

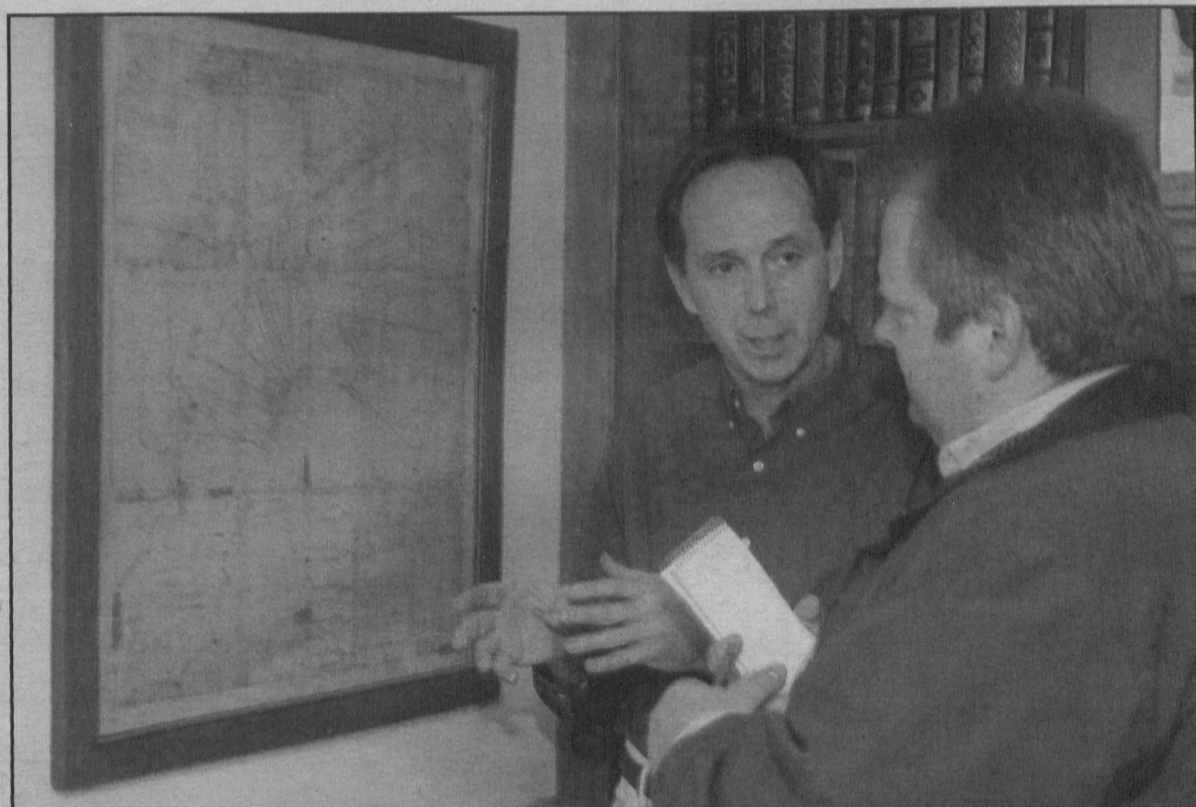
# The Emmitsburg Dispatch

VOL VI, No. 1

News and Opinion in the service of Truth

JANUARY 4, 2007

## Historical map to be returned to the town



-RAYMOND BUCHEISTER / THE DISPATCH

President of the Emmitsburg Area Historical Society, Michael Hillman (Left), explains the historical importance of land boundaries to Dispatch News Editor, James Rada, Jr., that are captured in this 1797 map. In a presentation to the Emmitsburg Board of Commissioners slated to take place Jan. 17, Hillman, on behalf of the historical society, plans to return the map to the town.

BY JAMES RADA JR.  
News Editor  
jrada@thedispatch.us

EMMITSBURG, Md. – It's a map that could get you anywhere around 1797 "Emmitsburgh," and now it has finally found its way to the Emmitsburg town office.

Emmitsburg Commissioner Glenn Blanchard asked that Michael Hillman be placed on the commissioner's agenda for Jan. 17

so that he could present a historic map to the town.

"This is the oldest map that shows the boundaries of Emmitsburg that existed in 1797," Hillman said during an interview later.

Blanchard said he had seen the map and "It's just very cool. I'll leave it at that."

The poster-sized map now hangs in a frame in Hillman's

-See **Map** on page 3

## Mayor Hoover sets goals for 2007

BY JAMES RADA JR.  
News Editor  
jrada@thedispatch.us

EMMITSBURG, Md. – Though it's the middle of Emmitsburg's fiscal year, the changing of the calendar is an opportunity for Mayor James Hoover to look ahead at what he would like to do over the next 12 months.

"I believe these are reasonable goals that can be accomplished this year, and I believe it can be accomplished in addition to the regular things we do like street paving, sidewalks and new park equipment," Hoover said.

In no particular order, Hoover said his goals were:

- To complete the design and bid process for the

sewer and water line project on Lincoln Avenue (Expected to be complete fall 2007).

- Complete the bandstand in Community Park (Expected to be complete fall 2007).
- Design and build the first phase of the walking/exercise trail in Community Park (Expected to be complete fall 2007).
- Host a community barbecue (Expected to be complete summer 2007).
- Complete the comprehensive plan and sign ordinance (Expected to be complete spring 2007).
- Design the upgrade to the

-See **Goals** on page 3

### This Issue

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### Resolutions



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New Year!

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**Carroll Valley**  
Community survey results

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**Fairfield**  
Debating curbs and  
sidewalks

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## Bicentennial plans announced to celebrate Seton's arrival

EMMITSBURG, Md. – Elizabeth Ann Seton, the first native-born American to become a saint, arrived in Emmitsburg in July 1809 and plans are underway for how to celebrate that bicentennial event.

The Daughters of Charity

have announced that beginning in January 2009 a series of events recognizing Seton's arrival will take place. These include a recreation and reenactment of Seton's journey from Baltimore to Emmitsburg (about 57 miles).

- J. Rada

## New community deputy patrolling Emmitsburg

BY JAMES RADA JR.  
News Editor  
jrada@thedispatch.us

EMMITSBURG, Md. – Being a community deputy for Emmitsburg should be easier for Frederick County Sheriff's Deputy Rick Gast. Three years ago when he worked narcotics for the sheriff's office, he was shot as he entered a home.

"I was wounded, but I was back on the job in five weeks," Gast said. "If I didn't like my job, I don't think I would have been able

to come back so quickly."

Gast has been assigned an Emmitsburg community deputy since the last week of December. He replaces Deputy Matthew Simon who took a new position in Ohio.

"This is where I wanted to be," Gast said. "It's closer to home. I know this area. I like this area."

Still, it has taken some getting used to as he drives around the area, which he hasn't done much of since he left patrol duty five years ago. Now there are new subdivisions to explore and new

procedures for paperwork to get used to again.

"You don't forget how to investigate, but sometimes that paperwork – what to fill out for a missing person or what to do for this situation – you need to refresh

on because it hasn't been part of your daily life," the deputy said.

Before coming to Emmitsburg, Gast had been assigned to Middletown since October 2006.

-See **Deputy** on page 3

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

### Loose dog attacks and kills family's cats

On Dec. 28, I saw two dogs in our yard chasing our cats. One dog killed at least two of our four cats, one of them sleeping on the front porch, and chased another into the woods.

One dog looked like a German Shepherd mix, but the one who did the killing was definitely a pit-bull mixed with what appeared to be a Rotweiler.

I called the police and alerted our neighbors to keep their pets and children inside. The dogs had been spotted on Eagle Trail by two gentlemen who said they had put them back in a fenced yard several times since the dogs were continually digging out under the fence. They couldn't jump

the fence; it had electricity at the top. The dogs' owners were away; someone was feeding them. The men said the gate to the yard was open. We inspected it and found it had no secure lock or latch and the dogs could easily jump and unlatch it.

Why have an electric fence to keep a dog in a yard? If the dog is that out of control, why is it not on a leash, especially when the owners are away? Because the dogs were back in a "secure area," the police neither felt the need nor had the means to take them to the SPCA.

The Adams County dog warden was on vacation; the SPCA said they do not pick up animals, but suggested that I bring the dogs

in if they are loose.

Two of our cats are dead, one is missing and presumed dead, and our fourth cat is now confined inside full-time because we do not know if the dogs will get out again. What if our children or the neighbor's children were out playing; would they have been attacked? What do Adams County citizens do then? Wait for the vacationing authorities to return from vacation! I assume that attacks do not only occur during working hours or non-vacationing time - therefore, why is there no back-up person or plan for emergencies such as this?

- Bill Fredrikis  
Carroll Valley, Pa.

### Thanks for putting Christ back into Christmas

I want to thank you, the editors, for freely using the words Christmas, Christ and Jesus in your Dec. 21 editorial. It seems these days people are afraid to express their Christian beliefs

for fear of offending anyone or bringing on a lawsuit from the ACLU. It's sad how Christmas has been reduced to a secular "holiday season" that has very little to do with Jesus, and ev-

erything to do with celebrating all faiths for fear of excluding or offending anyone.

- Alison Phillips  
Thurmont, Md.

### Homes better than dirt bikes

I just wanted to voice my support for the proposed Lawyer farm development. When my

family moved to the Gateway development in Thurmont five years ago, the thought of a development butting up against my scenic backyard would have broke my heart! However, now our country view has become a never-ending sewer management project turned dirt-bike playground which

spews noise and dirt all over our homes. It's also become a new hangout for bored Thurmont youth. The thought of new homes on half-acre lots laced with walking paths is quite appealing.

- Stephanie Kiessling  
Thurmont, Md.

## 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.*

January 4, 1907

#### Personals

The Wilhide property which was sold at public sale last Saturday realized \$6,439.50. Mr. George Wilhide was the purchaser.

The Reiman property was sold at public sale on Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock. This fine farm containing 200 acres of land was purchased by Mr. J. Topper for \$5,060.00.

The property belonging to the Maxell estate, situated immediately east of the Presbyterian church, was purchased on Saturday by Mrs. Francis Maxell, widow of the late Francis Maxell, for \$332.50.

#### NARROW ESCAPE

On Wednesday afternoon Mr. Johnston Eyler and Mr. Grant Bell had a narrow escape while digging a well on the property of the Misses Shriver. It was little short of a miracle that neither of the men was seriously hurt.

At the time of the accident Mr. Eyler was placing some dynamite in the bottom of the well, then about twelve feet deep. Mr. Bell was standing at the mouth of the hole when, probably on account of the recent wet weather, the ground caved in precipitating the heavy timbers placed across the hole down on Mr. Eyler and carrying Mr. Bell with them.

Outside of a few bruises on Mr. Bell's face both men escaped uninjured. The blast that was about to be put off is still in the well.

#### Shot in the Arm

West Marsh ran amuck in Harney a few days ago and when Deputy Officer Archibald Lambert attempted to arrest him he drew a gun on the officer who beat a hasty retreat to his home. Marsh pursued Lambert clear to the house and when he found the door barred against him shot through the window, the bullet hitting Mrs. Lambert in the arm.

Marsh escaped and has not yet been apprehended. Mrs.

Lambert's wound is not thought to be serious.

#### Hail to the Band

On New Year's afternoon the Emmitsburg Band, composed of young men resident in the community, made its first public appearance and played itself into popularity at once. The streets were lined with appreciative listeners; the small boys, much in evidence, danced with glee; while old and young alike showed by the expression on their faces that they were thoroughly enjoying the splendid numbers well rendered by this new organization.

Great credit is due to the leader of the Emmitsburg Band, Mr. Lansinger, and each member of it, for the success attained, and now that there is a live aggregation of musicians demonstrating an ability to play - and to play well - the entire town will undoubtedly give it the support which it unquestionably merits. The people of Emmitsburg should no longer find it necessary to send to adjoining towns for musicians. They are right here and they have proved that they are capable of discoursing music that is appropriate for any occasion.

The open air concerts given on New Year's afternoon were heartily enjoyed by all and there was but one comment and that was that "the Emmitsburg Band is all right."

#### Week of Prayer

The week of prayer as authorized by the Evangelical churches of this community, will begin on Sunday night, Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:30, in the Reformed church. Rev. Mr. Kenneth M. Craig will deliver the sermon. On Monday night at the same time and in the same church, Rev. Reinwald will preach. On Tuesday evening, Rev. Bayley will conduct the services in the Lutheran church. On Wednesday, Rev. K.M. Craig in the Lutheran church. On Friday and Sunday evenings in the Presbyterian church, Revs. Craig and Bayley.

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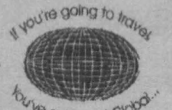
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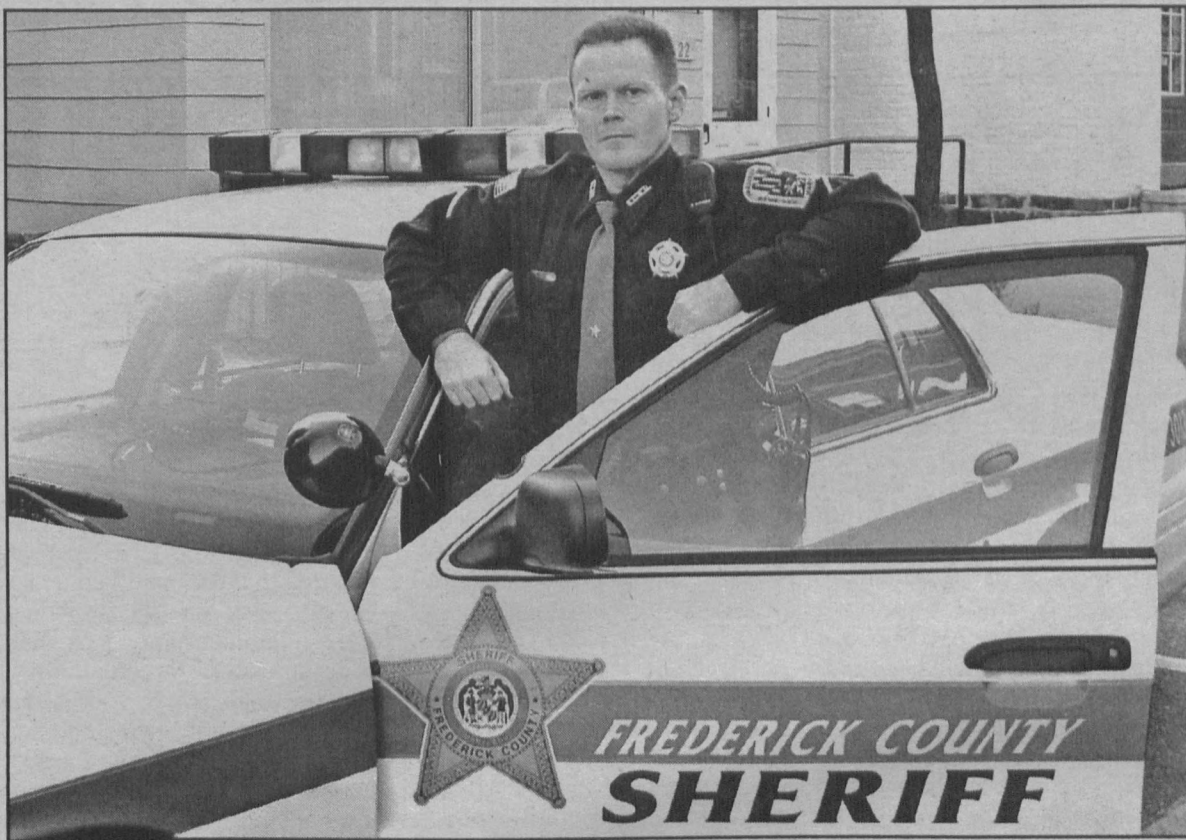
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- ROBERT A. ROSENSTEEL SR. / THE DISPATCH

Frederick County Sheriff's Deputy Rick Gast is Emmitsburg's newest community deputy. He's been patrolling Emmitsburg's streets since late December when he was reassigned to the town from Middletown.

## Deputy

-Continued from page 1

Before that, he had spent five years in the narcotics division. In total, Gast has eight years with the FCSO and five years with two police agencies in Virginia.

"A good friend I worked with

in the Richmond Police had come from Frederick County and he said I should apply," Gast said.

The idea had appeal because Gast was looking for a change at the time and Frederick County was halfway between his family and his then-girlfriend's (now wife's) family.

Gast said he's proud of the work he does because it's an honorable job

that allows him to help people.

"It's a job of responsibility and authority," he told *The Dispatch*. "People depend on you and it would be easy to abuse the job so you have to take it seriously."

That doesn't stop him from enjoying his work and he believes he will continue enjoying it in Emmitsburg.

## Goals

-Continued from page 1

sewer plan nutrient removal level and do it with state money (Expected to be complete spring 2007).

- Install "Welcome to Emmitsburg" signs on East and West Main Street (Expected to be complete spring 2007).
- Start a monthly television program to complement the Mayor James Hoover Radio Program (Expected to be complete fall 2007).

"This is what I'm focusing

on," Hoover said. "This is what Jim Hoover will be looking to do and putting in his budget to do."

While the barbeque might seem a bit frivolous, Hoover sees it as a way for the community to bond.

"It's something fun that will allow the community to socialize, and I think it can be done without costing the town anything," Hoover said.

Hoover's goals seem in line with the direction the town is already heading. For instance, the South Seton water and sewer upgrades are already underway and the Lincoln Avenue project is a continuation of that work.

The commissioners have expressed a desire to begin mak-

ing needed sidewalk repairs. This multi-year project is expected to cost around \$225,000 over the next few years. The commissioners have already voted to include \$50,000 in the town budget that takes effect July 1.

Hoover said he believes that only the bandstand and the walking/exercise trail could be affected by an overly tight budget.

However, this goal could tie in with the trail project Mount St. Mary's and the town have already discussed. The trail system would give students walking access to town and an additional option to residents who want to expand their exercise program beyond Community Park.

## Map

-Continued from page 1

home. It is drawn on linen paper that has turned brown and cracked and torn with age. It shows not only the Town of Emmitsburg as it existed in 1797 but the town lots, roads and property lines of surrounding properties. For instance, it shows that a large part of the town that the Emmitt family believed they owned as part of the Carrollsburg tract was actually part of a tract of land called Silver Fancy owned by the Delaney family.

"There was a boundary dispute over who owned the land where the town was so the court ordered a resurvey," Hillman said. "The result of that survey was this map in 1797."

Though the map has been a prized possession of Hillman's for a number of years, he said it really belongs to the town and he would like to see it hang where a lot of people can view it.

"As long as the town said it was founded in 1757, this was worthless to the town," Hillman said. "Now that the town has resolved this issue, the map needs to be returned to the citizens of Emmitsburg."

There was a time when the map was literally worthless to the town. When the old town historical society folded in 1995 and the Greater Emmitsburg Historical Society was

formed, the new historical society also took possession of a lot of the artifacts the old historical society owned. Many of these were stored in a room in the old community center. When the renovation of the community center began, the town needed to have that room cleaned out.

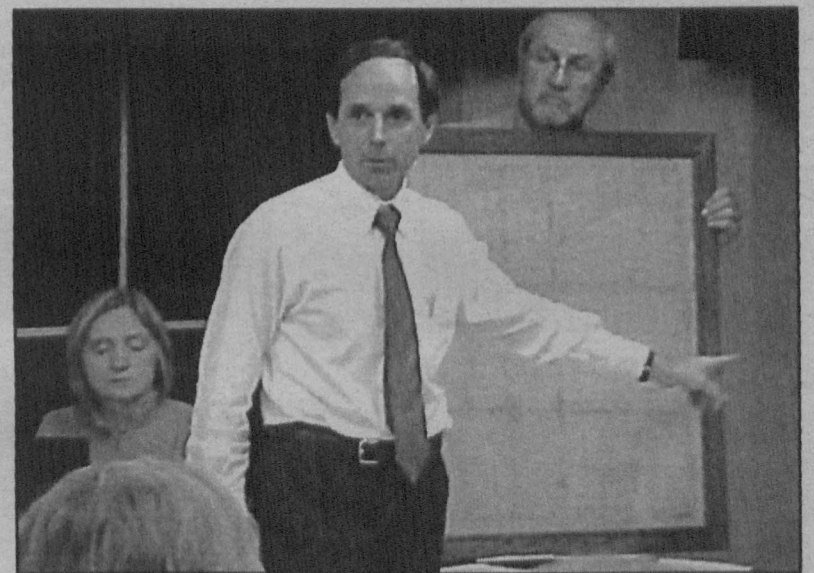
"Bill and Betty Gardner went through there to see if there was anything to keep because the town had said they were going to throw out whatever was left," Hillman said.

Behind an old bookcase, the couple found two maps. One was a 1908 reproduction of an 1808 map of the town and the other was the 1797 map.

"I remember looking at it and saying to myself that this was the Rosetta Stone," Hillman said. "This proved everything I'd said about the founding date."

He said that the donation to the town would have some strings attached. The map will be given in trust to the town and if at some future date, the town decides it no longer wants to display it, it will return to the local historical society, or if there is none, the county historical society.

Blanchard said he hopes this is the first step to displaying other historical items and pictures on the mostly empty walls of the commissioners meeting room in the town office. Commissioner William O'Neil has also spoken about adding money to the budget to create historical displays.



-File Photo RAYMOND BUCHHEISTER / THE DISPATCH

The last time this historical artifact, a 1797 map, was displayed before the town board was on Feb. 3, 2003 when Michael Hillman used it in his presentation to argue his point that the 1757 founding date listed on the then town's welcome signs was in error.

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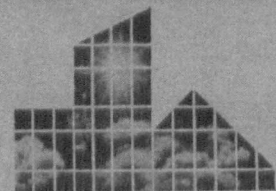


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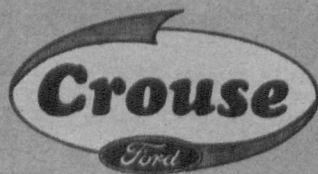
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**EDITORIAL**

*★ Making a Difference*

**A 2007 Dispatch campaign**

"We live. We die. And somewhere in between, some of us make a difference."

- Editorial, News Photographer, Oct. 2006

With the beginning of a new year many people make resolutions for self-improvement or to accomplish things they haven't been able to do in the past. Created by Jennifer Buchheister and introduced at our company's Christmas party on Dec. 8, we at *The Dispatch* aren't making resolutions - we're introducing a campaign for 2007 called "Making a Difference."

More than any other media, organization, church, government, or individual, *The Dispatch* has

the greatest opportunity in our circulation area to speak and be heard because we reach the most people, and people are reading our newspapers. Because of this large reach, our goal is to encourage those in the community and ourselves to make a positive difference where we live. We hope to do this by recognizing those who are making a difference in the community and to challenge readers to make a positive impact in areas that need attention.

How will we do this?

*The Dispatch* is a newspaper guided by the motto, "News and Opinion in the Service of Truth." In every issue the publication strives to inform and educate its readers about their respective

town and the surrounding region, and to provide a basic historical record. Editorially we will continue to strive to provide the most accurate information. Readers cannot make a positive impact on their communities if they do not have correct and truthful information.

Beginning with our Jan. 18 issue, we will run a new monthly column, "Making a Difference." In it we will recognize a person, organization, or business that is making a positive difference in the community. We invite you, our readers, to submit nominees for this recognition, with specific details about why they should be recognized. By highlighting people's good works we hope to

encourage others to do the same.

Next December we will run a "Year in Review" of those who have made a difference. We will include not just the individuals who have been featured in the monthly columns, but also everyone whose names were submitted along with their contributions to the community.

*The Dispatch* will also continue to submit its own opinion in editorials that point out areas of need in the community and challenge people to make a difference. We need to hear from you. Write, e-mail, or call us. Tell us what we're doing right and how we can improve. Together we can make a difference in the community for 2007 and years to come.

**Rada becomes papers' News Editor**



James Rada Jr. is now the News Editor for both Dispatch newspapers, having covered the Thurmont area since he joined papers' staff on Feb. 2, 2006. Rada is an award-winning journalist who most recently worked for The Frederick News-Post.

*The Dispatch* is pleased to announce that James Rada Jr. is now the News Editor for both *The Emmitsburg Dispatch* and *The Thurmont Dispatch* newspapers.

Rada joined *The Dispatch* in February 2006, and has distinguished himself as a professional journalist for seven years, first with the *Cumberland Times-News* and then *The Frederick News-Post*. Before that he was a freelance writer creating newsletters and other marketing materials for regional, national and international companies.

He has won 22 journalism awards in six years from the Associated Press, Maryland-Delaware-DC Press Association, Society of Professional Journalists, Maryland State Teachers Association and Community News Holdings, Inc. His awards were given for column writing, breaking news, sports features, investigative reporting, feature writing, religion writing, continuing coverage, education writing, and public service writing among others.

Rada covered the Shanksville, Pa. crash on 9/11 (for which he won a spot news award from MDDC), has driven in a demolition derby, trained as a firefighter, and flown in a B-17 bomber that needed to make an emergency landing.

During his 1 1/2 years at *The Frederick News-Post*, Rada's stories led to the creation of a residency requirement for county commissioners, delay of a landfill tax, changes to how the board of education uses certain county monies, and the notification of residents in the New Market area about a road slated to cut through their properties.

He is the author of seven novels, many of which are historical fiction about Western Maryland.

Rada currently lives in Gettysburg, Pa., with his wife Amy, and sons Ben and Sam. He is a graduate of Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, and Franklin High School in Reisterstown, Md.

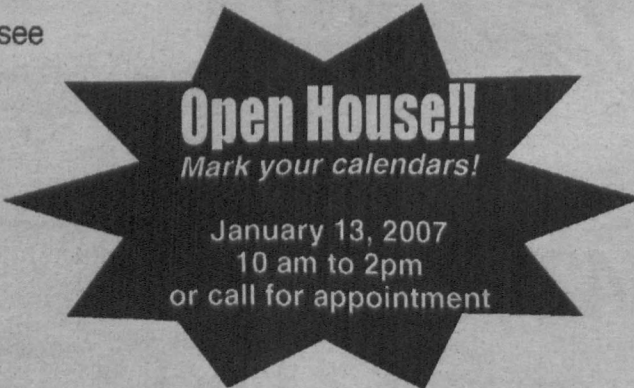
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NEWS ANALYSIS

# Emmitsburg - Whats ahead in 2007

BY JOYCE M. DEMMITT  
Managing Editor  
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EMMITSBURG, Md. — With 2006 behind us, we look ahead to what 2007 will bring to Emmitsburg. Some of the town's focus will be new and different, but a great deal will be a carryover from 2006 — or earlier.

**Water, sewer and safety**

The town's infrastructure will continue to be a focus. The sewer and water line upgrades are a major priority; and safety issues, both with vehicular and pedestrian traffic, are being addressed.

**Water and sewer:** Work is nearing completion on the South Seton water and sewer line upgrades, with similar work to follow for Lincoln Avenue. Water and sewer rate increases will begin for residential and commercial customers with the March quarterly utility bill. Hopefully the town will monitor any individual hardships caused by these needed increases.

**Stoplight at Silo Hill:** Work has begun on installing a fully functional stoplight at the intersection of Silo Hill Road and East Main Street (Rt. 140), the site of numerous accidents in 2006.

**Sidewalks:** The commissioners voted last year to include up to \$50,000 in the FY 2007-08 budget to begin replacing trees and repairing damaged sidewalks. Town staff will soon produce an interim plan to reduce risk to pedestrians from the most dangerous sidewalks.

**Fire and ambulance:** Work on the expansion and remodeling of Vigilant Fire Company's headquarters on West Main Street is slated for mid-2007 completion. The Emmitsburg Volunteer Ambulance Company hopes to dedicate its new Creamery Road facility in April.

**Planning**

The town's previously stalled comprehensive plan review, back on track and in need of public opinion, is scheduled for a February completion. The plan projects a 3% population growth per year for the next 20 years: from slightly over 2,000 people in January 1997 to up to 5,500. The town must look at zoning issues, annexation, and issues of affordable housing, particularly for the elderly living in the community.

**Business collaboration, expansion and growth**

Existing businesses are growing, and with a revitalized Emmitsburg Business and Professional Association, networking will be easier and opportunities for collaboration in the community will be greatly enhanced.

**Expansion, consolidation, annexation, bypass:** The conditionally approved 39-acre Emmitsburg East Industrial Park Phase II site is to be annexed into the town. Construction on the 22,000 square foot consolidated Bollinger headquarters con-

tinues. Other potential annexations mentioned in the comprehensive plan - Silver Fancy Farm, Bollinger property, and the Frailey and Keepers property - warrant attention this year. The town linked approval of the potential development of the Frailey and Keepers farm properties on the western end of town with the construction by the developer of a long-discussed bypass to deal with the ever-increasing traffic coming through town to and from Pennsylvania. Nothing has been said about this annexation since last spring. Maybe it's time for a thorough feasibility study regarding a bypass, taking into account positive and negative implications for local businesses and residents.

**Heritage Tourism, a potential revenue stream**

Emmitsburg has the opportunity to market several of its unique attributes, drawing tourists to town, and to be involved in plans for upcoming local historical celebrations. Heritage tourism could become a consistent and lucrative revenue stream.

**National Fire Heritage Center:** Plans, introduced in December 2006 for a county fire museum and

a national fire service archive in town, include remodeling the current ambulance headquarters on South Seton Avenue would enhance fire service tourism all year long.

**Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area:** It remains to be seen what the town will do with a Civil War heritage management plan inserted into the comprehensive plan. Participation could generate revenue for historic tourism, preservation and signage.

**Bicentennials:** Emmitsburg has the opportunity to work collaboratively on two upcoming bicentennial celebrations, partnerships that would bring in tourist revenue as well. Mount St. Mary's University will celebrate its 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2008; and in 2009 The Daughters of Charity will celebrate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the arrival in Emmitsburg of Elizabeth Ann Seton, the first native-born American saint.

**Preservation - of land and endangered species**

Included in the town's strategic plan is the importance of preserving a greenbelt around town and the creation of a trail system connecting outlying developments to Main Street and to each other.

The Catocin Land Trust, has already secured deed restrictions and preservation easements on more than 1,700 acres of land around Emmitsburg, and is actively working to raise awareness of the 175-mile Route 15 corridor "Journey through Hallowed Ground."

Mount St. Mary's University would like to work with Emmitsburg to develop a trail system that would give students walking ac-

cess to the town. This collaboration would benefit students and residents alike.

And perhaps this is the year for a wildlife management area designation. Last year the beavers were saved from certain death; perhaps this year the town could move to protect the Turtlehead plants, and thereby take a proactive stance to preserve yet another of its natural resources.


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*We thank all of our guests for twenty wonderful years in Emmitsburg; we look forward to our third decade in hopes of serving our community for twenty more years.*

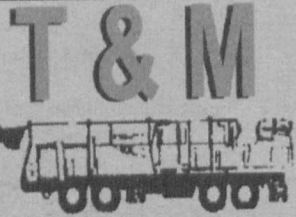
*Sincerely,*  
*Jim & Bob Hance & crew*

The Carriage House will be closed  
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for our annual employee vacation to Atlantic City.  
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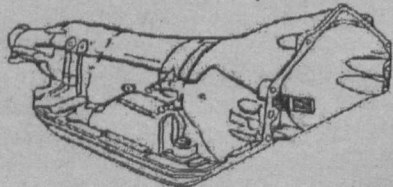
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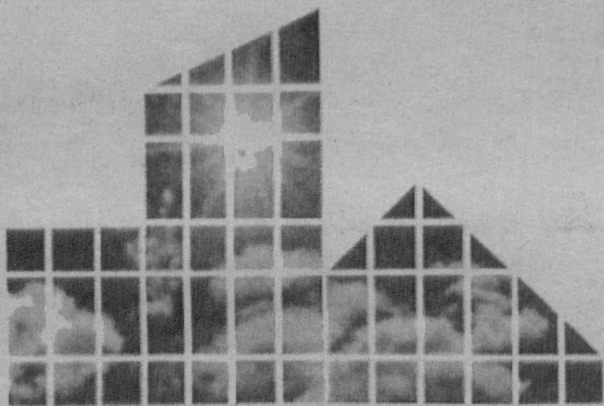
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## TOWN NEWS

# VHC expansion going "well"

By JAMES RADA JR.  
 News Editor  
 jrada@thedispatch.us

EMMITSBURG, Md. – When Emmitsburg's third brick house, built in 1790 by Frederick Beard, was torn down to allow Vigilant Hose Company to expand, workers found a surprise. They discovered a hand-dug well lined with stone, about four feet in diameter and 20 feet deep, in the basement.

Once the discovery was made, the project had to be halted temporarily while a civil engineer looked at the well to determine what to do about it.

"We're going to fill it with stone to about three feet from the top," said Project Supervisor Dean Thomas. "We'll cap the last three feet with cement and add an extra sump pump to keep the water out."

The house had been a former apartment building attached to the side of the Vigilant Hose Company and needed to be demolished because it was structurally unsound. Even the historic façade could not be saved once it was discovered that the bricks were crumbling.



- PHOTOS COURTESY OF BILL BOYD

**A hand-dug well in the basement of the Beard House was discovered when the house was torn down to make way for the expansion of the Vigilant Hose Company. The well will be filled and capped to prepare for the new addition to the fire company.**

Once the demolition is cleared, construction can begin on the \$1.5-million expansion of the fire company. An elevator will be installed, as well as staircases. The first floor of the new structure will serve as of-

fices, with the second floor serving as the "bunk" area. The new attic when completed will be used for storage.

"My schedule said we'll be done at the end of June, but I think July is more realistic," Thomas said.

## Christmas Decoration Contest winners



219 S. Seton Avenue- Fist place winner of the Children's Choice category

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 peggykoontz@wesellmore.com  
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Emmitsburg Parks and Recreation Committee announced the following winners of the 2006 Christmas decoration contest:

**Business Category**

- 1st - Ott House and Main Street Sweets
- 2nd - Carriage House
- 3rd - F&M Bank

**Children's Choice**

- 1st - 219 S. Seton Avenue (\$50)
- Tied for 2nd - #2 & #3 Seton Place (\$25 each)
- Honorable Mention - 104 E. Main Street

**Best Decorated**

- 1st - 4 Adams Avenue (\$50)
- 2nd - 2 Reeny Circle
- 3rd - 3145 Stonehurst Court

## EDUCATION

## Seidel fund receives over \$1,000 from benefit dinner



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Community Foundation Trustee Ann Burnside Love, Catoclin High School Principal Jack Newkirk, and student Morgan Thomas (left) with Sandra and Robert Seidel and Community Foundation Trustee George Lewis (right) at the 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Robert A. Seidel III monument on the grounds of Catoclin High School.

FREDERICK, Md. — Catoclin High School junior Morgan Thomas wanted to complete her senior graduation project early, and she wanted a project that was meaningful, not only to her, but one that would benefit something she believed in strongly. She chose to honor the memory of a family friend and Catoclin High School graduate, Robert Seidel, who died in May serving his country in Iraq.

Thomas's graduation project was a benefit dinner for the 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Robert A. Seidel III Memorial Scholarship Fund held by The Community Foundation of Frederick County. The Dec. 9 event at St. Joseph's Parish Hall in Emmitsburg raised over \$1,000, which Thomas donated to the Seidel Fund.

"I wanted to help others through my graduation project and am pleased to have raised more money than I had originally anticipated," said Thomas.

Preparing a budget, planning the event, and now working on her graduation project presentation scheduled for January has been a labor of love for her.

"The most rewarding part of my graduation project has been working with the Seidel family, and my own family," she said.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Robert A. Seidel III Memorial Scholarship Fund will award scholarships annually to graduating seniors of Catoclin

High School who demonstrate academic promise, have participated in at least one varsity sport during their senior year, demonstrate an outstanding record of community service, and are active in their faith. The fund was established by Rob's parents, Sandra and Robert Seidel, and his brother Stephen.

"Morgan has done an amazing job. She's just a wonderful person to keep Rob's memory alive in such a remarkable way," says Sandra Seidel.

A 2000 Catoclin High School graduate, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Seidel not only played football and baseball but also excelled academically. An active member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, he was an altar server and volunteered as the high school representative on the parish council. Seidel graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 2004, serving as a rifle platoon leader in Company B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 22<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment of the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division based in Fort Drum, N.Y.

Catoclin High School Principal, Jack Newkirk, says Thomas

is to be commended for finding a project she believes in. "The money she raised for the Seidel Fund at the Community Foundation will benefit future graduates of Catoclin High School."

The first scholarships from the Seidel fund will be awarded during the 2006-2007 academic year. Eligible students may apply for this, as well as the 100+ other scholarships managed by the Community Foundation, by completing the Community Foundation's Universal Scholarship Application, available online at [www.cffredco.org](http://www.cffredco.org).

Contributions to the Seidel fund are accepted at any time in any amount. Checks may be made payable and sent to the Community Foundation, 312 East Church Street, Frederick, MD 21701 with "The 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Robert A. Seidel III Memorial Scholarship Fund" inserted in the check's memo line. Gifts may also be made online using Visa or MasterCard through the Community Foundation's Web site, [www.cffredco.org](http://www.cffredco.org). All contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

### Feeder schools talk with the superintendent

Frederick County Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Linda Burgee will meet informally with parents and guardians in Catoclin High feeder schools beginning at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 17 at Thurmont Elementary School. Schools included are Emmitsburg, Lewistown, Sabillasville and Thurmont Elementary, Thurmont Primary, Thurmont Middle and Catoclin High. Thurmont Elementary School is located at 805 East Main Street.

## Community Foundation accepting scholarship applications

The Community Foundation of Frederick County is accepting scholarship applications for more than 100 scholarships for the 2007-2008 academic year.

Students about to complete their senior year of high school, students already enrolled in a trade school, college or university, and non-traditional students over the age of 21 who have waited a number of years before starting their post-secondary education are eligible to apply. Scholarships are for residents of Frederick County, studying on a full-time basis, unless otherwise noted in a specific scholarship description. While some scholarships are based on financial need, others are not. All students are encouraged to apply.

To download the scholarship guidelines and application, visit the Community Foundation's Web site, [www.cffredco.org](http://www.cffredco.org). To receive a scholarship packet in the mail, send a stamped, self-addressed 8½ by 11 inch envelope with \$1.11 postage to the Community Foundation, 312 East Church Street,

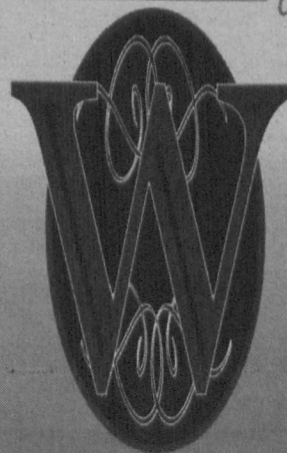
Frederick, MD 21701. Interested applicants can also pick up the information from the Community Foundation's office. Guidelines and applications will also be available through the guidance offices of local high schools.

Completed applications are due no later than 5 p.m. on

Thursday, March 1, 2007, at the Community Foundation's office. Applications with all necessary attachments received after the submission deadline will not be considered. Additional information about the Community Foundation is available at [www.cffredco.org](http://www.cffredco.org) or by calling (301) 695-7660.

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### FFA going 'whole hog' at country butchering

THURMONT, Md. — From pork chops to ribs to roasts, the Catoclin FFA along with FFA Alumni will be serving up an assortment of cuts at their country butchering. The event will take place on Feb. 9 at Catoclin High School. Sixteen hogs will be prepared and sold. Place orders by contacting Mr. Beaven at (240) 236-8117 by Jan. 30. The meat can be picked up between 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Feb. 9. Extra meat will be sold that day on a first-come first-serve basis.

- B. Weeks

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2007 Line Officers: (L-R) Chief, Brian Koenig; Deputy Chief, Kenny Marshall; Ass't. Chief, Roland Haines



-PHOTOS BY RAYMOND BUCHEISTER / THE DISPATCH

## Ambulance company officers swearing in

Robert Jacobs, past president of the Maryland State Fireman's Association, swears in the company's new line officers, administration officers, and board of directors for 2007. All positions were voted on by the membership.



2007 Board of Directors: (L-R) Ed Little (seated in the wheelchair), Loretta Sprankle, Diane Kelly, Donna Miller



2007 Administration Officers: (L-R) Ass't. Secretary, Darlene Sharer; Vice-President, MaryLou Little; Secretary, Melissa Sharrer; President, Joe Pelkey; Treasurer, Tom Humerick.

EMMITSBURG, Md. – In anticipation of a grand dedication for their new building in the spring, the Emmitsburg Ambulance Company scaled back its annual banquet this year. It held a small Christmas party on Friday, Dec. 22 at the current ambulance building. No dignitaries were invited to this event. The company plans to go all-out for its new building dedication hopefully in April, in an event that will include county officials. *- J. Rada*

## Town Meetings

- **Town Meeting**  
January 17  
7:30 p.m.
- **Water Committee**  
January 16  
7:30 p.m.
- **Sign Ordinance**  
January 18  
7:00 p.m.
- **Planning Commission**  
January 29  
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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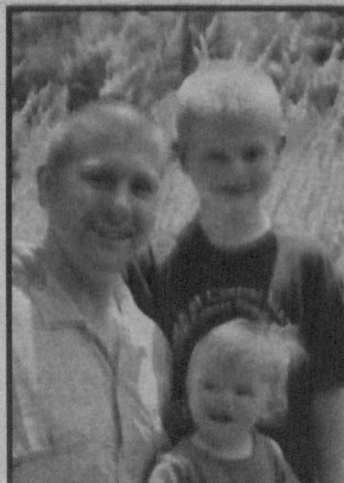
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## BUSINESS NEWS

## Shape up for the New Year!

BY JAMES RADA JR.  
News Editor  
jrada@thedispatch.us

THURMONT, Md. — Megan Cartee has lost 50 pounds in the past few months. She is careful about what she eats and she's been working out.

Where?

Curves in Thurmont.

Another Curves member, Darlene Wetzel lost a total of 8.25 inches after a month of working out at Curves.

"I had hip and knee problems, but I needed to work out so I thought I'd try Curves and I'm hooked on it," Wetzel said.

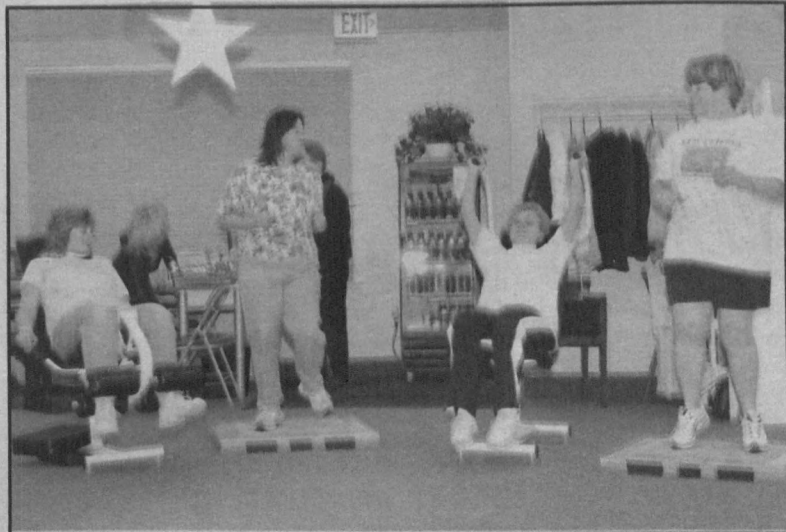
Members aren't the only ones who have seen a change the past few months. Curves itself is under new management and has been renovated to be more appealing to its members.

New owners Angela Niessner and Shawn Dewees took over the club in early November. Niessner said it needed carpeting, a new paint job, plumbing, new ceiling tiles and a myriad of other work.

"The drywall didn't even meet the floor because there was no floor molding," Niessner said.

She said as word has gotten out about the changes, people have stopped in to look at the remodeled facility and 25 former members have returned.

"They find the atmosphere nice and upbeat now," Niessner said. "It's warm and friendly. That's good because the ladies have more invested here than just physical fit-



—RAYMOND BUCHHEISTER / THE DISPATCH

**Members of Curves of Thurmont Stacy Coleman, Lisa Krom, Pat Ott, and Bev Adams are making their New Year's resolutions come true as they get in shape and meet new friends. Curves of Thurmont has been under new management since November and has been renovated to be a more inviting workout place for women.**

ness. This is something they can do for themselves and there's a support system of other women to help them."

Members range from teens to women in their 70s. They come in, sometimes everyday, and do the Curves 30-minute workout that includes a warm-up, aerobic training, strength training and a cool-down.

"We also offer education on weight management," Niessner said. "We call it the 'Six-Week Solution' and it offers menus and shopping lists. We try to teach you not only how to lose the weight you want but to live without being on a diet."

The workout is circuit train-

ing using hydraulic resistance machines that apply constant resistance to the muscles.

"It doesn't make you sore," Niessner said. "You can workout everyday and some people do."

Member Stephanie Mason said, "I come here because I find it's the best overall workout for my upper and lower body."

She also finds it an efficient way to train where she can pack a workout into half an hour.

With many people making New Year's resolution, this is a busy time for gyms and fitness centers. For more information about Curves in Thurmont, call (301) 271-7900.

## Structural Systems Inc. hosts builder training

THURMONT, Md. — In an effort to find ways to improve home performance, Structural Systems Inc. recently hosted a training program for builders in association with the Maryland Energy Administration.

The Maryland Energy Administration works to find new ways to maximize energy efficiency and reduce dependence on foreign energy suppliers.

Representatives from the NAHB Research Center conducted the seminar in Thurmont for Maryland code officials, builder framing crews, and Structural Systems sales and design representatives. A broad range of topics were discussed, including best practices for framing/OVE, mechanical systems, insulation, and

weatherproofing. During a facility tour, attendees viewed a Structural Systems-designed scaled-down wall model that displayed improvements in material and energy efficiency through advanced framing techniques.

"The MEA presentation was constructive in illustrating how the various parts of the home impact overall home performance," said Matt Gordon, Structural System's Environmental Director. The company is planning to offer additional seminars on this topic in the near future.

Structural Systems is a building components manufacturer and distributor with offices in Thurmont; Frederick; Elkton, Md. and Culpeper, Va.

— J.Rada

## County municipalities to talk about business incubator

BY JAMES RADA JR.  
News Editor  
jrada@thedispatch.us

THURMONT, Md. — Imagine taking a large empty building in town, perhaps the old Jubilee store, and dividing it into spaces where entrepreneurs in agriculture, information technology, retail or anything else can try out their business ideas to see what will develop into the next big local employer.

That's the idea behind a business incubator. In 2005 Frederick County's first business technology incubator, The Frederick Innovative Technology Center, opened at Hood College and was filled to capacity within one year. FITCI is preparing to open a second technology incubator on Metropolitan Court south of Frederick. While these two facilities are primarily for high tech and bioscience companies, incubators can also serve agricultural, retail and general

business needs, according to the Office of Economic Development.

Local municipal and business leaders will be meeting in a forum sponsored by the Frederick County Office of Economic Development at the Cozy in on Jan. 19 to talk about business incubators and how they can help local municipalities.

"I'd like to see business incubators established in most, if not all, of our towns," said Marie Keegin, executive director of the Office of Economic Development. "They are an asset to the economic vitality of many communities."

Randy Gray with the Office of Economic Development said that most of the county's municipalities, especially Thurmont and Brunswick, have expressed an interest in developing a business incubator. "We want them to learn about incubators and have the knowledge and ammunition to know how to proceed if it is in their best interests," Gray said.

Speakers at the event, including those who've launched suc-

cessful business incubators, will provide information and resource material on their operations and experiences to town officials, municipal economic developers, Main Street managers and business leaders.

"Some municipal officials have already asked if they could bring some of their business associates and we said, 'Sure!'" Gray said.

The National Business Incubator Association estimates that incubator client and graduate companies have created a half-million jobs in North America since 1980. The NBIA also says while 80 percent of new businesses fail within the first five years, 87 percent of those affiliated with an incubator survive.

For more information on this free forum, which will be held from noon to 2:30 p.m., and to register to attend, please call the Frederick County Office of Economic Development by Jan. 12 at (301) 600-2341.

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# SOUTH ADAMS COUNTY NEWS

## Regional News Briefs ...

### Fairfield, Hamiltonban, and Empire Homes wrestle over curbs and sidewalks

FAIRFIELD BOROUGH, Pa. - Officials in Fairfield and Hamiltonban have been grappling with the appearance of Union Avenue, a road to be constructed by Empire Homes in the McGinley's Choice subdivision. The road will run down the boundary line between the two municipalities, and each has its own sidewalk and curb ordinances. Fairfield requires both in new developments; Hamiltonban's ordinances do not address the issue.

If Empire followed the letter of the law and its own best (economic) interests, the Fairfield side of the road would have curbs and sidewalks and the Hamiltonban side would have neither. All parties agree that this would look awkward, but neither jurisdiction can mandate the appearance of the other side of the street.

Fairfield Borough asked Empire to consider curbs and sidewalks on both sides of the street as the best and safest option. Empire countered with an offer to install sidewalks on both sides, but no curbs. Empire's counteroffer was received shortly before the Dec. 19 Fairfield Borough Council meeting, and the offer was tabled until January so officials could have more time to consider it.

- W. Reinke

### Statewide homeless census scheduled for Jan. 25

FAIRFIELD BOROUGH, Pa. - Officials in Harrisburg have asked municipalities statewide to inventory their homeless population on the night of January 25. When this plan was announced at the Dec. 19 council meeting, several council members commented that as lifelong Fairfield residents, they had never seen any homeless people in town, although one mentioned seeing a man sleeping on a bench in town once - presumably a victim of too much celebrating at one of the local bars. Nevertheless, residents are asked to report any homeless individuals seen on the evening of January 25 to the borough office.

- W. Reinke

### FREMA seeks volunteers for disaster drill

FAIRFIELD BOROUGH, Pa. - Borough Mayor Robert Stanley announced a planned disaster drill to be conducted by the Fairfield Regional Emergency Management Agency sometime in June. FREMA consists of officials from Fairfield, Carroll Valley, and Liberty Township and was created for local emergency preparedness in response to the Sept. 11 attacks and the Hurricane Katrina disaster.

Stanley said the summer disaster drill would be a flood scenario, "which is the most likely disaster we are likely to experience," but the full details have not yet been determined. Residents interested in participating in the drill should contact Stanley (717) 642-5640, Fairfield Mayor Ron Harris (717) 642-5640, Liberty Supervisor Paul Harner (717) 642-3780, or FREMA Coordinator Dave Martin (717) 642-5704.

Both Stanley and Harris have indicated that the FREMA Operations Manual will be completed in January. The manual will detail the response to emergencies on all levels, from a locally isolated incident to a national disaster.

- W. Reinke

# Carroll Valley releases community survey report

BY WILLIAM K. REINKE  
Contributing Writer

CARROLL VALLEY BOROUGH, Pa. - Now you can get a sense of who lives in Carroll Valley and their opinions on various topics.

Borough Manager David Hazlett announced the completion and release of the Community Survey Report which can be viewed in its entirety on the borough Web site, [www.carrollvalley.org](http://www.carrollvalley.org), or picked up at the borough office for \$0.25 per page. The entire report, including appendices, is 30 pages long.

The survey was mailed to 900 randomly selected households in June and August 2006 and Hazlett said the 423 responses represented an "extremely high [return rate] for mail surveys." The survey is a tool to help residents understand the borough's comprehensive planning process. Hazlett conducted the survey with help from Shippensburg University's intern program.

The survey results show a population that is either retired and well-established, or young and upwardly mobile. Thirty-six percent of respondents indicated they were retired, and 39 percent have lived in the borough for 11 years or more. Conversely, 36 percent of the population is 40 years old or less; 78 percent have some post-secondary education; 74 percent have an annual household income in excess of \$50,000; and 50 percent commute 25 miles or more each way.

More than four out of five (81 percent) respondents indicated a strong sense of community pride, which "is evident in the number of volunteers the Borough receives, as well as the continued beauty of the Borough," said Hazlett. Correspondingly, concerning the general appearance of the Borough, an overwhelming 96 percent said they felt it was average or very good.

The favorable survey results do not paint an entirely satisfied

population, however, as the wide array of recommended improvements indicates. According to Hazlett, who personally reviewed all the returned surveys, the most consistent complaint was the lack of recreational programs available in the Borough. He stressed that residents are generally pleased with the Borough's parks, but dissatisfied with the parks' programs. More than 13 percent of respondents indicated improved parks or recreational programs were what the Borough needed most.

In addition, many respondents pointed out the need for better cell phone service in the Borough. Twenty five percent indicated this was the most critical need. Councilman Steven Semiatin has made this a major focus of his public service as

well, and Hazlett has been talking to companies to resolve the issue.

Although no majority supported increasing taxes for improved services, a few ideas received a significant amount of respondent support: an increase for paid EMS and fire services (36 percent) and improved streets (34 percent); about a quarter of the respondents said they were willing to pay higher taxes for other improvements such as public sewer (28 percent), public water (25 percent), a new municipal building or community center (25 percent), and improved parks and recreation programs (23 percent and 24 percent respectively).

These survey results will serve as a benchmark of community opinion and will be redistributed during every comprehensive plan update.

## Carroll Valley residents rated community services

In the 2006 Community Survey Report, residents were asked the following: "On a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being very satisfied and 10 being very dissatisfied, please circle your level of satisfaction concerning community services in the Borough of Carroll Valley."

The numbers listed below are the average scores for each service:

Ambulance (EMS) service	2.59
Quality of parks	2.64
Accessibility of parks	2.66
Fire department service	2.68
Electric service	2.95
Water quantity	3.38
Police department service	3.46
Water quality	3.53
Availability of general health care	3.70
Quality of elementary school	3.70
Gas service	3.75
Condition of community streets	3.78
Quality of middle school	4.10
Quality of recreational programs	4.16
Quality of high school	4.30
Sewer service	4.46
Quantity of recreational programs	4.50
Availability of community sidewalks	5.61

Source: 2006 Community Survey Report



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RELIGION

# A Word from the Pulpit Fitness for Life

By Rev. Wade A. Martin  
Pastor  
Trinity United Methodist Church

Back in September, in the early morning hours of Tuesday the 12<sup>th</sup>, I suffered a stroke and was taken to the hospital by ambulance. I remember thinking in the ambulance how could this be happening and I felt very helpless. I just prayed that whatever was going on could be corrected and that I could get back to the way things were. After a four and a half day stay in the hospital and a series of follow-ups with my cardiologist, neurologist, and family doctor, the message was the same, "You better get into better physical shape or you will have more problems down the road."

I had always believed in getting into shape and I believed exercise and proper diet were the best way to accomplish this, but what I learned was believing in something and acting on it are two very different things. I read all the low-fat low-carb books; I sat and watched people exercise on television; and I believed all that I was reading and watching were the right things to do. But it was not until I acted on my belief that I experienced results.

Once I started exercising and trying to eat properly I soon found I was looking for the easiest and fastest way I could to achieve the results I was looking for. After starting and failing several times, I came across the one thing that began to work, and that was the daily discipline and commitment to eating a proper diet and doing my exercises. No more cheating or justifying why eating this or not doing that extra bench press was all right. I had to push myself to do more, work through the temptations to stop, realizing that the only way I would get into good physical shape was through a commitment to hard work.

What I have come to realize is good spiritual fitness requires the

same discipline and commitment that achieving good physical fitness does. Scripture tells us we are saved by faith, not belief. So to become spiritually fit our challenge is to turn our belief into faith. You see faith equals belief plus action. It is easy to sit in a pew at church, or sit at home watching television and say, "I believe in Jesus." It is another thing entirely to go about the hard work of developing one's faith. Many people look for the easy way out. "Just tell me what I need to know or do." But there is no easy way to develop a true faith, a faith that places the love of God and the love of others above all else. It requires work.

So many people today are spiritually unfit, including those who go to church regularly. This is because good spiritual fitness is not just about attending church or filling a position on some church committee, or sitting at home watching some television preacher talking about how to become successful; it is about making the daily choice to be in relationship with Jesus. I am convinced that good spiritual fitness can only be achieved by experiencing God through a relationship with Jesus Christ, following Jesus to places he calls us to go, and by doing the things Jesus wants us to do. Yes, this is challenging. But unless we do the hard work of growing in our relationship with Jesus, our faith will not grow, and the fulfillment of God's promise will not happen.

This New Year's Eve, as you consider what your New Year's resolutions will be, consider becoming fit for life, both physically and spiritually. Get involved in a local congregation where you can experience firsthand the love and grace of God, and can exercise your faith in an empowering, renewing, and energizing way.

# St. Joseph's invitation to lapsed Catholics

BY JAMES RADA JR.  
News Editor  
jrada@thedispatch.us

EMMITSBURG, Md. — Catholics stop attending Mass for a variety of reasons. Some don't like the fact that Mass isn't offered in Latin. Others don't like the stand the church has taken on various issues. But the congregation at St. Joseph's isn't concerned about those reasons. They want their lapsed members to return to the fold.

"There's a spiritual hunger in society and as Catholics, we want to invite them to hear the word of God and receive the seven sacraments," said Father Vincent O'Malley, pastor of St. Joseph's Church. "People seem to be ready for returning to the spiritual."

The church is offering a program called "Catholics Returning Home" to invite lapsed Catholics to begin practicing their faith once

again. The six-week program has been used in other parishes with some success.

"The first two weeks we want to listen to the people who come, hear their stories and their complaints, but we also want them to hear the stories of faith of people of the parish," said Bill Steo, who will be one of the lay people working with the program.

O'Malley said that 40 years ago, about two-thirds of Catholics attended Mass every Sunday, but that number is now down to about one-third. At St. Joseph's, about 40 percent of the 750 registered families attend Mass regularly.

"This program is a way of inviting people back in a peaceful, non-confrontational setting," said Steo.

The program will be held every Sunday night from 7-8:30 p.m. at St. Joseph's beginning Jan. 7.

O'Malley pointed out that about 90 percent of lapsed Catholics don't practice any religion and those are the people he hopes to reach with this program.



A painting of St. Joseph hangs above the main altar in St. Joseph's Church, Emmitsburg. The early 19th century oil painting in the style of the Italian Renaissance masters, welcomes visitors to the church.

For more information or to register, call Mary Myers at (301) 447-2712, Colleen Garrett at (301) 845-4753 or Mary Prator at (301) 524-1943. The church is located at 47 DePaul Street, Emmitsburg.

## Seton Shrine to celebrate special Mass

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton will celebrate Epiphany Sunday and the Feast Day Celebration of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton on Sunday, Jan. 7. The Mass will begin at 1:30 p.m. in the basilica where the remains of America's first native-born saint reside. Light refreshments will be served afterwards. For more information, call (301) 447-6606.



- Were you raised Catholic but do not come or seldom come to church anymore?
  - Would you like to know more about the Catholic Church as it is today?
  - Would you like to feel at home in the Catholic Church again?
- No matter how long you have been away and no matter the reason, we invite you to consider renewing your relationship with the Catholic Church.
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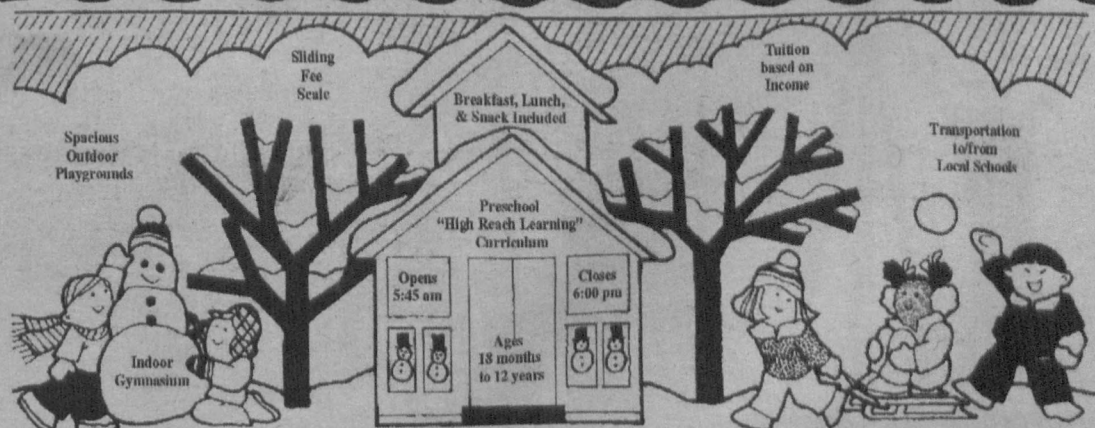
**St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Emmitsburg, MD**  
beginning January 7, Sundays at 7pm

For more information call:  
Mary Myers (301) 447-2712 or Bill Steo (301) 447-3220

### Catholics Returning Home

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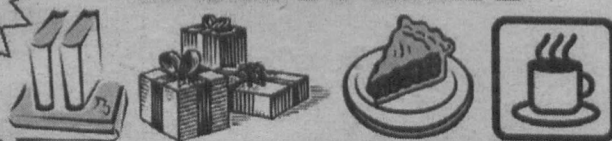


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## ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMS

### Library Events

#### January at the Emmitsburg Library

**Art Exhibition** – Handmade prints by Dorothea Barrick. Opens Jan 6 at 2 p.m. The artist will conduct a printmaking workshop on Jan. 22.

**Storytimes**  
**Babies with Books**  
(birth-24 months with an adult)  
Jan. 10, 17, 24 at 10:30 a.m.

**Two-Terrific Storytime**  
(age 2 with an adult)  
Jan 9, 16, 23, 30 at 7 p.m.

**Family Storytime** (all ages)  
Jan, 18, 17, 24 at 7 p.m.

**Preschool Storytime**  
(ages 3-5 with an adult)  
Jan. 11, 18, 25 at 10:30 a.m.

**Global Groove**  
(ages 5 and older with an adult)  
Come along with Sneaks as he learns about other cultures around the world.  
Jan. 5 at 4 p.m.  
Registration required.

#### Children's Programs

**"Did You Know?" Series:**  
**Get on Board**  
An introduction to the world of

snowboarding, courtesy of Pitcrew, located in downtown Frederick.  
Jan. 20 at 11 a.m.  
Registration required.

**The Book Bunch** (ages 6-11)  
A celebratory book discussion with craft or activity. Check the library desk for book titles.  
Jan. 17 at 4 p.m.  
Registration required.

**Reading Rocks!** (ages 10-12)  
Choose either book, and join us for a snack, an activity, and book discussion. "Lionboy" by Zizou Corder or "Uncle Shelby's Story of Lafcadio, the Lion who Shot Back" by Shel Silverstein.  
Jan. 8 at 4 p.m.  
Registration required.

**Penguin Parade** (ages 3-6)  
Join Pete the Penguin for frosty fun exploring the world of penguins through stories, games and a craft.  
Jan. 13 at 11 a.m.  
Registration required.

**Teen Programs**  
**Sci-Fi Fantasy Book Club**  
(teens and adults)  
Jan. 16 at 7 p.m. "Blue Sword" by Robin McKinley

**Animé/Manga Club**  
(grades 6-12)  
Join us for Animé/Manga movies, card games and more.  
Jan. 12 at 6 p.m.

**Dungeons & Dragons**  
(grades 6 and up)  
Join "Dungeon Master" Sam Ruppert for four sessions of gaming fun. Everyone welcome.  
Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30 at 4 p.m.  
Registration required.

#### Adult Programs

**Just Mousin' Around**  
Ongoing one-on-one computer lessons. Call the branch to arrange a time.

**Tuesday Evening Book Club**  
Jan. 9 at 7:30 p.m.

**Non-Fiction Book Club**  
Jan. 11 at 1 p.m.

**Knitting Nook**  
(teens and adults)  
Beginners and experienced knitters welcome. Bring your own needles and yarn, or call for info.  
Jan. 18 at 4 p.m.

**Genealogy Focus Group**  
(teens and adults)  
Learn how to do genealogical research and track down elusive ancestors.  
Jan. 25 at 7 p.m.

**Leaving a Legacy**  
Join this writing group and learn to record your personal stories.  
Jan. 8 at 1:30 p.m.

**Leaf Printing**  
Use traditional monotype printing using leaves and lace with artist Dorothea Barrick. Limited to 10 people.  
Jan. 22 at 6:30 p.m.  
Registration required.

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

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### Senior Events

**Happy New Year!** Senior centers in Frederick County will emphasize health issues in 2007. With that in mind we will host a series of **three workshops** with a licensed, registered dietician on "Healthy Eating for Diabetes & Weight Management." Workshops are scheduled for **Thursdays, Jan. 18, 25 and Feb. 1, 1-3 p.m.** Registration is required, phone (301) 600-1599, and there is a cost of \$15 per household. Other special events this month

will be **puzzles on Jan. 8 & 22** and "**Soup Bingo**" on **Jan. 17**. We will also have **pinochle every Thursday at 12:30 p.m.** The center will be closed **Jan. 15, 2007 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day**. Our bowling group is still growing; join us on Monday afternoons. Don't forget men's pool games which continue every **Wed. at 1 p.m.**

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

**Bowling:** Mondays at Tancytown 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:** Jan. 17 & 31.

**Cards, 500, and Bridge Group:** Jan. 10 & 24.

**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.

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# A&E Calendar

## LOOKING AHEAD

### Events

**Jan. 5 – Thurmont Thespians 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Fund-raiser.** 8 p.m. Cultural Arts Center of Frederick County, 15 W. Patrick Street. Evening's theme is "Baseball, Peanuts and Something Wicked." Information and tickets: 301-271-7613.

**Jan. 6 and 7 – First Fling Wine and Cheese Tasting.** Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday noon to 5 p.m. Linganore Winecellars, 13601 Glissans Mill Road, Mt. Airy. Information: 301-831-5889.

**Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28 – Frederick County Society of Model Railroad Open House.** 1 to 4 p.m. 423 E. Patrick Street, Frederick. Visit a working HO scale model railroad, located in an authentic Chesapeake and Ohio railroad car. Information: 301-668-6371.

**Jan. 8 – Historic Railroad Equipment and Model Train Displays.** 1 to 5 p.m. Baldwin and Oklahoma Avenues, Sykesville. Information: 410-795-3157.

**Jan. 20 – 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Central Maryland Farm Toy Show.** 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Westminster Agriculture Center, 700 Agriculture Center Drive. Information: 410-848-3247.

### Concerts

**Jan. 6 – Common Ground on the Hill Concerts Series.** 9 p.m. Carroll Arts Center, 91 West Main Street, Westminster. "Cephas and Wiggins," blues. 410-857-2771.

**Jan. 19 – Women of Windham Hill.** Barbara Higbie, Lisa Lynne

and Liz Story. The Majestic, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg. 717-337-8200 or [gettysburgmajestic.org](http://gettysburgmajestic.org).

**Jan. 20 – The Hot Club of San Francisco.** 8 p.m. Weinberg Center for the Arts, 20 W. Patrick Street, Frederick. Music of Django Reinhardt and Stephane Grapelli's pioneering Hot Club de France. [www.weinbergcenter.org](http://www.weinbergcenter.org) or 301-228-2828.

**Jan. 21 – Aulos Ensemble.** Five Julliard graduates play Baroque music on original instruments. The Majestic, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg. 717-337-8200 or [gettysburgmajestic.org](http://gettysburgmajestic.org).

**Jan. 23 – Nordic Choir of Luther College.** Music, Gettysburg! Gettysburg Seminary Chapel, 61 Seminary Ridge, Gettysburg, PA 17325. 717-334-6286, ext. 2100. [info@lts.edu](mailto:info@lts.edu).

**Jan. 26 – The Fabulous Hubcaps.** 8:30 p.m. to midnight. Dinner served from 6-8 p.m. Carroll Valley Resort, 121 Sanders Road, Fairfield, PA 17320. Call 717-642-7009 or 800-548-8504. Tickets: Hubcaps, \$20; dinner, \$25.

**Jan. 28 – Jeffrey Fahnestock, tenor.** 4 p.m. Music, Gettysburg! Gettysburg Seminary Chapel, 61 Seminary Ridge, Gettysburg, PA 17325. 717-334-6286, ext. 2100. [info@lts.edu](mailto:info@lts.edu).

### Film

**Jan. 6 – Cartoon Festival.** 2 p.m. Weinberg Center for the Arts, 20 W. Patrick St., Frederick. [www.weinbergcenter.org](http://www.weinbergcenter.org) or 301-228-2828.

**Jan. 12 – "Tsotsi."** 8 p.m. Weinberg Center for the Arts, 20 W. Patrick St., Frederick. Story of a teenage Johannesburg delinquent

who develops an unexpected paternal side in this drama from South Africa. Tickets: \$4-\$6. [www.weinbergcenter.org](http://www.weinbergcenter.org) or 301-228-2828.

### Stage

**Jan. 4-7, 11-13 – "Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge."** Maryland Ensemble Theater, 31 W. Patrick Street, Frederick. A new twist on the Dickens classic. Tickets: \$17-\$20. Information: 301-694-4744.

**Jan. 6, 13 – "My Father the Elf."** Maryland Ensemble Theater, 31 W. Patrick Street, Frederick. A new holiday tale for the whole family, presented by The Fun Company. Lorrie discovers that her father is one of Santa's elves. When he is kidnapped, she must save him in time for Christmas morning.

**Jan. 19 to March 10 – "Forever Plaid."** Four young, eager male singers, killed in a car crash in the 1950s on the way to their first big concert, are miraculously revived for the posthumous chance to fulfill their dreams and perform the show they never did. Way Off Broadway Dinner Theater, 5 Willowdale Drive, Willowtree Plaza, Frederick. Tickets: 301-662-6600, [www.wayoffbroadway.com](http://www.wayoffbroadway.com).

**Jan. 26, 27, and Feb. 2, 3, 4 – "Amadeus."** Jack B. Kusmaul Theatre, Frederick Community College. The classic confrontation between the mediocrity of Antonio Salieri, established composer in the court of the Austrian Emperor, and genius and child prodigy Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Fredericktowne Players. Tickets: \$6-\$20. Information: 240-315-3855. [www.Fredericktowneplayers.org](http://www.Fredericktowneplayers.org).

## Frederick's Cultural Arts Center hosts state short play competition

The Maryland Community Theatre Festival Association's 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Short Play Competition will be held Friday evening through Sunday afternoon, Jan. 12-14, at the Cultural Arts Center of Frederick County, 15 W. Patrick Street in Frederick.

The Maryland festival is fully sanctioned by the American Association of Community Theatres and the winners will go on to the Eastern State Theatre Association's Region II Festival on April 13-15 in Ephrata, Pa., to compete against other winning entries from D.C., Del., N.J., N.Y. and Pa. Twelve regional winning productions will be invited to the AACT National Short Play Festival Competition to be held in Charlotte, N.C. on June 13-17.

All productions will be orally adjudicated immediately following their presentations by the three Festival Judges: Bob Frame, Joe Musimeci and Libby Russler.

Tickets available at the door. No reservations necessary. Ticket: \$35 for a full-festival pass (includes all performances), \$12 for adults, \$10 for students/seniors per each of the four performance sessions.

**Jan. 12 at 7:30 p.m.** Rockville Little Theatre, an original comedy, *Reader's Digest – Not* by Jim Gustafson. Sandy Spring Theatre Group, *Memory Garden*, an original drama by Mark Scharf. Silver Spring Stage, a comedy by Anton Chekov, English version by Eric Bentley, *The Brute*.

**Jan. 13 at 9 a.m.** Cultural Arts Center Two performing arts workshops and/or roundtable discussions. Featured workshop speaker, Bob Frame, Director of Theater Operations at Cayuga Community College, Auburn, N.Y.

**Jan. 13 at 1 p.m.** Laurel Mill Playhouse's original dramatic production *Why Not?* by Erica Smith. Colonial Players of Annapolis, a drama *The Veritas Machine* by Michael Stang Silver Spring Stage, comedic monologue *The Gold Lunch* by Ron Carlson. This will be a "showcase" production not in the formal competition.

**Jan. 13 at 7:30 p.m.** Newtowne Players from Lexington Park, the comedy *Timeflies* by David Ives. Port Tobacco Players from La Plata, the drama *Never Swim Alone* by Daniel MacIvor. Thurmont Thespians, a condensed version of Richard Dresser's little league comedy *Rounding Third*.

**Jan. 14, beginning at 11 a.m.** Cedar Lane Stage from Bethesda, an original dramatic production *An Honest Arrangement* by David Wiener. Montgomery Playhouse, an original comedy/drama *A Skewed Nude* by Kim Zelonis. The Hard Bargain Players of Accokeek's original comedy/drama *Tough Choice for the New Century* by Jane Anderson.



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Jan 26-27 Signals

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Call 717-642-7009 or 800-548-8504  
Coming in 2007: February 26 Michael Hoover as Elvis  
March 24 Comedian Dave Kelly  
April 28 Ronnie Dava Concert  
May 25 Kelly Ball Band

# Community Calendar

## LOOKING AHEAD

**Jan. 5-6 – Open House.** All Natural Chiropractic, 1715 Waynesboro Pike, Fairfield, PA 17320. Free first visit. Chiropractic pain relief therapy. Reservations: 717-642-5548.

**Jan. 6 – White-tailed Deer Management plan meeting.** 1-4 p.m. Catoctin High School, 14745 Sabilasville Road, Thurmont. Public review of the draft White-tailed Deer Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement for Catoctin Mountain Park. Plan is available online at [www.nps.gov/cato](http://www.nps.gov/cato).

**Jan. 7 – Epiphany Sunday and the Feast Day Celebration of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton.** National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, 333 S. Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, MD 21727. Mass at 1:30 in the basilica. Celebration to honor the first North American-born Canonized Saint. Light refreshments. Information: 301-447-6606.

**Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30 – Moms' Club.** 1 p.m. UpCounty Family Center, 303 W. Lincoln Ave., Emmitsburg. 301-447-2810.

**Jan. 11 – Red Cross Blood Drive.** 2-8 p.m. Emmitsburg Volunteer Ambulance Company, 300 S. Seton Avenue. Information: 301-447-2465.

**Jan. 12 – Basement Coffee House.** Elias Lutheran Church, 100 W. North Ave., Emmitsburg. 301-447-6239.

**Jan. 14 – Pancake Breakfast.** 8 a.m. to noon. St. Mary's Church,

256 Tract Road, Fairfield. Cost: \$5; \$2 children 6-12. Information: 717-642-8815.

**Jan. 15 – Emmitsburg Historical Society.** 7 p.m. Emmitsburg Community Center.

**Jan. 17 – Slippery Pot Pie Dinner.** Noon to 5:45 p.m. Lewistown United Methodist Church, Hessong Bridge Road. Adults \$8, children (6-12) \$5, take-outs \$9. Information: 301-898-7888.

**Jan. 17 – Talk with the Superintendent.** 7 p.m. Thurmont Elementary School. An information question and answer session with Frederick County Public School Superintendent Dr. Linda Burgee for parents and guardians in Catoctin High feeder schools.

**Jan. 18 – Third Thursdays at ThorpeWood.** 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 12805-A Mink Farm Road, Thurmont, MD 21788. Join Stacey and Kesra for storytime fun. Reservations: 301-271-2823.

**Jan. 18 – Emmitsburg sign ordinance meeting.** 7 p.m. Emmitsburg Community Center.

**Jan. 19 – Business incubator forum.** 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Cozy Inn Restaurant, Thurmont. A variety of guest speakers will provide information and resources for municipal leaders throughout Frederick County on how business incubators help improve the economic vitality of towns

and communities. Information: contact Randy Gray at 301-631-2341 or e-mail [rgray@fredco-md.net](mailto:rgray@fredco-md.net).

**Jan. 19 – Thurmont Lions Club Basket Bingo.** GHC Activities Building. Doors open at 5 p.m.; games begin at 6:15. Dinner available at 5 p.m. Admission: \$20. Contact Susan Favorite at 301-271-4020.

**Jan. 19 – Owl Prowl.** 5-7 p.m. A guided hike through the woods at ThorpeWood, searching for native owls. Outside program. For ages 8 and up. Fee: \$3, \$2 members. Registration deadline: Jan. 17. Call 301-271-2823.

**Jan. 21 – Winter Photography Seminar.** 1:30 p.m. Catoctin Mountain Park Visitor Center, 6600 Foxville Road, Thurmont. Learn to capture the winter landscape using time-tested techniques for photographic success during winter. Information: 301-663-9388.

**Jan. 22 – Literacy Day.** 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. UpCounty Family Center, 303 W. Lincoln Ave., Emmitsburg. 301-447-2810. Come dressed as your favorite book character – for the whole family.

**Jan. 25 – Habitat for Humanity annual awards and recognition dinner.** 6 to 10 p.m. Lynfield Complex. Live and silent auction will precede dinner. Auction donations accepted until mid-January: contact Habitat office at 301-698-2449 or

e-mail [info@frederickhabitat.org](mailto:info@frederickhabitat.org). Advance reservations only. Tickets: \$75.

**Jan. 26 – In God's Hands Coffee House.** Weller United Methodist Church, 101 North Altamont Ave., Thurmont, 301-271-2802.

**Jan. 30 – Cribs for Kids.** Noon to 2 p.m. Gettysburg Hospital. Education on safe infant sleeping as well as the distribution of free Graco Pack "N" Play cribs. Information: call Cynthia Romero, 717-337-0044 ext. 402.

**Jan. 31 – New Year's Eve Service.** 11:30 a.m. St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 8619 Black's Mill Road, Thurmont. Kick-off of the 275<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the congregation. Information: 301-898-5290.

**Feb. 3 – Cash Bash.** Doors open at 2 p.m. Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish Center, Church Street, Thurmont. Cash drawings every hour until 8 p.m. Games of chance, tip jars and music by "Back Roads." Tickets: \$25; no tickets at the door. Information: 301-447-2367 or 301-271-4439.

### January Specials at the Up-County Family Center

#### Moms' Club

Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30 at 1 p.m. Make My Day, Jars of Plenty, PhotoShop, Manicure Me, Cooking 4-Hour Stew

#### Teacher in center for education enrollment appointments

Jan. 5 and 19 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

#### Cozy Story Time:

Wear your PJs  
Jan. 10 at 10 a.m.

#### "Measure Up" field trip to lingerie store

Jan. 12 at 11 a.m.

#### Literacy Day: Come dressed as your favorite book character (for the whole family)

Jan. 22 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

#### Health Presentation: Be Lead-free

Jan. 23 at 11 a.m.

#### Massage Day

Jan. 25 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The center is located at 303 West Lincoln Avenue, Emmitsburg, MD 21727, 301-447-2810.

### Girls' softball sign-up coming

THURMONT, Md. – The Catoctin Recreation Council will hold signups for girls' softball on Jan. 24, 25 and 26, 2007 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Thurmont Middle School. Registration is \$65 and you MUST have a copy of the player's birth certificate. Signups will be for the following age groups: 8U (born in or after 1998), 10U (born in or after 1996), 12U (born in or after 1994) and 14U (born in or after 1992). Games are played in the Frederick County Girls' Softball League. For more information or to receive a copy of the registration paperwork early, contact Bob Marlow (301) 271-7063 or Mike Walters (301) 271-7040.

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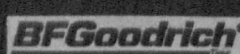
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# The Dispatch COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS Classifieds

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- 17325 - Gettysburg (Rt 2/9)
- 21727 - Emmittsburg
- 21757 - Keymar
- 21778 - Rocky Ridge
- 21780 - Sabillasville
- 21787 - Taneytown (Rt 2)
- 21788 - Thurmont

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Chorus Seeks New Members

Looking for a new hobby for the new year?

The Clustered Spires Sweet Adelines Chorus is looking for females to join in 2007. The chorus performs many different arrangements in 4-part a-cappella harmony, fun barbershop style. Whatever your voice (soprano, alto, bass), there is a singing part for you. Open rehearsals are held every Wednesday from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at the Saint Thomas More Academy located on Buckeystown Pike (Rt. 85), just south of the City of Frederick. Singing is life, the rest is just details! For more information, contact Cindy at 301-644-1589. All voices and levels welcome!

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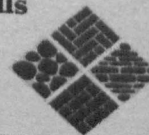
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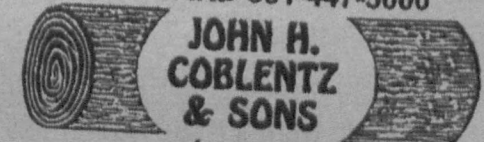
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