



The Emmitsburg Dispatch

Vol II, No.5

news and opinion in the service of truth

May 2003

Elder voted to Town Board; citizens reject annexation

By Raymond Buchheister
Publisher

At the May 5th Town meeting Art Elder was sworn in as Emmitsburg's new commissioner. He defeated incumbent Ted Brennan and candidate Frank Henry. Elder and Brennan were among those who waited close to the Town office in anticipation of the election results which were posted in the window around 10:30 p.m. on the day of the election, April 29.

Polls opened at 7 a.m. and by 9 a.m. 54 residents had cast votes. Voting was steady throughout the entire day, and on some occasions people waited in line, election judges said. In past elections, poor voter turnout resulted when only one commissioner seat was vacant. For this election it seems residents turned out in force to vote against the resolution passed by the Town last August.

Annexation. The resolution, passed by only 2 Town commissioners, would have caused the Town to annex 67 acres on N. Seton Ave as requested by Buckeye Development. The company had intended to turn the property into a residential extension of Emmitsburg.

When the polls closed at 8 p.m., 459 votes had been cast - 101 more than were cast in the last Mayoral election in 2002. Of that total 339 voted against the housing development annexation, 119 voted for it, and one voter abstained. According to documents

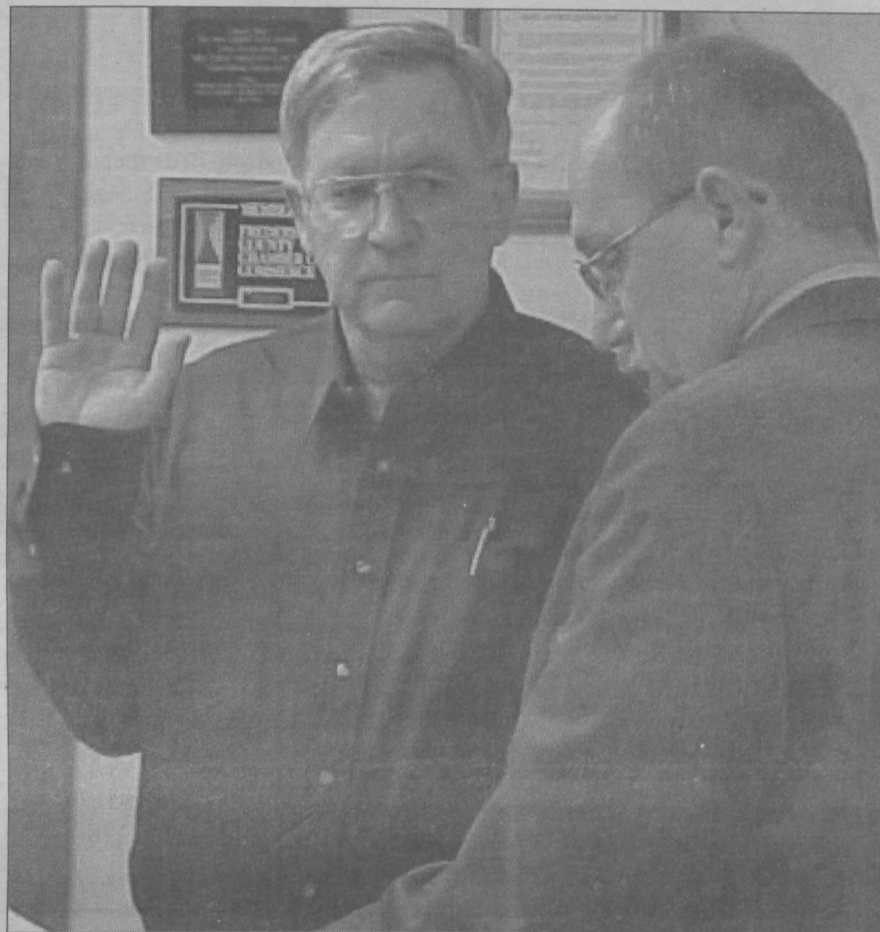
available to the election judges, Emmitsburg has 1188 voters registered by political party.

The final votes for commissioner were: 275 for Art Elder, 126 for Ted Brennan, 50 for Frank Henry, one write-in vote, and 7 abstentions.

Art Elder. Being an elected official will be a first for Art Elder. Shortly after election results were posted, The Emmitsburg Dispatch asked him what his initial thoughts were. He said, "I'm here for the people. That's my mandate." The main reason he ran for commissioner was "dissatisfaction with current government."

Elder said his first order of business will be to address the repair of the Town's most outdated water lines. He mentioned those on DePaul St. and N. Seton Ave. among others. These lines are the same that former Commissioner Ted Brennan and Commissioner Cliff Sweeney had in mind when they voted for annexation. The Town would have paid half the cost of their repair in order to service the housing development.

Elder seemed to make a commitment: "I don't want to vote on anything until I know what the majority of residents want," Elder said. He did not explain how he would learn what the majority of Emmitsburgians — at least 1,200 people — would stand on any issue. Without knowing this Elder will have to abstain from voting, or motion to postpone the vote, to give him time



to follow through on this pledge.

COPE. Notably, those celebrating with Elder at the Ott House included several members of Citizens Organized to Preserve Emmitsburg (COPE). It was COPE that formally petitioned Mayor Jim Hoover last October with 354 signatures to hold a referendum on the Silver Fancy Farm annexation.

They also supported Elder's campaign for commissioner. In the group at the Ott House was one of COPE's leaders, Bill O'Neil. When asked what he

thought about the election results he said, "This is a clear mandate to preserve the quality of life that Emmitsburg residents have come to cherish for more than 200 years."

The group was celebrating not only both victories but also Art Elder's birthday. Elder is 60. This year's election judges were, Carol Pavek, Lois Hartdagen and Danielle White. Judges were present the entire day managing the electoral process and tallying votes after the polls closed.

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Daughters of Charity environmental plans recommended for approval

By Susan Allen
Staff writer

Emmitsburg has a Town ordinance limiting the height of grass. In August 2002 the Daughters of Charity applied to the Town Planning Commission for an exemption. The sisters had begun the first phase of planting a streamside buffer along Willow Rill, only to learn that the 18-inch-high grasses conflicted with the ordinance.

At their March 31 meeting, the Commission unanimously agreed to recommend that the Town Council

grant the exemption. It also made the following recommendations for future projects by other waterside property owners.

1. Applicants should have land surveys and audits performed by the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). In the case of the Daughters of Charity, a land audit had been performed by the USDA and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR.) Those agencies have standards and plans for riparian buffers — that is, river and stream banks used to prevent erosion and filter pollutants before they can run

off or leach into streams.

2. Grass height limits will be determined by the agencies with expertise in the matter. The Town Council must approve future plans before any planting is done. This will also help create a local inventory of environmental projects.

Town manager David Haller intends to ask the USDA Soil Conservation Service to address the Town Council on these environmental issues. This may lead to a land audit on the creek bed areas owned by the Town.

"Care of the Earth." The Daughters of Charity have been studying, surveying, and planning their environmental work here since 1996. A

—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.

Quotation incorrectly attributed

When you have a literary quotation floating around in your head: "Unlike Shakespeare, we are unable to 'count the ways we love'..." [editorial, March 2003, p. 4, "Why Emmitsburg should not have another housing development"] and want to use it, please research the quotation and attribute it to the correct author. In this case

Elizabeth Barrett Browning, "Sonnets from the Portuguese" Stanza 43. [see below] -Elizabeth Barrett Browning 1806-1861; Shakespeare 1564-1615.

P.S. In being accurate you are not only informing your reader, but educating the reader as well.

— Ann Marshall
Emmitsburg

*How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.
I love thee to the depth and breadth and height
My soul can reach, when feeling out of sight
For the ends of Being and ideal Grace.
I love thee to the level of every day's
Most quiet need, by sun and candle-light,
I love thee freely, as men strive for Right.
I love thee purely, as they turn from Praise.
I love thee with the passion put to use
In my old griefs, and with my childhood's faith.
I love thee with a love I seemed to lose
With my lost saints — I love thee with the breath,
Smiles, tears, of all my life! — and, if God choose,
I shall but love thee better after death.*

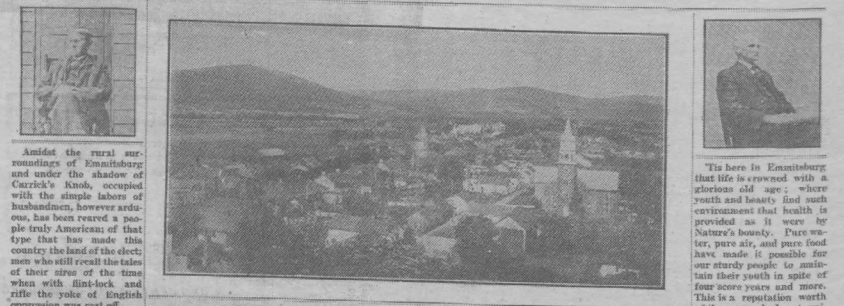
Tree Wells Correction

Please do not call the Town Office about adopting a tree well. Call Frankie Fields at 410-756-2380.

The Weekly Chronicle.

ESTABLISHED OVER A QUARTER OF A CENTURY
VOL. XXXI
EMMITTSBURG, MARYLAND, FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 1910
TERMS—\$1.00 A YEAR IN ADVANCE
NO. 98

Age Sits With Decent Grace Upon Their Visage, and Worthily Becomes Their Silver Locks



This here in Emmitsburg that life is crowned with a glorious old age; where youth and beauty find such environment that health is provided as it were by Nature's bounty. Pure water, pure air, and pure food have made it possible for our sturdy people to maintain their youth in spite of four score years and more. This is a reputation worth while a reward almost unique an asset invaluable.

The Remarkable Longevity of Our Citizens.

The Chronicle has analyzed the issue to those worthy citizens living and died who in the last twenty years passed the five-score mark. The list prepared by George F. Brown, Esq., in the most favorable way possible in a community of this size. It shows beyond the shadow of a doubt that there is something here conducive to long health and long life. We attribute it to the special surroundings given us by a most kind God; pure air, pure water and a clear climate. It is also true that a wholesome reputation and those things have aided in the great result. There is no doubt that the people of this town are a credit to the community. We take pleasure in the fact and are proud to call them citizens. We have endeavored to make a list of the remarkable longevity of our citizens, which we hope will be of some interest to our readers. The following noteworthy statistics will give you an idea of the longevity of the people of this community. This table is especially compiled by means of our own statistics, and will show the approximate number of the population of the community, which we hope will be of some interest to our readers. The following noteworthy statistics will give you an idea of the longevity of the people of this community. This table is especially compiled by means of our own statistics, and will show the approximate number of the population of the community, which we hope will be of some interest to our readers.

Mr. Brown	92
Mr. Jones	90
Mr. Smith	88
Mr. White	86
Mr. Black	84
Mr. Green	82
Mr. Grey	80
Mr. Blue	78
Mr. Red	76
Mr. Yellow	74
Mr. Purple	72
Mr. Pink	70
Mr. Brown	68
Mr. Jones	66
Mr. Smith	64
Mr. White	62
Mr. Black	60
Mr. Green	58
Mr. Grey	56
Mr. Blue	54
Mr. Red	52
Mr. Yellow	50
Mr. Purple	48
Mr. Pink	46
Mr. Brown	44
Mr. Jones	42
Mr. Smith	40
Mr. White	38
Mr. Black	36
Mr. Green	34
Mr. Grey	32
Mr. Blue	30
Mr. Red	28
Mr. Yellow	26
Mr. Purple	24
Mr. Pink	22
Mr. Brown	20
Mr. Jones	18
Mr. Smith	16
Mr. White	14
Mr. Black	12
Mr. Green	10
Mr. Grey	8
Mr. Blue	6
Mr. Red	4
Mr. Yellow	2

"HOW BLEST IS HE WHO CROWNS, IN SHADES LIKE THESE, A YOUTH OF LABOR WITH AN AGE OF EASE!—AND, ALL HIS PROSPECTS BRIGHTEN TO THE LAST."

Pictured above is the front page of Emmitsburg's The Weekly Chronicle for Jan. 21, 1910. Elizabeth Noonan of Lansdale, PA, sent the newspaper to The Emmitsburg Dispatch with other old clippings, photographs, copies of Gettysburg and Frederick newspapers with references to Emmitsburg, and, with the original ribbon, an as-new copy of the first annual commencement program for Emmitsburg High School, dated May 31—June 3, 1910. Soon The Emmitsburg Dispatch will begin to feature reprints of articles, pages, photos, and pictures of other memorabilia of historic Emmitsburg and its environs.

Help us preserve documents and artifacts from this precious valley of American history

Vestiges of natives and immigrants who made this valley rich in history remain in our midst. In a basement on Main St., we are told, there is a secret cupboard where hated Papists hid their precious vessels. On a plot of land just outside Town, stone relics of pioneer houses built in a circle speak of forts and screeching attacks. Some day The Emmitsburg Dispatch hopes to tell their story, and the stories of other physical relics of our past now possessed, we believe, by some of our readers and others in this area — photographs, letters, playbills, signs, emblems, and most other kinds of informative memorabilia — but especially former Emmitsburg newspapers (there are large gaps in known collections). So, we ask you our readers to help us fill the gaps with anything you may have. Some things of this sort have value as antiques. Most have great sentimental value to the owners. We would make copies of what you have, treating the objects with professional care and wholly in accord with the owners' wishes. When we have enough information about the objects, we will reprint documents and articles and print photos of objects in this newspaper. Future generations looking at issues of The Emmitsburg Dispatch, when it, too, will be old, will surely be grateful for the cooperation of this community and its newspaper. For we will have helped preserve their history. You may mail materials to: P.O. Box 358, Emmitsburg, MD, 21727 or hand deliver them to the Emmitsburg Library at its temporary location in Silo Hill. Information: 301-447-3039.

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Failure to act lost grant money for sisters

Elder criticizes the board

By Raymond Buchheister
Publisher

Art Elder was sworn in to a 3-year term as an Emmitsburg Town commissioner on May 5. The same evening, at his first town meeting, he voted on 16 agenda items and made his first comments.

Members of the Board of Commissioners were struggling with a text amendment to allow riparian buffers which would be exempt from Town Ordinance Section 8-12-040. The buffers would consist of wetlands, banks and other low-lying areas along waterways. They would be allowed to contain specific types of trees, bushes and grasses. Town officials debated about what types of plants and height limits to allow.

It seemed that none of the members knew which plants to allow, and there was some concern over the height of 2 types of grasses: full-season grasses which can grow to 3 feet, and warm-season grass which can grow to 7 feet.

Last year the Daughters of Charity of



St. Joseph proposed such a buffer for Willow Rill, and Town officials said they would put something in writing so that the sisters could obtain a grant for the project. The board never followed through and the time for obtaining the grant money expired.

After some tense exchanges among the commissioners, new Commissioner

Art Elder said, "This has been going on way too long. I've seen this Board act pretty fast on things before. You've changed text amendments, you've changed zones, you dumped a car wash in a guy's back yard."

Elder was referring to a new car wash which the Town Planning and Zoning Committee approved for construction next to the Exxon in Silo Hill. In several meetings Elder, who owned the only car wash in Town, vocally opposed the approval, and in his campaign for commissioner he stated that the car wash shouldn't be allowed because the Town lacks water.

Elder was interrupted by Commissioner Pat Boyle, "Excuse me, sir, You can't mention that. It's a conflict

of interest."

Elder asked that his comment about the car wash be struck from the minutes but continued, "Here a lady wants to just plant some grass seed in her back yard and this has been going on for a year. I think you ought to work with the sisters a little bit better and get this taken care of."

To move the item forward Commissioner Rosensteel made a motion for the creation of a text amendment based on the state guidelines for riparian buffers, and that the Town staff should have the amendment ready to be voted on at the next Town meeting on June 2. The Board passed her motion by a 4-0 vote.

-See related story on front page

Daughters

—Continued from page 1

volunteer committee, "Care of the Earth," was formed in response to information from missionary sisters in Madagascar which links some world poverty to destruction of the environment.

According to Sister Mary Jo Stein, the 9-member committee was directed to educate the sisters on environmental issues, and then to advocate environmental protection within the Daughters of Charity religious order and throughout the Church.

The committee publishes a quarterly newsletter, which is their primary educational tool. They have also established an "Earth Room" in the Provincial House on S. Seton Ave., which includes a small library, photographs chronicling their work, posters, and displays.

Exemplifying the adage, "think globally, act locally," the Daughters requested a USDA/DNR audit of their

properties in 1997. Their survey identified 5 buffer zone areas, about 17 acres in all, to protect Tom's Creek and Willow Rill. It also recommended the types of grasses, shrubs, and trees which should be planted.

4,200 shrubs and trees. Work was first begun on the farmland owned by the Daughters of Charity outside the Town boundaries. Tom's Creek runs through and alongside those fields. Warm-season grasses and 4,200 shrubs and trees will make up the riparian buffer areas when all planting is completed.

The Care of the Earth committee emphasizes that their work is fueled by their faith and their conviction that God expects people to be good stewards of the earth. In 2000 they participated in a spiritual retreat at Genesis Farm in Blairstown, N.J. The theme of that experience was the "connectedness" between God, persons, and the earth — human actions need to be based in that connection.

NOTICE OF A PROPOSED REAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASE EMMITSBURG MARYLAND

The Mayor and Board of Commissioners of Emmitsburg, Maryland propose to increase real property taxes.

1. For the tax year beginning July 1, 2003, the estimated real property assessable base will increase by 5.5%, from \$84,693,515 to \$89,354,366.
2. If Emmitsburg maintains the current tax rate of \$.36 per \$100 of assessment, real property tax revenues will increase by 5.5% resulting in \$16,779 of new real property tax revenues.
3. In order to fully offset the effect of increasing assessments, the real property tax rate should be reduced to \$.341, the constant yield tax rate.
4. Emmitsburg is considering not reducing its real property tax rate enough to fully offset increasing assessments. Emmitsburg proposes to adopt a real property tax rate of \$.36 per \$100 of assessment. This tax rate is 5.6% higher than the constant yield tax rate and will generate \$16,977 in additional property tax revenues.

A public hearing on the proposed real property tax rate increase will be held at 7:30. on June 2, 2003 at the Emmitsburg Town Office, 22 East Main Street, Emmitsburg, MD. The hearing is open to the public, and public testimony is encouraged. Persons with questions regarding this hearing may call 301-447-2313 for further information.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Town of Emmitsburg Budget (2003-2004)
Public Hearing

The Town of Emmitsburg will consider for
adoption FY 2003-2004 budget
on Monday, June 2, 2003 at 7:30 p.m.
at the Town Office

EDITORIAL

Town to get more tax revenue

State misleadingly says Town to increase taxes

The Maryland State Department of Assessment and Taxation has published a notice that is misleading where it is not simply false.

Maryland law obliges all 157 municipalities in the State to publish certain notices, word for word, in "newspapers of record." This newspaper is not one of them, but Emmitsburg Town clerk, Donna Thompson, placed it in The Emmitsburg Dispatch as a service to our readers.

The errors in the notice begin in the headline, which refers to a non-event, and in the first sentence: "The Mayor and Board of Commissioners of Emmitsburg, Maryland propose to increase real property taxes." They do not.

Then what is the Department talking about? Here's another public statement whose multiple errors of fact and implication can be explained only weaving comments into the exact words

"EMMITSBURG MARYLAND NOTICE OF A PROPOSED REAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

"The Mayor and Board of Commissioners of Emmitsburg, Maryland propose to increase real property taxes."

[They could do this only by raising the property tax rate. They have made

no such proposal.]

"1. For the tax year beginning July 1, 2003, the estimated real property assessable base will increase by 5.5%, from \$84,693,515 to \$89,354,366."

[Buildings and land make up the "assessable base." The assessable base increased because some new houses have been built recently and are subject to real estate taxes.]

"2. If Emmitsburg maintains the current tax rate of \$0.36 per \$100 of assessment, real property tax revenues will increase by 5.5% resulting in \$16,779 of new real property tax revenues.

[Real estate taxes on the new houses will bring the Town a whopping \$16,779 of additional revenue. No, no, Maryland says. The tax rate should go up or down so that the Town gets the same amount of this tax revenue each year — no matter how things change all around. If the ancient rusty water sytem suddenly collapses, if a tornado rips up Main Street, real property taxes must remain the same. That's Maryland law. And if things just stay the same, what could Emmitsburg do with all that extra \$16,779?]

So lower the tax rate:

"3. In order to fully offset the effect of increasing assessments, the real property tax rate should be reduced to \$0.341, the constant yield tax rate.

[This is what the Town should do, says, the Department of Assessment and Taxation. Instead, it says, our greedy Town officials want to keep all that new tax money for Emmitsburg:]

"4. Emmitsburg is considering not reducing its real property tax rate enough to fully offset increasing assessments. Emmitsburg proposes to adopt ["retain" would be the correct word] a real property tax rate of \$0.36 per \$100 of assessment. This tax rate is 5.6% higher than the constant yield tax rate and will generate \$16,977 in additional property tax revenues.

[The Department repeats this number here so that Town citizens are appropriately shocked by such a huge

increase in revenue for the Town.]

"A public hearing on the proposed real property tax rate increase will be held at 7:30 p.m. on June 2, 2003 at the Emmitsburg Town Office, 22 East Main Street, Emmitsburg, MD.

"The hearing is open to the public, and public testimony is encouraged. Persons with questions regarding this hearing may call 301-447-2313 for further information."

Come on. Let's all go tell the Town officials we don't want this extra revenue from new houses. P. S. A call to the Department plunged me into a nest of menus. After I had descended to the third batch down, I punched a number randomly — to reach a living being. "Public Affairs department?" I asked.

"We don't have any." "Any office telephone directory?" "No, none on our computer." (in A.D. 2003. Directories have been were computerized for 30 years). So, I tried the legal department.

Friday, 1:15 p.m.: "None of the lawyers are here. One will be back soon." "How many work there?" "Seven. I'll leave a message." 7 p.m.: No reply. Monday, Tuesday: No reply. I finally disturbed Mayor Jim Hoover at his home. Thankfully, he knew the answers to my questions. But first he said with alarm, "What proposed real property tax increase?" You'd think the Department would have told him beforehand what he was going to do.

— Bill Steo
Editor

Is this a 'nice little war' for the profit of companies that will rebuild Iraq?

Elsewhere in this issue we report an allegation that our government prosecuted the war in Iraq for the benefit of American companies who would rebuild what we destroyed. We refuse to believe that President Bush himself had this objective.

Executive branch. Still, there is valid question: How powerfully did the prospect of immense profits for American companies motivate some members of our government? Very many of them come from, and have ties to, companies that contract with the government.

We are not alluding to Republicans only; this is a bipartisan war. Democrats complained a bit, but without their support, the war may not have happened. If the Democrats had played their proper role as the opposition party, they might have taught Americans why the war against Iraq is morally indefensible.

Congress, too. The question about reconstruction profits applies not only to the Bush administration, but to members of Congress. In our day it is not possible for candidates to run for Congress, or get elected, without wealth of their own and others'.

Members of Congress accept large contributions to their political campaigns from corporations, major and minor. They accept lobbying in public and in private from those who can afford lobbyists. Individually, they are prosperous enough to own corporate stocks and bonds, and would not object

to an increase in their net worth.

The hankering for war profits surely affects some private business owners, too. Your editor personally heard one say, "What this country needs is a nice little war."

Money and politics. This illicit union is known to everyone. Yes, some members of Congress have tried to make money less of a tool to obtain favorable legislation, but recent progress has been stalled.

On the first day of this month a 3-judge court rejected the McCain-Feingold bill to restrict campaign finances as unconstitutional. The bill will go to the Supreme Court where the outcome is uncertain.

Where it can lead. The public seems to know that money and politics exist in unholy wedlock, but the full ugliness of the consequences has not been exposed. We know our country already has a political system and a national government that exists, to a large extent, of, by, and for the wealthy. We know that is not why our country was founded. But how many realize that the system is extremely dangerous?

The power of the wealthy to influence legislation does not merely lead to further setbacks for small businesses, as well as for the poor, the sick, the elderly. The lust for wealth promotes materialistic values. It can result in a tyranny of plutocrats. And one way rich tyrants perpetuate their system is with nice little wars.

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The Emmitsburg Dispatch

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**Advertising and copy deadline
May 20**

Neither the publisher nor the editor will be liable for misinformation, misprinting, or typographical errors. The publisher reserves the right to edit any submitted material.

TOWN NEWS

Town Manager's Report April 2003

Emmitsburg Town Manager Dave Haller's report for April is summarized here:

Trash

Trash will be picked up on Tuesday, May 27, instead of Monday, May 26. Regular trash pickup days remain Monday and Friday.

Streets

1. A number of street lights repaired and hung with red, white & blue bows on Main Street in honor of our troops.

2. 'Coal patch' repairs were made on some streets around Town and some new street and stop signs re-installed.

3. Storm drain inlets in all Town developments were checked and cleaned.

Water

1. *Note:* Staff is trying to find 30 single-family homes built 1983 - 1988 to use as water sampling sites in order to perform State mandated water quality tests.

2. Staff is continuing to work with the County Health Dept. and land owners of the Long and McKenna properties (on Annandale Rd.) to get new wells drilled and get

those properties off the Town's public water system. Due to their location it is difficult for the Town to supply those properties with good quality water.

Wastewater

1. Staff is working with Fox & Associates (engineers) to prepare plans for the re-construction of the sanitary sewer main that runs from N. Seton Ave. to behind the old Rutter's store. This sewer is the biggest contributor to wild water problems at the treatment plant.

2. This month the Town consumed only an average of 273,774 GPD of drinking water but treated 611,000 GPD. This means an avg. of 337,226 GPD — 55 percent of all water treated — was wild water. On 4 days the Town treated over one million gallons, although the capacity of the plant is only 800,000 GPD.

Parks

Repairs to the Town pool seem to be progressing. We believe it will open on time, but it is not certain. Refurbishing of roads, playground equipment and picnic tables continues.

Zoning

16 permits were issued in April, including for a portable classroom and a temporary sales trailer.

Nothing to do this summer?

Town and deputies offer sky-high program for youths

Inspired by a sheriff's deputy, Jim Moxley, Town officials have launched the Emmitsburg Rocket Club, giving youths something spectacular to do. Members will learn, hands-on, the National Association of Rocketry's (NAR) safety code, applications in science, math, and physics — and how to send rockets sky-high.

Moxley, a resident deputy from the Frederick County Sheriff's Department, said he enjoyed rocketry when he was young. "It was safe, fun, and exciting."

Members must be residents aged 10-17 and register at the Town office on Main St. by May 23. Meetings are scheduled for Thursdays at 7 p.m., starting May 29.

Rocket launches in early summer at times to be announced.

Like other youth activities, the Club needs volunteers as judges and for various activities, but mostly the participation of parents.

The Emmitsburg Rocket Club has been organized and funded by the Town and by resident deputies.

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A word from the Mayor

I received a letter from Dianne Walbrecker asking who is in charge of Town meetings and what responsibility the Mayor, Commissioners and Town Manager has at the meetings.

The Emmitsburg Town code defines who is in charge of Town Council meetings. It also outlines responsibilities of the Mayor, President of the Board and the Town Manager. The President of the Board of Commissioners is responsible for running meetings and keeping the order. The Mayor and the Town Manager have no authority over the Commissioners at meetings, and neither has voting authority. If the Mayor feels the Commissioners voted for something that may not be in the best interest of the Town, he has the power to veto their decision. If the Mayor is planning to veto a decision, he must do so within 10 days.

After discussing this matter with the author of the question, it seems that her question was more related to: Why does it appear that the Town Manager is running the Town meeting? This issue has been questioned before and steps have been taken to shift more responsibility on to the commissioners, more so to the President of the Board as the Town code requires.

The Town Manager is responsible for providing a staff report for almost every agenda item. The intent of the staff report is to assist the Mayor and commissioners, not to lead them. When members of the board are not prepared for meetings, they rely too heavily on staff reports to guide them

rather than coming to their own conclusion. This is when it appears that the Town Manager is running the meeting.

According to Roberts Rules of Order and Town Policy, audience members and members of the board shall wait to be recognized by the President of the Board before making comments. When the President of the Board calls on someone to speak, he/she shall be given time to speak without interruption. The President of the Board is responsible for preventing and/or stopping anyone from interrupting the speaker.

Although the Town Manager may have a dominating voice and somewhat intimidating to some, the President of the Board must maintain order and allow only one person to speak at a time. Comments made from the audience, Town Manager and/or other members of the Town Council should be directed to the President of the Board. This helps to prevent individuals from getting in to personal debates. Generally, when 2 or more individuals are allowed to get in to a debate, the issue becomes personal, and each of their personal bias get involved in Town matters.

I believe that the Town should have open discussions on Town matters. I have made improvements to provide that. However, I do not agree that the Mayor, Commissioners, Town staff or audience members should publicly get in to unprofessional debates and involve personal bias in to Town matters.

— Jim Hoover
Mayor of Emmitsburg

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Coalition to Prevent Drug Abuse continues to develop

By Michele Cuseo
Staff writer

Emmitsburg citizens and local officials are continuing to meet and discuss concerns over local drug abuse issues and to develop plans to reduce drug abuse in our area. Lively discussions occurred and many ideas were placed on the table during the latest meeting on April 15.

The Coalition identified its draft Mission Statement: "To prevent the abuse of alcohol, tobacco and drugs by the citizens of the greater Emmitsburg area through comprehensive educational and prevention programs."

The first meeting of the Coalition brought in 45 people and highlighted a White House representative, Mary Ann Solburg. She is Deputy Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy and gave a presentation to the group.

Commissioner Ted Brennan headed the second meeting that had close to 20 people in attendance, including local citizens, Town commissioners, the sheriff's department, Mt. St. Mary's College, a Catoctin High School student, a local Cass representative, a Frederick County Health Dept. official, local "Friends of the Library" group, and an Emmitsburg Dispatch writer. The Coalition plans to obtain funding, general support and commitments to help support its mission from local groups, organizations, local, state and federal officials and many volunteers.

Attending citizens identified a

problem with local youth not having anything to do in Emmitsburg. It was a unanimous opinion that inactivity contributed to possible drug and alcohol abuse among the youth in the community. Attendees commented that Emmitsburg has no movie theatre, no bowling alley, no youth center and very few local (and/or affordable) camps/programs for local youth.

One attendee mentioned that about 3 years ago the town had discussed the youth problem and tried to promote the idea of a youth center, but it never materialized because there was no commitment to fund the program.

Some attendees were pushing hard to have a hotline installed for community members to call and report drug related crimes or activities as they are happening. They thought this would result in a quicker response from the police.

Some attendees wanted the Town commissioners to look into removing the pay phone booth located outside of the liquor store on the Square. They believe that drug pushers are using the phone to make drug connections.

Jean Bird, Frederick County Health Department's Coordinator for Underage Drinking and Drug Prevention, told the group that a drug prevention program has already been developed to be placed in every high school in Frederick County.

Ms. Bird mentioned that on June 6 the Health Dept. is holding a meeting

—Continued on page 15

How war can be good for the (oil)well-connected

By Bill Steo
Editor

Halliburton ranks at the top of energy corporations. It has a contract with the U. S. government to put out oil well fires and perform other services in Iraq for a potential cost of \$7 billion. Here are some interesting facts about the contract which were made public April 27 in a television news program:

— Halliburton obtained the contract before the war began.

— The contract was given without competitive bidding from any other contractor.

— The contract was secret because, says the Army Corps of Engineers, it was classified secret.

— Halliburton, based in Houston, was headed for 5 years by Vice President Dick Cheney.

— When Cheney was Secretary of Defense under the first President Bush, he awarded Halliburton the Army's first private contract to manage tent cities.

— Halliburton failed to get the contract in the following years, but got it again when Cheney was elected vice president. So far, it has collected \$1.15 billion on a 10-year contract.

— Halliburton continues to compensate Cheney, at "less than \$180,000 a year" till 2005

The executive director of the Center for Public Integrity says the contract may not violate any laws but is a "sweetheart deal."

Bechtel's secret. Another news source revealed on April 30 that the

Bechtel Corporation has government contracts for work in Iraq amounting to \$680 million. This arrangement also has a few interesting aspects:

— Bechtel, too, got the contracts without competitive bidding.

— The administration "waived" (its word) U.S. law to shut out foreign companies from the bidding.

— Bechtel can engage foreign companies as subcontractors, but for no more than 50 percent of the work.

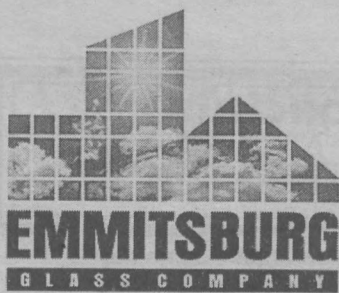
— This contract, also, was secret for many months.

The reconstruction of Iraq has an estimated price tag of from \$25 billion to \$100 billion. This prospect has not been missed by other countries. Late in April the foreign minister of Syria alleged that the United States started the Iraq war so that American corporations could profit from rebuilding what would be destroyed.

Editor's note: We report this allegation, but do not believe this was President Bush's objective. Still, how powerfully did the prospect of immense profits motivate members of the government, both the Executive and Legislative branches? Most seem prosperous enough to own corporate stocks and bonds, and to make large contributions to political campaigns. And many members of both parties in both houses of Congress, supported the war.

Our country now has a political system and a federal government that exists of, by, and for the wealthy. That is not necessarily evil, but it is extremely dangerous. It could even lead to wars.

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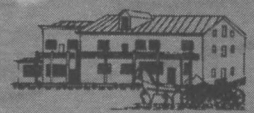
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Town gives awards to 4th graders in 'If I Were Mayor' contest

By Mayor Jim Hoover
Special to The Emmitsburg Dispatch

Every year the Town Office participates in the "If I Were Mayor" contest for 4th graders held by the Maryland Municipal League (MML). The students write a summary of the changes they would make and/or improvements to the Town if they were Mayor.

The MML provides a \$250 Savings Bond to the winner for the State of

Maryland. The Emmitsburg mayor and commissioners have also always selected the Town's own first through 3rd winners, and awarded prizes. The presentation to the children was held at the May 5th Town Meeting, when the children received checks.

This year the First Place award, \$100, went to Chelsea Gelwicks; Second Place, \$50, to ShaLeigh Saylor; and Third Place, \$25 to Travis Rohrbaugh.

pleasure to be your mayor; it would also be a privilege.

By Travis Rohrbaugh
Third Prize Winner

If I were mayor of Emmitsburg, I would make some changes. I would get some more traffic lights built around Jubilee, because there was an accident with a motorcycle and a truck. The traffic light can have a camera on the poles and catch speeders. The light can be a speed trap. If

someone sees the camera it catches him or her no matter what happens. The light turns red every minute. It will put all the lights around Jubilee.

Second, I would get new stores. New stores would have everything you would need. Stores would have all food and some have arcades. The arcade will be for 4 years and over.

Third, I would get more hospitals so we don't have to go so far. New hospitals would be good because they will come in handy because you don't have to take a long ride to get there. Thanks for voting me to be mayor of Emmitsburg.

"If I Were Mayor"

By Chelsea Gelwicks
First Prize Winner

If I were mayor I would change Emmitsburg! Emmitsburg would have seatbelts for school buses so students would have a safer ride to and from school. Also students wouldn't turn around stand up or talk on school buses.

If I were mayor of Emmitsburg, I would make a traffic light at McDonald's. I would do this because I don't want any more cars wrecking so people won't get hurt or worse killed.

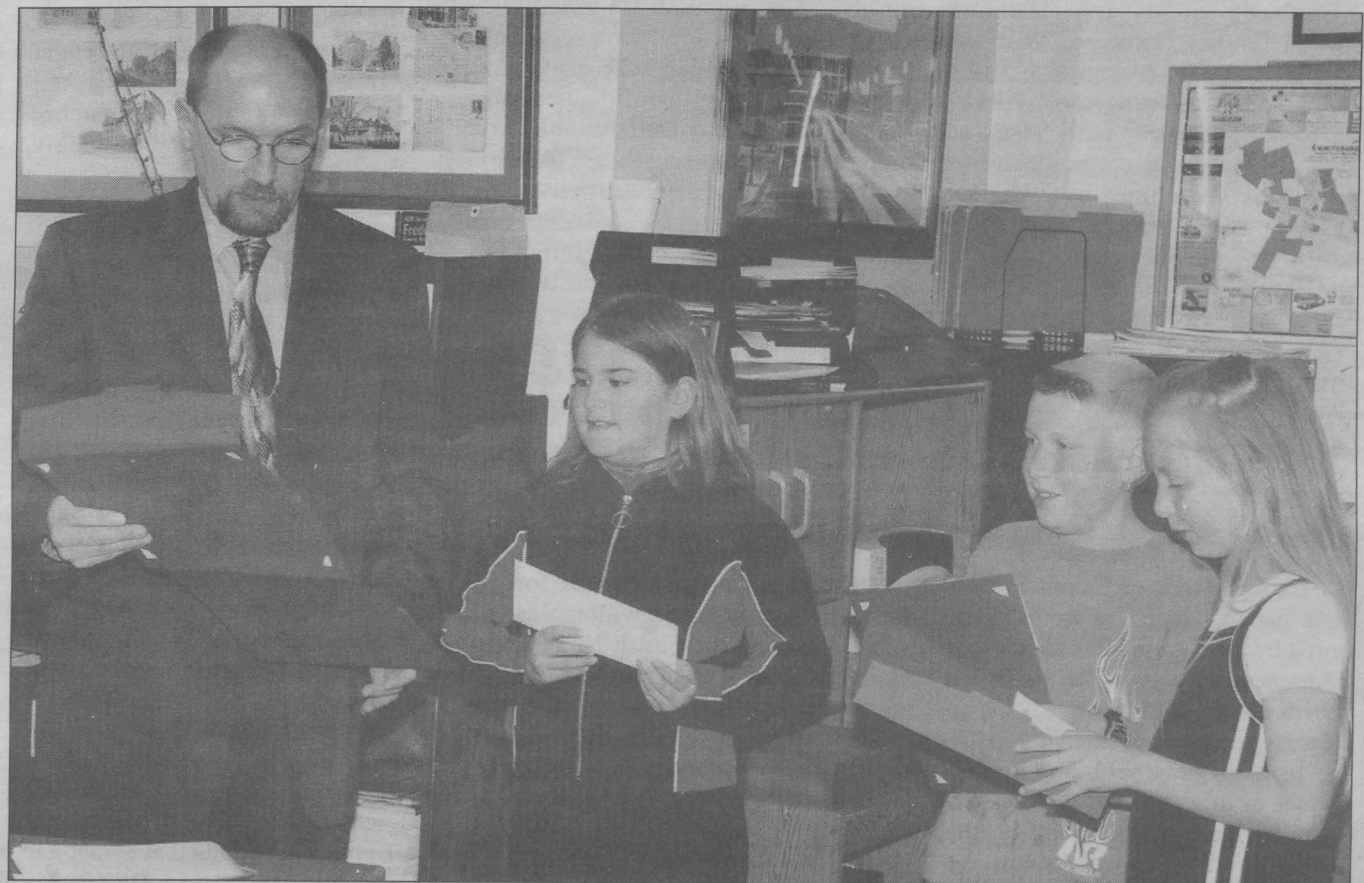
Also if I were mayor of Emmitsburg, I would make the Emmitsburg pool have a softer floor on the bottom. I would do that so children don't go home crying, "my toes hurt." Also I would make it so everyone can swim at the same time because adults should be able to swim with their children! I want Emmitsburg to be a better place. I also think schools should have fences to keep bad people out and kids in! I think these changes will be good for Emmitsburg.

By ShaLeigh Saylor
Second Prize Winner

If I were mayor of Emmitsburg, I would make many changes. First, I would put a fast food restaurant because, face it, McDonald's is getting really old. Also, one fast food restaurant isn't enough. I would put in a Hoss's.

I would put an animal shelter because there's a lot of abandoned pets. Also because animals shouldn't have to be outside in the rain.

Another change I would make



would be put in a Sports center. I would put the Sports center because there's only baseball and softball fields.

If I could I would improve the school because there's already 2 portables and they're talking about putting in another. Also there are 25 4th-grade students in each portable and it gets really crowded.

Also I would improve the parks because the parks aren't very fun. Also because kids are supposed to have fun at parks but I do not see any kids having fun.

I would also put in a traffic light by Jubilee. I would do this because then there wouldn't be as many accidents. I would also enlarge the Post Office. I would enlarge the Post Office because it's really small and not a lot of people can fit inside at time.

Please elect me, ShaLeigh Saylor, to be your mayor; it would be my

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RELIGION

A word from the pulpit

Resurrection hope

By Rev. Wade Martin
Trinity United Methodist Church

As Christians we are Easter people. The foundation of our faith is based on knowing that Jesus Christ was raised from the dead, and it is from this truth that we derive our hope.

Can any of us live without hope? I do not think so. Without hope, we have no reason to get out of bed in the morning, no motivation to complete our daily tasks at work, home, or church, no desire to take on the sometimes overwhelming array of problems in our community or world. A life without hope is a life without meaning or purpose.

Yet, as Christians, we always have hope because of Jesus Christ.

In Jesus we have a holy protector, a friend, a confidante, and a guide. We have a reserved seat in heaven that promises unimaginable joy. This is what gives us the endurance, patience, courage, and motivation to bring glory to our creator during this imperfect existence.

The fact that Jesus came to this world, as God promised to send him for centuries before, is evidence that God is a promise-keeping God. So we can have full confidence that God is trustworthy and reliable in keeping his promises to us. When we are feeling discouraged and hopeless, like things will never change in our lives, we are reminded of God's promise that he is not finished with us yet. When we face temptation and we cannot see a way out, we are reminded of God's

promise that he always provides a way of escape. When we fall into sin and feel like God could never take us back, we are reminded of God's promise that through Christ he forgives all of our sins. God is a promise-keeping God, and when we are tempted to doubt that, we need to look again at the resurrection. John tells us, "Whoever believes in

the Son has eternal life." (John 3:36) Can you imagine a greater source of hope? The resurrection of Jesus Christ means spiritual life to us now, and immortal life in a glorified body in time to come. Because Jesus lives, we live also. May God continue to bless you this Easter season, and fill you with hope everlasting.

Council of Churches holds Passover Seder for 75 people at Elias Lutheran

On April 13, Palm Sunday, 75 people shared in a Seder at Elias Lutheran Church. A Seder is ceremonial dinner held by Jews on the first night of Passover in remembrance of the flight of the Israelites from Egyptian slavery. The Emmitsburg Council of Churches sponsored the event and probably most attendees were not Jewish.

The word "Passover" comes from the Biblical story of the 10th plague which killed the first-born (and most favored) child in the household of every Egyptian, but not of the Israelites. The plague "passed over" those who sprinkled the lintel and door posts of their houses. Passover also refers to the passing over of the Israelites from bondage to freedom. The story is in Exodus 12.

Dr. Milton Gordon and his wife, Joyce, who worship at the Beth Shalom synagogue in Frederick,

presided at the Seder. He recited the Haggadah, a narrative of the flight of the Israelites. The Gordons brought enough copies of the Haggadah for everyone present, so that they could follow and participate in the reading.

Each person had a ceremonial Seder plate with foods that symbolize the elements of the story. Dr. Gordon explained the relationship of each food to the narrative. Then the diners ate it.

The parsley, representing the greens of earth, was dipped into a

bowl of saltwater representing the tears of the slaves. The *charoseth*, made of chopped apples, nuts, wine and spices, represented the clay mortar used by the Israelite slaves making bricks.

The *red horseradish* was the bitter herb reminding us of the bitter times the Israelites experienced in captivity.

The *hardboiled egg* symbolizes the offerings accepted at the Temple in Jerusalem, and is also a symbol of rebirth.

The most important symbol of the Passover is the *matzah*, unleavened bread. The Israelites ate unleavened bread because they did not have time to let dough rise when they fled from Egypt.

Participants drink 4 cups of wine at different times during the Seder. They symbolize the 4 promises God made to His people — to bring them forth, deliver, redeem, and take them.

A shank of lamb was served as part of the meal as a reminder of the lamb sacrifices made to God by the Israelites. A leg portion of chicken was served to commemorate the fact that as free people the Israelites could eat meat which, as slaves, they were not allowed to eat.

The Seder meal was prepared under the direction of Lucille Valentine with helpers from the churches of the community.

Caring Hands seeks part-time nurse coordinator

Caring Hands of Emmitsburg, a new parish nursing program sponsored by the Emmitsburg Council of Churches, is seeking a part-time parish nurse coordinator. This is an unpaid, volunteer position.

In its beginning phase the individual in this role will give leadership in the establishment of the parish nursing program in the Emmitsburg area, developing the organization, and developing orientation and training for volunteer parish nurses for outreach services.

The preferred candidate will

have completed a training course for Parish Nursing or have a willingness to participate in the Parish Nursing Training Course (tuition will be reimbursed).

If you have an interest in using your skills and experience to touch the lives of others in need, please contact: Rev. Wade Martin, Trinity United Methodist Church, 313 W. Main St., P.O. Box 481, Emmitsburg, Maryland 21727-0481, cell: 301-606-8393, home: 301-607-8202,

E-mail: wademartin1983@msn.com.

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

Weekly services: Monday - 7:30

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

Pastor: 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 sanctuary was built in 1807. Trinity has been

a religious presence in Emmitsburg for 168 years.

313 West Main St.

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

Pastor: 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.

Service 11:00 a.m.

Pastor: Rev. R. Benjamin Jones

Tom's Creek United Methodist

10926 Simmons Road

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

Mrs. Ethel Cool

Mrs. Ethel Grace Harbaugh Cool, 85, died April 30 at St. Catherine's Nursing Center.

She was the wife of Joseph Peter Cool, who died April 8, 1984. Born in Emmitsburg she was a member of Elias Lutheran Church, Emmitsburg, Emmitsburg Senior Citizens, and several ladies' auxiliaries of veterans' posts. Mrs. Cool retired from Cambridge Rubber Co., Taneytown.

Surviving are 7 children, Betty Stofcik, Anna Mae Kwarta, Leroy Cool, Barbara Dinterman, Kenneth Cool, Doris Dinterman, Linda Clabaugh; 2 sisters: Ruth Sanders and Clara Flenner, and one brother, Robert Harbaugh. Interment will be in Emmitsburg Memorial Cemetery, Emmitsburg.

Mrs. Dorothy Fink

Mrs. Dorothy Eleanor Humerick Fink, 55, formerly of Emmitsburg, died April 29 at her home. She was the wife of Bernard J. Fink Jr. Born in Gettysburg, PA., she was a member of St. Pius X Roman Catholic Church, Baltimore.

Surviving in addition to her husband and parents are 3 children, Joshua David Fink, Jason Taylor Fink and Kelly Ann Fink, one sister, Linda A. Humerick; and 2 brothers, John Michael Humerick and Thomas W. Humerick.

A memorial Mass was celebrated at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Emmitsburg. Interment was private.

Sister Mary Halvan, DC

Sister Mary Urban Halvan, Daughter of Charity, 89, died April 2 at Villa St. Michael. Born in Beaver Falls, PA., the former Anne Halvan grew up in Detroit, graduated from St. Joseph's Academy in 1931, and entered the Daughters of Charity in 1932. She worked in nursing for 44 years.

A funeral Mass was offered at the Basilica of the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

Mrs. Sarah Kline

Mrs. Sarah Ann Glacken Kline, 75, died April 23 at York Hospital, York, PA

She was the wife of Alvey A. Kline, who died Nov. 24, 1990. Mrs. Kline was a member of Incarnation United Church of Christ, Emmitsburg. Surviving are 2 children, Charles A. Kline and Joyce A. Philpott, 3 sisters, Frances Krietz, Shirley Rexroth, Ida Jane Rohrer; 2 brothers, Edward Glacken and Donald Glacken

Funeral services were held at Incarnation United Church of Christ, Emmitsburg, with her pastor, the Rev. Ted Haas, officiating. Interment was in Rocky Hill Cemetery, Woodsboro, PA.

Sister Agatha Teipe

Sister Agatha Teipe, Daughter of Charity, 84, died April 24. Born in Baltimore the former Ella Elizabeth Teipe was a librarian at the time of her death. Sister Teipe graduated from Seton High School in 1936 and entered

the Daughters of Charity the following year. She received a Bachelor of Science degree from St. Joseph College, Emmitsburg, and spent 62 years in education.

A Mass of Resurrection was celebrated at Basilica of the National Shrine of Elizabeth Ann Seton.

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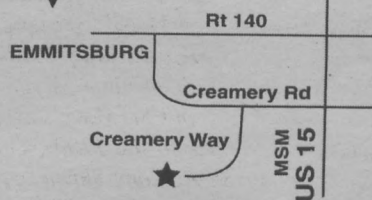
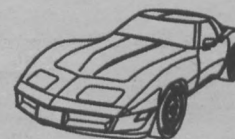


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MONDAY - FRIDAY 8:00 A.M. - 5 P.M.
20 CREAMERY WAY, EMMITSBURG, MARYLAND

Some opinions On Bush, religion and war

The president's intention to invade Iraq was "based primarily on religious obsession and visions of personal grandiosity." —Georgie Anne Geyer, *The Chicago Tribune*

"Can we please stop pretending that Bush's regular invocations of the Almighty make him some sort of strange religious fanatic?" — E.J. Dionne.

Bush's certitude about his carrying out "divine purpose" can promote dangerous simplifications. "Between divine will and American know-how, we have everything under control." — Jackson Lears, *The New York Times*.

"Bush's supporters have inherited the idea of manifest destiny. For them war on Iraq is not about oil, it is America's next date with salvation." — Stephen Plant, *The London Times*.

"Few doubt that Bush is sincere in his faith," but the president's "evident conviction that he's doing God's will" in waging war is disturbing. — theologian Martin E. Marty.

President Bush, a Methodist, "is not following the teachings of his own church or the teachings of churches that believe in a just war theory." — Methodist Bishop Melvin G. Talbert.

Bush's "comments have been confined to 4 specific areas: comforting people in grief, citing faith's ability to improve lives, commenting on the mysterious ways of providence, and mentioning God's concern for humanity." — Fred Barnes, *The Weekly Standard*.

The head of the Catholic Church's top office on doctrine was asked on May 2 if the Iraq war "fit the canons of a just war"? He said: "The Pope expressed his thought ... as the appeal of a conscience enlightened by faith. "There were not sufficient reasons to unleash a war against Iraq.... Today we should be asking ourselves if it is still licit to admit the very existence of a 'just war'." Cardinal J. Ratzinger, *Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith*

Emmitsburg honors departing Mount president Houston

George Houston, outgoing president of Mount St. Mary's College, was the guest of honor at a luncheon in April. The Emmitsburg Business and Professional Association (EBPA) and the Mount St. Mary's Community Club sponsored the luncheon at the Carriage House Inn. About 60 well-wishers and friends attended.

The Community Club was formed during Houston's tenure to encourage local residents to take advantage of the cultural programs offered at the college. He often invited the club members to buffet dinners in his home prior to lectures and special campus events.

Several people rose to thank Houston for his support of local businesses and organizations. Bo and Jean Cadle, former publishers of the Emmitsburg Regional Dispatch, spoke of their appreciation of the Mount's

generous support of the newspaper by sponsoring a full page each issue.

Sam Castleman of the Thorpewood Foundation thanked him for his service on the Board of the Catoctin Land Trust and for his concern for the local ecology.

Town Commissioner Patrick Boyle, an alumnus of the Mount, noted that during Houston's tenure the endowment of the college was tripled and several new buildings were added to the campus.

Commissioner Boyle presented to Houston a Key to the Town of Emmitsburg. Don Briggs, president of the EBPA, presented a check to him, to be applied to a scholarship fund established at the college in his name. The outgoing Mount president, who is moving to Northern Virginia in July, said he would be back for visits.

Notes from Stoneyridge Farm The goat venture

By Marcy Waterman
Dispatch writer

This morning as I was walking back from the barn — after milking 13 goats, feeding 21 kids, scrubbing out 3 lamb bars, cleaning out the milking machine, sweeping the milk room floor, and scooping up the latest newborn kid, still slippery, to take to the house — I mused on what it was that had kept me interested in raising dairy goats for 17 years.

Our goat adventure began when our daughter Anna was 9 and we had just bought a 7 acre mini-farm. Anna was visiting her aunt in Ohio and we wanted to surprise her with some type of farm animal. Our only outbuilding was a 10'x10' metal shed, so we were limited to something smaller than a cow or horse.

The local paper yielded one small ad for goats. These goats were Toggenburgs, a breed that resembles a deer. Anna's response when she saw them was "I like the kind with long ears." We found a breeder who raised long-eared goats. We bought 2. We now had 4 goats. We had already outgrown our little building. We built a barn. That fall we bred all our does. The next spring they kidded with twins. Our herd tripled in size. We had become goat farmers.

Over the years here on Old Frederick Rd. in Emmitsburg, we raised horses, sheep, beef cattle, chickens and hogs, but our main love has always been goats. Goats have personality. They are smart, stubborn, affectionate, escape artists, mischievous, and thoroughly enjoyable.



Owner Ernie Gelwicks (L) with Chop Andrews.

Gun Exchange moves to Main St.

Stateline Gun Exchange, a sporting-goods store, has been in business in Emmitsburg for almost 10 years but is only now being noticed by people passing through town. It opened in a new location on March 15 at 15 E. Main St. where owner Ernie Gelwicks has a 6-year lease. It was formerly located on Federal Ave.

The business' name indicates its

specialty, but the small store carries everything from fishing equipment, hunting gear, camping supplies and golf balls to live bait. The shop also does wholesale, appraisals, and offers firearm training and hunting classes. Gunsmith Chop Andrew, who helps Gelwicks man the store, does scope mounting and repair work.

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The Chosen One

Basketball player can earn enough to fund school district

By A.J. Russo
Dispatch writer

LeBron James, The Chosen One, as he has been dubbed, an 18-year-old high school student from Akron Ohio — maybe the best high school basketball player to come along, ever — has created a stir and caused many of us to rethink the relationship between amateur and pro sports.

A few months ago, 4 days after the Ohio High School Athletic Association cleared James for accepting a \$50,000 sport utility vehicle as an 18th birthday gift from his mother (who was unemployed, I might add), he was declared ineligible by the Association's commissioner, Clair Muscaro, for accepting retro jerseys worth a total of \$845 from a clothing store in Cleveland. About a week later, the superstar was cleared by Summit County (Ohio) Judge James Williams, who issued a temporary restraining order.

At the time, I wasn't sure why I was so upset by all of this. I've seen video of James playing ball, and he could very well be the next Michael Jordan. Maybe it was his age — an 18-year-old getting all this attention. No... Look at all the young tennis players, gymnasts.

The money, yeah, must be all the money he'll make. He'll probably be the first pick in the upcoming NBA draft and demand, well, who knows how much he'll demand — and don't forget the endorsements. No, look at all the young tennis players, gymnasts (okay, forget the gymnasts). But, that wasn't it.

Maybe it really had to do with amateurism vs. professionalism. Webster says that an amateur is a person who engages in a pursuit for pleasure and is not an expert. Can't someone enjoy playing a sport and make money at it at the same time? Expert? I'm not sure if James is an expert yet, but there aren't many who would bet against him in a game of one on one.

It wasn't James' character either. He seems to be a nice enough young man, and a good student (3.5 grade point average). If he was concerned only about himself, he would have gone with the suspension, dropped off the team, and signed on with one of the big shoe companies — Nike, Addidas and others have been drooling to pay him millions to endorse their products.

Even if he had dropped out of his high school season, he would probably still be the first one drafted in June and wind up negotiating the same outrageous salary. In fact, overall, he would have probably made more money, because he would have collected from endorsements right away.

Instead, James seemed genuinely concerned about his high school team (St. Vincent-St. Mary — ranked as the top high school team in the country), as well as his teammates. On the surface, at least it seemed, he wanted to be back in action to help them.

So what was bothering me?

It was what this situation represented. The Hummer, the drooling salesmen, the salary that this 18-year-old will demand — and get, to me, represented the ostentatious business of sports and how warped our society has become.

James is already a hero to many kids, and he hasn't even stepped onto a court and played a professional game. A hero? Why? Because he can dribble and shoot a basketball better than most? The money he will make in his first professional year could fund a medium sized school district for a full year, and that includes all the teacher's salaries. It just doesn't make sense.

Nurse Dana L. Weaver dies

Dana L. Weaver, 44, died Tuesday, May 6, in Emmitsburg. She had been known to Emmitsburgians as a nurse practitioner with Dr. Christy Curley, whose office is on Main St. She leaves



New bookstore co-owner and manager, Karen Worden (L) chats with Amanda Glanville from Reisterstown, MD. Stopping in for coffee and a browse, Glanville spotted the shop as she was passing thru Emmitsburg on her way to Summit Lake.

Book, gift and coffee shop opens in Silo Hill

By Bill Steo
Editor

As a college student Pete Blanchard took a test that indicates personality-type. He was studying mathematics and had always been interested in many subjects. To his surprise the test showed his traits most resembled those of bookstore owners. He went on to get a degree in electrical engineering, but now, with partner, Karen Worden, he owns a bookstore in Emmitsburg.

St. Peter's Books opened April 4, in the Silo Hill strip mall near Jubilee. The store, managed by co-owner Karen, sells Christian, mostly Catholic, books and gifts. It includes a selection of children's books.

The book shop also sells non-denominational specialty coffees, teas, and pastries and has an area in front where visitors may snack on muffins and chat, and browsers drink espresso while they read.

There are 5 tables and chairs, one with couches.

After the business stabilizes, the owners say, they expect to open earlier for morning coffee drinkers and stay open later as an evening hang-out. They plan to hold more book-signings and offer entertainment, probably on Friday nights.

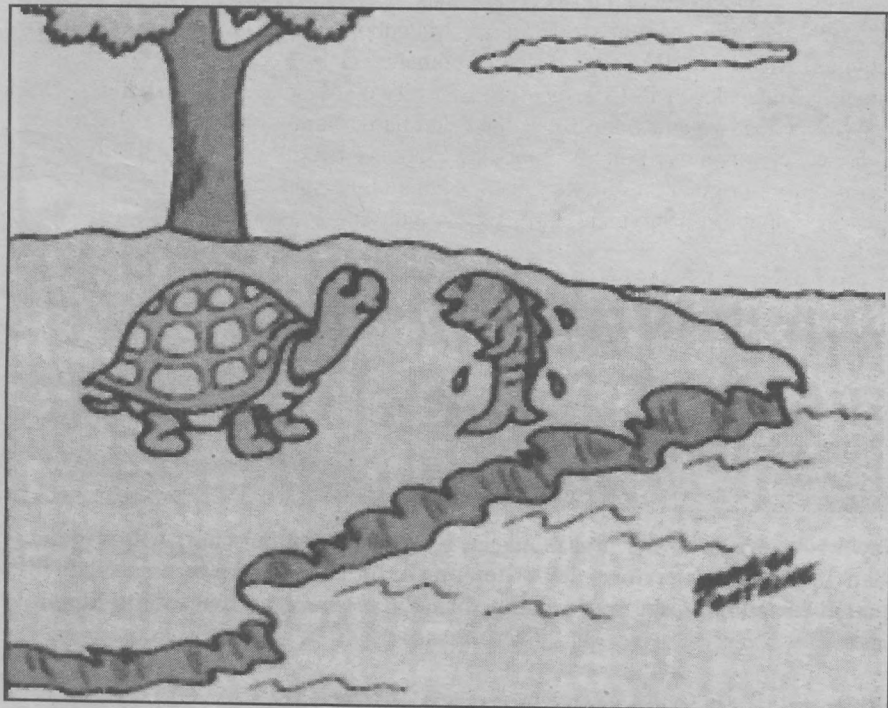
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EDUCATION

National magazine publishes Emmitsburg 6th-grader's cartoon



Have you heard the story of the tortoise and the herring?

Josie Greco, a 6th-grade student at Mother Seton School, showed her sense of humor in the caption for the cartoon above and it was published in *Highlights for Children*. The magazine asked readers to send funny punch lines for several cartoons. The editors chose Josie's from among very many submitted and published it in the May 2003 issue.

Josie, 11 years old, is the daughter of William and Rebecca Greco of

Emmitsburg. Her future plans include becoming a graphic designer or an interior designer.

Every month more than 2 million copies of *Highlights for Children* go to children's homes, schools, libraries, and professional offices. The national magazine's readers are youngsters from 2 to 12 in the U.S. and many parts of the world. Josie's caption is reprinted with permission from *Highlights for Children*.

Mount Saint Mary's News

By S.L. Day
Staff writer

Former benefactor dies

Marion Burk Knott, who with her late husband made several large donations to Mount St. Mary's, died on April 15 in Baltimore. She was 92.

The Mount has 3 of its buildings on campus named after members of the Knott family, including the 500-seat Marion Burk Knott Auditorium that opened in 1995.

The Knott Academic Center was named in 1965 after Ann Carlisle Knott, one of 13 children of Marion and her husband Henry J. Knott.

Perhaps the most recognizable structure on campus, the Mount's ARCC is also named after the Knott family. The Knott Athletic Recreation Convocation Complex was named after 2 more of the Knott children, Martha Doyle Knott and Henry A. Knott, and it has received numerous structural awards since its completion in 1987.

Henry J. Knott, who died in 1995, earned his family's wealth through construction and real estate businesses.

Marion Burk Knott is survived by 10 children, 51 grandchildren and 91 great-grandchildren.

Dormitory lounge vandalized

The Mount's Office of Public Safety found 3 men who may be connected to the destruction of new furniture in the Pangborn dormitory lounge last month.

Chairs, tables, a foosball table and a pool table were damaged, but public safety officials determined "that much of the damage occurred over a period of time prior to that night and was just never reported," according to Tom Kiniry, director of public safety.

The furniture had just been placed in the lounge 2 weeks before the 3 suspects were caught causing

more damage. Mr. Kiniry did not specify whether the 3 were students.

In an unrelated incident: graffiti was discovered on the fourth floor of a dormitory in the Terrace complex. The Mount's student newspaper, *The Mountain Echo*, reported that the "graffiti involved male obscenities and crude drawings."

Public Safety decided not to investigate, according to Tom Kiniry, the director.

McGowan Center dedicated

The William G. McGowan Center was officially dedicated on April 25, and also received a blessing from the Archbishop of Baltimore, His Eminence, William Cardinal Keeler. As part of the \$40-million "Connections Campaign," the new Center is a complete renovation and addition to the Cogan Student Union building, and also holds the Patriot Hall dining facility.

The center is named after William G. McGowan, the founder of MCI Communications and a benefactor of Mount St. Mary's until his death in 1992.

The McGowan center is now completely open. Construction crews are finishing the exterior of the building, but the campus bookstore moved into its new space on the second floor during the end of March.

The next phase in the campus renovation project has shifted to Borders Learning Center, located across from Pangborn dormitory.

Borders was previously home to the campus Career Center; the Writing Center; Learning Services; a computer lab; Sociology, Theology, and Rhetoric and Communication professors' offices; and 2 classrooms.

The building is surrounded by a temporary chain-link fence. The

—Continued on page 13

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Emmitsburg Elementary students jumped rope against heart disease

Emmitsburg Elementary School students jumped all over heart disease and stroke on March 27 by participating in the Jump Rope for Heart program. This year 90 students raised more than \$6,500 for the American Heart Association. The program is co-sponsored by the American Heart Association and the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

The 22 children pictured here raised over \$100 each and 6 of these raised over

\$200! L-R: (top row) Mandy Brown, Misty Bradshaw, Allen McMahan-Rowe, Justin Pyle; (3rd row) Katie Davis, Ryan Pittinger, Travis Rohrbaugh, Shelby Workman, Danielle Pozzouli; (2nd row) Sabrina Wantz, Kayla Lenhart, Tori Ridge, Katelyn Parsley, Shelbey Miller, Katie Sweeney; (1st row) Nicole Medve, Laken Grossnickle, Paige McCoy, Lavita Feaster. Not pictured: Tyler Neff, Ashley Barto, and Sarah Glacken.

MSM News

—Continued from page 12

project is slated for completion by late August.

Campus Ministry holds Busy Person's Retreat

The Office of Campus Ministry sponsored a "Busy Person's Retreat" last month for students preparing for the rigors of the semester's few remaining weeks, as well as exam week. The retreat was also designed to focus students on prayer during the Lenten season.

Sister Anne Higgins led the program, which has taken place for the past several years. Participants were required to attend mass daily, pray for a minimum of 30 minutes per day, and meet with a spiritual director periodically throughout the week.

Devon Moran, a former Mount student who has participated in the retreat, said: "It was relaxing. I got a lot out of it, and it was a nice chance to take some time away from all of my work."

More resident assistants hired

The Office of Campus Life is hiring more resident assistants to cover the campus apartment complexes next year. The move comes

in the wake of resignations made by the 3 resident assistants responsible for the complexes this year.

The 3 cited among other things a lack of support from college administration and too heavy a workload as their motivation behind resigning.

A new graduate assistant position is also being created to help resident assistants and to plan weekend and evening activities. The position offers free tuition for up to 9 credit hours per semester, 3 credits over summer, a one-bedroom on-campus apartment, and also a \$6,000 stipend.

Applicants must have a bachelor's degree and some student activity experience.

Noteworthy upcoming events

May 4 through May 9: Final exam week for spring semester.

Saturday, May 10: Diaconate Ordination for Mount seminarians; at 10 a.m. at the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Basilica in Emmitsburg.

Saturday, May 17: The Baccalaureate Mass; 5 p.m. at the Mount's Knott Arena.

Sunday, May 18: Undergraduate and graduate commencement; 11 a.m. at Knott Arena.

June 6 through June 8: Alumni Weekend, to be held at the Mount.

Weather forces 400 guests, 6 bands to play indoors at Mountapalooza

By Shawn Day
Staff writer

Despite a budget cut and uncooperative weather, the Mount's Campus Activities Board (CAB) sponsored the annual Mountapalooza festival on April 26. With 6 bands, games and food, the all-day event was moved into Memorial Gym from its original site in the Quad, between Pangborn, Sheridan and the apartment dormitories.

"It was a real drag that we had to move inside because of the weather," said Dave Stewart, a Mount senior active in CAB. "But we were pleased with how many people showed up. Considering the funding we had for the bands, I thought

we did a good job."

Headlining the show was the Kelly Bell Band, a Baltimore-area band that has opened shows for Black Crowes, Matchbox 20 and James Brown, among others.

Two Mount student bands, Old Orchard, and the Liam McCusker, Francis Bloom and Justin Menno Quartet, opened the event with their 45-minute sets starting at 12:30 p.m.

Mr. Stewart estimated more than 400 people attended the Kelly Bell Band's performance, with many students crowd surfing, or being passed overhead by other members of the audience.

In all Mr. Stewart said roughly 600 people attended the festival.

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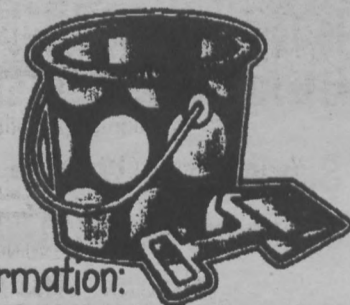
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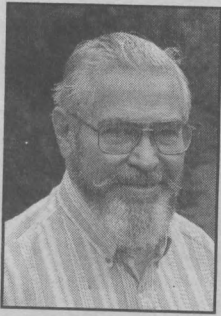
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The (retired) Ecologist Realities of the myth of the green thumb



Bill Meredith
Dispatch Writer

Spring came cautiously this year. After the worst winter in decades, you could hardly blame it for delaying as long as possible. The week of the equinox, when spring officially started, I played golf in shirtsleeve weather; 4 days later a heavy, wet snow was falling as I walked to the post office. Tulips were blooming, sticking up out of the snow with a bewildered "Why me?" expression on their faces as they pondered the likelihood that winter was coming back. Robins were equally perplexed; instead of singing to mark out their nesting territories, they seemed to be muttering about the advisability of going back south again.

It was mid-April before things got sorted out with any degree of certainty. The flowering trees in my yard were bare on Palm Sunday; 2 days later, they were in full bloom, ignoring the sequential pattern I had in mind when I planted them. The Bradford Pears along Main Street delighted the eye with clouds of white blossoms, which assaulted the nose with an odor reminiscent of week-old roadkill. The Icky Tree

bloomed on schedule for Easter, but after that all of the signs indicated that spring would be abbreviated on the end as well as the beginning; temperatures climbed into the 80s for the first time, trees leafed out overnight, and we were headed directly for summer.

My wife was ready for it. She has been making gardening noises for several months now; she was urging me to get the plow going before the snow melted in February. Each year I explain to her that the main reason for plowing is to loosen the soil and create air spaces for the roots, and if it's wet when you plow the soil actually gets more compacted. I'm not sure

all children should be required to plant a tree on their first day of kindergarten'

whether this simply doesn't register, or she forgets, or perhaps she enjoys hearing the explanation repeated... but whatever the reason, the topic seems to come up again every year. I did manage to convince her to wait until it was dry enough to plow this year, but the tradeoff was that I had to fill the herb garden with onion sets and radishes.

While I wait for the ground to dry out, I've been thinking about gardening. It is greatly misunderstood by the public; in fact, a multi-million dollar industry depends on that lack of understanding. The advertising industry goes to great lengths each spring to convince the public that a certain

few people have the Gift of the Green Thumb, a kind of mystical ability that enables them to make things grow, something like the ancient secrets of the Rosicrucians, or the power of the Maharishi. While things will grow like magic for those favored few, everyone else must buy Miracle Stuff Combined Organic Fertilizer and Bug Killer, or their gardens are foredoomed to failure. And of course you will need a special power applicator and hose for the Miracle Stuff, and it will work better if you also buy the latest model of the special self-mulching tiller with the weeding attachments. Being born without a green thumb gets expensive.

The truth is different; growing things is simple. You loosen the soil; whether you use a hand spade, a horse-drawn turnplow, a rototiller or

ronmental chance involved. It may rain too much or not enough; you will have to pull some weeds and fend off some bugs; you may have to put up a fence to keep out the rabbits or the neighbor's dog. But the responses required by each of these problems are pretty self-evident; anyone with the least bit of common sense can manage them. No mystical powers are involved. It doesn't really matter whether you understand how the phytochrome system releases the seeds from dormancy or how the gibberellin and cytokinin hormones initiate the growth of the embryo; it works just as well if you simply regard the whole process as a miracle. If you wait a while, the plants will grow.

The ability to wait is the essence of the green thumb; patience is the difference between those who can grow things and those who can't. There was a time when patience was a trait everyone learned in childhood; when the only way to get from Emmitsburg to Gettysburg was by walking or riding a horse, time had a different meaning. It is one of the tragedies in our recent history that the great innovations of the 20th century which we called "time savers" were really time destroyers. They gave us instant gratification at the expense of our sense of time.

Two years ago this spring, I found a Japanese maple seedling growing in a crack in the sidewalk at the college. Knowing it couldn't survive there, I pulled it up, brought it home, and stuck it in a flower pot. It survived the winter, and last spring I planted it in the corner of the yard. Its leaves shriveled up and dropped off in last summer's drought, but this week it is sporting a new set of red leaves and stands at least two inches higher than it was last year. In 20 years it will be 15 feet high and will dominate that area of the yard; it will be beautiful, whether I am here to see it or not. As I watched it that day, the idea occurred that all children should be required to plant a tree on their first day of kindergarten, and to observe its growth until they graduate from high school. Among the many things they would learn would be the quality of patience. There would be a lot more green thumbs in the world if we did that.

a 200-horsepower John Deere diesel tractor makes little difference. You put some seeds in the ground; experience, trial and error, or reading the instructions on the package will inform you how deep and how far apart they should be. Then you wait.

A seed may look simple from the outside, but on the inside it is a truly marvelous construction. The critical part of it is the embryo, which is dormant at the time of planting. There is also a supply of food, usually in the form of starch, which will sustain the embryo from the time it begins to grow until it gets its first leaves and can make its own food. Finally, there is the seed coat, which protects the food and embryo from bacteria and fungi, and also secretes hormones that cause germination to begin.

There are also several enzymes, which work in a sequence that physiologists call a cascade. The right combination of moisture, temperature and light cause the first enzyme in the sequence to be activated; that enzyme activates the second one, which in turn activates the third, and so on. The effect is like tipping over the first domino in a row. Suddenly the enzymes are all working, the food starts being digested, the embryo starts growing, and in a few days a new seedling pops out of the ground.

Of course there is a degree of envi-



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Deer tracks as big as a cow's

By Jack Deatherage
Dispatch writer

"Junior, Come here. Look at this deer track." Bob called with awe in his voice.

I walked back to the ditch I had just stepped across. I hadn't mentioned the track because Bob and I had argued over whether or not a deer could leave a cow-sized print. Okay, a small cow, but definitely bigger than your average deer.

"It's a cow." I said straight-faced.

"Junior, this is a deer track!" Bob replied excitedly. He squatted to examine it closely.

"Bob, you told me deer can't make tracks that big." I replied calmly. I was enjoying my rare chance to one-up him!

"Junior, I know a deer track from a cow track! This is a deer, and a darned big one!" He looked up and saw my grin. "Okay," he grumbled. "You and your brother weren't making up this deer. How often have you seen him?"

How often? That was a tough question. Did I dare tell him there were 2 such monsters along Middle Creek?

The first big buck we saw came out of a thicket driving 4 doe ahead of him. Five bird hunters stood mouths agape as he trotted within spitting distance of us. I counted 12 easy points when my brain started functioning again. Someone else got 14; we both agreed there had been more.

The other buck was a much darker color than the deer we usually saw. We called him Black because we only saw him in dim light at a distance. He may have been the same "big" buck; we never got close enough to know.

One season Dad stood in the barn facing down along the creek. It was cold and windy that year and Dad didn't see much sense in being miserable. He had a good view and the backstop of hills should he get a shot. He never glimpsed a deer.

Mom's sister Louise stopped by the last day of that season to ask if we knew there was a deer in the barn yard every night when she drove by. Dad and Mike went the next morning to check the yard and sure enough, the big buck had tracks all over! We figured the deer entered the barn before daylight, slept there until dark when my aunt saw him moving out to graze.

And Dad standing over him all day.

Drug

—Continued from page 6

at 1:30 p.m. at 350 Montevue Lane, Entrance "C" to discuss policies affecting underage drinking and drug abuse prevention. Retailers in the alcohol beverage industry have been invited. Invitations have been extended to owners of the "Exhale" and the new "Champions" establishments. All citizens are invited to attend and contribute to the discussion.

Bill Derbershire of Community Agencies School Services (CASS) said

that the Frederick Co. Recreation Center was placing a summer program in Emmitsburg with Golf as one of the activities. Information: 240-236-8081.

Brennan is planning to set up a presentation about drug abuse by the Sheriff's Dept for parents at the Thurmont Middle School this spring.

The Coalition plans to challenge the local churches, businesses and colleges to contribute in some way toward the Coalition's efforts. Mount St. Mary's representatives verbally agreed to look into having students and seminarians volunteer their time with future

youth activities or community programs. The Mount is also developing its own task force to right drug and alcohol abuse on their college campus. They expressed a desire to work together with the community.

Commissioner Brennan commented that he believed that once their Coalition could prove to be beneficial, they would get more support. Brennan stressed the fact that they needed a group of dedicated people to make this Coalition work and would need to elect officers at a future meeting, to be held in May.

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HEALTH

A word from the doctor

Young son's father isn't his buddy or enforcer but source of knowledge

After my last article the question raised was whether the same principles that make for successful mother-daughter relationships could be applied to father-son relationships. The answer is both yes and no.

What can be applied in both instances are the basic ingredients for all healthy parent-child relationships: love, mutual respect, honesty, integrity, setting limits, building healthy self-esteem, etc. In father-son relationships, however, issues of power, control, and dominance often distort many of the day-to-day interactions. The impact of these factors, however, is determined by the health of the relationship between a father and his son.

First and foremost in a healthy relationship the father is neither "the buddy" nor "the enforcer" but rather a trusted and consistent source of valuable knowledge for development. When a son is with his father he is always in a learning mode, even when the father may not be in a teaching mode.

Since sports are about power, con-

trol, and dominance, the way a young male child sees his father react to what is going on in the field or court can serve as a guide as to what the son will and will not do. Consequently, when taking a son to a sports event a father must remember that his role is still of father and not of "friend" or "spectator". While it is good for a father to enjoy himself with his son by going to a sports event, how a father reacts to the various things he sees will leave a lasting impression on his son.

Encouraging communication about feelings is also critical to positive father-son relationships. There are very few adult male figures that teach young boys how to know what they are feeling and how to talk about it. While this type of introspective and expressive activity has usually been left to the female parent, a son will look to his father to get guidance and inspiration on how he should acknowledge and express his feelings. Thus, the father who has had a bad day and then proceeds to yell at other drivers and slam doors, will most likely end up teaching

his son to engage in the same type of behavior when he has a bad day.

Finally, keep in mind that whether a father's request is interpreted by his son as a demand, or as an opportunity to do something for someone they love, is based on the foundation of the relationship. In those instances when the beginnings were less than ideal, even the simplest request is often seen in a

negative way. Nevertheless, the father always has the ability to change the future for the better.

Most important, remember that for fathers who have strived to have a healthy relationship with their son the rewards are countless even though the work is constant and ongoing.

— Jane L. Delgado, Ph.D.
Washington, D.C.

New surgery for back problem

The spine is flexible because it is made up of bones, vertebrae, which are separated and cushioned by round, flat discs filled with a jelly-like substance. Healthy discs act as shock absorbers for the spine and keep the back and neck loose and flexible. Damage to the discs — from injury, disease, or even normal wear and tear — may make them bulge or even break open. When the disc bulges or ruptures, it is called a "herniated disc." Then the bones of the spine no longer have a cushion (disc) between them, they jar against each other

and surrounding tissue, and there is pain.

Surgical repair of a herniated disc is "spinal fusion" — joining or fusing the vertebrae together with a bone graft. An orthopedic specialist in Frederick, Dr. Said G. Osman, reports he has performed a new kind of surgery, using a 2-part metal plate, to repair herniated discs in the neck part of the spine. He says it reduces possible post-surgical complications, increases the probability that surgery will be needed again, and makes a rigid external brace unnecessary in most cases.

Parents call Family Stress hotline before reaching end of your line

When being a parent gets tough, no one has to do it alone. Help is just a phone call away. Parent or caregivers, who feel that the stress of child-rearing is at its limit, can call The Family Tree's Family StressLine, 1-800-243-7337, a free 24-hour crisis and referral hotline.

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Each year, The Family Tree serves more than 13,500 people in every county across the State. A national affiliate of Parents Anonymous® and The National Exchange Club Foundation, the agency is dedicated to strengthening families and preventing child abuse and neglect, by means of education and support.

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Tai Chi exercise program to begin at Frederick Memorial Hospital

The Chinese exercise art, Tai Chi, with its soft flowing movements, will be taught at Frederick Memorial Hospital's Wellness Center beginning May 15. The course will include 8 classes to improve balance, body alignment, fine-scale motor control and body/mind awareness. Music will enrich portions of each session to promote a soothing environment for meditation and learning.

The instruction will also include some of the basic principles derived from ancient Chinese thought, as

well as from modern anatomy and physiology, according to Renee Lafferman, Coordinator of the Tai Chi Program. "The goal of this introductory course is to develop the participant's understanding of the body movements involved in Tai Chi so that they will be able to practice the art on their own."

The course will include a "free" session on the last evening, so that participants may bring a guest to experience first-hand the techniques of Tai Chi Chuan. Information: 240-379-6010.

How to give and read messages without words

If you fail to respond when someone says, "Good morning," you're saying that the person means little to you. *Do*: always return a greeting, at least with a nod.

Someone is speaking to you, and your eyes wander around the room or you don't look up from what you're doing. You're saying, "I'm bored with you, too busy for you." *Do*: always at least seem to be paying attention.

If you doodle or fidget at a meeting, you tell the speaker that his or her remarks are not important to you. If you whisper to a person nearby and start laughing, you annoy the speaker seriously. Whatever the joke, the speak takes it personally. *Don't*: act like an untrained adolescent at a meeting.

Want to estimate how someone is

disposed to you? Look at his or her eyes. Research shows that pupils of the eye dilate when someone is favorably or unfavorably disposed toward you.

Some keeps face-to-face with you in a small group. This may express more than interest in what you have to say. It could mean the person is your recognition or approval, or likes you.

Are you listening? Listening to employees or others in your charge can improve productivity. Two tips for listening well:

Paraphrase what the speaker said to you; this can help ensure you understand each other and avoid blunders when directions are given.

Listen actively. Work at it by giving your full attention. React to what the other person is saying.

Mission Of Mercy Free Medical Care

The Mission of Mercy provides free medical care and some medications to anyone who is poor, homeless, uninsured or under-insured. Patients can make an appointment to see a medical doctor by calling a number below:

Taneytown

Thursday, June 5 and 19, 8:30 a.m.-12 noon

Where: St. Joseph Catholic Church,

44 Frederick St.
Appointment: (410) 857-2999

Thurmont

Thursday, June 5 and 19, 1-4 p.m.
Where: Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church Parish Hall, 103 N. Church St.
Appointment: (301) 694-3733

Gettysburg

Thursday, June 12 and 26, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Where: Gettysburg College's Musselman Stadium, W. Lincoln Ave. Appointment: (717) 337-6469

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Quilters

Farewell to mourning quilts

By Mary Ellen Cummings
Dispatch writer

During the era 1840 to 1870, a quarter-million Americans moved westward to Oregon and California. On the Oregon Trail they faced many hardships — including the cholera epidemic of 1852. Quilts pieced by the women often were used as funeral shrouds. Wood for coffins was scarce and there was always the need for speedy burials because of the threat from Native Americans, wild animals and the spread of disease.

The Robbins family lost 3 nieces at the same time. They were buried together in a wagon box covered with quilts. Wrapping the body in a quilt reassured the living that there was still a link between the deceased and the family.

Mary Bywater Cross, *Treasures in the Trunk*, gives us an in-depth look at some of the pioneer women and the quilts they made. Quilts bearing such names as "Poke Stock," "Mexican Lily," "Wheel," and "Bachelor" were a few. However, this book does not feature Mourning, Coffin nor graveyard quilts.

We have previously seen that West Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky and Ohio seem to have been the area from which many of the pioneers left for western territories. Perhaps they made coffin or mourning quilts also.

One family that moved west over Braddock's Road into western Virginia, Ohio and Kentucky was the Swan family of Frederick County, Maryland. The Swans, Hughes, Vanmeters and Fosters moved at the same time and settled, originally, near each other.

In 1770 Elizabeth Swan married Thomas Hughes who was born in Loudon County, Virginia. One of Elizabeth's descendants was Elizabeth Roseberry who married Shadrach Mitchell. Shadrach was not a man to remain at home very long at a time getting involved in several movements politically and financially motivated.

As was the custom of the era, Elizabeth stayed home to raise the children. After losing an infant and another small child, she began making a "Graveyard" quilt. There was no record-keeping statute in Ohio at the time and she wanted a record of her family kept. Actually the first quilt was given to the Kentucky Historical Society by her granddaughter ("Elizabeth Roseberry Mitchell's Graveyard Quilt" by Linda Ott Lipsett.)

Julia Ann Fleckinger (nee Comer) was born and lived 2 miles from New Windsor, Maryland. At her death there were 150 quilts in her estate — 25 for each of her 4 children and 50 of an unknown distribution. Her fame was for 4 mourning quilts which she called "Midnight Star."

In recent years an estate in Frederick County yielded several tops — most of very old fabric. One unfinished top in dark gray, black, indigo and white shirting appeared to be planned as a mourning quilt. No information is available for the quiltmaker's name or the reason for a mourning quilt. If any of the readers know of the existence of such quilts please let us know.

—Please send mail to Mary Ellen Cummings at any of the addresses given in the masthead on p. 4

Free art exhibitions in Hagerstown now to July

May 3 — June 1. Works by students, from kindergarten through high school, in Washington County public schools. On view at the County Museum of Fine Arts. A wide variety of media will be on view, including oils, watercolors, drawings, collage, photography, printmaking, pottery and crafts.

A Popular Prize Award will go to the student who receives the most votes from the public. The winner will receive a certificate to attend an art class of choice at the Museum. Opening Reception on May 4, 2:30 to 4 p.m.

May 2 — June 29. Exploring pastels. In the Bowman Gallery at the Museum of Fine Arts. The works, which are drawn from the Permanent Collection, include portraits, landscapes and genre scenes from the 19th and 20th centuries.

Made by combining dry pigments with an oil-free binding agent, pastels or chalks are the modern equivalent of the dry pigments that were used by the earliest artists who drew images of animals and men on the walls of caves in France and Spain. Some historians believe that these prehistoric people were the first to form the pastel into a stick by packing the material into hollow animal bones that were placed by the fire to dry.

During the 15th century artists used red chalk for sketches and underdrawings. The modern tradition of using pastel alone to create a work of art began in France in the early 18th century when Rosalba Carriera used it as her sole medium for portraits of society women.

The pastel was popularized by the French Impressionist artists Eduoard Manet, Mary Cassatt, Odilon Redon and Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, and Edward Degas in his many renowned images of ballet dancers.

Pastel is considered one of the most lasting mediums because it doesn't

fade and it is not mixed with additional oils that darken or deteriorate.

May 2 — July 6. American Impressionists. From the Permanent Collection, in the Kerstein Gallery at the Museum of Fine Arts, the exhibition depicts the American interpretation of the French Impressionist art movement which began in Paris in the 1870s.

The style of Impressionists was a way artists expressed their dissatisfaction with the classical and sentimental subject matter of artists at the end of the 19th century. Impressionists generally sought to show the effect of sunlight on shapes. They used brushes charged with brilliant color and with short strokes tried to suggest forms rather than define them sharply. They applied primary and complementary colors directly to the canvas, inviting invited viewers to blend them with their eyes.

From 1880 to 1915 the American artists represented in the exhibit, including Childe Hassam, reinterpreted this style and made Impressionism their own. Hassam was a founding member of "The Ten," a group of Boston and New York painters who gave birth to the American Impressionism Movement.

May 9 — July 6. Great Faces. Exhibition of men's portraits in both painting and sculpture from 19th and 20th centuries. Portraits of many distinguished gentlemen — including American presidents Andrew Jackson, Abraham Lincoln in a marble by Gutzon Borglum, W. E. B. Du Bois in pastel.

Borglum is best known for his colossal sculptures at Mount Rushmore in South Dakota and at Stone Mountain near Atlanta, Georgia.

Free admission. Museum hours: Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday 1 to 5 p.m., closed Monday. Information: 301-739-5727 or the TDD 301-739-5764.

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