

# The DISPATCH

Vol. VII, No. 6

Gaining Strength from One Another

June 2000

## Inside

Up-County Center .....	3
FEMA Director in E-burg.....	3
Family Day .....	5
Meditation on Mom .....	5
Library Summer Program .....	6
Neighbors .....	7
Thorpewood .....	11
Ecologist's Corner.....	13
Barbering .....	14
Obituaries .....	15
Rocky Ridge .....	16
School News.....	18, 19, 20
Goat Tails.....	21

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## Robert Gauss Sr., community leader and professional businessman, dies



**ROBERT FREDERICK GAUSS SR.**

Mr. Robert Frederick Gauss Sr., 62, of W Main St., Emmitsburg, died Sunday, May 21, at Gettysburg, Pa., Hospital.

He founded Robert F Gauss and Associates Inc., professional land surveyors in 1980. He was a resident until his death.

He was the husband of Crystal L. Wiley Gauss, his wife of 40 years.

Born Feb. 21, 1938, in Baltimore, he was the son of the late H. Frederick Gauss and Virginia Harrison Gauss Hilleary.

Mr. Gauss achieved the rank of Eagle Scout on Jan. 13, 1953. He was a graduate of the A Course at Baltimore Polytechnic Institute on Feb. 21, 1956, and attended

## Children 800 strong at 'Kids Day'



*Dispatch photo*

"I'm smart. I'm strong. I like myself. I'm worth a lot." Students from Emmitsburg Elementary and Mother Seton School chant among the chains made of links by students telling why they are appreciated. Eight hundred students were the featured guests at the "Emmitsburg Cares About Kids" Day.

night school college courses at Penn State and Johns Hopkins University. He became a professional land surveyor July 23, 1975.

He was past chairman and member of the Appalachian Chapter of the Maryland Society of Surveyors, and past president of Maryland Society of Surveyors (1995-1996). He was named 1997 Surveyor of the Year. He was appointed by the governor to the State Board for Professional Land Surveyors on July 1, 1996.

He was also a member of Emmitsburg Lions Club, Emmitsburg Business and Professional Association, Mason-Dixon Line Preservation Partnership, American Congress on Surveying and Mapping, and a National Eagle Scout Association. He was a former Boy Scout leader of Troop 284, and a member of Emmitsburg Historical Society.

Surviving in addition to his wife are three sons, Robert F Gauss Jr. and wife Robin of Emmitsburg, James E. Gauss and wife Shannon of Waynesboro, Pa., and J. Christopher Gauss Sr. and wife

Kathy of Cascade; one sister, Nancy Penrod and husband Terry of Brick, N.J.; one niece, Susan Penrod; one nephew, Andrew Penrod; and seven grandchildren and two stepgrandchildren, Amber Gauss, Jordan Gauss, Kellen Gauss, Megan Gauss, Ryan Gauss, Brittany Gauss, Jon Gauss Jr., Kyle Roberts and Jerry Roberts.

A memorial service was held at 11 a.m. Thursday May 25, at Incarnation United Church of Christ, 124 W Main St., Emmitsburg, with the Rev. Margaret Dodds officiating. The service was followed by a luncheon at JoAnne's Ballroom, at the Carriage House Inn, South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial donations be made to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Tri County Branch, 15 E. Main St., Westminster, Md. 21157; or to Emmitsburg Lions Club, PO. Box 1182, Emmitsburg, Md. 21727.

Arrangements by Skiles Funeral Home, Emmitsburg.

## New Engine-Tanker To Be Dedicated

BY WAYNE POWELL  
VHC Public Information Officer

Proud members of this community's local fire and rescue department, the Vigilant Hose Company (VHC), will formally dedicate and then place into service, new "Engine-Tanker 64" this coming Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>. Special ceremonies marking the occasion will begin at 1:00 p.m. at the fire station located at 25 West Main Street.

This long-awaited and much-anticipated addition to the Vigilant Hose Company fleet of fire and rescue apparatus has been several years in the planning, fund-raising, and design phases. Following months of manufacturing, testing, and training, this next step has great significance to the citizens and businesses alike from

**See Tanker on page 10**



## Letters to the Editor

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

### Remembering my neighbor

When I moved into our house at 312 West Main Street a little over 26 years ago, I learned that the house next door at number 308 had just been purchased by Bob and Crystal Gauss. A short time later, almost exactly 26 years ago today, Bob and Crystal and their three sons, Bobby, Jimmy, and Christopher, moved into their new home.

Trying to be a good neighbor, I went to the backyard fence separating our properties and introduced myself. Bob and I "shook and howdied" over the fence. When he said his last name was Gauss, I exclaimed, "Wow, I teach math at the Mount!" (One of the most prodigious and most accomplished mathematicians of all time was the 19th century German, Karl Friedrich Gauss.)

Bob replied that he was not a direct descendant of Karl, but was probably a distant relative. He also said that, as a surveyor, he used mathematics extensively, and that, in every math course he ever took, as soon as the professor saw his name, "it meant an automatic 'A' in the course."

In the intervening quarter of a century, I have related this story to my students in countless math and computer science courses, bragging about living next door to Robert Frederick Gauss.

Bob will be sorely missed in our little community. May he rest in peace.

Bill O'Toole  
Emmitsburg

### Support "Team in Training" Member

Running a marathon is one of the greatest physical challenges an athlete can face. However, many people face a greater challenge every day--fighting leukemia.

I have teamed up with Leukemia Society of America to raise funds that will help fight this deadly disease. On October 22, 2000, I will be running the Marine Corp Marathon and dedicating each stride of the 26.2 miles to the many individuals who suffer from this terrible disease.

I have committed myself to raise \$2,000 to support the Leukemia Society in its race to conquer this disease and other related cancers. I will

be running hundreds of miles in my training to prepare for this event, and I need your help to reach my goal of \$2,000.

Please join me in this effort by contributing to the Leukemia Society. Whatever you can donate will help the fight. Please send in your tax-deductible contribution by Sept. 1, 2000.

I truly appreciate your support.

Mail contributions to:

Mary Van Buren  
27 Autumn Dr.  
Gettysburg, PA 17325

(Mary works at St. Catherine's Nursing Center.)

### Girl Scout Troop 1088 appreciates support

Thank you to all who bought cookies from the Emmitsburg Cadette/Senior Girl Scout Troop 1088 this year. This year we sold cookies as a troop at the Emmitsburg Post Office and at Mount Saint Mary's College. We greatly appreciate your help.

The money we earned will fund

trips to different places to earn badges or to just have fun. For example, we will be making tray favors for the children's ward at the Gettysburg Hospital. We will also be attending *Alice in Wonderland* at the Weinberg Center. We can't thank you enough for your support.

### Mystery man identified!

Thanks to Dan Kaas and John Hollinger for identifying Mayor Thornton Rodgers as the presenter of the best team award to Mac's

Bowling Team as pictured in last month's issue.

We also wish to thank Dan Kaas for his support and contribution to the *Dispatch* Gala.

Thanks for the skatepark, dudes!



T. Bennett

### PLEASE HELP US PROVIDE A SUCCESSFUL BEGINNING TO THIS FAMILY'S NEW VENTURE

They are not welcome in Bosnia.

They can no longer stay in Germany.  
(The German five-year refugee limit is expiring.)

They are without a home or a country.

So, they are coming to Emmitsburg to begin a new life in this neighborly community

Esmir and Nahida Mrkanovic and their children  
Irma (age 7) and Ines (age 4) will be here in July.

The Emmitsburg Council of Churches needs your help to give the family a jump start for the first three to six months

THERE IS AN IMMEDIATE NEED FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

A donation to the church of your choice with a note that this is for the "Emmitsburg Bosnian Refugee Family Fund" or a check to the fund sent to Box 74, Emmitsburg, MD 21727 would be most appreciated.



# FEMA director James Witt visits Emmitsburg

*A Staff Report*

Generally, when James Witt, Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, visits small towns there's been big trouble—really big trouble, usually on the order of a national emergency. Yet here he was recently, right in our midst on a family outing visiting Emmitsburg along with his wife Lea, son Michael - a fire fighter from Arkansas, and grandson Carter. They dined at the fire academy, visited the Vigilant Hose Company, and watched demonstrations of Emmitsburg's fire-fighting might: Tower 6 and the newly acquired Pumper/Tanker 64.

Lt. Bob Rosensteel, Jr. hoisted Lea, Michael, and Carter to the full 100-foot reach of the hydraulic arm of Tower 6 and was a guide from that vantage, pointing out features and historical landmarks of Emmitsburg and the surrounding countryside.

Chief Frank Davis described the capabilities of the new Pumper/Tanker 64. The compressed air foam feature was demonstrated to the delight of Carter, who upstaged Granddad by

manning the foam nozzle and to the slightly indulgent chagrin of Grandma, danced and played in the foam.

Michael and the local firefighters talked shop, reviewed the operations and capabilities of the new foam system, and generally "kicked tires" around the new apparatus.

The low-key visit was mostly an unofficial family outing, but Mr. Witt, who just a few weeks later would be dealing with the disaster of a controlled-burn-gone-wild at Los Alamos, shared his hopes for the new national disaster program, Project Impact, for building Disaster-Resistant Communities, currently being implemented by FEMA in key cities throughout the country.

According to Witt, Project Impact is a program that challenges communities to take actions that protect families and businesses to reduce the effects of natural disasters. Project Impact consists of four phases: 1.) building community partnerships, 2.) assessing risks, 3.) prioritizing needs, and 4.) building support and communicating what is being done.



*A Dispatch Photo*

Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency James Witt, second from right) visits the Vigilant Hose Company. Accompanying Mr. Witt are Kenneth Burris, his wife Lea Witt, Carter Witt (grandson), son Michael Witt and Frank Davis, Chief of VHS.

## Kids Day program features 'chain of appreciation'

During a special program held at the Emmitsburg Community Center May 5, students from Emmitsburg and Mother Seton Schools joined together to share a "chain of appreciation," as well as a puppet show entitled "The Treehouse" presented by the Blue Sky Puppet theater.

The event was sponsored by the Town of Emmitsburg, local churches and business, as well as the staffs and PTAs of the schools. Serving on Pastor Cardwell's committee were Sister Ann Adele and the Rev. Margaret Dodds. Pastor Donnie Jane Cardwell wishes to acknowledge the following businesses and individuals who helped make ENMTSBURG CARES ABOUT KIDS DAY a success.

Sister Mary Catherine of Mother Seton School; Wanda Severance of Emmitsburg Elementary School; Karen Major/Home School; Bill Derbyshire - CASS; The Emmitsburg Council of Churches; Mayor Carr and the Emmitsburg Town Council; Wanda Feeser; CPI; Briggs Associates; McDonald's;

Jubilee; Carriage House; Flowers 4You; Medicine Plus; Emmitsburg Video; The Ott House; Mason/Dixon Oil Company; F & M Bank; Subway; Zurgable Brothers Hardware; Mr. Hollinger (Crouse's); National Fire Academy; Dr. Carroll; Dr. Bringardner;

Callie's Collectibles; Rose & Stanley Weimer; Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph's Villa; St. Catherine's; Senior Citizens/Linda Umbel; Borderline 4x4 Club; Emmitsburg Veterinary Clinic; The Emmitsburg Dispatch; and The Gazette.

*Below are samples of what some kids wrote on their links.*

### I am appreciated because . . .

I make everybody laugh and I'm myself

I'm friendly

I'm me and that makes me special

I'm fun and nice to be around

I'm a good friend and I'm funny

I am a good friend

I am kind

I am a good friend and I am always there for my buds

I give people answers to work

I help with church activities

I try to be kind to everyone

I am special through God's eyes

I have a sense of humor

I am a smart, nice and helpful person

I can make people laugh

I am a good team player

I pick up my little sister's toys

My team lets me play baseball

I am a good person

I say yes to what my mom

tells me to do

I am a good person

I listen at karate and at school

I have a lot of effort in dance

I obey my mom

When my coach tells me to run, I run hard

I am respectful to my teacher and family

I am a good person

I obey my teacher and Mom and Dad

I am selling my house and I clean the house every day

I am a good friend. I am also a good sport

I clean my room

I am a good friend

I help my mother and father

I obey my mom and dad

My dog greets me when I come home from school

I help my mom weed our flowers

I help my baby brother

I am a good friend

I help around the house

I help out with my baby sister

## Up-County Family Center needs community support

BY ANDI FUHRMAN  
*Up-County Administrative Assistant*

Up-County Family Center recently sent out a mass mailing to businesses in the northern part of Frederick County requesting their support to meet our current year budget.

We are facing a significant deficit this year because of a drastic increase in participant use of services coupled with no increase in core funding. We have already received positive responses and assistance from several community leaders and are hoping more businesses and individuals will rally to support Up-County.

Like many non-profits, Up-County has to struggle to find funding during these competitive times. Up-County receives its core funding from Friends of the Family as well as support from Frederick County, United Way, and other grants. However, as the community comes to rely on our services more and more, these core funding sources tend to stay the same. New funding is often available for new programs and activities, but often there is no additional funding for existing programs.

(See UP-COUNTY on Page 16)



## Memorial Service held for Robert Gauss

A memorial service for Robert F. Gauss was held May 25, 2000, at the Emmitsburg Incarnation United Church of Christ. The Rev. Margaret Dodds officiated.

Because Robert Gauss was such a vital part of our community, the *Dispatch* wishes to share parts of the service with its readers.

The Rev. Dodds began: "As pastor of Incarnation United Church of Christ, I welcome you this morning, family and friends of Robert Gauss. We come as citizens of Emmitsburg, recognizing the loss to our community of this hard-working, faithful, good man. We come because at the time of death there is a strong and wise feeling that God's healing touch can come to us most powerfully, when we expand the circle of our own immediate family to include the wider community of those who knew and cared for our loved one. We can come together to recognize the pain and sorrow and deep emotion that death's separation brings. We can

come in trust that the joining together of so many memories will mark a fitting tribute to this one whose life we celebrate today.

"Robert Frederick Gauss was born 62 years ago in Baltimore. He died at Gettysburg Hospital on Sunday, May 21. During all those years, he touched each of you here in some special way. Perhaps through his business, as a professional land surveyor. Or through the Boy Scouts, or the Lions Club, the Mason-Dixon Festival, or the Business and Professional Association, or the Emmitsburg Historical Association. He was a community person and the whole community feels his loss. A number of you have asked to share your special memories of Bob and to let his wife, Crystal and his sons, Bob, Jr., and Jim, and Chris and their families know in what special ways their husband and father influenced your lives."

Between prayers, scripture readings and music, family, friends and colleagues remembered Bob Gauss. Among the speakers were his sister, Nancy Penrod, and fellow surveyor Terry Roderick.

Following are some excerpts from eulogies given by Elizabeth Prongas, Joan Boyle, and Herb Gingell:

"From the day Bob set foot in this community many years ago, he assumed the responsibility of a caring active citizen. His enthusiasm and tireless involvement made him beloved and respected by all those who were fortunate enough to have known him. In his tireless efforts for the shaping of a better Emmitsburg, he attended

countless town meetings, worked with regional and county planners, and became involved in so many community activities...Bob was always there for all of us, a broad shoulder for all of us to lean on, gently persuasive when things needed to be done, but never confrontational.

"We must all learn from this life that has been taken from us. We have been touched by a man with humility and an indefinable spirit of immense goodness." —Elizabeth Prongas

"Robert F. Gauss - dedicated citizen, valued friend. In both cases, an individual nonpareil.

"When there was a need for new arrangements for the use of the town's tennis court...Bob volunteered to be responsible for its upkeep which he did faithfully for three years that I know of...

"Later when Virginia Sanders and I were responsible for updating the Historical Society's 'Walking Tours,' we discovered that to include a map of the Town with identification of a name for the stream by the Post Office...we would need a survey of the stream. Who else came to our rescue but Bob with all his expertise...as he embraced the laborious negotiations with the powers that be...in all about seven years.

"On July 15, 1999, Bob received a letter from Roger L. Payne, Executive Secretary of the United States Board of Geographic Names saying 'We are pleased to inform you that the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, at its July 8, 1999 meeting, approved the name Willow Rill for a stream in Frederick County.... and [that name] has been entered into the

Nations's official automated geographic names repository. The entry will read as follows:

Willow Rill: stream, 1.6 km (1mi) long, heads at the SW edge of the community of Emmitsburg at 39°42'11"N, 77°20'07"W, flows E. 1.6 km (1mi) before joining Flat Run; named for the willows lining the banks of the stream; Frederick County, Maryland 39°42'01"N, 77°19'10"W; USGS map-Emmitsburg 1:24,000.

"Bob has radiated the basic ideal of Athenian Democracy--when the Athenian became a legal citizen by pledging 'We will transmit this city more beautiful than it was transmitted to us.' Thank you, Bob, for giving Emmitsburg such a legacy of making it a more beautiful place in which to live. Let us cherish your legacy by continuing its beauty."

—Joan Boyle

"We are here today, not to mourn a death, but to celebrate a life. Bob has lived a life committed to family and community. He was involved in many civic organizations whose main goal is to make our community a better place in which to live. I can attest to his commitment to the organizations he was affiliated with, especially the Emmitsburg Lions Club. Bob was a member of the original Emmitsburg Lions Club which was disbanded, and later reorganized.

"The original Lions Club instituted a Children's Christmas Party. When the club disbanded, Bob continued to direct this party until our club was reorganized (and he was made chairman). Thanks to Bob, the Children's Christmas Party has operated for 70 consecutive years.

"At our annual Community Day celebration Bob directed the closest-to-the-pin golf contest, directed the raffle tent, also was co-chairman of our annual Health Fair and Scholarship Fund. He will be greatly missed, not only by the many organizations he has served, but by the entire community.

"Our condolences go out to the Gauss family and I know Bob has left a message with all of us to keep striving in all our endeavors to help create a community we can all be proud of."

—Herbert Gingell.

### The Emmitsburg Regional Dispatch

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## We remember



Several teams of members from the American Legion Post # 121, VFW Post #6658, the Emmitsburg Ambulance Company 26, friends, and children place flags on the graves of veterans of all wars in the Emmitsburg area cemeteries. This tradition of remembrance has been carried out for a long time.



# Family Fun Day to raise funds for Bosnian family

Come join the fun at the Emmitsburg Community Center on Saturday June 17! Three rolling events promise something for everyone:

A Summer Fair featuring games and prizes, good food, and good times begins at 10 a.m. at the Emmitsburg Community Center. Fortune telling, pro golf putt, face painting, hair painting, white elephant sale\*, and classic "carnival" games of sport and chance, to name just a few of the attractions. Pie throwing, balloons, limbo action, and more are all in store. Plus, an old-fashioned Cake Auction closes the Fair at 3 p.m.! Professional auctioneer Jamey Bush will be on hand to delight the audience and run the sale. You don't want to miss the array of homemade "scratch" cakes being donated – the contributing bakers are the best around.

While you enjoy the Fair, let the skilled Car Wash team make your auto exterior new-car clean! For the low, low price of just \$2.00, pollen, dust, and winter grime will give way to gleam! Windows inside and out included! The Car Wash and the Fair both run 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Then the Festival pauses briefly to rev up for the evening's Talent/Variety Show! Performers of all ages and acts go on-stage in the Emmitsburg Community Building Auditorium beginning at 7 p.m. Come one, come all for a great evening of entertainment! Just \$1.00 for adults and 50 cents for children 12 and under, this program promises to please. (Participants wanted! Please look for the Sign-Up Form in this paper!)

The proceeds of Family Fun Day

and the Variety Talent Show benefit the Bosnia Family Fund. The Bosnia Family Fund was established to support the Emmitsburg community's sponsorship of a war refugee family from Bosnia through the Emmitsburg Council of Churches. Esmir and Nahida Mrkanovic and their daughters, 7-year-old Irma and 4-year-old Ines, will arrive in Emmitsburg in July or August. Sponsorship commitment entails a home to begin in stocked with essential food and clothes and furniture; translator and language tutoring, assistance in transportation and job placement, and help with all the "paper processes" – school registration, social security, etc.

The real key to sponsorship, however, seems to be an appreciation for the safety and beauty of where you live and the will to share it with those less fortunate.

Considering that America hasn't battled war in our own backyard since the Civil War, and that few small-town areas battle violence on any scale, it would be understandably easy for sheltered little towns like Emmitsburg to ignore war and its devastating effects on nameless, faceless, numberless people in other parts of the world.

Instead, the Emmitsburg area community is giving back and giving welcome to the Mrkanovics. Family Fun Day is a fundraiser. But it is also a celebration. Be a part! For more information please call 301/447-2782 or 717/642-8585.

\*White Elephant Sale items will be accepted on-site 9 a.m. Saturday June 17th. Thanks!

## Meditation on Mom

BY JOHN GEHRING

Sitting in a hotel room in Austin, Texas, this Mother's Day I thought about her. The woman who changed my diapers, drove me to school, rubbed away my boyhood bumps and bruises. The woman who packed my lunch every day and sat through countless baseball games on scorching 90-degree Saturdays on some dusty ball field in the middle of nowhere. The woman who, like the good former English teacher she is, still reads my stories on the hunt for comma splices or dangling participles. The woman whom, even at 26, I still call to ask how to make my chicken dinner or what special remedy to use to rid my pants of that tomato sauce stain. The woman who reminded me before my business trip that May 14 was indeed Mother's Day and I would be sure to call.

On television the news reports showed mothers rallying in Washington, D.C., at the Million Mom March. They were there to support gun

control legislation and let Congress, the National Rifle Association and others know that they meant business. Maybe it was not being around the table eating another great meal served from the kitchen of a woman who juggles so many tasks in a single day that Barnum and Bailey Circus should sign her up to go on the road, but I began thinking more about my mom and mothers everywhere.

I didn't give much thought to the demands of motherhood as a boy growing up. Like my 16-year-old brother, and sons everywhere, for most of my life I thought God created Mom to wash my dirty underwear or tell me why I couldn't work on my ballhandling in the living room. Mom was a mythic figure who handed down yes or no, bedtime curfews and acceptable television shows, surely not a living, breathing human being like the rest of us. In the mind of a child, a mother has no past, no interests or passions other than being Mom.

I'm not sure when I started thinking about my mom as a real person. Having just recently moved out of my parents' house, I guess I observed longer than most the mother-child relationship up close and how it unfolds and changes over the years. Here was my mother, a bit grayer in the mane, spreading maps of Africa out on the dining room table to help my brother through a social studies project he had dumped on her before stealing off to the basketball court. It didn't seem that long ago when that was my project on the table, and she squinted through tired eyes after a long day of work trying to pinpoint Kinshasa, the capital of Zaire, as her paperwork was pushed aside, the phone rang, the dinner boiled over and I did my part to be understanding by asking every two minutes when dinner would be ready. Seeing her still there at the dining room table years later, I couldn't help thinking that motherhood demands the agility of a crafty captain navigating his boat through a gauntlet of icebergs while making sure his passengers' wine glasses are freshly filled.

So there in my Austin hotel room I looked back and realized I had come a good ways these last few years. Sure, my mom will always be Mom in my eyes. The person who still occasionally washes my socks or folds my pants or tells me I still can't work on my ballhandling in the house. But I know there is a woman behind the mask that all mothers wear in the eyes of their children. One who has, between all the daily duties that weigh on her and turn her hair grayer, taught me how to live a life.

I still see her coming in too late from work sometimes and wish I could just write her big fat checks so she wouldn't have to do it any more. I know she wishes this sometimes too because she half jokingly asks when I am going to write that best seller so she can retire. I will get there someday. But in the meantime, Mom, thanks for all the times I should have said that but never did.

I still see her coming in too late from work sometimes and wish I could just write her big fat checks so she wouldn't have to do it any more. I know she wishes this sometimes too because she half jokingly asks when I am going to write that best seller so she can retire. I will get there someday. But in the meantime, Mom, thanks for all the times I should have said that but never did.

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**Fax 301 - 447- 6271**

**17307 North Seton Ave.**

**Emmitsburg, MD 21727**

## Bring Your Talents to the Variety Show at the Family Fun Day\*, June 17th !

Fill out this registration by June 9th and mail to:  
Variety/Talent Show PO Box 82, Emmitsburg, Md. 21727  
or drop it off at the Emmitsburg Dispatch Office between 9-12, M-F.  
Call Chris at (301) 447-6250 or Kathy at (301) 447-6603 for details.  
\*All proceeds to benefit The Bosnia Family Refugee Fund

Please check the category in which you'd like to perform and give us an estimated length of time you'll need:

Karaoke \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) minutes

Provide your name and phone number, so we can confirm your participation:

Dance \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) minutes

Name(s):

Band/Instrument \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) minutes

Magic \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) minutes

Phone Number:

Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) minutes

It's gonna be a **Great Time**, for a **Great Cause**. We hope you're a part of it!



## Summer reading program begins at Emmitsburg branch library

BY JOAN FISHER

### Join the Emmitsburg Chess Club

You do not need to know how to play chess to join the Emmitsburg Chess Club. The club is being organized by Bill Goble. Goble explained, "The club is for those who want to learn to play chess. People who already know the game and are looking for chess partners can join, too."

The club will meet during the summer months on Wednesday morning from 10-11:30 a.m. in the Emmitsburg Branch Library's Meeting Room. Membership is for ages 12 and up. The first meeting will be June 21st. Call the Emmitsburg Branch Library (301-447-2682) to register.

### StoryFest at the Emmitsburg Branch Library

Come to the Emmitsburg Branch Library on Saturday June 17 for a day of family fun and celebrate the wonder, wisdom and just-plain-FUN found in stories. StoryFest will be from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. A variety of stories and storytelling will be featured including a puppet show entitled 1-2-3 Piggies and special guest, Joanne Hay, who is a nationally known storyteller. Bring a brown bag lunch for the midday Break. Light fare and drinks will be available compliments of the Emmitsburg Branch Library Advisory Board. Pick up a StoryFest schedule at your local library. Admission is free. Call the Emmitsburg Branch Library at 301-447-2682 to reserve tickets for the various events.

### Summer reading fun

Registration for the Frederick County Public Libraries' Summer Reading Program begins on June 1 at your local library. "Reading Rhythms" is this year's theme. Sneaks, the "cool" cat, is once again the program's mascot. Participation in the summer reading program includes a game board, activity sheets, contests, prizes, magic shows, an ice cream finale, special programs, family activities, drawings for tickets to the Weinberg Center or an Orioles baseball game and much, much more!

The Summer Reading Kickoff in the park features magician Robert Strong and Sneaks the Cat. On June 23rd, all participants are invited to Thurmont town park pavilion. Bring a blanket to sit on. Robert Strong will kick FCPL's Summer Reading Program with high-energy magic that dazzles and delights young and old alike. Strong is an award-winning magician who has been featured on *CBS This Morning*, starred in national TV com-

mercials, and has regularly made appearances on every major television network.

Sneaks the Cat will be on hand to meet and greet young readers and help them become part of this summer's exciting reading game.

Sneaks T-shirts are now available for purchase. While supplies last, you can get a colorful shirt showing Sneaks playing a guitar for Reading Rhythms. Prices are \$6 for children's sizes and \$7 for adult sizes. See them at any branch library.

Sound Bytes for Teens is for those who are too old for the Sneaks Reading Club but love music and reading. For the first time teens can track their reading, play music trivia games, find cool web sites and win prizes. Join Sound Bytes, the teen reading club, at your library. Just ask for information and sign up beginning June 1.

### June Activities at the Emmitsburg Branch Library

Thursday June 1 — Sign-up for Summer Reading Program begins!

Family Storytime 10:30 am

Wednesday June 7 — Family Storytime 7:00 pm

Thursday June 8 — Family Storytime 10:30 am

Wednesday June 14 — Family Storytime 7:00 pm

Thursday June 15 — Family Storytime 10:30 am

Saturday June 17 — StoryFest — Celebrate stories with a puppet show and guest storytellers! From 10 am to 3 pm.

Tuesday June 20 — Babies With Books (newborn to 24 months) 10:30 am

Wednesday June 21 — Chess Club — Learn to play chess (12 and up)\* 10-11:30 am

Family Storytime 7:00 pm  
Thursday June 22 — Family Storytime 10:30 am

Sidewalk Art — Decorate the library's sidewalk (all ages) 1:00 pm

(See LIBRARY on Page 10)

## St. Catherine's honors employees

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH OF MARCH -- St. Catherine's Nursing Center Employee of the Month for March 2000 is Pat Orner, right. Pat has been employed as a receptionist at St. Catherine's since July 1999. She was selected as the Employee of the Month because of her friendly nature and positive attitude. Pat always greets everyone with a smile. She is always willing to lend a hand and go beyond what is expected of her. Pat greatly deserves this honor!



PAT ORNER

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH APRIL -- St. Catherine's Nursing Center Employee of the Month for April 2000 is Margaret Keyser, left. Margaret has been employed as a part-time receptionist since May of 1995. According to her co-workers, Margaret was chosen because she is friendly and makes all visitors and families feel welcome. Margaret gives freely of her time in many ways from cooking wonderful meals for the residents to sewing name labels on the residents' clothing during her personal time. Margaret is a fine example of Core Values and an excellent employee who is always willing to help coworkers. Margaret is very deserving of the honor of employee of the month. Congratulations, Margaret!



MARGARET KEYSER

St. Catherine's Nursing Center Employee of the Month for May 2000, is Kathy Baudassi. Kathy has been employed as an LPN since August of 1999. According to her co-workers, it is a great pleasure working with Kathy. She always has a wonderful smile, and she has a great outlook on life. Kathy always helps out wherever she is needed, and she always places the residents' needs first. This shows in the quality of care she gives. Kathy is very deserving of the honor of employee of the month.

Congratulations, Kathy.



KATHY BAUDASSI

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## Brent Little named Fulbright Scholar

Brent Little, a music major at Penn State, University Park, was recently selected by the German-American Fulbright Commission for a Fulbright Award. He will spend the 2000-2001 academic year in Bonn, Germany, where he will conduct independent research at the Beethoven-Haus Center, which contains Beethoven's manuscripts and documents.

The outstanding scholar and 1996 graduate of James Buchanan High School in Mercersburg also was student marshal for the School of Music during the College of Arts and Architecture's spring semester commencement on May 13. The award is given to the student who has earned the highest overall grade point average in the school.

Little has been on the Dean's List every semester. He was nominated for inclusion in "Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities" and is a member of the American String Teachers Association



**BRENT LITTLE**

and Phi Eta Sigma.

Brent is the grandson of Robert and Ann Little, South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, and the son of Ronnie and Jenny (Wivell) Little, formerly of Emmitsburg.

## Surprise at Ninety-Five

BY HELEN REAVER

A surprise 95th birthday party for Mary Snyder of Fairfield, Pa., was held on April 30 at the home of Ed and Helen Reaver. The party was given by her son, Frankie, Margie Fellam and Helen Reaver, nieces of the honoree.

Her sister, Genevieve Hess, along with many life-long friends, church members, Baltimore relatives, and many nephews and nieces attended. Approximately 100 people were present.

Mary received many cards along with warm birthday wishes. A delicious buffet supper was held followed by a large birthday cake. An enjoyable evening was had by all.



**MARY SNYDER**

## Neighbors

BY KATE WARTHEN

Dispatch Correspondent

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Joy of West Main Street celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary on Easter Sunday. The occasion was celebrated by sending cards. Congratulations, Jerry and Dot.

Mr. Joseph William Payne, life-long resident of Emmitsburg, fell and broke his hip recently. Bill also celebrated his 78th birthday. Bill appreciates cards.

The Lions Club held their White Cane Day at all the local church. White Cane Day benefits the blind. Thanks to all who participated.

The plant sale for the Emmitsburg Library given by the Friends of the Library went really well. Thanks to all who contributed plants and all who helped in any way to make the event successful.

Mark Warthen spent a week in Montana on a work-related trip. He reports the area is beautiful and the people are so hospitable.

Mrs. Mary Eugenia Rice of West Main Street is recuperating from back surgery. Get well soon!

All the children of Mrs. Patricia Warthen were visiting home during the holidays. Wanda, Rob, and Dan were home with their families.

The covered-dish party sponsored by the Sodality was well attended and delicious. It was the Sodality's goodbye to Father Joe Wright, Father Kennedy and Father Buckley. We will miss all the priests. Two new members were introduced into the Sodality. Congratulations to Tish Enright and Dolores Young.

Condolences to the family of Gene LaCroce. Gene's mother died recently.

Leah Adelsberger had a part in the play *Little Shop of Horrors* held on May 5 and 6. Leah is in her first year at Catoclin High School.

Susan Walter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Buzz Walter, visited here with family and friends. Sue lives in California with her husband and two daughters.

Sister Maria Louis is here in Emmitsburg as a guide at the Provincial House. Sister comes every year and loves Emmitsburg. Sister is from the Bronx, New York.

Condolences on the loss of Bob Gauss, local surveyor, husband of Crystal and father to Bob Jr., Jimmy and Chris. He will be missed by the town of Emmitsburg as well as many close friends and family.

The voice students of Sandy Soffe put on a delightful show at Mother Seton School. Good work, Sandy and students.

Congratulations to all our local high school graduates. Among them are Ben Adelsberger, Elizabeth Murphy, and Robbie Clontz.

Miquel Escola, of Barcelona, Spain, son of Manuel Escola and the late Yvonne Heinke Escola and grandson of Dolores Henke, will graduate from Mercersburg Academy on June 3. Miquel will attend the University of Vermont in the fall.

**Caution:** If you are traveling to Florida, be cautious at the rest stops. Keep an eye on your car or have a traveling companion keep an eye out for you. Travelers recently have had items stolen from their car trunks, unbeknownst to them until they were really south of the border. A new device apparently lets robbers into your car without showing any signs of illegal entry.

## 50th Wedding Anniversary

Mr. & Mrs. L. Kenneth Vaughan celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on May 13, 2000. Their children invited 75 relatives and friends to a dinner-dance to help them celebrate the special occasion.

"Ike" and "Bobbie" were married on May 13, 1950, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Emmitsburg. The maid of honor was Teresa (Peters) Hollinger and the best man was Donald

Kessler.

Mr. & Mrs. Vaughn have 7 children (whose names all begin with the letter - "D"), 6 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

They have lived in Emmitsburg for 40 years. They are currently enjoying their retirement.

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# Story of mystery building on Seton Avenue revealed

BY ED HOUCK AND  
MARY (IRELAN) TRAPANE

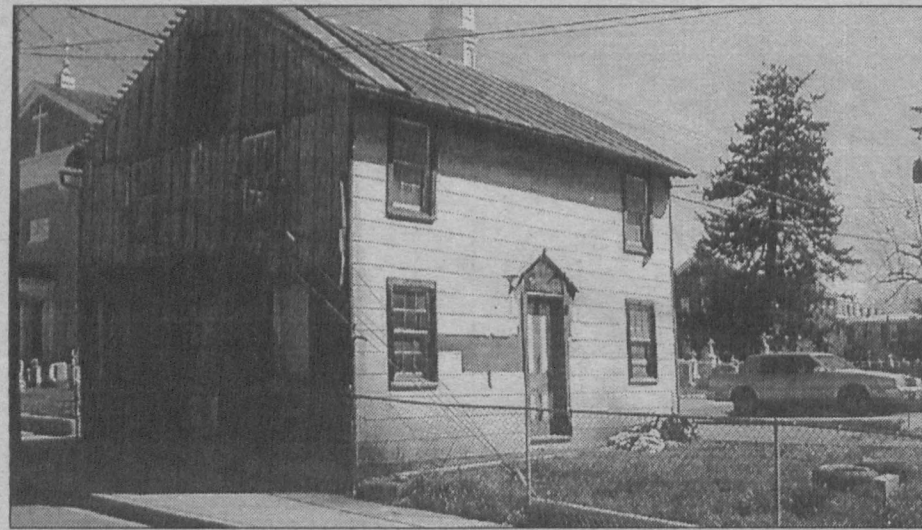
## Memories of Ed Houck

I was surprised to see the picture of the old building on page 23 of the May 2000 *Dispatch*. Here is the history of the building:

My father, J. E. Houck, Sr., purchased the right side of the Annan Brothers large building on the square in 1939 from J. Brooke Boyle. In the early 1940's, upon the death of Charles Mort, he purchased the left side of the same building that borders on Rt. 15. Here he moved his menswear store, "Ed's Place," from the Knights of Columbus Building and connected it to the women's clothing portion of the store, making the ground floor a complete clothing store for the entire family.

Upon buying this portion of the building, which also included a shed bordering on the alley that runs next to the St. Joseph's Cemetery, he decided to fix it up to look like a house. He had the outside covered with white asbestos shingles and placed over the doors a covering that was removed from the old restaurant that went out of business and was replaced by the men's store. On the inside was a large room, a taircase, a small back room and one open room upstairs. The upstairs was used to store out-of-season stock and the first floor was used for trash and unpacking goods. There were never any families living in this building, which had no plumbing or water.

When I was in my teens in the early 1940's, Johnny Miller, Tom Gammache and I had a train layout that took up half of the big room on the bottom floor. Dad also let me use the area as a woodworking shop. The Scouts of



DISPATCH PHOTO

## Old building on North Seton Avenue

Olinger.

In the mid-fifties, we had pigeons housed in the small room in the rear of the shed. "Pop" Olinger enjoyed looking after the pigeons and at one time the flock was over 80 birds. We would race the birds from Cumberland, Gettysburg and many places to see if our birds were the best quality. We also had show birds, Tumblers, Icelanders, Fan-tails etc., and would show them at times. On leaving in 1962, our flock was given to Gene Lingg, who also raised pigeons down in a garage off East Main Street. At that time it was a big thing.

Our clothing store served the community from the opening of Ed's Place in the mid-1920's through 1962. With the opening of the bypass to the east of town, business was slowing down and I moved with the family to the

the area at one time built two duck boats and I had built and sold a number of sets of wooden outdoor furniture. Dad would assist in buying the lumber and I could keep the net profit to buy bigger and better tools.

The original shed was a tin-covered building with a dirt floor for storing buggies and yard tools. At one time, it had a large door going into the alley. When my father made it look like a home, many people asked him about living there and they had to be told it was used just for storage.

Upon the death of my parents, the building went to my two sisters, Mary Theresa and Margaret, and myself. As they got married, I purchased their share of the building and kept it until I sold it to Ralph Ireland in 1962. At one time my family, including my wife Doris and four children, Denise, Patty, Jim and Joe, lived in the right side of the building. On the left side of the building on the top floor lived Mr. and Mrs. Walter Crouse and their daughter, Susan. On the second floor lived my wife's grandparents, Charles & Bessie

Washington area.

So this is the history of the Mystery House on No. Seton Ave. It never was home to anyone except about 40 pair of pigeons and a lot of good times for me as I grew up in Emmitsburg.

## Memories of Mary Irelan Trapane

My grandfather, Ralph Irelan, Sr., has owned that property since 1963. He purchased the property from Ed Houck, who had owned the property (probably inherited from his parents) for many, many years. The Houcks lived in the building that is now 1 & 3 East Main Street. To our knowledge, that property on N. Seton has never been occupied (except by lots of pigeons). If it had been, we'd be very interested in knowing.

One major correction: We requested the permit to remove the building to make room for parking by the tenants of 1 & 3 East Main Street. We were never requested to remove the building by the town of Emmitsburg. The "house" sat on a concrete slab, had no real indoor plumbing or insulation, and the only electricity was a couple of ceiling light bulbs. For the 36 years that this property has been in my family, this building has been used as a storage shed, and my grandfather is also confident that the "house" was used by the Houcks primarily for storage as well. My grandfather does remember that the Houcks sold toys in the building during the Christmas season.

## WMTB airs music this summer

WMTB radio, 89.9 FM, the college station at Mount Saint Mary's College, will be staying on the air throughout the summer.

This is a first for WMTB, which is a non-profit, student run station.

WMTB FM offers a variety of rock music, as well as some jazz and blues.

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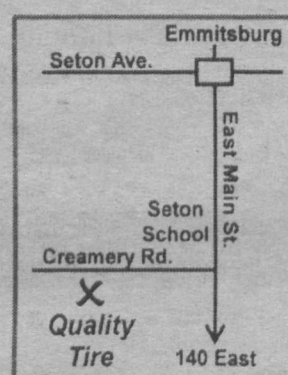
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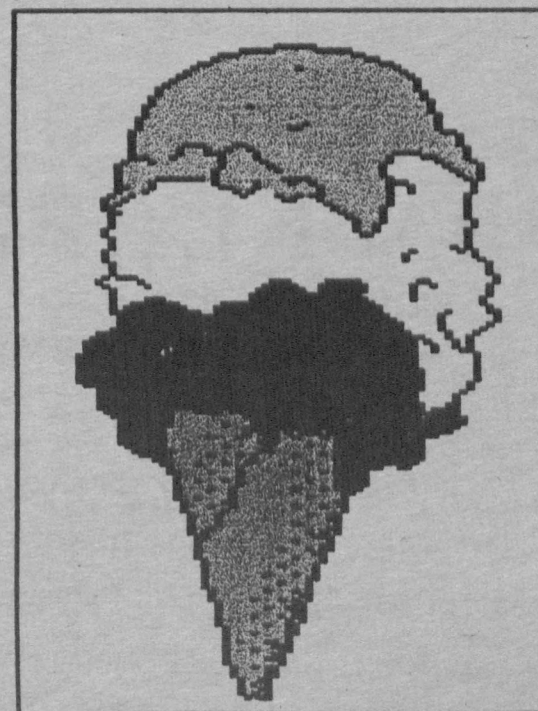
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## Library

(Continued from Page 6)

Friday June 23 — **Summer Reading Club Kickoff** -Thurmont Town Park ,10 am - 1 pm;  
*Friday Flicks* — Movies & Videos at the Library (all ages) 2:00 pm  
 Monday June 26 — **Marbleizing Paper\*** — craft program (teens & adults) 7:00 pm  
 Wednesday June 28 — **Chess Club** — 10-11:30 am ;  
*Family Storytime* — 7:00 pm  
 Thursday June 29 — *Family Storytime* — 10:30 am

**Water Games!** Bubbles and other water fun. Come prepared to get wet (all ages) 1:00 pm, Fri., June 30  
*Friday Flicks* — 2:00 pm  
 \*Registration Requested  
 Call the Emmitsburg Branch Library to register for a program or for more information (301-447-2682).

ASL interpreters are available for library programs. Contact the library 2 weeks in advance of the program (TTY 301-631-3787).

## VFW Auxiliary selects officers

BY DOLORES HENKE

### SECRETARY OF VFW AUXILIARY

The election and Installation of officers for the Auxiliary to Emmitsburg VFW Memorial Post 6658 was held recently. The officers for the upcoming year are: President, Mary R. Topper; Senior Vice President, Lois Hartdagen; Junior Vice President, Dixie Vivaldi; Treasurer, Rita Byard, Chaplain, Gloria Bauerline; Guard, Mary Bowne, Conductress, Evelyn Ott, Trustee (3 years), Betty Lupinski, appointed officer, Secretary, Dolores Henke.

In other business, a discussion was held on the bingo that will be held on June 20, proceeds of which will provide funds for the monthly visits to the VA Medical Center in Martinsburg and local shut-ins. The bingo will be held at the ambulance building at 7:00. Members were requested to donate finger food and prizes.

The president stated that the drive to provide clothing, small appliances, dishes, etc., for the homeless veterans in Baltimore has been extended. These items may be taken to the local VFW

Post.

A discussion was held on the State Convention which will be held in Ocean City, Md., June 5 - June 7. Lois Hartdagen and Gloria Bauerline will represent the auxiliary at this convention.

Names of delegates and alternates to the convention have been sent in by the secretary, and an ad will be placed in the convention booklet by the VFW Post and the Auxiliary.

The auxiliary also voted to send a donation for an ad to be placed in the program for the event being held in Frederick at the Memorial Park to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the beginning of the Korean War.

A brief discussion was then held regarding the upcoming 53rd anniversary of the Auxiliary in July. It was decided to have a dinner celebrating this affair at a local restaurant.

The next meeting of the Auxiliary will be held at the Post Home on June 1 at 8:00 p.m.

## Tanker

(Continued from page 1)

throughout the greater Emmitsburg region as well as the men and women of Vigilant Hose themselves.

Made possible by the gracious support of the community and the untiring efforts of the VHC Auxiliary, Engine-Tanker 64 will be dedicated in memory of Fallen Firefighter Terry Lee Myers who died in the Line of Duty on February 15, 1999, while fighting a fire at the nearby campus of Mount Saint Mary's College.

A permanent plaque will be unveiled to commemorate the occasion and which will also acknowledge the work of a committee that undertook the research, specification / design, and involved process of bid preparation and proposal review before the order was placed. The dedication plaque will be permanently affixed to the new unit for all to see. The new vehicle replaces a just-retired unit that was nearly 30 years old and which had faithfully served the 5-county, 2-state region covered by the men and women of Vigilant Hose. And, Firefighter Myers was a frequent driver-operator of that unit. The vehicle being retired, old Engine 64, is being prepared for donation to a very small, rural community in the Ozarks located in Marion County, Arkansas, about 45 miles southeast of Branson, Missouri.

Old Engine 64's new home, the Pine Mountain Volunteer Fire Department, was ecstatic when they learned of the news. Vigilant Fire Chief Frank Davis, recently commenting about the importance of the donation, described how the Pine Mountain organization recently lost their primary pumper (a 1958 Chevrolet) after it jumped out of gear at a fire and drove into a lake from which it was drafting — and it remains there due to a lack of funds necessary to retrieve it!

Vigilant Hose President, Tim Clarke, talked about how the members of Vigilant Hose were struck by the incredible dedication of Pine Mountain's members who collect trash throughout their community on Friday evenings to make enough money to run their small department. With the 1958 vehicle unavailable, the community has had to rely on a 1952 home-built fire truck to get by.

Chief Davis said that a number of other fire companies in Frederick County are also helping out by donating no longer used hand tools and fire fighting fittings to accompany old Engine 64 to its new home. Additionally, several other Frederick County companies have assisted the Pine Mountain VFD in recent years. Pine Mountain VFD representatives are expected to be in Emmitsburg the week following the dedication of Engine-Tanker 64 to receive their new unit.

A number of past chiefs of Vigilant Hose will help to dedicate the new unit including Eugene Myers, brother of Terry, and a recent inductee into the Frederick County Fire and Rescue Hall of Fame. Along with past chiefs, past VHC presidents are also expected to be part of the ceremonies, too, which are to include a traditional "Housing" ceremony, an event reminiscent of the early days of the nation's volunteer fire service.

Additionally, Master of Ceremonies, Guy A. Baker, Jr., along with National Fire Academy Superintendent, Dr. Denis Onieal, and Pastor Susan Yatta of the Elias Lutheran Church, will be assisting in the event which is open to the public. The department's Auxiliary will be serving light refreshments following the dedication.

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# New convention center has 'rustic elegance'

BY SARAH WASSNER  
Dispatch Correspondent

"Rustic" and "elegance" are two words rarely thrown together to describe something, but somehow the phrase seems to perfectly suit ThorpeWood, a brand new convention facility high in the Catoctin Mountains.

Sparked by the legacy of the late Washington, D.C., attorney Merle Thorpe, Jr., his namesake center is an environmental sanctuary on 30 acres of forested land on Mink Farm Road.

Sam Castleman, Thorpe's stepson and ThorpeWood's executive director, has dedicated his life to carrying out his stepfather's dying wish, "that others, particularly those with less opportunity, share this wonderful, tranquil mountain haven to renew both body and soul." The Thorpe Foundation was established in 1993 by Merle Thorpe, who opened his mountaintop farmhouse and property to urban children. Upon his stepfather's death, Castleman, who now heads the Thorpe Foundation, decided to continue to work to support and fulfill Merle's goal. As a result, construction of ThorpeWood began in April of 1998 and was completed in February of this year.

ThorpeWood is an expansive timber cabin with the purpose of serving as a spot for meetings or social functions, such as weddings and parties. The structure features various rooms in which these meetings and functions can take place, catering to around 70 guests. The interior, featuring a Council room, a large dining room (the "Chestnut Room"), the "Tree Room", and the lofty "Board Room" is pristine and exquisitely decorated. All chairs, tables and banisters are made of "unfinished" logs and wood, giving one the feeling of being in a modern-day giant tree house. In the Council Room, visitors can lounge on plush leather sofas while basking in the glow of a blazing fire from the massive stone fireplace in the winter. In the warmer months, the entire central room is encased by windows, which can slide open for a breezy screen-porch effect.

Perhaps the most interesting effect of ThorpeWood is the environmentally conscious way it is run. First off, the building is run entirely on a graywater and compost septic system, meaning that all human waste is distributed from the waterless toilets down to two large composting units in the basement. The units are filled with woodchips to absorb the waste and every couple of months the liquids are pumped out into another vat. The liquid waste is then applied to the chestnut reforestation

plot on the property as a means of fertilization.

"We call it 'liquid gold,'" said Castleman of this unique potion. "It's better than Miracle Grow."

After about three to four years, the solid waste, which mixes in with the wood chips, will be emptied from the units and distributed back on ThorpeWood's property as soil. There is no odor involved in this process, as air ducts travel throughout the system, eliminating any foul smells that may be emitted from the compost.

"This is all in an effort to protect and preserve the environment," explains Castleman.

Another way in which ThorpeWood is striving to be environmentally friendly as can be is the fact that the building has no central air-conditioning. Rather, it is cooled by a natural ventilation process in which the mountain air circulates from the side windows, forcing a convection flow of the warm air out of the cupolas. And, as Castleman adds, "the elevation, shade, and the way we face the north side of the mountain" all contribute to the cooling of the building.

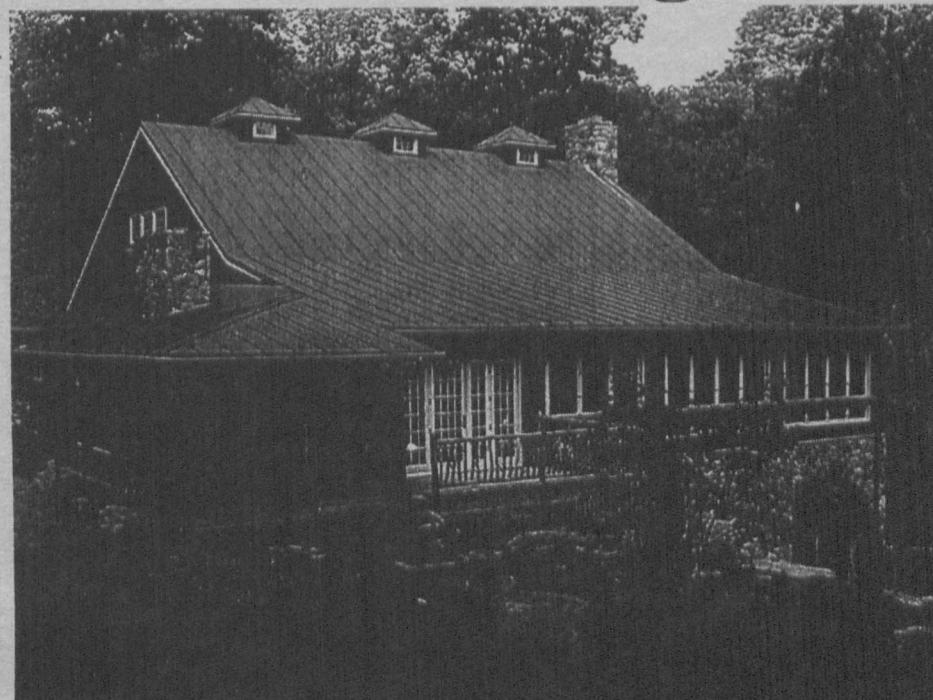
Since its grand opening, ThorpeWood has been the host of one two-day seminar and is booked for others in the upcoming months.

"The fall will most likely be our busy season," said Castleman.

There are no overnight accommodations at ThorpeWood; however, Castleman does provide a list of local hotels for his guests. Meals are served to the guest's discretion and are provided by various caterers hired by Castleman. However, if the guests would like to provide their own catering company, like at a wedding for example, Castleman must first approve the company before they are hired.

"I prefer to use my own caterers, but I understand if a bride has her heart set on another company. I will just go out and see how they function before they are hired," said Castleman.

The rental fee at ThorpeWood depends on the day of the week as well as the time of the event. The prices



DISPATCH PHOTO

ThorpeWood, the new convention and conference center in the Catoctin Mountains.

range from a \$200 base fee for 3 hours on Monday through Friday to \$2500 for a prime Saturday day/evening (9 a.m. to midnight) slot. The costs of additional services are not included in these fees; catering and other miscellaneous charges are arranged later.

"I believe the rates to be very reasonable," said Castleman.

A detailed website is available at [www.thorpewood.org](http://www.thorpewood.org) where interested parties can view photographs of the property as well as learn more about ThorpeWood's missions and history. Castleman also urges people to visit ThorpeWood themselves so that they can truly appreciate all the "rustic elegance" it has to offer.

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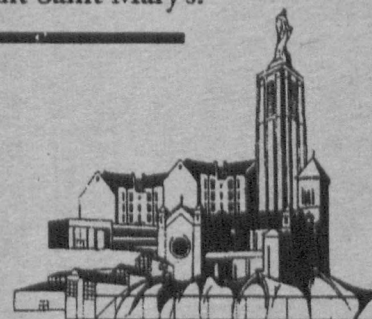
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# We Love a Parade!

*Plan for your Community Day Parade  
July 1, 2000*

Comments by Ruth Richards

I love a parade! Everybody loves a parade. All of Emmitsburg—maybe all of Frederick County loves a parade.

Here are the pictures from the Emmitsburg Bi-Centennial parade held June 22-29, 1957. From the square as far west as you can see, throngs had come to the parade.

Will there ever be another celebration like this? I guess we'll have to wait and see.



Just look at Dick Harner—tight pants, straw hat—pedaling his high-seated bicycle!



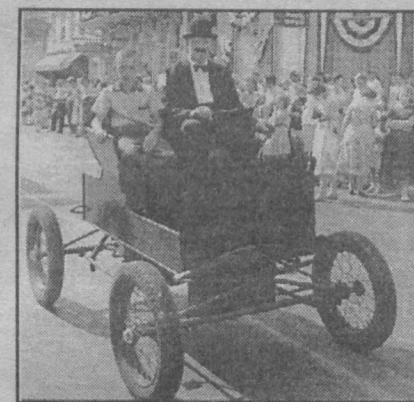
Lions Club Float. Beautiful young women in prom gowns, each one beautiful enough to have been Miss Emmitsburg. Do you recognize them?



Here comes the American Legion float. Uniformed men—there's something about a soldier. Are they veterans of that war only 12 years prior (WWII)? Do you have a catch in your throat? The flag? The gun?



Why is Dot Davis being hanged? Isn't she a good sport to let them put that rope around her neck?



Old, old car. Whose car was it? The back of the photo says "Newcomer-Waynesboro." Who is he?



Queen of the party, beautiful Nancy Valentine. Gov. T. R. McKeldin on one side and Helen Dougherty on the other, waiting for the queen to be crowned.



Bearded men. Who made the sacrifice? They or their wives? These three men unknown to me, flanked by John Hollinger on the extreme left and Charlie Harner on the right. Was there a prize? Who won?

Photos courtesy of Wales Rightnour

*The Lions invite you to participate in Community Day 2000.*

The **Emmitsburg Lions Club** cordially invites you and/or your organization to participate in the Community Day Parade to be held July 1, 2000 (Rain date July 2nd.) The parade will form at the "Dough Boy" on West Main Street at 5:15 p.m. and will move out at 6 p.m. The theme is Saluting the Greatest Generation of Emmitsburg—Our Veterans.

Please send your responses by June 23, including type of entry i.e. float, clown, antique vehicle, etc., to Parade, Emmitsburg Lions Club, PO Box 1182, Emmitsburg, Md.



## The (Retired) Ecologist's Corner

### Of Birds and Brains: a lesson in humility

BY BILL MEREDITH

I used to see hummingbirds around the house when midsummer flowers were in bloom, but we never fed them until last summer; we started then only because one of my grandchildren got me a feeder for Christmas. Sometime in June I remembered it, and hung it outside the kitchen window. It was a month or more before the hummingbirds found it; thereafter, they were regular daily visitors. There were at least two pairs of them, and one of the males established his territory around the feeder. He grudgingly allowed his wife to feed, but aggressively attacked all others; sometimes he would perch on the hanger above the feeder and flash the iridescent red feathers on his throat for all to see, and at other times he would hide in the nearby plum tree and ambush the interlopers. This went on until the first of October, when he left for his migration to Central America.

Early on the 10th of May my wife woke me up and told me the hummingbird was back, and when I sat down to breakfast he came and buzzed around the window several times. Since I hadn't yet put the feeder out and there were no flowers in the area, I assumed he was the same one who was here last year. The logical conclusion is that he remembered the feeder was there, and was looking for it. When I reflected on that, and on everything else I know that bird has done, I found myself thoroughly amazed.

According to one of my biology books, the average adult human's brain weighs about three pounds and contains over 10 billion nerve cells. An entire hummingbird weighs about a tenth of an ounce, most of which is accounted for by the muscles that work the wings; I don't know how big its brain is, but it can't be more than 1/10

of the body's weight. A little basic arithmetic gives me an estimate of about 2.5 million nerve cells in a hummingbird's brain. I recall reading somewhere that it takes over 100 nerve cells for a rat to learn to make a left turn in a maze. If that is so, 2.5 million cells in a hummingbird's brain hardly seems like enough to account for all it can do.

Of course, the bird's brain is arranged differently from ours. The cerebellum, which controls muscle coordination, has to be relatively larger in birds. I haven't found a text to prove it, but it seems to me that a bird would need at least half of the cells in its brain just to coordinate routine flight activities. When my hummingbird is hovering still in the air and poking its beak up into a columbine blossom, its wings are beating about 100 times a second; and this is not just a simple back-and-forth motion. To hover, the wings have to follow a sort of figure-eight motion, which gets even more complicated when flying backwards or changing direction. Over a dozen pairs of muscles in the breast, back and wings have to contract and relax in an orderly sequence 100 times each second! Then, from a hovering start, he can accelerate to over 50 miles per hour and fly through a tree without hitting any branches or leaves. You'd think this would require a cerebellum so big as to make him front-heavy and drive his beak right into the ground... but, amazingly, that doesn't happen.

Most of what birds do is the result of inherited behavior patterns called instincts; they can augment these abilities to some extent by learning, but their basic repertoire is limited to what their species has evolved in order to survive. Hummingbirds' brains are "pre-wired" to recognize the colors and shapes of flowers they can feed from; they may remember where flow-

ers are and come back to them, but the parents don't have to teach the babies what a flower is. The female knows automatically how to collect lichens and spider web silk to make her nest; she gets no lessons in home-making from her mother. Last summer I watched the male and female perform their mating dance by flying at high speed in a vertical circle some 20 feet in diameter, buzzing their wings like revved-up racing motors and clicking their bills; what they did was exactly like the diagram in my bird book, but they had never read it. When they left Emmitsburg last fall the young ones did not stay with their parents, yet they flew to Louisiana, stoked up on nectar to build body fat, and then flew non-stop across the Gulf of Mexico without a map or compass to spend the winter in Panama with the others of their kind from all over North America. And then when the lengthening days stim-

ulated their pineal glands this spring, they made the reverse journey north without consciously thinking about it and ended up in my yard, buzzing about indignantly because I, with my 3-pound brain, hadn't remembered to put the feeder out on time.

When I taught biology, I found my students tended to look down on animals whose brains are limited to instinctive behavior. It was part of my job to teach them that in biology survival is what counts, and in terms of survival a hummingbird is just as successful as we are. And the real joy of teaching came when they realized that even though our "superior" brains allow us to understand a hummingbird, we can still be amazed by it.

*Bill Meredith is a retired professor of Biology from Mount Saint Mary's College.*

## Quilters: finding your birth color

BY MARY ELLEN CUMMINGS

*Dispatch Correspondent*

Last month I promised you a formula to determine your "Birth Color." Our example uses December 13, 1930, as the birthday.

1930 = year	1+9+0=13	(1+3)=4
12 = month	(1-2)=	3
13 = day	(1-3)=	4
	Total 11	(1+)=2

Use the following chart to find your color:

1 - Red; 2 - Orange; 3 - Yellow;  
4 - Green; 5 - Blue; 6 - Indigo;  
7 - Violet; 8 - Pink; and other  
pastels; 9 - All other colors.

Also, last month, I gave you a very brief lesson on the things the color red represents. Continuing that theme, here are some of the meanings for yellow and blue, the other two primary colors.

Yellow is a color of the intellect. It is the sun's rays. It is joyful. Yellow

gives you a lift — as in spring, the early flowers, such as how the Easter flowers lift your spirit. Yellow, the most prominent color of the spectrum, jumps out at you — for example, a yellow caution light. In quilts using mixed colors, the quiltmaker must use yellow sparingly or it will interrupt the flow of the pattern. Yellow is the color of creativity.

The other primary color, blue, is the color of peace and harmony; it is the color of divine inspiration. It is cooling, quiet and relaxing. A blue light in a bedroom is said to induce sleep. (Of course, if you go to sleep with the blue light burning, it will stay on all night.) However, you could use a quilt with prominent blues to calm you into a deep sleep.

Our language makes full use of the color blue: blue laws, blue Monday, blue moon, swear a blue streak. And on the brighter side are blueblooms and bluebirds.

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Scene of Emmitsburg, its churches and mountain from an original painting by Rev. R. Benjamin Jones.

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# Barbering in Emmitsburg of Old

## Local man follows in 'Father's Footsteps'

By members of the Emmitsburg Area Historical Society

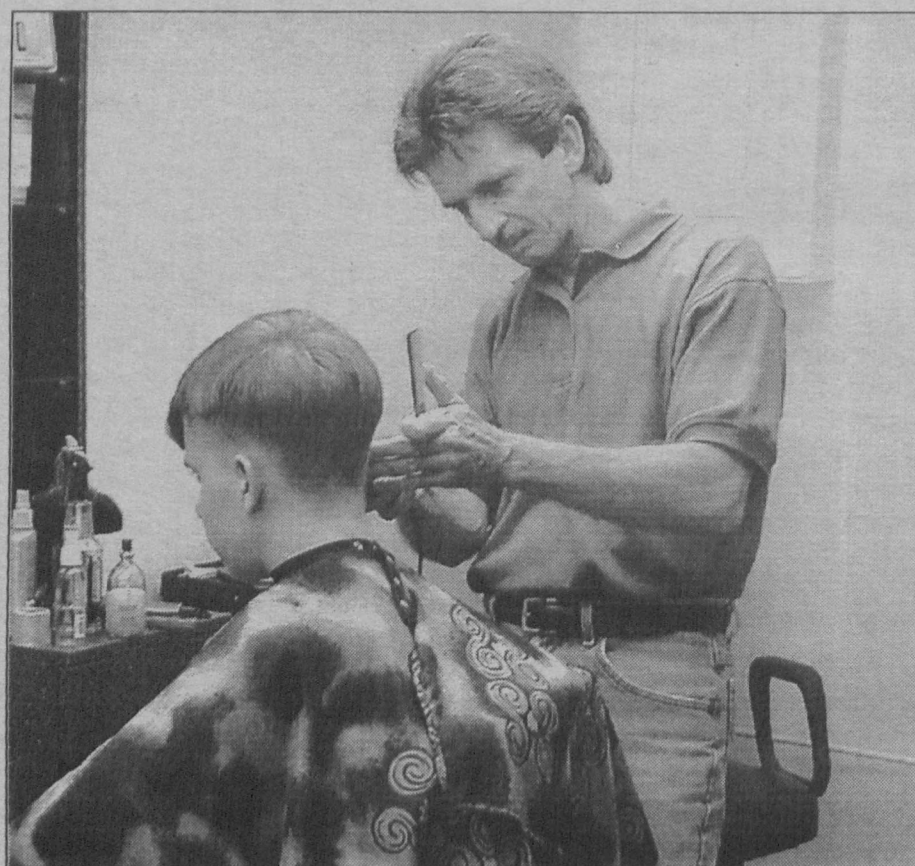
Anyone who knows the history of Kerry Shorb's family knows that the name of his shop, "My Father's Footsteps," is the understatement of the century. Kerry's father — Charles (Toss) Shorb, began his barber's apprenticeship at the ripe young age of 15 with his future wife's uncles Gay Topper and Thornton Rodgers in their barbershop on West Main Street in Emmitsburg. Robert Topper, also a barber, worked part-time in the shop, and later through marriage became a step-grandfather to Kerry . . . and so goes the history of barbering in Emmitsburg.

Emmitsburg, like all small towns in rural America in the 1920s and 30s, sported a number of barber shops. Aaron W. Adams opened his barber shop in 1928 in what is now the side room of the Ott House. [This same room also once housed Hoke's hardware store, and the town's public library]. Fred Troxell had a shop near the old bowling alley, across from what is now the town's laundromat, and, later, in the back of his house on N. Seton Ave.

Thornton Rodgers and Guy Topper opened their shop in Emmitsburg about 1922 at 26 West Main Street. Thornton had apprenticed and worked in Gettysburg up until that time, and during WWI, he worked at the Sparrows Point Shipyard in Baltimore. He was ineligible for military service due to a game leg caused by polio contracted at the age of two. He married Carrie Gelwicks in 1921 and they lived in the house at 201 N. Seton Ave. the rest of their lives.

While business was always good, it was standing room only on Saturday nights when farmers and country folks, weary from a hard week of labor, descended upon town. With wives busy buying or selling supplies or just plain shopping, and children viewing the latest cowboy movie, men would eventually migrate to the barber shops for well-deserved shaves and friendly conversation and horseplay.

A stop at Thornton Rodgers' shop was always a must. Mike, a nick-name Thornton was known by, was always interested in politics and was on the Emmitsburg town council many years in the 1930's along with fellow councilmen John Elder and Charley Harner and Mayor Mike Thompson. As a councilman, he entertained his customers with the latest on local politics and town plans. On Saturday night, his shop "doubled" for the town office, and more than one idea resulted from Saturday evening



Corey Baer of Fairfield gets a haircut from Kerry Shorb at My Father's Footsteps. A Dispatch Photo

deliberations.

When WWII erupted, Thornton again went to the shipyard to work from 1942 to 1945. When he returned to Emmitsburg, he cut hair in the shop with Guy Topper until 1946 when, in partnership with two of his sons, Bill and Bee, he started a furniture repair business. However, some of his old customers just couldn't find a barber like Mike and came to his house for a haircut. Thornton stayed active in local politics and was mayor of Emmitsburg in 1950 and 1951.

The largest of the old barbershops, Thornton and Guy's shop contained three barber chairs, two long benches, and several chairs for waiting customers. Above the mirror that dominated the room was a shelf on which sat shaving mugs sporting the name of each customer. When their turn arrived, customers reclined in one of the chairs and a hot towel was wrapped around their face to soften the week-old growth. The barber added hot water to their shaving mugs, and quickly produced a hot thick lather. With skilled hands, a straight razor made quick work of straggly growth.

Each barber had his own unique style of cutting hair, and it was easy to determine who patronized whom. For example, Thornton Rodgers used the natural neckline in shaping a hair cut. Others cut hair to an exact length, leaving those with long skinny necks with wide sidewalls, and those with short necks wondering what hair had been cut.

While the cost of a haircut was only \$.35, and a shave two bits, for some even this was too expensive. To save money, most parents used to cut their own kids' hair — fathers the sons, mothers the daughters. Sons, of course, would submit to this reluctantly, especially when the lass next door suddenly stopped being an object of taunting and became an object of desire. It was easy to tell the kids from small families. The lack of practice was apparent in the uneven length of hair and Band-Aids on the ears. Parents of large families often got so good at hair cutting that it was common for one to set up shop and earn a little extra cash servicing the needs of their neighbors.

To handle the influx of the farmers on their weekend excursions into town, Aaron Adams often called up Charley Sharrer to lend a hand. In 1930, Aaron moved his shop to 106 West Main Street, where it remained until 1985, when Aaron's son Rodger, who had joined his father in 1947, retired. Thornton Rodgers and Guy Topper retired their scissors in 1946-1947.

It was at the feet of these great men that "Toss" Shorb, Kerry's father, got his start. After graduating from barber school in 1937, Toss barbered in Baltimore for several years before returning to Emmitsburg where he fell in love with the woman of his dreams, Kathleen Topper Shorb. Kathleen, born in Emmitsburg in 1918, was from an old established family that traced its roots back to the founding of

Emmitsburg. Kathleen attend St. Euphemia's Grade School [now an apartment building next to St. Joseph's Church], and later the St. Joseph's College High School.

In the years following, Toss ran both a barber shop and a beauty shop. A true entrepreneur, Kerry's father even tried his hand at the restaurant business and for years successfully managed the popular Toss's Dog House lunch room.

In 1953 Toss built the shop which now houses Kerry's shop. Several years later he retired from barbering and began a second career as the postmaster for the old St. Joseph's College, eventually retiring in 1977.

Guy (Mac) McLaughlin cut hair for Toss Shorb in his shop under the hotel on the square. After a short time with Toss, Mac and his wife moved to Nebraska. Mac returned to Emmitsburg in 1948, when Toss offered to sell him the hotel shop. With the help of Frankie Wastler, who had been Toss's assistant for several years, the business continued to thrive. In 1966, Mac moved the business from the hotel to 15 East Main Street, attracted by the building's big picture window, which allowed not only the sun in, but the gazes of prospective customers. In 1960, Frankie left Emmitsburg to establish his own business in Frederick. Mac continued on alone in Emmitsburg until retiring in April 1994.

James T. Welty, a contemporary of Toss and Mac began barbering at 528 West Main Street in 1964, and closed his shop in 1976. Jim attributes his demise as a barber to the introduction of the Beatles, who brought with them a craze for longer hair.

Whether it really was the Beatles, or the closing of St. Joseph's College, or the many factories that once provided the citizens of Emmitsburg with jobs, one by one the old red and white barber poles that once dotted Emmitsburg disappeared. Recently, however, barbering in Emmitsburg has undergone a resurgence. Be it busy white-collar, nostalgically oriented professionals wanting to catch up on local news, families seeking refuge from high priced "factory" barber shops, or simply the realization that Emmitsburg barbers give better haircuts, at 1/5 the price of their Washington counterparts, barbering is growing. Now, if we could only convince one of them to do shaves . . .

To read more about barbering in Emmitsburg, visit the My Father's Footsteps' web site on [emmitsburg.net](http://emmitsburg.net). To read more about Emmitsburg's rich history, visit the Emmitsburg Area Historical Society web page on [emmitsburg.net](http://emmitsburg.net).



## Obituaries

### Mrs. Jean Swiney

Mrs. Jean Louise Swiney, 72, of Emmitsburg, died Friday, April 21, at Gettysburg Memorial Hospital, Gettysburg, Pa., following a brief illness.

She was the wife of James R. Swiney.

Born May 1, 1927, in Pine Grove, she was the daughter of the late Edwin and Annie Bretzius Sholl.

Mrs. Swiney worked as a secretary in the medical field and was a devoted homemaker.

Surviving in addition to her husband are two daughters, Meredith Miller and husband Michael of Brunswick and Celeste Boswell and husband Chris of Fuquay-Varina, N.C.; one son, Malcolm Swiney and wife Lori of Cascade; four grandchildren; and one great-grandson.

Memorial services and interment were private.

Arrangements are by Jeffrey N. Zumbrun Funeral Home & Monument Co., 6028 Sykesville Road, Eldersburg.

### Mr. George Miller

Mr. George Gilmore Miller, 84, of 9907 Longs Mill Road, Rocky Ridge, died Saturday, April 29, at Frederick Memorial Hospital after a brief illness. He was the husband of C. Irene Miller, whom he married May 25, 1939.

Born May 11, 1915, in Graceham, he was the son of the late William Edward and Bertie Belle Morningstar Miller. He was a life-long member of Graceham Moravian Church. Mr. Miller was manager of Rocky Ridge Mill from 1939 until 1947. He then became a carpenter, retiring in 1977. He continued to do projects for friends and family until shortly before his death.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by a son, G. Michael Miller and wife Myra of Rocky Ridge; a daughter, Melissa Robbins of Westminster; four grandsons, G. Michael Miller II and wife Connie of Thurmont, James F. Miller and wife Michele of Towson, John R. Robbins of Laurel, and David E. Robbins of Westminster; and two

great-grandsons, Steven and Garrett Miller of Thurmont.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Charles Miller; and two sisters, Virginia Lemmon and Blanche Green.

A memorial service was held on May 13, at Graceham Moravian Church. Interment was private. If desired, memorial contributions can be made to Graceham Moravian Church, 8231-A Rocky Ridge Road, Thurmont, MD 21788.

### Mrs. Lottie Springer

Mrs. Lottie Adelaide Miller Springer, 75, of Frailey Road, Emmitsburg, died Saturday, April 29, at her home.

She was the wife of Christopher Clyde Springer, who died Jan. 20, 1996.

Born June 24, 1924, in Emmitsburg, she was a daughter of the late John Tilden and Sarah Tressler Miller.

Mrs. Springer was a member of Elias Evangelical Lutheran Church, Emmitsburg. She retired from Liberty Manufacturing Co., Emmitsburg,

Surviving are six children, Kenneth Slick of Jefferson, Pa.; Clarence Springer of Frostproof, Fla.; Rodney Springer and Sarah Gebhart, both of Emmitsburg; Barbara Swisher of Carroll Valley, Pa.; and Cheryl Carney of Harney; 21 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; and one sister, Mary Valentine of Seven Valleys, Pa.

Funeral services were held on Thursday, May 4, at Elias Evangelical Lutheran Church, Emmitsburg, with Mrs. Springer's pastor, the Rev. Susan Haas Yatta, assisted by the Rev. Donald A. Haas, officiating.

Interment was in Emmitsburg Memorial Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Hospice of Frederick County, P.O. Box 1799, Frederick, MD 21702; or to American Cancer Society, 1011 E. Patrick St., Suite B, Frederick, MD 21701.

### Mr. Melvin Stouter

Mr. Melvin W. "Buck" Stouter, 68, formerly of RR 1, Emmitsburg, died Tuesday, May 9, at Beverly Health Care, Gettysburg, Pa.

Born Jan. 26, 1932, in Frederick County, he was a son of the late Bernard H. and Lucy I. Wetzel Stouter.

Surviving are six sisters, Sylvia Brooks of Thurmont, Elsie May and Violet Mathews, both of Emmitsburg, Goldie Sentz of McSherrystown, Pa. and Mertle MacAfee and Bernice Stouter, both of Sabillasville; two brothers, Paul Stouter and Kenny Stouter, both of Emmitsburg; and a number of nieces and nephews.

Private services were held at the convenience of the family.

Arrangements were by Davis Funeral Home, Smithsburg.

### Sister Mary O'Connell

Sister Mary Frances O'Connell, 92, of the Daughters of Charity, Emmitsburg, died Thursday, May 18, at Villa St. Michael, Emmitsburg.

She was born March 29, 1908, in Alabama.

Sister Mary was raised in Hagerstown, entered the Daughters of Charity in 1933, and spent 59 years as a teacher in high schools and at St. Joseph College, Emmitsburg.

Surviving are one brother, W. Willson O'Connell of Hagerstown; four nieces; and six nephews.

Interment was held on May 22 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Emmitsburg. The Rev. Walter J. Menig, chaplain of Villa St. Michael, officiated.

### Mr. Leland Garber

Mr. Leland Faw Garber, 62, of Emmitsburg, died Thursday, May 18, at his home.

He was the husband of the late Patricia N. Mills Garber.

Born Aug. 9, 1937, in Champaign,

Ill., he was a son of the Rev. Merlin G. Garber of Salem, Va., and the late Dorothy Faw Garber.

Mr. Garber was a member of Thurmont Church of the Brethren and attended Frederick Church of the Brethren.

He was employed in retail sales working for department stores such as Sears and Montgomery Ward.

Mr. Garber had an appreciation of the outdoors and enjoyed hunting and fishing. He was a Civil War enthusiast and maintained a personal collection of Civil War memorabilia.

Surviving in addition to his father are two sons, Gregory Lee Garber and Derek Dwayne Garber, both of Virginia; one sister, Elaine P. Thompson and husband Johnny of Salem, Va.; two foster brothers, Robert E. Richards of Waco, Texas, and Roland Walters of San Diego, Calif.; and two foster sisters, Ana Petrocelli of Long Island, N.Y., and Candy Barredo of Cancun, Mexico.

Mr. Garber will also be remembered by his fiancée, Sylvia A. Thomas of Emmitsburg.

Funeral services were held on Monday, May 22, at Frederick Church of the Brethren, 201 Fairview Ave., Frederick. The Rev. Linda Lambert, pastor of Thurmont Church of the Brethren, and the Rev. Larry W. Fogle, associate pastor of Frederick Church of the Brethren, officiated. Interment was in Resthaven Memorial Gardens, Frederick.

Memorial contributions may be made to Thurmont Church of the Brethren, 14 Altamont Ave., Thurmont, MD 21788.

### LAWRENCE E. FINEGAN

ATTORNEY AT LAW

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



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

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## Rocky Ridge News

BY EMMY KEENEY  
Dispatch Correspondent

Mount Tabor Joint Council of the Lutheran and United Church of Christ will hold their annual festival June 10, in the Mt. Tabor Park, Rocky Ridge. Sandwiches, soups, pies, ice cream and more will be available. There will be a Fancy Table and games for young and not so young. Music will be provided by the Gospel Travelers.

Career and Technology Center's Agricultural Sales Team won 3rd place at the State FFA convention. Melissa Sharrer received the silver medal competing against 32 other contestants.

## Up-County

(Continued from Page 3)

This situation has left Up-County in a bind for the current fiscal year which ends June 30th. We are hoping to raise as much as we can of our \$11,000 deficit by that date.

The mailing which was sent to community leaders and businesses outlines what community support can "buy" for Up-County. For example: the cost of serving one family for a year is \$2,200. A donation of \$1,200 provides gasoline for our van for a year; a donation of \$250 provides hot weekly lunches for one family for a year; and a donation of \$100 provides a set of GED textbooks for one student.

Up-County's advisory board, consisting of community leaders and representatives in different areas of business and social services, has supported us tremendously during this difficult period. Their leadership during events such as the Legislative Breakfast has been essential to working toward future funding increases.

As participants and community members, you can help us by urging members of the community to make a fully tax-deductible donation. You can also encourage your County Commissioners to seriously consider increasing support for Up-County in future years.

Up-County provides many varied services to all types of families in northern Frederick County, and we hope to continue to do so for many years to come. Families who benefit from Up-County services include very young mothers or mothers-to-be who are struggling to continue their education through either the flex high or GED classes. Up-County also serves families who drop by for field trips or playtime to decrease their feeling of isolation in this rural community. If you would like to help out by volunteering time, resources or ideas, please contact us at (301) 447-2810; fax (301) 447-6325.

Team members were Jason Savage, Heather Crummitt, Brad Stevens, and Melissa Sharrer.

During the Career and Technology Banquet Anthony Harris received a DeWalt reciprocating saw as an achievement award in Carpentry 3.

T. J. Moser won \$50 in Masonry. Christine Hurley won a certificate as an achievement award in fire rescue

cadet program. Christine has been accepted at Virginia Tech.; she plans to be a veterinarian.

Birthday wishes to: Verna Keeney, Melissa Keeney, Michael Harris, Sr., Shirley Sharrer, Katie Burrier, Lindsey Greene, Chris Wiles, Annabelle Houck, Jessie Wetzel, Donald Brown, Debbie Hahn, and Dennis Glass.

### Church of the Brethren News

Birthday wishes to Judy Boone, David Eichelberger, Tracey Eyer Gorman, Tammy Hartman, Mildred Sayler, Charles Crone, and Daniel Hobbs.

Celebrating anniversaries are Orville and Dorothy Baker and Elmer (Pete) and Greta Lambert.

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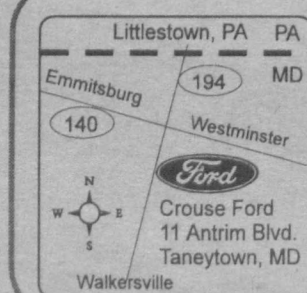
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E-mail  
brownsdog@desupernet.net**Little League plans  
presence in parade**

Current and "ex" Little League players, coaches, managers, and presidents are encouraged to participate *en masse* in the upcoming Lions Community Day Parade to be held July 1.

Marchers are asked to gather at the Dough Boy statue on West Main Street at 5:15 p.m.. The parade will start at 6:00 p.m.

For more information or to sign up contact by mid-June Roy Wivell at (301)447-2881 or Lisa Krom at (301) 447-6844.

**Births**

Congratulations to these new parents:

Jennifer and Randy Scobie,  
Emmitsburg, a daughter, April 28.

Tina and Jim Winfrey,  
Emmitsburg, a daughter, May 10.

Christine and Evan Behrendt,  
Emmitsburg, a daughter, May 18.

April Baugher and David Morgan,  
Rocky Ridge, a son, May 19.

Silvie and Michael Damskey,  
Emmitsburg, a daughter, May 19.

Mark and Sherry Grubic,  
Emmitsburg, a daughter, March 14

**Local Seniors Rise to  
the Challenge**

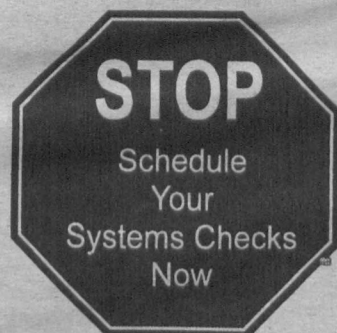
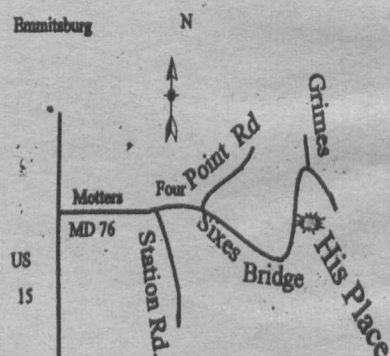
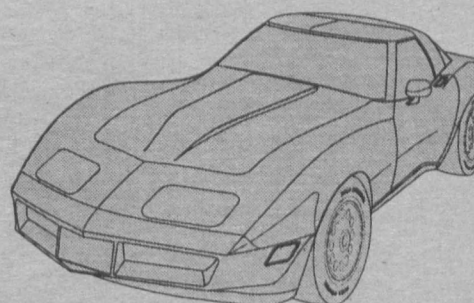
Catoctin High School in Thurmont, Md., held its second Senior Project Presentation Open House on Wednesday, May 24, from 7-9 p.m. Catoctin is the second high school in the county to pilot this exciting new program. The seniors have been working all semester on projects of their choice and showed them off on Presentation Night.

Last semester some chose to do research on a possible future career such as landscape architecture, physics, nursing, automotive repair, teaching, or setting up a business in furniture restoration. Others chose to pursue a long-neglected hobby such as building a water garden, Chinese art, or writing music. Yet others chose community service projects such as cataloguing cemetery headstones or making a school web site. This semester's projects were equally varied.

Please see some of Emmitsburg's Seniors' projects on page 18.

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# Emmitsburg Seniors Present Projects



Justin Wortz

Justin Wortz's project was the study of the art of aggressive roller blading. Justin was one of the petitioners for a skateboard park in Emmitsburg. He feels skateboarding is good for kids who don't go out for organized sports. He is leaning towards being a musician and plans to go to FCC next year. Justin is the son of Kathy and Larry Wortz.

Photos by the *Dispatch*

Courtney Meyers' project was to learn to play the guitar. She says music is a big part of her life. Her father was always playing his guitar and she wanted to learn how, too, she said. He was her teacher. Courtney plans to go to Mount Saint Mary's College. She is the daughter of Brenda and Steve Meyers.

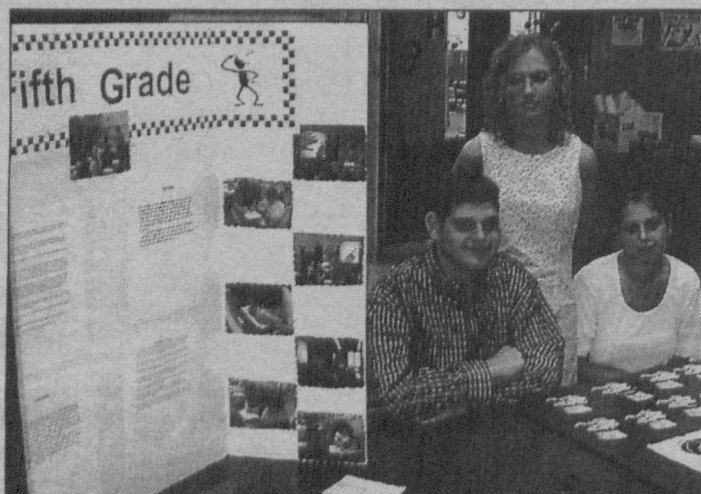


Courtney Meyers &amp; Steve Meyers



Leanne Manning

Leanne Manning's project was building a house with her mother in Silo Hill. It was a lot of hard work, she said, but she learned a lot. They began in December 1999 and moved in Saturday, May 20. Leanne plans to continue working at the Fire Academy after she graduates. She is the daughter of Denise Manning.



Andrew Mitchell, Jen Smith, Jessica Rosensteel

Andrew Mitchell's project was teaching 5th grade math. His project helped him decide he wanted to be a teacher. He plans to go to Frederick Community College (FCC) and then transfer to Mount Saint Mary's College. Andrew is the son of Tammy and Andy Mitchell.

Jessica Rosensteel studied how children learn best and childhood education programs in several colleges. She tutored second and fourth graders at Emmitsburg Elementary School during her senior year at CHS. She will be going to FCC for two years and then transferring to Villa Julie. Jessica is the daughter of Donna and Eric Rosensteel.

Jen Smith researched the long-term effect of smoking. "I used to smoke," she said, "but quit when I learned all the horrible things it does to your body." Jen plans to go to business school after she graduates. She is the daughter of Bonnie and Tom Smith.



Robert Seidel and brother Stephen in gillie suit.

Robert Seidel made a step-by-step instructional video on how to fabricate a sniper gillie suit. He learned that the gillie suit (a camouflage) dates back to Scottish shepherds who were protecting their flock from poachers, and that U.S. special forces use the same concept today for sniper school. Robert will be attending West Point Military Academy in the fall. He is the son of Sandy and Bob Seidel. In the photo brother Stephen is wearing Robert's gillie suit.



# Frederick Co. Dairy Princess: a year in review

BY SADAH BENTZ

*Frederick County Dairy Princess  
1999-2000*

Over the past year I have had the greatest experience of a lifetime. It was being the Frederick County Dairy Princess. Many people may be thinking that it can not be as worthwhile as I make out, but it was.

I have never lived on a working dairy farm, but I have raised Jersey cattle for ten years. So as Dairy Princess I have gotten to see things from a whole new point of view. I have always seen the dairy industry from a consumer's point of view, because I never really got to see the work that goes on behind the scenes.

To start off my year I was crowned last June during the county contest. After that weekend I had a promotion nearly ever weekend. At these promotions I got to meet the other five regional princesses. They were Chrissy from Western Maryland; Erin from Washington County; Jeena from Carroll



**Sadah Bentz being crowned Frederick County Dairy Princess 1999-2000.**

County; Laura from the upper Chesapeake Bay, and Trish from the South Central area. We really got to know each other when we traveled to northern Pennsylvania for a three day seminar on how to be a Dairy Princess. We were all together again during the state pageant that was held July 22, 1999. Let's just say I did not win, but I did have fun.

Between July and September I was at baseball game after baseball game, and dairy show after dairy show. The weeks flew by. Then suddenly it all came to a standstill in the beginning of October. My life went back to some what normal. I started going back to school all day. I was doing a promotion a week until I fell and broke my wrist. I then became a walking promotion for what would happen if you do not drink your milk. That lasted until January.

At the end of January things began to pick up, with Ag Week at the mall and other store promotions. I was kind of glad it picked up because I missed

getting out and talking to people. I have had one to two promotions a week since then; these include schools, stores, and one-day shows.

So the past year may not seem like what *you* would call great, but it has been for *me*. The greatest thing I will be walking away with from this year is a greater appreciation for the hard working farmers. And for those people who have helped me, and the dairy farmers of Frederick County, I would like to say thank you for all support and hard work you have done in the past, present, and the future.

## Local FFAers place at states

BY CARRIE MULLER

*Catoctin FFA Chapter Reporter*

Seventeen students recently attended the 72nd annual Maryland FFA convention held at the Ramada Inn in Hagerstown, Md. Members attending were Kirra Pilson, Carrie Muller, Jeri Butler, Christina Hurley, Chrissy Firme, Stacey Sink, Dawn Willard, Penny Eyler, Brooke Hoffman, Beth Shriner, Paul Dennis, Josh Bentz, Mike Bradshaw, Jason Savage, Chad Hahn, Mark Butler, and Andrew Lenhart. Our chaperones were Mrs. Sharron Pilson and Mr. Beavan. The Ag Production Bowl team of Kirra Pilson, Andrew Lenhart, Chrissy Firme, and Brooke Hoffman placed third out of eleven teams. The Ornamental Horticulture Bowl team; Christina Hurley, Penny Eyler, Dawn Willard and Mike Bradshaw; placed third. Our Hall of Chapters display received second place. The Ag sales team consisted of Kirra Pilson, Paul Dennis, Brooke Hoffman,

and Mark Butler. They placed 5th. Jason Savage placed eleventh individually with the Career and Technology Center. The Floriculture team consisted this year of four members. They were Jennifer

(See FFA on Page 20)

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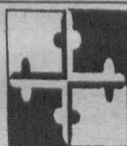
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# Mother Seton School: 'Celebrating our Past ... Building our Future'

BY VAL MENTZER  
Dispatch Correspondent

The Mother Seton School Expansion Leadership Committee is happy to report that \$1,110,842.00 has been raised so far toward our project. The ground breaking date has been set — on September 14th we will "Celebrate Our Past and Build Our Future" by breaking ground for our new wing on the 25th Anniversary of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton's canonization.

**Congratulations Graduates!**  
Graduation ceremonies for the

Mother Seton School Class of 2000 will begin on June 5th at 7:00 p.m. at the Basilica at St. Joseph's Provincial House. A Mass and reception are planned to commemorate this milestone in the lives of our 8th Graders. Congratulations to the following students and their families:

Andrew Beck, Brandon Buchholz, George Connell, Zane Craig, Amanda Crough, Nicole Georgoff, Brock Gregory, Sarah Heiderman, Molly Joyner, John Kennedy, Cole Liposchak, Sara McCutcheon, Timothy McKenzie,

Zachary Mentzer, Nicholas Monacelli, Emily Mowl, Brandon Quillen, Brittany Reaver, J. Matt Robinson, IV, Victoria Schwaner, John Smith, III, Nicholas Smith, Will Turner, Joseph Vigliotti, Natasha Watkins, Benjamin Whitney, Eric Wiles, Kathleen Williams, and Evan Wivell.

## It was the "Mother" of all Days!

What a great day - Mother's Day! Many Mother Seton students remembered their moms in a delicious and entertaining fashion! Mrs. Burkell's First Grade class entertained the moms with a play and ice cream social. Ms. Lucas's Fourth Graders each decorated lovely homemade cakes compliments of Pat Kaczorowski, and presented them to their moms as a Mother's Day gift.

## Dueling Volleyballs

Mrs. Bonnie Hahn organized Mother Seton's own version of March Madness

with a Middle School Volleyball Tournament. The 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade classes competed in a round robin tournament throughout the weeks of March to determine the top two teams to play off for the championship. Both 8th Grade teams participated in the finals and then challenged their parents to a game of volleyball. Parents, staff and students had a great time!

The Mother Seton School Community, especially our children, would like to extend a wholehearted thanks to the Council of Churches; Pastor Donnie Jane Cardwell, Chairperson; and all the generous people who made possible the "Emmitsburg Cares About Kids" celebration on May 4th. The children enjoyed the "care bag" of treats and treasures and the Blue Sky Puppet Theatre. It was a great way to let our children know that they are appreciated.

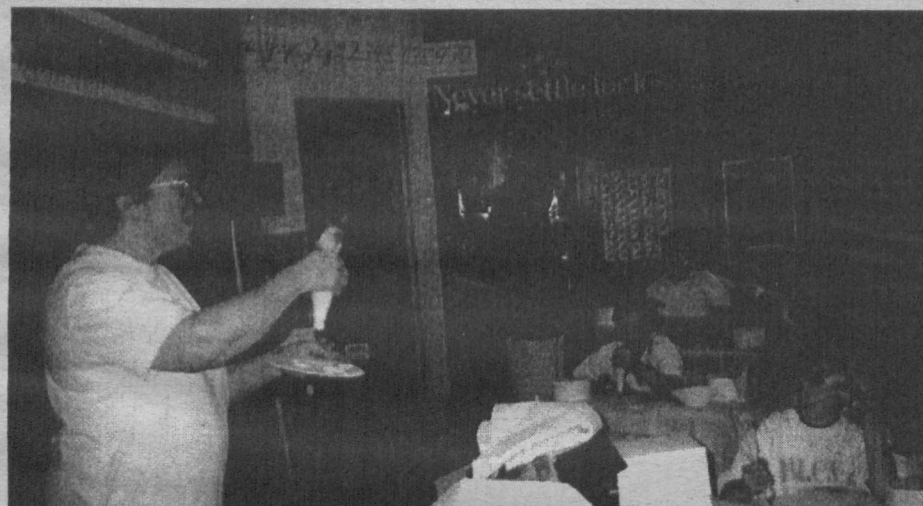
## FFA

(Continued from Page 19)

Butler, Carrie Muller, Josh Bentz and Beth Shriner. Jenmifer placed eleventh individually and Carrie placed twentieth individually.

Members were also recognized for their efforts in the Food for America program and their work with Project PAL's. Bryan Haines, Christina Hurley, Dawn Willard and Sadah Bentz received their State FFA Degrees. Laura Keiholtz and Shaun Shriner will be receiving their American Degrees in Louisville, Kentucky at the National Convention. Three members were recognized as winners of the state Proficiency awards, they were: Laura Keiholtz, Diversified Livestock production; Bryan Haines, Emerging Agricultural Technology; and Kirra Pilson, Sheep production. Four chapter members were recognized for

their record keeping skills in various areas by the Maryland Farm Bureau. They were: Kirra Pilson, Carrie Muller, Beth Shriner, and Chad Hahn. There were two Ag issues teams, on the first team were Kirra Pilson, Carrie Muller, Jason Savage, Andrew Lenhart, and Mark Butler. The other team consisted of Christina Hurley, Penny Eyler, Chad Hahn, Paul Dennis, and Dawn Willard. The Ag- Issues team placed second Helen and Robert Troxell of Thurmont received the Most Valuable People award for their countless hours of volunteering. They will be receiving the Honorary American FFA Degree at the National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky flil October of 2000. Shaun Shriner retired as the 1999-2000 State Treasurer.



Pat Kaczorowski teaches fourth-graders the art of professionally decorating Mother's Day cakes.

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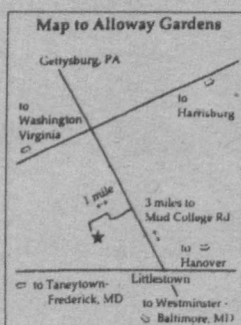
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## Looking Ahead

**Saturday, June 10**

**Mt. Tabor Church of Rocky Ridge** will hold a festival at Mt. Tabor Park, home of the BIG SLIDE, on Saturday June 10, 2000. Come enjoy good home-cooked food - soup, sandwiches, homemade pie, ice tea and ice cream beginning at 4:00 p.m. Also enjoy games, including BINGO, and music by "The Gospel Travelers" starting at 7:00 p.m. Come celebrate our 125th Anniversary - surely a good time for everyone of all ages!

**Saturday, June 10**

**Saint Mark's Lutheran Church Strawberry Festival and Yard Sale.** 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.. soups, sandwiches, strawberry desserts, pies, and bake table. Soups by the gallon and quarts to go. Vendors set up free. For information call Inez Lewis at (717)794-5183.

**Saturday, June 10**

**The Vigilant Hose Company Auxiliary is sponsoring a bus trip to the Charlestown Races** on Saturday, June 10, 2000. Bus departs the Emmitsburg Jubilee parking lot at 4:00 p.m. and will return at approximately 11:00 p.m. Cost is \$20 per person and includes your transportation to Charlestown and refreshments on the bus. For more information, contact Jo Ann at 717-642-9717 or Tiffany at 301-447-6501.

**Tuesday, June 13**

**The Frederick County Commission for Women** will hold next month's meeting on Tuesday, June 13, from 7 - 9 p.m. at the Emmitsburg Senior Citizens' Center on South Seton avenue. Following a short business meeting guest speakers Vicki Marick,

Director of Up-County Family Center, and Kim Scott, Community Educator from "Building Relationships." All members of the local community are invited to attend. Childcare and refreshments will be provided. If bringing children, please call Up-County at (301) 447-2810 to register child(ren) by first name and age.

**Monday, June 26**

### Library Workshop

Learn how to make your own marbled paper. Carolyn Keilhotz will hold a workshop demonstrating the techniques for making paper that can be used for bookmarks, stationery, and other craft projects.

The program is for adults and teens. It will be held Monday, June 26, at 7 p.m.. Registration is required. For information call the Emmitsburg Branch Library at 301-447 2682.

**Saturday, July 1**

### The Vigilant Hose Company

**Auxiliary** is sponsoring an all-you-can-eat breakfast on Saturday, July 1, 2000, at the Emmitsburg Fire Hall, from 6:30-10:00 a.m. Cost is \$5 per adult; \$2.50 for children ages 5-10; and free for children under 5 years old. Menu consists of: sausage, bacon, creamed chipped beef, pancakes, eggs, home fries, coffee and juice.

### New Owners for Jubilee

According to Loren Peters, SNL Food Group will assume operations of the Emmitsburg, Taneytown, and Thurmont Jubilee stores about June 12.

They are pleased to announce that charge accounts for community organizations and businesses will be reestablished.

## Goat Tails: *The Death of Fleetfoot*

BY CHRISTINE MACCABEE

The death of my goat Fleetfoot last November was not so different from my father's death in November of 1997. The suffering and the pain were just as real, and the need for the comforting presence of those who care was just as important. Also, as I observed, be it goat or human, the feeling of loss is similar once the death has occurred. Years ago I wrote a song called "Animals are People Too" in which I expressed my opinion that all animals, be they imprisoned in laboratory cages, or raised for food or various other human purposes, are deserving of respect and the greatest care possible for their well-being and happiness. In our "human-centric" world, this is sadly all too often not the case. As I sat with my goat, I thought of the good life and the good times she had, and we had together. I sensed that she understood what was happening to her. With each belabored breath she took, due to either a

tumor in her wind passage or lungs full of fluid, or both (we never did find out exactly what her problem was), I could feel her agony. I remembered my father's agony as he struggled with the double difficulty of cancer and chemotherapy. Besides the physical discomfort, my father struggled with regret as well...regret that he would have to leave this precious life before fulfilling all of his dreams, one of which was hiking mountain trails until he was 90. I wondered if Fleetfoot, too, was wishing for a few more years of frisking in the crisp autumn air in our mountain retreat.

During Fleetfoot's last hours she chose to lay on the ground just outside the shelter in spite of the freezing weather. I covered her body with hay to keep her warm, and I sensed that both my presence and my action was a comfort to her. Her last hours were spent listening to the songs of birds, and living her life vicariously as she watched 9-month-old Hershey

standing on his hind legs and reaching with eager lips for a tiny twig.

Not really knowing how long it would take her to die, and hating to see her in such pain, I decided to call the vet in order to euthanize her. It was still morning, and he would not come until 2 o'clock. Looking out my kitchen window, I could see her daughter Blueberry standing quietly next to her on the way to the shed. She stood stock still for an eternity of moments, her gesture of concern speaking louder than words. Later, all three goats gathered around Fleetfoot, sniffing her and no doubt quite aware of her suffering and pending death. In their own goatly way they were tending their friend, much like my mother and I tended my father. Animals are people too?.....

It was nearly noon when I noticed that Blueberry and Fawn had stationed themselves at Fleetfoot's side, not moving a muscle for 20 minutes. I was in total awe of this display of reverence and respect. Even busy

little Hershey stood quietly by her side in between various exploratory missions. During her last hours, Fleetfoot would periodically cry out with a muffled bleat, but her final bleating, while in the throes of death, was strong and full of passion. It felt as though she were saying goodbye to us and to the life she loved. It felt as though she were saying "I know I must go, but I don't really want to." It was a sound I will never forget.

It took my good goat to teach me the meaning of the expression "dying a good death." What does that mean? I believe it means dying with dignity, understanding that it is your time to go, and accepting that fully. Oh that I can pass from this world some day with such grace. Fleetfoot was a wonderful gift. She gave me adventure (read my first Tail), she gave me milk, manure, and a few stories to tell. I only hope that what I gave her in return was worth all her sacrifice. I miss you, Fleety Sweetie.

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## Right Breathing: from the desk of Doctor Bonita J. Portier D.O.

Sometimes it hurts to breathe. Sometimes it is hard to breathe. Sometimes it is an asthma attack. This article is for those who know and those who do not know about asthma.

Wind, cold, pollen, smoke, worries, pressure, food and more, can be triggers that set fire to lungs and cause the bronchial tubes (the pipes that carry air to our lungs) to go into spasm. When that happens, breathing becomes a full time job. Sometimes it becomes virtually impossible to breathe. Sometimes asthma kills. Asthma is not to be braved, ignored or tolerated.

When we are born our lungs are only a third of our adult lungs. Lungs keep growing until we are nine or ten. The number of air sacs in our lung at maturity ranges from 200 million to 600 million. The pipes bronchial tubes and trachea continue to develop up to age fifteen.

Heredity, illness, toxins can block healthy development. The consequence

can be asthma. Still, inflammation and spasm of the large and small air pipes can be improved. Progress to severe inflammation and spasm and chronic states can be slowed down.

The first rule is to get rid of anything that will make breathing difficult. Good air-conditioning filters pollen and dust. Plastic liners over mattresses and double casing pillows reduce mite reactions. Frequent painting of home walls reduces exposure to roach saliva. Pets can be a real problem. Animal hair and dander, ticks, plant pollen, dust are all brought to bear when a pet causes a breathing crisis. Some say daily bathing of the pet can markedly reduce the danger beloved pets can cause. Others recommend outside pets only, or no pets. I strongly favor no pets if there is any evidence of a person with asthma reacting with even mild breathing problems in the presence of a pet. Many asthmatics smoke or are engulfed in smoke in their own household. The exposure is

catastrophic. These assaults accelerate the change from nice soft bronchial tubes to thick, stiff bronchial tubes. The tiny hairs that have the job of whuffing out the bad things that get into the lungs become brittle and unable to work. The bronchial tubes get inflamed, swollen and hurt. Spasm and irritability set in. Coughing, wheezing, pain and panic result.

Medical help is needed in asthma. Every asthmatic should have a peak flow meter to monitor how the breathing is each day. A chart with each meter shows what is normal for each height and weight and age. For adults, a level at 200 on the peak flow meter indicates trouble. If the home rescue treatments do not help, a call to the physician is in order.

If discomfort from asthma occurs more than two times each week, then each person from the age of four needs to be on inhaled steroids. Inhaled steroids can block the .5% to 1% lung

loss that occurs each year from untreated asthma. Indeed inhaled steroids begun within two years of asthma can restore up to eight percent of lung function. Inhaled steroids after five years can restore up to two percent of lung function and slow or even halt further bronchial damage. Leukotriene inhibitors such as Accolate and Singulair also quiet inflammation in the lungs and even help sinuses.

Inhalers, such as albuterol, Proventil, or Maxair Autohaler, open up the bronchial tubes so that breathing becomes much less work. Intal can stabilize the cells that make the bronchial tubes irritated. Sometimes home nebulizer treatment with albuterol is needed to open up the lungs. But no one should hesitate to seek emergency treatment when peak flow is 150 or does not rise above two hundred despite home treatment.

Remember also, treating teeth and stomach problems reduces asthma.

## Building Healthy Families

A monthly column provided by the Emmitsburg Coalition for a Better Community (ECBC)

### Teens, Mobility, Money: A Formula for Potential Drug Abuse

BY BILL DERBYSHIRE  
Catocin CASS Coordinator

Adolescent heroin-related admissions to Alcohol and Drug Abuse Administration treatment programs across the state surged upward in 1997 and the trend is continuing. A 44% increase was reported by 330 public and private treatment programs in Maryland. With the increased use, there is a greater availability of pure heroin, allowing it to be inhaled or smoked by adolescents. Frederick County Substance Abuse Services ("Project 103"), a Division of the Frederick County Health Department, reports that they have treated and/or referred teen heroin abusers including several from the Catocin area.

Although the majority of youth referred for services in the Catocin area report abuse of alcohol and marijuana, others have moved past what used to be universal taboos to use heroin and other "hard" drugs. Some are using needles. Catocin teens are close to the general Baltimore area where heroin abuse has risen, and where there are the highest rates of some sexually transmitted diseases in the nation. This brings concerns of HIV/AIDS, and Hepatitis B and C.

Teen substance abusers are more mobile with money to spend. They have free time, are frequently unsupervised, or have manipulated their parents into believing that they are doing something "safe." Catocin area kids are known to go as far away as "Raves" in Philadelphia to get their substances.

Treatment programs push for complete abstinence from drugs and alcohol for teenagers with good reason: drug abuse usually is a progression from one substance to another, with increasingly negative consequences.

Teenagers need to be a priority for parents. Changes in mood, attitude, appearance, hygiene, academics and

choice of friends need to be taken seriously. Their activities must never be taken for granted.

Parents need regular communication with their kids, and with the parents of other teens. Appropriate parental authority is essential to help youth through the teen years. Negotiation is the key task.

There is help in Frederick County with both public and private programs, assessments, individual, family and group counseling are available. Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous have meetings in the area. Frederick County Substance Abuse Services would be glad to give you a list of the programs/schedules and to assist you in making an informed decision. You may reach Frederick County Substance Abuse Services at (301) 631-3377 for adolescent services or at (301) 694-1775 for adult services.

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### Fabulous Weekend Entertainment!

June 2, 3 - Jim Bowie Band  
June 9, 10 - Isabelle's Dream  
June 16, 17 - The Fringe  
June 23, 24 - TBA

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

Big Car and Truck Show and 50's & 60's Rock and Roll Dance  
Saturday, September 30, 2000

Benefit "Tribute To A Friend" College Scholarship Fund

In memory of Dave Copenhaver, Greg Hollinger, Tom Topper, and Terry Myers.

Car and Truck Show Mount Saint Mary's College. Noon till 6:00 p.m.  
For information call Debbie Bowman, 301-416-0529.

Dance: Big Cam and the Lifters - the oldies sound that you remember.  
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**Seafood Caesar Salad**

Entertainment for June - In the Lounge

Fri., June 2 - Phipps Bros. Sat., June 3 - Rhyne & Lee

Fri., June 9 - Zuma Sat., June 10 - Zany Griffin

Fri., June 16 - TBA Sat., June 17 - TBA

Fri., June 23 - Phipps Bros. Sat. June 24 - Karoke

June 30 - Roman and Locke

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**Classified:**

**Help Wanted:** Full and part-time. Day and evening shifts. Apply at Emmitsburg Subway, 101 Silo Hill Road.

**Help Wanted:** Professional cleaning service seeking full-time cleaner., must have own transportation. Fairfield area. Call Mon., Wed., Fri., 717-642-9441.

**Guitar Lessons:** Beginner or semi-advanced. 31-years experience. Call Steve 301-447-3147.

**For Sale:** Baby goats, Boer and Nubian Mixed. Call 301-447-2568.

**For Sale:** Ford Van, E150.1986, 6cyl., Auto trans., Pwr. brks./strg. 130 k. Ready to go. Best offer under \$800.00 Call (301)-447-3220.

**For Sale:** Commercial paint sprayer, Franklin Electric 3/4 hp, needs spray gun and hoses. \$35.00. Waterbed heater and thermostat, \$12.00, Trailer from camper, 6x12, painted gray with blue carpet.\$45.00, Motorcycle: Honda Ascot 500cc, 1983, 9kl., shaft drive, water cooled, garaged, nice condition - needs seat recovered. \$1400 o.b.o. Daiman Steo, Emmitsburg, 301-447-3220.

**For sale:** Local grown rabbits for breeding or meat. Will dress. Call 301-898-3118.

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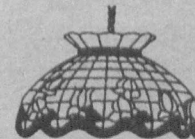
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Carriage House Crab Cakes

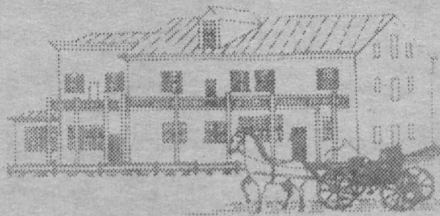
Fresh Marinated Atlantic Salmon

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Filet Oscar with Fresh Asparagus

Lump Crab and Bearnaise Sauce/

And many more favorites!



Complimentary Rose  
for Dad

**In JoAnn's Ballroom 12 noon - 6 p.m.****Dinner Buffet Featuring:**

Chef's Carving Station of Black Angus Prime Rib

Broiled Seafood Newburg

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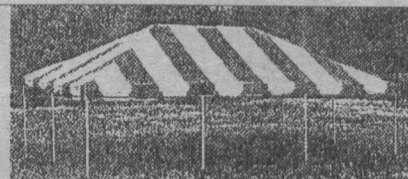
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