

# The DISPATCH

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[emmitsburg.net/dispatch](http://emmitsburg.net/dispatch)

# Christmas in Emmitsburg

STORY AND PHOTOS BY RAYMOND BUCHHEISTER

*Dispatch Writer*

During the Christmas season the quaint little town of Emmitsburg takes on a special charm. During Advent, a season of four weeks prior to Christmas, people prepare their hearts and homes. The heart of Emmitsburg also takes on this transformation. Within the town limits the long tradition of decorating continued this year. On the second Saturday after Thanksgiving the town garage was transformed into a flurry of activity with the smell of fresh pine. Approximately twenty individuals gathered to cut and assemble live evergreens to adorn the streets of the town.

Among a core group of individuals who have been doing this year after year were Ann Gingell and Chata Carr. According to Gingell the town has

always been decorated but it wasn't until approximately 1973 or 1974 that the current tradition began. Prior to that time the town utilized artificial decorations. "Red Christmas trees" several people recalled. Little by little these artificial decorations began to disappear. Using fresh greens was the idea of Jane Bollinger, a town commissioner at the time.

Thus began the current tradition of making "swags" for the town's antique streetlights. The tradition started in the home of Bollinger, who is now deceased, where the women would meet to assemble greens to decorate the light poles that existed prior to the ones we see today. The current tradi-

(See CHRISTMAS on Page 11)



Colorful evergreen swags add charm to town's antique streetlights.



ThorpeWood, a rustic retreat center in the heart of the Catoctin Mountains, is decorated for the holiday season.

## Rustic retreat center benefits youth, environmental groups

ThorpeWood is a rustic conference center located in the heart of the Catoctin Mountains on Mink Farm Road just a few miles from Emmitsburg. It is the property of the Thorpe Foundation whose objective is to promote and support educational youth, scientific, and environmental groups.

The center is reserved for use by these groups or by service providers offering programs clearly designed to benefit these groups. There is no fee charged for the use of ThorpeWood, but tax deductible contributions are gladly accepted.

The Thorpe Foundation goals are the following:

- To encourage the pure enjoyment of nature and facilitate a natural learning experience amid the simple beauty of a wooded mountain valley in the Catoctin Mountains; specifically, to benefit youth, educational, scientific, and environmental groups.
- To benefit and influence less fortunate youth throughout the region who have rarely, if ever, seen or experienced forests, streams, and wildlife in an engaging and secure natural setting.

- To serve as an ongoing resource for practical environmental alternatives. To successfully demonstrate organic herb and heirloom vegetable gardening, wildflower meadow design, straw bale composting and the re-establishment of specific wildlife in the region.

- To provide a base for upland Chesapeake Bay watershed studies.

In the early 1960's, Merle Thorpe, Jr., a Washington, D.C., securities lawyer, purchased this 30-acre wooded mountain property in the Bussard Branch stream valley on Catoctin Mountain in Thurmont, Maryland. For three decades he spent nearly every weekend on the mountain.

His enjoyment of this wooded retreat came from the simple pleasure of observation. Other than building small footpaths to permit viewing this lovely stream valley from deeper in the woods, he did very little to change the character of the land. In 1993, he established a charitable trust to ensure that others might have the extraordinary privilege of experiencing the wildness and beauty of the Catoctin Mountain.

See ThorpeWood on page 2



# 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.

## Bothered by December update

While I appreciate the fine job that your publication and Raymond Buchheister has done in providing updates and information as it regards Gianna Talone Sullivan and her alleged apparitions and messages, I must say that I was bothered by Mr. Buchheister's December update. I have followed the alleged apparitions with great interest and I admit to my own consternation with regard to the October sign that the Virgin Mary allegedly predicted. However, I think the speculation that the Pope John Paul's October 8, 2000, Act of Entrustment to Our Lady was the

"promised" October sign is misguided and incorrect. Moreover, I feel that Mr. Buchheister's article should have examined such speculation in light of the Vatican's March 22, 2000, announcement that the the Pope would be entrusting the whole world to Our Lady on October 8, 2000. In my opinion, it is highly unlikely that in July of 2000, the Blessed Virgin Mary would "predict" an event that had been pre-announced by the Vatican several months before. Thank you very much.

Steve Klimkowski  
University of Chicago

## Open letter to AIDS Ride supporters

FROM KIMBERLY CHENEY

*(Kimberly attends the Emmitsburg Preysbeterian Church and this letter was written to the congregation in response to their support of her AIDS ride.)*

I want to share my thoughts about the AIDS Ride, along with thanking you for making this opportunity possible for me and for those who will benefit from the ride.

Some climb trees, some stand with hands together, a human chain causing the patriarchy to pause, some pace the Streets decorated in pacifist war clothes. This September I chose to use my legs and the mechanics of a bicycle to cause maybe a little blip in the evening news or in Hillary's contemplations (we rode past her in Rye, New York) but most definitely [to raise funds to provide] a lunch, a bed, health insurance, child care... for someone whose legs do not have the same ability as mine.

I rode every inch of every hill for 275 miles. Through the pouring rain and then in the beautiful sun, we trekked - all 2500 of us. How was it? Awesome! The ride itself was wonderful; I was physically ready for the hills and long days. In fact I managed to awake with no sore muscles! Riding a bike, much like running a marathon, is a mental game. The challenge of the ride wasn't only in the hills but in the people I rode with and the people we encountered along the ride.

The community I belonged to during our short weekend together was laden with more kindness and beauty

than I have ever encountered. When a rider was stopped along the side of the road to fix a flat tire or eat an energy bar, at least every other rider would clarify that the rider was okay. Standing at the top of a large hills were gatherings of riders cheering other riders on. One guy had a trumpet with him, and at the top of an ascent he would play it for others to hear. Volunteer massage therapists, chiropractors, EMT's and cooks greeted us with smiles at all the pit stops and at camp. Each person I encountered came to the ride with the best of intentions.

Two extremely significant experiences occurred during the ride. The first occurred before lunch on day one. Pushing up a hill, a 51-year-old rider from Boston had a heart attack and swerved in front of a motorcycle. The swerve proved fatal and the rider was killed immediately. I was not far behind the accident and was there for the aftermath. Here we all are riding for those who are dying and to prevent more deaths, and in doing so a man, a father, died. Much of day one was spent being extremely cautious and contemplating whether I pay enough attention to the severity of the risks I take.

During day two, upon entering Bridgeport I truly comprehended why I was riding. Being a true Smith College student, my prevailing thoughts on day two were about race and class issues of the ride. I couldn't help but to take into account all of the expensive bikes, helmets, shorts... One could not participate in this event without access to a bike

(See AIDS on Page 3)

# Town News...

## Housing development, water plant key issues

### Town Meeting December 4

Town officials met with Buckeye Development to discuss issues in the plans for Pembroke, a planned housing development to be located on the west side of town. Two major issues were sidewalks and water pressure. The Planning and Zoning committee recommended conventional concrete sidewalks along the main street that will run from Tract Road to connect to Northgate. Another concern was the loss of water pressure throughout the site due to its altitude relative to the water plant. The developers have agreed to act on these suggestions.

Commissioner Jim Hoover and Donna Thompson were appointed as authorized agents to post town news items and announcements on the local web site emmitsburg.net. Minutes of town meetings and agendas will be posted as they are approved.

Mayor Carr reported that construction of the new water plant can proceed now that a lawsuit has been settled. Clearing the site and readying it for construction has begun, as well as the purchase of some equipment. According to the mayor the target date for completion is around the first of October.

### Deputies' report for November

DFC Mark Cullemer  
DFC Mike Ratliff

#### Statistical Data

Citations Issued - 27  
Warnings Issued - 9  
Traffic Arrest - 1  
DWI Arrest - 0  
Adult criminal arrest - 4  
Juvenile arrest - 2  
Municipal Citations - 2

The town will work with Emmitsburg Little League in a cooperative effort aimed at upgrading the Little League concession stand to be in compliance with the Department of Health regulations. The sale of hot dogs, sodas and other snack food items is a primary source of income to purchase new uniforms and equipment.

Michelle Mills, auditor from Linton, Shafer & Company, Certified Public Accountants, discussed the audit of last year's budget. Mrs. Mills reported that the town was on the right fiscal track and that no irregularities were noted.

The Statement of Revenues and Expenditures shows that the town is primarily a service operation. Fifty-three percent of the revenues to operate the town come from service charges. Only about thirty percent of revenues come from taxes.

Expenditures for the various departments were

General Government- \$186,262  
Public Safety - \$171,923  
Public Works - \$566,487  
Recreation and Culture - \$115,080  
Debt Service - \$1,078,915

Schedules detailing revenues and expenditures are shown in the report. Copies of the audit report are available at the town office.

#### Other activities:

Accidents investigated - 3  
Criminal investigations include:  
animal complaint, 1; assault, 3; Child abuse, 2; destruction of property, 2; disorderly conduct, 4; juvenile complaint 1; missing persons, 2; noise, 4; suspicious person/vehicle, 4; theft, 3; and truancy, 1.

## ThorpeWood

(Continued from page 1)

The rustic timber frame lodge sits on 30 acres nestled within the more than 20,000 acres of parks and preserves that exist in the Catoctin mountains. Its well appointed facilities include a great room, large meeting rooms, conference facilities, outdoor meeting spaces, trails, and gardens.

The lodge also includes a composting and gray-water sewage disposal and management system.

For more information call 301-271-2823 or visit the website at [www.thorpewood.org](http://www.thorpewood.org).



# Town officials honor volunteers and staff

## DISPATCH STAFF WRITER

At a dinner-dance on Dec. 15, the Town of Emmitsburg entertained many of the citizens who had been active during the year in contributing to the quality of life of the community. After a brief greeting and appreciation by Mayor Bill Carr and a lavish feast, Town Manager Dave Haller delivered the following remarks and acknowledgments:

"I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the members of our community who did another great job this year in making Emmitsburg's one of the most festive and beautiful Main Streets in the state—you did just a wonderful job—and I would like to thank you all: Bill and Chata Carr, Vernon and Bea Keilholtz, Carolyn Keilholtz, Bill and Annetta Rapp, Austin and Linda Umbel, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Buchheister, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Hoke, Ann Gingell, Guy and Betty Ann Baker, Pat Howes Bell, Ed and Marion Levandowski, Dianne Walbrecker, Joe and Josephine Royer.

"As I am sure you all know, this has been a big commercial development year in Emmitsburg—and we would like to acknowledge our fine Planning Commission for the wonderful job they have done—allowing growth via a direct and managed approach: Commissioner

Jim Hoover, Administrator Pat Feeser, Ted Brennan, Dianne Walbrecker, Frank Henry, Sara Miller.

"We have another group of our citizens who work hard, hand-in-hand with the Planning Commission, in the planning and development process and many times get the hardest of the cases to deal with—this is the Board of Appeals: Robert Rosensteel, Larry Pavek.

"As we all know, the center of our downtown is a street intersection. Consequently many of our more sensitive political situations revolve around street issues. I would like to thank our fine Streets Committee for the way they help staff by reviewing many of these tricky situations for staff and Council: Commissioner Pat Boyle, Maria Topper, Denise Warthen, Deb Gonyea, Glen Blanchard.

"Another very noticeable part of the Emmitsburg community life revolves around our parks and park activities. Some of those activities include Community Day and the ever-expanding Mason-Dixon Festival. These wonderful activities happen in a large part because of the many hours of hard work our Parks Committee members give to the community year in and year out: Commissioner Cliff Sweeney, Gene Myers, Dan Stiles, Bill Jones, Carolyn Miller, Tina Kerns, Ann Gingell.

[At this point Mr. Haller commended the contributions of several individuals and organizations who play a major role in the life of the Town: Bo and Jean Cadle, publishers and editors of the *Dispatch*, Don Briggs, President of the EBPA, Dan and Greg Reaver of Emmitsburg Glass, the Vigilant Hose Company No. 6, and the Emmitsburg Ambulance Company.]

"I just can't say enough about [the Town government's] fine staff. When it is snowing, flooding, or whatever, these people are there for the citizens of Emmitsburg and I have never heard any of them complain: Public Works staff are (sewer and water) superintendent of

public works Doug Wantz, Dan Fissel, Andy Young and (streets and parks) supervisor Jim Click, Randy Myers, Chris Wantz, Charlie Maddox, Dave Vaughn.

"The fine administrative staff (planning and zoning) consists of zoning administrator Pat Feeser and planning review administrator Jef Fitzgerald. The Town Clerk is Donna Thompson, and the rest of the staff consists of Cathy Smith, Bev Fitzgerald, and Eva Miller."

Town officials are Mayor Bill Carr and Commissioners, President Pat Boyle, Cliff Sweeney, Jim Hoover, and Chris Stahley.

## AIDS

(Continued from Page 2)

and people willing to contribute at iota] of at least \$1700. Then I rode into Bridgeport.

For eight miles we were inundated with the sights, smells, and sounds of the most impoverished city heretofore seen on the ride. Hundreds of children, mothers, and homeless residents lined the trash-laden streets cheering, holding up signs, lining up for high-fives, throwing candy, and welcoming all of us. It was a moment of solidarity with those who quite possibly understood better than we did why we were riding.

At mile 275 (aka the FINISH line!), we waited for all the other riders and we lined the streets of New York waiting to cross the final blocks together. The tone changed from telling stories of the past and what led us to the ride, to hearing expectations of the future. Representatives of the benefiting organizations explained the specific uses of the 5.6 million dollars raised during this year's ride, including the testing of two vaccines, intervention programs, and the ability on the part of all three organizations never to have to turn

away any patient regardless of ability to pay!

The very last bicycle to cross the finish line is the "riderless cycle." After all 2500 of us rode the final blocks together, two HIV positive riders walked the empty bike down the center aisle. This moment was extremely moving. Not only did we all begin riding for all those who couldn't ride; we had experienced a riderless cycle on day one. The tears flowed from the crowd as we allowed our pain, our reasons for riding, to be real. Then we cheered for ourselves and the kindness of our weekend community.

The AIDS Ride was the loudest, most efficient form of activism as I know it. Throughout all three days I felt the power of every dollar each of you donated to make this event possible I couldn't have done this without the support of all of you. You are incredible beautiful people giving back to society what society has given you.

Thank you again and again and again.

Kimberley Cheney

## Local group aims to stop tree cutting on battlefield

BY CARYL AUSTRIAN  
Dispatch Writer

Did you know that the 15-year General Management Plan for Gettysburg National Military Park includes the removal of 576 acres of woodland? While the proposed new Visitor Center was discussed at length during public hearings, the tree-cutting plan apparently received little attention. Now a small but growing group of area residents is reviewing options for opposing what they regard as excessive tree removal.

Military specialists, a group called Friends of the National Parks Gettysburg (FNPG) and the National Park Service (NPS) are in favor of removing the trees as part of an effort to restore the battlefield to its 1863 appearance. The military specialists, who use the battlefield to teach tactics, say key sites are obliterated by vegetation that has grown up since the battle took place, making it difficult for stu-

dents to understand the significance of specific locations. FNPG says in its member solicitation letter that the General Management Plan "involves restoration of historic landscapes and improvement of facilities for better interpretation and visitor experience."

The grassroots group now forming contends that such a massive removal of trees for these purposes is not necessary. Instead, interpretive signs in some areas and selected landscape restoration in others could accomplish the same goals, they say. Moreover, a chief concern of the group is the environmental effects of such extensive tree removal. These effects include potential erosion of stream banks, loss of wildlife habitat and increased air and noise pollution.

If you are interested in learning more about this issue and the group that is organizing to save the trees, contact Susan and Patrick Naugle at 717-334-1142 in Gettysburg.

### Tax Preparation and Accounting/Payroll Services

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STAFF ACCOUNTANT





*What will the New Year bring?  
Read all and tell all in the Dispatch*

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**We wish  
you an  
interesting  
and Happy  
New Year.**

Don't forget to share your adventures and stories with your neighbors through the *Dispatch*. Trips, births, weddings, announcements, anniversaries, engagements, and what you think (through Letters to the Editor) make up news you can't read anywhere else.

## **The (Retired) Ecologist's Corner Of Shoes and... Woolly Bears?**

**BY BILL MEREDITH**  
*Dispatch Writer*

*"The time has come," the Walrus said,  
"To talk of many things:  
Of shoes- of ships- of sealing wax-  
Of cabbages and kings-  
And why the sea is boiling hot-  
And whether pigs have wings.*

I've never been much of a believer in the woolly bear method of weather prediction. A friend once said that if you go by woolly bears you can expect the winter to be brown in the middle and black on both ends, and I think that makes at least as much sense as trying to foretell the amount of snow on the basis of their color variations. They are bears of even littler brain than Winnie the Pooh; at least he knew his limitations. My skepticism was confirmed in mid-November when I met the last woolly bear of the season on the way to the library.

I don't know why the woolly bear was going to the library. I was going to return a book and get a new one; and our paths converged, and we found ourselves walking side by side, at approximately the same speed. We probably would have had an uneventful stroll but for the shoes I was wearing... and my wife has to take the blame for that.

Most people who know my wife would assert that she likes shoes. I'm not sure she does; she prefers to go barefoot in the house, and in the yard too, when it's warm enough. I do know for certain, though, that she likes buying shoes. This led to a crisis several years ago when we lived in the old house; she found a new outlet store in Hanover, came home with a box under her arm and announced that "These are the most comfortable shoes I've ever seen!" Unfortunately, the comfort didn't seem to last; every week thereafter... sometimes even twice a week... the same scene occurred, and inevitably a storage problem developed. There was no dust under our bed; there wasn't room for it; the space was full of shoes. I became aware of the magnitude of the problem after she started putting her shoes in my closet; when I lodged what I intended as a tactful protest, she informed me in a tone of injured logic that there was nowhere else to put them because her closets were all full, and I didn't seem to be using the space, so why should it go to waste?

For a while I commiserated with Ferdinand Marcos and hoped the influx would stop when the last closet was full, but I didn't reckon on my wife's

ingenuity. It dawned on her at some point that the shoes would take up less space if they weren't in boxes. So eventually it came to pass that a mountain of shoes filled my closet and, like Fibber McGee, I was faced with an avalanche every morning when I opened the door. The crisis finally came one day when she was dressing to go somewhere and at the last minute was unable to find two shoes that matched. Unluckily for me, it was a Saturday and I was unoccupied; so as she dashed out the door she called over her shoulder: would I please "organize" her shoes while she was gone.

"Organize" is one of those words, like "is," that mean different things to different people. I never found out what it meant to her, but to me it meant sorting the shoes into pairs before trying to find a place to put them. After reflecting hopelessly for a while, I began shoveling the shoes out of the closet and lining them up along the wall of the bedroom. After the line got about 20 shoes long, I found one whose mate I recognized, so I put the pair together and scooted the line down one space. Proceeding in that manner, I began finding more pairs; but the line kept getting longer and when I picked up a shoe that looked familiar it took longer and longer to find its mate. Eventually the task took on a compulsive nature, like working a jigsaw puzzle, and the line extended all the way around the bedroom, through the hall, and started down the stairs. By the time my wife got home I had found and united 143 pairs of shoes, and there were another 76 unpaired ones. Pointing to the box under her arm, I said something to the effect of "Don't you think you have enough," to which she pointed out that they weren't all shoes; some were slippers- and besides, these were the most comfortable....

The ultimate solution was to build a new house, and not take most of the inventory with us when we moved; and I must admit that things haven't been quite so bad since. My wife didn't exactly go "on the wagon," or if she did, she falls off occasionally... but new shoes now arrive on more of a monthly basis than weekly. The only difficulty now is that she occasionally decides I need to share the thrill. Oblivious to the fact that the hiking shoes I got in 1979 are still perfectly good and have a lot of wear left in them, she came in one day last summer with a new pair that had thick soles with immense grooves in them, as if

(See ECOLOGIST on Page 6)



# Roundtable to consider 'Male Mind at Work'

The Women's Business Institute is offering a two-hour networking roundtable open to all potential and established entrepreneurs. The topic, "The Male Mind at Work," is based on the book by Deborah J. Swiss. This seminar will be presented by Pam Wilson, Program Director for the Women's Business Institute.

Would you like to learn how to work more effectively with male colleagues? Do you get frustrated because men seem to speak a different language or play by different rules? Would you like to gain a better understanding of the male perspective in order to network with men, manage a difficult male colleague, boss, or subordinate and compete with confidence?

According to Pam Wilson, Program Director for the Women's Business Institute, "This roundtable will arm

women with insightful knowledge about men to effectively play the game without sacrificing their own identities and personal strengths." *The Male Mind at Work* offers a glimpse into the way men interact with each other on the job, the unwritten rules they play by, and how they see female colleagues. The discussion will explore the way men think and provide an understanding of why men and women seem to behave in different ways.

The Roundtable also provides an opportunity for entrepreneurs to develop contacts with the resources that will help them to succeed in business. This is an economical way to get detailed answers to specific questions, gather fresh ideas, and gain new resources. The roundtable will be held Thursday, January 25, 2001, from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Hagerstown Community

College, Hagerstown, Md. Registration for this event is \$15 and includes a continental breakfast. Advanced reservations are required. For more information about this workshop and other WBI events, please visit our web site at <http://members.aol.com/bchecknet> or to register call the Women's Business Institute at 301-624-4900.

The Women's Business Institute is a non-profit women's business center funded by the Small Business Administration Office of Women's Business Ownership and the Appalachian Regional Commission. Their mission is to provide quality training, counseling and technical assistance to any woman who owns or desires to own a business, including socially and economically disadvantaged women and women on welfare.



**Pam Wilson, Program Director for the Women's Business Institute, whose mission is to provide quality training, counseling and technical assistance to any woman who owns or desires to own a business.**



**THE GINGERBREAD HOUSE** -- Billie Singleton has transformed the old smokehouse at Zora Village into the cozy Gingerbread House, which was charmingly decorated by her daughter Vicki and son Jeff. The small shop specializes in handmade Primitive and Americana wooden items such as flags, signs, birdhouses, angels and horses. Boyd's Bears and Dolls (including many retired pieces) are featured along with candles, potpourri, small wooden shelves, and gift bags. Porcelain Victorian dolls and an assortment of prints in solid oak frames are also available. In the spring an adjacent shop will carry a line of wooden furniture. Billie, who is a resident of Emmitsburg, recently owned "Country Elegance" on Main Street.

The Gingerbread House is located in Zora Village at the intersection of Routes 140 & 16. Hours are 10-5 on Monday, Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday; 10-6 on Thursday and Friday. Closed Tuesday.

**Welch's Lawn Service  
& Landscaping**  
**Fall Cleanup  
& Snow Removal**

Call 301-447-2058

## Little League readies for 2001 season

### Player Sign-up Dates Announced

Emmitsburg Baseball and Softball League met on November 29 to prepare for the 2001 season. During the meeting it was decided that the girls' softball divisions would remain sanctioned by Williamsport Little League, but the baseball divisions of tee-ball, minor league, and major league would not. As the baseball divisions will not be sanctioned by Williamsport Little League, not have any geographic boundaries, so any child, regardless of place of residence, can play youth baseball in Emmitsburg. Player sign-up dates for the 2001 season will be from 2 to 4 p.m. on February 3, 4, 17, and is at the Trinity United Methodist Church on West Main Street in Emmitsburg.

The league is in need of managers for two tee-ball teams and is also looking for volunteers to umpire baseball games. If interested in volunteering,

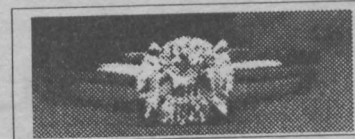
please contact League president Lisa Krom, at 301-447-6844 or come to the league's next scheduled meeting which will be at 7:00 p.m. on January 10 at the Trinity United Methodist Church on West Main Street in Emmitsburg. As always, the League meetings are open to the public.

### Stop Smoking for Life!

Free smoking cessation classes the Frederick County Health Department's Tobacco Use Prevention Program, this 8-session/4-week course is held Mondays and Thursdays, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m., and runs from January 8-February 1, 2001. Classes will be held at the Board of Education, 7630 Hayward Rd., Frederick. Space is limited, registration required. Call Sarah Tedesco at 301-631-3282.

**Coffman Jewelers, Inc.**

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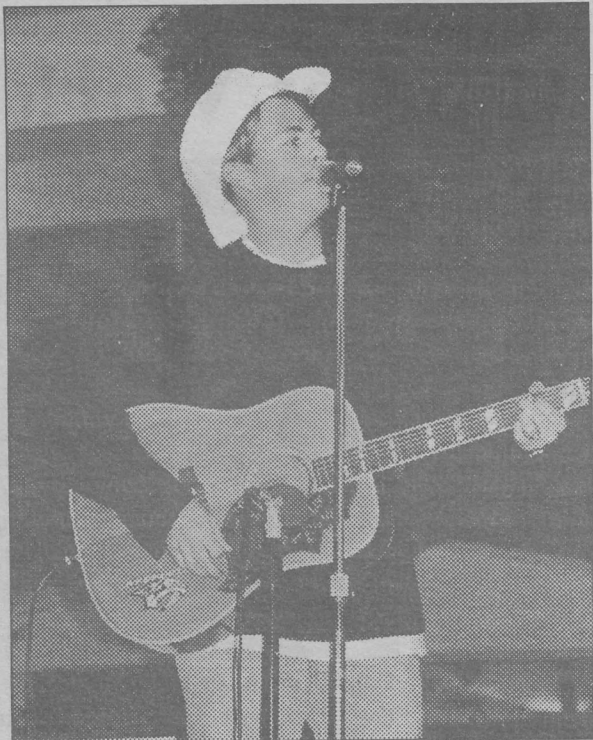
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Thurmont native Neal (Angleberger) Coty who's making a name for himself on the country music charts, recently appeared at the Frederick Towne Mall where he entertained a large crowd of his fans for several hours. His latest release, a single titled "Legacy," is receiving rave reviews from critics and country music fans. Neal is the son of Kenneth and Gloria Angleberger of Thurmont. Photo courtesy of Carol Myers

## Ecologist

(Continued from Page 5)

they were made from tractor tires.

Those shoes were on my feet when I met the woolly bear on the sidewalk leading to the library. As we walked along I noticed that it seemed worried, as if it were late for some important appointment; it was going as fast as it could go, and seemed to be trying to go faster yet. I thought maybe it found me threatening, so I stopped to let it go ahead; but it stopped too. Then it turned and crawled under my shoe, into one of the grooves in the sole. I waited an appropriate time for it to come out the other side, but it didn't reappear. After a few minutes I lifted my foot; and there it was, curled up in a ball, preparing to hibernate under my shoe and clearly not too happy that I was unwilling to stand there until winter was over.

I went on to the library; where the woolly bear went, I do not know. It

clearly wasn't cut out to be a book-worm. If it was stupid enough to try to hibernate under my shoe, I don't think it would have sense enough to predict the weather either. It is equipped to deal with just one problem: find a place that is fairly dry and sheltered from predators, make a cocoon, and go into dormancy. Whether the winter is hard or mild is of little concern to it; if something doesn't eat it or step on it, it will greet the spring as an Isabella moth and set about the business of procreating the next generation.

As for me, life is a lot more complicated; my granddaughter got my wife a new pair of shoes for Christmas. My worst fear is that shoe-buying may prove to be hereditary... I may be looking for another new house before the next Christmas gets here.

## Winter Comfort Foods

Shake the winter blues with a demonstration by John Hovde of the Carriage House Inn. He will prepare favorite winter comfort foods with non-traditional twists, including white chili with chicken.

Emmitsburg Branch Library, Monday, January 29, 7:00 p.m.



**RECENT GRADUATES MEET AGAIN** -- Cadet Robert Seidel of the Military Academy had the opportunity to meet up with Midshipman Ryan Rippeon of the Naval Academy for the first time since the two graduated from Catoctin High School this past June. They met at the 101st Army/Navy game which this year was held at PSI Net Stadium in Baltimore. The two compared notes on their summer basic training, and what plebe life is like at their respective academies. Even though Midshipman Rippeon was excited about the outcome of the football game, Cadet Seidel felt it was necessary to remind him that Army still holds an ever-so-slight lead (48 wins, 46 losses, and 7 ties) over Navy.

## Adams County Women's Health Associates welcomes Natasha L. Flemens, M.D.



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- *Residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Hahnemann University Hospital in Philadelphia*
- *Junior Fellow of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology*
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She joins the Adams County Women's Health Associates team that also includes Charles H. Marks, III, D.O.

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Thur. 8:30am-4:30pm  
Fri. 9am-Noon



# A very 'special' brother celebrates 60th birthday

BY DOLORES HENKE

Many of us have a special person in our lives or know of someone who has. Patrick is our special person.

Patrick, the youngest member of the Gertrude and Hubert Joy family, recently celebrated his 60th birthday with his brothers and sisters at my home. Patrick has Down syndrome and he has always been "special" to us. This time of the year we reflect on people and things that have brought us to this stage in our lives—our mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters and anyone who has affected our lives. Most of all, I think of my mother and my brother Patrick as the holidays draw near.

Patrick was cared for by my mother with the help of brother Kenneth, who lived at home. She cared for Patrick until he was 38 years old and she was 80. At that time she broke her hip and was no longer able to give him the care that he needed; it was no small task as he was quite heavy. Our brother Jerry took a year's leave of absence from

work to assist in the care of Patrick. It was through the perseverance of our sister Gloria that he was placed in Potomac Center, a new facility in Hagerstown.

While he received the best of care from the staff there, it was very difficult for our mother to have him taken from our home. It was very traumatic for Patrick, too. He is unable to speak and had rarely been around anyone other than his family. When he was growing up, there was not the understanding of those with disabilities that there is today. Patrick remained at Potomac Center for many years. During that time, Mother never missed a weekend visit to see Patrick. Upon returning from her visit, Mother would always be sad; she loved him very much. We did bring him home to be with family on special occasions and he enjoyed those visits, but was not unhappy to go back to "his home." Mother passed away when she was 89 years old; she was, to us, a saintly woman.

Following his stay at Potomac

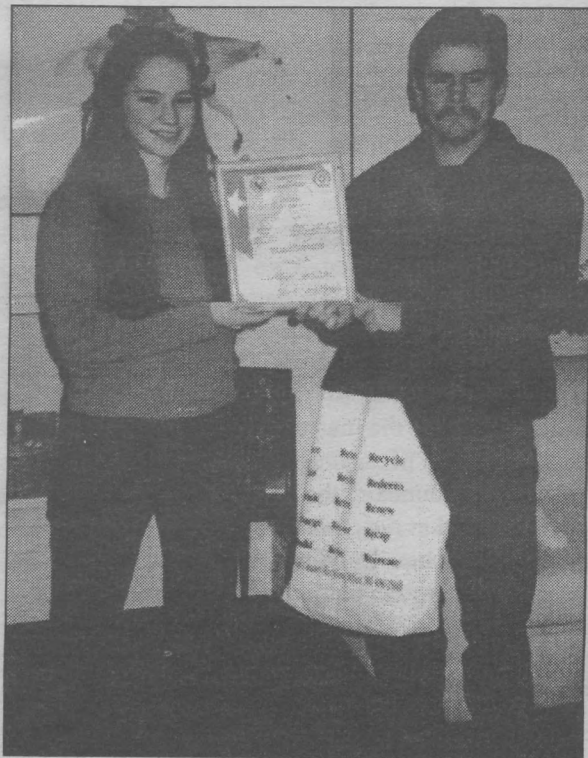


Patrick Joy celebrates his 60th birthday surrounded by his family.

Center, Patrick was placed in a group home in Frederick which is under the auspices of MedSource Services. During the weekdays, he attends a day program at Crossroads Activity Center near Hagerstown. We are most grateful to the staff at this Center for the care and understanding which Patrick receives there, to Michelle and others at MedSource for their personal interest in

our brother, and especially to the caregivers, Robert and Roger, at his home. The personal attention they give to him is way beyond their assigned duties. Patrick's family, as well as all those involved with him these many years, made it possible for us to celebrate his 60th birthday.

He will visit with family and relatives during the Christmas holidays.



Ruth Carroll, daughter of Rita and Alan Carroll, of South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg receives award from Phil Harris, Frederick

## 'Recycle Right' award winners announced

Four Frederick County households were recently presented with "Recycle Right" Awards in recognition of America Recycles Day, November 15. These households were chosen by BFI's curbside recycling route drivers for their excellence in recycling participation. The criteria used by the drivers in selecting the households included correct recycling material preparation, cleanliness, absence of unacceptable items, and variety of materials recycled.

Phil Harris, Frederick County Recycling Program Specialist, presented the following households with a prize package containing numerous items including a framed certificate from the Board of County Commissioners: Alan Carroll residence on South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg; Harry Hammond residence on Sugarloaf Court, Monrovia; Sean Warner residence on Farmbrook Court, Frederick; Jeff Crouteau residence on Saddleridge Drive, Myersville.

America Recycles Day is held yearly on November 15 throughout the United States. Americans are encouraged to increase their participation in recycling and to buy products made from the materials they separate for recycling. On December 15, 2000, there was a drawing for national prizes including the Green Dream Home, a house built from

recycled-content products. Additional information on America Recycles Day is available on the Internet at [www.americarecyclesday.org](http://www.americarecyclesday.org).

The Frederick County Board of County Commissioners and the Recycling Office would like to thank all Frederick County residents who participate in recycling in Frederick County and to remind everyone to "close the loop, buy recycled."

For information about recycling, please contact the Recycling Office at 310-696-2960.

### We're getting crowded.

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## St. Catherine's Employees of the Month

St. Catherine's Nursing Center Employee of the Month for December 2000 is Beth Gilbert. Beth has been employed as the Administrative Assistant since September of 1995. According to her co-workers, Beth is a wonderful example of the core values instilled at St. Catherine's. She shows compassion and respect for all her co-workers and the residents. Beth's willingness to help wherever needed is always greatly appreciated. She is a very dedicated employee and is always looking for ways to improve the quality of working conditions at St. Catherine's. Beth is very deserving of the honor of employee of the month. Congratulations, Beth!



BETH GILBERT

St. Catherine's Nursing Center Employee of the Month for November 2000 is Maureen Goggin. Maureen has been employed as an LPN since June of 1995. According to her co-workers, Maureen is very warm, caring, and respectful, which shows in her concern for her co-workers and the residents. She is straightforward but tactful. Maureen is always ready to assist wherever she is needed. She is a very hard worker and is always friendly. Maureen is very deserving of the honor of employee of the month. Congratulations, Maureen!



MAUREEN GOGGIN

## 40th Wedding Celebration



Bernard and Ann Welty were guests of honor at a surprise 40th anniversary celebration on Saturday, September 23, 2000. The celebration was held at St. Joseph's Parish Hall in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

The party was given in their honor by their children, David Welty, Catherine Miller and Kevin Welty.

Among others assisting in the occasion were Linda Graham, Ann Bushnell, Joan Little, Beth Miller and Angie Welty.

Several games including family trivia were a highlight of the party.

Mr. and Mrs. Welty were presented a handmade family photo quilt as a gift from their children.

In special attendance was Mr. Welty's mother, M. Dula Welty.

The couple were married on December 31, 1960, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Emmitsburg, Maryland.

For the past 40 years they have lived and worked in Emmitsburg, many years working on the family farm.

Mrs. Welty, the former Ann T. Hobbs of Emmitsburg, is the daughter of the late Maurice and Eva Hobbs.

Mr. Welty has retired, and Mrs. Welty works part-time at St. Joseph's Provincial House in Emmitsburg.

A good time was had by all!

## Thurmont Rings In Anniversary Year

On January 3, 2001 at 7:30 p.m. the Commissioners of Thurmont officially declared the year 2001 as Thurmont's 250th anniversary year with a ceremonial bell ringing and proclamation reading. Church bells throughout town rang simultaneously, ushering in the year-long celebration planned by the town of Thurmont. The ceremony was held the Thurmont Town Office at the start of the regular monthly town meeting.

A number of special events have been planned throughout the year in celebration of this significant anniversary.

The first major event will be a pottery display on March 25, featuring the works of Mechanicstown (Thurmont) potters. This event, sponsored by the Thurmont Historical Society, will feature the works of renowned potters Lynn and Mackley.

Other events planned for this spring include a Volks March on March 31 and April 1, a concert by the Air Force Heritage of America Band on April 20, and a Time Capsule dedication at the Town Square Park (Mechanicstown Park). On May 12,

the Gateway Gala dance night will be held at three locations around town. The dance night will feature The Ray Birely Orchestra at the American Legion, the music sounds of disc jockey Mr. M at Thurmont AMVETS, and the sounds of the Jimmy Purdum Band at the Guardian Hose Co. Activities Building. All dances will be open to the public, free of charge.

Mark your calendar now because you won't want to miss the official 250th Anniversary Parade on May 26 at 2:00 p.m. The old-fashioned parade will feature a number of floats, bands and entertainers, saving fire trucks for display at the firemen's parade in July. Local businesses and organizations are encouraged to start planning their entries now. Over \$5,000 in cash prizes will be awarded.

In June, the Thurmont Historical Society will sponsor an Archaeological Dig at The Creeger House on North Church Street in Thurmont. On June 10, the Spires Band will perform from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. at Catocin High School. This concert is free of charge.

(See Anniversary on page 13)



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# Ruggerers make a difference in Emmitsburg community

BY JESSICA MILLER  
Staff Writer

When you think about objects or people who scare someone, you think aliens, Dracula, scary creatures, spiders, snakes and children. Children?

As we approach the car, three brave Mount rugby players express their fears of small children. I sit in amazement, wondering how these men face opponents who are ready to kill them, but are scared of children from the ages of one month to three years old.

As we near the Up-County Family Center in Emmitsburg, the tension builds. One player believes that he makes small children cry while another fears what he will say to them.

When we pull up, the director of the center is walking with a small boy outside the building. We all exit the car, the fear building in each young man,

and we approach the door.

The woman stops me and asks, "Are these the young men from the rugby team?"

"Yes," I reply. "Do you need to see them?"

The woman explains that the little boy, C J, who accompanies her, is having a hard day. She thought that it might help if one of the players came outside and spent some time with him.

In a matter of moments, the young men, who were previously scared of little children, rush to C J's side to help him. One by one, each took a turn in comforting or playing with C J in hopes to help him have a better day.

Each rugger seemed to become more relaxed every time young C J smiled, showing them that they need not fear a child.

Who are these men that face these small children? They are senior Bill

McGowan and juniors Joe Malone and James Costello, Mount students and members of the rugby team. These young men volunteer their time to changing the lives of young children.

The program is called Family Support Day. It is held every Wednesday and encourages mothers and their children three years or younger to attend. All families are welcome.

Mrs. Golibard, an Emmitsburg resident and grandmother to Carrie, a participant in the program, had much to say about the center. "The Family Support Day allows all mothers and their children to interact together. It gives mothers a chance to get out of the house and let their children play in a safe environment. These young gentlemen who come and spend time with the children help the program even more. The young men give the children someone to look up to. Some of these children don't even have fathers. These young men help to put a male presence in their lives."

Mrs. Golibard wasn't the only person who spoke highly of the ruggerers. All of the mothers were happy to express their delight with the men's presence in the program.

As an observer, I can see why. Bill,

Joe and James worked wonders with the children, keeping them occupied by reading books, bouncing a ball or helping them down the slide.

Malone says, "I love doing it! It makes you feel better inside, volunteering your time to them. Whenever we get there, the children perk up when they see us."

McGowan believes, "It is good for the kids, because it lets them know they have a big buddy."

Malone added, "In the beginning, many of the parents thought we were there because we got into trouble. They were shocked when they found out we were there by choice."

Maria D'Souza, an Up-County employee, explained, "There is always a shortage of eyes to keep on the children and [the ruggerers] help us to keep the children under control." The ride back to school went a lot smoother. The guys joked around and talked happily about the children they helped that day.

I quickly realized that it was not the children they had feared. It was the fear in them that they might not make a difference in the children's lives that day.

I let them know that they were wonderful with the children. All three responded eagerly, "Do you really think so?"

## Mount prof speaks on women and the environment in India

Women in India are leading environmental struggles against threats to their way of life. Dr. Indrani Mitra, Morrison Faculty Lecturer, recently described in her presentation environmental activism in the Himyala region of northern India. "The theme of the movement can be reduced to 'save the landscape and save the people,'" said Dr. Mitra.

According to Dr. Mitra, ecological changes in this northern region have become gendered experiences—men are often away from their homes and villages becoming wage earners in order to support their families. Women stay at home and work to maintain their traditional way of life based on the forests. Now they work to protect and preserve the forested environment threatened by lumbering interests.

Chipko—a grass-root environmental movement to protect the tree in the Himalayas has gained strength and is known as the "close embrace" movement. The women from scattered villages defy lumbering operations by going into the forests and, in teams of two, hugging trees to save them from being harvested. Chipko leads the fight to change attitudes toward forests and has adopted as its chant: "What do forests bear? Soil, water, and clean air."

Dr. Mitra pointed out that the traditional Indian attitude toward nature is closely linked to their religion and philosophy. Forests serve as the habi-

tat of sages. The Indian God Rama is believed to have spent 14 years in the Dandak forest. The importance of forests in the Hindu philosophy is shown by its inclusion as one of the four states of life—childhood, student years, householder years, and old age, vanaprasth, the path of the forest.

"It is important to note that during the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries the forest cover of India has been reduced to just 10% coverage," said Dr. Mitra. "Current forest management techniques replace the naturally diverse forest with pine trees. This has been controversial and ineffective in controlling water runoff," she said.

The struggle to protect the forests has been affected by the ideological difference between past prime ministers Nehru and Ghandi, and women are leading the fight to protect their traditional way of life in their villages.

The Morrison Faculty and Student Lectures, which focus on international issues, are sponsored by the Morrison Professorship. Dr. Susann Samples, Chair of the Department of Foreign Languages at Mount Saint Mary's College, is the Morrison Professor of International Studies. Dr. Samples oversees the development of the series and welcomes and encourages local residents to attend these lectures. The next lecture will take place in the spring and will be given by a student who has competed with others for the position as student lecturer.

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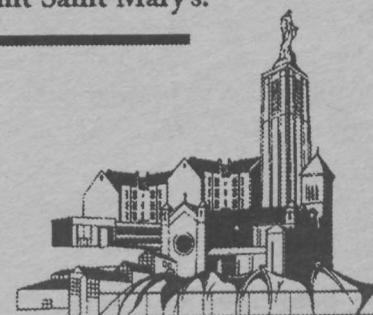
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# Harrison House offers 18th century charm

BY MARYA TIPTON  
Dispatch Writer

Walk through the wooden doors and walk into the 18th-century. A respite from the hustle and bustle of the outside world, Harrison House innkeepers Steven and Carrie Mott welcome visitors with a hot cup of coffee and a comfortable couch. Hardwood floors, large wooden beams, stone fireplaces with elaborately carved wooden mantelpieces, coupled with extensive renovations, offer rustic charm with top-notch accommodations.

"It's a great place!" said Gary Casteel, owner of Four Winds Studio and Gallery in Gettysburg. The nationally known artist recently sponsored an art show at the historic inn. "It's an intimate, reflective setting surrounded by the grandure of the early history of Adams County," said Casteel.

During the show, the log and stone home was filled with sculptures and paintings by Casteel, highly detailed oils by Civil War artist Bradley Schmehl and pastels of Eastern American Indians by the hand of

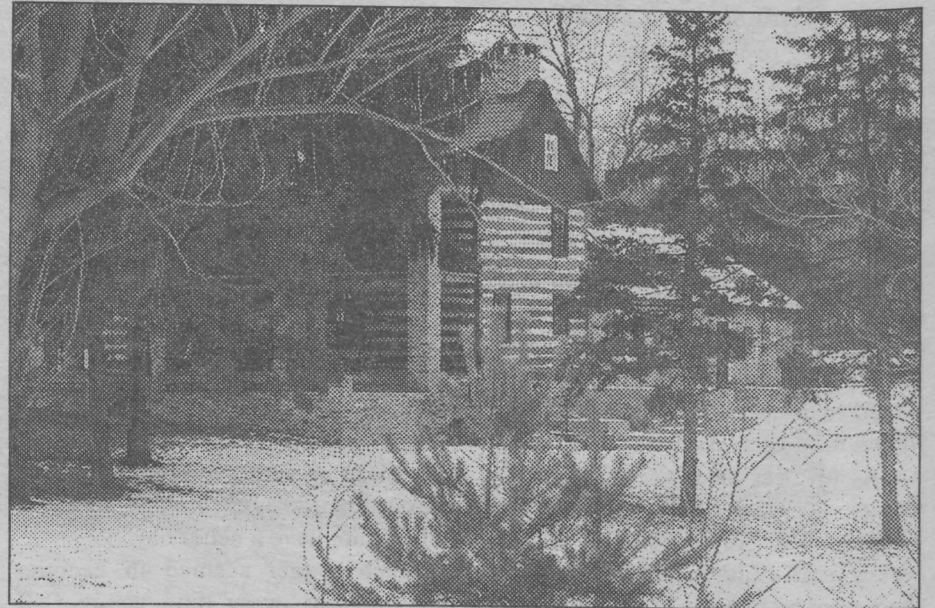
Pamela Patrick. All of the artists were there to welcome guests.

The event was catered by the Carriage House of Emmitsburg. A wide selection of hors d'oeuvres was festively displayed on the dining room table: brie with cranberry, marinated shrimp on skewers, fruit and crudites, complete with a roasted pig's head with an apple stuffed decoratively in its mouth. There were also stuffed mushrooms and savory meatballs served on trays by the Carriage House wait staff. But the real show-stopper was their famous white pizza with portabello mushrooms

"The servers were very attentive and the display pleasing," said Casteel.

Downstairs in the historic basement is the "Baby's Boot Tavern," named for a baby's boot that was found there during renovations, guests received VIP treatment by the Carriage House bartender.

The original stone basement dwelling dates back to 1767, making the Harrison House one of Adams County's oldest residences. The low ceilings and stone hearth create a cozy



The Harrison House on the Emmitsburg Road. The original stone basement was built in 1767.  
A Dispatch Photo

atmosphere where one can sink back into the soft leather chairs.

In 1863, the Union Army 1st Corps camped just across from this homestead on the Emmitsburg Road.

The grounds, covering seven acres, are surrounded by a wrought-iron fence so guests can rest in security. The retreat center also offers two ponds and fountain and swimming pool.

Master Suites feature king-sized beds and private baths. A second-floor

balcony supports a wooden swing for relaxing or watching local wildlife, including a heron that has taken up residence at the Harrison House ponds.

Located at 3361 Emmitsburg Road, Gettysburg, the Harrison House specializes in corporate meetings, company parties, weddings and private dinners catered exclusively by the Carriage House.

For more information, call 717-495-4132 or visit them online at

## Gettysburg to host nationally known poet and activist Nikki Giovanni

Preparations are under way to bring nationally prominent poet and civil rights activist Nikki Giovanni to Gettysburg to serve as the keynote speaker during Adams County's 21st annual Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration.

Members of the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Committee met recently to begin laying groundwork for the celebration, which is set for 7 p.m. on Jan. 13, 2001, in Christ Chapel at Gettysburg College. The public is welcome at the event, which will also feature the renowned choir of Morgan State University of Baltimore, Md., and the Gettysburg College Children's Choir.

Giovanni's work has won numerous literary awards. She was named Woman of the Year by the magazines *Ebony*, *Mademoiselle*, and *Ladies Home Journal*. She has been granted honorary degrees by 14 colleges and universities. She is a professor of English at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

"Nikki Giovanni's activism gave her the experience and her poetry gives her the eloquence to remember Dr. King," said Dr. Susan Russell, professor of theater arts at Gettysburg College and chair of the Celebration



NIKKI GIOVANNI

Committee. "This celebration will give our community a chance to rekindle the spirit of one of history's great peacemakers."

The community also has a chance to help. Proceeds from tax-deductible donations and sponsorships of the event will benefit the Adams County Career Aid Project's scholarship fund and continue building an endowment in King's name at the Adams County Public Library. Checks payable to the Adams County Career Aid Project can be sent to South Central Community Action Programs Inc., 153 N. Stratton St., Gettysburg, PA 17325. All contributors will be named in the event program.

### Emmitsburg's Historic

### Carriage House Inn

### *Sweetheart Special*

Join us Valentines Day

#### Appetizer

Chesapeake Crab Dip for Two  
Tossed Salad with Vinaigrette  
Dressing

#### Entree

Petite Filet Mignon with  
Peppercorn Sauce and  
Gulf Shrimp with Imperial Crab

#### Dessert

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Complimentary Rose for the Ladies

\$59.95 per couple

(Does not include tax or gratuity)

Reservations Recommended

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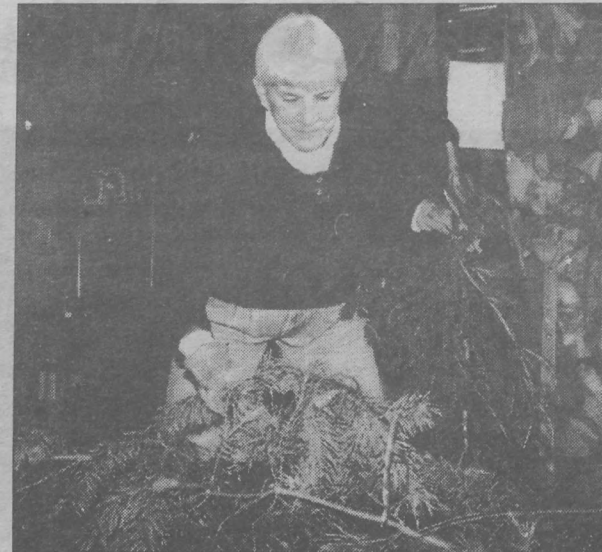




Chata Carr



Austin Umbel and Guy Baker



Ann Gingell

## Christmas

(Continued from Page 1)

tion of making swags came in 1989 with the new antique-style streetlights. The doors and windows are also decorated in the square area.

Gingell said, "We basically started out in Jane Bollinger's home here in Emmitsburg. Then after two years we moved into the little room at the bottom of the town office." Later on the town garage became their workspace, which, Gingell added, "was heaven for us." She continued, "But we were sort of alone and didn't have many people to help. Everyone thought it was beautiful but nobody wanted to help."

According to Betty Ann Baker, another long-time helper, the group makes 250 swags. When asked if she looked forward to it each year she hesitated and exclaimed, "Oh, yes!" with a giggle, acknowledging it's a chore if they didn't have a lot of help. She said, "If we have the help, it's great." There has always been a regular group of women since the beginning, but it was rare that the number would exceed ten.

The women acknowledged that in the last five years or so things have been much easier with help from their husbands, other volunteers, and the town maintenance crew. It takes about three or so hours to do what it used to take the women weeks. The group never knows who will show up to help until that day. When Baker was asked if they felt they had a good turnout this year she said, "Very good, this is very good and we have a number of guys outside helping." Gingell also considered the turnout to be good, saying, "There's a lot of new ones this year, and those that have helped on and off over the years." She said, "The lady that gets the people out is Chata Carr."

One of the newcomers this year was Pat Howes Bell. Bell is the copy editor for the Emmitsburg Dispatch and said she was editing an ad which invited people to help when she was

reminded of the event. She said, "I always wanted to come but in the past it has always been held the Saturday after Thanksgiving," Bell said, "I think this is an excellent choice to have it on this weekend. This works out better because at Thanksgiving people have company and just aren't free."

Another newcomer this year was Frankie Fields. Fields was invited by Bea Keilholtz, another long-time helper. When Fields was asked what she thought of all this she said, "I think it's wonderful and the swags are beautiful. It's the neatest town." Fields and Keilholtz are members of the Silver Fancy Garden Club, which is responsible for planting the tree wells in Emmitsburg in the spring. Fields said, "We kind of keep up with the greens all year round." She lives between Emmitsburg and Taneytown, so she compares the decorations of the two communities and said she prefers Emmitsburg's real decorations to the artificial wreaths in Taneytown.

The following Monday morning the

town maintenance crew began hanging the swags through town. Tuesday morning Jim Click was supervising Charlie Maddox and Chris Wantz. He said they have 96 streetlights, which get two swags each, plus other places where swags are hung. Charlie and Chris are both new to the town crew, having begun their jobs this past June. Charlie said he likes his job on the crew despite its being cold some days.

The town crew gathers the pines from the property of Dana Shultz in Fairfield who provides them for the town at no expense. The decorations certainly add something special to what is already a much-loved town. The efforts and perseverance of these residents have brought about this current tradition and deserve recognition.

This year those participating were Chata and Bill Carr, Ann Gingell, Betty Ann and Guy Baker and their daughter Julie Davis, Bea and Vernon Keilholtz and their daughter Carolyn Keilholtz, Linda and Austin Umbel, Tom Hoke, Pat Howes Bell, Frankie Fields, Marion

Levandowski, Jean and Bo Cadle, Jennifer Buchheister and her daughter Rebecca, Dianne Walbrecker, and Donna Thompson.

Many others have helped over the years. Some recalled the late Mary Hoke; others mentioned their children helping, and those that couldn't make it this year because of conflicting events.

Those not named are not forgotten in this beautiful tradition of the town at Christmas.



Charles Wetzsel



Frankie Fields



Linda Umble and Julie Davis



Jennifer Buchheister and daughter Rebecca



# Tom's Creek live Nativity draws crowd



Members of the Tom's Creek United Methodist Church portraying Mary, Joseph, Shepherds and an Angel in their live nativity.

Cars pulled steadily in and out of a lot two miles east of Emmitsburg on

Rt. 140 marked with a sign "Future Site of Toms Creek United Methodist Church" between 6:30pm and 8:30pm on the evening of Sunday December 17<sup>th</sup>. The attraction was a live nativity which visitors braved 20-degree temperatures (which felt like below zero) and high winds to come and see.

Members of the parish portraying Mary, Joseph, shepherds and an angel rotated in shifts every half-hour in order to keep warm. The animals, including sheep, donkeys, and

cows, got no reprieve but were quite content nestled together and feasting on hay.

Rev. Bill Warehime, Pastor of the small country church "where everybody knows your name", said, "We're really excited in doing this." Rev. Warehime and his wife Linda are parents of two grown children and new to Tom's Creek. Coming to assume the duties of Pastor this past July he said, "This is one of our ways of ministering and witnessing our faith to the community. There's a lot of people that travel up and down the 140 here as we've seen and this is just a witness for us to share God's love and the story of Christmas."

Rev. Warehime greeted us with a flashlight in hand, which he was using to direct traffic. He said, "This live

nativity is our first of, I hope, many years." He went further to say, "we'd like to utilize this wonderful facility to have a "Bethlehem village" involving more of the area churches. This is a wonderful story to tell and it's every Christian's story." The facility is approximately 43 acres, which the church utilizes for outside activities mostly between spring and fall, and the location certainly lends itself to such an ambitious idea.

Many of the church parishioners were involved in the nativity with everything from the design and sewing of costumes, scenery, and setting the stage. In a wind blown three-sided tent visitors took shelter and were greeted by church members with warm sentiments of hot chocolate and home made cookies.

## A season of giving ... and parties

### Seton Center outreach a success

Seton Center Outreach had a very successful Christmas this year. Eighty-four families were adopted by a variety of sponsors including Catholic Parishes, Mt. Saint Mary's College, several businesses, professional offices, Sisters of Charity groups, Mother Seton School, Civic Clubs, Fort Detrick, Catocin School and several other schools.

Another Civic Club provided food for the families. The sponsors came from a variety of places from Emmitsburg to Washington DC. An additional 30 families received food and toys for the children. This project is certainly a community project.

### Farmers & Mechanics National Bank Associates hold Holiday Drives



The associates of Farmers & Mechanics National Bank donated food, toiletries, clothing and toys to help Frederick County residents in need this holiday season. Pictured left to right are: Lisa Hill, Farmers & Mechanics Bankers-In-Action Facilitator; Michelle Marick, Americorps Member working with the Frederick Community Action Agency; Tammy Albaugh, President, Hood College Social Work Organization; Nancy Waalkes, Assistant Director, Frederick Community Action Agency. The food and toiletries were donated to the Frederick Community Action Agency, and the Religious Coalition for Emergency Human Needs received the clothing and toy donations.

Sponsors arrived on Friday afternoon with their bundles. The gym at Emmitsburg Day Care Center quickly filled up and looked like Santa's Workshop. On Saturday the food arrived and volunteer got to work sorting food and filling baskets while others packed toys. On Sunday families arrived to pick up their packages. Smiles and tears of gratitude were evident.

Sponsors went out of there way to provide wonderful presents for the families and so many volunteers gave of their time and talent to make Christmas special for others.

### Kris Kringling: an old custom revived



Members of the Greater Emmitsburg Historical Society, dressed in costumes, greeted visitors to their open house December 11 with tales of a Christmas holiday celebration practiced in rural Emmitsburg years ago. Shown here are Susan Sanders (left) and Polly Shank (under the veil) who reminisced about the good times they had Kris Kringling.

Members of the Greater Emmitsburg Historical Society, at their Open House held December 11, staged a demonstration of Kris Kingling--an old German custom of celebrating between Christmas and New Year's Eve. This style of Christmas good times was practiced in the rural Emmitsburg region throughout the 1920s through the 60s. Revelers would disguise themselves in costume, climb aboard a wagon or ride horses and visit households making noise until invited in for cookies, cakes, hot cider, and other treats.

The Kris Kringlers made costumes of old clothing and sacks stuffed with pillows. Faces were often masked by veils with corncobs tied in them to make the ears. "They [the costumes] were any old thing you could think of or make," said Polly Shank, "We didn't try to copy after any important people." The visitors would disguise their voices and movements and the game was for the occupants to guess their identity. "There was

(See Kris Kingling on page 13)



# Traditional Lions' Christmas party a great success

The 71st Annual Lions' Christmas Party for the Children of Emmitsburg and surrounding communities was held Saturday, December 16th and was well attended by many families. Despite the weather being cold and drizzly outside it was warm inside with approximately 100 children. The activities began in the morning with Emmitsburg Girl Scout Troop 1088 assisting the children in creating tree ornaments, picture frames, bird feeders and "gingerbread" houses made out of graham crackers. Troop leader Shirley Greene and her cadet and senior level girls have been part of the party for about the past four years.



Santa and Matthew

The festivities continued with Maggie the Clown entertaining the children with stories and magic tricks. Assisted by her hand puppet, Theodore the Bear, she recounted the events of the first Christmas, the Holy Family and the birth of Jesus. Maggie, aka Kathy Hewitt, is from Roxbury, Pa., and has been clowning for over 20 years; this was her 3rd year in Emmitsburg. The children thoroughly enjoyed her and each child was personally touched with her face painting.

Refreshments for the day consisted of the traditional hot dogs and hot chocolate. Sterling White, a native of Emmitsburg, came with his grandchildren. Mr. White at one time was a member of the fire department and managed Lancaster Milk Co. Inc., located at the present site of the Quality

Tire Center. He recalled the milk company's providing milk for the hot chocolate from 1947 until the plant closing in approximately 1973.

As a continuing tradition in Emmitsburg, the Lions Club hosts the Christmas party which is also sponsored by the VFW and American Legion. Emmitsburg Ambulance Co. 26 provides the facilities. The Lions Club has 20-some members and is headed by President Herb Gingell, Secretary Jim Wivell, and Treasurer Jim Hahn. The club meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at the Carriage House. The organization is not politically or religiously affiliated, but is dedicated to helping the blind and doing community service. According to Mark Zurgable, a Lions Club member, it is one of the largest service orga-

nizations in the world.

Recalling past Christmases as kids in Emmitsburg, Mark Zurgable and Tom Humerick told of the entire town coming out for Santa Claus, who traveled through town from the Doughboy to the Town Square. At that time the Lions, VFW, and American Legion packed candy in boxes. Santa greeted the children at the firehouse and gave each one a box of candy and an orange.

This year's Christmas party ended with the main attraction—Santa Claus. For the second year, the gentle and jolly Harry L. Crutchley from Frederick portrayed Santa. Mr. Crutchley, the father of Penny King, a member of the ambulance company, began three years ago as Santa at the Learning Tree in Brunswick. Truly embracing the spirit of Christmas, including real whiskers, he said, "I enjoy doing this and love the children."

For each child that long-awaited moment of the party came: talking to and being photographed with Santa Claus. It was obvious some of the older children had seen him before and knew exactly what to ask him for Christmas. Others, much younger, had that awe and reservation and had to be coaxed by parents to climb upon his lap.

There were also several infants visiting for their first picture with Santa. One of the youngest visitors was two-month-old DJ Matthews, who came with three-year-old sister Melissa. The youngsters live in Irishtown Court,



Maggie, aka Kathy Hewitt

Emmitsburg. The Christmas party was a great success and it was obvious that all the children experienced some of that special Christmas joy.

## Kris Kringling

(From page 12)

always a little thing that would give us away," said Polly.

Kris Kringlers would often ride on hay wagons stacked with comforters and the horses would have bells on them. They would make their rounds a couple of times a week often visiting 4 houses a night. "This custom died out in the 60s," said Susan Sanders.

## Anniversary

(From page 8)

The July Firemen's Carnival and Parade will feature expanded fireworks in commemoration of the towns anniversary.

On July 28 you're invited to a 50's Night from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. at the Guardian Hose Co. Carnival Grounds. Enjoy a variety of activities including a car show, games and refreshments.

On October 18, enjoy a display of the famous carvings of Frank Feathers at Cozy Restaurant. Local owners will be displaying their collections of these carvings. A 5K Run has

been proposed for October of 2001 and is still in the planning stages.

In December, Thurmont Historical Society's annual Holiday House Tour will be held.

Volunteers are still needed to help the 250th Anniversary Committee with three major projects this year: the 250th Parade, a Time Capsule program, and a proposed 5K Run.

For more information or to volunteer your time, contact the Thurmont Town Office at 301-271-7313 and a committee member will contact you.

## Ridenours gather for annual Christmas party

On December 16th the Ridenour family celebrated their 15th annual Christmas Party at the Emmitsburg Ambulance Hall. Of the original family of 13 Ridenour children, eight are still living: Helen Sharrer, Bill Ridenour, Frank Ridenour, Mae Fogel, Doris Ott and Guy Ridenour all of Emmitsburg, Mary Kuykendall and Florence Hobbs of Fairfield. Deceased members of the family are Olia Cool and Nancy Topper of Emmitsburg, and Clarence Ridenour, Charles

Ridenour, and James Ridenour of Thurmont. In addition to catching up with each other and the children and grandchildren, the families get together at Christmas to enjoy bingo, an auction and plenty of food. Chicken and ham are purchased for the main course and each family brings a side dish. After the festivities, Santa Claus comes to visit the children. Doris Ott organizes the party each year and says, "Everyone seems to have a good time."

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## STAND-IN

### Memories of a substitute teacher at Emmitsburg High

By RUTH O. RICHARDS  
Dispatch Writer

Call it what you will—stand in, substitute—I was determined to take the step of filling out the application to become a substitute teacher in the Frederick County Schools. I had heard horror stories about the discipline problems in the Emmitsburg School, but that didn't deter me. I had behind me an incident in the South Dakota school where I had spent one year that gave me courage.

A freshman boy about my size decided to become the class clown in a study hall. I let his shenanigans go on for a while, and then I struck and took matters into my own hands. I went to this boy's seat, dragged him up onto his feet, took him by the waist and set him back down firmly. I used that occasion to prove to the whole study hall that I meant business when I was in charge. Word gets around, you know.

I didn't want to be a full-time teacher as I felt an obligation to be home most of the time with my children. But I also wanted to have a bit of money of my own.

My first call came very soon. I have no idea whose class I was in, but when Mr. Jones called and asked me to come in, I went. Substitutes must be ready to drop everything, all plans for the day, or even for several days. Too many refusals and the calls don't come again. So, many mornings I put aside my ironing, my baking, a shopping trip or even a good day for reading, and went.

I had lots and lots of calls which means of course, that I substituted in many areas in the schools. I know that I was in very nearly all of the elementary classes in Emmitsburg and most of the high school classes. I think, however, that I never taught for Miss Stull. She was so strong minded that I suspect that she never allowed herself to be sick.

Regular classroom teachers have a responsibility to substitutes in that they are required to have a set of emergency plans for each class so there is no "What am I going to do today?" There must also be a list of names and a chronology of the hour-by-hour activities. Without these "helps" there is always a risk of chaos.

I was very lucky in that I had the ability to learn names very quickly. When I called the roll, I watched to see who responded and was able to remember that name almost immediately. Knowing the students' names, I think is the first step in keeping order.

I don't know where in the Emmitsburg School I began this venture, but I have some memories of this experience I want to share with you.

Opening exercises in each grade consisted of Bible reading by "the student of the day" and the salute to the flag, the

words of which Mr. Eisenhower altered by inserting "under God." I was surprised by the Bible reading in a public school, as such a reading would never have happened in any South Dakota school. (Separation of Church and State). I didn't bat an eye, though, as the children were used to it and it was one time to get them to act as a group.

I practically prayed that I'd never be called to go to the first grade as I was sure that the wiggling of the six-year-olds would drive me crazy. Not to worry. When I did go to Mrs. Leary's room I found the most complete set of plans, plus comments about which child might be a disturbance or which ones would and could be helpful.

As an example of the kind of information she had in her notes, Mrs. Leary wrote, "Joey is different. He likes to do things his own way. 'Helpful? Indeed it was. During reading class Joey got out of his seat, put his fists up to his chest and began chugging around the room. I let him chug on. The other children, apparently accustomed to his behavior, simply ignored it, and the class proceeded. Joey finally stopped chugging and went back to his desk.

I like to read aloud to children and I knew from experience with my own children that reading was a way to still a restless group. I was in Mrs. Eliot's 5th grade class one day and after I had read a story to the group in the reading circle, Maxine said, "Mrs. Richards, you read just like a movie star." "Wow! I would have read on forever if Maxine had wanted me to.

Every teacher knows that elementary children do a lot of tattling. The more a teacher is willing to listen to the tattling, the more complaints that are heard. At recess time one day a boy came to me, "Mrs. Richards, Bobby called me 'snot rag.'" I said to him, "And what did you call him?" "I called him a snot rag." "Well, then you're even, aren't you?"

Both regular teachers and substitutes rely on inventiveness at one time or another. In some ways I had to use my inventiveness more in the high school than in the grade school. For example, I didn't have the ability to really teach music even though I could play the piano a bit. I found that rather than letting the students "do homework," singing would please them more. So we sang. Usually there was one student who could play the piano, but if not I would play. We sang favorite songs. The singing got a bit rowdy at times, but that didn't bother me. It was one way of getting rid of energy.

Other classes where I had to be inventive were math, science, shop and ag. We'd have spelling bees, math bees, and all the other "bees" I could think of. Then there was "Show and Tell," taking the kids back to first grade and giving them a touch of public speaking.

## LIBRARY NEWS



Children are led in a rousing game of "Drop the Hankerchief" by Joan Fisher, Librarian, prior to enjoying their Tea Party.

On December 9 the Emmitsburg Library hosted its annual Holiday Tea Party, which has now become a tradition. The tea was attended by about fifty adults and children. Many children attended dressed in their holiday finery. Christmas stories and a rousing game of "drop the handkerchief," presented by librarian Joan Fisher, preceded the tea. Vintage table linens and seasonal centerpieces set the mood. Retired librarian, Mrs. Katie Warthen, brought her collection of silver tea services, dainty china, and fancy flatware, which contributed to the mood of tradition and magic. Librarians and adult volunteers poured tea and served cookies to the children. Many of the cookies were baked and contributed by citizens of Emmitsburg. The event was a step back to a time that has been forgotten by many. However, the pleasant atmosphere showed that simple pleasures can still be entertaining.

Mrs. Warthen, who was Emmitsburg's librarian since 1962, began the tea tradition sometime around 1994. According to Joan

Fisher, Mrs. Warthen was always active in community outreach and children's services. Among those services were annual melon parties for children who completed the summer reading program. In addition, Mrs. Warthen instituted the library's story hour. The first tea included a doll show and was later expanded to include stuffed animals. That one was attended by nineteen children, with flower arrangements provided by the local garden club. The tea has, obviously, grown in popularity. Be sure to bring a child this December, 2001.

In January, the library will continue its regular story times at 7:00 Wednesday evenings and 10:30 Thursday mornings. Babies with Books (ages birth - 24 months) is on the third Tuesday at 10:30. On January 29, John Hovde of the Carriage House will demonstrate the preparation of winter comfort foods with a non-traditional twist (Monday, at 7:00, registration is free, but required, call 301-447-2682). See you there!

Probably my most memorable substituting day was one spring when plans were being made for the May Day celebration. Mr. Jones called and asked me if I thought I could carry out the Home Ec. part of this program as Mrs. Remavage was sick. That challenge was made easier by the fact that the high school girls thought highly of Mrs. Remavage. She had been practicing with them before she got sick.

We practiced according to her instructions and when the day came, all went fairly well except for the fact the lights weren't on in the Auditorium. I didn't know how to turn them on and neither did anyone else nearby. The show was fine, but the parents and patrons sat in the dark and only saw the girls in their class-made finery while they were on the stage.

Mr. Corl always tried to make the students behave in the manner of human beings. At the end of one school day as the students were being dismissed for the buses, a male student for whom I had little affection said something nasty to me as he left the room. Mr. Corl heard he remark and sent this boy back to apologize. I accepted his apology and said, "It didn't change my opinion of you at all." He went merrily on his way not realizing I had insulted him.

Early in my substituting there was a day I wish I could erase from my memory. It was hunting season and word was about that the teacher I was in for had gone rabbit hunting. One of the boys remarked that he hoped all the pheasants would be shot as pheasants ate the rab-

(See STAND-IN on page 18)



## Obituaries

### Mrs. Alice Andrew

Mrs. Alice Elizabeth Andrew, 87, of St. Anthony's Road, Thurmont, died Tuesday, Dec. 5, at Beverly Healthcare, Gettysburg, Pa.

She was the wife of the late Ernest Andrew.

Born Feb. 4, 1913, in Emmitsburg, she was a daughter of the late John B. and Ida Miller Ott.

Mrs. Andrew was a member of St. Anthony's Shrine Parish, Emmitsburg.

She retired from the housekeeping department at Mount St. Mary's College, Emmitsburg.

Surviving are three brothers, Charles Ott and John B. Ott Jr., both of Emmitsburg, and Lawrence J. Ott of Thurmont; and two sisters, Doris Asper of Hanover, Pa., and Betty J. Weatherly of Fairfield, Pa.

Mrs. Andrew was preceded in death by two sisters, Frances Matthews and Mary Sutton.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Dec. 8 at St. Anthony's Shrine Parish, Emmitsburg, with Mrs. Andrew's pastor, the Rev. Leo R. Tittler, as the celebrant.

Interment was in New St. Joseph's Cemetery, Emmitsburg.

### Mr. Todd Beall

Mr. Todd William Beall, 31, of 11 First Ave., Emmitsburg, died Wednesday, Nov. 29, due to injuries received in an automobile accident in Emmitsburg.

Born Aug. 15, 1969, in Gettysburg, Pa., he was a son of William S. and Judy Troxell Beall of Keymar.

Mr. Beall graduated from Walkersville High School in 1987 and attended Vale Tech, Cumberland.

He had previously worked seven years for Best Plumbing, Frederick, and at the time of his death was working for Goodwill in Frederick.

In 1989, Mr. Beall was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. He had been working as a volunteer at Northampton Manor, Frederick. He was a member of the multiple sclerosis support group, Frederick.

He enjoyed woodworking and working on cars.

Surviving in addition to his parents are maternal grandmother, Eloise Troxell of Woodsboro; four sisters, Jill Beall of Woodsboro, Debbie Gerhart of Jacksonville, Fla., Jean Stoudt of Olanta S.C., and Karen Innocent of Lebanon, Pa.; two brothers, Robert Beall of Baltimore, and Kenny Beall of Woodsboro; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews.

Mr. Beall will also be remembered by his friends, Robin Young of

Emmitsburg; Wayne Lawson, Larry Fogle, Todd Campbell, Bill Welty and Kenny Hines; and Northampton residents Edgar Davis and Clayton Grubb.

Mr. Beall was preceded in death by grandparents, Wilson Troxell and Scott and Gertrude Beall.

Funeral services were held Dec. 2 at the funeral home, with the Rev. Arthur Baugher, a Pentecostal pastor, officiating.

Interment was in Mount Zion Haugh's Cemetery, Ladiesburg.

The family requests memorial donations be made to the Multiple Sclerosis Society, 10949 Beaver Dam Road, Hunt Valley, MD 21030 or to a charity of one's choice.

### Mr. Richard Johnston

Mr. Richard A. Johnston, 57, of Emmitsburg, died Wednesday, Nov. 29, at Frederick Memorial Hospital.

He was the husband of Jennie L. Johnston.

Born March 22, 1947, in Washington, he was a son of Frederick C. and Mary J. Johnston of Urbana.

Surviving in addition to his wife are one son, James R. Johnston and wife Amanda of Frederick; one daughter, Jacqueline Johnston, at home; and one brother, Robert M. Johnston of Urbana.

Funeral services were held December 4 at Pumphrey's Colonial Funeral Home, 300 W Montgomery Ave., Rockville, Md.

Interment was in Parklawn Memorial Park, Rockville.

### Mrs. Ethel Kennell

Mrs. Ethel Mae Hamer Kennell, 70, of Hanover Road, Gettysburg, died Sunday, Dec. 10, at Gettysburg Hospital.

She was the wife of Walter Kennell Jr.

Born Jan. 25, 1930, in Fairfield, Pa., she was a daughter of the late Guy and Maude Crouse Hamer.

She was a member of Incarnation United Church of Christ, Emmitsburg.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by one brother, Robert Hamer of Hershey, Pa.

She was preceded in death by one brother, Guy Hamer.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, Dec. 13, at Incarnation United Church of Christ, with her pastor, the Rev. Margaret Dodds, officiating.

Interment was in Emmitsburg Memorial Cemetery.

Arrangements were by Skiles Funeral Home, Emmitsburg.

### Sister Laura O'Connor, D.C.

A Christian Wake Service and Mass of Christian Burial for Sister Laura O'Connor, D.C., were offered at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, December 8 and 11 a.m. on Saturday, December 9, respectively, at the Basilica of the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Emmitsburg. Sister Laura, who was 85, died of congestive heart failure on Tuesday, December 5, at Villa St. Michael, where she had been a resident since 1987.

Sister Laura was born in Baltimore and was a graduate of Seton High School. She entered the Daughters of Charity in December, 1934. Sister held a B.A. in social studies from St. Joseph's College, Emmitsburg, and an M.A. in American history from Villanova University. Her first duty as a Daughter of Charity was at St. Peter's School in Wilmington, Delaware. Most of her years were spent in the care and education of children. Sister served in Delaware, Massachusetts, New York, Virginia and Maryland. From 1983-85, Sister worked in the Seton Shrine Center in Emmitsburg. Prior to her coming to Villa St. Michael, Sister Laura served in pastoral care at De Paul Hospital in Norfolk, Virginia.

Sister Laura is survived by one brother, James P. and wife, Helen, three nephews, Thomas O'Connor of Upper Marlboro, James O'Connor of Herndon, Va., and Michael O'Connor of North Brookfield, Mass., and one niece, Patricia O'Connor Norman of West Hartford, Conn.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Daughters of Charity Support Fund for the Elderly and Infirm Sisters, 333 S. Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, MD 21727.

### Mr. Josef Engelstatter

Mr. Josef Karl Engelstatter, 84, of Old Emmitsburg Road, Emmitsburg,

died Thursday, Dec. 21, at Gettysburg, Pa., Hospital.

He is survived by his wife, Edith Aschenberger Engelstatter.

Born July 11, 1916, in Raischdorf, Austria, he was a son of the late Albin and Rosa Engelstatter.

He was a member of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Emmitsburg.

He was retired from the kitchen at St. Joseph's Provincial House, Emmitsburg.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by two sons, Dr. Gerolf Engestatter of Jacksonville, N.C., and Harald Engelstatter of Carroll Valley, Pa.; five grandchildren, Mary Engelstatter, Markus Engelstatter, Erik Engelstatter, Kristofer Engestatter and Andrea Engelstatter; and two brothers and one sister in Germany.

He was preceded in death by two children, Karin Engelstatter and Josef Engelstatter.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 10 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 23, at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, with his pastor the Rev. James O. Kiernan, as celebrant.

Interment will be in New St. Joseph's Cemetery, Emmitsburg.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to American Heart Association, Memorial Processing Center, P.O. Box 5216, Glen Allen, Va. 23058-5216.

#### 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.

We offer complete information on pre-arrangements and pre-financing, available without cost or obligation of any kind.

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## Wedding Expo to benefit American Cancer Society set for January 21

The 16th annual Wedding Expo to benefit the American Cancer Society will be held on Sunday, January 21, 2001, at the Holiday Inn at FSK Mall from 1-3:30 p.m.

Produced by Flower Fashions, Inc. the show provides wedding information in an entertaining format to engaged couples and their families. It's a chance for brides and grooms to learn about a variety of wedding businesses and services available to them as well as to exchange ideas with other engaged couples.

The event includes entertainment, wedding food samples offered by area caterers and bakers, and a fashion show at 3:00 p.m. featuring the latest in bridal apparel. In addition, prizes will be awarded by participating merchants, including the grand prize of a \$1000.00 honeymoon package. Admission is \$3.00 per person. Funds raised will be presented to the Frederick Unit of the American Cancer Society.

The ACS is the nationwide community-based Voluntary health organization dedicated to preventing cancer, saving lives, and diminishing suffering from cancer through research, education, advocacy and service. The Society's prevention programs as well as a variety of service and rehabilitation programs are available throughout Frederick County. For more information about the Wedding Expo, call Flower Fashions at 301-662-0606.

For details about ACS programs available in our community contact Gina Adolph at 1-888-535-4555.

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# Rocky Ridge News

BY EMMA KEENEY  
Dispatch Correspondent

Birthdays for January: Happy Birthday to Anthony Harris, Chris Day, Barry Eiker, Chris Angleberger, Robbie Eyer, Josephine Dinterman, William Dinterman, Pauline Sharrer, Jeanie Angleberger, Penny Eyer, Christine Hurley, Brian Hahn, Jr., Brenda Shriner, Dave Wiles, Jennifer Dinterman and Norine Haas.

January Anniversary - Vicky and Louie Powell.

The Christmas party for Mt. Tabor Sunday School was held Dec. 9. Kenneth Sharrer started the evening with a welcome and some of his many stories. Each class then took part in readings, songs, finger plays, etc. Pastor Ted gave his version of "Twas the Night Before Christmas" with the audience doing the sound effects and actions. Norine Haas did a reading of the "Twelve Days of Christmas." Bea Keilholtz read the Scriptures. Kenny asked Pastor Jim Russell to guard the door as everyone was singing "Here Comes Santa Claus." Santa arrived in an express wagon pulled by his helpers. Santa gave gifts to all the children. Everyone enjoyed the delicious food, and the evening closed with singing and some more of Kenny's stories.

The Mt. Tabor Youth Fellowship candlelight service was held Dec. 17. Bonnie Sanders played the organ. Kathleen Ballew welcomed everyone. Readings were given by Melissa Wiles, Josh Ballew, Bethany Wolf, Sarah Eckenrode, Melissa Sharrer, and Glen Haines. After each reading hymns were sung by the group. Josh Ballew played his clarinet during the offering, then gave the invocation. During the group singing of "The Little Drummer Boy," Sarah Eckenrode played the drum. Bethany Wolf played the violin. Glenn Haines, Janice and Jenn Gillespie sang a duet. The program ended with Melissa Sharrer singing a solo. Refreshments were served after the program.

[The youth group filled and delivered fruit baskets to the shut-ins on Nov. 21.]

## Church of the Brethren News

BY PAT FREE  
Dispatch Correspondent

January birthdays - Josh Eyer, 1/26; Dick Glass, 1/23; Sidney Moser, 1/11; Russell Moser, 1/10; Mary Knipple, 1/20; Jeni Baker, 1/1; Deidre Beard, 1/1; and Elmer Lambert, 1/17.

January Anniversaries - Maurice and Patsy Rice, 1/8; and Russell and Sidney Moser, 1/12.

I would like to thank everyone for giving me articles for Rocky Ridge News. You help to get the news out about local happenings.

## Rocky Ridge

### Fire Company News

By Linda Northrup, Fire Company

Correspondent

The Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company held the annual Halloween Party for the community children on October 31, 2000. The children enjoyed the haunted tunnel that is set up in the basement of the fireball and a parade upstairs and awards are given. Our winners this year are as follows:

1-day to 6 years:

Prettiest - Molly Snyder

Funniest - Tanner Lloyd

Scariest - Gabriel Snyder

Most Original - Ean Smith

7 years to 12 years:

Prettiest - Carrie Gelwicks

Funniest - Thomas Ray

Scariest - Randy Gelwicks

Most Original - Brandon Eaves

( See Rocky Ridge on page 18)

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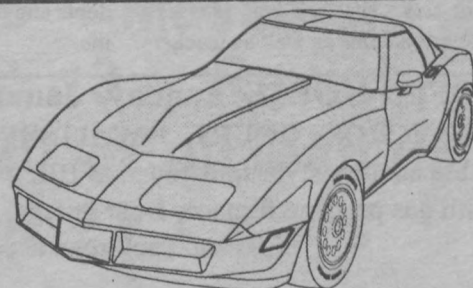
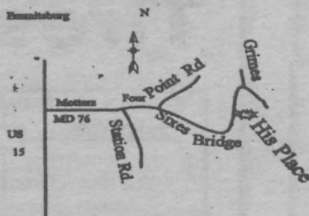
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## Mother Seton News

BY VAL MENTZER  
Dispatch Correspondent

### Uncle Ralph Does It Again!

Mother Seton School in Emmitsburg recently conducted a successful fund-raising program selling Uncle Ralph's Cookies! The Home/School Association sponsored this sale and was able to generate \$3,855.00 in total sales! That's a lot of frozen cookie and brownie dough! Thanks so much for all who participated in this fund-raiser and brought in extra "dough" for our students!

Congratulations to Jonathan Cogan and Wyatt Paulishak! Jonathan was our top seller with 27, and Wyatt our 2nd place seller with 26!

### Miracle at the Manger

Our eighth grade students and the MSS chorus, under the direction of Mrs. Cheryl Carney, and our MSS

Band, under the direction of Mr. Dave Metcalf, presented the annual Christmas program, "Miracle at the Manger." What a wonderful performance that reminded us of the reason for the season!

### A Sainly Mission

On December 13th, in observance of St. Lucia's Feast Day, Mrs. Daugherty's fifth graders relived the life of this amazing saint. Along with studying her history, they shared her mission with the MSS staff. St. Lucia would serve delicious sweets to the Christians in the catacombs. Because of the darkness in the catacombs, she would adorn her head with a hat of candles to help light her way. Even today, in Sweden, it is the custom on St. Lucia's Feast Day for the oldest daughter to serve the family sweets! In observance of her brave mission, our fifth graders portrayed St. Lucia

and delivered sweets to our MSS staff. What a delicious historical and spiritual lesson! Thank you, Mrs. Daugherty and your "sweet" students!

**Building the MSS Expansion** will be beginning very soon! Donations we have received from many generous donors total \$1,173,908.21. The project is slated to begin by late December.

**The Knights of Columbus** are collecting beverage can pull-tabs to benefit the Ronald McDonald House in Baltimore. Each single tab means 2 seconds of time for a patient on a dialysis machine. Our MSS student council is sponsoring this drive for our school community. If you are interested in donating pull-tabs for this cause, please forward them to the MSS front office. Thank you!



(Photo): Alison Binder selling donations for Rainforest and really enjoying Uncle Ralph's Cookies!

### Stand-In from page 14

remarked that he hoped all the pheasants would be shot as pheasants ate the rabbits. I of course disputed him. Pheasants were seed eaters, not flesh eaters. We argued and argued. "Do not." "Do, too." There was no way I was going to change his mind, and he certainly wasn't going to change mine. (Today, I'm wondering if pheasants do eat rabbits. I read in the paper recently that chicken offal is being fed to cattle.) Any argument there?

Twice I really had more days of substituting than I really wanted. One time was when Sue Martin was in the 9th grade, I believe. The other was the school year '57-58, the year of the Asian Flu.

A ninth grade teacher decided after the first month of school that he didn't like teaching and resigned. Mr. Jones wanted me to take the class for the rest of the year. I declined and was glad I had. I had no idea what I was to teach and got very little help, leaving me to feeling that I had done a very poor job.

When the Asian Flu struck it affected the whole school. I was in every class until I got sick. That too was not very rewarding as students as well as teachers

were in and out and no one, including me, felt very well. I don't know if there was a substitute for the substitute and at the time it didn't matter.

My substituting days ended when I was offered a full-time job teaching English at the Thurmont High School, which eventually led to teaching at Catocin.

What did I take away from all those days in the Emmitsburg School? One, in many ways it prepared me to be a better teacher when I got a real job. Also I felt good that I got to know all of the teachers and all of the students. I occasionally see some of the students and am able to recognize them. I got to know most of their parents as I was involved also in the PTA from 1954 until 1966.

And not least, by any means, I saved all of the money I earned (\$18.00 a day) and bought myself a new Volkswagen. I loved that little car which I knew I had really earned. I have to say that I never had any discipline experience that I would call "a horror story." I managed to get along very well with most of the students and they managed to get along with me.

### OPEN HOUSE Sunday, January 14, 1-4 PM

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### Rocky Ridge continued from page 17

13 years and up:

Prettiest - Yvonne Smith

Funniest - Audrey Downs

Scariest - Linda Wastler

Most Original - Kathy Ligsay

**OVER ALL WINNER:**

Molly Snyder

The Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company Auxiliary held their annual Christmas Party on December 3, 2000 for their members and all of our helpers during the year. This dinner is

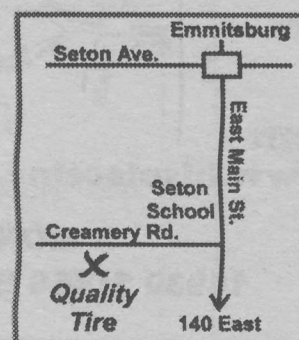
prepared and served by the Rocky Ridge Firemen and they enjoying doing this for us. The Rocky Ridge Firemen supply the centerpieces which are given away as door prizes. The entertainment was the Brass section of the Catocin High School Band and the Color guard.

We would like to take this time to thank everyone for the support throughout the year. And Wish a Happy & Safe Holiday season to all.

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# Building Healthy Families

## Resolving Parent Resolutions

BY ROSE BEIDAHL, M. ED.  
Parent/Family Educator  
for Early Childhood Family  
Education (ECFE)

Many of you have already set your New Year's resolutions aside and they have joined the yearly disposal box containing self recriminations such as "I have failed again, I tried but failed miserably; or this was too hard for me this year—maybe next year."

As a parent educator, I wonder how many of your resolutions that went adrift are related to parenting. While parenting three active children, I remember making daily resolutions and daily breaking them. Whether you make parenting resolutions on New Year's or tend to make and break them daily, I would like to suggest a way of keeping those promises you make to your family and self.

First, determine whether the parenting resolution you choose will change the relationship in a positive manner between you and your child; as well as your spouse or mate. Second, pick no more than one challenge to work on at a time. Finally, after feeling secure about that particular issue you may move on to another, but try not to rush yourself.

The following is a suggested reso-

lution list to enhance your parenting. Note: each resolution is first written as a general goal, which will likely set you up for failure. In contrast, the revised version is written as a specific plan to help ensure your success.

\* *Vague:* Spend more time with the children. *Revised:* I will spend one more hour a week with each child in a mutually enjoyable activity.

\* *Vague:* Listen more to my children. *Revised:* I will each day, at a designated place and time, actively listen without commenting for ten minutes to what my child wants to tell me about any subject.

\* *Vague:* Lose my temper less with the children. *Revised:* For two weeks I will select a specific area that often pushes my buttons and faithfully try positive solutions that are ( if possible ) mutually worked out with each child.

\* *Vague:* Join a parenting class. *Revised:* I will call for information or visit a class to help ensure my present needs will be met, followed by a full commitment to the class I decide to join.

\* *Vague:* Attend more of the children's activities. *Revised:* For one month if I cannot attend all of my children's activities I will rotate activities; or select an additional one and diligently attend no matter what !

\* *Vague:* Be more patient. *Revised:* Once a month I will select one area of impatience with each child and patiently work out ( if possible ) with

the child a positive solution.

\* *Vague:* Spoil my children less. *Revised:* Twice a year I will select one way that I continually indulge my children, talk it over with them (if possible), and replace it with a mutually agreed non-materialistic and loving substitute.

\* *Vague:* Keep promises better. *Revised:* One month at a time I will commit not to make any promises I cannot keep.

\* *Vague:* Hit and yell less. *Revised:* I will for eight weeks increase my knowledge about methods of correcting my children through reading, joining a parent support group, or talk-

ing to others about positive discipline; or any combination of these methods.

\* *Vague:* Read more to my children. *Revised:* I will for six weeks increase my reading of one book a week to my children at home and reading one more book when visiting the public library.

\* *Vague:* Become a more perfect parent. *Revised:* I will remember each year not to strive for parenting perfection. Instead I will remind myself I continually have strengths as a parent; as well as on-going challenges on the frequently bumpy road of this wondrous and unique journey we call parenting.

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# Wellness Tips from the desk of Dr. Bonita J. Krempel-Portier D.O.

## The Diabetic Diary

Diabetes is a tough disease that can progress rapidly or slowly and involves every organ system in the body. It is hard work to stay on top of the many requirements needed to maximize wellness.

One of the greatest concerns is the progression of blood vessel damage that will shut down heart, kidneys, and vision, or compromise blood flow to the legs. Many of the complications of diabetes can be slowed by close control of blood sugar. Lipid control is tough but also essential to diabetic care. The diabetic diary is an invaluable assist. When coping with diabetes it is not enough to guess how well it is going. Every person with diabetes must become something of a scientist. Close monitoring of every aspect of diabetic care is essential. Directed care and some trial and error personal findings empower a person with diabetes to attain better control.

1). Blood sugar checks should be done often. Blood sugar values should be placed in a diary showing blood sugars at different times of the day. These are to be reviewed with the physician so a mutually acceptable improved plan of control can be developed.

2) Hemoglobin Alc monitoring. Every three to four months it is important to have blood drawn to evaluate Hemoglobin Alc. Red cells live about 120 days. This blood work is a measure of the percent of red cells of the blood which are "sugar coated" over the 3 to 4 months of the red cell's life time. The ideal is between 5 and 6 percent. This reflects a blood sugar between 80 to 120. For each percent the average blood sugar rises 30 points. The value of Hemoglobin Alc placed in the diabetic diary allows evaluation of true long-term success of blood sugar control. A value of 8 reveals an average blood sugar greater than 200 over three months. This is very poor blood sugar control. Most are content with a value of

7 or less.

3). Some foods may increase or lower blood sugars. Make note of which foods do this in your chart. Some are common to all. Simple sugars make it hard to control diabetes. For some people, tomatoes or peaches may raise blood sugar to very high levels. By logging good foods and dangerous foods it is possible to develop a menu that gives day to day control and long-term control of blood sugars.

4). Even with good cholesterol levels, diabetes causes heart disease. Controlling fats in the blood stream protects the kidneys and slows the rate of other vascular disease. When blood is drawn for the Hemoglobin Alc, a lipid profile can also be gotten. Total cholesterol goal is 160, bad (low density lipids) 100, good cholesterol (high density lipids) 45 or better. Triglycerides should be below 200. Low fat diets are tough to do in the United States, but those with diabetes must be tougher still. Dieticians and health care providers can help with proper diet advice.

5). Blood pressure control is essential. It is worth the investment to obtain a blood pressure kit that is easy to read, with both blood pressure and pulse mon-

itoring. A pulse in the fifties or lower or in the high eighties or higher can signal heart disease. By reviewing this information in the diary, a physician can choose medicines safer or more helpful to the person with diabetes.

6). Exercise is vital to blood sugar control. By logging the nature and length of exercise done, it is possible to see if new regimens need to be developed. Sometimes simple adaptations make exercise feasible. Exercise helps also to keep blood clots (thrombosis) from damaging heart, legs, eyes, by activating the body's natural clot busters.

7). Medication schedules and over-the-counter medicines need to be in the diabetic diary. It is helpful to keep track of old and new regimens. Some medicines might not have been well tolerated, or worked really well. Personal notes regarding these are invaluable.

8). Eyes, thyroid, and kidney function is also to be checked at least each year. Feet more often. Please tell your medical care provider of any eye problems or foot wounds or numbness.

The reward for all this hard work is better health and a smile of joy from the health care folks.

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## St. Anthony's/OLMC News

BY ANN MARSHALL  
Dispatch Writer

**On January 10, 2001, Fr. James Hannon will begin his duties** as the new pastor of our combined parishes. We bid him welcome. Fr. Hannon is presently pastor at St. Peter Church in Westernport, Md.

Both parishes were beautifully decorated for Christmas in loving memory of deceased family and friends of parishioners. There were 72 donations at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel and 139 donations at St. Anthony's. Memorial names were published in the December 24<sup>th</sup> bulletin.

Our parishes adopted six families this Christmas and provided clothing and other generous customized gifts for holiday baskets which were delivered via Seton Center. Mary Anne Shields and Kathy Cashiola coordinated the project.

Offertory Envelopes for 2001 have been mailed. If you need to request a box of envelopes, please call the parish office at 301-447-2367. Children's envelopes are available in the rear of each church.

Youth Night at the ARCC, Mount St. Mary's College, will be held on Friday, January 5, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Students from the parishes and their friends in grades 7 to 12 are welcome. Cost is \$3:00 per student. Basketball, Wallyball, Swimming. Chaperones needed!!

Family Night at the ARCC will be Friday, January 19, 6:30-8:30 p.m. \$3.00 per person. Friends welcome. Basketball, Wallyball, Swimming.

RICA January meetings will be held at St. Anthony's at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Topics will be "The Eucharistic Church as the Mystical Body of Christ" (1/10); "How To Receive the Eucharist" (1/17); "Sacrament of the Sick" (1/24); "Marriage, Holy Orders, and the Consecrated Life" (1/31).

A parent meeting concerning the implementation of Human Sexuality Sessions will be held Sunday, January 14, at 9:25 in the morning. This meeting will be at the Thurmont Middle School and is for parents of children in kindergarten through eighth grade.

Sacramental prep sessions begin Monday, January 8th, at 6:30 p.m. at St. Anthony Schoolhouse.

Congratulations. St. Anthony Shrine Parish welcomes into the Catholic Faith Community Devin Eugene Shorb, son of Donald and Sarah

Shorb, who was baptized Sunday, December 3, 2000.

**Religious Education Snow Policy:**

If an event is canceled, it will be announced on WFMD 930 AM, WFRE 99.9 FM, WTHU 1450 AM, WYCR 98.5 FM.

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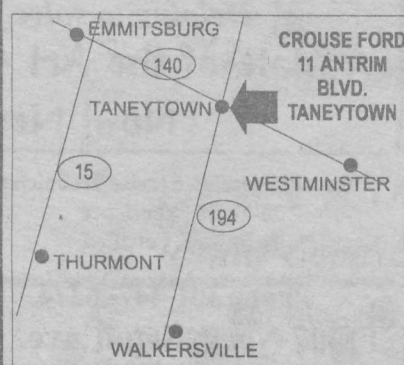


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Linda Stultz (r) supervises a client in her personalized program of strength training.

## Something to Eat

JACK DEATHERAGE, JR.  
*Dispatch Writer*

Occasionally I notice connections in my life that set me to thinking. (A bad habit thinking is, often leading to more trouble than it's worth.) For example, a book I've been studying, *FOOD Allergies*, by William Walsh, M.D., has caused disturbing thoughts about what I eat and how it might affect me. I'm wondering if I'm the way I am because of the foods I eat. (So much for my theory that I'm a homicidal maniac trapped in a pacifist body.)

I've been enjoying sinus headaches, various muscle spasms and cramps for about 15 years now. (They may have been occurring longer than that, but a beer-induced haze obscures much of my memory/misery before 1985.) I'm thinking now that I made some major changes in more than my drinking habits 15 years ago.

I gave up tobacco in '82, began drinking diet cola and eating stir-fried meals with lots of soy sauce. In fact the sugarless sodas eventually replaced beer, and soy sauce became my favorite seasoning.

As the alcohol haze slowly lifted, I began eating foods I hadn't bothered with since my childhood. To my surprise I had trouble eating some of them. (I've always had a problem with walnuts, bananas, raw carrots and celery causing my lips to swell and my throat to feel raw, as if I were

getting a sore throat.)

One evening I lost my voice after eating some of the best watermelon I've ever had—homegrown, to add insult to injury. My Aunt Hilda urged me to have another slice as soon as she realized what it was doing to me. Never had I had that kind of reaction to any food! (I occasionally take flowers to Hilda now, hoping to find something she is allergic to.)

Since then I've reacted badly to raw button mushrooms, salads, raw sweet corn, broccoli, peanuts, pistachios and horror—HAZELNUTS!

I could live without most foods that make me feel bad, but HAZELNUTS? Now that ain't fair! I just found a recipe for seasoning nuts and now I can't use it! I eat them once a year at Christmas time, except this year when I found them by the pound at a supermarket in November. I ate one, just one. A wave of nausea and dizziness sent me staggering for the porcelain throne.

My lunch stayed put, the attack passed, but I knew my life had changed direction again. Hazelnuts are now a memory. I wonder, how many other foods I enjoy will become memories? Fortunately I think senility is setting in so I won't remember any of this tomorrow anyhow. Which leads back to the foods I may be having trouble with.

Some foods are believed to cause a breakdown of nerve cells and may

(See ALLERGIES on page 24)

## Fitness

### Health & Fitness Open House!!

BY LINDA STULTZ  
*Certified Fitness Trainer*

Mark Your Calendars! January 12-13-14, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Start the new year with a healthy commitment! One-on-one personalized attention or bring a few friends and share the cost.

People are hearing more and more about the importance of exercise. With today's automated world, people need to realize the short- and long-term health risks of this sedentary lifestyle. So many people work long, hard hours and don't take the time to care for their bodies. Exercise is as important as brushing your teeth or any of the other daily activities you do to take care of your body. If you don't maintain your bones and muscles, they lose their ability to function. Osteoporosis is today one of the fastest growing problems for

men as well as women. Proper diet and exercise help prevent this disease and many others, such as high blood pressure, diabetes, high cholesterol and even depression. The health benefits of exercise are unlimited. Along with improving your health, exercise also benefits many sports activities. Golf, baseball, archery, horseback riding or just about any sport or activity will be improved if your body is in its best shape. Think about it.

Do something for yourself and encourage family and friends to do the same. Come see what I have to offer and what you have to gain. I am conveniently located 5 minutes from Emmitsburg, 10 minutes from Fairfield on Boyle Rd. Stop by or call for more information or directions. (717-334-6009). If the open house dates are not convenient for you, give me a call to schedule another time for a FREE consultation. SEE YOU THERE!

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### WEEKEND MUSIC IN THE LOUNGE

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Jan. 12 - The Inside, Jan. 13 - Grumpy Gus,  
Jan. 20 - Paul and Matt,  
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## Classifieds

**For Sale:** Ginseng, fresh stratified seed 6.00/ounce. 1.5 lbs available (approx. 10,000 sds) 3yr. old root stock, produces seed 4th year. \$2.00/root.100 available. Dave 301-447-3220

**For Sale:** Homelite 14" cut-off saw. XL-98. All good. \$300.00 or best offer. Dave 301-447-3220

**For Sale:** Compound bow, Indian 50 lb. 30" draw. No accessories \$40.00/offer  
Dave 301-447-3220

**For Sale:** Stove/sink/refrigerator compact unit. Kenmore 2 electric burners/sink on top, mini refrigerator underneath. Whole unit is size of standard stove. \$300.00  
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**For Sale:** Band saw, table top unit, Central Machinery. \$60.00  
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**For Sale:** SEARS Power Spray Carpet Cleaner with "Spraymate" cleaner attachment. In excellent condition \$60. Call 301-447-2462

**Wanted to buy:** Singer "Featherweight" portable sewing machines. The small black machine comes in black fabric-covered box.

Call or write Eugene Zacharias, 410-661-0659 (1810 Dunwoody Circle, Baltimore, MD 21234)

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**Did you know?** Free classified ads in the Dispatch work! They are a good way to redistribute the Junque and other valuables.

**For sale:** Television-a medium. So called because it is neither rare nor well done.

- Ernie Kovacs

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## Allergies

(Continued from page 23) cause senility or help it along. Of course the foods that aid in crippling the brain are among my favorites and I've been eating or drinking them for years. I think.

Oh well, I don't smoke or get drunk anymore. So now I can look forward to not enjoying foods that may cause me to forget- something- uh. Um, I had a story about dogs and curry, but the editors didn't- uh.

Books can cause you to think. I read one once, I think. Excuse me, I have a headache. I think I'll lie down now. Lying down is good for you isn't it? I can't remember, but I'm going to do it anyhow.

Maybe I'll reread *FOOD Allergies*. If I can find it. I seem to have misplaced it, AGAIN!

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