 renovation in June, and has raised about \$600,000 to date to help pay for the improvements, according to O'Malley's letter.

(See related story, "St. Joseph's Church begins \$750,000 renovation," in the Aug. 11, 2004 issue of *The Emmitsburg Dispatch*.)

150th anniversary of patroness

In 1854 Pope Pius IX proclaimed that Mary, the Mother of Jesus, was immaculately conceived and free from original sin. In the Apostolic Constitution, "Ineffabilis Deus," issued Dec. 8, 1854, the pope announced, "The Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instant of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of Almighty God, and in view of the foreseen merits of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the human race, was

preserved free from all stain of original sin."

The Church supports this teaching with two passages from the Bible. The first is Genesis 3:15 when the Lord speaks to the serpent after Eve has eaten an apple from the forbidden tree: "I will put enmities between thee and the woman, and thy seed and her seed: she shall crush thy head, and thou shalt lie in wait for her heel." The second is Archangel Gabriel's

statement in Luke 1:28 that Mary was "full of grace."

Since 1854, many Catholic institutions, including Mount St. Mary's University, have been consecrated to the Blessed Virgin. Pope Pius IX also consecrated the United States of America in 1847. The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. is known as "America's Patronal Church."

Mary is also invoked as the patron of Brazil, Portugal and Corsica. The Feast of the Immaculate Conception is Dec. 8.

Editor's Note: Bible passages are quoted from The Douay-Rheims Bible. The Douay-Rheims Bible, is a translation into English of the Latin Vulgate Bible which St. Jerome (342-420) translated into Latin from the original languages.

TV mentions religion more -- yet slams organized religion

Television entertainment programs mention religion more often than they did in the mid-1990s but tend to depict certain aspects of organized religion negatively, says a recent Parents Television Council (PTC) study.

In its sixth study looking at the treatment of religion on television, the PTC, an organization working

with government officials to enforce broadcast decency standards, analyzed an entire year of prime time broadcasting programming, from September 25, 2003 - September 24, 2004, a total of 2,385.5 hours of programming containing 2,344 treatments of religion. In its 1997 study, the PTC found only 551 treatments of religion in 1,800 hours of programming.

In 2003-2004, negative depictions of religion surpassed positive ones. But aspects affiliated with organized religion, such as doctrine or clergy, were overwhelmingly negative.

NBC aired 9.5 negative treatments for every positive treatment; Fox had 2.4 negative depictions for every positive one. WB and ABC tied with 1.2 negative for each positive, followed by UPN with 1 negative for every 1.1 positive; CBS with one negative for every two positive; and Pax, which did not have a single negative depiction.

For the complete survey results, see the Parents Television Council website, www.parentstv.org, "Faith in a Box - A Study on Entertainment Television and Religion."

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Emmitsburg Area Churches

National Shrine Basilica of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

Built in 1965 and formally dedicated as the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Chapel in 1976, the chapel was designated a Minor Basilica by Pope John Paul II in 1991.

333 South Seton Avenue

Services: Masses Sept. - June: Wednesday - Friday, 1:30 p.m., Saturday - 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., Sunday - 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Mass schedule changes occasionally.
301-447-3121

Chapel of the Immaculate Conception, Mount St. Mary's University

Romanesque chapel designed by an alumnus and opened in 1910. Open to students, faculty, seminarians and the public.

Father Raymond Harris
301-447-5223

Elias Evangelical Lutheran Church

In 1797 the Lutheran and Reformed congregations built a sanctuary in Emmitsburg after they outgrew their shared church at Tom's Creek. The Reformed congregation constructed a new church in 1869 on West Main Street while the Lutherans remained in the stone church where they continue to worship today.

100 West North Avenue

Services: Sundays, worship with Holy Communion - 10:30 a.m., Sunday school - 9 a.m.
Pastor Jon Greenstone
301-447-6239

Emmitsburg Presbyterian

Emmitsburg Presbyterian Church has been a part of the Emmitsburg community since before the American Revolution. The original meetinghouse stood about a mile north of Emmitsburg along the Gettysburg road (U.S. 15). The grave of Samuel Emmit, founder of Emmitsburg, is located in the old cemetery.

415 West Main Street

Services: Sunday - 11 a.m.
Rev. R. Benjamin Jones
301-447-2413

Eyler's Valley Chapel

Eyler's Valley Chapel was built in 1857. Lit only by candles, with an old pump organ providing accompaniment for the hymns, the stone chapel remains much as it was in the 1850s. The chapel is non-denominational, located four and one-half miles southwest of Emmitsburg at the corner of Eyler's Valley and Hampton Valley Roads.

Services: Sunday - 7 p.m.
Pastor Jeff Walter
301-271-4885

Incarnation United Church of Christ

Founded in 1768 as a German Reformed Congregation. In 1868 the church moved into town. The current brick building was rebuilt after a fire in 1950.

The current organization is now UCC.

124 West Main Street
Services: Sunday - 10 a.m.
Rev. Reginald Rice
301-447-2270

National Shrine Grotto of our Lady of Lourdes

One of the oldest American replicas of the French shrine, dating to about 20 years after the apparitions at Lourdes (1874). The Grotto was proclaimed a Public Oratory Dec. 8, 1965 by His Eminence Lawrence Cardinal Sheehan, Archbishop of Baltimore.

Mt. St. Mary's University For services, call 301-447-5318

Rev. John J. Lombardi,
Chaplain

St. Anthony Shrine

St. Anthony's roots intertwine with the old St. Mary's on the Hill and date back to the 1700s. The present church was dedicated Oct. 26, 1897.

16150 St. Anthony's Road

Services: Saturday Mass - 4 p.m., Sunday Mass - 7 and 9:30 a.m.

Rev. James W. Hannon
301-447-2367

St. Joseph's Roman Catholic

St. Joseph's Parish dates its beginning to 1786. Rev. Matthew Ryan was the first resident pastor. The Vincentian Community has administered the parish since 1852. The present church was completed in 1842.

100 North Seton Avenue

Services: Monday - 7:30 p.m. with the Miraculous Medal Novena; Tuesday through Saturday - 8:30 a.m., Saturday - 4:30 p.m., Sunday - 8 a.m., 10:15 a.m. and 12 noon.

Rev. Vincent O'Malley
301-447-2326

Tom's Creek United Methodist

In 1797 the Methodist congregation purchased the log church built at Tom's Creek in 1757 by the Lutheran and Reformed congregations. The old log church at Tom's Creek had been used for 146 years. In 1903 the present church's cornerstone was laid and the church was dedicated in 1904.

10926 Simmons Road

Services: Sunday 8:15 and 10:30 a.m.; Sunday school - 9:30 a.m.

Pastor Bill Warehime
301-447-2693

Trinity United Methodist

Trinity United Methodist was founded in 1833. The present sanctuary was built in 1897. In 1968, the church became known as Trinity United Methodist.

313 West Main Street

Services: Sunday - 9 a.m., Sunday school - 10:15 a.m.

Informal contemporary worship service every Saturday evening - 6 p.m.
Rev. Wade A. Martin
301-447-3740

OBITUARIES

Mrs. Mary Carter

Mrs. Mary Frances Szymanski Carter, 99, Emmitsburg, died Dec. 27, 2004 at St. Catherine's Nursing Center, Emmitsburg.

Born Sept. 8, 1905 in Baltimore, she was a daughter of the late Frank and Antoinette Szymanski.

Surviving are two sons, Paul Milton Carter, Sr. and William Francis Carter; one daughter, Mary Patricia Long; 15 grandchildren; 32 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian burial was offered Dec. 30 from St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Emmitsburg, with her pastor, the Rev. Stephen P. Trzeciecki, C.M., as the celebrant. Interment was in New St. Joseph's Cemetery, Emmitsburg.

Mrs. Geraldine Fischer

Mrs. Geraldine D. Fischer, 69, Thurmont, died Dec. 21, 2004 at St. Catherine's Nursing Center, Emmitsburg. She was the wife of John P. Fischer, her husband for 49 years.

Born May 29, 1935, in Elk, W.Va., she was the daughter of the late Webb and Millie Margaret Miller Carr.

Surviving in addition to her husband are two daughters, Beverly Nunemaker and Kimberly Whitacre; two grandchildren; eight sisters, Helen Johnson, Ruby Kenny, Marie McDaniel, Donna Arnold, Pearl Firdled, Mary Etzler, Paula Sagel and Patsy Lambert; three brothers, Robert, Kelly and Donald Carr; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian Burial was offered Dec. 24 at St. Anthony's Shrine Parish, Emmitsburg, with the Rev. James Hannon as Celebrant. Interment was in Lewistown Cemetery.

Betty Jane Garman

Betty Jane Garman, 78, died Dec. 29, 2004 at Elkhart General Hospital, Elkhart, Ind.

Born July 9, 1926, in Emmitsburg, she was the daughter of George S. & Alice E. Ohler Wagerman.

Surviving are two daughters, Joyce Halsey and Susan Garman; one son, George B. Garman, Jr.; two grandchildren; four sisters, Ann Moser, Virginia Krietz, Patricia Croft, and Helen Jo Strayer; four brothers, Jack Wagerman, Kenneth Wagerman, James Wagerman and George Wagerman.

Funeral services were held Jan. 4 at Bethel Assembly of God, Elkhart, Ind., with Reverend Larry Lund, Bethel Assembly of God, officiating.

Interment was in Prairie Street Cemetery.

Tina Hughes

Tina Pauline Grimes Hughes, 43, Emmitsburg, died Dec. 20, 2004 at her mother's home in Thurmont. She was the wife of Gary L. Hughes of Emmitsburg, her husband of 11 years.

Born June 3, 1961, in Gettysburg, Pa., she was the daughter of the late James Grimes Jr. and Sonjia Wolfe of Thurmont.

Surviving in addition to her husband and mother are two daughters, Heather Toms and Kimberly Jo Toms; one son, Gary Hughes, Jr.; two sisters, Lisa Hughes and Kim Horner; one brother, Hank Grimes; and four nephews.

Funeral services were held Dec. 23 at Chapel Mausoleum of Resthaven Memorial Gardens, Frederick with Tina's uncle, the Rev. Patrick Grimes, officiating. Interment followed in Resthaven Memorial Gardens.

Michael Lupinski

Michael Christopher Lupinski, 46, Spring Hill, Fla., formerly of Emmitsburg, died Dec. 24, 2004 in Spring Hill, Fla. as a result of a pedestrian accident.

Born March 11, 1958 in Aberdeen, he was a son of Elizabeth Jurena Lupinski and the late Stanley Gustav Lupinski.

Surviving in addition to his mother are two brothers, Stanley G. Lupinski, Jr. and Joseph Lupinski; one sister, Marie Volland; and one niece and nephew.

Funeral services were held Jan. 3 with a mass of Christian burial from St. Joseph's Cemetery, Emmitsburg, with his pastor, Rev. Vincent O'Malley, C.M. as the celebrant. Interment was in New St. Joseph's Cemetery, Emmitsburg.

Mrs. Sally Shields

Mrs. Sally Marie Shields, 81, Emmitsburg, died Dec. 15, 2004 at the Shepherd's Choice in Gettysburg, Pa.

Born Sept. 6, 1923, in Emmitsburg, she was a daughter of the late William and Annie Shorb Shields.

Surviving are one daughter, Diane Shockey; and two sisters, Margaret Kelly and Regina Shields.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Dec. 20 from St. Anthony's Shrine Parish, Emmitsburg, with the Rev. James Hannon as celebrant. Interment was in Saint Anthony's Shrine Cemetery.

Harold C. Gochenour

Harold C. Gochenour, 76, died Dec. 20, 2004 at North Arundel Hospital of a heart attack.

He was born April 22, 1928 in Lantz, Md., a son of the late Claude Arthur Gochenour and Ruth M. Gochenour Myers.

Mr. Gochenour worked for Ohio Valley Construction Company for 18 years. He retired in the early 1990s. His hobby and interest was working on his home. He was kind and caring for his neighbors and family. He was loved and admired by all who knew him.

Surviving are two sons, Edward C. Gochenour of Florida and Frank Gochenour of Florida; three daughters, Mary R. Gochenour of South Carolina, Barbara Brown of Florida, and Linda Wable of Florida; four brothers, Claude Gochenour of California, Chester Gochenour of Sabillasville, Md., Donald Gochenour of Thurmont, Md. and Gene Gochenour of Thurmont, Md.; two sisters, Marianne Myers of Emmitsburg, Md. and Dottie Ann Cowley of Linthicum, Md.; two step-brothers, William Myers of Baltimore and Francis Myers of Emmitsburg; one step-sister, Elizabeth Myers Yingling of Emmitsburg; 25 grandchildren and many great grandchildren.

His daughter Cathy Gochenour, stepfather William J. Myers, brothers Archie Leon, Charles, Merle C. Gochenour and stepbrother Robert Myers predeceased him.

Funeral services at Stallings Funeral Home were private. A graveside memorial service will be held at a later date for family and friends.

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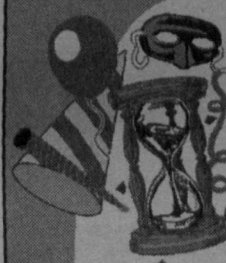
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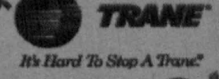
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The publisher and staff of *The Emmitsburg Dispatch* extend sincere sympathies to Mount St. Mary's University President Thomas H. Powell and his family, on the death of Dr. Powell's father, Thomas Adam Powell, 87, who died Jan. 1 in Portland, Maine. In lieu of flowers, the Powell family requests that donations be made to Catholic Relief Services to assist families touched by the tsunami disaster. Donations can be made online at www.catholicrelief.org, or by mail to: Catholic Relief Services, 209 W. Fayette St., Baltimore, MD 21201-3443.

2004

-Continued from page 1

(MDE) stepped in and issued the town a penalty assessment and proposed consent order resulting from previous incidences of wastewater spillage from the old collection system.

On August 23, the town adopted a "Residential Sanitary Sewer Tap System Connection Allocation Plan" to restrict the number of new sewer taps permitted until the wastewater system could be rehabilitated.

Subsequently, the consent order

with MDE was signed. The town must now improve the old collection system or face fines for not doing so. Town administrators are trying to obtain government funding to help pay for improvements.

2. The Emmitsburg fire tax

The second biggest story was the road to the establishment of the Emmitsburg fire tax, the first such tax in the history of a community that had come to rely solely on volunteers for its emergency medical services.

The issue pitted the long-

entrenched Emmitsburg Ambulance Company in an emotional debate with the equally entrenched Vigilant Hose Company on topics ranging from the type of help needed to sustain the ambulance company to the "necessity" of its demise through a merger with the fire company.

In and around this debate swirled the imminent prospect of the first fire tax in Emmitsburg's history, designed to generate funds the county viewed as essential to help provide emergency services for the town.

The ambulance company itself was divided over the need for assistance and the amount needed. The company initially supported the idea of professional paid career medical staff for twelve hours a day, five days a week (12-5). The fire company wanted twenty-four hours of coverage, seven days a week (24-7).

The tax for 12-5 coverage would have been 6.5 percent of each \$100 of assessed real estate value, while 24-7 would have created a 13.5 percent tax.

On Nov. 30, the county commissioners adopted the 13.5 percent fire tax for Emmitsburg, effective Jan. 1, 2005.

3. The 2004 town election

Possibly the most divisive town election since the Civil War, Election 2004 seemed driven by visions of uncontrollable development and the ability of the town's infrastructure to keep pace.

Citizens Organized to Preserve Emmitsburg (COPE) promulgated its "vision" through candidates William B. O'Neil, then COPE president, and Harold C. Craig, Jr., then COPE vice president. At the same time



-RAYMOND BUCHEISTER / THE EMMITSBURG DISPATCH

Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. (R) sits with Emmitsburg Mayor James E. Hoover during an Emmitsburg Business and Professional luncheon on April 16, 2004. This was the second of two visits Governor Ehrlich made to the municipality in 2004.

COPE engaged in the ultimately successful attempt to reverse the annexation of the Bollinger tract.

It was not a pretty election by traditional Emmitsburg standards, perhaps because many felt so much was potentially at stake. Political advertising was permitted to appear in this newspaper and triggered an avalanche of hostility; an individual identifying himself as a COPE member threatened a candidate; while an actual COPE member took the law into his own hands and tore down campaign signs he felt violated regulations.

Things didn't seem to improve at the polls, where one candidate allegedly roamed about at will, and questions of voter identification were raised.

Former commissioners Patrick

Boyle and Ted Brennan asked for election laws in the wake of the storm. The town, it seems, had none. Election rules were subsequently proposed by commission President O'Neil, refined by the commissioners, adopted Dec. 6, and vetoed by the mayor Dec. 9 who opposes poll watchers and said the town attorney had not reviewed the final draft.

On Dec. 20 the town commissioners unanimously adopted a revised election ordinance, having eliminated the poll watcher provision.

4. No to annexation and potential development

In what is becoming a consistent pattern, Emmitsburg residents



-RAYMOND BUCHEISTER / THE EMMITSBURG DISPATCH

Josh Bollinger (R) sits with his attorney Bruce Dean as Emmitsburg board of commissioners voted 3-1 at a hearing on Feb. 2 2004 to annex his 20.3-acres into the town. The annexation was overturned by a referendum vote on May 25, 2004.

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-RAYMOND BUCHEISTER / THE EMMITSBURG DISPATCH

William O'Neil (C) and Dianne Walbrecker (L) are sworn in by Mayor James Hoover as Emmitsburg's new commissioners as a result of the April 27, 2004 election. The election was one of the most divisive by traditional Emmitsburg standards that residents witnessed.

rejected property annexations, again holding a referendum and rejecting a proposal previously approved.

In February the town approved the annexation of a 20-acre parcel owned by Josh Bollinger, located west of Irishtown Road. Then in May, do to COPE's efforts to hold a referendum, the town reversed its decision, and denied the Bollinger annexation.

In 2002 the town had voted to annex Patrick Boyle's Silver Fancy Farm, then reversed itself in an April 2003 referendum. Buckeye Development approached the county to be able to put in a new regional sewage plant in 2004 to serve homes to be built on the farm because the town would not annex the property, but the Frederick County Planning Commission rejected the idea Dec. 15.

With each rejected annexation, the town loses its say on what happens with these properties, and development fees revert to the county. Commissioner Mike Cady commented at the Dec. 15 meeting, "I don't think the people of Emmitsburg understood their actions."

5. An Olympic presence

Certainly one of the highlights of the year from the community's perspective was the arrival of the World Weightlifting Championships for University & College Students held at Mount St. Mary's University in July.

Many of the contenders at this spectacular event went on to participate in the Olympic Games in Athens.

Much of the credit for Emmitsburg's selection for the event goes to Frederick County Commissioner Michael Cady - and yet, in the end, he came under fire for allegedly misusing county

resources to promote the town.

The allegations soon seemed to fall by the way, but the memory of what Cady accomplished by bringing the competition to Emmitsburg, and the town's gratitude for it, probably never will.

An event of this magnitude coming to Emmitsburg was no small matter, and residents seemed as mesmerized by the sudden presence of competitors from around the world as the contenders were at the sight of Emmitsburg and its environs.

One Iraqi wrestling team member told *The Emmitsburg Dispatch* the area around Emmitsburg "is like paradise."

6. Even the dinosaurs got into the picture

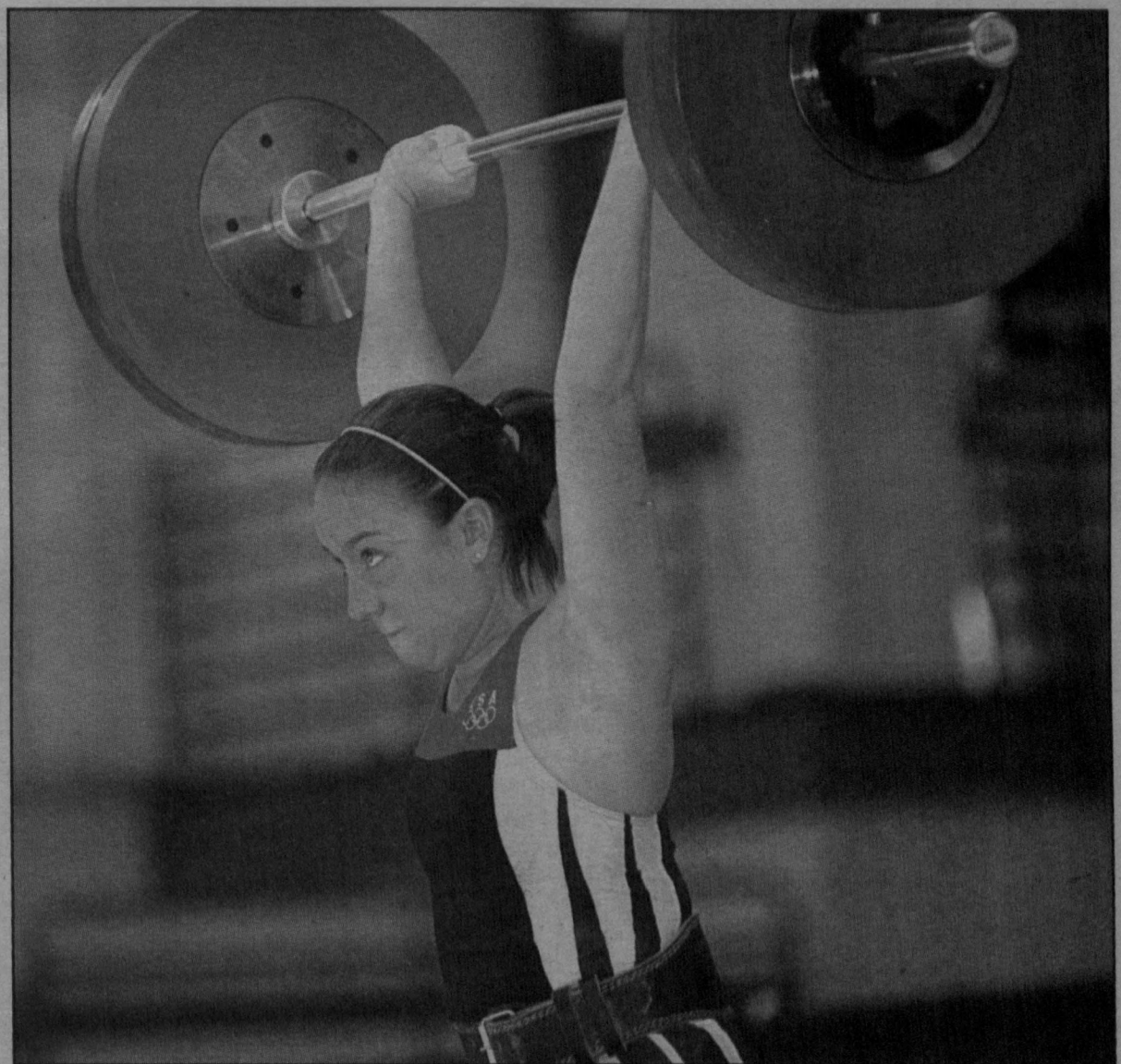
Dinosaurs over 200 million years old provided a reprieve from the year's hard news with the renewed interest in preserving the "Lost Dinosaur Quarry" as a park.

The quarry, which produced stone for some of St. Joseph's construction projects and paving, is also home to some of the oldest known dinosaur tracks in the Mid-Atlantic Region.

The site is located on the Silver Fancy tract owned by Patrick Boyle and under agreement of sale to Buckeye Development, who has indicated the possibility that the dinosaurian portion of the site might be donated to the state.

In the meantime, Buckeye is continuing to try to obtain development-related approvals, but is facing resistance from factions in Emmitsburg.

The county planning commissioners recently rejected plans for a new regional sewage treatment plant proposed by Buckeye to serve, in part, the proposed development.



-RICHARD BLOOM / THE EMMITSBURG DISPATCH

Danica Rue, 22, of Flemington, NJ, lifts nearly twice her own body weight in the clean and jerk competition during the June 30 - July 3 world weightlifting championships held in Emmitsburg. Rue became the first American female to win a gold medal in the World Weightlifting Competition for University and College Students.

It is likely the effort to develop the tract will continue, and it seems likely that someday there will be a dinosaur park. The dinosaurs are in no hurry. They've already waited 200 million years.

www.emmitsburgdispatch.com

The Emmitsburg Dispatch web site, www.emmitsburg-dispatch.com


dispatch.com, provides a historical record for the town. Search through the archives to read more about how

each of these news stories evolved and to read about the year's other important issues and events.



-PHOTO COURTESY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Typical Upper Triassic dinosaurs as they may have appeared foraging for food along an ancient lake bed as seen in this museum's depiction. A quarry, just off North Seton Ave on Patrick B. Boyle's Silver Fancy Farm, is the only known location in Maryland with dinosaur footprints from the Triassic Period.



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The (retired) Ecologist

An Analog Mind in a Digital World



Bill Meredith
Dispatch
Writer

Bonus Question: "There are lips in pistol, and mist in times; cats in crystal, and mice in chimes." ... James Thurber

When I was teaching, I tried to make each exam a mixture of a few hard questions that would challenge the best students, and some easier questions so the weaker students could pass if they were really trying. At the end of the test was a bonus question. Usually it was a trivia item, like "Name the last U. S. President who wore a mustache," or "Name the band that plays on the Muppet Show," or a riddle like the Thurber quotation above. * But occasionally it strayed into the realm of real science; for instance, once I asked them to define "Time."

The students got one point for answering the bonus question correctly, and there was no penalty for getting it wrong. Most of the class took it in fun; if they ran short of time, they ignored it, or if they didn't know the answer they would make up one. One creative student named Groucho Marx as the President with a mustache (I awarded him 3/16 of a point); several defined "Time" as "a weekly newsmagazine," or "nature's way of keeping everything from happening at once." But there were always a few misguided souls who tried to give serious answers, and the "Time" question frustrated them. Most of them had never thought about it before, and they were astonished to discover they couldn't define a word that they used every day.

I cannot recall being unaware of time. In my earliest memories every house had a mantel clock that struck the hour; you could hear it all through the house, and it couldn't be ignored. At the age of two I knew there was a big hand and a little hand, and if asked when my bedtime was, I would

hold up my hand with the thumb pointing out and the index finger up, to indicate 9:00. I learned to count and to recognize numbers by counting with the chimes at each hour; if I was bad, I had to sit in a hard chair until the clock struck. I learned that the passage of time could be either slow or fast; I knew my dad's work shift ended when the clock struck three, and it took the big hand forever to mark the fifteen minutes until he got home. The big hand went a lot faster when bedtime was approaching.

Awareness of time influenced the way I learned to think about the world. We didn't have pre-school or kindergarten, but by age four I could count by fives, and I knew that big hand on four meant 20 minutes after, while big hand on eight meant 20 minutes until; thus I became aware that time connected the past to the future. When I was about five, I went through a period when I loved to draw clocks, and I was never satisfied because the drawings always came out lopsided. My father didn't show me how, but one day he asked me if I knew there were 60 minutes in an hour, five between each number on the face. After puzzling about this for a long time, I set a water glass on my paper and drew a circle around it, and then carefully marked out the numbers with five marks between each, and as if by a miracle, it worked. The delight I felt in that achievement is still fresh in my mind; I ran around showing the wonderful drawing to everyone, and I was convinced that everything in the world would be found to be perfect and symmetrical if you studied it hard

enough. In the long run, this was a mixed blessing; it prompted me to be more analytical about things, but it also made me overly critical of things that weren't perfect. I was well along toward adulthood before I realized the world really wasn't like that.

When I was about ten, my grandmother's old mantel clock stopped and refused to go any more. It just needed to be cleaned, but my father and uncle, both working overtime in the war effort, didn't have time for it, so I offered my services. With some misgivings, Grandma agreed, and I spent a whole day taking it completely apart and laying the pieces out in neat rows on the kitchen table. There seemed to be hundreds of wheels, and at first I played with them, spinning them like tops. But soon I became fascinated by the way the teeth of each wheel fit into the next one, a model of the perfect precision I expected of everything. Putting some of them back in the frame, I saw how a series of wheels acted as gears, speeding up or slowing down, depending on which one you turned. After a couple days of this, Grandma reminded me that she needed her kitchen table, so I carefully cleaned and oiled each piece and started reassembling the clock, and to everyone's surprise I got it back together again ... except that there was one piece left over. It was an odd-looking piece, not a wheel like all the others, and I couldn't imagine what it was for. I wound the clock and started the pendulum swinging, and it ticked away with enthusiasm; and when it reached the hour and began to

strike, everyone applauded. But it didn't stop when it got to 12; it kept going until the spring ran down, 116 consecutive strikes. The leftover piece obviously had to be what connects the striking mechanism to the part that moves the hands. So another lesson was learned: cause and effect exist, and every part of a structure has a function, even if it isn't immediately obvious.

The clock was already old when Grandma's uncle gave it to her as a wedding present, around 1890. It now sits silently on the wardrobe in my bedroom; my wife won't allow it on our mantel because it ticks too loudly, and its striking is clamorously unmusical. Apart from its being a family heirloom, I keep it because it taught me to think in terms of cause and effect, and to believe that the functions of complex things can be understood if you take them apart and study them carefully enough. That approach to problems is called reductionism, and it is the principle on which the whole of science is built.

It was easy for kids of my generation to learn to think this way; we picked it up by practical experience rather than from school. But it was another mixed blessing. My mind works like wheels and dials, like an old analog clock, while increasingly the world I live in is run by computer chips, like digital clocks that flick information before us instantaneously. I can't "multi-task;" to get any feeling of satisfaction, I have to focus on one thing at a time and see it progress logically from start to finish. Increasingly, I feel out of place in the world. My grandchildren open a new computer game and are off playing characters against each other instantly; I cannot bear to start until I have figured out what the object of the game is, and not knowing how the computer changes the shiny surface of that disc into moving, interactive screen images bothers me.

Perhaps the grandchildren have it right. It may be that in order to survive in today's world, understanding how everything works is less important than getting it done quickly. Perhaps I'm lucky to have reached retirement age when I did; I'm not sure it's possible to convert from an analog mind to a digital one at my age. Time is speeding up, and digital minds are the only ones that can keep pace. But every now and then I get the feeling that something valuable is being lost. So once in a while, when my wife is shopping, I go into the bedroom and start the old clock up and let it exercise a bit. After all, I owe my career to it. And maybe I'll give my grandson an old clock for his next birthday.

* In case anyone really cares, the answers to the bonus questions will be given in next month's article.



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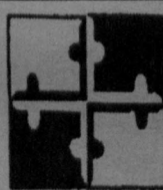
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Schedule of Meetings:

Council: Second Tuesday
after the first Monday of each
month, 7 p.m.
Planning Commission: First
Monday of each month, 7 p.m.
Sewer & Water Authority:
Fourth Monday of each month,
7 p.m.
**Parks, Recreation &
Municipal Services
Committee:** Fourth Wednesday
of each month, 9 a.m.

All Council and Committee
meetings are held at the
Borough Office and are open
to the public.

Police Contact:

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Carroll Valley Snow Season Tips

Here are some policies, concerns and tips to help with wintertime road operations in the borough:

- Do not plow, shovel or blow the snow from your driveway onto the streets, because this could cause icy conditions for everyone.
- Residents can help prevent their driveway from being plowed shut by clearing the snow along the road in front of their driveway and approximately 10 feet before their driveway. The cleared area will allow the plow to unload most

of the snow before it crosses the front of the driveway.

- Keep your driveway pipe cleaned out at all times, so that when the snow melts, the water can run through the pipe and not out onto the roadway, causing icy conditions.
- Check your mailbox to make sure it is in good condition and repair. It is the homeowner's responsibility to clear a path for the mail carrier to reach the mailbox.
- Keep all vehicles and personal property, basketball hoops etc.,

out of the cul-de-sacs and off the roadways.

- Please don't set your trashcans and recycling containers on the roadway during snow removal operations. It is the homeowner's responsibility to clear a separate area for that purpose.
- Please do not allow your children to play in the streets under conditions where visibility is poor due to falling snow, darkness, high winds, deep snow, or other low visibility conditions.
- The borough makes available, at no charge to Carroll Valley residents, anti-skid for residential use. The Hilltop Trail stockpile location will be clearly marked. You must provide your own shovel and container.

Your courtesy and cooperation with our drivers and snow removal plans and policies will make it better for everyone to cope with the snowy conditions.

News Briefs...

Contract Extension with Waste Management

The Carroll Valley and Fairfield boroughs' three-year contract with Waste Management for trash hauling and recycling services was extended through 2005, during which the Borough Council will work with the Adams County Office of Solid Waste and surrounding municipalities to conclude a new multi-year waste hauling agreement. For 2005, the monthly service fee will increase by \$1.30 per unit resulting in a new annual rate of \$159.20. For those paying their bill in one single annual payment, the increased fee will be part of the next invoice from Waste Management. For those paying their bill quarterly, the increased fee will lag by one billing period, and will be reflected in the March and subsequent invoices.

The 2005 Budget

General Fund spending will increase by 7.8 percent in 2005 over estimated end-of-year 2004 levels from \$1.28 million to \$1.38 million. Property taxes will remain at 5.6657 mills, the same level since 1997.

Within the overall budget increase, major areas of increase include employee major medical insurance premiums, additional amounts for the operation and maintenance of borough vehicles, and higher amounts for road maintenance. The police department will convert a part-time

police officer position to full-time, bringing the total number of full-time police officers to four, and a new Assistant Borough Secretary position has been added to general government administration.

A copy of the complete 2005 budget can be obtained by contacting the Borough Secretary at 642-8269, ext. 6.

Community Policing Information System

- Redux

There was a technical malfunction in receiving e-mail addresses from persons asking to be part of a police department e-mail information system. If you are interested in receiving e-mail from the police department concerning public safety updates or other community policing news, please send your e-mail address again, or for the first time, to "pdadmin@carrollvalley.org." In the subject line enter "CPIS" and leave the body blank.

New Senior Center

The Adams County Office for Aging is set to open a new Senior Center for persons age 60 and above on Jan. 10, 2005 at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Tract Road, Fairfield. Hours of operation will be Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. A variety of activities, trips, and educational programming will be available, and a hot noon meal will also be offered. For additional information, please contact Ms. Linda Thompson of the Adams County Office for Aging at 717-334-9296 or 1-800-548-3240.

Ice skating in Carroll Valley!!!

An ice skating rink is now available in the Commons area, on the softball field that is next to the Borough office building. There is no charge to use it, it is

available daily as weather permits and closes at sunset. Benches are available for use in changing into skates and for weary parents to wait for their kids to finish.

Enjoy this new winter recreational activity in Carroll Valley and let us know whether this should be a repeat next year.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER REPORT

2004 vs. 2003 Building Stats

2004 New housing starts - 28
\$5.7 million value
\$204,500 average value
2003 New housing starts - 43
\$6.8 million value
\$159,000 average value
2004 saw 15 fewer housing starts than the previous year but there was a \$55,000 increase in the average construction value of homes. For 2005 we already have some 17 new homes moving through the permit process. This suggests that the 2005 housing starts will be about the same as 2004.

RECREATION NEEDS

We are in the process of gathering information about various park and recreation needs in Carroll Valley. If you are a resident of Carroll Valley and would like to share your ideas as to what types of new recreational opportunities, facilities and/or new parks you'd like to see created in our borough, please contact any Council member. You may also submit your ideas by e-mail to the Borough Manager or by snail mail to the Borough office. The Borough Council remains interested in any ideas individual residents might have for desired recreational facilities.

CENSUS INFORMATION

The U.S. Census Bureau is expanding the American Community Survey (ACS) throughout the nation which will allow socio-economic information to be gathered each year, not just at 10-year intervals. Each month, a sample of different households in this area will receive the ACS questionnaire to complete and return by mail. Please remember that it is response to the survey is mandatory.

Permanent part-time workers are also being recruited to conduct interviews with households that do not return the surveys. Interested persons can call the Census Bureau at 1-800-262-4236, ext. 1, to learn more and obtain an application.

You can learn more about the ACS at <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/>.

SPORTS

Emmitsburg Little League 50th Anniversary

A.J. Russo
Sports Editor

It was a Tuesday in the fall, the Red Sox and Cardinals were facing off in the final game of the series, after eliminating the Yankees and Giants.

Sound familiar? Not so much. This time there was no infamous bloodstained sock, no Balco salesmen hawking the players, no great comebacks, and no curse to be reversed.

In fact, in September of 1955, even the outcome was different. The Cardinals, under the supervision of Leonard Zimmerman, successfully defended their regular season Little League title on Community Field by "trouncing" the runner-up Red Sox in the final game of a three-game playoff, 12-9, to become the first Emmitsburg Little League Champions.

Here's the play by play.

The Red Sox jumped to a one run lead in the first when Don Sweeney singled, took second on a passed ball and scored on J. Elliott's single. In the second, helped by four Sox errors, the Cards scored seven.

The Sox came back in the third to score three, followed by the Cards scoring one in the bottom of the inning to make the score 8-4.

In the fourth, the Cards scored four runs on three hits. The Red Sox scored two more in the fifth

and three in the sixth only to have their rally fall short. Final: Cards 12 - Red Sox 9.

Cards stocky catcher Bob Gingell went three for three and two stolen bases. Cards pitcher, Ken Myers, who won the first game of the series, also went three for three. The star for the Sox was Don Sweeney, who went four for four and scored four times.

Fifty years ago ...

In January of 1955, at the regular meeting of the Emmitsburg Lions Club, Little League in Emmitsburg became official. President Ralph McDonald presided over a lengthy discussion after which the group voted to sponsor at least one team of boys and to encourage other groups to sponsor several other teams. The league would initially be independent of the National Little League organization, scheduling games with nearby towns. The general chairman of the project was Paul Claypool, working with Herbert W. Roger, George L. Wilhide and John J. Hollinger. Volunteers willing to coach, manage or direct clubs included James McKeon, Carlos Englar, Dr. John J. Dillon, Jr. and Professor Paul Conway of Mount Saint Mary's College.

By March, the committee received, in addition to the Lions

Club commitment, backing from the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Grange, and announced a potential list of 75 players, ages eight to 13.

In May of '55 it was official: four teams with 56 players coached by 11 local volunteers, practicing on St. Joseph's High School grounds, were being readied for the first ever Emmitsburg Little League season.

Stay tuned for more about the first season and more history of the Emmitsburg Little League as the organization prepares to celebrate its 50th anniversary.

Calling all Emmitsburg Little League Alumni!

In 2005 Emmitsburg Little League will celebrate its 50th anniversary. As part of the celebration, the Emmitsburg Baseball and Softball League wants to contact coaches and players who played in the Little League between 1955 and 2005. The League is also looking for any memorabilia to display during the upcoming season—anything that details its history, including old uniforms, equipment scorebooks, rosters, sponsors, or photos.

If you played for Emmitsburg Little League and would like to be part of the 50th anniversary celebration in spring 2005; if you are in contact with someone else who played for the league; if you have memorabilia to lend; or if you or your business would like to sponsor the celebration, contact league President Mary Topper at mltopper@juno.com or 301-447-6615.

More than 3500 young people have played in Emmitsburg Little League over the last 50 years, with more than 150 boys and girls involved during the 2004 season.

"It's a pretty sure thing that the player's bat is what speaks the loudest when it's contract time, but there are moments when the glove has the last word."

-Brooks Robinson

Outside the Game... Looking Back at 2004 Society Took Another Beating Courtesy of the Sports World

A.J. Russo
Sports Editor

allegations of drug use is now an icon of strength for all who need hope.

Sports fans were treated to a wide variety of reality checks in 2004. Some sports personalities, events and conquests, in and out of the sports arena, left many to ponder their effects on humanity. Some took the games to a higher level, while others brought the bar to unimaginable lows.

With that said, here are my top ten sports stories of 2004, ranked according to effect on society.

10. I Can Bring Home the Bacon

USA women's basketball, soccer, and softball rolled over the competition in Athens. Now, if we could only get someone to watch.

9. Another Curse Reverse

Phil Mickelson, the ex-greatest player never to win a major, with some clutch shots, earned himself the elusive Green Jacket and gave hope for the rest of us that there's always tomorrow.

8. Trial of the Century?

King Kobe settled out of court and then returned to the court in L.A. where he promptly declared himself both king and queen and demanded that anyone who disagrees leave Lakertown immediately.

7. The Single Best Broken Record

Although 225 of his 262 hits were singles, Ichiro is the new single-season hits leader. Move over George Sisler, the Japanese are coming.

6. Anyone for a Pickup Game?

The rest of the world caught up (or is it that we regressed). Either way, the U.S. left Athens with the bronze, but without pride. I think we did win the dunk contest, though, didn't we?

5. Soldier's Salute

Pat Tillman, the former Arizona Cardinal safety who walked away from the NFL to join the U.S. Army Rangers and fight in Afghanistan, was killed in action in April.

When Denver Broncos' quarterback Jake Plummer was told to remove the No. 40 decal he'd worn on the back of his helmet since training camp (honoring former Arizona Cardinals teammate Pat Tillman), we wondered why and were reminded that there are more important things than football.

4. We Like Sir Lance a-Lot

Lance Armstrong won his sixth Tour de France and despite

3. Motown Molestation

Sports' ugliest moment of 2004: Ron Artest and the rest of his gang jumped fans in the stands in Detroit. They must have thought they were still on the playground.

2. Jail Bonds for Balco

Bonds, Giambi, Jones, Montgomery, Sheffield, Romanowski: Balco allegedly provided steroids to some of sports' biggest names.

Superstar slugger and soon to be hall-of-famer Barry Bonds admitted to taking two items provided by his trainer, Greg Anderson, that match the description of two undetectable steroids, the notorious "cream" and "the clear," but he claims not to have known what they were.

Barry, I've got an insurance agent who would like to talk to you.

1. Busted Bambino

Following the greatest comeback in MLB Championship Series history, even the moon turned a shade of red on that lunar eclipsed October night. David Ortiz and company led the Sox to their first World Series since 1918. Who needs Ruth anyway?

Superstition will never be the same.

... and some which came close to making my list.

Mo's the Word

It's Maurice Claret's word vs. the Ohio State's Athletic Department. I don't know about you, but who would you believe - a guy who probably hasn't seen the inside of a classroom since pre-school?

What's the Fuss?

Janet Jackson at the Super Bowl: honestly, I didn't see anything.

Senior Citizens

The Rocket, The Unit, David Wells, Barry Bonds and other aging stars played better than the youngsters. Clear cream anyone?

You Can Run, But You Can't Hide

Drugs at the Olympics: 23 Olympians failed tests at Athens and had to jog home.

Who Needs a Stadium?

Iraq Soccer miraculously emerged from their war-torn nation to place fourth in Athens.

Is This Going To Be on the Exam?

-See **Beating** on page 15

Emmitsburg Baseball and Softball Registration 2005 Season

Sign up now to play on one of Emmitsburg's 50th Anniversary baseball teams.

Young baseball and softball players from Emmitsburg, Fairfield, and Thurmont can sign up for Emmitsburg Baseball & Softball League this month. No boundary restrictions. Registration for the 2005 season will be held at the Emmitsburg Ambulance Building on Jan. 15 and 16 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Jan. 18 from 6 to 8 p.m., and Jan. 22 & 23 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Baseball fees are as follows:
T-Ball, ages 4-7, \$25
Minor league, ages 7-9, \$25
Major league, ages 9-10, \$30
Major league, ages 11-12, \$30
Sanctioned Little League, ages 13-14 and 14-16 from Emmitsburg and Thurmont only, \$100.
Sr. League, ages 16-19, \$40

The girl's softball team fee for all ages is \$30 per child. Teams are 8 and under, 10 and under, 12 and under, 14 and under, and 16 and under.

Each team should play 18 or more games, Mondays through Thursdays and on Saturdays. Major League games will be played in Emmitsburg, Littlestown and Taneytown. Softball teams are currently in the Woodsboro League which plays games in Emmitsburg, Walkersville, Libertytown, Woodsboro, and Taneytown.

Registration is also available through www.Emmitsburg.net/ebsl using the Little League link.



-SUBMITTED PHOTO

Clasping their hands, team captains (L-R) Nathan Goetz, Devin Smith, Matt Bollinger, and Daniel Thompson prepare to lead the varsity team of Fairfield Football, Inc. in a 2004 game.

Top Local Sports Successes of 2004

Megan Zimmerman
Staff Writer

The Emmitsburg area witnessed many sports successes in 2004.

World Weightlifting Championships

In July the world came to Emmitsburg for the World Weightlifting Championships for University and College Students. After losing a bid to bring the 2012 Olympics to the Washington area, Frederick County Commissioner Mike Cady was able to bring the Weightlifting Championship to

Mount Saint Mary's University. For four days, the Mount hosted 138 athletes from around the globe. Dr. Tamas Ajan, President of the International Weightlifting Federation and member of the International Olympic Committee, praised the event, saying it was the best organized he had ever attended.

Mount Women's Lacrosse

The Mount women's lacrosse team had the best season in the team's history. The 23 players had a 15-5 season, including a ten-game winning streak. The team went on to postseason play and won a first-ever

Northeast Conference (NEC) title, and advanced for the first time to the NCAA tournament.

Catoctin High School

Catoctin High School was also a postseason powerhouse. The school's varsity baseball and softball teams earned the Region IA Championship title. The varsity softball, golf, girls' tennis, girls' basketball, and girls' soccer teams won the MVAL Antietam Conference Championships.

But Catoctin High teams would not have been as successful without a group of strong players.

Jaime Wright made the All-State cross-country team, and was named cross-country Runner of the Year by *The Frederick News-Post*. Jennifer Weaver broke the state record for softball homeruns in a season and Will Delauter was named Frederick County baseball player of the year.

Fairfield High School

Fairfield High School athletic programs are growing stronger every year. Fall 2004 was the second season for the school's varsity football team. The team celebrated its first win ever against York County School of Technology during the last game of the season.

In addition, two sports teams from Fairfield High are enjoying fresh starts. The school's wrestling team is in the middle of its first season in Fairfield's history. Also, the school is planning to begin Fairfield's first girls' soccer season in spring 2005.

Fairfield Football

The varsity team of Fairfield Football, Inc. celebrated one of its most successful seasons in 2004. The team of 12- and 13 year-olds, coached by Josh Bollinger, had its first undefeated season and ranked number one in their league. Also, the team advanced to the Keystone Youth Football League (KYFL) Championship. Their 2005 season will begin early this coming fall.

Frederick Marathon

The Frederick Marathon was held for the second time on May 2, officially becoming an annual event. A total of 478 runners from all areas attempted the race. Jaime Dick claimed victory, completing the course in two hours, 50 minutes and

eight seconds. The 2005 Frederick Marathon is set for May 1, 2005 and applications are being accepted. For more information, visit www.frederickmarathon.org.

Local sports fans can look forward to 2005 with optimism and excitement.

Beating

-Continued from page 14

Notre Dame fired Ty Willingham despite two bowls in three years and top academic marks for the program.

Money, Money, Money, Money ... Money

Coach K turned down the Lakers' \$40 million offer to stay at Duke. Of course, it wasn't like he was volunteering for the Blue Devils.

A.J. Russo, Ph.D., is a professor at Mount St. Mary's University and the author of nine novels and more than 30 scientific papers. He is the former head coach of men's lacrosse at RIT and Mount St. Mary's and is currently head coach of Hood College's men's lacrosse team, scheduled to play its first season in 2005. Russo's novels, "The Healer," his book of related short stories, "Dah-Link," and novels, "Spliced," "Indiscernible Enemy," and "PT" are all available at Amazon.com and BarnesandNoble.com. His opinions do not necessarily reflect those of Mount St. Mary's University or Hood College.



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P26570R16	105.14	108.14	112.06
P21575R15	86.58	88.79	-----
P22575R15	88.58	90.87	-----
P23575R15	89.19	91.49	-----
P24575R16	99.67	102.42	103.63
P26575R16	99.96	102.82	103.94
P26570R17	110.05	113.37	114.72
P22570R16	-----	98.25	-----
P26575R15	-----	99.87	99.70
P22575R16	-----	97.49	97.32
P23575R16	-----	101.96	103.14
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PEOPLE TO PEOPLE

People to People is a section in *The Emmitsburg Dispatch* for personal and family news, announcements, and messages. Unlike Letters to the Editor this is paid space and has the lowest rate in the newspaper. It's not for businesses. The submission must be signed and include the writers' address and phone number to be used for verification and invoicing.



Manning-Miller wedding

David Lee Manning and Karen Kay Miller were married Sept. 16, 2004 in an oceanfront ceremony on the beach in Avon, North Carolina. Approximately 50 family members and friends attended the ceremony and reception.

David is the son of Gary and Denise Manning. Karen is the daughter of Gerald and Catherine Miller. Tara Joy, friend of the bride and the groom's aunt, was the matron of honor. Jamie Hertel, friend of the bride, was the bridesmaid, and Heather Rippeon, the bride's niece, was the flower girl.

Chris Manning, the groom's brother, was the best man. Patrick Joy, the groom's uncle, was the groomsman. The groom's son Jared was the ring bearer.

The bride was escorted to the ceremony by her father while Ron Nicodemus played "The Wedding March" on acoustic guitar.

A reception following the ceremony was held at their oceanfront beach house.

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

Auditions for Blue Ridge's "Wild Spring" Production

Co-directors Beth and Spence Watson will hold auditions Jan. 30 and 31 for the Blue Ridge Theatre Guild's Spring 2005 production of "The Secret Affairs Of Mildred Wild," a zany comedy by Pulitzer-Prize winner Paul Zindel. The directors will be casting 4-5 adult male roles and 5-6 adult female roles, many of which require some singing and/or dancing in addition to acting.

Open auditions in Fairfield, Pa. will be held at the Carroll Valley Resort Hotel Ballroom on Sanders Road, Jan. 30 at 2 p.m. and again Jan. 31 at 7 p.m.

Open auditions in Thurmont will be held at St. John's Lutheran Church Social Hall, 15 North Church Street, Jan. 30 at 7 p.m.

Open auditions will consist of script readings, singing and/or dancing to prepared music. All adults 21 and older, regardless of sex, age, or race will be considered for all parts, but there are no roles suitable for children or teens.

The directors will hold two pre-audition meetings for Blue Ridge Theatre Guild newcomers

and anyone interested in learning more about the play or the role requirements.

One meeting will be held Jan. 24 in Fairfield at the Carroll Valley Resort Hotel Ballroom from 7-8 p.m. Another pre-audition meeting will be held Jan. 25 from 7:30-8:30 p.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church Social Hall, Thurmont.

Attendance at either of the pre-audition meetings is not a prerequisite for auditioning, but is strongly encouraged. Sample audition scenes and character descriptions will be provided to all pre-audition attendees.

For more information, call Beth or Spence Watson at 301-416-0864 evenings and weekends.

Thurmont Thespians receive lighting equipment grant

The Thurmont Thespians, Inc., a non-profit community theatre group, recently received a \$3031.50 grant from the Margaret Stauffer Youth Fund of the Community Foundation of Frederick County, Inc., to purchase a new lighting board and two new dimmer control modules for their annual summer youth musical theatre productions.

Thespians President Beth Royer Watson said that owning rather than renting lights will allow the group to give even more of its summer musical profits to local

Thurmont youth-related charities. The new lighting system will allow interfacing with computer controls and communicate directly with the special effect machines behind the scenes.

This coming summer the group will present Barbara Robinson's "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever." The group will present an original two-act version of the play, for which Watson has received special permission from the author. Auditions will be held the third week in May for children ages 7-13.

Catholic Film Office Announces Best Films of 2004

The U.S. Bishops' Office for Film and Broadcasting (OFB) named its Top Ten Films of 2004 in December. The New York-based office also produced a list of top family films, and a "worst films of the year" list.

The Film and Broadcasting Office reviews mainstream movies annually, assessing their moral content as well as their artistic merit.

The following lists include the moral classification assigned by the OFB.

Top Ten Movies of 2004

- "The Aviator," A-III - adults
- "Danny Deckchair," A-III - adults
- "Finding Neverland," A-II - adults and adolescents
- "Hero," A-III - adults
- "Hotel Rwanda," A-III - adults
- "The Passion of the Christ," A-III - adults
- "Ray," A-III - adults
- "Shall We Dance?" - A-III - adults
- "Spanglish," A-III - adults
- "Woman Thou Art Loosed," A-III - adults

Honorable Mention

- "Seducing Dr. Lewis," A-III - adults
- "Super Size Me," A-III - adults
- "Vanity Fair," A-III - adults
- "The Story of the Weeping Camel," A-II - adults and adolescents

Best Family Films

- "Ella Enchanted," A-II - adults and adolescents
- "Harry Potter & the Prisoner of Azkaban," A-II - adults and adolescents
- "I Am David," A-II - adults and adolescents
- "The Incredibles," A-II - adults and adolescents
- "Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events," A-II - adults and adolescents
- "Miracle," A-II - adults and adolescents
- "Polar Express," A-I - general patronage
- "Shrek II," A-II - adults and adolescents
- "The SpongeBob Square Pants Movie," A-I - general patronage
- "Two Brothers," A-I - general patronage

The Office for Film and Broadcasting classifications: A-I - general patronage A-II - adults and adolescents A-III - adults L - limited adult audience, films whose problematic content many adults would find troubling. O - morally offensive

For full reviews of these and other films, visit www.usccb.org/movies/index.htm.

Emmitsburg Municipal Meetings

To verify a meeting date or time, or to obtain information concerning a meeting, contact the Town Office at 240-629-6300.

Jan. 18 at 7:30 p.m. - Water Committee Mtg.

Jan. 19 at 7:30 p.m. - Town Meeting

Jan. 26 at 7:30 p.m. - Board of Appeals Public Hearing CASES SP04-05-SP04-15

Applications have been made requesting an appeal and review of 11 denied zoning certificates. The properties involved in this appeal are located in the Southgate Community and are lots 22, 26, 28, 06, 29, 05, 04, 31, 32, 03, 33.

Jan. 31 at 6 p.m. - Planning and Zoning Commission Workshop Review the Comprehensive Plan, Chapter 5

Jan. 31 at 7:30 p.m. - Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting Agenda to be announced.

Happy New Year from Creekside Café

January Dinner Specials (4pm - 9pm)
Reservations appreciated for groups of five or more.

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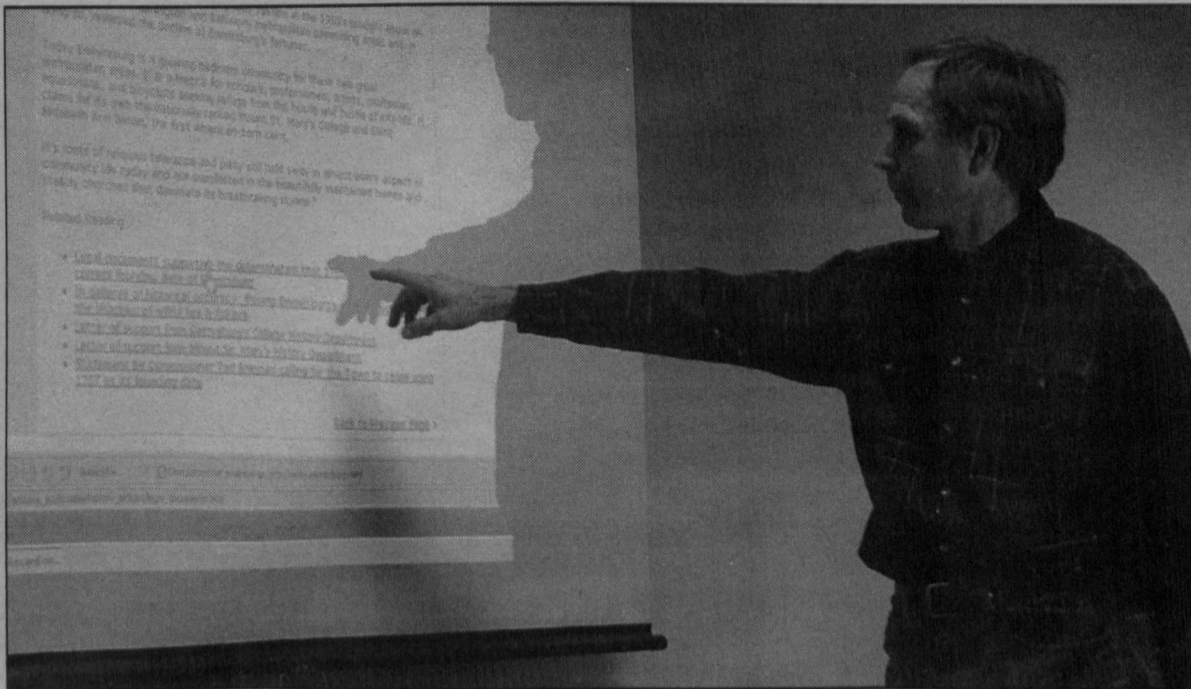
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What would you like to see more of, or different, in *The Emmitsburg Dispatch*?
editor@emmitsburgdispatch.com or 301-447-3039



—RAYMOND BUCHHEISTER / THE EMMITSBURG DISPATCH

Michael Hillman, president of the Emmitsburg Area Historical Society, points to an excerpt in a copy of an Aug. 18, 1785 deed projected from the society's web site. According to Hillman the text clearly implies that Samuel Emmit entered into an agreement with subscribers for lots to form a town.

Strong evidence supports Samuel Emmit as Emmitsburg's founder

Raymond Buchheister
Editor & Publisher

Since Feb. 2003 some in Emmitsburg have been embroiled in a debate over whether or not the town's actual founding date is 1757 as town welcome signs and the government seal suggests.

During a historical society meeting Dec. 20, Michael Hillman, president of the Emmitsburg Area Historical Society, admitted to his colleagues that his belief that William Emmit, Samuel's son, was the town's true founder quickly changed when he read excerpts from a copy of an Aug. 18, 1785 deed. In that deed, Samuel transferred 35 acres to William "wherein the lots of a new town called Emmitsburg are laid out." The land was transferred, "... provided he the said William Emmit shall perform that part which the said Samuel Emmit was to perform according to Articles of Agreement made the fifth day of March last with Purchasers..."

According to Hillman this statement establishes that Samuel is Emmitsburg's founder. Hillman has

updated his website article, "Setting the Record Straight ... The Real History of Emmitsburg's Founding, Legal Documents Supporting the Determination that 1785, not 1757, is the correct founding date of Emmitsburg."

He writes, "This statement by Samuel Emmit clearly implies that a piece of paper was signed on March 5th, 1785, between Samuel Emmit and the subscribers for the lots, to form a town. Without a copy of the actual agreement, we are unsure of the role Samuel Emmit was to have taken that he passed onto his son, nor do we have any knowledge of the the actual role, if any, William Emmit played in negotiating this agreement. As such, taking Samuel Emmit's statement at face value, it would not be unreasonable to provide him the title of 'Founder of Emmitsburg.'" See the article at http://www.emmitsburg.net/archive_list/articles/history_articles/legal_documents.htm

[articles/legal_documents.htm](http://www.emmitsburg.net/archive_list/articles/history_articles/legal_documents.htm)

Asked at the historical society meeting how he discovered this new information, Hillman said the group was prompted by the Nov. 3, 2004 *Emmitsburg Dispatch* article on "The Great Emmitsburg Fire" to learn who owned the homes that had burned in the fire. Once they pinpointed the homes, Hillman said they would be able to determine the true direction of the fire. Examining the 1785 deed more carefully, Hillman noticed the condition by which Samuel had deeded property to his son. See a copy of the original deed at http://www.emmitsburg.net/archive_list/articles/history_articles/date_documents/1785_deed.htm.

Hillman also believes this new piece of information provides further support for his conviction that the town's founding was 1785, not 1757. Hillman told *The Emmitsburg Dispatch* that he thinks

March 5, 1785 is probably the closest thing the historical society has to an actual founding date.

He explained that the deed provides the clue that Samuel Emmit himself entered into an agreement with the first lot owners of Emmitsburg. The historical society hopes to find a copy of the original articles of agreement between Samuel Emmit and those interested in forming the town. The society has little hope that the document still exists, but if it

does, Hillman said it might well be something that Emmit family members would have kept.

To learn more about town history, plan to attend the next meeting of the Emmitsburg Area Historical Society, Jan. 17 at 7 p.m. at the Emmitsburg Community Center. Using old maps, the group will locate businesses and homes and then pinpoint their locations on new maps. Learn the location of the old Emmitsburg bowling alley, the movie theatre, the jail and more.

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ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMS

Library Events

Storytimes

Babies with Books (birth- 24 months with an adult) - new schedule.

Wednesdays. Jan. 12, and 19 at 10:30 a.m.

Two Terrific! (age 2 with an adult)

Tuesdays. Jan. 11, 18, and 25 at 10:30 a.m.

Family Storytime (ages 3-5 with an adult)

Wednesdays. Jan. 12, 19, and 26 at 7 p.m.

Preschool Storytime (ages 3-5 with an adult)

Thursdays. Jan. 13, 20, and 27 at 10:30 a.m.

For Teens

Teen Book Club (grades 6-12) Discuss great books with other teens.

Third Tuesdays. Jan. 18 at 7 p.m. Selection: "Dreamland" by Sarah Dessen.

Coffee House with Open Mike (grades 6-12) Hang out with

friends at the Emmitsburg Coffee House. Enjoy refreshments and board games. Share one of your own poems or short stories, or read one by a favorite author. Friday, Jan. 14, 7-9 p.m.

Special programs for the family
How Do You Sign Snow? Winter signs (all ages)

Warm up those frigid fingers with stories, songs and activities that explore the snowy season with basic American Sign Language (ASL). Bundle up and join signing storyteller Kathy MacMillan for the fun.

Saturday, Jan. 15, 11 a.m. **Registration required.**

Chinese New Year Celebration (ages 3-8)

Listen to stories and folktales, create a dragon mask, and learn about the Chinese New Year. Wednesday, Jan. 19 at 7 pm.

Third Thursdays at ThorpeWood (ages 3-5)

Thurmont and Emmitsburg Branch Libraries host a monthly preschool story program at beautiful ThorpeWood Nature Retreat. Register at info@thorpewood.org or call ThorpeWood, 301-271-2823.

Thursday, Jan. 20 at 1 p.m. **Registration required.**

Knitting Club (adults and teens)

Our knitting circle is open to all, from beginners to experts. Even if you don't know how to cast on, someone in the circle will be able to demonstrate. Learn to make scarves, shawls, or other gifts. Bring your needles and yarn or give us a call.

Third Thursdays. Jan. 20 at 4 p.m.

Book Discussion Groups/ Adult Reading Club

Evening Club
Second Tuesdays. Jan. 11 at 7:30 p.m. Selection: "Three Junes" by Julia Glass.

Non-fiction Book Club

Second Thursdays. Jan. 13 at 1 p.m. Selection: "In Praise of Slowness: How a Worldwide Movement Is Challenging the Cult of Speed" by Carl Honoré.

Programs are held at the Emmitsburg Library in the Community Center on Seton Avenue. For registration or information, call 240-629-6329.

Taneytown Bowling Center. Carpool; meet at the center at 12:30 p.m.

Strength Training: Tuesday and Thursday, 2 p.m. Dress comfortably, wear athletic shoes, participants will use small weights. Led by Kathy Araiza.

Bingo: Jan. 5 and 19.

Cards - 500 and Bridge Group: Jan. 12 and 26.

Canasta: Fridays, 12:30 p.m.

Programs are held in the Community Center on South Seton Avenue. Call for lunch reservations 24 hours in advance. To register for

time you had some quality time on Valentine's Day? Send the kids with us while you enjoy time with each other, or bring the whole family. Price includes transportation and Ski Liberty entrance fee. Ages: 8-15. Cost: \$15.

Feb. 14. Depart from Catoctin Rec. Center at 5:30 p.m., return at 8:30 p.m. Pre-registration required.

Teddy Bear Tea Party

Bring your favorite Teddy Bear or other stuffed animal friend for a "beary" good time. Read a story, make a craft, and have "tea" and a snack. Ages: 3-5. Cost: \$10.

Feb. 23, 10-11 a.m. Pre-registration required.

Pro Advantage Volleyball Prep

Designed to educate and prepare middle school-aged participants for high school volleyball. Learn the fundamentals while having fun. This 8-week class concentrates on basic passing, setting, hitting, serving, and team play. Ages: 10-14, currently enrolled in middle school. Cost: \$50 per participant.

Jan. 13 - March 3, 5-6:30 p.m. Pre-registration required.

Shamrock Surprise

When Irish eyes are smiling ... your child will be smiling after a day of crafts, games and a special snack. Ages: 3-5. Cost: \$10.

March 9, 10-11 a.m. Pre-registration required.

Community Center Events

Frederick County Parks and Recreation is sponsoring a variety of programs this winter at the Emmitsburg Community Center. For more information, call 301-696-2936 or register at www.Recreator.com.

Art Club Series

Each session will focus on a different style, allowing you to explore each medium. All materials provided. Ages: 8-13.

Drawing

Jan. 12 and 19. 4-5:30 p.m. Cost: \$20 per participant.

Painting

Feb. 2, 9, 16. 4-5:30 p.m. Cost: \$30 per participant.

Print Making

March 2, 9, 16. 4-5:30 p.m. Cost: \$30 per participant.

Basketball Skills

Learn the fundamentals. Ages: 4-12. Times differ by age. Cost: \$27 per participant.

Jan. 25 through March 1. Pre-registration required.

Winter Carnival

Celebrate everything winter, from making snowmen and polar bears to playing winter games. Ages: 3-5. Cost: \$10.

Jan. 26, 10-11 a.m. Pre-registration required.

Funny Valentines

Make a special Valentine for Mom, Dad, or a special someone. Decorate a heart-shaped cookie. Ages: 3-5. Cost: \$10.

Feb. 9, 10-11 a.m. Pre-registration required.

Snow Tubing

Parents, when was the last

Senior Events

Happy New Year, everyone! We hope 2005 will be good to all of you. Because January weather can be unpredictable, no special events have been scheduled.

The center will be closed Jan.

17 for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Meeting day: Jan. 18. Members should pay close attention to the news when bad weather strikes. The Senior Center will close whenever county offices are closed.

Bowling: Every Monday at



The Ott House

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Jan. 7-8 Bloo Stoo
Jan. 14-15 Georgia Lee & Stone Cold Country
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special events or for information, call program coordinator Linda Umbel, 240-629-6350.

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Princess Cut Diamond Engagement Ring - .61 Carat. Excellent color and clarity. Gold band with small diamonds on each side. Paid \$2300, asking best offer. Ask for Jeff. 301-447-3116.

LOOKING AHEAD

Jan. 11 - Test of the Emergency Warning System

Jan. 12, 19, 26 - Diabetes Self-Management Program. 9-11:30 a.m. Gettysburg Hospital Community Room. Information: 717-337-4189.

Jan. 12 - Catocin Safe & Sane planning meeting. 7 p.m. Thurmont Pizza Hut. Parents of 2005 graduating seniors welcome.

Jan. 12 - Board of Appeals Reorganization Meeting. 7:30 p.m. Town Office.

Jan. 14 - Pampered Chef Bingo. 7 p.m. Union Bridge Fire Company, 8 West Locust Street, Union Bridge, Md. Doors open at 5. Cost: \$15. Door prizes. Food will be sold. Snow date: Jan 21. Sponsored by Ladies Auxiliary. Reservations: 410-775-2509.

Jan. 16 - Basket & Pottery Bingo. 2 p.m. Guardian Hose Activities Building, Thurmont. The bingo will benefit the parishes of St. Anthony Shrine and Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Door prizes and refreshments. Tickets: \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Tickets or information: 301-271-7052.

Jan. 17 - Emmitsburg Area Historical Society Meeting. 7 p.m. Emmitsburg Community Center. The group will use old maps to identify locations of old businesses and homes in town and then pinpoint their locations on new maps.

Jan. 18 - Water Committee Meeting. 7:30 p.m. Town Office.

Jan. 19 - Multiphasic Blood Screenings. 6:30-9 a.m. Gettysburg Hospital Community Rooms. Registration: 717-624-2157. Inclement weather date, Jan. 26.

Jan. 19 - Town Meeting. 7:30 p.m. Town Office.

Jan. 21 - The Psychology of Abuse and Healing: A Workshop on Domestic Violence and Abuse. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Elias Evangelical Lutheran Church, 100 West North Avenue, Emmitsburg. For anyone interested in understanding and seeking solutions to domestic violence and abusive behavior in families. Cost: \$5 per person, payable at the door. Reservations: 301-447-6239, or e-mail eliasluth@peoplepc.com.

Jan. 22 and Feb. 12 - Blacksmith Shop Demonstrations. 1-3 p.m. Catocin Mountain Blacksmith Shop, Camp Round Meadow. Warm up near the forge. The smithies will demonstrate while they explain how blacksmithing evolved and the role of blacksmiths in the community.

Jan. 25 - Citizens Organized to Preserve Emmitsburg (COPE) Meeting. 7 p.m. Community Room, Emmitsburg Branch Library. Commissioner Dianne Walbrecker will discuss the revision of Emmitsburg's Comprehensive Plan.

Jan. 26 - Board of Appeals Public Hearing. 7:30 p.m. Town Office.

Jan. 28 - Burns Night Supper. 6 p.m. Carriage House Inn. Fundraiser to benefit Emmitsburg Osteopathic Primary Care Center. Traditional Scottish food and music; guests read Burns poetry. Admission - \$50 minimum per person. Information: call 301-447-2690 (evenings), 301-447-5291 (days), e-mail otoole@msmary.edu, or visit www.burnsnite.com.

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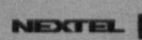
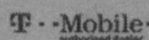


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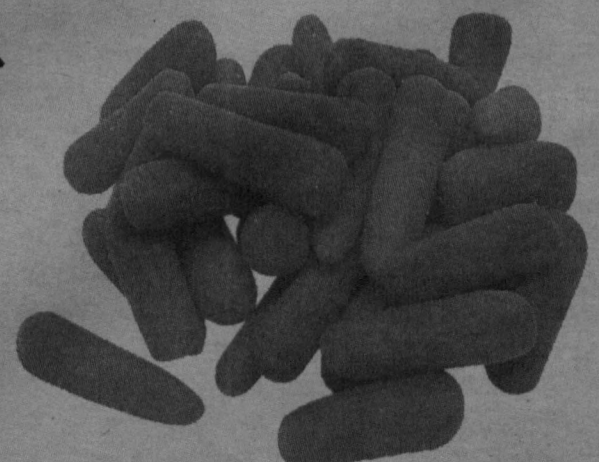


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