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Carriage House Inn to offer 'Evening of Christmas Spirit'

A STAFF REPORT

The Carriage House Inn will again sponsor "An Evening of Christmas Spirit" to be held from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Monday, December 3.

New this year will be a tree lighting ceremony and the singing of carols to be held around the Town Christmas tree on the Square at 6 p.m. Ornaments for the tree have been made by the 4th and 5th grade students of Emmitsburg Elementary School.

There will be remarks by Mayor William Carr and some traditional carols will be sung, led by the Incarnation Church of Christ Choir under the direction of Audrey Glass. Denny Ebaugh will serve as Master of Ceremonies.

Santa will stop by to lead the procession to the parking lot of the Carriage House Inn where activities will continue with a live nativity, petting pen, and hay rides. Free hot dogs, cookies, and hot chocolate will be served.

During the evening, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. there will be music provided by several musical groups: a chorus of Sisters from the Provincial House, the St. Joseph's Sun Rise Singers, Sandy Soffe and Company, the Mount Saint Mary's College Chorale, and music by Linda Duffy and Silvie Damsky. The Mount Saint Mary's College rugby team will assist in the clean-up following the activities at the Carriage House Inn.

All are invited to participate in this simple but significant demonstration of "An Evening of Christmas Spirit" in our community.



A tree lighting ceremony and singing of carols will be held around the Christmas tree on the square as part of the "Evening of Christmas Spirit."

Preliminary Site plan approval for Interfaith Housing

Preliminary site plans for an Interfaith Housing Self-Help Housing program in Emmitsburg have been approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission. The 17 single family homes will be built on 6.5 acres of building lots on the north west side of Silo Hill Road. Work is expected to begin on the infra structure in spring and construction on the houses in early fall. Interfaith Housing is looking for families to participate in the program. If you are interested call Gail Wilson at 301-662-4225.

Interfaith Housing has sponsored the Self-help Housing program in Western Maryland for close to seven years and pro-

(Housing continued on page 3)

Growth continues for local glass company



Emmitsburg Glass Company sets the pace as a growing industry in Emmitsburg. The company is located in the Emmitsburg Industrial Park.

See full story on page 8

"An Evening of Christmas Spirit"
Monday,
December 3rd
Tree lighting ceremony begins at 6:00 p.m.

Due to the holidays the January 2002 edition of the *Dispatch* will be published on January 7th. Deadline still December 20.

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. The deadline for letters is the 3rd Thursday of each month.

Husband responds to commentary

Thanks for running Elisa's commentary in November ("One Marriage: Two Politics") about how we've learned to cope with each other and everything else that's been going on lately. I am lucky to have such an articulate and caring and compassionate wife.

Despite our different political points of view, we both believe that our country is the greatest in the world, and Americans will come together in this time of crisis and be stronger as a result

of it.

I know you and your readers have more important things to worry about, but I would like to clarify one thing in my wife's commentary. For the record, my Navy uniform still fits me. It's a bit snug, but I can still get it on 17 years after I enlisted.

Thank you and God Bless America.

Chris Sanford
Altamont, NY

Halloween Parade a great success

The annual Halloween Parade, which is sponsored by the local American Legion and the VFW, was held on October 31, 2001. The parade began at the Dough Boy, and went through the square to the Ambulance Building. There was a good crowd enjoying the youngsters and the not so young. The costumes were so varied it was quite evident that a lot of thought went into the choice of costume this year.

The judges, who were in front of Crouse's Store, were Pat Boyle, Town Commissioner; Lois Hartdagen, president of the American Legion Auxiliary; Judy Kempler, 1st vice president of the American Legion Auxiliary; and Dolores Henke, secretary of the Ladies Auxiliary to the VFW. It was very difficult to choose the winners because the costumes were so varied.

Although it was not possible to get

the names of the winners as they went by the judges' stand, the winners are listed by number: CUTEST, 1st prize, number 34 (Scarecrow); 2nd prize, number 5 (Miss America); 3rd prize, number 158 (Pink Lady). UGLIEST, 1st prize, number 45 (Assylum); 2nd prize, number 154 (Jason); 3rd prize, number 140 (Mr. Death). MOST ORIGINAL, 1st prize, number 30 (Deviled Egg); 2nd prize, number 16 (Statue of Liberty); 3rd prize, number 23 (Lady Bug); FUNNIEST, 1st prize, number 51 (Big Head People); 2nd prize, number 150 (Mouse); 3rd prize, number 111 (Woody and Friend). BEST FLOAT, 1st prize, number 31 (Cute Tips); 2nd prize, number 3 (Skunk); 3rd prize, number 47 (Clown and Dog). The winners were awarded monetary prizes. Following the parade, refreshments were served at the Ambulance Building.

Correction:

I believe I was misquoted in the November issue of the *Dispatch*. Referencing the article reporting on the Town Meeting....it should read 43% of the residents on Mountain View Road are new since the annexation issue was last presented (not 43% have changed their minds about annexation). Actually, approx. 95 percent of the Mt.View residents oppose annexation. Thank you, Linda Junker

Season's Greetings

from

Commissioner Hoover and Family

Jim, Diana, Amanda, Brian & Elizabeth

With the events of the past several months, thoughts of family and friends are more present in our minds.

Town News

Problems with new water treatment plant reported

A STAFF REPORT

At the November 4 town meeting, Mayor William Carr reported unexpected problems with the new water processing plant located on Crystal Springs Road west of town.

According to the Mayor, when they attempted to use the new plant there were problems with the filters. The first part of the processing sequence, the roughing filters, were not back-washing properly. "They are using twice the amount of water to backwash as they were designed to use," the mayor told the *Dispatch*. "This is an unacceptable waste of water."

The town maintenance department, the designer of the system and the builder will be working until the glitch is resolved. The mayor reported that until the problems are resolved the old plant will be used to supply water to the town. The town also has an emergency link with the wells of Mount Saint Mary's College.

The mayor told the *Dispatch* Nov. 21 that there will soon be a meeting of the Maryland Department of Environment, the major funding agent, the town, the designers; and the builders to discuss the situation. "This will be a crucial meeting that will determine the next steps to the resolution of the problem," said the Mayor.

Mayor Carr also stated that the supply line from Rainbow Lake Reservoir to the plant will be cleaned. This line has not be serviced since 1960.

Public Comments:

Steven King, president of the Emmitsburg Ambulance Company, advised the council on the company's fee for service program which was begun October 8, 2001. He said the fee for service program was implemented to off-set a proposed budget cut by the county from \$56,000 to \$6,000. The Corner Stone Collection agency will collect bills under a "soft billing pro-

gram." "Ten percent of the fees would go to the company, the other 90% of the money would be used locally for operating expenses and equipment," said King.

Frank Davis, speaking as a taxpayer and not as the town's fire chief, said he felt the direction the ambulance company was taking was bad business. He said the community had always supported the emergency services, especially the VFW and American Legion, and he thought it would be better to piggyback on the county system which will happen in July 2002.

In other business the council:

*received a report from Michelle Mills of Linton, Shafer & Company, the town's auditors. According to her report "the financial position of the town and the results of its operation for the year ended in conformity with accounting principals accepted in the United States of America." Also, that the internal controls over financial reporting were carried out in accordance with Government Auditing Standards.

*commissioners agreed to table a motion to collect sewer and trash bill on a semi-annual basis rather than on a yearly basis.

*commissioners voted 5-0 to renew an earlier agreement with Mountain Manor, located on Route 15 at South Seton Avenue, whereby the town will sell water to Mountain Manor at the out-of-town-rate in the case of an emergency.

*agreed to enter into an advisory contract with the Center for Municipal Solutions to assist in the evaluation of the design, placement, and testing of any future communication towers that might be built in the community. The company would also advise on the preparation of any future ordinances regarding such towers.

*accepted an offer by Dr. Sullivan of the Mission of Mercy to provide

(See TOWN NEWS on Page 3)

Callie's Collectibles

Make yours a special Christmas with unique gifts from Callie's. Christmas Baskets can still be ordered. See us for an outstanding collection of crafted gift items.

All of us at Callie's wish all of you a very
Happy Holiday!

24 West Main Street, Emmitsburg, MD

301 - 447 - 6700

Hance family reflects on Christmas tradition

In November of 1989, during a conversation about the true meaning of Christmas between Jim and Jo Ann Hance and Dennis and Bridget Sherald, the idea of "An Evening of Christmas Spirit" was born.

In order to create a vision of a Norman Rockwell Christmas painting set in the small town charm of Emmitsburg, they became four tireless elves. Local choirs were asked to sing, children and animals were recruited for a live nativity scene, citizens were requested to bake cookies and help staff the many events, and of course Santa Claus was invited.

Now, twelve years later, the tradition continues. An Evening of Christmas Spirit has been and still is our favorite gathering for the year. This year, join us on Monday, December 3, at 6:00 p.m. on the town square for the lighting of the community Christmas tree, then follow Santa to the Carriage House Inn for refreshments, hayrides, live entertainment, and a memory of the true meaning of Christmas.

Season's Greetings from the Hance Family.

Town News from page 2

emergency services in Emmitsburg in case of a state of emergency. The town would provide electric current or fuels for their electric generators.

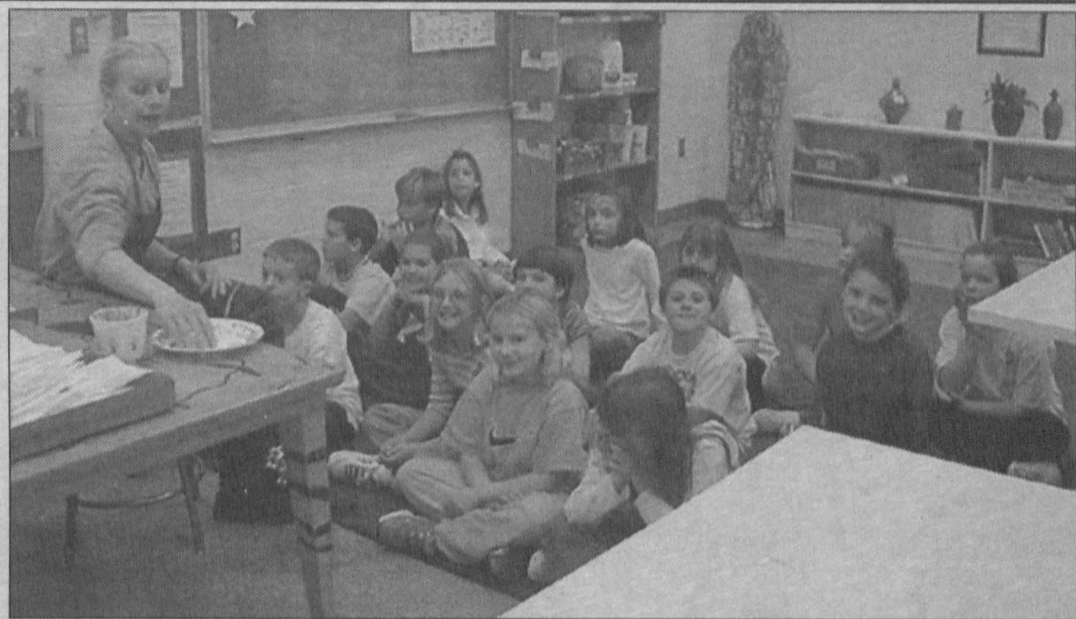
Police Report Local security tightened

Since the World Trade Center was attacked members of the Frederick

County Sheriff's office and troopers from the Maryland State Police have been working around the clock to supplement the security force at FEMA. This surveillance continued through the month of October. On several occasions, one or more of these officers have assisted or backed-up calls in Emmitsburg.

During the month of October there were thirty-eight vehicle traffic stops made by members of the Frederick

County Sheriffs Office. Twenty-five were made by the resident deputies. This does not reflect the stops made during a selective enforcement card. Eight cards were opened for selective enforcement using radar. Eight cards were opened for follow-up investigations. Forty-one cards were opened for Patrol Checks in Emmitsburg, 13 by patrol deputies and 28 by resident deputies



Thora Stith, art teacher at Emmitsburg Elementary School, prepares the children of Mrs. Hoffman's 4th grade class for their upcoming art project. Students in the 4th and 5th grade will be making ornaments for the town Christmas Tree on the square. The ornaments will be placed on the tree and on December 3rd there will be a ceremonial lighting of the tree along with a few remarks by the mayor and singing of carols. Santa will arrive from DePaul St. (forget the north pole)
An Elf photo

Housing Continued from Page 1

struction supervision, and post-occupancy support. In Frederick County, 32 families have built their homes through the program in Brunswick and Emmitsburg.

Participants in Interfaith Housing's Self-help Housing program have long recognized the success of the program in helping working families to realize the dream of home ownership. On October 23 the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) joined them by honoring the Forest Glen Self-help Homeownership Community in Taneytown with a Commitment to Excellence Award in the homeownership category.

At Forest Glen 59 families are working together to build their own and their neighbors' homes through the Self-help Housing program funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Participants in the program are working families of modest means who contribute at least 30 hours each week, in addition to their regular employment and parenting responsibilities, toward the construction of their homes and the building of their community.

Forest Glen is Interfaith Housing's largest community development project to date. The site, which was formerly a fair grounds, is a Smart Growth location within the city limits and is within walking distance to elementary and middle schools, the library, banks, and shopping center. Interfaith Housing's site plan for the 25+ acres included the creation of a green space with trees and marshy areas and a parcel of land set aside for a Head Start and child care center.

Interfaith Housing of Western Maryland is a nonprofit organization founded in 1989 by religious and lay leaders in response to the increasing need numbers of shelter for families in Western Maryland. Since beginning staffed operation in 1992, Interfaith Housing has developed 355 units of housing, has 200 units under construction, and another 400 units planned for future development. All of Interfaith Housing's projects have been developed at the request of and in cooperation with local governments, social service agencies, and the business and faith communities.

Position Available

Part-time position for project inspector. An opportunity for a retired person with a builder's background. For information call the town manager at 301-447-2313

Carriage House Inn Emmitsburg's Historic Inn c 1857



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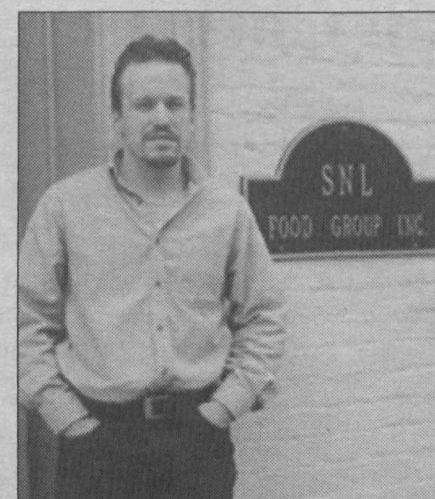
*Change is inevitable,
Except from a vending machine.*

EBPA elects new president

The new president of the Emmitsburg Business and Professional Association is Loren Peters. Mr. Peters is a partner with Steve Trout in SNL Foods, Inc. They are the owners and operators of the Emmitsburg Jubilee and the Jubilee stores in Thurmont and Taneytown.

"My hope," Peters said, "is to unify and strengthen the local business community. To do this I am encouraging every local business to join the organization. One of my first goals is to get the EBPA formally organized as an incorporated body. This is an important step in the future operation of the organization," Peters said.

Don Briggs, the past president of EBPA, said "I thoroughly enjoyed being president. I feel we are now getting the 'horse before the cart' through networking businesses, promoting conservation in the development of our community, and bringing in speakers to tell us what lies ahead for the Emmitsburg community. Over 90,000 people are expected to come to Frederick County over the next 20 years. Knowing this and planning for this will be crucial if we want to maintain our quality of life."



LOREN PETERS

The EBPA is comprised of business and professional men and women from around the region who are committed to being responsive and supportive to the needs of the Emmitsburg community. EBPA meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. at the Carriage House Inn.

To learn more about the EBPA call 301-447-3110 or visit emmitsburg.net/ebpa.

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Commentary

Charting a course: a turning point?

Days are often measured from milestones, significant events. A horrific event, the attack on America, opened our eyes and minds to "a new reality." Things are perceived differently now. We are reminded by almost everyone from government officials to news commentators and by nearly every common man in the street that things are different now.

We are called upon to rally behind our leadership and are challenged by the realization that we too, as private citizens will have to alter the way we use to do things. Our military has been reshaped to fight a new kind of war. On the home front Home-Land Security is now a reality with more stringent security measures. This new war is being fought on two fronts, military and civilian, in ways that we have not experienced in the past. We face some loss of rights and privacy as we go about our daily lives. We watch daily airings of another TV war as if it were some kind of soap-opera, almost a fantasy.

But it is all real. We must go about our way using familiar and newly learned lessons. Terrorists threats on our own homeland have changed how

we carry out our lives now and in the future.

About 131 days from now, day 211 from the turning point, in April of 2002 the community will choose new leadership—a mayor and 2 commissioners. The candidates, new and potential leaders, will be seeking office in times that are most different from the past elections. Leaders are expected to manage the day to day operations of the town and maintain its physical infrastructure. And the new leaders will be expected to chart a course for the town that extends into different levels of the community, the development of social, political and legal structures as we face the pressures of growth and development. The new leaders will be challenged to develop a new vision of the community e.g. the town's 5-year plan is due for revision. The new leaders will have to deal with money supply. The new leaders will find that more and more our community is no longer a sleepy little village. In many ways Emmitsburg is more of a frontier town located on the frontiers of Baltimore and Washington.

These challenges and changes will not be just the problems of the new leaders. They rest squarely on the shoulders of the electorate—the regis-

tered voters. It will be interesting to see if the upcoming election will be a throw-back to the times when less than 5-10% of the voters bothered to vote.

One way to look at poor electorate turn out is to recognize an overlooked truth—100% of the electorate votes: 10% cast real votes based on real community issues; 90% cast "votes of omissions," heads-in-the-sand choices to not vote that weigh heavily on our community processes.

The "new reality" and times of unity call loudly for different electorate responses to the process of choosing leadership. To this end the *Dispatch* will again sponsor a forum to be held in April for potential candidates. The electorate must realize and the candidates must realize that the importance of free election of leaders in our society is a foundational block in our way of life. The "new reality" demands that we all step up to the mark. The *Dispatch* hopes that through such an open forum future leaders and electorate will take the opportunity to consider issues, problems, and challenges that face our community. What is said and what we do is the beginning of a vision for our community; perhaps, a turning point.

'Goretti Girls' raise funds for Afghanistan children

BY RAYMOND BUCHHEISTER
Dispatch Writer

On November 3rd and 4th a group of five girls held a bake sale after all the masses at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Emmitsburg and raised \$582.50 for the Afghanistan children. Since the September 11th attacks on our Nation many individuals and groups have become active in raising funds to support organizations involved in the tragedy, particularly for the Fire Department of New York. This small group of girls known as the "Goretti Girls" also wanted to do something to help.

The girls are pre-teen and teen-age Catholic home schoolers. Their group was formed to help the girls discuss and experience life issues among their own peers. The girls also do apostolate work, such as the bake sale, and gather monthly for fun and fellowship. The name Goretti Girls comes from the group's patron saint, Maria Goretti. a

virgin martyr who was stabbed to death by a neighbor boy for refusing to commit a mortal sexual sin. The group's motto is "Purity is Power". The girls also offer a monthly prayer intention and promise to pray for this intention daily. Their intention for October was for President George Bush, particularly for his protection and wisdom.

It was during President George Bush's prime time news conference on the evening of October 11 that girls realized what they could do to help. In his final remarks Mr. Bush announced the creation of "America's Fund for Afghan Children." He said, "We are asking every child in America to earn or give a dollar that will be used to provide food and medical help for the children of Afghanistan." The president remarked that this is an opportunity to help others, while teaching our children a valuable lesson about service and character. He said, "Ultimately one of the best weapons, one of the truest weapons that we have against terrorism



From left to right, the Goretti Girls are Rebecca Corbell, Katherine Major, Deidre Lowe, Amanda Calis and Theresa Buchheit. The name comes from the group's patron saint, Maria Goretti.

is to show the world the true strength of character of the American people." His plea ended, "winter is coming, and by acting today we can help the children survive."

The following day president Bush

further detailed the fund at a March of Dimes Volunteer Leadership Conference. The initiative to assist the children is modeled on the original

(See GORETTI on Page 12)

Hearts and hands together: a tree of hope

BY MARION LEE
Dispatch Writer

The sisters and staff of St. Joseph's Provincial House, Villa St. Michael, St. Vincent Care Center and St. Catherine's Nursing Center would like to extend an invitation to everyone in Emmitsburg to join hands and hearts this holiday season and beyond, as we reach out to those who have either lost loved ones or have suffered in any way as a result of the September 11 terrorist attacks on our nation. We are erecting a special Christmas tree in front of the Provincial House on South Seton Avenue. It is a Tree of Hope which will be lit by contributions from people in our own community. For each dollar donated, a star will be placed on the

tree and it is hoped this money will help to brighten the lives of those undergoing such great sadness during this Christmas season.

Sewell Tree Farm has agreed to donate the tree, and Zurgable Brothers Hardware will donate the lighting. If you would like to participate, please mail (or bring) your contribution(s) of \$1.00 per star to Gwen Topper, St. Joseph's Provincial House, 333 S. Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, Md 21727. All checks should be made payable to Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph's Tree of Hope. Your star will be placed on the tree in memory of one of the disaster victims or you can designate your star in memory of a loved one. All names will be written in a guest book which will be kept in the Villa Chapel

and the sisters will offer prayers on their behalf.

The tree lighting will take place in a small ceremony on Friday, November 30, at 6:30 p.m. in front of the Provincial House. Everyone is invited to attend this opening celebration and to come back again and again as the tree grows in brightness with newly

added stars. The closing ceremony will be held on Friday, January 25, at 6:30 p.m. In the event of inclement weather, the service will take place in the Basilica of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

Let's join our hands and hearts together to show our love and support for all those who have so personally suffered this tragedy.

Catoctin responds to terrorist attacks

BY NANCY MILLER
Catoctin CASS Intern

The terrorist attacks on September 11, shook every citizen's sense of security. Especially affected were our children. They looked to their parents and teachers for reassurance and found that they too were frightened. No one knew what to expect next, but everyone, including the children, wanted to do something—wanted to help the rescue workers and the victims of the attacks.

In response to that desire to help, every Catoctin community school organized a fund drive, and collected monetary donations for several weeks following the attacks. Catoctin High collected money in five-gallon water jugs and cans distributed throughout the community. Thurmont Middle, Thurmont Primary, and Emmitsburg, Lewistown, and Sabillasville Elementaries set out containers in their schools. All of these donations were for the American Red Cross. Thurmont Elementary held a Spirit Week. On 3

consecutive days in October, the children donated \$1.00 each to participate in Flag Day, Red White and Blue Day, and Purple and Black Day (to honor the firefighters). Their donations will go to New York Public School #89, which was located near the World Trade Center towers, and was displaced.

The estimated total of the donations was \$2,800, most of it in loose change. How did these donations find their way to the Red Cross and to P. S. #89? The methods varied. Some schools delivered the money to the local banks to be counted and deposited, and then wrote a check to the Red Cross and to P. S. #89. Others schools arranged to have the money delivered directly to the Frederick County Red Cross Chapter House in Walkersville.

The fund drive activities helped all of the children and adults feel a sense of involvement and of being able to do "something" and provided monetary and moral support to those most affected by this disaster.

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Catoctin girls go to states



The Catoctin girls soccer team made it to the Maryland State Tournament this year. Members of the team are front row, from left, Lindsey Gladhill, Amanda Crone, Michele Bennet, Heather Beachley, Julie Aiken. Middle row, from left: Samantha Zimmerman, Ashley Long, Marisa Canella, Sara Diercks, Kaitlyn Byrne, Catherine Olsen. Back row: Coach Kathy Stinefelt, Jayme Fritz, Danielle Atkins, Morgan Williams, Jenn Eyer, Anne Gamble, Becca Shields, and Laurie Burrier.

Photo courtesy Catoctin High School

Eikers Celebrate Anniversary

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Eiker, Sr., of North Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg. The Eikers quietly celebrated their 58th wedding anniversary on Nov. 6.

BUSINESS CONSULTING Accounting/Payroll Services

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MELISSA M. HOBBS

STAFF ACCOUNTANT

Thurmont Riding Club President

BUSINESS OWNERS

The end of the year draws near. Have you paid all of your estimated payments so for this year? Do you need help in figuring out how much to pay? Give us a call, we will be more than happy to help you out. The more you pay in now, the better your situation will be later. Don't delay now and you won't have to worry about penalties and interest later.

UNITED WE STAND

Thurmont Grange recognized for first in community service

During the Maryland State Grange session held in Thurmont on October 18, 19, and 20, 2001, the Thurmont Grange No. 409 was recognized for placing first in the community service contest throughout the State of Maryland. Thurmont's winning entry was forwarded to the National Grange where it was considered in competition for a national award during the week of November 11-18, 2001. This year, the National Grange session will be held in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Members of the Grange have had a very busy year and were recognized at the State session for purchasing 60 hydrant flags for the Town of Thurmont. The flags help emergency personnel find the hydrants during the winter snow season when some hydrants can become covered with plowed snow. The Grange also sponsors and assists a needy family during the holiday season from the Seton Center in Emmitsburg. Members also participated in the Town of Thurmont's 250th anniversary celebration during 50's night in July where members sold ice cream for 25 cents a cone. Also, to celebrate the Town's 250th anniversary, members were given an opportunity to design a quilt square for a quilt which was pieced together in honor of the Town.

In addition to helping to sponsor the Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community

Show, the Grange also serves a turkey and ham dinner during that weekend. They also sell ice cream, sandwiches, drinks and baked goods during the Catoctin Colorfest and this past year collected paper products and food for the Allen Miller family of Thurmont.

The Grange conducts various educational programs for its members and guests during their meetings including the Catoctin FFA Project Pals, Farm Safety, Food Safety, Foster Parenting, etc. Members also shared memories of their trips to Alaska and their visit to the Kelley Farm in Minnesota. The Kelley Farm was named after one of the seven founders of the Grange, Oliver Hudson Kelley.

Thurmont Grange also participates in the Frederick County Pomona Grange butchering, Ag Week at the Mall, and places a display in the Farm & Garden Building at the Great Frederick Fair. During the holiday season, Grangers can be seen caroling for local shut-ins.

Also representing Thurmont Grange at the national session will be Jessica Zentz, who will be participating in the Public Speaking Contest in the Youth Division and Candy Zentz, who will be participating in the Adult Division of the Public Speaking contest. Jessica and Candy both placed first in their respective categories at the Mid-Atlantic competition.

St. Catherine's Employee of the Month

St. Catherine's Nursing Center Employee of the Month for October 2001 is Leah Linthicum. Leah has been employed at St. Catherine's since June of 2000. According to her co-workers, Leah was nominated as employee of the month because of her energy and vigor. She is very dependable and always shows respect for her supervisors and the residents.

Leah can always find something to keep her busy. She is a mover and a shaker. Staff that has worked with Leah on other shifts agrees she is never idle. Leah is very deserving of the honor of employee of the month. Congratulations, Leah!



LEAH LINTHICUM



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Emmitsburg, Md.

Library News

By Sue Cardella
Children's Librarian

Once again, the winter holidays are rapidly approaching and many are anticipating the annual Children's Holiday Tea. If you are new to Emmitsburg or the library, the tea is a long-standing tradition. This year it will be held on Saturday, December 1 at 10:30 am, and, as usual, will feature a story, old-fashioned games, and tea and cookies. We hope to see you there.

We had a wonderful children's program in November- a "make it/ take it." Approximately eight adults and children gathered to make treats for the winter songbirds. Everyone worked industriously, and we had great conversation and fun. We concluded the evening with some storybooks about animals and their eating habits.

We continue to hold our regular

programs. Family Story Time is Wednesday evenings at 7:00 and Thursday mornings at 10:30. Babies with Books is held once a month, the third Tuesday at 10:30. We also have two adult book clubs- the Afternoon Book Club, which is the second Friday at 1:00, and the Evening Book Club, which is the second Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.

Our happiest news is that we have a new librarian on our staff. So, come in soon and welcome Cheryl. We also wish all of you Happy Holidays and a peaceful New Year.

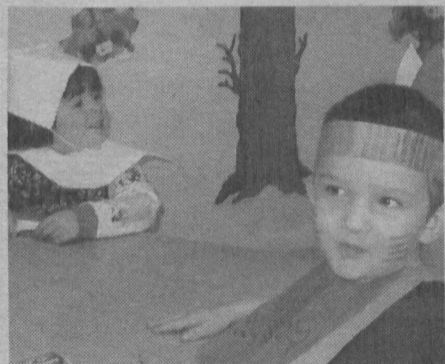
Births

Congratulations to these new parents:

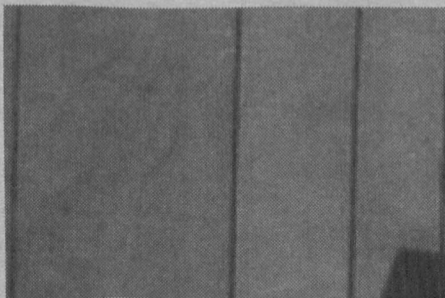
Denise and Robert Sexton, Rocky Ridge, a daughter, Oct. 15.

Child Care Center, kids parents celebrate Thanksgiving together

Emmitsburg Child Care held its 6th Annual Thanksgiving Day meal—a time of sharing among the center's staff, grandparents, parents and kids.



Oliver Payne Harrison (right) ponders his favorite of "mashed potatoes, gravy and chicken" and Alexandra Wright calls for cake. Alexandra and Oliver are members of pre-kindergarten.



This year members of the Emmitsburg Elementary School pre-kindergarten (above) supervised by Shirley Sharrer presented a recitation and led the group in the children's

grace.

Approximately one-hundred families were present to share in the meal. Many families brought dishes and desserts that made for a bountiful feast surrounded by "pilgrims and Indians".

Contributing to the meal were the center's cooks Laura Barrett (below left) and Sharon Cullison. The feast



required eight turkeys.

Organizers of the event are shown below from left Ann Marie Green, administrator, Jennie Brandt, program director and Al Opac, owner of the Center. For more information call 301-447-6100.



Songwriter releases new CD

Singer-songwriter Sandy Soffe has just released her latest album entitled *Serenity*. The album is a captivating combination of songs expressing musical reflections on the Twelve Steps used by recovery programs. The original selections were written, adapted, and sung by Sandy. Her collaboration with Doug Benson of Harvest Recording in Thurmont produced an album that captures the message of recovery and puts it to music in a way that embraces the heart and soul of the listener.



SANDY SOFFE

The title song "Serenity Prayer" is a musical adaptation of the familiar "Serenity Prayer" that is recited at Twelve Step meetings. Some of the background vocals were performed by several of Soffe's vocal students ranging in ages nine to adult and also members of the Emmitsburg Community Chorus. The music on the album may be classified as adult contemporary, but has a broad spectrum of musical flavors including Latin, jazz, blues, and country, leading up to a full classical sound in the finale, Sandy's adaptation of the Lord's Prayer set to the music of Jean Sibelius' "Finlandia. The whole album expresses the challenge, the hope, and the joy of recovery from addictions in a way that moves the listener to enter fully into the spirituality

of the Steps.

Serenity is Sandy's second album. Her first album, *Reflections of Life*, was released in 1999. Sandy gives vocal lessons at her own studio where she resides in Emmitsburg and also at Elower Sicilia Productions (ESP) in Thurmont.

This newly released album is currently available at Borders Book Stores in Hagerstown and Frederick and at the Gettysburg Holistic Health Center in Fairfield, PA. You can also order the albums on line by emailing Soffesong@aol.com.

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Hours of Operations: 5:45 a.m. To 6 p.m.

We are A United Way Agency Providing Child Care Support to Our Community.

Growth continues for local glass company

BY RAYMOND BUCHHEISTER
Dispatch Writer

Emmitsburg Glass Company continues to be a growing industry in Emmitsburg. Long time residents, who have minimum knowledge of the company, know the company as the family business started by the Reaver brothers; "They do something with glass."

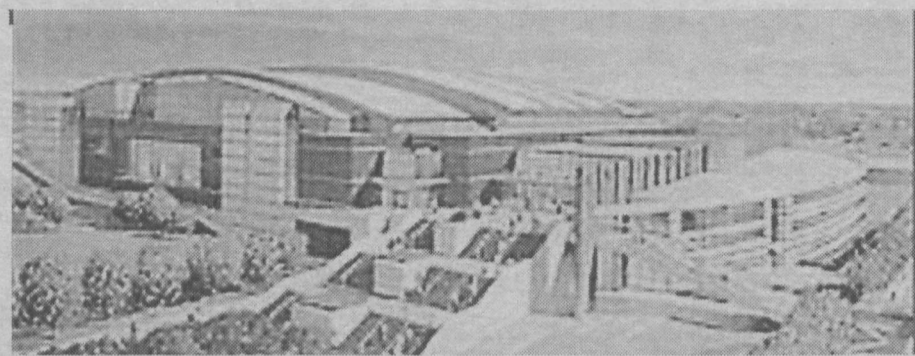
The company became visible to residents when they built their glassed walled office building and 5,000 sq. ft. shop within town limits in 1997. It was the first building in the Emmitsburg East Industrial Park located just off Route 15 on Creamery Road. On the outside the company seems to be a quiet business that runs like everything else in town. A closer look reveals a leading commercial sub-contractor that fabricates and installs window systems in the Baltimore-Washington metropolitan area.

The company was established in 1988 as Emmitsburg Panes Inc with five people. The company began to grow and at one point owners included brothers Matt, Greg, Chris, and Dan Reaver and their brother-in-law Carmel Kelly. The brothers are four of nine children belonging to Ed and Helen Reaver, long time residents of Emmitsburg. For approximately eight years, the company was located at Castle Farms on Sixes Bridge Road. Never allowing the business to come before the family, the company has

experienced controlled growth as changes have taken place. Today the company is owned by Dan and Greg Reaver. In 1998, the company became Emmitsburg Glass when they celebrated their tenth anniversary and moved into their new facility. The name change was due in part to the company being confused by general contractors as a paint company.

The company supplies and installs glass but their real work is in architectural aluminum products. Glass on commercial buildings is held to much higher standards than those of residential windows, having heavier wall thickness and having to withstand higher design loads. The aluminum framework is what enables the glass to be held in place. Some buildings entire exterior skin is made of glass. This skin known as a curtain wall is usually seen on high-rise structures. The frames have to hold glass under wind loads and other environmental and man made hazards. Other types of commercial windows include glass that fills punched openings and storefronts. Storefront is seen mostly on the first floor level of retail stores and restaurants. The window allows maximum amount of view into the store face.

This past 2000 Emmitsburg Glass Company completed their largest job to date, the Inner Harbor East - Wyndham Hotel. The 32-story hotel located in Baltimore's Inner Harbor included fab-



Artist rendering of the new University of Maryland Comcast Center where the Emmitsburg Glass Co. is currently installing 16,000 square feet of glass.

rication of window frames for and installation of 250,000 square feet of glass and aluminum panels. When General Contractor Armada/Hoffler awarded the job to Emmitsburg Glass in early 1999, it was reported that the company had approximately forty employees with the need for an additional ten. Today the company currently employs approximately eighty people of various professions and has approximately 25 projects in some phase of design, fabrication, or installation. Employees include estimators, project managers, computer-aided drafting, accounting, office personnel, fabricators, material handlers, job site foreman, glaziers, and laborers.

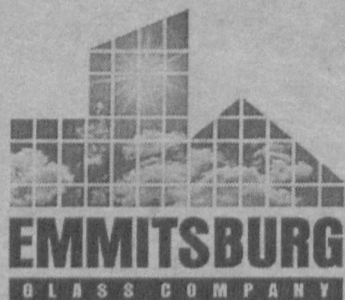
Two projects currently under going glass installation are Willow Oaks and the University of Maryland Comcast Center. Willow Oaks is a seven-floor office building and parking garage located in Fairfax, VA. The building is in its final stages of installation. It contains 1,828 window openings, also called lites, consisting of approximately 41,000 sq. ft. of glass. The Comcast Center currently under construction on the North side of campus in College

Park, MD will be a 17,000-seat indoor sports facility primarily to house the college basketball teams and other indoor sports. The arena groundbreaking took place this past July 1, and completion is expected to be in 2002. Emmitsburg Glass Company has been contracted to provide the facility with approximately 16,000 sq. ft. of glass including 1,667 exterior lites, interior glass, and approximately 122 doors.

Company president Dan Reaver and vice-president and chief of operations Greg Reaver see the company as one that's connected with the Emmitsburg community. The company is not only part of the town's tax base but also helps contribute to the local economy. The company also contributes to functions and organizations in the community. Fabrication of the aluminum frames is done right here in Emmitsburg and it's a good feeling to know that a company in our little town has contributed to the architectural appearance of major buildings in the metropolitan area.

The company, as a source of
(See Glass Company on page 11.)

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Company foreman Kevin Horan, a.k.a. "Red Dog," left, and Wayne Kauffman, company glazier, erect framework on the 7th floor of Willow Oaks high rise.



Willow Oaks, a seven-floor office building in Fairfax, Va., in the final stages of glass installation.

Community Chorus to present annual Christmas Concert



Emmitsburg Community Chorus members are, from left front row: Regina Pleno, Loren Roth - Director, Pat McEllroy - Accompanist. Middle row from left : (2 Ladies, 4 Men, 2 Ladies in the Row): Brenda Eyler, Peg Franklin, Cliff Sweeney, George Fisanich, Harry Brooks, Harold Ditzler, Edie Long, Frankie Fields. Back row from left (3 Ladies, 4 Men & 3 Ladies in This Row): Ellie Davis, Fifi Grenchik, Ann Ruppert, Ken Fields, Tom Grenchik, Fred Crum, Bill Ruppert, Judy Crum,

The Emmitsburg Community Chorus, under the direction of Loren Roth and accompanied by Pat McEllroy will present its 38th Annual Christmas Concert, "They Shall Call His Name Immanuel" on December 9, 2001 at 3:15 p.m. at the Basilica of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, St. Joseph's Provincial House, 333 South Seton Ave., Emmitsburg, Md.

The chorus was founded by Diehl Ackerman as an ecumenical church chorus known as the Community Chorus of Emmitsburg. As membership continued to grow, the name of the group was changed to the Emmitsburg Community Chorus. The Chorus under the direction of Sister Jane Marie Perrot had the privilege of singing in Rome in 1975 at the Canonization of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, the first native-born American Saint.

The Chorus presents two major

concerts each year, a Christmas Concert and a Spring Concert. They also sing at nursing homes and various events throughout the year.

Loren Roth, the director of the Chorus, is a native of Fairfield, Pa. He received his education at Mercersburg Academy, Mercersburg, Pa., and the Peabody Institute in Baltimore. He is also the director of the Fairfield Singers and is very active in music ministries of several area churches. He is the owner of a graphic design firm, Ragged Edge Design.

A free will offering will be taken at the Concert. Facilities are accessible to the physically challenged. For more information call either Loren Roth at 717-642-8500, e-mail: edizedesign@adelphia.net or Shannon Boyle at 301-447-3121, e-mail: sboyle@doc.org.

Students to perform Christmas music

Start out the Christmas season on the right note by coming to the Christmas Concert/Recital brought to you by Sandy Soffe of "Sing Your Best Vocal Productions." The concert will be held on Sunday, December 2 at 3:30 p.m. at St. Joseph's Parish Hall in Emmitsburg.

The concert is free to the public, so whether you've been naughty or nice, you are invited to this Christmas Show. The Parish Hall is located on the corner of South Seton Avenue and DePaul St. in Emmitsburg and is accessible to the physically challenged. For further information, call Sandy at (301) 447-6450.

MOUNT CHORALE WINTER CONCERT

Sunday, December 2, 2001:

The Mount Chorale, under the direction of Dr. Andrew Rosenfeld, will present a Service Of Lessons and Carols for Advent which will include music by Praetorius And Victoria, as well as other old, new, and traditional works. The concert will be held at at 3:30 p.m. at the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception. Free Admission

Kids Helping Kids

BY NANCY MILLER
CATOCTIN CASS INTERN

Sabillasville Elementary School recently conducted a food drive with donations going to the Thurmont Food Bank. The food drive was part of a statewide program, "Harvest for the Hungry, Kids Helping Kids." The goal of the program is to provide food for children and their families during the holidays and throughout the winter months. John Jurchak, Guidance Counselor at Sabillasville, reported that the student body of a little over 100, from October 22 through November 9, collected 201 items. The food was then taken to Food Resources in Hagerstown, to be counted and added to the state's totals. Volunteers will then pick up the donated items and deliver them to the Thurmont Food Bank.



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Dec. 28, 29 - Oracle

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MSM to present Founder's Day Medal to Dr. Ray Rother

Mount St. Mary's College and Seminary has announced that Dr. Ray Rother will be receiving the 2001 Founder's Medal. The Founder's Medal will be presented to Dr. Rother on Friday, December 7, during the 4:15 p.m. Mass celebrating the Feast of the Immaculate Conception in the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception.

Rother, a native of New York, came

to Frederick in 1980 at the request of the Archdiocese of Baltimore to start a Catholic Charities Program. He selected Emmitsburg as the site for which this new program would be headquartered. Through years of hard work and dedication, Rother has expanded his one-man operation to include six offices involving eighteen professionals throughout Frederick County today.

The mission of Catholic Charities is "to serve the community by providing affordable mental health counseling and developing assistance programs that contribute to the strength and dignity of individuals and families in Frederick County."

The Founder's Medal was established in 1983 to recognize a Catholic individual whose actions have signifi-

cantly affected the lives of others. Rother is the thirteenth recipient.

The community is cordially invited to attend the Mass and ceremony. For additional information regarding the Founder's Medal please contact the Mount's office of communications at 301-447-5366.

Mother Seton News: Dear President Bush...



BY VAL MENTZER

Mrs. Heiderman's 4th Graders responded to President Bush's plea to help the children of Afghanistan. The students raised \$119.68 (and counting) toward this worthy cause. Here is the letter the students sent to the president:

Dear President Bush,

We are in the fourth grade at Mother Seton School in Emmitsburg, Maryland. We are near Camp David and the National Fire Academy. We saw you on T.V. and we started collecting for the children of Afghanistan. We are very sad about what happened on September 11th and we wish somebody could bring peace into the world. We pray everyday about this. In two weeks we collected \$119.68 for the Afghanistan children's fund. Please visit us in room 100.

God bless America
Mrs. Heiderman's 4th grade class.

(See Mother Seton on page 12)

10th Annual Lamplight & Holly Schedule of Events

December 1-25, 2001

**Parking- Town of Emmitsburg
December 11, 2001 – January 2, 2002**
Any money in the meters will be donated to the "After School Educational Youth Program."

December 1st

Christmas Bazaar: Beef, Turkey & Ham Supper 10 a.m. on , Elias Lutheran Church, North Avenue, 301-447-6239

Open House, 10 a.m.- 6 p.m.

Callie's Collectables

24 W. Main Street

301-447-6700

Children's Holiday Tea

Old Fashioned Games & Stories

10:30 a.m. Emmitsburg Library

Community Center

301-447-2682

December 2nd

Open House, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Callie's Collectibles

24 W. Main Street

301-447-6700

"Festival of Lessons & Carols For Advent" Mount St. Mary's Chorale

3:30 p.m. Chapel of the Immaculate Conception, Mount St. Mary's College
301-447-5366

Christmas Concert / Recital 3:30 p.m.

Sing Your Best Vocal Productions & Sandy Soffe

St. Joseph's Parish Hall DePaul Street

Christmas Tree Lighting, 4:30 p.m.

Mount St. Mary's College

Quad beside the Chapel

301-447-5366

December 3rd

An Evening of Christmas Spirit

6:00 p.m. Tree Lighting on the Square & Caroling with the UCC Choir. 6:30 p.m. Santa arrives. 7 p.m.- 9 p.m.- Live Nativity, hay rides, food & entertainment at the Carriage House Inn. Canned goods & donations accepted by Town of Emmitsburg

301-447-2313 Carriage House Inn
200 S. Seton Ave.
301-447-2366

December 3rd through 24th
UpCounty Family Center, 10:15 a.m. Monday through Thursday parent/child snack & activity for families with children under age four.

Please call for more details
303 W. Lincoln Avenue

301-447-2810

December 7th and 8th

Country Christmas Fare

Arts & Crafts, Soups & Sandwiches

Friday 12 noon – 7 p.m.

Saturday 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Sodality of St. Joseph

St. Joseph's Parish Hall

N. Seton Avenue

301-447-2326

December 9th

"World in Harmony"

(The Peace & Love of Christmas)

3:15 p.m. Emmitsburg Community

Chorus 38th Annual Christmas Concert

Basilica of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

St. Joseph's Provincial House

S. Seton Avenue (Free will offering)

201-447-3121

December 13th

EBPA Business Meeting & Christmas

Luncheon 11:30 a.m.

Reservations needed by 12/10

President George Houston's Home

Old Emmitsburg Road

December 13th – December 24th

Fatima Christmas Celebration,

10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

St. Philomena Catholic Books & Gifts

200 W. Main Street #4

301-447-2882

December 15

Lions Club Annual Children's

Christmas Party, 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Crafts by the Girl Scouts, 11 a.m. – 12

noon – Entertainment by Maggie the

Clown 12 – 12:30 p.m. Refreshments

12:30 – 2:00 p.m. Visit with Santa (photo

and candy treat) Emmitsburg Fire Hall

W. Main Street

December 17

The Emmitsburg Historical Society Open

House Christmas Party will be held at 7:00

p.m. in the Community Room at the

Emmitsburg Library.

December 21st

Open House 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Farmers & Mechanics Bank

Refreshments Center Square

301-447-6134

December 22nd

Holiday Give Away 12:00 Noon

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Healthy Families

Counseling the 'Bravest' in NYC

BY BILL DERBYSHIRE
Catoctin CASS Coordinator

I was honored to be invited to go to New York City to volunteer counseling services to the Fire Fighters of New York City (FDNY). Four professional therapists from Frederick County and I were sponsored by the Fallen Fire Fighters Association to spend five days in the FDNY Counseling Services Unit located in Manhattan. My specific duty was to provide counseling services to Fire Fighters who were on medical leave or "light duty" due to medical or psychiatric problems. I also was given the task of calling fifteen families who had lost a father or son or spouse during the collapse of the World Trade Center towers. Several of us were also invited to attend a memorial service for three families whose Fire Fighter father, son,

spouse or brother was not found in the rescue attempt. This service was comprised of a boat ride leaving Brooklyn Naval Yard, docking, and walking onto a platform at ground zero, where family members participated in their own form of prayer and grief.

This experience (not to mention living in Manhattan for five days), has impacted me like no other experience in my life. First and foremost, I learned that Fire Fighters (EMS workers included) are an extremely loyal, committed and fearless group of men and women who knowingly put their lives at risk in attempting every rescue possible. I admire this commitment and loyalty and I thank all Fire Fighters and EMS workers for their commitment to the profession of fire fighting and rescue.

Secondly, I left New York with a profound sense of sadness for the family members of deceased Fire Fighters and for those Fire Fighters grieving the loss of their "Brothers." I spoke with at least 50 Fire Fighters and every one

was at the WTC either before or after the collapse of the buildings and every Fire Fighter I spoke with expressed a profound sense of guilt and helplessness for not completing their job—to rescue or retrieve every person in the fire. This guilt is magnified by the fact that they could not rescue or retrieve their "Brothers."

Finally, the strength of parents, siblings and spouses of the deceased Fire Fighters overwhelmed me. Their strength was demonstrated by their endurance to continue their daily lives, to support their children through their grief and by their extreme belief that they must continue the Fire Fighters belief that assisting others, even during your own pain, remains paramount.

Yes, it is important to take care of yourself, but not in the absence of reaching out to others.

I hope this brief account of my experience in New York helps you, the reader, to take time out to seriously appreciate the loving relationships you have now. I also hope that you recognize and appreciate the necessity to reach out and help others even when you are not at your best and perhaps that the one time you do assist another will be the time you are at your best. Fire Fighters commit themselves to assisting you and me during times of critical life threatening situations and I hope you now have a better appreciation for that.

CASS seminars set to assist with job search

Beginning January 2002, CASS will be offering seminars to assist you with your job search needs. The seminars will be held at the Emmitsburg CASS office in the Community Center.

January 8, 5 p.m. - Networking - Learn how to make the most of your job search by communicating effectively and using informational interviews as job search strategies.

January 15, 5 p.m. - Resumes - Learn step-by-step procedures, tips and techniques that capture your valuable assets

that will win interviews and aim toward your new career.

January 22, 5 p.m. - Successful Interviewing - This essential seminar includes preparation, interviewing styles, answers for common interview questions and ideas for follow-up.

January 29, 5 p.m. - Mock Interviewing - An opportunity to meet with all interviewing specialists in a practice interview and receive feedback.

Seminars are free but seating is limited. Please call to register 301-447-3611.

Glass Company from page 8

employment for the community, is always in need of new help. They continuously look for people, particularly in the construction trade, who want to learn the glass business. The company's reputation depends on having good glaziers and laborers. The company continues to be hopeful that the

recent downturn in the economy will be short lived and anticipates having another solid year in 2002.

Out of every crisis come the chance to be reborn.

-NENA O' NIELL



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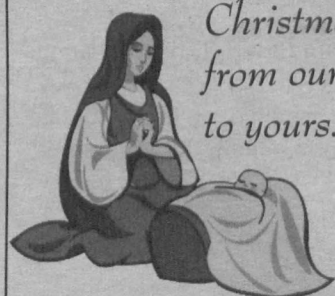
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The Perfect Gift

BY PASTOR WADE MARTIN
Trinity UMC

This is the time of year when stress levels increase, schedules become filled with concerts and parties, and many people spend a great deal of their day running around preparing for a holiday they don't plan to really celebrate, the birth of Jesus. Some do, but by and large many are thinking about the perfect gift to buy and where Christmas dinner will be, not about the significance of the birth of Jesus.

Throughout the centuries, God has tried to show us that he loves and cares for us. God tries to speak to us in various ways, to reach us through various means. Now God comes to us as the Son, born in a stable, in a little town called Bethlehem. And through this birth God gives us a special gift, the gift of his only son Jesus.

This is a gift we did not ask for; it is freely given, and even today, 2000 years later, we struggle with not knowing how to receive it. Yet here is the perfect gift, the only gift that can truly satisfy the soul. When we accept this perfect gift

with a believing heart, God grants us satisfaction, righteousness, and the holiness of Christ. To all who accept the gift of Jesus, God gives these words of promise:

"To all who receive him, to those who believe in his name, he gives the right to become the children of God. " John 1:12

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. " John 3:16

As you make your plans for the holiday season I encourage you to include the birth of Jesus as the high point of your celebration. I encourage you to attend a church near you this Christmas season and to openly receive the perfect gift God so much wants you to have.

Trinity United Methodist Church holds Sunday worship services at 9:00 a.m. and will be celebrating the birth of Jesus at 9:00 p.m. on December 24th with a candlelight service. All are welcome! May God bless you this joyous Christmas season!

Goretti

(Continued from Page 5)

1938 March of Dimes campaign from the Roosevelt Administration in which Franklin Roosevelt appealed to American children to each donate a dime to help eradicate polio. The original grassroots effort, supported by the President of the United States, was so successful it not only raised necessary funds to defeat polio but also generated significant interest among American youth at helping others in need.

President Bush said, "I'm asking every child in America to give not a dime, but a dollar." He said a dollar today was roughly what a dime was in the 1930's. He said, "Schools and youth organizations can organize events to raise money for this cause. And they can, at the same time, demonstrate compassion and mercy in this hour of need."

After conversing among themselves the girls decided a bake sale was a way they could raise money.

They approached their pastor, Fr. James Kiernan, C.M. with the idea. Taking his recommendation they got together and made a flier, which appeared in the church bulletin the week before the bake sale.

In the days leading up to the sale they recruited bakers, made posters, and baked items themselves. Baked goods included brownies, cookies, cakes, breads, muffins, and pies. The bake sale was a success and the amount of money raised was even a surprise to the girls.

The girls are currently attempting to request a personal appearance with President Bush through the scheduling office of the White House to hand deliver their donation.

The Goretti Girls are Theresa Buchheit age 11, Amanda Calis age 11, Rebecca Corbell age 11, Deidre Lowe age 12, and Katherine Major age 15.

Mother Seton from page 10

A Tisket A Tasket - A Foundation Basket?

Basket of rocks, that is! Each of the MSS students decorated a rock they brought in from their home to be placed in a part of MSS history! After the foundation for the new expansion was dug, a ceremonial "rock tossing" took place at MSS! Students tossed their

decorated rocks into the foundation of the new expansion. Completion of the new expansion is slated for June of 2002.

Photo on right: MSS School Secretary Mrs. Terry Smith shown holding the basket of rocks for the children to toss them into history!



One should take children's philosophy to heart. They do not despise a bubble because it bursts. They immediately set to work to blow another one.

—KEYNOTE

Emmitsburg Area Churches

Incarnation United Church of Christ

Founded in 1758 as a German Reformed Congregation. In the 1860's the church moved into town. The current brick building was rebuilt after a fire in 1950. The current congregation is now UCC.

124 West Main St.
Sunday service: 10 a.m.
Interim Pastor Rev. Ted Haas
301-447-2270

Saint Joseph's Roman Catholic Church

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

100 N. Seton Avenue
Weekly services: Monday - 7:30 p.m. (with the Miraculous Medal

Novena); Tuesday through Saturday - 8:30 a.m.; Saturday Evening - 4:30 p.m.; Sundays- 8:00, 10:15, 12:00 noon.

Pastor: Reverend James O. Kiernan, C.M.

301-447-2326

St. Anthony Shrine

St. Anthony's roots intertwine with the old St. Mary's on the Hill and date back to the 1700s. Our present church, St. Anthony Shrine, opened its doors on October 26, 1897.

16150 St. Anthony's Road
Mass schedule: Saturday, 4:00 p.m., Sunday, 7:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.

Pastor: Reverend James W. Hannon

Trinity United Methodist Church

Trinity United Methodist Church was founded in 1833. The present sanctuary was built in 1807. Trinity has been a religious presence in Emmitsburg for 168 years.

313 West Main St.

Services 9:00 a.m. Sunday School, 10 a.m.

Pastor: Reverend Wade A. Martin

Emmitsburg Presbyterian Church

Emmitsburg Presbyterian Church has been a part of the Emmitsburg Community since before the American Revolution. The original meeting house stood about a mile north of Emmitsburg along the Gettysburg Rd. The grave of Samuel Emmitt, founder of Emmitsburg, is located in the old cemetery.

415 West Main St.

Service 11:00 a.m.

Pastor: Reverend R. Benjamin

Jones

Tom's Creek United Methodist Church

10926 Simmons Road
Sunday Services at 8:15 and 10:30
Pastor: Rev. Bill Warehime

301-447-2693

Elias Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

100 West North Avenue

Sunday Services: Service of the Word, 8 a.m.; Sunday School, 9 a.m. Worship Service (Holy Communion) 10:30 a.m.

Interim Pastor: David S. Knodel

301-447-6239

Area churches are invited to include their information in this column.)

Family businesses shaped local communities

BY MICHAEL HILLMAN
Dispatch Writer

I've often wondered about the odd division of the building that now houses the offices of Reckley's Plumbing and Dr. Curley. When most buildings are split, its usually done equally, in half, but not in this case. Reckley's Plumbing occupies the western-most two-thirds, with Dr. Curley occupying the remainder - a long narrow sliver, as if it once housed something that needed a lot or room.

To understand why the building was divided the way it was requires one to go back 110 years and follow through time the adventures of Francis Scott Key Matthews, one of Emmitsburg's most successful entrepreneurs.

Born on September 25, 1888, Francis Matthews was the youngest child of John and Laura Ambrose Matthews. In many ways, Francis' life was a reflection of his father's, from whom he learned the importance and dignity of hard work.

John Matthews was the son of the minister of the Church of the Brethren in Eyer's Valley. John learned many trades to get by, even so, he struggled to provide a suitable level of living for his bride and their six children. To augment

his studied Veterinary Science through the mail, a profession in which he would later achieve considerable success.

Around 1912, John sold his farm just outside of Emmitsburg and moved his family to a 30-acre farm within the northern borders of Emmitsburg. Once within the town limits, it wasn't long before John was active in town politics eventually serving two terms as Mayor.

Francis watched his father closely. He was a diligent student, and like many of his day, he received his elementary education in a one-room schoolhouse. Upon graduation, he attended Emmitsburg High School where he graduated near the top of his class.

In 1911, his older brother John began casting about for money which he hoped to use to open up a general store in Emmitsburg. Potential lenders however, were a bit weary of lending to John, whose reputation wasn't exactly stellar. With Francis' good name on the note however, Matthews' Store was soon on West Main Street.

The brothers quickly went to work installing shelves for dry goods and cigarettes, and equipment for cooking. They hit the jackpot with their fresh fried oyster sandwiches. Every week

Francis would travel to Baltimore for oysters. Upon return, the oysters were breaded and fried and sold to eager customers at 10 cents a sandwich.

While the oyster business was profitable, it was too much work for John, who soon exited the business. He died of cancer early in life. Soon after, Francis signed on as a local distributor with the Hershey Company. Purchasing a truck, he became a regular figure as he delivered their chocolate to homes and stores. Francis soon added his own home-made soda and ice cream to his offerings.

Francis would spend a better part of the winter cutting ice from the then pristine Tom's Creek for his ice cream. As for his soda business, Francis made every bottle one at a time. Filling them with a wide variety of flavorings - sarsaparilla, root beer, cherry, or vanilla. Once numerous in numbers, today, bottles bearing his name are a collector's item.

The throngs of customers who descended for fresh ice cream throughout the long hot summer led to the first major additions to the store: a soda and ice cream bar and a one-lane bowling alley.

Polly Baumgardner Shank fondly remembers: "The soda fountain was in

the middle of the store, up against the back wall. Sodas cost five cents, an ice cream Sunday was another nickel - and it was the biggest scoop in town. For another nickel, you could ride the merry-go-round in the corner for what seemed like forever. The store also had a 5-cent player-piano. We used to sit and marvel as we watched the keys move up and down without anyone touching them.

Mrs Shank continues: "Candy was in big glass jars on the shelves. But my favorite was the 'tub' candy. Back in those days there was no air conditioning in stores, so candy would often melt in the heat.

Anything that melted was placed into a 'tub' on the floor, and at a penny a handful, it was always the first place us kids would go to. You could go into the store with 25 cents in your pocket, eat and play your fill, and still leave with a nickel in your pocket. Those were the days."

Francis' one-lane bowling alley, which was located in the side of the building that now houses the offices of Dr. Curley, didn't have the marvels of today's modern bowling alleys. Pins were set by hand and the ball was

(See MATTHEWS on Page 14)

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Matthews

(Continued from Page 13)

returned to the thrower by the pin setter.

The bowling alley and player-piano were great draws, but they never produced much profit. The introduction of a radio in the store in the early 1920's, marked a turning point for Francis. It wasn't long before the sound of the merry-go-round and player piano where replaced by scratchy voices from the radio. With a businessman's eye he realized that eventually everyone would want a radio of their own.

In 1925 Francis went into the radio distribution business. Since rural electrification was still years away, most of his inventory consisted of battery radios — not the small little batteries of today, but big, six and twelve-volt, car type batteries. When drained of power, you simply disconnected it from the radio and replaced it with another. Drained batteries were placed in cars and trucks, and recharged during the short drive into town.

In 1917 Francis married Jessie Rouzer and moved into the apartment above the store. Jessie loved to sit on the porch that overhung the entrance to the store. Rumor had it that, thanks to her perch, she knew all of the comings and goings on the street below her. Like his father before him, once in town, it wasn't long before Francis was involved in town politics.

In 1923 Francis was elected to the board of commissioners. Rising in prominence, he was reelected over and over again, and in 1928, was elected to the presidency of a town council, that included among its ranks, the Honorable Thornton Rodgers.

In 1923 Jessie gave birth to a daughter, Mary Jean. That summer, on a visit to her grandmother, Jessie had a photo of Mary Jean taken alongside the infant son of her long-time friend and neighbor. No one could know that nineteen years later the two infants would stand before an altar and exchange wedding vows.

With the radio business booming,

the future looked bright for Francis and Jessie, but little did they know that far away events would cause their world to come crashing down around them.

The great depression hit Emmitsburg hard. In 1932 the local bank failed, taking with it all of the savings Francis had accumulated over the past twenty years. With creditors knocking at his door and clients unable to pay their bills, things got tough. A man of his word, Francis persevered. He made good on all his debts. As time progressed, Francis even managed to provide an income for his expanding fleet of drivers. In 1939 Francis added one more item to his inventory - propane - and, like his other offerings, it proved highly profitable.

Francis' daughter, Mary Jean grew much too quickly for her sentimental parents. During her years at Emmitsburg High School, Mary paid frequent visits to her aging grandparents in neighboring Thurmont. On that same day, her companion in the baby photo, Earl Rice, was also visiting his grandparents in the home next door. Out of the corner of his eye, Earl caught a glimpse of her blond hair. Over the ensuing summer, he strained to catch her eye and, eventually, her heart.

War II, like the great depression before it, brought many changes to the Matthews' family. Earl, like many youths of his age, joined in the great campaign for freedom. Before shipping out, he proposed to Mary and she accepted. Unable to wait for his return she received her parents' permission to join him on the west coast. Francis escorted his daughter west in the style befitting a successful businessman, bribing baggage handlers and inn keepers with a suitcase full of then precious cigarettes. Mary and Earl's honeymoon was far too short. With the war heating up to its climax, Earl, a bombardier, was soon in the thick of it over the skies of Japan.

With the war over, having forgone

luxury goods for four years, Americans were starved for appliances and furniture. Once again the store was expanded to handle Francis' new line. In 1947, he added the latest technological marvel - television - to his offerings. The once profitable soda business, now pressed hard by Coke, was abandoned in 1948, as were the ice cream and candy businesses.

While early televisions held great promise, they were notoriously unreliable. Unable to return them to their manufacturers, Francis' television business was soon hemorrhaging money. In 1951, faced with impending bankruptcy, he leased out his store to the Zurgable Brothers and rented a local room where he continued to run his struggling propane distribution business.

Once again, fortune smiled on Francis. Earl, himself casting about for something to dig his teeth into, saw opportunity in the propane business. Under Earl's stewardship, Francis' Happy Gas Cooking business quickly expanded and soon the pair oversaw the operation of a fleet of modern trucks delivering gas to thousands of homes in northern Frederick county and southern Adams county. The pair also opened an

appliance store in Thurmont to help insure the demand for their bottled gas.

When the Zurgable brothers' five year lease ran out in 1956, Francis once again resumed selling appliances there. 1975 was a fateful year for Francis. Francis and Earl accepted an offer for their gas business from Penn Fuel. Earl accepted an offer to run Penn Fuel's local distribution.

In 1978, Francis closed his store in Emmitsburg and concentrated his efforts on his Thurmont store. Jessie, Francis' companion and love of 47 years, passed away in 1964.

Like many successful businessmen, Francis thought it important to give back to his community. In addition to serving as a town commissioner, Francis also found time to serve as a board member of the Methodist Church, as well as actively participate in the Lions Club, the Tyrian Lodge, and the Vigilant Hose Company.

Francis Matthews died on Christmas Eve, 1980, leaving the world a much richer place than when he entered it, 92 years earlier.

To learn more about Emmitsburg's Rich History, visit the great Emmitsburg Historical Society section of Emmitsburg.net, or better yet, join

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
\$79,900 Brice Road, Thurmont
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Volunteer Opportunity in Emmitsburg

The Frederick County Department of Aging is seeking volunteers to deliver meals to homebound individuals on a weekly or substitute basis in the Emmitsburg area.

Volunteers need transportation, a valid driver's license, an hour at midday, and a friendly smile. Training is provided.

For more information contact Mindy Lohman-Hinz at 301-631-3524 or mlohman@fredco-md.net.

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The (Retired) Ecologist's Corner

A time for ... any purpose?

BY BILL MEREDITH
Dispatch Writer

*To every Thing there is a Season,
and a Time for every Purpose under
the Heavens... Ecclesiastes*

The 20th of the month is the deadline for submitting articles to the *Dispatch*, and I waited as long as I could in hopes that something worth writing about would happen, but nothing did. November is like that... an orphan among the seasons, a time when the leaves are practically all gone, so it isn't really fall, but it's not really cold enough to be winter either. It's a nondescript month. Even the name, November, is simply a number; it came from the Latin word, novum, which referred to its position as the ninth month in the Roman calendar.

Ecologically, this is always a quiet time, and this year the drought has made it more so. The last time it rained enough to register on my rain gauge was October 15, and there hadn't been much rain for several weeks before that. The summer birds left earlier than usual this year, because of the dryness, I suppose. The winter birds arrived on schedule in October, but they haven't started congregating around feeders as much as usual; most of them are hanging out around the creek instead of in town. Local ponds are low or completely dry, and migratory waterfowl are sticking close to the coastline; aside from the resident mallards and Canada geese, I've seen only one duck (a bufflehead) and a few snow geese in this area. Audubon Society sources on the internet are saying this will be a good year for northern birds; according to them, boreal chickadees, evening grosbeaks, crossbills and redpolls are headed our way. But they seem determined not to reach Emmitsburg until November is past.

Most plants have hunkered down for the winter. The only exceptions I've noticed are a few dandelions who apparently got their photoperiods mixed up and thought the shortness of the days meant it was March, and started blooming. This always happens, though; my college botany professor actually believed the fall dandelions were a different species from the spring ones, but that was in the days before we knew how plants tell time. Life was simpler then.

In my childhood memories,

November was a much more exciting time. Early in the month was leaf-burning time. Everyone raked the remains of the gardens and all the leaves in the yard into piles and set them on fire, and they smoldered for days; the whole countryside reeked of leaf smoke. That isn't done any more, and it's a shame; that smell was a common experience that everyone shared, a lost bit of our culture. I understand the reasons we now have for banning fires, but I sometimes think it would be a good idea for the town to collect a few truckloads of leaves, pile them in the middle of the ballfield, and burn them. Fire trucks could be on hand to make sure everything stayed under control. School could be canceled one afternoon for the occasion, and buses could bring the kids in to stand around and smell the smoke. It would expose them to part of their cultural heritage, and it would be as educational as a lot of the field trips they take.

The end of the month was also exciting, because butchering day always was around Thanksgiving time. We always had two or three hogs to butcher, and family tradition decreed that by the time Thanksgiving came, it was cold enough to hang the meat up for curing. Those were the days before deep freezers were available, and also before global warming; it seems to me that winters were colder then. We would get up at 4:00 in the morning and build a huge bonfire to heat the water that the hogs were to be dipped in so the hair could be scraped off the carcasses. Some of our more well-to-do neighbors had steel oil drums for that purpose, and they could be filled with water and set directly in the fire; but we had only a wooden barrel, so obviously we couldn't heat the water that way. We had to put rocks in the fire until they were as hot as possible, and then drop them into the barrel. It seemed to take forever to get the water hot enough. Lifting the hogs into the barrel was a job for at least two men, so neighbors typically got together to do their butchering; it was a social occasion, and it took all day to get two or three hogs hung and cut up. Then the next few days were spent rendering lard and grinding sausage.

Ah, yes, the good old days. I don't think I ever got colder, or more tired, or smelled worse... but wouldn't it be nice to do it again just once? I wonder how many permits I would have to get to build a fire in the back yard and kill a pig when the grandchildren are all here for Thanksgiving...? On second thought, maybe I'll just tell them about it.

Obituaries

Mr. Charles Miller

Mr. Charles W. "Buster" Miller, 72, of Old Gettysburg Road, Emmitsburg, died Friday, Nov. 9, at his home.

He was the husband of Betty Lee Eyler Miller, who died on June 25, 1995.

Born Jan. 2, 1929, in Emmitsburg, he was a son of the late Charles and Ethel Hess Miller.

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

Mr. Miller retired from Beck Manufacturing Co., Greencastle, Pa., after 10 years of service.

Surviving are 13 children, Charles W Miller Jr. of Fairfield, Pa., Wilma Cool, Pat Rinehart, Hattie Shindledecker, Ellen Dietz, Linday Herr and Rose Green, all of Thurmont, Ruth Fitzgerald of Fayetteville, Jerry Miller of Union Bridge, Larry Miller, Shirley Sharrah and Betty Lee Monath, all of Emmitsburg, and Robert Miller of Hagerstown; 34 grandchildren; a number of great-grandchildren; and four brothers and sisters, Alice Eyler and Lynn Miller, both of Emmitsburg, Linda Miller of New York, and Donald Miller of Mount Pleasant.

He was preceded in death by one son, Wayne Miller.

Funeral services were held on Nov. 12 at Skiles Funeral Home, 210 W Main St., Emmitsburg. His pastor, the Rev. Stephen P Trzeciecki, officiated.

Interment was in Emmitsburg Memorial Cemetery.

Mrs. Helen Miller

Mrs. Helen Catherine Ridenour Miller, 86, of DePaul Street, Emmitsburg, died Tuesday, Nov. 6, at Green Acres, Gettysburg, Pa.

She was the wife of Howard James Miller, who died Dec. 1, 1985.

Born July 12, 1915, in Frederick County, she was a daughter of the late Thomas and Lulu Eyler Ridenour.

She was a member of Wellers United Methodist Church, Thurmont.

She was a member of Emmitsburg Senior Citizens.

She is survived by four sons, Albert William Miller and wife Judy of Plant City, Fla., Robert Lee Miller and wife Carol of Taupe, Fla., Edward James Miller Sr. and wife Mary of Thurmont, and Thomas John Miller and wife Pam of Fairfield, Pa.; 19 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; two brothers, Cliff Ridenour and wife Donnelle of Plant City, Fla., and Leon Ridenour and wife Betty of Thurmont; two nieces, Vanessa Kritz and husband Leo, and Betty Wastler and husband Jim and their

daughter, Katie; and one nephew, Clarence Ohler and wife Bonnie.

She was preceded in death by one son, Charles Miller; two brothers, Theodore Ridenour and Junie Ridenour; and one sister, Hilda Ohler.

Funeral services were held on Nov. 10 at Wellers United Methodist Church, Thurmont, with her pastor, the Rev. Ruthann Miller, officiating.

Interment was in Wellers Church Cemetery.

Mrs. Judith Beale

Mrs. Judith Garland Wood Beale, 61, of Park Drive, Emmitsburg, died Tuesday, Nov. 6, at her residence.

Born May 5, 1940, in Baltimore, she was a daughter of Alice Topper Wood of Gettysburg, Pa., and the late William Garland Wood.

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

She was employed for 21 years as a deputy of disbursement with the Department of Army at Fort Ritchie until she retired. She later worked at the

(See obituaries s on page 16)

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A word about pre-arrangements and pre-financing



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Rocky Ridge News

By EMMA KEENEY
Dispatch Writer

Happy birthday to Carl Setherley, Erin Eiker, Betty Ann Moser, Jo Ann Wetzell, and Donald Lee Brown.

"Looking Ahead" in Mt. Tabor Churches:

Sat., Dec. 1 - 10 a.m., Advent Bible Study and Devotion

Sat., Dec. 2 - 9:30 a.m. Workshop, 10:30 Sunday School. (Don't forget to bring gloves and mittens for the tree.) Noon - Lunch in the activity building. Bring a covered dish. 1 p.m. -UCC congregational business meeting.

Sat., Dec. 8 - 7:00 p.m., Sunday School Christmas Party in activity building. Bring a snack.

Sun., Dec. 9 - Lutheran congregational meeting. 9:30 Worship service, 10:30 Sunday School. Sun., Dec. 16 - Youth group candlelight service. Sun., Dec. 16 - 9:30 a.m. UCC Christmas service, 10:30 Sunday School. Mon., Dec. 24 - 7:30 p.m. Sunday School Christmas Eve program

Obituaries from page 15
Maryland Visitors' Center on U.S. 15 near Emmitsburg.

In addition to her mother, she is survived by one daughter, Catherine Alice Adams and husband Dale of Emmitsburg; one son, Douglas Stephen Beale and wife Eileen of Topsham, Maine; three grandsons, Jonathan Adams and Michael Adams, both of Emmitsburg, and Joseph Beale of Topsham; two sisters, Nancy Kramer of Wilmington, Del., and Mary Burns of

Church of the Brethren
PATSY FREE

Up-coming events:

Dec., 2 Christmas social, 5:00 p.m., each family bring a covered dish. Dec. 9 - Candlelight Service 7:00 p.m.; Dec. 16 - Children's Program, 7:00 p.m.

December Birthdays: Donn Ritchie, 12/2; Kathy Peters (Simpson) 12/6; Heather Crone, 12/8; Wilbert Smith, 12/12; John Wantz, 12/13; Jean Knipple, 12/23; Mary Portner, 12/31; Ralph Rice, 12/31.

December anniversaries: Ralph and Naomi Rice 12/25; and Ronnie and Alice Eyster, 12/6.

Deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Nomie Baker who was buried Friday.

Bingo - "The game you love to play" will be held each Saturday night at the Rocky Ridge Fire Co. Activity building. Come enjoy the games and the delicious food prepared by the fireman and the auxiliary.

Sykesville; and a number of nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Nov. 9 at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Emmitsburg, with her pastor, the Rev. James O. Kiernan, as the celebrant.

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

Memorial contributions may be made to American Cancer Society, Frederick County Unit, 1393 Progress Way, Suite 908, Eldersburg, Md. 21784.

Pennies, Pennies, Pennies Mt. Tabor pennies add up

By ROSIE STAMBAUGH

Pennies, pennies, pennies. When we think of pennies, we think they can't buy much, but the high school Sunday school class at Mt. Tabor UCC & Lutheran churches, has proven otherwise. At the beginning of this year after a sermon by then interim pastor Ted Haas, they got an idea to place a can in the church, to collect pennies or spare change.

They have realized an amount of \$120.00 (that's a lot of pennies!), which were wrapped and exchanged

for bills. They sent \$60.00 to the relief fund, and the other \$60.00 was used to purchase socks, gloves, hats & scarves for the mitten tree which is placed in the church the first Sunday in Advent. Those items are then taken to Apples UCC Church in Thurmont to be distributed.

We wish to thank everyone for their support and generosity. We are already collecting pennies for next year, so if you have any pennies the can will be in the church. May God richly bless you all this holiday season.



Pictured from left to right are members of the Mt. Tabor high school Sunday School class: Kathleen Ballew, Janice Gillispie, James Stambaugh, Brittany Miller, Sarah Eckerode. Not shown are Cody Wolfe, Lee Smith, and teacher Rosie Stambaugh
Photo by Rosie Stambaugh

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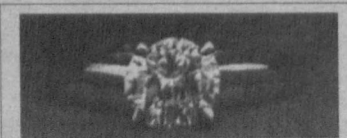
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Anthony Shrine/OLMC News

BY ANN MARSHALL
Dispatch Writer

Christmas Eve Masses will be celebrated at each parish at 5 p.m. There will also be a 10 p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve at St. Anthony Shrine. On Christmas Day there will be only one Mass which will be at 9:30 a.m. at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church.

The Annual Christmas Pageant

and **Pot Luck Supper** will take place on Sunday, December 16, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., OLMC Parish Center. All are invited. (Dress Rehearsal for the pageant will be held on December 14, 7:00-8:30 p.m., at the Parish Center at OLMC.)

Yvette Leith, Coordinator of Religious Education, has resigned. In recognition of her years of outstanding service to our parishes, she will be hon-

ored at the Parish Christmas Party on Sunday, December 16th. Cards of appreciation and good wishes may be offered at the party or mailed to her at: 29 MARY STREET, CUMBERLAND, MD 21502.

New Years Eve will be celebrated by a Mass at OLMC at 7:00 p.m. There will be a further celebration consisting of a Prayer Service followed by brunch at OLMC starting at 11 p.m. on December 31.

Confessions (the Sacrament of Reconciliation) will be heard on Saturdays from 2:30- 3:30 p.m., December 15, 29 at Saint Anthony Shrine, December 8, 22 at Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

Note that there is not a Pastoral Council meeting in December.

The Three-in-One Catholic Youth Group is sponsoring a food drive for the local food banks in Emmitsburg and Thurmont. Needed are non-perishable food items that can be used in preparing a holiday meal. Please place donations in the food boxes in each parish hall.

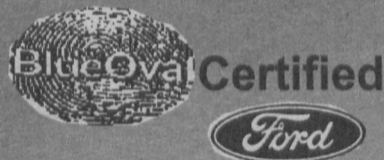
Altar Flowers on November 18 were donated in loving memory of Jim and Eileen Otto by Mary Anne Fry.

The Second Town Meeting to discuss the current and future needs of the combined parishes was held on September 25, with about 50 people attending. Carroll McCourt summarized the work of the Feasibility Committee over the past several years. He noted that the expense of any projects undertaken will have to be met by the parishes. There are about 400 families registered in each church. It was decided to choose several possible projects and conduct a survey to get reactions from more parishioners.

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If I were absolutely certain about all things I would be fearful of losing my way. But since everything and anything are always possible, the miraculous is always nearby and wonders shall never, ever cease.

—ROBERT FULGHUM

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Stultz Fitness Training celebrates three years

By LINDA STULTZ
Certified Fitness Trainer

I recently celebrated 3 years of helping people improve their health and energy level. So many of my clients tell me how their lives have changed and I would like to share some of their stories with you. It may be just what you need to hear to get you motivated and started on your way to a healthier future.

The first and most repeated benefit of exercise and weight training is energy, energy, energy. Almost every one of my clients expressed an increase in their energy level. Even though most started the exercise and nutrition program to lose weight, they soon realized the other benefits that come with it. One of my ladies who, by the way, says she hates to exercise, has been with me for almost three years. The change she sees the most is that she does not jiggle anymore. She is so pleased she can wear a pair of slacks and does not feel self-conscious about how she looks. Several of my clients tell me they feel firmer and their clothes fit better now. Another client went on a field trip to the zoo and was able to walk all day without having trouble with her legs.

Two people are very pleased they can now get up from a chair without leaning on the table for help. They can also walk up the stairs much easier and are able to get out of their cars without a problem. Sometimes they do things and realize a minute later what they did and how easy it is now. That is a wonderful feeling when you realize that you improved your quality of life. These are things people take for granted until they can't do them any longer.

A man came to improve his overall condition. He is a pilot and must be alert and in top condition at all times. Weight training has not only helped

him drop a few pounds, but has sharpened his awareness and his reactions when faced with a split second decision. Your mind must be able to receive, process and react to instructions in record time while at the controls of an airplane. Weight training and exercise keeps his mind, as well as



Linda Stultz, right, guides client, Sue, as she builds stronger hamstrings. Photo courtesy Linda Stultz

body, in good condition and he has the satisfaction of knowing he is doing something to keep himself in the best health possible.

HDL (good cholesterol) is another positive benefit of exercise. Two of my clients were so pleased when their doctors told them their HDL had improved greatly. The doctors knew they were doing something different because exercise was the only way to improve HDL. High Blood Pressure, High Cholesterol, Arthritis and Diabetes have also improved for some of my

clients with exercise. Many doctors tell people to get more exercise, but sometimes don't tell them how, that's where a trainer can guide you to better health. I have clients that come to improve everything from horseback riding, volleyball and hunting to just being able to keep up with their kids. Everyday activities and sports can be improved with exercise and weight training.

Many people who have had a stroke or heart attack are told by their doctor or rehab facility to continue to exercise. Sometimes they don't feel comfortable exercising on their own. I have some clients who have been through complete cardio rehab and realized the benefit of it. They want to continue to exercise because they know how much better their checkups are and how much better their quality of life is. A regular exercise program, guided by a

trainer or on your own, is a health benefit that is priceless.

Clients come to me all the time with stories of success, pride, improved self esteem and overall health. I could write pages of stories, but I would like you to hear your story. If you don't have one, call me and let's get started on an exercise and health success story for you. I have been helping people for three years now. I have an established program and will be there to help you every step of the way. I offer private, personal, one on one training and guid-

ance. So many people just need a little help to get started. If I can be that first step, please call me. My most important goal is to help you improve your health.

When you have good health, the rest of your life follows. Take that first step. You will be so glad you did. Please write me, in care of the Dispatch, if you have any questions or call 717-334-6009. I really want to help you get started on a healthier life.

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Pet Show

The Thurmont and Emmitsburg Community Show Pet Show was held on Saturday, September 8, at Catocin High School. Judges Nancy and Alex Phillips and Lorraine Gosnell selected Maxine Troxell's dog as Champion and Samantha Geisingers' cat as Reserve Champion of this event. Maxine received a gift certificate to the Thurmont Cooperative, Inc. who also provided animal food for those participating.

Forty-eight persons entered pets. Owners of winners in each class are listed first, second, and third respectively:

Class 1-Cat With Prettiest Eyes-Samantha Geisinger, Bev Nunemaker, Jenny Gosnell

Class:2-Cat With Longest Whiskers-Samantha Geisinger, Bev Nunemaker, Jenny Gosnell, Amanda Wright

Class 3-Cutest Cat-Sarah Weddle, Warren Zentz, Jessica Zentz

Class 4-Best Trained Pet-Jeremy

Bailey, Janelle Little, Brandi Weddle
Class 5-Dog With Wiggliest Tail-Jessica Zentz, Katelyn Bailey, Taylor and Jenny Viets

Class 6 Prettiest Dog-25 pounds and under-Tyler Cuffe, Karyln Head, Joshua Head

Class 7-Prettiest Dog-26 pounds and over-Maxine Troxell, Chelsea Minnich, Kendra Keeney

Class 8-Best Costumed Pet-The Greco Girls, Alisha Schaffer, Maggieand Garrett Buckmeir

Class 9-Pet With Most Spots-Tanya Clopper, Christine Viets, CollinAbarca

Class 10-Pet With Most Unusual Name-Sara Lowe, Bryan Ligsay, Arthur Ledford

Class 11 - Pet with Most Appropriate Name - Samantha Geisinger, Katelyn Bailey, and Brittney Wright

Class 12- Most Unusual Pet - Krista Allen, Kendra Kenney, and Tanya Clopper.



Winners in the Thurmont and Emmitsburg Community show recently held at Catocin High School are pictured in the front row, from left, Catocin FFA Ambassador Brooke Hoffman; Maxine Troxell with Trixie, grand champion pet; and Samantha Geisinger with her cat the reserve grand champion pet. In the back row are Jerry Lillich, manager of Thurmont Cooperative, Inc., and judges Nancy

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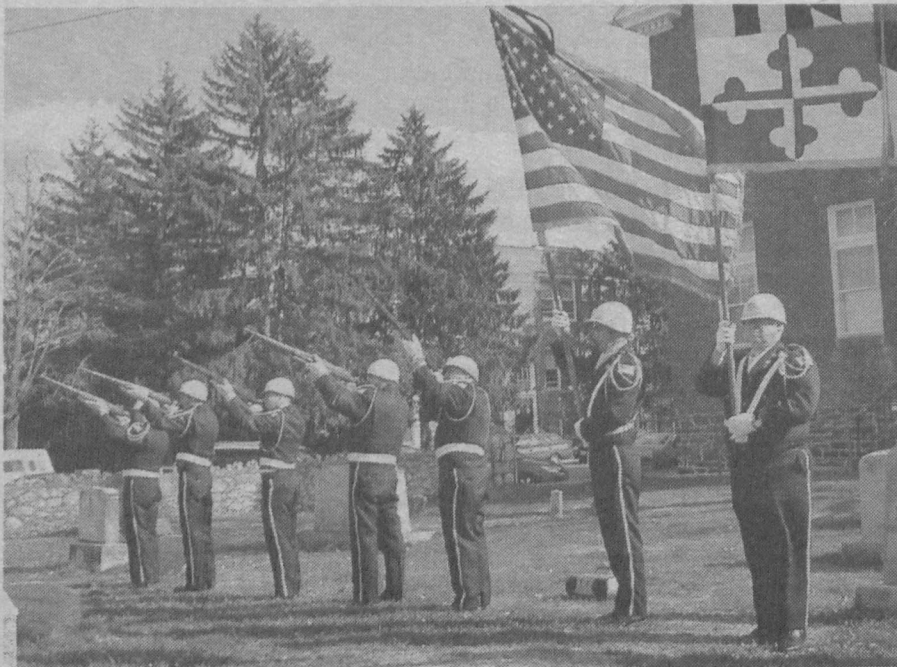
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Honoring vets on Armistice Day



A color guard remembered all veterans "on the 11th hour, of the 11th day, of the 11th month" by firing a salute at the grave of Francis X. Elder in the St. Joseph's Church Cemetery. The color guard included members of the American Legion Post 121 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6658.



The color guard fired a salute on Nov. 11, to veterans in the Elias Lutheran Church Cemetery. Members of the church gathered following the service to participate in the remembrance of the veterans.



Students at Catoctin High School gathered at an early morning flag raising ceremony Nov. 12. The ceremonies were part of a special history project designed to develop a better understanding of veterans and what they have contributed.

Letters to War Veterans by Catoctin High School Students

Glenn Blanchard, a history teacher at Catoctin High School, gave his students in his American Studies 2 class an interesting assignment this November. The students were asked to write letters to veterans to help them establish an appreciation for their service to our country.

The students were also invited to attend an early morning flag-raising ceremony held at the school on November 12. Below are several letters submitted to the *Dispatch* for publication.

Dear Veteran,

I am a student at Catoctin High school in Thurmont, Maryland. As of right now I am taking American Studies 2, which is the study of American History from the Civil war to the present. I am currently in the eleventh grade.

I have given some thought to entering the Marines so I will be able to serve my country. I will be thinking of you on Veterans Day and everyone that served this country.

I enjoy things like baseball and snow boarding. I have lived in Thurmont for most of my life but before I came here I lived in Frederick. I am 16 and am in the process of getting my driver's license, I really can't wait!

I want to thank you for everything that you have done for this great nation. Your service to your country will never be forgotten. No matter what you did you helped this country become what it is today. We all are proud of your bravery and courage. I hope this letter finds you in good health and spirit. Once again thank you for everything you have done for the United States of America. Thank you,

Bryan

Dear War Veteran,

It's around this time of the year that everyone sits down and thinks about the veterans who fought for our country. All of you have given so much to protect us all. All of you have given so much to protect our country, and one day of gratitude would not do justice to what you have done.

I do not know you on a personal basis, but I feel that I am probably writing to a very brave man or woman. Right now, thinking of what you have done, I feel very proud to be an American.

A class assignment has given us an idea to write to a war veteran. Despite I am writing this letter, I feel I'm not doing as much as I should, and I wish I

could visit you personally. I'm a 16 year old junior at Catoctin High School in Thurmont, MD. Like almost everyone else my age, I'm just itching to get out of school. I don't know what my future plans are yet; all I know is I plan to attend college. I play softball for my high school team, and though we're a small school, we're actually pretty good, and have gone to our state tournament six years in a row.

I have no information on you at all, and I'm rather curious. What is it like to serve our country? My idea of being in the army seems like so much hard work and dedication, which means you must be a very strong hearted individual. Was it your goal to go into the field you worked when you were in high school? I don't think the army would be right for me, but I hear there are many scholarships that go along with it.

Well, I just wanted to honor and you and thank you this Veteran's Day, and don't forget that we all appreciate what you have done for our country. Don't be afraid to write back if you have the time. Sincerely yours,

Jenny

To my American hero,

My name is Erin. I am a sixteen-year-old junior in highschool. I would like to take this time to thank you for all your hard work and dedication for our great United States. As a result of generations of heroic men like you, we have a monumental country to live in. Not only have you and other veterans preformed a great duty for our country, you all have inspired the youth of the country to stand up for what we believe. As an example, on September 11, 2001, our country endured a terrifying experience which was thought to tear our country apart, but in fact it bound us closer together. We would have not been able to feel so secure as soon as we did if our government and military were not as strong and as powerful as they are.

I would just like to thank you, a true American hero, from the bottom of my heart for all you did in the military service for your country and fellow American citizens. I wish you a delightful Veterans Day.

Sincerely with gratitude,
Erin.

"What is the heaviest burden?" asked the child? To have nothing to carry," answered the old man.

—UNKNOWN

American Legion Auxiliary news

BY LOIS HARTDAGEN
Auxiliary President

The November meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary Post #121 was held at the Post Home.

President Lois Hartdagen presided. The minutes of the October meeting were given by the secretary Penny Adams and approved. Inna Adams, Treasurer, gave her report which was accepted subject to audit.

The Chaplain, Patty Troxell, was absent but the President reported that Past Commander George Danner had recently passed away. The Auxiliary sent flowers and two Announced mass cards. The Auxiliary sent sympathy and mass card to Linda Bevins on the death of her husband, Tommie.

The Membership Chairman, Lois Hartdagen, reported we have 100 sent into Department with 14 to be sent in.

A thank you note from Linda Bevins was read.

The Auxiliary in conjunction with the Post would be going to St. Catherine's on November 9th to honor any Veterans there. Fruit baskets and citations were given to each of them.

The Annual Newsletter to Auxiliary members would be assembled on November 12th and be put in

the mail on Tuesday. Enclosed in the newsletter are chances on a 50/50 drawing to be drawn on December 11th, at their Annual Christmas Party at the Post.

The annual Halloween parade was discussed. As usual it was a huge success and thanks to everyone who helped in any way.

A 50/50 drawing was held recently for the benefit of Attack on America. \$400.00 was realized and it was given to the Vigilant Hose Company to be incorporated with their very successful collection for two families in New York.

Several raffles would be taking place at the Post during the next several weeks including meat trays, turkey dinners, baskets, etc.

A Western Maryland District meeting would be held on Post #11 in Frederick on November 25th. Mary Goetz, Anna Adams, Melva Hardman, Patty Troxell and Lois Hartdagen would be attending.

Peggy Wagerman's name was called for the door prize of \$31.00 but she was not present.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m. Refreshments were served prior to the meeting.

will prepare and serve refreshments for the men of the Post following their meeting on December 5. A discussion was then held on the Annual Christmas party for the veterans at the VA Medical Center in Martinsburg on December 9. Each veteran will receive a fruit basket, socks, and toiletries. Refreshments will then be served. Proceeds of the bingo will be used for this project. The Post will also make a donation for this affair and for the gifts to the residents of St. Catherine's Nursing Home.

The MAC - VET Program for needy veterans in Baltimore is again requesting clothing, especially coats. These items may be deposited at the VFW Post. A donation was taken up at the meeting for VFW-PAC (Political Action Committee). The annual Christmas party of the Auxiliary was discussed, and it was decided to hold this affair at The Carriage House on the regular meeting night, December 6 at 6:30. As in the past, instead of exchanging gifts among the members, each one is requested to bring a gift to be donated to the Pregnancy Center. Reservations for the dinner may be made by contacting any of the officers. The next meeting will be held on January 3rd.

VFW Auxiliary News

BY DOLORES HENKE
SECRETARY

The regular monthly meeting of the Ladies Auxiliary to Emmitsburg VFW Memorial Post 6658 was held at the Post Home recently with President Mary Topper presiding. Following the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, other correspondence, and the Treasurer's Report, the president gave a report on the bingo held on November 9. She thanked the members who helped with this affair by working that night, donating prizes, finger foods, and those who attended. It was a very successful affair.

In other business, it was approved by the members to purchase pins to sell; the proceeds of which will go to Cancer Aid and Research. The Auxiliary will also participate in the National Youth Essay Contest sponsored by the VFW and Ladies Auxiliaries. Mother Seton School has been contacted regarding the details of this essay contest in which students of the 7th and 8th grades are eligible to participate. The theme of this contest is, "Is Freedom Really Free?" The deadline is December 1.

Volunteers Mary Topper, Rita Byard, Evelyn Ott, and Bea Umbel

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From the Desk of Dr. Bonita J. Portier, D.O.

Anthrax—

There is no way to write about anthrax and make it sound like a friendly disease. Anything that is used in germ warfare is dead serious. Still, we must roll out of bed each morning and do the good we can for that day, with ALL the troubles of the world shoved into the white noise of everyday life. Otherwise, courage would be hard to come by. It is a goal of mine to join all the other folks in the world doing good and add a little to all that goodness. I have an image in my head of each act and attitude of joy, kindness and understanding is as a candle in the night. With all the candles lit, it is not so hard to find one's way in the dark. With all of your lit candles, I feel very found.

In a rural setting, anthrax, as one of my clients put it, is a "barnyard disease." Sheep get it, cows get it, goats get it. Anthrax is a germ that lives in the soil when conditions are right. Grazing animals pull anthrax into their bodies on the food they eat, or inhale anthrax as they graze. Most of the time, there are not enough anthrax spores in the soil to do any harm to the animals. Once in the body, anthrax multiplies and exudes toxins that destroy the body tissue in its neighborhood. This tissue could be skin, lung, stomach or brain. Each of these invasions has its own way of presenting itself. Because of these special features, it seems there are four anthrax diseases and not just one.

In the soil *Bacillus Anthracis*, (the name of the germ), lives as a spore, just another piece of dust. Often, that is all there is. But in a soil too alkaline, pH greater than 6.0 *B. Anthracis* will multiply and become dense enough to cause disease. This is made worse if there is a wet early spring followed by a long enough dry time to allow the germ to be spread about by the winds and then another wet spell for more germination. Given this cycle, acid rain seems like a good thing. Areas prone to this cycle in the United States include Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Colorado. Turkey, Iran, Pakistan and Sudan are the overseas areas troubled with this disease. The kind of anthrax that we are really worried about today is manufactured and genetically engineered anthrax that is high dose and lethal right from point of first contact.

In what now seems the "way old days," people who got anthrax were those who worked with animals—farmers and veterinarians—or who worked with animal products such as wool, bone meal, and fertilizers. There were even cases of human anthrax

infections traced to shaving brushes, saddle blankets and bongo drums.

Ninety-five percent of these infections were skin anthrax. In fact the name anthrax comes from the skin lesions looking and feeling like anthracite coal, the hard black coal we used to use for fuel. Once the skin lymph system is infected by anthrax, it takes a few days to notice a raised bump with pus in it. This bump gets other little raised bumps around it, like a ring. The area becomes swollen and tender from the toxins put out by the bacteria. The wound grows larger. If left untreated, the wound continues to grow. The area becomes more tender and a black scab forms, like the coal. With no treatment at all, eighty percent of those infected with skin anthrax recover. With antibiotic treatment death from skin anthrax is rare. Skin or cutaneous anthrax can be treated with penicillin or doxycycline, for those allergic to penicillin. If the bacteria is resistant to penicillin, then doxycycline will work or other antibiotics such as Cipro or Clindamycin, erythromycin, and Vancomycin can be used with good effect.

Inhaled anthrax, anthrax involving lung tissue lymph system, is much more serious. In the body anthrax becomes boxcar-shaped bacteria. Because the anthrax bacteria invade and multiply in the lymph system of the lung, as do viruses, it feels just like a very bad virus. This is why some may think it is the flu. Influenza A and B are viral infections of the lung lymph system. All the aches and pains we feel with "the flu" are a result of all the swelling lymph tissue putting out alarm signals to the rest of our body. This recruits aid from other cells and tissues, raises the body temperature to create a hostile environment to bacteria that might want to take advantage of our compromised state, and getting us to rest, so the processes of healing can be begun.

Inhaled anthrax infection is scary. Even 100 spores or fewer can cause serious disease in those with susceptible immune systems. Because the toxin produced by the bacteria creates so much swelling and accumulation of fluid in the lungs, the lungs' main function of supplying oxygen to our body tissues becomes very difficult. About half of those with inhaled anthrax get meningitis from the anthrax. Early antibiotics are important and may not be enough. Those with known exposures to anthrax are given prolonged courses of antibiotics to keep the num-

ber of bacteria down. This, in turn, keeps the amount of toxin in the body to a minimum. As we have already seen and heard in the news, it is very difficult to recover from anthrax when the toxin titer is high. However, with today's antibiotics and support systems, a higher percentage have survived than in the past. This is a modest but hopeful improvement.

The kind of anthrax that is ingested by eating food products contaminated with anthrax has been reported in developing countries. Usually this meant someone ate the meat of an infected animal. Abdominal pain, bleeding and fluid in the abdomen result from the toxin produced by the anthrax reproducing itself in the abdominal lymph system. Unless we were very aware of contaminated food sources, this form of anthrax would not be suspected until the disease was advanced in the body.

For all forms of anthrax the antibiotics are the same. Treating the area of the body affected requires supportive care. This includes breathing support, as well as help keeping the kidneys functioning and a way to provide food to the body. It remains very hard to protect the body from a high dose of destructive toxin.

There are some clues that help diagnose anthrax, including the pattern on the chest x-ray. Nasal swabs can look for the boxcar-shaped bacteria that stain blue. But these are suggestive,

but not definitive. This is why it takes longer to be sure it is anthrax and not some other bacteria. Cultures and chemical ID's are needed. Mayo Clinic has developed a DNA anthrax screening test that will give a much quicker definitive answer regarding anthrax infections. This test is not yet widely available, but will be soon.

Getting a "flu shot" does not protect anyone from getting inhaled anthrax. However, if one is immunized, protected from the "flu" virus, then the chance of experiencing those symptoms that would create a concern for anthrax would be greatly reduced. The usual head cold symptoms are not related to anthrax.

Preventive measures include frequent hand washing, using antibacterial gels when soap and water are not available. Handwipes or babywipes can be kept in the car for those who travel. Used towels can be sealed in zip lock bags. Follow all the rules in your workplace and use the gloves and masks provided if you are in a location that is at risk for anthrax contamination. What if there is a white powder that you feel could be anthrax? Do not touch or inhale the product. Get away from the product. Report the product. Call 911 or, if you are in Frederick county, call 1-301-694-2165.

He's making a list
and checking it twice.. .



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Looking Ahead

Monday, December 3

An Evening of Christmas Spirit beginning with a tree lighting ceremony on the square at 6 p.m. and activities at the Carriage House Inn from 7 to 9 p.m.

Thursday, December 13

Emmitsburg Business and Professional Association's (EBPA) holiday luncheon will be held at the home of George Houston, the president of Mount Saint Mary's College, at 11:30 a.m. Please call Don Briggs (301-447-3110) by December 10 to make reservations.

Saturday, December 15

The Lions Club Annual Children's Christmas Party will be held at the Emmitsburg Fire Hall. 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.- Christmas Crafts by the Girl Scouts; 11:00 - 12:00 noon - Entertainment by "Maggie the Clown"; 12:30 p.m.- 2:00 p.m. - Meet Santa (photo & candy).

Sunday, December 16

Tom's Creek Church Live Nativity with animals will be held from 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. two miles east of Emmitsburg on Route 140. Refreshments will be served. For more information call 301-447-2693.

Sunday, December 16

Taneytown Rod & Gun Club's Good Old Country Breakfast will be held at

12380 Shoemaker Road from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Santa will be visiting the breakfast. Menu consists of pancakes, buck wheat cakes, sausage, eggs, toast, sausage gravy, chipped beef gravy, puddin and hominy, fried potatoes, hot apples, hot cheese, fruit cocktail, orange juice, coffee, and tea. Adults \$5; Youth (8 to 12) \$3.50. If the snow emergency plan is in affect, the breakfast will be cancelled. For more information call Godfrey or Florence at 410-751-1685.

Monday, December 17

The Emmitsburg Historical Society Open House Christmas Party will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room at the Emmitsburg Library. Come hear about the new Emmitsburg history book. Refreshments (cookies, cakes) will be served and there will be story telling. Everyone is invited.

Saturday, December 22

Santa will be at Seton Center Thrift Shop, 16840 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg from 10:00 a.m. till ?. Pictures will be taken. For more information call 301-447-6102.

For more December events see **Lamplight and Holly Schedule** on page 10.



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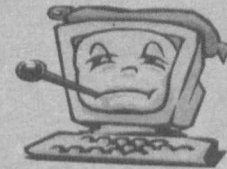
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For Sale: Older mahogany double bed, chest of drawers and mirror, \$300 (cash only) or best offer. 301-447-2517.

For Sale: Woodstove, Dutchwest Federal Convection stove from Vermont Castings, w/blower, great condition, \$600 O.B.O.; Karate Kid Kick, \$30; Karate Sparring gear also for sale; small indoor trampoline, \$5; Childs 30-80lb car seat. Like new, \$25. Call 301-447-3311

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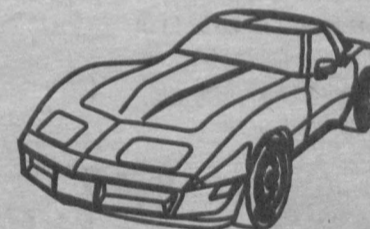
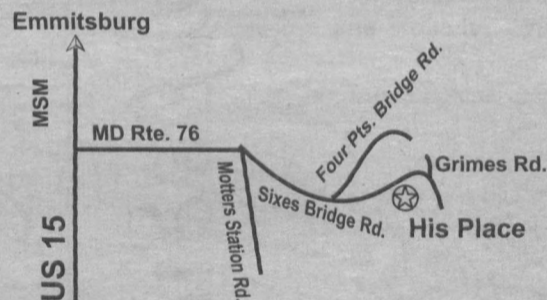


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MONDAY - FRIDAY 8:00 A.M. - 5 P.M.

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