

# The Emmitsburg Dispatch

VOL V, No. 5

News and Opinion in the service of Truth

MARCH 2, 2006

## Annexation may need to include a by-pass

BY RICHARD D. L. FULTON  
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EMMITSBURG, Md. — Town staff have advised proponents of an approximately 200-acre annexation located at the western end of the town line to develop a plan that would include a by-pass to help alleviate traffic congestion.

Specific plans remain to be made public about the reported annexation of 100 to 200 acres of land adjacent to the western boundary of Emmitsburg, but Town Manager David Haller said the proposal involves properties referred to as the Frailey and Keepers farms, bounded by Frailey and Annandale roads.

Haller told *The Dispatch* that he and Mayor James E. Hoover had met with the potential annexation petitioners to discuss their proposal, which Haller described as "very preliminary" and the pending

-See **Annexation** on page 5

## From hay bales to houses



-RICHARD D. L. FULTON / THE DISPATCH

Like silent, monolithic guardians, hay bales stand stacked on the "Keeper's Farm," shown here off Annandale Road in Frederick County. The farm could become the site of a future development, which would also include the "Frailey Farm," if an annexation petition is submitted and approved by Emmitsburg. Town staff has suggested that any proposal also include plans for a by-pass.

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**Carroll Valley considers opening meetings with prayer**

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### Feature



**Civil War musical coming to Majestic Theater**

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## Board approves long-awaited pension plan

BY RICHARD D. L. FULTON  
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EMMITSBURG, Md. — Town commissioners approved a resolution, 3-1-1 (mayor abstaining), at their Feb. 20

meeting authorizing town staff to participate in the state pension program, including back payment for time earned to date.

According to the plan, the town will pay for employee participation in the pension program, and will also pay more than \$318,000

representing accrued pension time technically already earned by employees to date.

Under the state plan the town is permitted to make installment payments on the \$318,000, which would amount to \$28,000 annually over a 25-year period if the town

were to use the maximum amount of time allowed for payment of the debt. That figure, however, does not take into account interest accrued on the principal during the extended payoff period.

-See **Pension** on page 5

## Casino opponents present findings to county planners

BY RICHARD D. L. FULTON  
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GETTYSBURG, Pa. — With an April 5 public hearing date set by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board on the Gettysburg casino proposal, members of No Casino Gettysburg, an opposition group of local residents and merchants, presented a casino-related cost-benefit analysis to the Adams County Planning Commission on Feb. 15.

Much of the report challenges the Dec. 20, 2005 local impact report from Chance Enterprises, Inc., the group proposing the Crossroads Gaming Resort & Spa (formerly the Gettysburg Casino & Spa), to be located in Straban Township on Route 30 near the U.S. 15 interchange.

"Gettysburg Casino: Facts, a cost-benefit analysis of casino gambling in Adams County" was prepared by Keith Miller, Ridgefield, Conn., in conjunction

with No Casino Gettysburg.

Miller's study on potential economic and social impact of a Gettysburg area casino is based on data taken from other casino areas and applied to Adams County

demographics, and addresses potential growth, benefits, heritage tourism loss, diversion and abused funds, and social costs.

-See **Casino** on page 3

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Helping our school!

I am 91/2 years old and a fourth grade student at Emmitsburg Elementary School. I am writing this to let everyone know we have a problem at our school. Our school has too many kids and not enough classrooms. I have been in a portable trailer for two years. My class and two other classes have classrooms in these portable trailers. We have to walk back and forth from the

school to the trailer all day in all kinds of weather. Sometimes we have to walk in the pouring down rain, or in the freezing cold just to go inside the school to use the bathroom.

When the rain beats against the windows, it is very loud and the wind makes the trailer shake and rattle. Lastly, the trailers are too small. Our town of Emmitsburg keeps growing,

and the school has to put out more trailers to try and fix the problem. We really need a bigger building so we can all stay inside where we belong. I will only be in this school for one more year, but I think it would be nice for the younger students behind me to be in a real school!

- Amanda Hackney  
Emmitsburg

# Just trying to 'bridge a divide'

*Response to "Burns - save unsolicited advice" Feb. 16 letter to the editor in The Dispatch.*

For the record, I was an invited guest to the Town of Emmitsburg's meeting. Mr. Preston obviously misunderstood and seriously misrepresented my comments. For the record, I neither approve nor condone the actions of Commissioners Elder or O'Neil and certainly don't agree with anything Mr. Craig has ever written. PERIOD.

As a guest in their collective house, I was merely trying to bridge a divide that seems prevalent on the Emmitsburg Board. In doing so I'm not about to cast my personal judgments on any of them in a disparaging way.

Would Mr. Preston have me insert my own personal feelings toward elected officials in a different town? You may have wanted me to be your Pit Bull, but I won't do that for anyone.

If you feel so strong about an issue in Emmitsburg, I suggest you stand before them and pass your self-righteous opinions on yourself. Without pointing fingers, I merely tried to tell them to do their best to get along without exacerbating the issues ...

You tell me to mind my town and I have. Thurmont went through a very rough time a few years ago just like Emmitsburg is now. I was to blame for some of that. But I've learned and adjusted and we're all working well together for

the sake of our residents. I find it ironic that you tell me to mind my town yet you live in Manchester, Md. I suggest you follow your own advice. As for challenging your argument ... you're wrong, misguided, ill-informed, and totally mischaracterized everything I talked about.

I suggest the next time you can't understand someone you have the courtesy and respect to pick up the phone and get the facts straight. I tried to look you up and handle this personally but "big surprise" you're not in the phone book.

- Martin A. Burns  
President of Thurmont  
Board of Town commissioners  
Thurmont, Md.

# Developer falsely characterized

On Saturday, Feb. 18, 2006, on WFMD's Frederick Forum radio program, Blaine Young asserted that I, Lennie Thompson, "was doing the same thing to developers that Hitler did to the Jews" or words of similar import.

The assertion made by Blaine

Young is defamatory, false, untrue and is not in accord with the facts. My policies concerning developers are not comparable to the atrocities committed against the Jewish people and others by Nazi Germany.

Blaine Young is an unmiti-

gated liar and the truth is not in him. I would not believe Blaine Young, even if he were testifying under oath.

- Lennie Thompson  
President, Frederick County  
Board of Commissioners

# Genealogy request from Costa Rica

I am enjoying reading *The Emmitsburg Dispatch* online.

My Stouter and Neck ancestors were two of the oldest families in Emmitsburg. I am putting my family's history on paper. Would your newspaper offer any genealogy archives online where I may do research on my family tree?

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

- Patricia Montero  
San José, Costa Rica

*Editor's Note: We referred Ms. Montero's request to the Emmitsburg Area Historical Society.*

# 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.*

## March 2, 1906 PERSONALS

Mr. Joseph Orendorff has gone to Harrisburg, Pa., where he has secured employment.

Mr. Walter Hoffman and family moved to Harrisburg, Pa., this week.

Mr. J.A. Humerick, of Altoona, Pa., is visiting his father, Mr. George Humerick, near this place.

Mrs. Michael Hoke is visiting her daughter, Mrs. William Rosensteel, of Baltimore, and her little grandchild, Miss Marguerite Minnich, of Carlisle, Pa., is with her.

## DEATH OF A FORMER CITIZEN

John Danner, one of the older residents of Steubenville and a pioneer in the manufacture of woolen goods, the one time big industry of Steubenville, died at the home of his daughter on Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 p.m. in his 89<sup>th</sup> year.

Though of a naturally robust constitution, Mr. Danner had been in feeble health for several years, but enjoyed going about till last fall in spite of failing eyesight. He was seized with severe pains on Tuesday and he remained in bed from the effects until Wednesday evening, when he quietly passed away. At times it seemed as if the spirit had taken its flight, but he rallied and almost at the last he was conscious and able to inquire the time. His death was peaceful and happy, befitting an aged soldier of the Cross.

Mr. Danner was born in Emmitsburg, Md., 88 years ago on November 6, 1817. His parents moved to Newark, Ohio in his early childhood and they died leaving him an orphan at 12 years. He returned to Emmitsburg and spent the years until he was 18 years old, when he went to Baltimore, where he remained three years.

Mr. Danner was a man of ripe religious experience and profound faith. Mr. Danner

united with the old First Presbyterian Church in 1837. He was a devout man and a man who spent much time in prayer. He was a man of strict integrity in business affairs and a good citizen whose pleasant manner will long be remembered by all who knew him. He was a veritable gentleman of the old school.

## DEATH OF MRS. WHITMORE

Mrs. Rebecca Whitmore died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Mary Ellen Martin, on Sunday morning at 4 o'clock. Mrs. Whitmore was born on May 23, 1816, and died Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>, 1906, aged 89 years, 9 months and 2 days. Owing to her advanced age, Mrs. Whitmore had been gradually failing for some time and her death was to be expected at any time.

She was the widow of Mr. David Whitmore who died some years ago. She was a life-long and devoted member of the Reformed church of this place. She needs no eulogy. Her life speaks for her. She was buried on Tuesday afternoon. The services were held in the Reformed church, conducted by her pastor, after which she was laid to rest in Mountain View Cemetery.

## March 9, 1906 Silver Wedding

On Thursday, Feb. 22, at their home near Mt. St. Mary's, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kreitz gave a reception to their many relatives and friends in honor of their silver wedding. Mr. and Mrs. Kreitz were recipients of many handsome and useful presents. The evening was greatly enjoyed by all present. At a late hour the guests were invited to the spacious dining room where a sumptuous repast was served, every one did justice to the many nice things served. At 12 o'clock the company bid the host and hostess good night. May this night be remembered by all present. ...

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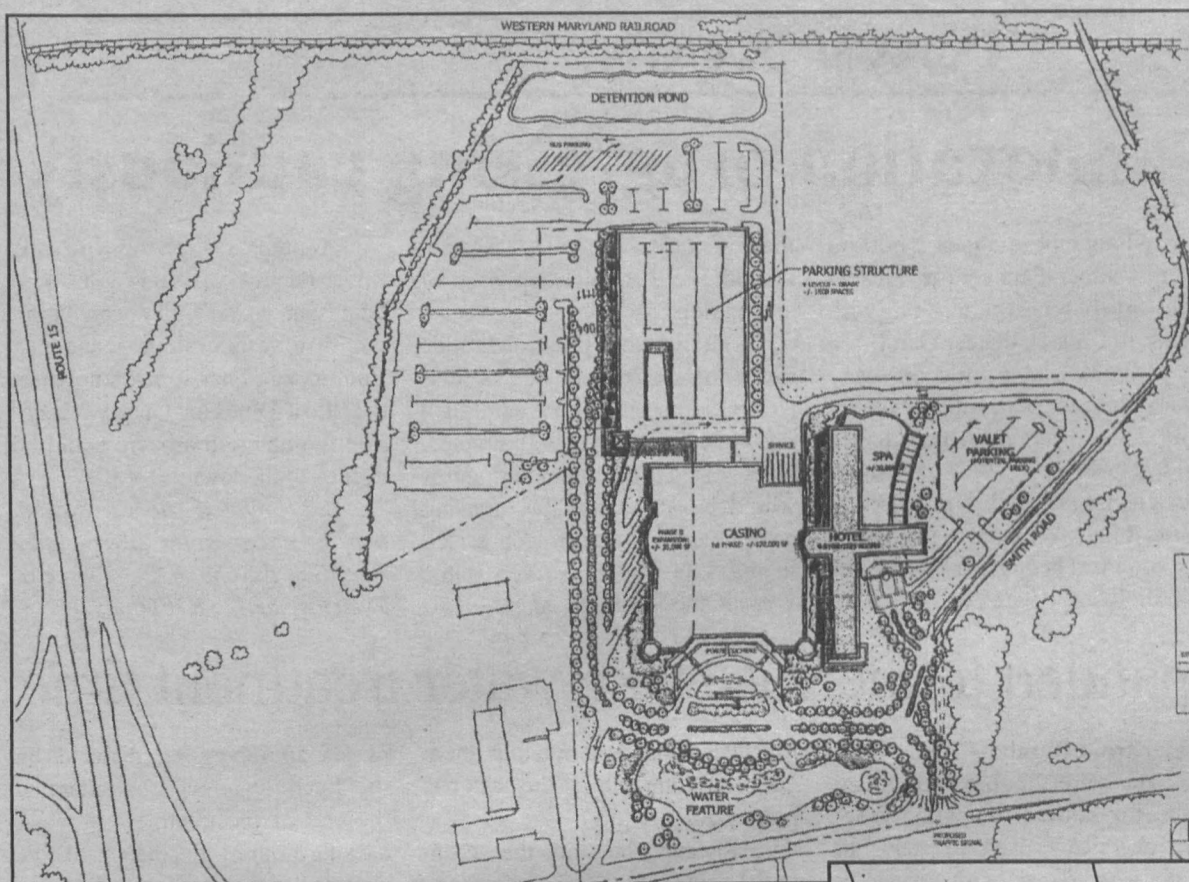
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## April hearing for Crossroads Gaming Resort & Spa

Conceptual plan submitted as part of Crossroads Gaming Resort & Spa's Dec. 20, 2005, local impact report. The Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (PGCB) will hold a public hearing on Chance Enterprises' proposed resort and spa (formerly the Gettysburg Casino and Spa) beginning at 8:30 a.m. in the ballroom adjacent to the student union at Gettysburg College, 300 North Washington Street, Gettysburg.

## Casino

-Continued from page 1

No one spoke on Chance's behalf at the Feb. 15 planning meeting, nor was it evident that anyone from that casino group attended.

### Local economic benefit uncertain

According to the Chance report, the casino complex will generate \$3 in revenue for every \$1 spent by the county. "This fiscal benefit excludes any local grants from the 'Local Share Assessment (LSA)' and on-site and off-site hotel tax resulting from the casino."

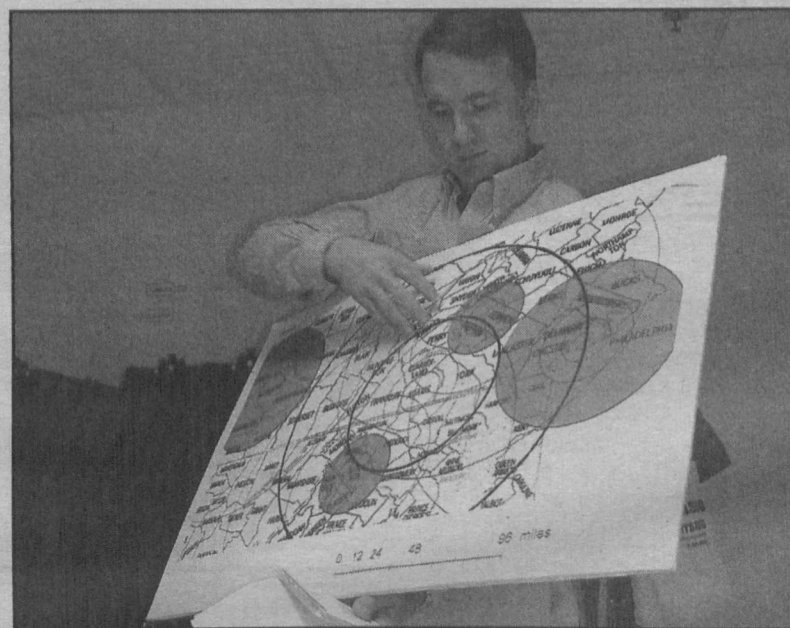
In his study, Miller expressed concerns that the casino would draw many of its service-level employees from the local tourist-oriented businesses, suggesting there might not be 923 individuals (the number of newly-created, service-level jobs suggested by Chance) within the immediate area to fill those jobs. He also pointed out that promises of improved benefits or a slight increase in pay could drain employees from local businesses.

Miller is quick to point out that Chance's benefit claims depend directly on the casino's success, stating, "It is also important to realize it might not ever get this good, because Gettysburg is such a marginal casino site."

John Brabender, Brabender Cox, Philadelphia, who handles

public relations for Chance, could not be reached by deadline for comments.

suicide are also without support, stating that studies have found "no correlation between state-legalized



-RICHARD D. L. FULTON / THE DISPATCH

## Impact from other casinos reaches Gettysburg area

Keith Miller, Ridgefield, Conn., questioning the viability of a Gettysburg area casino, explains at the Feb. 15 Adams County Planning Commission meeting the impact zones that reach into the region from other major casino areas. Miller produced the recently released, "Gettysburg Casino: Facts, a cost-benefit analysis of casino gambling in Adams County."

### Social impacts including suicide and crime

Chance stated in its Dec. 20, 2005 local impact report, "There is a lack of a causal link between negative social impacts and the gambling industry."

Regarding suicide, the casino's report stated, "Presumed links between gambling and increases in

gambling and state suicide rates."

The report cited a 1997 study conducted by Jeremy Margolis which concluded, "Communities with casinos are just as safe as communities without casinos," and found, "Little documentation existed to link gambling and crime." Chance's report further indicated, "Crime rates tend to either remain the same or decrease

when gaming establishments are developed in an area."

Addressing compulsive gambling, the Chance report points out there are resources in place to help those who may go beyond casual gambling. The report did not admit or deny a connection between the existence of casinos and addiction to gambling.

The Miller study challenged most of Chance's claims. Miller's findings indicated that suicide among addicted gamblers is ten times the 0.012 percent suicide rate in the general population.

Based on projections in the increase of addicted gamblers in the county in relation to an equivalent rise in suicides among them, a Gettysburg area casino would lead to two to three suicides in the county per year, according to Miller.

Referring to the 2000 study, "Casinos Crime and Community Costs," by Earl Grinols, David Mustard and Cynthia Hunt Dilley, Miller noted that, according to the 2000 study, "Counties with casinos suffered increased violent and property crimes beginning about three years after the opening of a casino," adding, "In the last year of this analysis about ten percent of violent crimes and eight percent of property crimes were credited to the introduction of a casino."

Regarding treatment for those addicted to gambling, Miller states, "The Pennsylvania Gaming Act 71 set aside only \$1.5 million for all Pennsylvania to treat this problem," which the 2000 study found insufficient (based on Canadian figures for treating gambling addicts), and concludes, "This (gambling addiction) problem will erupt in communities wholly unprepared and unfunded to treat it."

### Heritage tourism impact

Regarding impact on visits to historical sites near the casino, Chance cited a report written by Dr. Duarte B. Morris, assistant professor in the Pennsylvania State University's Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Management, produced at the request of the casino applicants.

Morris projected in his paper, "Casino Development and Historic Preservation in Gettysburg, Pa.," that "approximately 15 to 20 percent of casino visitors will visit Gettysburg National Battlefield Park and other local attractions bringing economic benefits ... a small but meaningful proportion."

However, casino visitors unfamiliar with the American Civil War and the Battle of Gettysburg will not find any orientation to the battle, because Chance has stated, "There will be no emphasis on the history of the region or the Civil War" within the casino complex.

Miller's report doubted the validity of the "15 to 20 percent" of casino visitors whom Chance's reports says would visit the park and town for its historic attributes and to shop, stating, "If the casino is built, Gettysburg can anticipate losing about a quarter of its 1.7 million annual heritage tourist visitors."

"Heritage tourists, who frequently travel as families with children, seek authentic and educational experiences to bring meaning to their lives. Such tourists differ markedly from gamblers," Miller wrote.

In a survey of 300 tourists in Gettysburg on July 2-3, 2005, conducted by No Casino Gettysburg, indicated that 53 percent of those surveyed said they would not return to Gettysburg if a casino were built, according to Miller.

(See related story, "Studies and forms available on-line: April 5 hearing to be held on casino" in this issue of The Dispatch.)

## Studies and forms available on-line

### April 5 hearing date on casino

Studies, both pro and con, regarding the proposed Crossroads Gaming Resort & Spa (formerly the Gettysburg Casino and Spa) in Straban Township, Pa., are available on-line; as is the registration form to testify at the April 5 public hearing before the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (PGCB).

Chance Enterprise, Inc.'s Dec. 20, 2005, "Local Impact Report," can be found both at Crossroad's Web site, <http://www.crossroadsgaming.com/> and at <http://nocasinogettysburg.com/pages/1/index.htm>.

The 80-page "Gettysburg Casino: Facts, a cost-benefit analysis of casino gambling in Adams County" prepared by Keith Miller, Ridgefield, Conn., in conjunction with No Casino Gettysburg, can be found at <http://nocasinogettysburg.com/pages/1/index.htm>.

The PGCB April 5 public hearing will begin at 8:30 a.m. in the ballroom adjacent to the Gettysburg College Student Union, 300 North Washington Street, Gettysburg.

Individuals interested in commenting at the hearing must complete a registration form, downloadable from the gaming board's Web site, [www.pgcb.state.pa.us](http://www.pgcb.state.pa.us), and sent to the board postmarked no later than March 6, 2006, according to the PGCB. — R. Fulton



## The Dispatch

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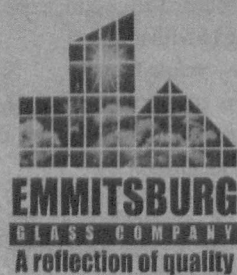
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## TOWN NEWS

## Silver Fancy annexation progressing cautiously

EMMITSBURG, Md. — A proposed annexation involving a 168-unit senior housing development is moving forward slowly as the proponents "fine-tune" their formal annexation proposal.

Zoltan Nagy, principal with Buckeye Development, presented a new concept plan to the town planning commission Sept. 26. He said Buckeye would make a

second attempt to annex a portion of the Silver Fancy farm located off North Seton Avenue, along with some additional adjacent land.

"We're still a little bit away from filing for annexation," Nagy told *The Dispatch* on Feb. 6. He added, "We've still got some design issues and still refining some things. We want to make sure the proposal becomes referendum-proof. I don't want to rush it. If

there are any objections, I'd rather smooth it out (before applying for annexation)."

The overview presented to the board on Sept. 26 included 132 villas (one and one-half story buildings) and 36 (three-story) condominiums. Nagy said the condominiums would be an "affordable housing component" of the project, priced in the \$200,000 range versus the villas in the \$300,000 range.

Another feature new to this Silver Fancy proposal is a one-acre "dinosaur park" site containing the historic and long-abandoned Emmitsburg quarry, also known as the "Lost Dinosaur Quarry." Nagy said the dinosaurian acre could be deeded to the town.

(See related story, "Senior housing proposed for Silver Fancy Farm" in the Oct. 6, 2005 issue of *The Dispatch*.) — R. Fulton

## Plant may be expanded to increase lake water treatment time

BY RICHARD D. L. FULTON  
*Emmitsburg News Editor*  
 rfulton@emmitsburgdispatch.com

EMMITSBURG, Md. — Town Manager David Haller reported at the Feb. 20 board of commissioners meeting that the water treatment plant staff has been having a problem treating

water from Rainbow Lake.

He said the problem stems from the limited "detention time" the chemicals used to treat the water have to react with algae to be removed.

Haller told *The Dispatch* that part of the purification process requires using chemicals that cause algae in the withdrawn lake water

to cluster together, making them easier to filter out as the water is processed.

However, he said, the set-up in the new plant does not allow the chemicals sufficient time to do a thorough job of getting the algae to cluster together. Consequently, some algae get through the initial filtration process. This, in turn,

places an increasing demand on the finer, diatomaceous filters at the end of the treatment process, causing them to need to be changed more frequently because of clogging by algae missed in the initial filtration.

Haller said the best fix would be to install a tank at the head of the filtration process where lake water could accumulate and be treated before it begins its journey through the rest of the treatment process.

Applying the treatment chemical to the water in the pre-filtration tank could increase the residency time, allowing a greater clustering of the algae before running the water through the series of filters.

The current water treatment plant "does not run as efficient as we'd like it to," Haller stated, noting that discussions of a fix are "real preliminary."

The town consumed an average of 308,160 gallons per day (GPD) for the month of January, of which 623,000 gallons (about 6 percent of the monthly total) was purchased from Mount Saint Mary's. Wells produced 49 percent of the water consumed for the month, while 44.9 percent came from Rainbow Lake.

## Town Meetings

- **Commissioners Meeting**  
1st & 3rd Monday  
7:30 p.m.
- **Planning and Zoning Commission**  
Last Monday  
7:30 p.m.
- **Street Commission**  
March 21  
7:30 p.m.

Meetings are held at the Emmitsburg Town Office, Emmitsburg Community Center, 300A South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg. For information call 240-629-6300 or visit [www.emmitsburgmd.gov](http://www.emmitsburgmd.gov).

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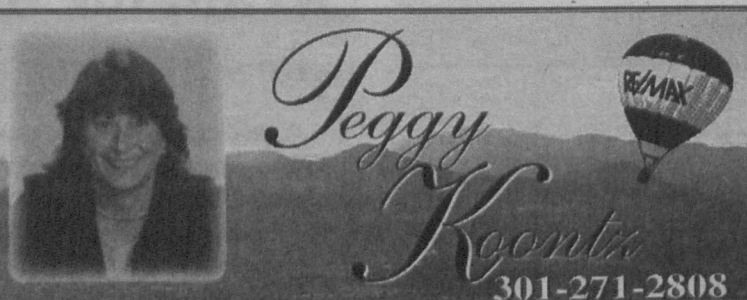
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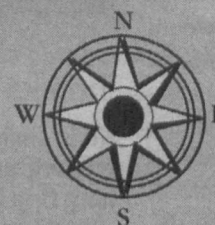
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## Annexation

-Continued from page 1

applicants haven't even included the number of homes proposed for the property.

The town manager said he advised the applicants to consider developing a proposal for a by-pass, including construction of the proposed road, which he estimated would cost \$1-2 million.

Haller said, "I told them if they want to chance it (proposing the annexation), bring in a plan showing a southern by-pass."

Andrew MacIntosh, MacIntosh Inc Realtors, Mt. Airy, confirmed rumors of a possible annexation petition Jan. 26 when he told *The Dispatch* that an informal meeting with town staff had been planned in order to discuss the annexation concept.

"We have met with Michael Lucas (former town planner) and we just want to go at a very slow pace," he said, emphasizing that those involved are "just discussing" a proposal at this point. "We want to do it right," MacIntosh said. "We don't want to be the bad guys on the block." Lucas confirmed that he had

met with the potential applicants.

Town staff recently recommended that the comprehensive plan, presently undergoing revisions, include provisions to aid in the establishment of a by-pass west of town. According to the recommendations, the by-pass could be built if properties in that area being annexed to the town were required to allocate land for it.

Traffic through Emmitsburg has become heavier in recent years primarily due to an increase in development across the Mason-Dixon Line in Pennsylvania.

## Pension

-Continued from page 1

The board considered participating in the state pension plan in June 2005, but took no action, hoping an alternative plan could be found. The board did, however, reserve \$40,000 in its 2006 budget to use toward payment of the \$318,000 in order to reduce the length of time the town would be obligated to manage the debt.

Commission President Christopher V. Staiger cast the only vote against the proposal because of his concerns about the \$318,000 the town would owe for pension earned to date. "I wouldn't have a

problem entering into the program if we started at year zero."

Staiger said he felt the money would be better spent addressing town issues rather than pensions. "Can a town of 2,800 people afford such a generous plan?" he asked.

Commissioner William B. O'Neil, Jr. defended participation in the plan, stating, "A pension is more than providing a dedicated employee with a reliable source of income. ... I think it's something we need to do and step up to the plate."

O'Neil pointed out that the town would gain some \$65,000 a year by not replacing the town planner and zoning technician which would help cover the

pension plan costs. "We could safely plan for the plan (through the salary savings)," he said.

Commissioner Glenn Blanchard expressed the sentiment of the board members who supported participation when he noted that adjacent counties are recruiting heavily for employees, adding, "We are in an area where people can shop around (for jobs). We have to look at retention as a major factor."

O'Neil moved to adopt a resolution of participation, seconded by Blanchard. Mayor James E. Hoover abstained because he presently participates in the state pension plan through his job at MARC.

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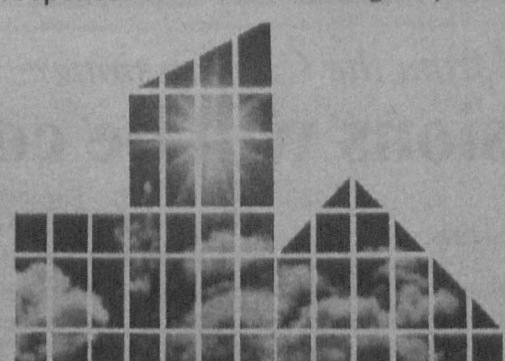
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## TOWN NEWS

## A Word from the Commissioner

## Pensions will be costly

Dear fellow residents,

The good news is that your county tax dollars will be providing more services through the recently approved expansion of the County Residential Recycling Program. This should reduce some of the pressure created by the 2004 Town Council's decision to close the town's recycling drop-off center. Keep an eye out over the next few months for information from the county on start dates and how to obtain recycling containers.

We all know we don't get a credit on our county taxes just because we pay municipal taxes. Indeed, the town is required to spend municipal tax dollars to buy services from the county, such as police protection, that your county tax dollars would already pay for if you lived outside town limits. At least some of that

money will now come back home.

The bad news is that your municipal tax dollars will now be further eaten up by the Town Office. This is because your Town Council voted 3-1-1 to join the Maryland State Pension Plan.

The state demands that the town pay \$318,000 as an entry fee to allow our fifteen municipal employees to participate. This is before the regular month-to-month deductions and fees. While this is a superior result for our Town Office, which didn't seriously explore any other option before presenting the proposal, it's a bad deal for the taxpayers of Emmitsburg.

Although this plan will replace the existing retirement plan (which could have been improved), it comes at too high a cost for a small town and will take decision-making out of your hands. The state will now determine

what contributions we taxpayers will have to make. We all know that as the number of retired persons exceeds the number of workers supporting them, the burdens of maintaining this type of plan just grow and grow. The costs of fulfilling the promises come at ever-increasing prices to those who have to pay the bill.

These types of plans can only be maintained by a captive and compliant audience of taxpayers. We should be spending your tax dollars on the additional services and public improvements every elected official likes to promise at election time. Keep this in mind as your property assessments and tax bills continue to rise. Demand that your commissioners or candidates support the constant yield tax rate which could drop your municipal tax bill by almost ten percent. You've now seen what happens if you continue to feed the beast.

Apologies,  
- Christopher Staiger  
President, Emmitsburg Board of Commissioners

## Town News Briefs ...

## Injury prompts town to fast-forward sidewalk repairs

EMMITSBURG, Md. — Prompted by a recent injury to a teacher who fell over a section of tree-damaged sidewalk, Commissioner William B. O'Neil, Jr. asked the board to consider taking measures to revolve the sidewalk problems at the Feb. 20 meeting.

Town Manager David Haller told the board that the estimated costs of removing trees causing damage, replacing some trees, and repairing the sidewalks could cost around \$217,000. Some of the existing trees, he said, have grown so large that they prohibit wheelchairs from passing on either side of them on the sidewalk.

The commissioners authorized town staff to complete a tree and sidewalk damage survey and to return to the board with estimated costs. — R. Fulton

(See related story, "Sidewalk repairs could cost over \$200,000," in the Dec. 15, 2005 issue of *The Dispatch*.)

## Staff authorized to pursue televised meetings contract

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The commissioners authorize town staff Feb. 20 to proceed with contract negotiations with a media company to begin installing equipment necessary to televise town meetings.

Based on staff recommendations, the board approved a contract with Connectivity Group LLC, Adamstown, Md. Connectivity had estimated costs at more than \$38,000.

Town administrators plan to broadcast municipal meetings on Adelphia Cable Channel 99 when the proposed installation has been completed. — R. Fulton

## Town moves forward with youth art contest

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The board directed town staff on Feb. 20 to put together a plan for a youth art competition which could carry prizes up to \$1,000 in savings bonds.

The contest, proposed by Commissioner William B. O'Neil, Jr., would be open to all school age youth in the area, likely within a given zip code to allow home-school students to participate as well.

O'Neil suggested that the contest have a theme, recommending the board consider the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Emmitsburg Library as the theme. The contest would be divided into age groups to ensure that the competition is fair.

## Sewer system suffers two spills in January

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The problematic wastewater collection system suffered more sewage spills in January, while the treatment plant was overwhelmed with I&I during two two-day events and one single day event.

On Jan. 2 and 3, 23,000 gallons of wastewater were discharged to the environment, while on Jan. 18, 10,800 gallons were released.

The treatment plant exceeded its design capacity:

- Jan. 2: Plant treated 1,041,000 gallons;
- Jan. 3: Plant treated 1,282,000 gallons;
- Jan. 18: Plant treated 2,092,000 gallons;
- Jan. 19: Plant treated 840,000 gallons; and
- Jan. 23: Plant treated 897,000 gallons.

## Mayor may have regular radio program

EMMITSBURG, Md. — Mayor James E. Hoover has requested access to Mount St. Mary's radio broadcasting system to provide the community with a regular program discussing town business from the mayoral perspective.

"I've requested the possibility of getting on the Mount's radio station to hopefully do a regular radio interview," Hoover stated.

The program would "most likely be monthly," he told *The Dispatch*, "based on the same style as Adelphia Cable's 'Community Spot Light' program" in which the mayor has participated in the past. — R. Fulton

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## TOWN NEWS

## Town will finally get new parking tickets

BY RICHARD D. L. FULTON  
Emmitsburg News Editor  
rfulton@emmitsburgdispatch.com

EMMITSBURG, Md. — Town staff told the commissioners at their Feb. 20 meeting that new parking tickets would be printed, replacing those more than 20 years old that still refer to the non-existent Emmitsburg Police.

Town Manager David Haller told *The Dispatch* he has already advised those in code enforcement to get the tickets printed.

The town currently uses tickets issued by the "Emmitsburg Police Department," which hasn't existed since sometime in the 1980s.

Board President Christopher V. Staiger had asked town staff to look into replacing them because of possible legal issues. State's Attorney Scott L. Rolle had previously told *The Dispatch* he saw nothing wrong with the tickets, but a member of another state governmental agency said unofficially that the legality of issuing the tickets was questionable.

(See related story, "State's attorney sees no problem with parking tickets issued in name of

fictitious police force" in the Nov. 17, 2005 issue of *The Dispatch*.)

### Two-hour parking sign removed: ticket rescinded

Town staff has removed a two-hour parking limit sign in front of St. Joseph's Church after a news editor for *The Dispatch* was ticketed for allegedly parking over the limit.

Town Manager David Haller said the two-hour limit signs were to have been taken down in front of St. Joseph's on North Seton and along church property on DePaul, but the sign in front of the church had been missed.

"The spaces affected by these signs were public or town spaces and the signs were removed," Haller told *The Dispatch*, noting, "This issue was discovered as part of the church's (ongoing) rehab project." Haller did not know who had originally approved or installed the signs.

He did say that when DePaul Street is repaved and the church's rehab is complete, "There may be some new parking signs installed, but I think said signs will only relate to certain hours on certain

days to assist the church in its effort to accommodate people attending Mass. At this time none of those details have been worked out."

*The Dispatch*, having paid the news editor's fine, was told the payment would be returned and the ticket rescinded.

### January's tickets brought in \$2,670

During January, the code enforcement officer issued 212 tickets for overtime parking, four tickets for parking along a yellow-lined curb, three tickets for failure to park between the lines, and nine tickets for parking on the wrong side of the road.

The collective violations amounted to \$2,670, according to a report filed Feb. 20 at the board of commissioner's meeting.

In addition, metered parking yielded \$1,949 in January, all of which goes toward the town's After School Program.

Two other citations were issued for abandoned vehicles.

Total revenues for the month generated by code enforcement amounted to \$4,739.

## Town News Briefs ...

### Deputy offers Neighborhood Watch help

EMMITSBURG, Md. — A county deputy has offered to help Emmitsburg residents establish a Neighborhood Watch program, but needs a volunteer to serve as liaison with police.

Deputy Kevin White, who once served in Emmitsburg through the Frederick County Sheriff's Office Community Deputy Program, told the board of commissioners at their Feb. 20 meeting that "a lot of people have been looking for a (security) network. The NW (Neighborhood Watch Program) is that network."

White said that the program is getting away from street-based watches and trying to establish town-wide watches. The program would include training citizens on how to report crimes and how to be good witnesses.

"I'm willing to help get this going (in Emmitsburg)," Deputy White said, "but I would need a citizen contact to get started. The next step is to get some people to contact me and then try and spread the message throughout the town."

Deputy White can be reached at 301-360-3985. — R. Fulton

### No progress on Northgate issue

EMMITSBURG, Md. — Town staff is still waiting for a response from Emmet Ridge development site owner Sunnie Cahler regarding establishing an easement on that land to provide a new access point for Northgate.

The North Seton Avenue entrance to Northgate lies within Flat Run's 100-year flood plain. Residents of the Northgate and Emmet Ridge developments have expressed concerns about access to the developments during flooded road conditions.

The board of commissioners directed town staff at their Feb. 6 meeting to inquire about easements to provide a new access to Northgate, but Town Manager David Haller remains doubtful that the answer will be that easy. — R. Fulton

(See related story, "Northgate access remedy may be long way off" in the Feb. 16 issue of *The Dispatch*.)

### Committee sets tentative concerts schedule

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The town parks committee established a tentative schedule Feb. 22 for this year's Concerts in the Park.

#### Proposed schedule

#### Fridays

June 30 - Community Chorus	July 2 - Irishtown Road (band)
Aug. 4 - Waking at Seven (band)	Aug. 18 - Home Comfort (blue grass band)
Sept. 1 - Roy Owen Band	

#### Saturday

Sept. 16 or 23 - No Name Band.

None of the groups has yet been approached to confirm booking dates. All of the concerts will be held at Memorial Park, beginning at 7 p.m. — R. Fulton

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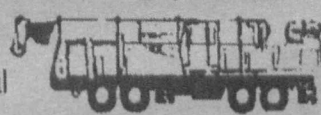


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## REGIONAL NEWS

# Thurmont expecting annexation request

By JAMES RADA, JR.  
Thurmont News Editor  
jrada@thurmontdispatch.com

THURMONT, Md. — In the next few months, Thurmont Town Commissioners President Martin Burns expects to see a request for the town to annex a piece of property that could eventually have as many as 300 homes and possibly a Wal-Mart.

Burns told the planning and zoning commission on Feb. 23 that he had been told the potential development would include a large box store and that Lowes, Home Depot, Wal-Mart and Target had shown interest.

"I guarantee we would know what it would be before we even consider an annexation request," Burns said.

A recent survey of town

residents by the Thurmont Planning and Zoning Commission found nearly three out of four people want the town to encourage economic growth within the town with many of them citing the need for large department stores and, in particular, Wal-Mart as a business the town needs.

Burns stressed that at this point nothing is definite. Many ideas are being floated for how the property behind the Shamrock Restaurant can be developed. The 240 acres of interest is owned by a seven-person consortium, with Eugene Myers as the major owner.

"No way will anything be done before the I&I (sewer) problem is fixed, approved by MDE (Maryland Department of the Environment) and tested," Burns said.

However, his impression is that the annexation will come before the town commissioners in a few months, which is "sooner than I thought." By making a request soon, the annexation could be included in the town's master plan, which is being reviewed.

Preliminary discussions anticipate 300 to 400 houses to be built on the property. The number of houses that could be built each year would need to be negotiated between the town and developer.

The development would be served by its own sewer system, which the developer would build.

"Of course, that means the town would need to maintain it, but the advantage is that it doesn't impact the town's current system," Burns said.

One idea suggested is that the developer build a town hall shell

that the town would finish off.

While Burns and other town commissioners have met with the developer's representative Brian Duncan of Tyler-Donagan Real Estate Services.

Burns said, "There's been no plans, no discussion, no nothing." The interested developer has not even purchased the land.

Duncan and Myers did not return calls from *The Dispatch*.

## NuTec will build Thurmont police headquarters

By JAMES RADA, JR.  
Thurmont News Editor  
jrada@thurmontdispatch.com

THURMONT, Md. — Thurmont town commissioners unanimously approved the police commission's recommendations for a stand-alone Thurmont police station on Feb. 21.

The new Thurmont police station, as envisioned by town officials, will include three holding cells, a three-car garage, a workout room, laundry room, offices and storage rooms.

The police commission unanimously recommended on Feb. 16 that the new station be a 10,410 square foot building with 8,100 square feet of usable space.

"I think 8,100 square feet would be adequate to allow for growth of the police department," said Police Commissioner Chairman Tom Iaccarino.

It's a far cry from the 575 square feet that the nine police officers share now, but some residents think it may be too much space.

"Give me a size building built in Thurmont that's 8,100 square feet," Sterling Bollinger asked the commissioners on Feb. 21. "It's the size of the (Gateway) market." He said it was too large for the town's needs at this time.

Town Commissioner William

Blakeslee said the Thurmont police needs assessment was based on what other police departments have.

"This is really consistent with other police departments built in the state," Blakeslee said.

The four project proposal costs ranged from \$1.8 million to \$2.5 million for a Thurmont police station and \$2.3 million to \$3.5 million for a building with additional space that would house a Frederick County Sheriff's Office Substation.

The two police agencies had considered operating from the same building, but Frederick County's estimated construction cost for the building was \$240 per square foot. The per-foot construction cost estimates in the stand-alone proposals ranged from \$149.75 to \$178.

"I will never go with the county and have them build this building based on the analysis we have here," said town Commissioners President Martin Burns at the Feb. 16 meeting.

Iaccarino said not only was the county's project planning estimate making the station more expensive, but it had also pushed the opening date far beyond the town's target opening date of July 4, 2007. Burns said the county's plan called for 12-18 months for project planning and that alone would push the opening date past the target.

-continued on next page

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## REGIONAL NEWS

# Council considers opening prayer at meetings

BY WILLIAM K. REINKE  
Contributing Writer

CARROLL VALLEY, Pa. — Councilman Daniel Patton introduced a motion to begin council meetings with a non-denominational prayer, citing many legal precedents.

Patton noted that the first order of business in the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate is an invocation offered by a chaplain.

Citing legal research, he reported that the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that offering an invocation is not legislative

establishment of religion, unless the process restricts who can pray and what is prayed.

In an effort to avoid trampling the much debated establishment clause of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, Patton offered the following guidelines in his motion: the purpose of the invocation is to recognize the importance of God in our heritage; recognize the diversity of religions in the community; and to offer words of inspiration at the beginning of council meetings.

Patton suggested that delivering invocations would be available on a voluntary basis to

local religious clergy, chaplains, or council members. Prayers would be limited to less than two minutes, would be non-political, and would be sensitive to the multiple religions in our community.

Council Vice President Roger Butt, a former American Legion chaplain, voiced support for the proposal but strongly suggested that the matter be tabled until March because council members Ted Talbert and Thomas Fitzsimmons were absent.

Council President Thomas Wolf concurred, citing a specific request by Fitzsimmons, the lack of time sensitivity, and the importance of getting full council participation on such a weighty matter.

Borough Solicitor Thomas Campbell advised the council to proceed with "extreme caution" and said, "Do not enter into this decision lightly. You will be challenged. Be prepared to do battle" if you choose this route.

Campbell said he knew of one other municipality in Adams County that offered an opening invocation, but added that it was a long-established practice subject to little resistance.

## NuTec

-Continued from page 8

Police Commissioner Martin Hickman said, "We just have to tell them (the county) we can't afford it and invite them to the open house."

NuTec Design was the lowest bidder at \$1.8 million. However, the architectural and engineering fees, the only number the company truly controls, were higher than two other proposals. Iaccarino said NuTec's references were very

strong and NuTec's proposal was more comprehensive, including potential floor plans for the building.

Major Scott Hopkins with the sheriff's office said there is not enough money in the sheriff's office's capital improvement program currently to build a substation on its own, but the sheriff had always been looking at building with Thurmont or building alone. Now that the town has made a decision, appropriate land and funds will need to be found for the sheriff's office substation.

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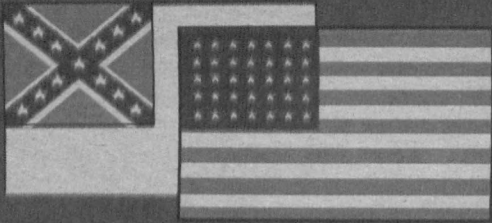
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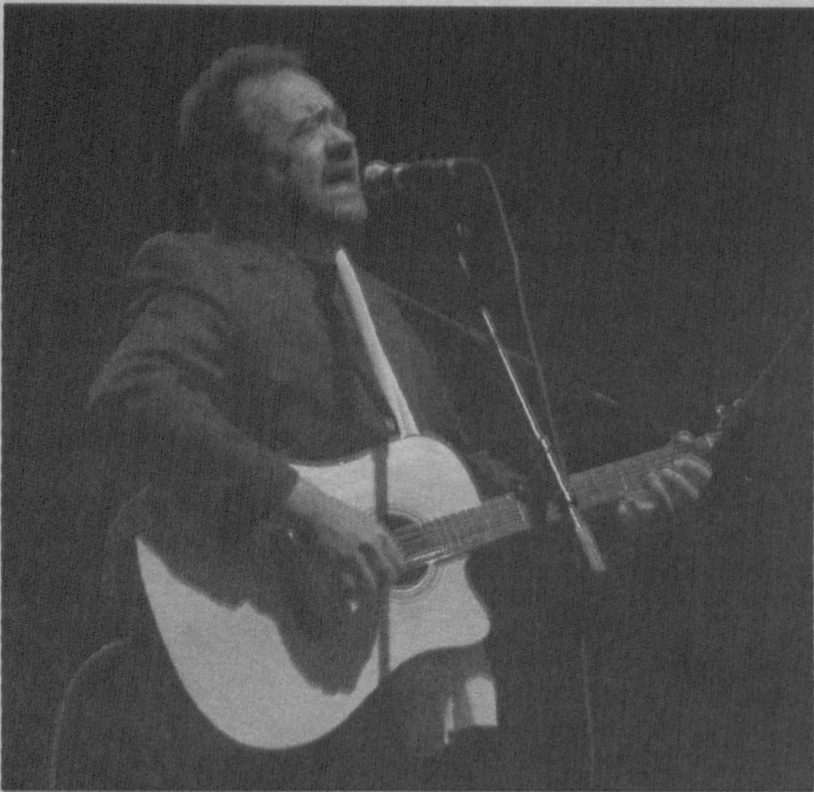
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# FOR THE THE CIVIL WAR MUSICAL



-DICK BLOOM / THE DISPATCH

Guitarist Michael Lanning performs one of the songs from the upcoming "For the Glory: The Civil War Musical in Gettysburg." The lyrics, written from the soldiers' perspective, reflect their anxiety, or agony, during the great American struggle that ultimately left hundreds of thousands of casualties in its wake.

## Majestic Theater to present new

BY RICHARD D. L. FULTON  
Emmitsburg News Editor  
rfulton@emmitsburgdispatch.com

GETTYSBURG, Pa. — The Majestic Theater, a Gettysburg College-owned, 1925 theater refurbished recently at the cost of \$16 million, will present a new Civil War musical, "For the Glory: The Civil War Musical in Gettysburg," with more than a dozen authentically costumed performers, orchestra and period scenery, beginning June 17.

The production will include original music written from the perspective of those who experienced the war, from dying soldier to civilians on the home front, but with a contemporary musical style.

The only speaking part will be that of freed-slave turned abolitionist Frederick Douglass, often viewed as a radical, liberal propaganda icon. Considered along with comments made by the production company that the musical follows a direction established by Ken Burns (producer of the 1990 abolitionist-biased Civil War documentary) this may not be a production for those of more-devout Southern heritage or the historical purist.

**Emotional  
impact of war,  
not a  
history lesson**

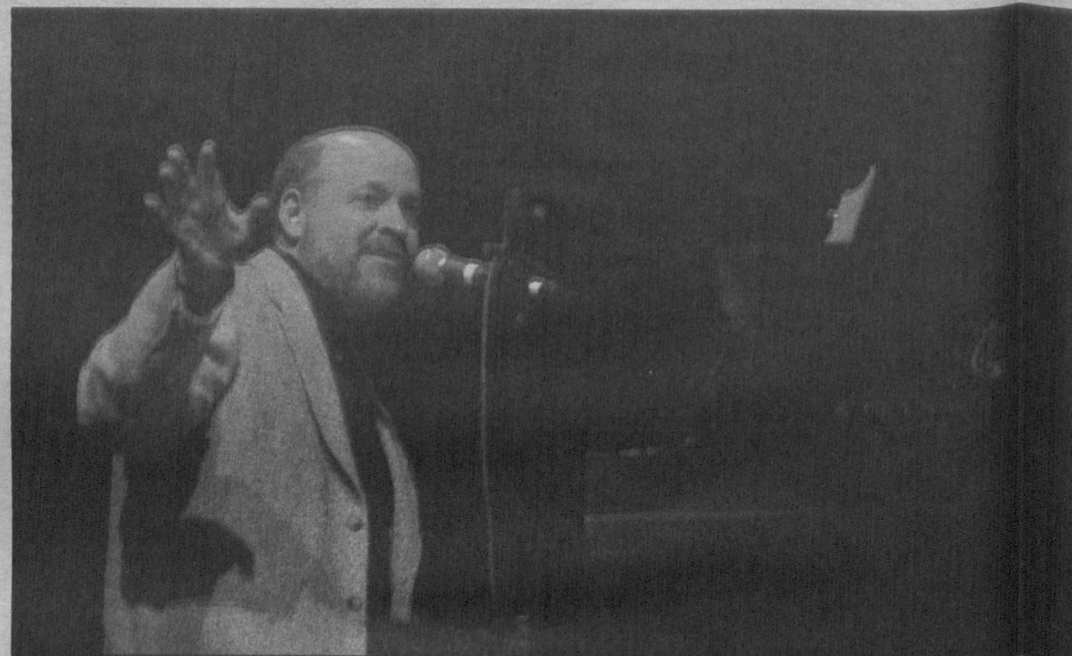
Planit, the Baltimore-based public relations

firm, issued what is probably the most important disclaimer: "The musical was not created as a history lesson."

However, setting aside the "historical" perspective of the musical, one will find few local productions that embrace as much talent presented with such tremendous emotion. Composer Frank Wildhorn said many of the pieces were actually inspired by a walk through of the battlefield itself.

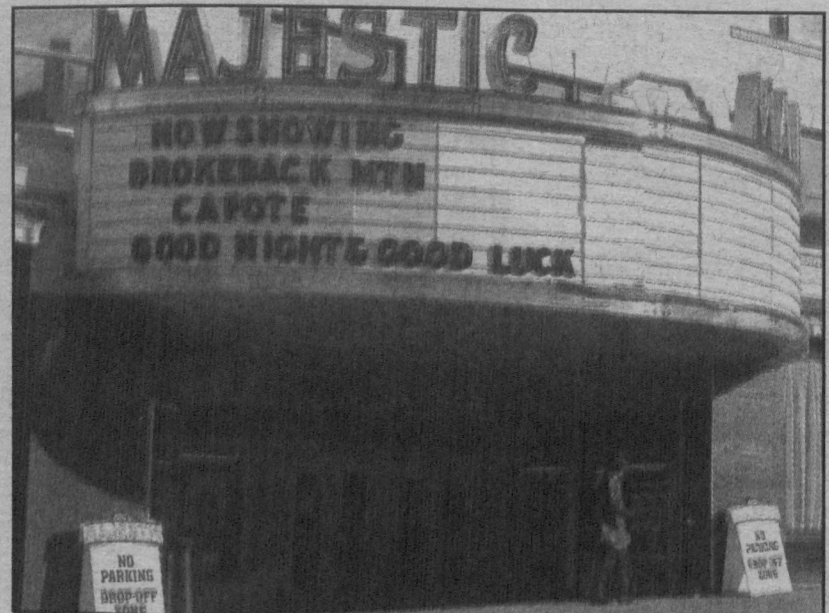
Three performers, including Wildhorn on piano, were featured at a preview held for the media and special guests on Feb. 21. Brandi Burkhardt provided the female vocal selections, while singer and guitarist Michael Lanning performed several songs from the soldiers' perspectives.

If the outstanding trio represents the talent and skill to come when the actual production begins in June, the proposed ticket price would seem the best bargain



-DICK BLOOM / THE DISPATCH

Composer Frank Wildhorn accompanies performers at the Feb. 21 preview of the upcoming Civil War-themed musical at the Majestic Theater in Gettysburg. The lyrics reflect the production company's interpretation of the emotional rollercoaster experienced by civilians and soldiers during the 1861-1865 war.



-DICK BLOOM / THE DISPATCH

The Majestic Theater, located at 25 Carlisle Street, Gettysburg, will premiere a new Civil War musical, "For the Glory: The Civil War Musical in Gettysburg," in June.

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# GLORY

MUSICAL IN GETTYSBURG

## New Civil War musical in June

of the coming tourist season ... clearly the production's target audience.

Majestic Theater Executive Director Jeffrey Gabel said the college tried to come up with ideas for performances to present at the recently restored facility, but that a production with a Civil War theme "seemed too obvious."

However, when approached by producer and director Vince Marini, the theater didn't hesitate to enter into a five-year deal to bring the musical to the 1863 High Water Mark of the Confederacy. In fact, Gabel said, the "obvious" proved to be the most appropriate production for the theater to host.

### Roots in an earlier musical

"For the Glory" traces its origins to a 1998 musical called "The Civil War," under the direction of Gregory Boyd.

THE DISPATCH  
upcoming production  
and soldiers

Both ventures have roots in Wilhorn's 1996 road trip to various Civil War Battlefields in Virginia, Maryland

and Pennsylvania. "At the end of each day, I had to run to my piano," Wilhorn said. The first song

went on to Broadway in 1999 and a successful national tour," according to Planit. The pro-duction received

Tony Award nominations for "Best Musical," "Best Original Score," Outer Critics Circle awards and other nominations.

In 1999 Wildhorn became the first composer in 22 years to have three shows running simultaneously on Broadway: "The Civil War," "Jekyll & Hyde," and "The Scarlet Pimpernel."

Wildhorn also produced two concept albums related to "The Civil War" - "The Civil War: The Nashville Session" and

"The Complete Work," featuring performers including Trisha Yearwood, Travis Tritt, and Hootie & the Blowfish.

The current production combines the talents of composer Wildhorn, lyricist Jack Murphy, co-author and director Gregory Boyd, producer Marini, Roy Miller and Pete Herbers, NETworks Presentations and Music Theater International.

### Getting there ...

Opening night for "The Civil War" is set for June 17, with the show scheduled to run from June 17 to Sept. 3, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays; 8 p.m. on Fridays; and 2 p.m. on Sundays.

Ticket prices range from \$40 to \$45 per person, and can be ordered by phone at 717-337-8200 or online at [fortheglorythemusical.com](http://fortheglorythemusical.com).

For more information, contact Angela Walseng, Planit Agency, at 410-962-6450, or by e-mail at [adw@planitagency.com](mailto:adw@planitagency.com).



-DICK BLOOM / THE DISPATCH

Brandi Burkhardt, left, performs a Civil War ballad during the Feb. 21 preview of portions of the musical score for "For the Glory: The Civil War Musical in Gettysburg" at the Majestic Theater.

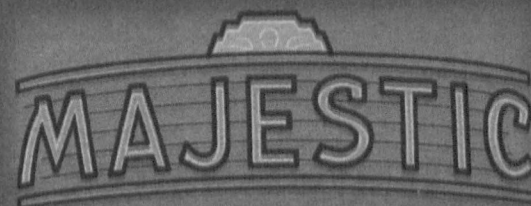
he wrote became a Confederate soldier's lament, "I'll Never Pass This Way Again."

"The Civil War" became one of the most successful musicals in the history of the Alley Theatre and



-DICK BLOOM / THE DISPATCH

200 people, including the media and special guests, attended a pre-Majestic's upcoming Civil War musical. Gettysburg College, owners of, invested \$16 million in revitalizing the 1925 theater.



### The News Editor's perspective ...

#### 'Little note, nor long remember ...'

The American Civil War, 1861 through 1865, remains one of the most propagandized and controversial wars in America's history ... and its bloodiest.

Union President Abraham Lincoln, in his refusal to find a peaceful solution to the secession crises, took action that resulted in a death and casualty rate among his own people surpassing that inflicted on Americans by all foreign enemies combined from the American Revolution to the Gulf War, world wars included.

As Lincoln, known for his sense of humor while in the White House, joked away among his comrades in Washington, the streams ran red with the blood of the nation's youth from Virginia to Florida to the Mississippi. By the end of the war, America had sustained more than 600,000 casualties, including men, women and children.

The reality and truth of the war, even its causes, have been revised so many times by the victors, and those who choose to use the war to create political wedges even today, that there seem to be few with any vague notion of its roots or its results.

Of the 1863 Battle of Gettysburg and the dedication following the burial of the Union soldiers there that followed, Lincoln said, "The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here; while it can never forget what they did here," yet his fellow victors, and the sympathetic revisionist historians that would follow, would insure that, if little else, truth *did not* go marching on. ... - R. Fulton

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## REGIONAL NEWS

## Ad hoc committee recommends borough priorities

BY WILLIAM K. REINKE  
Contributing Writer

CARROLL VALLEY, Pa. — An *ad hoc* committee tasked with prioritizing borough goals for the next two to four years submitted its recommendations at the Feb. 14 council meeting.

The list of 21 goals submitted in January's meeting was prioritized based on the effect on the public's health and safety, the percent of the community positively impacted by the proposed project, liability issues, and the improvement to citizens' quality of life. The committee divided the goals into five categories: Priority One, Priority Two, Priority Three, Projects for Consideration, and Projects Funded/Underway.

Priority One projects were

"considered to be of the utmost importance, and should take priority over all others when conflicts with time and money arise." Three goals made this list: the "Carroll Commons Civic Complex," a new sewage treatment plant, and new public water facilities.

The Carroll Commons Civic Complex is so named because it would be a major expansion of the current borough office and could include a library and community room.

Borough Manager David Hazlett reported on the recently completed building feasibility study that would triple the currently inadequate facility to about 6,000 square feet with the goal of accommodating anticipated growth over the next decade. An additional 1,600 square feet could be added to accommodate the Fairfield Public Library, currently squeezed into a space half that size.

The urgent need for a new sewage treatment facility is

in response to the limited life expectancy of the existing plant and increased demand. A public water facility is necessary to address the USGS survey findings that indicated a significant portion of the borough has severe "limitations on the ground water if development of all existing parcels was completed."

Priority Two projects were deemed "extremely important" and should take priority over all projects except those on the Priority One list. Included was a continuation of the Lake Kay water quality evaluation, and upgrading the roads program from the current practice of chip sealing.

Several of the priorities listed are already funded and underway: the codification of ordinances, the Cortner Pavilion renovation, the Ranch Trail Park, and Ski Run pedestrian facilities. A complete list and explanation of all borough goals is available at the borough office or by contacting Hazlett at either [manager@carrollvalley.org](mailto:manager@carrollvalley.org) or 717-642-8269.

## FASD preliminary budget could trigger tax increase

BY WILLIAM K. REINKE  
Contributing Writer

FAIRFIELD BOROUGH, Pa. — The 2006-07 proposed Fairfield Area School District (FASD) budget represents a 2.55 percent increase, if adopted, officials stated at the FASD Feb. 27 school board meeting.

Dr. Mark Sewell, FASD business manager, introduced the \$13,631,694 preliminary budget. Nearly \$305,000 of the proposed \$338,924 increase comes from rising retirement costs (up 1.7 percent) and health insurance (up 19 percent), both largely beyond the board's control. Salaries and benefits equal 65 percent of the total budget.

FASD relies on federal, state, and local revenue to maintain operations. The federal government is slated to contribute two percent of new budget, roughly the same percentage as the current fiscal year.

State contributions represent 37 percent of the total, a number steadily declining since the mid-1970s when state money represented more than half of the operating budget. Local revenue, mostly from real estate and earned income taxes, accounts for the remaining 61 percent of the budget.

To pay for the budget

increase, the school board is proposing a real estate tax increase of 1.7 mills. One mill of this increase is for the building project, in its second year of an eventual three mill increase. The remaining increase is for operational expenses. For the average homeowner in the Fairfield School District, this amounts to a school tax increase of \$74.36 per year, or \$6.20 per month. Fairfield falls in the middle of the pack for school taxes in the county.

The proposed budget will tentatively be adopted at the March 27 school board meeting, to begin 7:30 p.m. in the elementary school library. The budget will be formally advertised beginning March 28, and officially adopted on June 12.

Dr. Sewell pointed out that the budget "could go up or could go down" between now and June, especially depending on what happens during the state legislative session in Harrisburg, which convenes in March, although this year's budget changed little between its introduction in February 2005 and adoption in June.

Sewell said copies of the 450-page budget report would be available at elementary and high school libraries and Gettysburg and Fairfield public libraries. Budget highlights are available on the district's Web site: [www.fairfieldpaschools.org](http://www.fairfieldpaschools.org).



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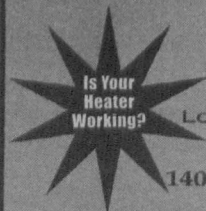
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## LOCAL HISTORY

## Historical society working on veterans project

BY JOYCE M. DEMMITT

Managing Editor

editor@emmitsburgdispatch.com

Motivated by a tribute to local veterans written by former Emmitsburg Mayor J. Edward Houck, the Emmitsburg Area Historical Society has set out to capture information on local WWI and WWII veterans to add to its online resources.

According to Emmitsburg Area Historical Society President Mike Hillman, the group has no information on more than half of Emmitsburg's WWII veterans. In an e-mail about the project sent earlier this month, Houck wrote, "It would be easy to just pass over this - but - think of the many service men and women that have no information behind their names and no pictures to honor them. Think of their descendants that look at the record and find only the name. We owe it to them as they served us in time of need."

Readers with information to share, or who would like to schedule a historical society president interview with an elderly veteran, may contact the Emmitsburg Historical Society, 15339 Sixes Bridge Road, Emmitsburg, or e-mail the information or request to History@emmitsburg.net, or call Mike Hillman at 301-471-3306.

Hillman plans to share information with the Thurmont Historical Society, which has expressed interest in doing a similar project. To learn more about the historical society's veterans project, and to view tributes to local service men, visit <http://emmitsburg.net/history>.

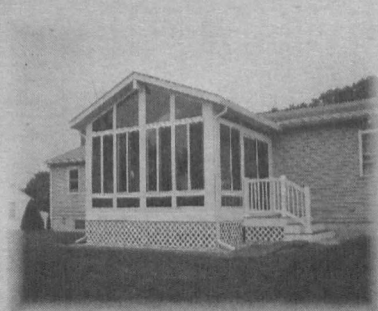
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## EDUCATION

# Mount St. Mary's hosts regional College Bowl tournament

*CHS graduate captain of victorious Bucknell University team*

BY SUSAN ALLEN  
Contributing Writer

Mount St. Mary's University hosted the Association of College Unions International (ACUI) Region 3 and 4 College Bowl Championship Tournament Feb. 24-25.

Mount St. Mary's University President Thomas H. Powell welcomed the academic teams on Saturday evening. Students from 17 colleges and universities competed in two divisions of round-robin matches in "The Varsity Sport of the Mind."

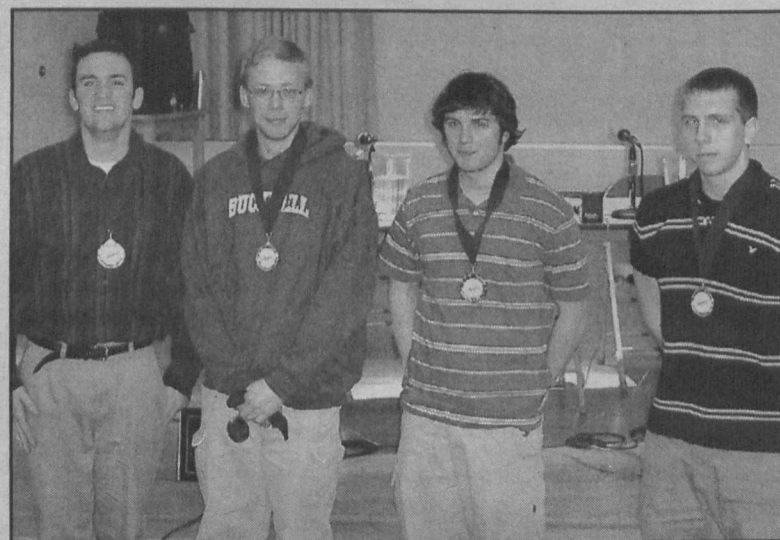
Four teams with the best records, University of Maryland-Baltimore County (UMBC), Bucknell University, Seton Hall University, and Wheeling Jesuit University, then met in double-elimination playoffs to determine

a tournament winner. Bucknell, captained by David Allen of Emmitsburg (Catoctin High class of 2002), won the tournament and will represent Region 4 at the national College Bowl tournament at the University of Hartford (Conn.), Apr. 21-22. Seton Hall will represent Region 3. Second-place UMBC has a chance for a wild-card slot in the national tourney.

Michael Patterson (Monmouth University), director of the regional tournament, and Scott Weiss (Mount St. Mary's), host chair, had been working together since April 2005 to organize the 2006 tournament. All of the game officials were volunteers from the participating universities and ACUI, with the majority of the volunteers from Mounts St. Mary's. Weiss, assistant professor in mathematics

and computer science, is also advisor to the Mount team. His team, juniors Daniel Long, Katherine Herzog, Nicholas Ferrari, and Katrina Widdoss, was pleased with their 4-4, eighth-place finish. Teams from Adelphi University (N.Y.), Allegheny College (Pa.), California University of Pennsylvania, Frostburg State University (Md.), Monmouth University (N.J.), New Jersey Institute of Technology, University of Pittsburgh-Bradford, University of Pittsburgh-Pittsburgh, Robert Morris University (Pa.), Shippensburg University (Pa.), West Chester University (Pa.), and William Paterson University (N.J.) also competed.

College Bowl was initially an NBC radio production from 1953-1957. In 1959 it became a CBS television show, "The



- PHOTO COURTESY OF JAY ALLEN

The College Bowl team from Bucknell University won first place in the regional tournament held at Mount St. Mary's University Feb. 24-25. They will go on to the national tournament in April. Team members (left to right): David Allen, Thomas Goodman, Zachary Simoncelli, and Steven Chronowski.

GE College Bowl," and ran until June 1970. It became an important intramural activity on college campuses throughout the United States (and in Great Britain, where it was known as "University Challenge" from 1962-1987.) In 1977 College Bowl organized official competition at campus, regional

and national levels in conjunction with ACUI. The country is divided into 15 regions. The top regional teams, plus a 16<sup>th</sup> team drawn randomly from the 15 second-place winners, compete every spring in the national championship tournament. For more information, visit [www.collegebowl.com](http://www.collegebowl.com).

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## EDUCATION

### Administrators congratulate Elementary school teachers

BY SUSAN ALLEN  
Contributing Writer

Dr. Linda Burgee, Superintendent of Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS), surprised teachers and support staff at Emmitsburg Elementary School (EES) with a brief visit to the school on Feb. 6. Principal Wanda Severance called an impromptu staff meeting at the end of the school day so that Burgee, Steve Martin, associate superintendent for elementary schools, and Dr. Gloria Julius, director of elementary instruction, could show their appreciation for the teachers' efforts to improve student performance on the Maryland State Assessment (MSA) tests.

MSA tests in reading and mathematics are administered each year to students in grades 3-8. Emmitsburg students, including those whose economic background qualifies them to receive free or reduced-price meals, demonstrated improved test scores in 2005.

Their scores in both 2004 and 2005 showed that the school is making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), mandated by federal "No Child Left Behind" legislation.

FCPS is one of only four Maryland county school systems to make AYP in 2005. Data on school improvement can be found at <http://mdk12.org/data/msa>; other information at [www.mdreportcard.org](http://www.mdreportcard.org).

### Pre-k and kindergarten registration

Pre-registration for fall 2006 pre-kindergarten and kindergarten classes will be held March 6 and 7 at Emmitsburg Elementary School from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Monday, March 6, and 1-7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 7. For more information, please call 240-236-1750.

### New director appointed for Emmitsburg Community Chorus

The Emmitsburg Community Chorus announces the appointment of a new director, Marc Nicodemus.

Nicodemus is the Music Coordinator and Worship Choir accompanist for the Thurmont United Methodist Church. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Music Education from Towson State University.

The 20-member chorus will be singing this season at Homewood Retirement Center in Frederick and the Gettysburg Lutheran Home. This summer, the singers will perform for the "Music in the Park" series in Gettysburg and Emmitsburg. Dates for these concerts are pending.

Founded in 1966, the non-profit chorus has entertained audiences throughout the region with a variety of music including Broadway hits, show tunes, sacred hymns, popular pieces and patriotic songs. The choir also had the honor of singing at the canonization ceremony of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Rome.

Anyone interested in joining the chorus is welcome to attend practice on Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m. at St. Joseph's Provincial House on Seton Avenue in Emmitsburg. For more information, contact Kay Barth, 301-271-0105, or Ellie Davis, 301-898-9776.

—L. Cantwell

## Pinewood Derby finalists



—LISA C. CANTWELL / THE DISPATCH

Three Fairfield Cub Scouts were finalists in the Pack 76 Pinewood Derby held recently at St. John's Lutheran Church, Thurmont. From L to R: First place, Wolf Scout Adam Dertzbaugh, son of Mark and Heather Dertzbaugh; Second place, Bear Scout Ryan Hovis, son of Greg and Michelle Hovis; Third place, Webelos Scout Kevin Aughinbaugh, son of Ray and Diane Aughinbaugh. The scouts carved and decorated wooden cars from a kit and raced them on a wood track. About 75 boys participated in several heats. Den leader Mac Trubey called the races. Jim Powers is the Cubmaster.

## Schools celebrate youth art month

March is "Youth Art Month" in Frederick County and across America. Locally, there will be an All-County Student Art Exhibit in Frederick.

The Student Art Exhibit opens March 6 and runs through March 26 at the Delaplaine

Visual Arts Education Center in downtown Frederick. Admission is free, and visitors will see more than 300 pieces, ranging from drawings, paintings and photography to ceramics, sculpture, crafts and mixed media presentations. The

opening reception is Saturday, March 4 from 3-5 p.m. Gallery daytime hours are 9-5 on Mondays-Saturdays and 1-4 on Sundays. The Center is also open various evening hours when it offers classes; for the evening schedule call 301-698-0656.

## FREE BUSINESS LISTING

In conjunction with the March 31 Thurmont Business Expo  
The Dispatch is publishing a **FREE** local business directory.

## Thurmont Business Expo

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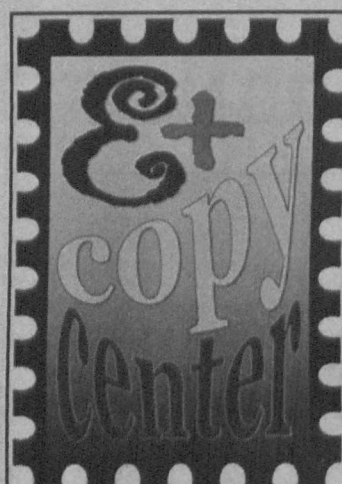
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## RELIGION

# Controversy continues concerning local visionary

STAFF REPORT

The existence of a communiqué from the Vatican and its nature is at the heart of a simmering feud between Dr. Gianna Talone-Sullivan and William Cardinal Keeler, Archbishop of Baltimore.

According to Talone-Sullivan, the Blessed Virgin Mary told her on Feb. 5, 2006 that the Holy See never sent a communiqué regarding her visions and apparitions to the Archdiocese of Baltimore.

However, in a dramatic turn of events, the Archdiocese of Baltimore published a February 2003 communiqué from the then-Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger (now Pope Benedict XVI) in the Feb. 23, 2006 edition of *The Catholic Review*. In it Ratzinger stated his approval of the commission's work. Keeler assembled the commission to assess the character of Talone-Sullivan's visions and locutions.

"After a careful examination of the contents of the report and having taken into consideration all aspects of the present case, the Congregation commends the work done by the commission and considers that Your Eminence is in a position to conclude the matter with a decree of 'constat de non supernaturalitate' in reference to the phenomena in question," wrote Ratzinger, noting that Keeler had the authority to decide the matter.

Ratzinger's letter had never been revealed publicly until Feb. 23. However, Keeler, in his June 7, 2003 decree banning Talone-Sullivan's messages and visions from Archdiocesan churches and property, stated authoritatively that he had received "appropriate authorization" to make such a decision from the Holy See.

In the face of mounting accusations that the alleged visionary

and her followers were being disobedient to church authority, Talone-Sullivan received a Feb. 5 message reputed to be from the Virgin Mary, which contradicted the Cardinal's assertion. "... I assure you, my children, you are not disobedient, not to the Church at all. For I assure you, children, that there never was any written communiqué from the Holy See. There has never been yet, up to this point ..."

The archdiocese's publication of the communiqué has directly refuted the words of Talone-Sullivan's Marian message, causing area Catholics to ponder the authenticity of the apparitions, and some to claim that a fraud has been exposed.

But Talone-Sullivan and her spiritual advisors have responded to the crisis by downplaying the nature of the communiqué and berating the work of the commission, which the future pope had commended.

"I have been advised by my spiritual director and advisors to point out to the faithful that Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger simply commends the work done by the commission and 'considers' Cardinal Keeler in a 'position to conclude' the matter with a decree of 'constat de non supernaturalitate.' Cardinal Ratzinger does not himself conclude this matter and, as is the customary procedure, allows authority to rest at a local level, that being with Cardinal Keeler and not the Holy See," wrote Talone-Sullivan in a statement released Feb. 18, 2006. She has declined an interview with *The Dispatch*.

The Rev. John B. Wang, one of Talone-Sullivan's spiritual advisors, recently characterized the work of the commission as being "biased, fallacious, and flawed in many aspects." Believers in the alleged messages want the matter to be appealed to the Holy See and the

work of the Baltimore commission to be reviewed again by Rome.

The Archdiocese of Baltimore, apparently satisfied that their recent publication of the Vatican communiqué and its commendation of the commission's work has adequately refuted Talone-Sullivan and her advisors, has refused further comment on the matter.

Meanwhile, Our Lady of Emmitsburg followers continue to gather for Talone-Sullivan's apparitions, despite the fervent opposition of Father Vincent O'Malley, pastor of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Emmitsburg. O'Malley, a staunch opponent of the apparitions, advises his parishioners not to attend these meetings because he believes attending them is not in the spirit of fidelity to legitimate church authority.

Regular monthly prayer meeting is experiencing growth with its recent move to the Lynfield Complex, located between Thurmont and Frederick, just off Rt. 15, where they have met regularly for the past four months.

With attendance growing to 350, Peter Blanchard, one of the organizers, said, "Things are going so well at Lynfield that we've decided to continue holding the prayer meeting there." Representatives signed a six-month contract, beginning with the first Sunday in April. The prayer group meets at 3 p.m. on the first Sunday of the month. And Blanchard said, "All are welcome."

Cardinal William H. Keeler will be 75 on March 4. According to canon law he is required to submit his resignation to Rome. It is not expected that he will be relieved of his duties at this time. Local ecclesiastical observers expect that Keeler may eventually act to forbid Catholics from attending future prayer meetings.

## Emmitsburg Community Lenten Services

The Emmitsburg Council of Churches has announced the 2006 Community Lenten Services schedule.

Services will be held at 7 p.m. on Sunday evenings, beginning March 5 and running through Palm Sunday, April 9. The Easter sunrise service will be held at the Grotto Chapel, with the time still to be determined.

The ecumenical Lenten services this year will be based on the film, "The Passion of the Christ." Each week will include viewing a scene from the film, followed by reflections from a guest speaker.

Services will move from one community church to another, with local pastors speaking from pulpits other than their own. Refreshments and fellowship will follow the services.

<b>March 5</b>	Elias Lutheran Rev. Wade Martin
<b>March 12</b>	Trinity United Methodist Fr. Vincent O'Malley, CM
<b>March 19</b>	Tom's Creek U. Methodist Rev. Reginald Rice
<b>March 26</b>	Incarnation U.C.C. Rev. Jon Greenstone
<b>April 2</b>	St. Joseph's Catholic Church Rev. Ben Jones
<b>April 9</b>	Emmitsburg Presbyterian Rev. Bill Warehime
<b>Easter</b>	Grotto at MSM Rev. Reginald Rice



## ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMS

### Library Events

At the Emmitsburg Library

**Make it and take it craft** (all ages)  
March 6-11 Make a windsock to celebrate this blustery month.

**Oaks and Acorns Book Club** (grades 4-6)  
Bring an adult. Light snack provided.  
Second Monday, 6:30 p.m.  
March 13

**Chess Club** (ages 6 and up)  
Bring an adult if you are under 8.  
Second and fourth Fridays, 3:15 - 4:45 p.m.  
March 10 and 24

**"Did You Know?" series** (ages 6-12)

**Guiding Eyes for the Blind.** Terry Scripture with Guiding Eyes for the Blind will bring several potential guide dogs and discuss how the organization selects, trains and assigns these dogs.  
March 18 at 11 a.m. Registration required.

**Storytimes at ThorpeWood** (ages 3-5)

Monthly preschool story program at ThorpeWood Environmental Center, Old Mink Farm Road, Thurmont, hosted by Thurmont and Emmitsburg libraries. Directions: [www.thorpewood.org](http://www.thorpewood.org) or 301-271-2823.

March 16 from 1-2 p.m. Registration required.

**Spring Fling** (ages 3-8 with adult)  
Seasonal story time. Help create

a spring-themed wall mural for display in the library  
March 25 at 10:30 a.m.

**Jewelry Making** (ages 9 and older)  
Make beautiful beaded jewelry with Nanda.  
March 29 from 4 to 5:30 p.m.

#### Storytimes

**Babies with Books** (birth-24 months with an adult)  
First three Wednesdays of the month at 10:30 a.m.,  
March 1, 8, 15

**Two Terrific Storytime** (age 2 with an adult)  
Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.  
March 7, 14, 21, 28

**Pre-school Storytime** (ages 3-5 with an adult)  
Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.  
March 2, 9, 16, 23

**Family Storytime** (all ages)  
Wednesdays at 7 p.m.  
March 1, 8, 15, 22

**Global Groove** (ages 5 and older)  
Learn about other cultures from around the world through facts, folktales and crafts.  
March 31 at 4 p.m.

#### For Teens

**Movie Makers Club** (grades 6-12)  
Join other teens to learn the basics of filmmaking. Share experiences and resources to make movies.  
First Tuesday and third Thursday at 7 p.m.  
March 7 and 16

**Animé Club** (grades 6-12)

Second Friday from 6-8 p.m.  
Movie, snack, other activities. Co-sponsored by Emmitsburg and Thurmont Libraries.  
March 10 Registration required.

**SF/Fantasy Book Club** (teens & up)  
Third Thursday at 7 p.m.  
March 21 Stop by the desk to pick up the current selection.

#### Adult programs

**Non-fiction Book Club**  
Second Thursday at 1 p.m.  
March 9 - "Seldom Disappointed" by Tony Hillerman

**Tuesday Evening Book Club**  
Second Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.  
March 14 - "Baker Tower" by Jennifer Haigh

**Knitting Circle** (adults and teens)  
Third Thursday at 4 p.m.  
March 16

**Genealogy Focus Group** (adults and teens)  
Fourth Thursday at 7 p.m.  
Learn about resources and share tips with others engaged in genealogical research.  
March 23

**Tapestry Treasure Pouch** (adults and teens)  
Combine simple weaving and beads to create a tiny treasure pouch.  
March 30 at 6 p.m.

Programs, unless otherwise noted, are held at the Emmitsburg Library in the Community Center on Seton Avenue. Registration or information: 240-629-6329.

**Group:** March 8 and 22.

**Canasta & Pinochle:** Fridays at 12:30 p.m.

**Shopping at Jubilee Foods:** Thursdays at 12:30 p.m.

**Frederick Shopping:** Second Wednesday, 12:30 p.m.

Programs are held in the Community Center on South Seton Avenue. Call for lunch reservations 24 hours in advance. The Senior Center will close whenever county offices are closed. To register for special events or for information, call program coordinator Linda Umbel, 240-629-6350.

to those 60 and older. The center is lovely and the "natives" are friendly! Check us out!

**Bowling:** Mondays at Taneytown bowling center. Carpool; meet at center at 12:30 p.m.

**Strength Training & Conditioning:** Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. Dress comfortably; wear athletic shoes. Participants will use small weights. Led by Linda Stultz.

**Bingo:** March 1, 15 and 29.

**Cards-500, and Bridge**

### Senior Events

Here comes March a-blowin' in! Hang onto your hats as you wait for the first day of spring, March 20. On **Thursday, March 9 "Celebrate Your Name Day"** with special activities. **Wednesday, March 15** we'll have **Fruit & Vegetable Bingo**, so bring a prize to fit those categories. **Tuesday, March 21 is Meeting Day**, and the "Flying Dutchman" will entertain us with his accordion at 2 p.m. Our bowling group is growing, so join us on Monday afternoons. And don't forget our men's pool tournament every Wednesday at 1 p.m.

The Frederick Senior Center is sponsoring a day trip to Camden Yards to see the Orioles play the Cleveland Indians on Thursday, April 20. Seating is limited and registration ends March 31. The \$30 fee includes admission ticket, box lunch, and van transportation. Information: 301-694-1605.

The seniors encourage all eligible persons (50 years and older) to join them for regular program activities and special events. Our lunch program is open

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# Arts & Entertainment

## Looking Ahead

### Frederick walking tour offers chance to win treasures

BY NICOLE M. BELANGER  
Contributing Writer

Getting a community's residents interested in a town's past can be a challenging task, but one local group may have discovered a successful way to get people engaged.

FrederickStory Committee members started the Great Frederick Historic Treasure Hunt last fall and countless families and groups have discovered Frederick's past during the treasure-filled walking tour.

"Everybody seems to have enjoyed it a lot. We're finding families are having a lot of fun," said committee chairperson Nancy Eller.

The hunt encourages families, children, school groups, couples and others to spend a couple of hours in downtown Frederick finding answers to a set of clues. The tour can be taken in one afternoon or over the course of several days.

With a map of downtown Frederick from the Visitors Center on East Church Street, including 20 starred historic sites, treasure hunters set out to find answers to clues, like how many steps lead up to a building or what design might be found on something.

The simple questions are designed so that even small children can figure them out, while encouraging residents and visitors to find out little-known facts about Frederick's past.

Completed treasure maps are then entered into monthly drawings, where lucky winners are awarded a prize basket filled with items donated by local businesses. Families and scout groups have won prizes valued at more than \$1,000 so far, with eight more drawings planned through the end of September, when the Treasure Hunt officially ends.

FrederickStory is a year-old committee made up of local history buffs who want to promote the county's past at events throughout the year. The group operates under the City of Frederick's Office of Special Events, although they are self-funded, Eller said.

Although the number of walkers has dropped recently, Eller expects that figure to rise when the weather gets warmer. The group is also sending fliers home with school children and inserting them into local newspapers in hopes of getting more residents to take the tour.

Committee members designed the tour, creating 20 questions to get people walking around Frederick, discovering local "treasures" like the Historical Society and the National Museum of Civil War Medicine.

When the treasure hunt ends, Eller doesn't expect to extend the event. Instead committee members are looking forward to creating even more events for residents to enjoy, she said.

To learn more about the tour or the FrederickStory Committee, visit [www.frederickstory.com](http://www.frederickstory.com).

### For Children

**March 4, 11 - "The Brothers Grimm."** 2 p.m. Two zany actors tell famous Grimm stories, while encouraging the audience to make up their own fairy tale during each show. The Fun Company at the Maryland Ensemble Theater, 31 W. Patrick Street, Frederick. \$8 - 12. 301-694-4744.

**Through March 26 - Rumpelstiltskin.** After a simple miller's daughter is imprisoned after the miller boasts to the king that she can spin straw into gold, a mysterious and magical little man appears to save the day. Way Off Broadway Dinner Theatre, Willow Tree Plaza, Rt. 40 West, Frederick. \$10.50. 301-662-6600.

### Galleries, Exhibits, Art Shows

**March 10 - Bus Trip to U.S. Holocaust Museum and Botanical Gardens.** 9:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Frederick County Historical Society, participants will experience the permanent exhibition, *The Holocaust*, through a self-guided tour. The exhibit presents a narrative history using over 900 artifacts, seventy video monitors, and four theaters that include historic film footage and eyewitness testimonies. At the gardens, the annual orchid exhibit, this year entitled "Simply Sublime: Orchids in an Art Deco Garden," is scheduled to be open. \$50 per person. 301-663-1188.

**March 11, 12, 18, 19 - 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Maple Syrup Making Demonstration.** 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Park staff will demonstrate the process of making maple syrup from tree tapping through boiling and packaging. A sausage and pancake breakfast will be served for an additional charge. Cunningham Falls State Park, William Houck (Lake) Area. 301-271-7574.

**Through March 18 - "The Red Umbrella."** An exhibition of observations of life by Judith Einstman, featuring colorful and charming works in pastels and serigraphs. Washington County Arts Council Gallery, 14 West Washington Street. Private showings also available. 301-791-3132.

**Through April 5 - "Dave Bottini - For Gabriel."** Sharp Focus Romantic Landscapes -

Acrylic on canvas and panel. The artist dedicates this work to his grandfather and is intrigued by the dynamic nature of landscapes. Opening reception on March 4, 5 - 7 p.m. and a gallery talk on March 15, noon - 1 p.m. Frederick Community College, Mary Condon Hodgson Art Gallery, 7932 Opossumtown Pike, Frederick. 301-846-2513.

**Through April 23 - "Reuben Kadish Exhibition: Metamorphosis."** A mini-retrospective of works by Reuben Kadish (1913-1992). Work in all of his media, from every stage of his career - painting, sculpture, drawings and prints - show the intellectual and visual integrity of his life. Included are drawings from his Surrealist and war years and several rare pre-1950 paintings. Five of his iconic sculptures and many of his pioneering Tamarind workshop lithographs and studio-impressed monoprints round out the show. Washington County Museum of Fine Arts, 91 Key Street, Hagerstown. 301-739-5727.

### Concerts

**March 4 - Eighth Blackbird.** 8 p.m. The six talented musicians in this groundbreaking ensemble play flute, clarinet, violin, piano, cello, and percussion, taking contemporary music to new heights. Provocative and engaging, the group boasts four recordings and numerous commissions of works by today's top composers. Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle Street, Gettysburg. \$10. 717-337-8200.

**March 4 - Anne-Lynne Gross.** 7:30 p.m. A musical concert to benefit the Anne-Lynne Gross Breast Cancer Center at the Frederick Community College Women's Center. "From Op to Pop III," an evening of musical selections from opera classics to familiar favorites. Frederick Community College, Jack B. Kussmaul Theater, 7932 Opossumtown Pike, Frederick. \$8 - 10. 301-846-2512.

**March 14 - Voices of Faith Choir,** from Faith School of Technology, Challowton, Maine. Evangelical Bible Church, 14698 Albert Staub Court, Thurmont. For more information, contact the church office at 301-271-3633.

**March 25 - Frederick Catoctones Annual Show.** 2 & 7:30 p.m. An acapella musical performance presented by quartets and a men's chorus. Jack B. Kussmaul Theater, Frederick Community College, 7932 Opossumtown Pike. 301-607-4093.

**March 31 - "Surrendered,"** music ministry group from Messiah College. 7:30 p.m. Mt. Tabor United Church of Christ, 10043 Longs Mill Road, Rocky Ridge. Concert will be followed by a dessert fellowship. No charge/free-will offering. 301-271-2210.

### Stage

**Through March 4 - "Betty the Yeti."** An absurd environmental farce concerns Russ T, an out-of-work logger who heads for the forest to find solitude and escape his failing marriage. But little peace is to be discovered when Betty, a female Sasquatch-like creature, discovers the pleasure of Russ T's company and the convenience of his keen camping gear. Maryland Ensemble Theatre, 31 West Patrick Street, Frederick. \$15-20. 301-694-4744.

**March 4 - "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change."** 8 p.m. With four actors play over forty roles in a collection of scenes and songs scaling the dizzying spectrum of male/female relationships. Reveals the difficulties and joys of connecting with another person, no matter what age. Eichelberger Performing Arts Center, 195 Stock Street, Hanover. \$31- \$36. 717-637-7086.

**Through March 11 - "La Cage Aux Folles."** *La Cage* is a fierce and funny dazzler from start to finish. In a St. Tropez nightclub, a couple's domestic tranquility is shattered when their son decides to marry the daughter of a bigoted politician. When the family's future in-laws come for a visit, the truth comes out in the wildest of ways. Way Off Broadway Dinner Theatre, 5 Willowdale Drive, Frederick. \$24-38. 301-662-6600.

**March 30-April 2 - "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown."** Thurmont Thespians production at Thurmont American Legion. For reservations and complete ticket information, call 301-271-7613

### Dance

**March 18 - "Spirit of the Dance."** 8 p.m. Features performers from the Irish International Dance Company. Irish dance combined with Latino rhythms of tango, flamenco and salsa. Tickets: \$39-\$47. Weinberg Center for the Arts. 20 W. Patrick St. 301-228-2828.

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By  
Marc Camoletti

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**Fridays through April 7 – Lenten Fish Bakes.** 5-7:30 p.m. Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church parish hall, Thurmont. 301-271-4439

**March 4 – Buffet Breakfast.** 6-11 a.m. Tom's Creek United Methodist Church, off Route 140 between Taneytown and Emmitsburg.

**March 4 – Annual spring supper and bazaar.** 1 p.m. Elias Lutheran Church, Emmitsburg.

**March 4 – Bingo Banquet.** Doors open at 4:30, bingo starts at 7 p.m. Union Bridge Fire Hall. 410-775-0001.

**March 5 – Basket Bingo.** Doors open at 12:30, games start at 2

# Community Calendar

## LOOKING AHEAD

p.m. Woodsboro American Legion. Benefit. 301-271-0406.

**March 7 – Volunteer Open House.** 4-8p.m. ThorpeWood, 12805-A Mink Farm Road, Thurmont. RSVP [cindy@thorpewood.org](mailto:cindy@thorpewood.org); or 301-271-2823.

**March 8 – Health and Safety Fair.** 8:30 a.m. to noon. Catocin Mountain Park, Camp Round Meadow. Exhibits on health and safety concerns in

home and workplace, public health and environmental issues. Free. 301-663-9330.

**March 10 – April 8. Revelations Speak Peace - Unlocking the Signs Seminar.** 7 p.m. nightly. Seventh Day Adventist Church, 15601 Catocin Mountain Highway (US 15), Thurmont. Presented by Pastor Shawn Boonstra. 301-271-3346.

**March 10 – Basement Coffee House.** 7-10 p.m. Elias Lutheran

Church, Emmitsburg. Free coffee, food and live music.

**March 11 and 18 – Pancake Breakfast and Maple Sugaring program.** Breakfast 9-noon, Mount Hope Methodist Church. Maple sugaring program, 10 a.m. and noon. Sponsored by Strawberry Hill Nature Center, 1537 Mount Hope Road, Fairfield. Reservations: 717-642-5840.

**March 14 – Preschool Registration.**

St. John's Christian Preschool, 15 North Church Street, Thurmont. 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., church Fellowship Hall. Information: 301-271-4109 on Monday, Wednesday or Friday, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Children must be three or four by Aug. 31 and toilet-trained.

**March 15 – Slippery Pot Pie Dinner.** Noon to 5:45 p.m. Lewistown United Methodist Church. Information and directions: 301-898-7888.

**March 16 – “Are you ready?”** 7 p.m. Elias Evangelical Lutheran Church, Emmitsburg. Linda Straka and Dianne Walbrecker will cover basic principles of disaster or emergency event preparedness. Open to the public. 301-447-6239.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

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**Rabbits** of all kinds to a good home; and bunnies will be coming for Easter. Please call 240-674-8135. Christina Moxley.

### Help Wanted

**Carpenter's Helpers & General Laborers** needed in the Thurmont area. Must be comfortable working outside in all weather conditions. Must be able to stand on feet for long periods of time; must be able to do a lot of bending and lifting up to sixty (60) lbs. all day long. Steel-toed shoes are a job requirement. Please call 1-800-240-9479 for more information.

**Farm Hand** wanted for wide range of work. Must be in good physical shape, some heavy lifting/digging involved. 20-40 hours a week. \$12/hour. Call Will at 202-270-4137.

**Part-time and full-time.** Log in at [www.nationwidestaffingsolution.com](http://www.nationwidestaffingsolution.com). Job Order # 30049-8 so, get on-line and apply today.

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**Clothing and food for local community available.** Also need non-perishable food items donated. Please call Kathy at 301-271-3346 for

drop-off times or to receive food and clothing as needed. Thank you! S.D.A. Church, Thurmont, MD 21788

**CNA/GNA** – Will provide care, errands and transportation for your loved one. Please call 240-505-0375.

**FARRIER SERVICE** – Thurmont and surrounding areas. BWFA certified. Call Sandy Zeigler at 301-633-3030 or visit [www.shoemyhorse.com](http://www.shoemyhorse.com).

**Guitar Lessons.** Acoustic/electric. Beginners to advanced. All styles. All ages. Taught by an instructor with over 20 years of teaching and performing experience. Call Brent at 301-271-0860 or e-mail at [brent@brentpro.com](mailto:brent@brentpro.com) for details.

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**Wall Stenciling.** Historic Williamsburg-style and country designs for your home or business. Free estimates. Fairfield, Pa. 717-549-3446. [www.fairwoodsstenciling.com](http://www.fairwoodsstenciling.com).

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**Adoption.** Devoted dad and loving social worker mom seeking newborn to love. 301-933-4046/1-866-203-4861, PIN=7303, or <http://www.adoptioncj.com>.

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**Video Games and Systems.** Play Station, Nintendo, Super Nintendo, Game Boy, X-Box, Atari, and Game Cube, etc. We pay cash. 301-271-6979.

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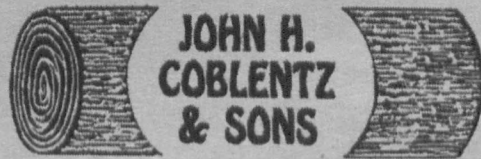
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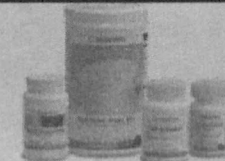
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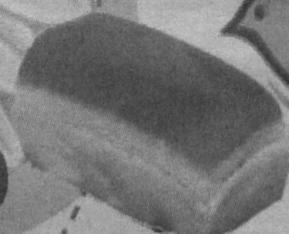
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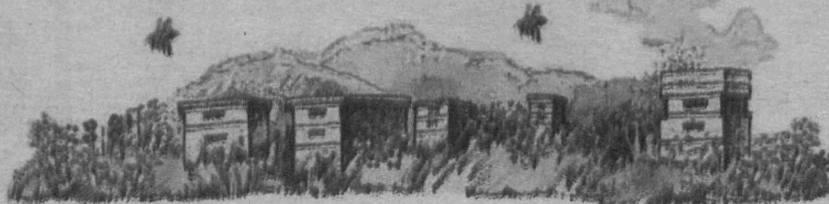
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