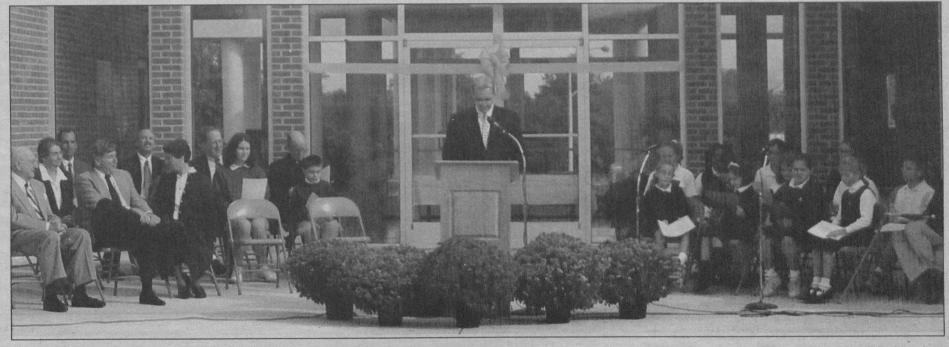
The Emmitsburg Dispatch

Vol IX, No.11

news and opinion in the service of truth

November 2002



Dan Hallinan, soon to be chairman of the board of Mother Seton School, expressed his gratitude to contributors behind the new addition to the school. It contains a science lab, a multi-purpose room for art, music, and Spanish lessons, 2 rooms for kindergarten, a room for pre-schoolers, and new administration offices. Hallinan, who chaired the Expansion Committee, spoke at the dedication of the addition Oct. 20 to more than 300 benefactors, students, staff and friends. Bishop Francis Malooly offered the blessing, alumni Dan and Greg Reaver cut the ribbon, and William and Raymond Page planted a dogwood tree. Among the speakers were Principal, Sr. Mary Catherine, and Student Council President Cortney Krauss of the 8th grade. The Mt. St. Mary's chorus sang "All You Works Of God."

Citizens petition for referendum on Silver Fancy annexation

By Raymond Buchheister

Publisher

Two members of the Citizens Organization to Preserve Emmitsburg, or COPE, formally petitioned Mayor Jim Hoover on Oct 18 to hold a referendum on the Silver Fancy Farm annexation. The Town passed a resolution on August 29 to incorporate 67 acres into Emmitsburg as requested by Buckeye Development.

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The company intends to develop the property, which is on N. Seton Ave., for up to 130 houses.

Former Emmitsburg commissioner Dottie Davis, and Harold Craig, a 36-year resident and former federal attorney, presented the petition. It was signed by 354 voters, more than enough to satisfy State Law. Maryland requires that petitions for referendums be supported by signatures of 20 percent of registered voters. Mayor Hoover said he intends to verify the petition publicly at the Town office at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 6. If he determines that 20 percent of the town's registered voters (230) validly signed the petition, and that it is in correct form, he is obliged to hold a referendum.

Emmitsburg citizens organized COPE to work for a referendum. They say they oppose this annexation and any further development until all approved housing projects have been completed, and their impact on traffic, schools and the environment is fully understood. There are 4 housing projects in Emmitsburg where 236 new houses are being built.

If the petition is verified, the mayor will issue a proclamation that the resolution is suspended pending the outcome of the referendum. Mayor Hoover says the option to vote for or against the annexation would be placed on the ballot in the town's next general election in April.

Publisher's comment. In the last election only 358 of Emmitsburg's 1,100 registered voters cast ballots, 4 more than those who signed the petition. This raises the question: Are those who turn out to vote directly for candidates mostly the same as those who want to vote directly on issues? Are the ones who actually vote the only ones who really care about the town?

Another question: The voters at the last election (and referendum petitioners) number fewer than 33 percent of the current 1,150 Emmitsburgians registered to vote. Is Emmitsburg relying on only one-third of its registered voters – fewer than 17 percent of its citizens to participate in its government? That means 83 out of every 100 Emmitsburgians are doing nothing important about their own governance. Some are under age or otherwise cannot vote. What about the rest?

Food bank to move

By Susan Allen Staff writer

The Emmitsburg Food Bank has received the green light to make an anticipated move to the Catoctin Pregnancy Center's building on E. Main St. The community group will also take steps to become independent of the Religious Coalition for Emergency Human Needs, its parent organization.

This action will enable the Food Bank to make its own decision and directly manage the donations made to it. It will maintain affiliation with the Coalition and share information, with other community food banks in Frederick County.

The Catoctin Pregnancy Center has a 14-year lease on its building. The Food Bank will sublet a portion of the property. The building, which formerly housed a gun shop and a feed-and-seed store, requires considerable renovation. The Pregnancy Center has already accomplished a lot of interior work for its activities.

The Food Bank's staff has an out-

-Continued on page 3

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Emmitsburg Dispatch encourages its readers to express their thoughts and opinions about issues that appear in this publication or affect the community. Letters must be exclusive to the Dispatch and should be no longer than 300 words in length. They must be signed and include the writer's address and phone number to be used for verification. The Dispatch reserves the right to edit for content and space. Deadline for letters is the 15th of each month.

Will anyone sponsor bingo?

It has been a long time since the bingo fans enjoyed the game on Friday nights in Emmitsburg. We truly miss the Friday night bingo that was held at Mother Seton School. Not everyone can do Monday nights at the Ambulance Company. Is there any organization in Emmitsburg that could start up Friday bingo? It would keep the money in Emmitsburg and

not out of town and make a lot of people happy. Winter is just around the corner and it would be nice to go to bingo just around the corner. Thank you.

— Lois Sears Emmitsburg, MD Editor's note: Please respond to this letter with mail to The Emmitsburg Dispatch so that we may publish it for all.



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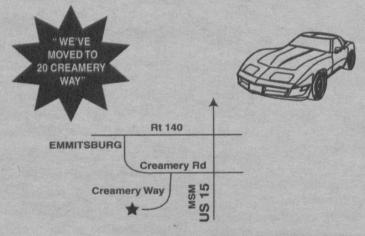




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His Place, Inc. and the Kuhn family are proud to endorse the EMMITSBURG ENDOWMENT FUND and encourages community participation in this fund which provides scholarships and local youth activities. Emmitsburg Endowment is operated by the Community Foundation of Frederick County, Inc. For more information call Billy Kuhn at 301-447-2800

MONDAY - FRIDAY 8:00 A.M. - 5 P.M. 20 CREAMERY WAY, EMMITSBURG, MARYLAND

Annexation would bring 68 percent rise in population

Are Mayor Hoover and Town Commissioners Brennan and Sweeney falling down on the job? Residents have repeatedly voiced concerns about water supplies. But Mayor Hoover, citing town water statistics has said, "Emmitsburg's water is not dangerously low." (Dispatch, Sep. 2002)

But statistics can lie and Town officials would do better to admit there is a water problem and address it creatively. Have the Mayor and Commissioners Brennan and Sweeney offered any alternative solutions? Not so far. Why haven't they researched municipal bonds, which are an excellent source of funding? The Mayor has simply said he would rather not issue them. (Dispatch, Oct. 2002)

About further development Mayor Hoover said, "I don't believe 130 more homes will make Emmitsburg a big town." (Dispatch, Oct. 2002) He failed to mention that 245 new homes have already been approved for construction. He and Commissioners Brennan and Sweeney would have us believe that 245 new homes will have no appreciable impact on a small town like Emmitsburg. This defies common sense and logic.

There will be 980 more people (4 people per new home), a 45 percent increase in Emmitsburg's population of 2,200. There will be 490 more cars (2 cars per home) making 2,450 trips per day through Emmitsburg. Local schools will add 490 students (2 children per home).

If the Silver Fancy annexation goes through and 130 additional homes are built, the total will be 375 new homes. This will increase Emmitsburg's population by a staggering 1,500 people _ a 68 percent increase — with 750 more cars making 3,750 trips per day through Emmitsburg, and 750 more students in local schools. I find it impossible to imagine Emmitsburg remaining a charming, small town after such massive development.

Let's hope that Mayor Hoover and Commissioners Brennan and Sweeney promote discussion, conduct research, and seek innovative solutions. In the end registered Emmitsburg voters can vote directly against development in the upcoming annexation referendum.

> —Lisa Elder Member, Citizens Organized to Preserve Emmitsburg (COPE)

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Emmitsburg Child Care Center

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Proud to be a member of United Way



Food Bank

—Continued from page 1

line of a building plan. They hope to receive support from the community in the form of donated supplies, and pledges of funds and volunteer manpower, before work can begin. The Emmitsburg Council of Churches has already pledged a \$1,000 credit line to support the renovation.

The Food Bank, one of a number of faith-based social service operations in the Emmitsburg area, was established in 1983 as a satellite of the Frederick Food Bank. The steering committee (now the Board of Directors) was an interdenominational group from its inception, and included representatives from the Seton Center, Catholic Charities, and the area churches. Mr. Ray Rother of Catholic Charities has been a continuous member of this leadership group.

The original mission was to provide short-term supplies of donated food to local individuals and families in emergencies like natural disasters, accidents, job loss, illness, and family dissolution. Distribution of government surplus foods was handled separately, and those items were not stocked by the Food Bank. Today the Food Bank distributes foods from both sources, although separate documents are used in record-keeping.

Almost immediately, "emergency needs" expanded to include citizens with chronically low income. Some of Emmitsburg's citizens have serious financial difficulties. One compelling piece of public information supports this assertion.

Of the students at Emmitsburg Elementary School 33 percent qualify for free or reduced-price lunches on the basis of their family income (13th annual Frederick County Public Schools Progress Report for school year 2000-2001). Over the years, the school usually has the county's third or fourth highest rate of participation in this food program.

The Food Bank staff has always been all-volunteer. Volunteers do *not* need to be church members. Clients are first referred by local clergy or a service agency, and are in turn referred to government agencies for other services if needed. But there is no religious test for those needing assistance. The Emmitsburg Food Bank exists to serve Emmitsburg citizens.

If persons from another community in Maryland or Pennsylvania seek aid, the Emmitsburg Food Bank gives them enough food for 3 days and refers them to their own community's food bank. Records are kept and communicated to the other area food banks, to prevent abuse of the system.

Phyllis Chatlos Kelly is the manager of the Food Bank. She stated that "the people of Emmitsburg are wonderful givers. We buy less food [to distribute] than any other food bank in the county." She hopes the community will be equally generous with financial donations and pledges of "sweat equity" toward the work needed on the new site. She is very enthusiastic about the prospect of having a more permanent location for its operation.

Renovation at the community center, the former site, required the Food Bank to relocate temporarily to the lower level of Elias Lutheran Church. The space is small and cannot accommodate a refrigerator or freezer. The hours of service remain the same: Wednesday, 7-8 p.m.; Thursdays, 10-11 a.m.; and Saturdays, 10-11 a.m. Those needing assistance at other times should call Phyllis Kelly, 717-642-6963. New volunteers and donors should do the same.

Ambulance Co.'s 'Feed the Hungry' drive gets 500 items for Food Bank

Bring 2 non-perishable food items, get one special game free. Bingo! That's how the Emmitsburg Volunteer Ambulance Co. gathered almost 500 food items during its 4-week "Feed the Hungry" food drive recently. It donated

the items to the Emmitsburg Food Bank .The Company raises some of its funds with bingo games 7 p.m. Monday nights at its building at 300 S. Seton Ave. Information: 301-447-6626.

Crop Walk nets \$3,000 to fight poverty

Staff repor

Volunteers assembled at the United Methodist Farm Sunday afternoon, Oct. 20, to take a walk – the annual Crop Walk sponsored by the Emmitsburg Council of Churches. The 35 who walked collected more than \$3,000. Of this amount 25 percent will go into the Emmitsburg Food Bank. The rest of the contributions for the Crop Walk goes to the Church World Service, an international disaster relief

organization, and is used to fight worldwide hunger and poverty.

Church World Service has worked in 80 countries for 50 years on such issues as refugee resettlements, food cooperatives, water systems and wells, and environmentally friendly farming. The Service does more than just feed people. It asks the people it helps what they need the most, and channels its efforts through community leaders. There were 5 Crop Walks throughout Frederick County this year.

Garden club honors caretakers of Main Street tree wells

Volunteers help beautify Emmitsburg by planting flowers and/or ground cover in the space around each pear tree along Main Street in Emmitsburg. On Oct. 17 the Silver Fancy Garden Club honored them with prizes.

Frankie Fields announced the winners. First prize (\$25): Larry and Carol Pavek (owners of "Willowby"); Second prize (\$15): Angie Hansen; Third prize (\$10): Gary and Theresa Sanders; Honorable Mention (\$5):

Take Note Recycle bins

one development Emmitsburg no one picks up recyclable materials. Where can those residents who want to do their bit for the environment put their recyclables? Till now they could put them in receptacles behind the Community Center. But that's being renovated. The bins had to be moved to a place that is open year-round. Mayor Hoover told The Dispatch vandalism precluded putting them in some places, the cost of maintenance in others, and Thurmont is too far. They needed to be set on an existing gravel bed in Emmitsburg to avoid the cost of grading and new gravel. He had them set near the ball field behind the Post Office where gravel exists. They'll be there, he estimates, for 18 months until the Center construction is competed.

Harriet Buhrman, who cared for 3 tree wells. The winners also received pictures of their tree well gardens. Todd Blanchard, another tree well contestant, received a thank you from the club.

The event took place in the Ambulance Building on S. Seton Ave. Club President Jerri Musser presided at the meeting which featured a presentation by Laurie Storer of Cumberland Township Master Gardeners. She gave a presentation on winter landscaping.

Food Bank's temporary location

The Emmitsburg Food Bank has moved to Elias Lutheran Church because of renovations to the Community Center. Staff and clients are to use the very back entrance by the cemetery. Hours remain the same: Wed. 7—8 p.m., Thurs. 10—11 a.m., Sat. 10—11 a.m. Donations should be delivered during opening hours. The Food Bank is planning to have a permanent home soon, on E. Main St. with the pregnancy center.

Aluminum for charity

The Emmitsburg Grange is collecting articles made from aluminum to help pay for kidney dialysis. Additionally aluminum cans are cleaned and sold with half of the money used to help a deaf person get a college education and the other half to help a person learn to educate the deaf. Information and for pickup arrangements: Sylvia Smith, 301-447-2128.

EDITORIAL

Time for citizen patrols?

Some more vandalism occurred recently in the Emmitsburg area. Maybe it's time to think about citizen's patrols. They're typically organized by neighborhood associations. One or two citizens, armed only with flashlights, cell phones, cameras, and first aid kits, cruise during the night and other times when and where vandalism is likely.

They inform the police of suspicions, take notes and pictures, help victims, but take no police action, make no arrests, and have no firearms or other weapons on or near their persons. They are only observers, reporters, and helpful citizens. Often, it seems, their mere presence in a neighborhood tends to keep it safer.

We don't get the best because we don't ask

This month we go to the polls, in fewer numbers than the citizens of most major democracies. We're disheartened by scandals and feel powerless. And we blame our representatives. We call them "politicians," sometimes with a sneer.

But it is we who bear some of the blame for our badly functioning system. It is we who entrust the most important worldly decisions in our livesoto people who:

- are not obliged to show knowledge of the job we give them. A truck driver must.
- offered. There is for typists.

- who take no tests to demonstrate their competency. An electrician takes them.

- who can get their jobs only by spending a fortune. No talented low income person can.

- who get on-the-job training at taxpayer expense. Store managers don't.

- who spend much of their tax-paid work time applying for re-appointment. School principals don't.

- who don't have enough time on the job to accomplish what they're hired to do. A house painter does.

Yet, rightly judged, the profession - for whom no special training is of politics ranks next only to religious ministry. If we want the best people to embrace it, we must radically change what we do for them, and demand of

Something can be done about each defect identified above. But first we citizens and our current lawmakers must acknowledge that the defects exist



Marking the 50th year for their efforts to educate the community about fire prevention, Mayor James Hoover (center) presented a proclamation to Vigilant Hose Company that the week of October 6-12, 2002 is designated Fire Prevention Week in the Emmitsburg. Receiving the proclamation are (left) Ed Ernst, Deputy State Fire Marshall and Tim Clarke, Vigilant Hose president.

Vigilant Hose holds open house

Staff report

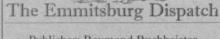
The Emmitsburg Vigilant Hose Company opened its doors to citizens on Oct. 10 for a demonstration of fire and injury prevention. VHC personnel showed citizens how to install and test smoke alarms, how to practice home escape plans, and how to detect and correct home fire hazards.

In a way the Company was helping itself, too. Community requests for assistance for both emergencies and non-emergencies now exceed 500 calls yearly, many requiring responses by

several emergency vehicles.

Staffed by more than 100 active volunteers, men and women, the VHC provides 24-hour first emergency response in an area of about 100 square miles in 5 counties and 2 states. It protects 6,500 residents in more than 1,700 dwellings. Since several thousand additional students and visitors come to the area yearly, the VHC actually stands ready to serve nearly 10,000 persons in the Emmitsburg region and thousands more in surrounding com-

-Continued on page 7



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Contributors:

Sue Cardella, Mary Ellen Cummings, Jack Deatherage Jr., Val Mentzer, Bill Meredith, Bonita Portier, Linda Stultz

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> The Emmitsburg Dispatch P.O. Box 358 Emmitsburg, MD 21727 TEL. (301) 447-3039 FAX (717) 334-0423

E-mail:

editor@emmitsburgdispatch.com publisher@emmitsburgdispatch.com webmaster@emmitsburgdispatch.com advertising@emmitsburgdispatch.com subscriptions@emmitsburgdispatch.com

The Emmitsburg Dispatch online: www.emmitsburgdispatch.com Webmaster: Wendy M. Shepherd





Spectators wait in line for a chance to get behind the wheel of a NASCAR Simulator, an attraction at this years VHC open house. The car is a Ford Taurus on a Collins chassis and its controls interact with a computer screen, which simulates driving in a NASCAR race.

TOWN NEWS

Town Manager' Report For September, 2002

Emmitsburg Town Manager Dave Haller's report is excerpted and summarized here.

Code Enforcement: 121 tickets issued (117 for overtime parking at meters)

Collected fees, fines: \$ 1,987.87 (\$1,184.87, parking meters)

Streets: Repaired street lights. Tarred cracks in street paving

Wastewater: Approximately 48 percent treated daily can result from 'wild water' infiltration into the sanitary sewer system. This sometimes over taxes the treatment plant.

Removed 204,000 gallons of sludge from lagoon #4, for the first time in the 14 years the wastewater plant has been operating.

Started the installation of the redesigned chlorine feed system which will use process water rather than potable water and should save the Town about 14,000 GPD of potable water (or enough for about 103 average households)

Intake: daily avg. 277,000 GPD daily capacity 800,000 GPD

Released: daily avg. -no standard or irrigation release during September

Water: Existing plant is still supplying the town's water although staff has to nurse it along.

Monthly production 7,521,780 GPM (a decrease of 1,929,190 GPM or 64,306 GPD)

Purchased from Mt. St. Mary's College 719,000 GPM or 23,970 GPD

Large volume water users, September: Fire Academy's consumption dropped to 22,931 GPD, their target use is 25,137 GPD.

Provincial House consumption dropped to 60,862 GPD, which is just 862 GPD over their revised target use and a 38,056 GPD drop from last month.

Overall the Town's consumption decreased by 30,174 GPD (or 10%) from last month.

Zoning: 11 permits were issued.

A word from the Mayor

About the Town web site

Each month I put a message in the Emmitsburg Dispatch and post that same message on the Town web page. This month I'd like to tell you about the Town's web site: www.emmitsburg.net/towngov. It is part of www.emmitsburg.net, a community information portal for Emmitsburg, which is maintained free of charge by Mike Hillman.

The Town's web site is full of useful information about Emmitsburg's Town government, its history, its functions, and the elected officials. On the site you can find a short biography of myself as well as each Commissioner; and contact information for the elected officials, town staff and various committees

While well-designed and easy to navigate, the Town's web site has not been used to its full advantage. As part of my campaign commitment to improve communication between the town government and the residents, I intend to take full advantage of the power and capabilities built into the site to improve communication between our Town government and its residents.

Recent enhancements include the addition of an on-line version of the Town Municipal Code Book & Town Charter, a "What's New Section," and a "Special Bulletin and Notice Section."

Town meeting and Planning and Zoning agendas and their minutes are also now being posted on the web site.

Once new information, such as meeting agendas, minutes, and articles from the Mayor's desk are posted, the previous files remain on the site in an archive for future reference. The site also has a search function to allow you to pinpoint that hard-to-find fact or number.

The beauty and power of the internet is that it gives the town the ability to provide you with new information in a very timely manner. So if you awake at 2 a.m. and find yourself wondering if you need a permit for that planned addition to your house, the answer is just a few clicks away.

There is no reason that Emmitsburg shouldn't follow other levels of government in providing e-government services and information resources to its citizens. However, to accomplish this goal, we'll need your help. When you get a chance, please visit the Town's web site and let us know what you think. What information services are we missing? What documents or permits would you like to see on line? The more feedback we get from you, the better the Town's web site will become and the better our ability to provide you "The right information at the right time."

Referendum created to stop 'undue influence'

Citizens of Emmitsburg have initiated a process relatively uncommon in the state and the nation, a referendum. Persons opposed to the Town's annexation of the Silver Fancy Farm property have petitioned the mayor to hold a general election on the issue. Two Town commissioners approved the annexation plan in August and the mayor agreed. It would incorporate about 67 acres of nearly empty land into the town as a housing development. Many more than the required number of registered voters signed the petition that the officials' decision be subject to a vote by the citizens gener-

Emmitsburg Mayor Jim Hoover says the referendum will probably be held in April next year. How did it come about that Maryland citizens must seek signatures and submit petitions to vote on a questionable action by their elected officials? A little history may provide understanding of why an earlier generation worked to get direct public involvement in the lawmaking process.

State laws outlining the referendum procedure are a bit more than 100 years old; the first was passed in South Dakota in 1898. The referendum was considered an important component of government reform by progressive members of both major political parties and some third parties at that time. A referendum allows proposed laws, or laws already passed by local legislatures, to be submitted to direct vote.

Those who campaigned for reform at the end of the 19th century were responding to widespread corruption and "undue influence" in their state and local governments. Interstate railroads and other huge companies with deep pockets were able to persuade officeholders to pass laws for their benefit. Outright vote-buying was carried on in many state assemblies.

Corporate interests often conflicted with the interests of small busi-

nesses, farmers, and laborers. These groups lacked the financial resources even if they had chosen to use the same tactics as the corporations. Instead, they staked out a place on moral high ground: corporate influence on legislation was un- and antidemocratic. Therefore, they insisted, decision-making needed to be restored to, or "carried back" (the meaning of the Latin root of *referendum*) to the people.

The basis for their argument is the United States Constitution, Article I, which guarantees citizens the right to petition the government for "redress of grievances." The Maryland State offers the same right. It provides that, if the number of petitioners' amounts to a specific percentage of voters, then public officials must hold an election in which the people can cast their own votes directly on the law in question.

Today, people petition to vote on government decision even when there is no suspicion of corruption but merely, as in Emmitsburg, a disagreement about the effect of the action.

Maryland lawmakers intentionally called for a delay between the petition and the referendum election. It allows time for information gathering and sharing, public discussion and debate, and proper notice of when and where the vote will take place. The principle is that in a democracy there is no substitute for an informed electorate.

The fact, however, is that information does not cause people to vote. Fewer Americans vote in general elections than in most countries.

In the forthcoming referendum the people of Emmitsburg will govern themselves directly, as in few other circumstances. In the voting booth each voter will have the power of a Town commissioner on the issue of the annexation. The referendum will be a historic event for them as for the Town.

 Staff writer Susan Allen contributed to this report



Grants assist local governments, museums, historic properties

By Michele Cuseo Staff writer

Museums, nonprofit groups and local governments around Maryland recently received grants totaling nearly \$1.7 million through the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) The MHT, formed in 1961, has financial assistance programs to help Marylanders identify and preserve prehistoric and historic areas, artifacts and traditions.

The MHT made the grants through 5

Museums. General Operating 1) Support (GOS): \$365,835 to support heritage museum operational expenses at 14 museums. There are more than 300 history museums across the State.

Local governments. Preservation Incentives for Local Governments (PILG): \$250,000 to eligi-

Can't afford down payment?

Staff report

A Maryland program to help lowand moderate-income home buyers afford down payment and settlement costs has been reopened. The Downpayment and Settlement Expense Loan Program (DSELP) gives loans of up to \$3,000, interest free and deferred until either the first mortgage is paid off or the home is sold.

The program is not for everyone but only buyers who use the Maryland ble County governments to support expansions of local historic preserva-

Historical properties. Mary-History Investment Fund: land \$369,900 for Capital Historic Preservation Grants, which assist in acquisition, rehabilitation and restoration of historic Maryland properties.

4) Non-profits. Maryland History Investment Fund: \$421,000 to nonprofit and local governments for architectural/archeological research, survey work, assessments, and educational pro-

5) Museum Development Grants: \$288,000 to museum projects to care for historical collections, educational programming, and tourism incentives

The Maryland Historical Trust is part of the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development's

Division of Historical and Cultural Programs.

Mortgage Program (MMP) to purchase their homes. The interest rate for an MMP loan coupled with a DSELP loan will be 5.5 percent.

DSELP originally opened in April of 2000 and expended all of its funds by September of 2000. This round of DSELP is financed by State funds.

Information about DSELP and MMP: 410-514-7530, or 800-638-7781; Maryland Relay for the Deaf at 711 in State, or 800-735-2258 for out of Maryland, or e-mailsylvester-@dhcd.state.md.us.



This small plot on the grounds of St. Joseph's Provincial house can be seen on the right by those driving north on S. Seton Ave. It's a garden surrounded by a semi-circular stone wall, with the "Tree of Hope" and a stone in the center. Both have been dedicated as a permanent memorial to the victims of terrorism on 9-11.

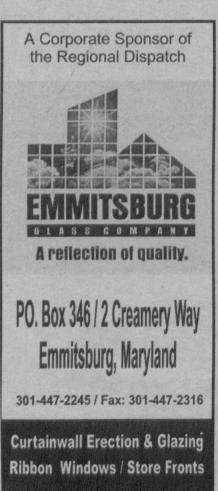
Huge object raises doubts that Pluto is really a planet

ice, older than earth, stream around the sun in an endless circle. The stream is called the "Kuiper Belt." The rocks and ice are fragments left over when the solar system - our sun and its planets - was formed.

One of the objects in the Kuiper Belt, scientists have just discovered, is 800 miles in diameter, half the size of Pluto (earth's diameter is 6,000 miles). Named "Quaoar," it orbits the

Thousands of chunks of rock and sun at a distance of 4 billion miles (earth orbits at about 92 million miles) and takes 288 years to go around the sun once.

> Scientists think ultraviolet radiation from the sun has probably reduced Quaor's surface of frozen gases to the consistency and color of tar. And they are now wondering whether Pluto, discovered in 1930, is really a planet rather than a truant member of the Kuiper Belt.





Vigilant Hose holds open house

-Continued from page 4

The Vigilant Hose Company was officially established in 1884, although Emmitsburg had public fire protection service since before the Revolution. The VHC is one of 27 communitybased volunteer fire, rescue, and emergency medical services organizations serving Frederick County.

What Next?

Typing by looking

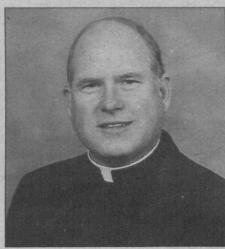
Imagine typing without hands, fingers or tools, just by looking at a computer screen. The technology already exists for people who cannot use a keyboard or mouse (users with no hands or only one). They can use their gaze instead. A computer system traces the direction of their eye movements, and they can select letters on a keyboard shown on the screen, just by looking at them. One letter at a time, they can type.

Physicists at the University of Cambridge have developed a new software program called "Dasher," that enables users to type at about 25-30 words per minute compared to 15 words per minute for users of older programs.

Dasher first displays the letters of the alphabet in a column. When the user's eyes locate the first desired letter, say "h" to begin "hello," the area around the "h" grows larger and stands out. The program can predict the most likely next letter or word, or display "a, e, i, o, u," to follow the "h" for the user to select.

The software is free and can be downloaded at www.inference.phy.cam.ac.uk/dasher.

Persons of good moral character can join the Vigilant Hose Company to work in operations (emergency response and fire-police), and in auxiliary and organizational support (fundraising and social). The Company also provides various non-emergency, life safety instructions including public fire and injury prevention. It operates with an annual budget of approximately \$450,000 of which about 75 percent comes from contributions, the remainder from taxes. Information: www.vigilanthose.org



Monsignor Kenneth W. Roeltgen, 54, who served as rector of Mt. St. Mary's Seminary from 1988-1997, died April 7 after an unexpected recurrence of cancer. He had been pastor of St. Stephen Martyr Catholic Church in Washington, DC. On Oct. 2 Mt. St. Mary's Alumni Association gave him, posthumously, the 27th Annual John Cardinal McCloskey Award. They honored him because of his outstanding service to the mission of the Church. This is the first occasion in which the award has been given posthumously.

Lions scholarship

Kevin Favorite of Emmitsburg has received the Emmitsburg Lions Club Scholarship for the 2002-2003 academic year. Mr. Favorite is a 2001 graduate of Catoctin High School where he was in the Honors Program. He will attend University of Maryland Baltimore County to study environmental science

and environmental management. Scholarship applications for 2003-2004 will be available after Jan. 1, 2003. the Community Information: Foundation of Frederick County, 312 East Church Street, Frederick MD 21701, or www.cffredco.org.

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RELIGION

A word from the pulpit

The beauty of earth and heaven declare God's presence and love

By Fr. Jim Hannon Pastor St. Anthony Shrine/ Our Lady of Mt. Carmel

Those who hold leadership positions within religious communities, (whether Christian, Jewish, Muslim, etc.), often speak to their people "from the pulpit." It is a formal way that a community reflects on the word of God as they experience it, as they "hear" that word.

When I was asked to write some reflections "from the Pulpit," I asked myself - "How does God speak to us "from the pulpit?" What, indeed, is the pulpit for God? As God is infinite in mercy, grace, presence - so too are the ways in which God speaks to us. God's pulpit is the world in which we live, the earth that sustains that world - and the people who live in it. With this in mind, I choose to reflect on the beauty of the earth - at a beautiful

Thanksgiving Worship

The annual Thanksgiving worship service sponsored by the Emmitsburg Council of Churches will take place 10 a.m. Nov. 28 at Incarnation Church of Christ. Rev. William O'Brien, pastor of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, will bring the message. All are welcome to participate.

time of year.

Each year in October, I take time to go "leafing." I spend time alone or with friends simply driving to wonderful places where the glorious autumnal colors are alive and proclaiming the glory of God - or places that are simply beautiful - whether they have colors or not. It is an activity that I find prayerful - for it is a time when I simply sit back, look and experience that God, in all his goodness, has given us this beautiful world - and for no other reason than love.

Certainly we have some beautiful places in our own back yard here in the Emmitsburg area. But we also have close to us the more mountainous parts of Western Maryland and West Virginia that offer so much by. way of natural beauty. State and county lines do not give borders to the beauty in which we are immersed! Beauty is everywhere . and it reminds us that God is as well!

Two things about this season and this time of year emerge from my own experience of the beauty I see around us. First - beauty is a pulpit for God. It is the way God addresses us, the way God speaks to us. It is the presence of God here and now. Our eyes, our ears, our touch, our taste all our senses participate in beauty and allow us to experience the very presence of God in our present - for God is the source of all that is beautiful. Autumnal beauty can be sensed

through our eyes as we look upon the changing leaves and taste with our eyes the feast that is set before us.

Second - this season teaches us something about death. Death is not our enemy - but rather it is the natural course that all living things take on and embrace. Death will come to all of us. The question that the person of faith faces, however, is the question, "what happens after death - or even because of death?" And that answer God gives us in another season. The person of faith trusts that that season

Even in the midst of tragedy; even when our world seems marred by the senseless violence of a sniper, or rumors of war, or terrorism in our midst - even so, this season invites us to trust that God speaks to us in beauty and invites us to trust in a time, a place, a world where beauty and life are victorious. And - here, in this season that has much to do with a time of dying, we are given such a beautiful invitation - to see, to realize, the hear God speak to us.

A Jesuit poet, Gerard Manley Hopkins, said it so well - "The world is charged with the grandeur of God." It is a grandeur that is given a voice in a symphony of colors - all of which join in a visual chorus of praise to a creator who loves us so much that he turns death into life.

Visionary claims new message

Nov. 1, 2002. Visionary Gianna Talone-Sullivan claimed today to have received another message for humanity from the Blessed Virgin Mary. Its theme is "hope for a new peace, a new love, a new beginning, a new world and a new era." Ed Koenke, a former pilgrim from New Jersey to Emmitsburg,

distributed the message via email.

This is the third of her alleged messages for humanity since September 2000 when Cardinal William Keeler stopped her pastor from reading them in St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Mrs. Sullivan claims to receive personal messages daily except Fridays.

What should we say to someone in anguish?

The situation is painful, uncomfortable and even awkward: Your co-worker has just suffered the loss of a loved one and you are the first person she notifies. How can you help or comfort her? When someone is hurt emotionally, your thoughtful words can be helpful. What do you say? Two recent books offer advice.

One is by John Langone, a business consultant and former broadcast journalist. His book is, Answers to the Question 'What Do I Say When...'

Another is Healing Conversations by Nance Guilmartin. When giving comfort to someone having a rough time, can you say the wrong thing? By means of real-life stories Ms Guilmartin tries to show how to talk, listen, give comfort and seek comfort in trying times. One of her points: ask and talk about something other than the cause of misery, and don't make your first question, "How are you?"

- Staff writer Michele Cuseo contributed to this story

Emmitsburg Area Churches

Incarnation United Church of Christ

Founded in 1758 as a German Reformed Congregation. In 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

St. Joseph's Roman Catholic

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

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

Pastor: Rev. William O'Brien, 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: Rev. James W. Hannon

Trinity United Methodist Church

Trinity United Methodist Church was founded in 1833. The present sanc-Weekly services: Monday - 7:30 tuary was built in 1807. Trinity has been

p.m.(with the Miraculous Medal a religious presence in Emmitsburg for

313 West Main St.

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

Pastor: Rev. Wade A. Martin **Emmitsburg Presbyterian**

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.

10926 Simmons Road

Service 11:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. R. Benjamin Jones **Tom's Creek United Methodist** Sunday Services at 8:15 and 10:30 Pastor: Rev. Bill Warehime 301-447-2693

Elias Evangelical Lutheran

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 School, 9 a.m. Worship Service (Holy Communion) 10:30 a.m. Interim Pastor: David. S. Knodel 301-447-6239

OBITUARIES

Ruth Eckenrode

Mrs. Ruth Elizabeth Eckenrode, 100, formerly of Thurmont, died Monday, Sep. 23, at St. Catherine's Nursing Home, Emmitsburg. She was the wife of Ambrose Vincent Eckenrode, who died Aug. 18, 1976.

Born in Emmitsburg, Mrs. Eckenrode was a daughter of the late Bernard Marion and Annie Florence Mort Bentz. She was a lifelong member of Thurmont United Methodist Church and a former member of Tom's Creek United Methodist Church, Emmitsburg. She had been employed at Claire Frock as a seamstress and she enjoyed quilting. She is survived by many nieces and nephews.

Graveside services and interment were private and in Union Cemetery, Keysville.

Ruth Fogle

Mrs. Ruth Annie Fogle, 92, died Saturday, Sept. 14, at St. Catherine's Nursing Home, Emmitsburg. She was the wife of Grayson B. Fogle, who died in 1984. Born in Keymar, she was a daughter of the late Isaac L. and Gertrude Hildebrand Bostian.

Mrs. Fogle was a member of Mount Zion Haugh's Lutheran Church, Ladiesburg. She was a farm wife in the Oak Orchard area until retirement. Surviving are a number of nieces and nephews. Interment was in Chapel Cemetery, near Libertytown.

Sister Alice Lanasa

Sister Alice Lanasa, Daughters of Charity, 84, died after a lengthy illness on Friday, Oct. 4, at Villa St. Michael, Emmitsburg where she had been a resident since 1997.

Born in Baltimore, the former Frances Lanasa was a daughter of the late Francis Joseph and Marie Brady Lanasa. She entered the Daughters of Charity in 1939 and pronounced her vows in 1944. When the regular cook at St. Vincent's Home in Detroit became ill, Sister Alice took over those duties and thus began her 36-year career in dietetics. She earned her bachelor's degree in dietetics in 1947 from St. Joseph College in Emmitsburg. She was a member of the American Dietetic Association.

She is survived by one sister, Sister Francis Marie Lanasa, Daughters of Charity, Emmitsburg; five sisters-in-law; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. A Mass of Christian Burial for Sister Alice was offered Oct. 8 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Emmitsburg.

John Strickhouser

Mr. John William Strickhouser, 71, of 17419 Tract Road, Emmitsburg, died Sunday, Sept. 15, at Frederick Memorial Hospital. He was the husband of Barbara Bream Strickhouser, his wife of 48 years. Born in Gettysburg, PA., he was the son of the late James W. and Mary Sharpe Strickhouser.

Mr. Strickhouser served in the U.S. Air Force from 1950 to 1954. For 34 years, he was a Nationwide Insurance agent for the Emmitsburg, Thurmont, and Frederick areas. He was a member of Elias Evangelical Lutheran Church, Emmitsburg, of Good Samaritan Lodge 336 F&AM, Gettysburg; the Fairfield AMVETS; American Legion Post 121, Emmitsburg; Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6658, Emmitsburg, and Moose Lodge 1385, Westminster.

Surviving in addition to his wife are one daughter, Tamara L. Strickhouser, one son, Todd B. Strickhouser, and one sister, Jane S. Keiser. Interment was in Flohrs Cemetery, Cashtown.

Ella Troxell

Mrs. Ella Lillie Frounfelter Troxell, 89, of Emmitsburg, died Tuesday, Oct. 1, at St. Catherine's Nursing Center, Emmitsburg. She was the wife of Carroll Lester Troxell, who died in 1977. Born in Adams County, PA., she was a daughter of the late Joseph Hibert and Nanny Rebecca Houck Frounfelter.

Mrs. Troxell was a member of Elias Evangelical Lutheran Church, Emmitsburg, and American Legion Auxiliary, Francis X. Elder Post 121, Emmitsburg. She and her husband were the former owners of the The Tract Inn, Fairfield, PA.

Surviving are one daughter, Rebecca Floretta Joy and one son, Robert Louis Troxell, grandchildren and great-grandchildren; 2 sisters, Norma Stover and Carrie Haugh and numerous nieces and nephews. Interment was in Mount Tabor Cemetery, Rocky Ridge.

James Winters, Sr.

Mr. James Glenn Winters, Sr., 73, of Emmitsburg, died Saturday, Sep. 28, at St. Agnes Hospital, Baltimore. He was the husband of Jane Elizabeth Winters. Born in Baltimore, he was a son of the late John Edward Winters and Mildred Glenn Winters.

Mr. Winters served in the U.S. Air Force in the Korean War. He later worked in sales. He was a member of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Emmitsburg.

Surviving in addition to his wife is one daughter, Karen Patricia Myers, 2 sons, James Glenn Winters, Jr. and John Robert Winters; 8 grand children, 3 great-grandchildren; and one sister, Sister Mary Patricia Winters, D.C., of St. Joseph's Provincial House, Emmitsburg.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Joseph's; Rev. Stephen P. Trzecleski was the celebrant.

The Seton Center a voice for the voiceless

By Sister Mary Kevin Callahan, D.C. Special to The Dispatch

Emmitsburg, MD, a haven of peace and prayer to some, also reflects the realities of the harsher world of Appalachia. The Seton Center, in the heart of this valley, ministers to the many needs of the people here.

Because of the area's rural nature, certain problems are prevalent — the lack of a job providing a living wage; the need for a vehicle for transportation (with all of its expenses); substandard housing, no running water for some, illiteracy; the lack of food and proper medicine; the lack of appropriate and available treatment centers for health care, problems with alcohol, drug and spousal abuse, school dropouts.

The majority of those served through the Seton Center are the working poor; those with disabilities and those who fall between the cracks of social service programs. Those who come for help are of many different faiths and are ministered to as a witness to God's love for them.

The Seton Center initiates referrals and facilitates transportation to physicians, clinics, counseling, food shopping, etc. It helps clients obtain financial assistance for utilities, food, rent, medicine, and child-care by collaborating with other social service agencies.

The Center obtains some funds through the ever-popular Thrift Shop, which offers a large array of clothing and household items at low cost, promoting dignity and independence for the people.

Visiting the elderly, whether at home or in a facility, remains a primary concern for the Center's staff. Center members make regular visits to local hospitals and nursing homes. While many visits are made by the Outreach program staff, people come to the Center seeking assistance of some kind. One young couple, married a year, came to the Center distressed. Both had lost their jobs. The gentleman has attention deficit disorder (ADD) and was out of medication. His mother is poor, his father is in jail. He and his wife were facing eviction for lack of rent money, and no help seemed possible. Over several weeks the Center's staff and volunteers were able to get proper medical help, affordable insurance, food stamps, and are in the process of helping them get jobs.

Volunteers, who sort clothing, answer phones, and do other chores, help keep the Seton Center at work for the poor in the Emmitsburg region. Information: 301-447-6102





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EDUCATION

Local school drama clubs prepare for new year

By Nicole Georgoff Staff writer

Practices, performances and a trip to one of the world's most famous theaters are all part of a busy schedule for the local schools' drama departments.

At Catoctin High School, and Thurmont Middle School, teachers and students alike are getting ready for their fall productions, and a new year of theatrical performances. Each school will have a fall and a spring

As head of the drama department at Catoctin High School, Mrs. Karen Stitely teaches the 4 different levels of drama offered at the school and serves as drama club advisor. She also teaches several English classes throughout

Mrs. Stitely, who directs all the theatrical productions at Catoctin High School, has been teaching at Catoctin for 4 years. She received her bachelor's degree in Arts and Theatre at The Shenandoah Conservatory and also is certified to teach English. Mrs. Stitely is married to Bill Stitely, a local actor and artist, and has one son.

Catoctin High School presents a play each fall, and puts on a musical each spring. This year's fall play will be A Midsummer Night's Dream by William Shakespeare. Rehearsals have started, and Mrs. Stitely said they are going "very well. We are halfway done blocking. The students seem to be excited about the production."

She also said, "The students are understanding the text and they are doing better than I expected."

The set for the play is already beginning to form on the stage in the auditorium of Catoctin High School. Mrs. Stitley's said her drama students "always participate in working on the set and lighting as part of the educational experience."

The fall show will run Nov. 22, and 23, at 7:30 p.m. nightly.

In addition to helping with the fall production, the drama club at Catoctin High school also is planning an educational trip to London next summer. Members of the drama club will fly to London to spend 9 days exploring the British culture. Along with seeing

Westminster Abbey, Trafalgar Square, and witnessing the changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace, the students will see 3 plays, including one at the Royal Shakespeare theatre in Stratford. They also will attend a workshop at the famed Globe Theatre, where Shakespeare once staged his plays. This trip will allow students to experience British culture and theatre first-hand.

The head of the drama department at Thurmont Middle School is Mrs. Berna LaForce. She has been working at Thurmont Middle for 3 years, and teaches the Introduction To Acting class. She received her education at Sheppard College and, along with being a drama teacher is also a vocal music teacher. Mrs. LaForce is married to Robert LaForce.

Thurmont Middle School, like Catoctin, has a play in the fall and a musical in the spring. The fall play this year will be Charlie and the Chocolate

Factory. It will be presented at the middle school, as all productions are, and tickets will be \$5 for adults and \$3 for students.

The students at Thurmont Middle School will be working the lights for the show, and also creating the set. Mrs. LaForce says she expects her students to "act as professional as possible" throughout this production. Rehearsals have started and when asked how they are going she said, "So far, so good. They have many of their lines memorized but it is the polishing that takes the most time."

As the fall season quickly approaches Catoctin High and Thurmont Middle are busy with rehearsals and preparing students for opening night. Information, Catoctin: 240-236-8100, Thurmont: 240-236-

> - Nicole Georgoff, who is 15 years old, is in the 11th grade at Catoctin High School

Spanish, sign language classes in Thurmont elementary schools

Staff report

Beginning this month students in grades K through 5 at Thurmont Primary and Elementary schools may choose to learn Spanish and/or American Sign Language. The Thurmont Elementary and Primary PTA (TEP PTA) is sponsoring a 20week program of one-hour classes once a week after school. Classes include projects, music, and games. By the end of the program, students should expect to have an "ear" for the language and will know some common greetings and basic vocabulary.

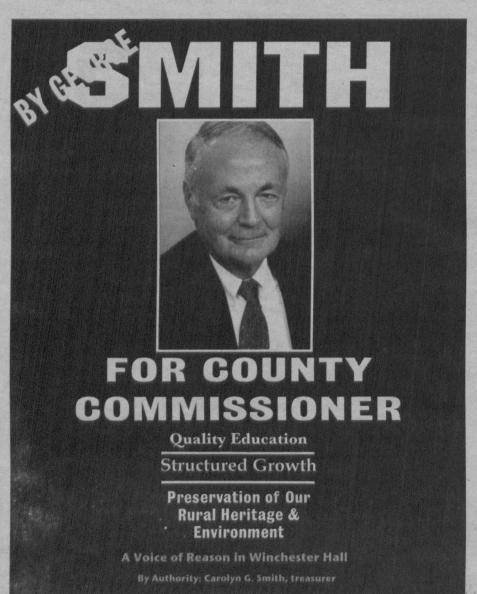
Tuition for the program will be \$100, with a monthly installment plan available. A registration form has been sent home in the school folders of all the schools' students.

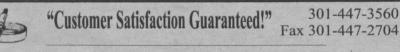
The new courses are being provided by Quality Language Programs, Inc., which will be leading secondary language programs at 12 other elementary schools this year. The organization uses professional teachers, many are native speakers of the language they teach.

"Learning a second language at a young age has been proven to have a positive effect on intellectual growth and enriches and enhances a child's mental development," says Lori Zentz of TEP PTA. "Studies have shown that the brain can more easily learn a second language up to the age of 10, after which the ease of learning begins to decrease." Dr. Susan Curtiss, professor of linguistics at UCLA, says, "When children wait until high school to start studying a foreign language the job is much harder."

Other benefits of learning a second language at an early age include an improved understanding of the child's own language, increased flexibility in thinking, greater sensitivity to language, and a better ear for listening. Second languages also open doors to other cultures and help a child understand, appreciate, and communicate with people who speak different languages.

Information: Lori (Smith) Zentz, 301-271-3148 or Catharine Martin. 1-301-865-9089.





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Catoctin High upgrades

The renovation began in the spring of 1999, was completed last June, and cost \$10 million. Here's what Catoctin High School got:

- 18 additional classrooms boost ing school capacity to 1200 students
 - A new gymnasium and locker room
- State-of-the art technology
- Improved science, art, front office, media center and cafeteria areas
 - A science greenhouse to support a planned Environmental and Earth Science Academy

School officials, staff and students rededicated the facility in September.

Mount St. Mary's College

Students protest cafeteria prices

Emmitsburg restaurants and food shops may soon feel the effect of a student protest against the new Patriot Hall food service. One student said this: "I want to end a ridiculous school monopoly that forces me to buy inferior food for inflated prices."

Students were promised a food court that would spur competition. Student Government Association officers responded by distributing 500 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches outside the cafeteria one recent lunch time. The Mountain Echo called it, "the first campus-wide protest not involving alcohol since the 1970s."

Struggle to keep Division One sports

Mt. St. Mary's has had Division One sports for about a decade, and students are petitioning the administrators to keep it that way. Jamion Christian, an officer of The Society For Collegiate Journalists and a member of the basketball team, said he intends to send a petition to every student and faculty member.

Emmitsburg is one of the smallest communities in America to enjoy Division One sports.

Black bear sighted near grotto

The Mount's office of public safety issued 2 warnings in August of black bears in the Grotto above the college. Pilgrims and tourists took pictures of one black bear before it wandered off.

— Gleaned from the award-winning MSM student bi-weekly, The Mountain Echo, and from oncampus sources by staff writer Will Medley

High school marching bands prance in County's Bandfest

By Susan Allen Staff writer

More than 300 student musicians and color guard members played and maneuvered across Catoctin High School's football field Oct. 22 at Frederick County's Bandfest, its annual exhibition of high school marching bands. Bands from all 8 County schools gave individual performances. An extra was provided by a marching band from Frostburg State University.

Marching band music isn't only John Philip Sousa's well-known marches any more. This year's themes and melody lines varied widely among the bands, from Brunswick High's specialty jazz numbers to Frederick High's medley of movie scores by composer John Williams.

It even seemed that Linganore's Lancer Band had arranged for special effects when the harvest moon came up just as they began their show, "From the Earth to the Moon." Instruments used were guitars (Catoctin High School), chimes, kettle drums, and even hand bells.

Each band received a trophy acknowledging its skill, dedication, and musicianship. Cable Channel 10 taped the event, which is scheduled to be aired on Oct. 26 at 9:30 p.m., and on Oct. 27 at 12:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Frederick County Public Schools' Office of Visual and Performing Arts sponsors the event annually.



November at the Library

Regular Story times

Babies with Books (birth-24 months with an adult) Tues., Nov. 26 at 10:30 a.m. Two Terrific! (age 2 with an adult) Tuesdays, Nov. 5, 12, and 19 at 10:30 a.m. Preschool Storytime (ages 3-5 with an adult) Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. and Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. Please note that we will not have storytime on Nov. 27, the day before Thanksgiving.

For Teens

Make it and take it craft (6th grade and up). Come and make a craft for the holiday season. Tues., Nov. 19 at 6:30 p.m. Registration required.*

Special Programs

Make it and take it craft (5th grade and under with a parent) Bring your creativity and join us for a fun craft project. Mon., Nov. 18 at 7 p.m. Registration required.*

Cooking. Want to bring fun into your kitchen? (adults and teen) Do you need new, quick and easy meal ideas? Come and see an entertaining cooking demonstration by Christine Laurich, Sr., Director with Pampered Chef. Chris will focus on simple recipe ideas that are nutritious as well as delicious. Mon., Nov. 4 at 7 p.m.*

Book Discussion Groups

2nd Tuesday Nov. 12 at 7:30 p.m. selection: Plainsong by Kent Haruf. 2nd Friday Nov. 15 at 1 p.m. Selection: Breakheart Hill by Thomas H. Cook or Crocodile on the Sandbank by Elizabeth Peters.

Programs are held at the Emmitsburg Library at 101 Silo Hill Road unless designated by an asterisk. Those programs will be held at Trinity United Methodist Church, 313 West Main Street. Registration or information: 301-447-2682

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The (retired) Ecologist's Corner

Of anniversaries and lasting influences



Bill Meredith Dispatch writer

Among the arcane information stored in my head is the fact that Oct. 13 fell on a Friday in 1902. I know this because on that day, in the hamlet of Meadowdale, WV, Paul Meredith was born. He was my father.

He did not like being "fussed over," so when his 100th anniversary arrived last month I did not undertake any overt celebration, except to ask my children to write down some of their memories of him. He would have appreciated this, I think; family memories were important to him. In passing them down to me he became my most important link to my genealogical roots. That, in turn, has led me to understand why it was inevitable that I became an ecologist.

He grew up in a house known as the "old homestead," which was built by his great-grandfather in the 1840's. The original family farm, a quarter-section (160 acres), was still largely intact; only a few building lots had been given to the male heirs, and there were four uncles living within easy walking distance. On the farm were a blacksmith shop and sawmill. It was a grand place for a boy to grow up, and its influence still shows; it was passed on through me, and a century later my grandchildren enjoy gardening and making things with their

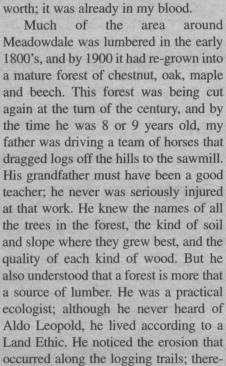
Although he was born at the beginning of the 20th Century, my father was a child of the 19th. His father worked in the Post Office, so his early childhood was dominated by his grandfather, a vigorous 70-year-old who still operated the sawmill. As a pre-schooler, playing in the mill and smithy, he learned basic principles of physics without realizing it; levers, pulleys, and hydraulics were second nature to him. Although he had no knowledge of the theories behind their operation, he could apply them in unique ways to solve problems; he was a practical inventor. All of this was passed on to me in a peculiarly traditional manner as I grew up: he expected me to watch as he worked, and to participate as soon as I was big enough. He was not very good at verbal explanations, but he could always demonstrate how things worked, and what to do when they didn't. Thus when I got to high school, physics was one of my easier courses.

In the sawmill, the smithy, and in his own workshop when I was young, nothing was wasted. Broken or worn-out tools were repaired, or were used as raw material for making something else, and scraps of wood were saved against the time when he would need a board just that size. If he were here now, he would enjoy visiting my workshop; he would understand the clutter generated by never throwing anything away, and he would recognize many of the tools. The bandsaw he bought in 1949, the pliers, drawknife and plane from his workbench, the drill press that he made from the wringer mechanism of an old washing machine... all still function, to the delight of my grandchildren. When recycling became popular in the 1960's, I did not have to be convinced of its

Meadowdale was lumbered in the early 1800's, and by 1900 it had re-grown into a mature forest of chestnut, oak, maple and beech. This forest was being cut again at the turn of the century, and by the time he was 8 or 9 years old, my father was driving a team of horses that dragged logs off the hills to the sawmill. His grandfather must have been a good teacher; he never was seriously injured at that work. He knew the names of all the trees in the forest, the kind of soil and slope where they grew best, and the quality of each kind of wood. But he also understood that a forest is more that a source of lumber. He was a practical ecologist; although he never heard of Aldo Leopold, he lived according to a Land Ethic. He noticed the erosion that occurred along the logging trails; thereafter, he was always concerned about preserving soil. In the 1950's, he refused to lease his farm to strip-miners, although several of our neighbors were making easy fortunes by doing so; he simply said it wasn't worth it because "the ground would be ruined." He understood the connection between healthy forests and streams; he had seen the trout, pike and bass disappear from Prickett's Creek, which regularly flooded in the spring and went dry in the summers after the watershed forests

We talked about this once when I was well into my academic career, and he was detached and practical when speaking of his own role in cutting the forests. It was a way of life, and he felt no regret or guilt about it. The forests had been cut before; everyone assumed they would grow back again. From his vantage point, he could not have foreseen that the human population would grow so explosively and pollution would become so rampant in his lifetime. It was only toward the end of his life that a note of sadness appeared in his voice when he talked of these things and realized that the changes he had been part of were not reversible.

We did not talk much about my work. I knew when I entered college that it would have pleased him if I had gone into the Methodist ministry; but one of the greatest gifts he gave me was to let me choose my own career, without pressure. When I decided to become a biologist, he was proud that I seemed to be achieving success, and that I was earning enough to be comfortable, but he did not have much understanding of what an academic biologist actually does. He did know I was happy doing it. I would like to think that by the end of his life he had learned enough about it to take satisfaction in the knowledge that he had prepared me well for it; but I am not sure. It took me until this 100th anniversary to realize how inevitable it was







Pheasants killed off by new farming methods

By Jack Deatheridge Dispatch Writer

In the school year of '69-'70 I counted 30 or so ring-neck pheasants at the intersection of Bollinger School and Harney roads. Someone on the other side of the bus reported a similar count. After I bought my first shotgun (1972) I regularly kicked up pheasants while hunting without a dog. By the time I moved into Emmitsburg (1979) the birds were

Jack, III, and I began hunting pigeon and squirrel in 2001. Jack asked what hunting had been like when I was younger. "Ring-necks were my favorite." I told him.

"What are they?" He asked.

Why had all the birds vanished? And what circumstances exist today that might hinder the pheasant's reintroduction?

Farmers tell me it's the way they farm that did in the birds. The fields are stripped at summer's end, leaving nothing for the birds to eat or hide in. Fences, scrub, and small stands of trees where birds hid have been removed to plant one more crop row. They also spray herbicides to control weeds which held insects the young pheasants ate. One farmer said the virus that hit the chicken houses in the 70s also hurt the wild birds. Then the new farming practices kept the populations from coming back.

According to Pheasants Forever (PF), land use is the most important component in pheasant restoration. Hayfields need to be mowed later in the year after nesting is done. Which means converting cool season grass hayfields to warm season grasses. Marginal ground needs to be planted with wildlife food/cover crops and tended according to its needs - as if farmers working 16- to 18-hour days are going to do more work that puts nothing on their bottom line! Aware of this, PF chapters are paying farmers to leave some crops in the field.

I have limited access to a dairy farm that is allowing me to reseed its marginal ground. The search for suitable food/cover plants is proving as difficult as finding the money to buy them! What I'm learning is convincing me of the truth in a statement a dairyman once made. "You have to love farming, or be crazy to do it."

I've stopped complaining about the price I pay for milk.

The Art of thread ball making

making thread ball ornaments. Temari started out as a game and then evolved into an elaborate means of embroidergeometrical designs. They are traditionally given as gifts and especially from mother to daughter on New Year's Day. While very few people

Temari is the Japanese folk art of worldwide are practitioners, it is gaining in popularity.

A short course in Temari is scheduled for the first 3 Tuesdays in ing constructed balls with floral or December (3, 10, and 17) from 7-8:30 at Catoctin High School. Students will create thread ball ornaments from scratch to finish, with some homework between meetings. Open to adults,

only the first 10 people to sign up can be accommodated in the space. The program is sponsored by the Catoctin Area Recreation Council. Send name, address, phone number and a check for \$5 to cover cost of materials to CARC, PO Box 14, Rocky Ridge, MD 21778-



SENIORS

How the Emmitsburg senior center came to be

By Susan Allen Staff writer

The Emmitsburg Senior Citizens began in 1966 because Pat Throne was convinced that "something needed to be done for the older people in Frederick County." The State of Maryland was encouraging local governments to explore of the needs of the elderly, and to establish county commissions on the aging. Pat, a registered nurse, had served as a volunteer in Frederick County's Medicare information office. When the county commissioners appointed a Commission on Aging on Dec. 13, 1965, Pat was selected to head it.

She had already started a seniors group at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Frederick. She also knew that Emmitsburg and Brunswick, small towns in rural areas at the outer edges of the county, were often the last to receive attention and services. Their populations were spread out, and recreational facilities were scarce. Through her contact with Sister Madeline, head of the home economics department at St. Joseph's

College, Pat met Mrs. Andrew Eyster and Mrs. Virginia Sanders (both now deceased.) They became the nucleus and leaders of the new organization, and represented the Emmitsburg area on the newly-formed Commission on Aging.

For a brief period, the group met in the basement of Elias Lutheran Church's Parish Hall, Mrs. Eyster's home church. Mrs. Sanders served as the first coordinator, recruiting members and organizing activities. The group grew, and needed space of its own. They moved to a building on the south side of the square, adjacent to The Ott House. The rent for the new senior citizens' center was paid by Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6658.

Mrs. Throne applied for a federal grant to pay the Emmitsburg and Brunswick coordinators for their work in planning programs and activities. The senior center became a forum for information on Medicare and other government assistance, nutrition and health, and other issues. Crafts and quilting classes were held, and the coordinator organized low-cost bus trips which members could

take. Norman and Mary Houck of Taneytown joined the Emmitsburg Senior Citizens in the late 1960's. They were invited by a friend, Florence Dern, to go along on a trip to Cumberland to visit a tire plant and a thread-making factory. They have been coming to the center ever since. "It's good friends and good times and good food" that keep them coming to meeting day and bingo every month.

The hot-lunch program, "Food & Friends," began in 1975 for persons 60 and older. Originally it was offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays in Emmitsburg. Meals were prepared under contract with the county school system, and the seniors went to the school cafeteria for their lunches. They paid a small fee for the meal. Each senior citizens group in the county could choose whether or not to participate in the lunch program, and set its own schedule. Some did not want to accept "government food," says Pat Throne.

In the same year the senior center was moved to the old Emmitsburg High School building, designated by the county as a community center. The seniors were given use of the cafeteria, kitchen space, and the former music classroom. "Food & Friends" expanded to 5 days a week. In 1997 they were moved temporarily to the ambulance building during the first renovation of the building.

Volunteers delivered meals to shut-ins from the beginning of Food & Friends. Frederick County provided a van to the Emmitsburg center in 1990, and hired a driver. Non-drivers were brought to the center for lunch, and meals could be delivered to persons who were physically unable to come to the center. Transportation was also available for grocery shopping and visits to the pharmacy. Linda Keilholtz Umbel came on board as the driver. She moved to the

Frederick center after a year and a half, and returned to Emmitsburg as the coordinator and meal manager in 1998.

In 2000 the contract for meals was removed from Frederick County Schools to a lower bidder, the Altland House of New Oxford, PA. This change in meal providers has caused controversy throughout the senior centers in the county. The food actually comes from York, PA; it is prepared in advance and many items are pre-packaged. Complaints have been made to the Frederick office regarding meal quality. Participation has dropped off in Emmitsburg and in other towns as well. County employees are consulting with the supplier to improve the situation. In the meantime, Altland House has again submitted the low bid, and will be providing meals for another year.

Anyone 55 years of age or older may join the senior citizens. There are no dues.

There is no age requirement for volunteers at the center, and anyone is welcome to volunteer. At the present time, seniors are again meeting in the ambulance building. The second phase of the renovation of the community center is expected to take a year. The senior center will be somewhat smaller following the renovation, but will still have kitchen facilities.

A typical senior citizens' month's activities include bowling every Monday afternoon, strength training (using small hand weights) on Tuesdays and Thursdays (currently at St. Joseph's Hall), cards and bingo on alternate Wednesdays. Meeting day is held on the third Tuesday of the month, featuring a speaker selected by the Frederick office. A flu shot clinic is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 15, from 1-4 p.m. Information: 301-447-6253.



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Meet Patricia Throne advocate for seniors

By Susan Allen Staff writer

Patricia (Mrs. J. Arthur) Throne, RN, and the mother of 4 sons, didn't plan a career working as an advocate for Frederick County's aging citizens. It just happened; one volunteer job leading to another, and then another. Following her appointment as head of the Commission on Aging in 1965, she spent 34 years leading that organization, all without taking a penny in

"I could have asked to be paid," she said recently. "But I wanted the money that was available to go to those who did the work at the local centers. I knew that information and referral to services and recreation were so important for seniors."

And she knew who was doing the work, because she traveled throughout the county for most of those years, recruiting community members willing to help organize senior citizens groups, talking to seniors about their needs, and adding services when she could. She did receive reimbursement for her travel expens-

Part of Patricia's job involved oversight of nursing homes in Frederick city and county. She

worked closely with the Seton Center, and with planning and certification of St. Catherine's Nursing Center in Emmitsburg.

According to Anna Margaret Martin, meal manager at the Emmitsburg Senior Center from 1984 to 1997, "there would not have been a Food & Friends program without Pat Throne. And without Food & Friends, Emmitsburg's senior citizens would not have had the free use of facilities in a county building.'

Throughout her tenure with the Commission on Aging, Pat had the full support of her husband, Arthur. He assisted her with writing grant proposals and the reports required by various government agencies underwriting programs for the elderly. He still supports her in her retirement as primary caregiver; her health is not as good as it once was. A stroke left her with limited vision; after years traveling the county's roads, she can no longer drive.

A handmade cloth banner hangs on the Thrones' living room wall, longer than the wall is high. It was a retirement gift. On it are the signatures of 334 seniors from the various Food & Friends sites, merely a fraction of those whom Pat Throne simply "wanted to help," and did.





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HEALTH & FITNESS

A word from the doctor

About the West Nile virus

Mosquitoes, mosquitoes, mosquitoes! Mosquitoes used to be a pesky nuisance. Now we look at mosquitoes with some anxiety. Why is our situation so different? Because some of our mosquitoes are carrying West Nile

What is it? All viruses are selfish pieces of DNA or RNA. These particles can con our bodies into being manufacturing sites for making more viruses. A virus keeps invading until our immune system contains or eliminates it. RNA virus types are the hardest for our body to contain because they're especially good at hiding and invading. West Nile is such a virus.

West Nile belongs to a family of viruses that invade liver, nerve and brain. It is a cousin of yellow fever and other fevers, but, amazingly, getting one of these viruses does not protect against West Nile.

How worried do we have to be about West Nile virus in Maryland? There have been fewer than 20 cases in humans in Maryland, and fewer than 10 cases in animals other than birds. The infected horse was in Emmitsburg.

give you West Nile virus. Only mosquitoes and some ticks can transmit the disease.

It is not necessary to put down an infected animal unless directed by a veterinarian. Except for infection from organ transplants, humans do not give each other West Nile virus. It is not contagious like the flu. For some reason, states in the Midwest and South are more affected.

Where did it come from? West Nile virus, first known in Uganda, became in the 1950's a problem for Egypt, land of the Nile river - hence, "West Nile." From there it spread to Asia, the Mid East and Eastern Europe. Because the Culex mosquitoes, the main hosts for the virus, can survive our winters, it was only a matter of time before West Nile would reach the United States.

Our preferred moderate climate helped the mosquito and the virus multiply and migrate and multiply again. Many species of animals in our area can be infected by West Nile, and 46 species of mosquitoes that host the virus, feed on these animals and transfer the disease from animal to animal and sometimes to humans. West Nile is a new disease in this area so there is little built up local immunity.

What are symptoms? West Nile virus is very hard to diagnose. The symptoms can act like those of influenza, strep or hepatitis. Three to 14 days after a mosquito bite, an infected person might experience mild cold symptoms or more intense symptoms such as headache, pain behind the eyes, neck stiffness, fever, cough, vomiting, jaundice, and scarlet fever-type rash. More serious signs are confusion and high

Most people will recover from West Nile virus. Only one in 150 people infected will show signs of serious illness — very high fever, seizures, tremors, muscle weakness, confusion, and coma. Fatality is seen in 3 to 15 percent of cases reported.

What can be done if someone has West Nile virus? For most people rest is all that is needed. Testing for is very expensive. It is interesting that

Tagamet, aka Cimetidine, (a cousin of Zantac and Pepcid) can give some protection during the disease, but only with physician guidance.

To prevent West Nile virus infection people should protect themselves against mosquito bites. DEET, an insect repellent, sprayed on the clothes (not on the skin) will discourage mosquitoes from biting through clothes. Emptying containers of standing water will reduce mosquito breeding. Vaccinating horses and other hosts for West Nile will reduce the number of infected mosquitoes. So far there is no vaccine for humans. Eventually, humans may become more immune to the disease. Immunity from previous infection can confer 10 to 40 years of

Information about West Nile virus: MD Dept. of Agriculture (410) 841-5870, and Center for Veterinary Public Health (410) 767-5649.

-Bonita J. Portier, D.O.

Serious drug errors occur daily in hospital

More than 40 potentially harmful tor's handwriting. drug errors occur daily in the nation's hospitals, a new study shows. At hospitals and nursing homes in 2 states the most common errors reported were giving hospitalized patients overdoses, medication at the wrong time, or not at

In a typical 300-bed hospital errors occurred at the rate of about 2 per patient daily. Seven percent of the errors were judged potentially harmful.

Mistakes included nurses and other hospital staffers erroneously administering the correct prescriptions, doctors prescribing the wrong drug, and pharmacists incorrectly interpreting a doc-

One watchdog organization urges hospitals to use at least 2 identifiers to ensure that patients receive the proper medication. These identifiers can include checking the patients' wristbands and verbally asking them to identify themselves before administering any drug. They discourage using room numbers as identifiers because patients can be transferred without a nurse's

Medical errors are said to contribute to more than 1 million injuries and 98 thousand deaths annually.

- Staff writer Patricia A. Bianca contributed to this report

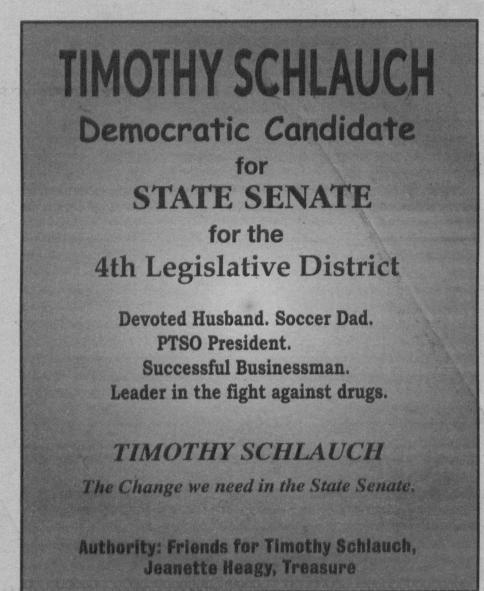




A word about pre-arrangements and pre-financing The funeral serves a wide range of purposes, with religious, psychological, and physical significance. There are many aspects and details to the meaningful funeral that are arranged with the assistance of the professional funeral director, usually at the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

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

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Poor sleep may cause chronic illness

By Patricia A. Bianca Staff Writer

People in the United States seem to be engaged in sleep an average of 7 hours on weeknights. Whether they're sleeping well or long enough remains in question. But no one doubts that taking sleep for granted could be detrimental to one's health.

Evidence now suggests that poor sleep contributes as much as poor nutrition and lack of exercise to chronic illness and possibly to current epidemics of obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease. Lack of sleep has been linked also to low energy, impotence, headaches, learning and memory problems, depression and low-grade inflammation.

While modern lifestyles limit sleep, some conditions rob people of sleep without their even knowing it. One condition is sleep apnea in which the breathing stops, often for a minute or

longer. The decrease in oxygen awakens the brain slightly and forces the person to resume breathing with a loud snore. The sufferer may seem to have enough sleep, but it is of poor quality. These interruptions may occur hundreds of times a night.

Scientists agree on the link between sleep and health but do not know the average amount of sleep needed for optimal health. Several studies show 6.5 or fewer hours of sleep on successive nights caused changes like those from normal aging.

Research on sleep deprivation and health is still in its infancy. Does age or gender, depression or illness, cause people to need more, or less, sleep? Definite answers are not available, only the general certainty that sleep affects health. The most reliable advice for most people now may be only: sleep as much or as little as you feel you need and talk to your doctor if you don't feel

Take Note

Free medical exams.

For women under age 65, working, with insurance that does not cover certain medical exams, the Frederick Memorial Hospital gives free, confidential pelvic exams, pap smears, breast exams, mammograms (if age appropriate).

Exams are made by a female certi- Kelly Toms, 240 379-6013

fied nurse practitioner. If women need follow-up service, the hospital refers them to a provider they choose from among participating providers in Frederick County. The hospital offers printed educational materials in English and Spanish. Information:

Kids can get calcium from flavored milk

Young people are in a calcium crisis. Diet specialists estimate that 70 percent of teen boys and 90 percent of teen girls don't get the calcium they need. They could get it from milk but late, and drank more of the calciumprefer sodas and sugar-sweetened fruit rich fluid. drinks.

Flavored milk could change their habits. A large survey of children ages 5 to 17 showed that they liked milk flavored with orange, vanilla or choco-



the state of the s

Fitness

Strength training to stay stronger longer

Lifting weights may seem mainly for body building. In fact strength, weight, or resistance training has benefits that complement regular aerobic activity like hiking or walking. Both kinds of exercise help people stay fit and live longer.

In strength training the muscles contract against resistance. This simple action builds muscle, stimulates bone growth and increases overall physical endurance. Muscles become smaller and weaker as people age; the process begins slowly between ages 30 and 40. General muscular weakness becomes evident by age 60 or 70.

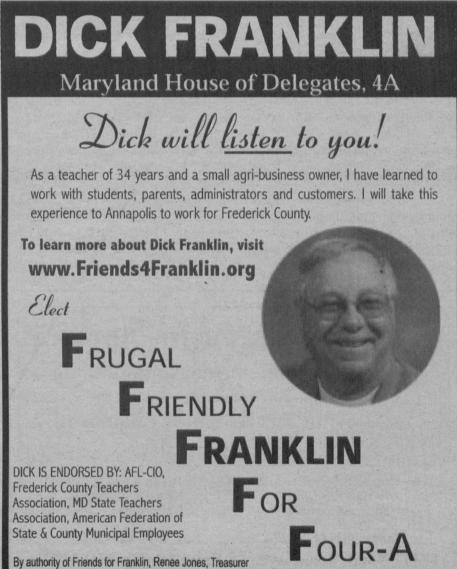
Bones also weaken with age because of their progressive loss of calcium content. Significant loss of calcium can lead to osteoporosis, which consists of loss of bone density and strength. The aging process, hormone changes in men as well as women, and dietary deficiencies, especially lack of calcium and Vitamin D, contribute to the decline in strength. However, the biggest cause is lack of use. Bones and muscles get weak if they are not used.

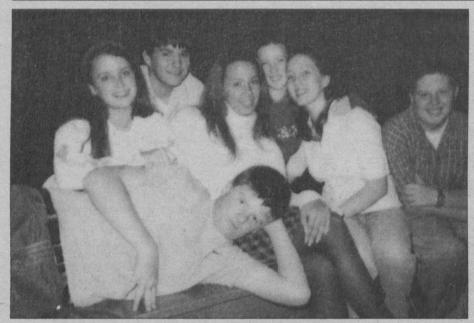
The good news is that strength training exercises can bring remarkable increases in muscle strength; it can stop the loss of bone density and, in many instances, recover it. How? When a muscle contracts during exercise it becomes stronger and the tendon to which it is attached pulls on the bone, promoting bone cell activity. As muscles strengthen, they continually stress the bone, further stimulating bone-building cells.

Building muscle with strength training helps improve balance and muscular coordination, which reduces the tendency to fall, and, if someone does fall, stronger bones make fractures less likely. Stronger muscles give better support to arthritic joints and enables a greater range of motion which makes making movement easier and less painful.

Strength training has other benefits, too. It helps lower blood pressure and cholesterol, thus decreasing these major risk factors for heart disease, and it boosts our metabolism causing a more efficient burning of calories, so that fewer are stored as fat. This helps control weight and decreases the chance of developing diabetes.

- based on an article by Kathy Araiza, Certified Personal Trainer





A Midsummer Night in November at Catoctin HS

By Susan Allen Staff writer

Time and place will shift on the Catoctin High School stage late in November. It will be midsummer's eve in an enchanted wood in Athens, Greece. Royal wedding plans, romances, and a play-within-a-play will all be disrupted by fairies' mischief.

This is the setting and story idea of the first of William Shakespeare's works ever performed at Catoctin, the comedy, A Midsummer's Night Dream.

Mrs. Karen Stitely, head of the drama program and director of the play, began talking with students last year about presenting the play this fall. For this ambitious project, a large cast of actors must work long hours memorizing lines written in Elizabethan English. Shakespeare's comic creations often involve plot twists, mistaken identities, and expressions with double meanings, which can be difficult for the players themselves to sort out before they can bring the play before an audience.

Rehearsals for the show began in mid-September, and the students are

mastering both Shakespeare's nearly foreign language and their positions on stage. Mrs. Stitely has decided to keep both the stage set and the costumes simple, in contrast to the complications of the story lines.

Twenty-five students will appear as Athenian courtiers, fairies, and boisterous members of a traveling company of actors. The cast includes four human romantic figures, Hermia (Colleen Lynch), Helena (Kristen Vorlaufer), Lysander (Adam Blickenstaff), and Demetrius (Brandon Harris), whose relationships are thoroughly confused by the interference of the fairy king.

Leading the magical world are the king and queen of the fairies, Oberon (Josh Bowers) and Titania (Sarah Heiderman), and the elf, Puck (Caitlin Barker.) Chief among the troupe of rustic actors, especially in his own estimation, is Bottom (Dylan Foster.) Bottom becomes the victim of one of Puck's many pranks when he is given the head of a donkey.

The play opens Friday, Nov. 22, with a second performance the following night. Curtain rise is at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$6 for students, \$7 for adults. Information: 1-240-236-8100.

Quilters Health problems and quilting

Mary Ellen Cummings Dispatch writer

Several years ago the Mt. Tabor Quilters, at Rocky Ridge, were asked if they could finish a quilt for a lady whose vision was failing. She had made the quilt top and had started quilting it, but could not see well enough to finish. It was a challenge for our group as she was quilting without frames. When we delivered her finished quilt, her smile and sigh of happiness made all our problems with the project disappear.

Problems with vision are just one of several physical problems that can be worrisome for quilt makers. Susan Delaney Mech, M.D., addresses physical limitations in Quilt World, January 1999 issue. She presents temporary vision problems as a pause in quilt making that need not cause insurmountable barriers. She suggests experimenting with different lighting; using contrasting thread; or making tied quilts. She also recommends continuing attendance to guild and group meetings of quilters.

She says, "Ask for rides if you need them." This is the most difficult change to make. If the quilt maker has been independent, taking herself wherever she needed to go, asking for a ride is a mountain of resistance. I know, I'm there! The details of why it's so difficult to ask for help are too lengthy to

discuss. But, you probably know all the reasons already.

For every positive suggestion made by Ms. Mech, I had a negative response. She says volunteer to fill your days. If you can't see, use both hands, or walk — what can you volunteer for? Many quilt makers live in areas devoid of bus, train or subway modes of travel. Many quilters are senior citizens who don't have family members to transport them and whose friends are also seniors with problems.

On the brighter side, if your physical problem is temporary, read all those quilt magazines you "saved for later". Borrow or rent a recorder and inventory your household furnishings. If you have collectibles, photograph them and relate their history. Make a family history.

Arthritis has many forms and often makes quilting difficult. One of the most repeated instructions by doctors is keep moving. Quilt, but stand and walk around every 15 minutes. Force yourself to ignore the pain. Don't work on a quilting project that you have only a lukewarm affection for. Forget all the rules for making the perfect quilt. Points don't have to match ever time; stitches don't have to be 16 to the inch. Do what your physical limitations allow.

Beginning with January 2003 issue I will begin a series on "Mourning Quilts".



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Looking Ahead

Nov. 5. Election day. No one vote seems to mean much, but without votes by the people we have no government for the people. Every vote counts.

Nov. 9. Craft Fair & Bake Sale. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Calvary United Methodist Church, 2nd & Bentz Streets in Frederick. Free admission. Proceeds will benefit the Cold Weather Shelter.

Nov. 9. Hazardous Waste Dropoff Day. 8 a.m. to 12 noon at the Public Safety Training Facility on Reichs Ford Road. For Frederick County residents only. No businesses. People may bring chemicals such as fuels, cleaners, pesticides, pool chemicals, batteries, etc. Information: 301-694-1848.

Nov. 11. Breast Cancer Support Group. Dinner Social at Pargo's in Frederick. 7 p.m. Information: 301-694-7236.

Nov. 15. Pampered Chef & Basket Bingo. In Activities Building, Thurmont Carnival Grounds. Proceeds benefit Catoctin High School Safe & Sane Class of 2003 Games begin at 7 p.m. Information: Betty Riffle 301-271-2053, Tracy Boyd 301-447-6536

Nov. 15, 16. Christmas Craft Fair (usually held in December) in Hall at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Spaces still open for vendors of homemade craft, woodworking, paintings and pencil art, limited editions, needlepoint, flower arrangements, much for Christmas. Homemade soups and sandwiches available. Space rental and food sale proceeds are used for the Sodality's charitable works. It donates money for the crop walk, the Emmitsburg food

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bank, crop walk, world hunger organizations, and nearly \$2,000 to a sister parish in Nicaraugua, Our Lady of Pilar. Fri.: noon-7 p.m. Sat.: 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Information: 301-447-6343.

Nov. 17. Country Breakfast. Taneytown Rod & Gun Club is sponsoring breakfast 7 a.m. - 11 a.m. featuring pan cakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, etc. Adults \$5.00 children 6-12 \$3.50. Information: 410-751-1685.

Nov. 18. Biodiversity and Global Warming. Talk by Dr. K. C. Kim at the South Mountain Audubon Society meeting, 7:30 p.m., the Adams County Agricultural and Natural Resources Center, lower level, 670 Old Harrisburg Road, Gettysburg. Free.

Nov. 23. Country Butchering & Breakfast. Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company. Breakfast at the Activities Building from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. Advance orders for meat by Nov. 20. Call 301-447-2488 or 301-271-2880. Meat pick up from 6 a.m. to 12 noon.

Nov. 30. Basket Bingo. Gateway Community Services will hold a basket bingo at the Thurmont American Legion, 7-9 p.m. All proceeds will go to support families with emergency needs in the greater Thurmont area. Information: 301-271-0443.

Dec. 7. Beef, Turkey, & Ham Supper & Annual Christmas Bazaar. Sponsored by Elias Lutheran Church, Emmitsburg. Beginning at 1 p.m. Supper includes filling, mashed potatoes, gravy, sauerkraut, sweet potatoes, corn, applesauce, and cake. Adults \$8, Children 6-12 \$3, Carryout \$9. Crafts, home baked products, and white elephant table.

301-447-3100.

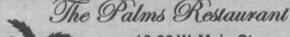
For Sale: VAN '88 Dodge passenger van, white, 188k miles. Good condition. \$750. 301-447-3220

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The Emmitsburg Dispatch – P.O. Box 358 – Emmitsburg, MD 21727 301-447-3039 – publisher@emmitsburgdispatch.com

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