



The Emmitsburg Dispatch

Vol III, No.2

news and opinion in the service of truth

February 2004

County, Town to Celebrate Re-Opening of Community Center

By Susan Allen
Staff Writer

Area residents can join town, county and state officials to celebrate the grand re-opening of the Emmitsburg Community Center, Sat. Feb. 7. Located at 300 S. Seton Ave., the Center will house Emmitsburg Town Hall, the Emmitsburg Branch of Frederick County Public Libraries and several county agency branches, including Department of Parks & Recreation, Emmitsburg Senior Center of the Department of Aging, Head Start, the Health Department and Catoctin Community Agency School Services (CASS). The public can tour the renovated facility from noon to 4 p.m. The Center opens for business on Mon., Feb. 9.

The official program begins at 10:30 a.m. with musical selections by the Catoctin High School concert band. Dr. William "Doc" Carr, former Emmitsburg mayor, will serve as master of ceremonies. Commissioner Pat Boyle will represent Mayor Jim Hoover, who will be out of town on business. The building dedication ceremony will begin at 11 in the gymnasium, with music by Head Start

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—RAYMOND BUCHHEISTER / THE EMMITSBURG DISPATCH

The front porch at their home in Pembroke Woods is the beginning of a sled run. Isaiah, 7, Hannah (C), 4, and Moriah Logue (R), 3 at the bottom of the hill in last Tuesday's snow. Walt and Marci Logue, with their 4 children, moved into their new home, the last to be built in the new development, in late December.

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Emmitsburg struggles with moratorium and results of sewer line negligence

By Richard D. L. Fulton
Staff Writer

The Emmitsburg mayor and commissioners have struggled for months over whether or not to block future development because of problems with the town's antiquated sewer collection system. Negligent town maintenance has contributed to the prob-

lem. At its Jan. 21 agenda workshop, the commission voted to consider a proposed construction moratorium ordinance at the Feb. meeting.

Town Planner Michael H. Lucas prepared the proposed ordinance at the commissioners' request. The ordinance would put on hold any new or additional development site plan or plat approvals. It would also delay

any new or additional connections to the wastewater treatment system "for any property situated outside the municipal boundaries of Emmitsburg."

The ordinance would mandate that the town "formulate, establish, adopt and implement a program to

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Commercial Development may change Moratorium
-see story on page 5.

Library celebrates Renovation
-see story on page 10-11.

Weatherization Assistance
-see story on page 15.

Construction of 35 new homes set to begin in South Gate development

Staff Report

Apple Tree Homes could begin construction on the 35-unit Mountainview at South Gate development as early as next week, weather

permitting. But a managed growth plan for Emmitsburg could doom the project.

South Gate is located near the Community Center, with access from Cedar Ave. The development will con-

sist of 35 single-family homes, built on quarter-acre lots. Houses range in size from 1600 to 2600 square feet, and sell from \$244,000 to \$300,000.

When he owned the 12.6-acre sub-

—Continued on page 6

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Thursday, February 19	Robert Morris	7:00 p.m.
Saturday, February 21	St. Francis (Pa.)	3:00 p.m.
Monday, March 1	Monmouth	7:00 p.m.

Remaining Women's Home Games

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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.

Letters to the Editor – your opinions help us grow

The Emmitsburg Dispatch exists, as our motto says, to present “news and opinion in the service of truth.” We provide mostly news, and a little opinion — yours and ours. We read every email, letter, and article submitted for publication.

This newspaper exists in part to serve as an outlet for your opinions. Letters to the Editor appear prominently on page 2, the first thing you see after you read the front page. We invite you to submit letters. We need them, not to fill space — we have more than enough copy — but because our community needs them. Your opinions are part of our community dialogue. You share ideas and we learn and grow in mutual understanding and solidarity.

In a letter you can speak to Town officials, fellow citizens, and people in other areas who subscribe to the paper or read it online: www.emmitsburgdispatch.com. With a letter to this newspaper, you can speak out loudly, yet silently, to everyone, about any subject you choose. You have a right to express your opinions, and some of your ideas may benefit us all. Democracy thrives by the free expression of its people and dies

without it.

Editing Letters. We sell space in the paper to advertisers to help pay the heavy costs. Providing news is our main business. To make space for all the news, we edit letters, features and news articles. For the same reason we do not print all the letters we receive about issues. We select those that best represent various viewpoints. We try to present letters with different perspectives, but will not print any that include vulgarity. We generally shorten letters that are longer than 300 words, and in all cases correct spelling and punctuation errors.

Submitting Letters. The best way to communicate with *The Dispatch* is through email: editor@emmitsburgdispatch.com. We check messages several times a day. You can also leave your letter or news item with a librarian at the Emmitsburg Branch Library, located in the new Community Center on S. Seton Ave. Please hand your letter or possible news item to a librarian. Do not just leave it. You can also mail your submission to *The Emmitsburg Dispatch*, P.O. Box 358, Emmitsburg, MD 21727.

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-Mahatma Gandhi

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Community Center

—Continued from page 1

students. The actual ribbon cutting will be held outdoors, weather permitting. Singer/storyteller "Banjer Dan" will perform in the library at 1 p.m. Emmitsburg musician Elwood Eiker and his band, "Blue Ridge Pickers," will perform in the Senior Center.

The Department of Aging, Parks and Recreation, Health Department, Community Agency School Services (CASS), and Head Start are located on the lower level. Two activities rooms and offices for the other county agencies occupy

the lower level of the original building. Health Department space includes a waiting room, exam room, 2 counseling rooms, and a conference room. The library has returned to the first floor, with greatly expanded facilities. (See "Emmitsburg Library," pg. 10.) Emmitsburg town offices have moved from the E. Main St. building to the second floor.

Locating municipal offices in a county-owned building is an unusual, though not unprecedented, arrangement. The Frederick "law mall" houses both county and MD state police offices. David Haller, Emmitsburg Town Manager, credits Frederick County Manager Ron Hart with the idea of locating town offices in the community center. The county's initial plan improved space for the Library, Department of Aging, and the Health Department. But only the gymnasium was to be used on the second floor. At the same time, the county wanted the building to become a center for town services. Bringing town government into the mix enhances Emmitsburg citizens' access to information, and

allows for cross-utilization of building facilities.

Dave Haller expects to see more cooperative offerings as the agencies begin working side by side. The town and the Parks and Recreation Department already run the "After-school Adventures" program together. The town provides program funds, Parks and Recreation sends one paid employee, and the

town pays 2 assistants.

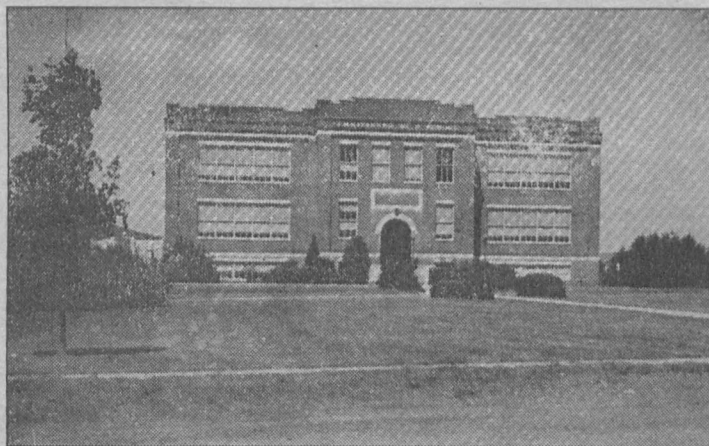
The Community Center renovation cost \$4.4 million, factoring in the costs of the 1997-98 construction of the elevator and stair tower. Work began in Oct. 2002 on the "complete renovation" of the 35,000 square foot interior.

After months of discussion town and county officials reached the following agreement. The Town of Emmitsburg will pay for the second floor renovation, \$281,000, in return for a 25-year lease with a \$1.00 per year fee. The county will pay for all utilities except telephones. According to Dave Haller, the cost to the town is less than utilities' costs for the present building over 25 years. By moving to the community

center, the town's work/office space jumped from about 1,200 to 6,000 square feet. There is equipment for televising town meetings and a large meeting room with seating for 100. The new space also includes a Town Council chamber, a conference room, and offices for the mayor, town manager, town planner, and town departments.

David Ennis, county Department of Program Development and Management, served as renovation project manager. He pointed out, "With a building this old, you have to plan on running into special problems." During the renovation design phase work crews examined the building for hazardous

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The county originally built the Community Center to house the Emmitsburg public school. The main portion of the structure opened in 1922 for grades 1-11, the length of high school in Frederick County until 1949. The first class, with 10 students, graduated in 1923. The Frederick County Board of Education added a wing with a kitchen, cafeteria, gymnasium, locker rooms, and music classroom in 1951. High school grades moved to Catocin High School in Sept. 1968. Elementary and junior high classes continued in the building until the present Emmitsburg School opened in 1973.

The Community Center was unused until 1975 when the Commission on Aging moved its senior lunch program to the kitchen, cafeteria, and music room space. The Emmitsburg Library moved into classrooms on the first floor in 1976, according to former librarian, Kate Warthen. Over the years, Girl Scouts, the local food bank, and art students have used lower level classrooms. The County Health Department, CASS, town police, and tourist information offices were previously located on the first floor.

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Emmitsburg Ambulance seeks young volunteers

By Richard D. L. Fulton
Staff Writer

The Emmitsburg Volunteer Ambulance Company wants to increase its number of junior members. According to Joseph Pelkey, president of the ambulance company, "Junior membership is open to community youth from ages 12 to 18; and student members can also apply their service toward the community service requirements at their high school."

In addition to maintaining and provisioning the ambulances or assisting with fundraisers, junior members also receive cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and first-aid training. "Junior members start by receiving an exposure to the ambulance company's responsibilities," Pelkey said, adding, "They also take part in the team-building program so they can learn to work as part of a team."

When junior members reach 16, they may take emergency medical technician (EMT) training with parental consent. Once they receive the training, they can go on the ambulance with another EMT; but they cannot go alone

until they are 18. This age requirement is necessary because EMTs must be of legal age to sign documents and forms related to emergency response or transit. Junior members automatically become regular members at age 18.

Six junior member volunteers have joined the ambulance company since July. Three joined in conjunction with their school's community service requirements.

Pelkey said that junior member participation helps strengthen the participants' spirit of volunteerism and community involvement, and "helps keep the youth off the streets." He said, "Sometimes there is just not enough around in small communities for youths to do."

The Emmitsburg Volunteer Ambulance Company was incorporated in 1946, and presently has over 75 members. A number of the members have served the company for more than 15 years.

For an application or more information about the Junior Member Program, contact Pelkey or the Junior Program Committee Chairperson, Ashley Straw, at 301-447-6626.

Moratorium

—Continued from page 1

study, evaluate, repair, improve and correct" wastewater treatment system problem areas. The town administration would have to review the program at regular intervals of "no less than 90 days."

Additionally, the pending ordinance would remain in effect, once adopted, for a period of 180 continuous days. During this time the wastewater treatment plant must not exceed its lawful capacity of 800,000 gallons per day. Should the plant exceed its limits, the moratorium would begin again, initiating another 180-day moratorium period.

Commissioner Art Elder was the sole vote against moving forward with the ordinance. He indicated he would only support a stricter version. Elder said, "This plan (allowing pre-approved development to continue full-steam) would be a disaster for the town. I can't support it. It's way out of line."

Elder told *The Emmitsburg*

Dispatch, "I would support an ordinance which restricted new home construction to 25 units a year or until the wastewater collection system overhaul proves to be reliable." He would also support new commercial construction during a moratorium.

Property owners and developers with already approved development plans are concerned that a strict moratorium would prevent them from proceeding. The moratorium could affect the 35 homes approved for South Gate and the 120 homes approved for Brookfield.

Commissioner Joyce A. Rosensteel said she would support the present ordinance draft, allowing approved developments to move forward. "We can not go back on a promise (suspending previously approved development) we've already made." She said, "I don't think the town should renege."

The town has 50,000 feet of sewer collection pipelines. There are 30,000 feet of deteriorating terra cotta pipes, installed from the 1930s through the 1950s. The remaining

20,000 feet are polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipes, installed beginning in the 1980s. PVC pipes, the current industry standard, would be used to replace the terra cotta pipes. Terra cotta pipes trace their origins to ancient Crete around 3,000 B.C. They were widely used in the wastewater collection systems in major cities in the Roman Empire.

Emmitsburg's terra cotta pipes are not only slowly disintegrating, but are also subject to iron build-up and blockage. These problems cause rampant rainwater, melted snow, and groundwater infiltration and inflow (I&I) into the wastewater collection system during heavy rains.

This uncontrollable influx of unwanted I&I water has caused several major problems. The 1988 town wastewater treatment plant is under duress. There have been major spills of untreated water contaminated partially or wholly with raw sewage, or inadequately treated sewage, into area streams. These spills potentially threaten local ecosystems and human health. The town may face spillage violations and penalty assessments by the MD Department of the Environment (MDE), and possibly federal regulatory and enforcement authorities.

According to Emmitsburg Mayor James E. Hoover, there were 9 significant "raw sewage" spills in 2003 alone, with more than 1,200,000 gallons in two Jan. incidents, more than 50,200 gallons in two Feb. incidences; 15,000 gallons in April, less than 1,000 gallons in May, more than 457,000 gallons in two Sept. incidences, and more than 171,000 gallons in Dec. (*See A word from the Mayor, p. 9, Dec.-Jan 1004 issue of The Emmitsburg Dispatch.*) The wastewater treatment plant actually exceeded its licensed capacity of 800,000 gallons per day numerous times during 2003. Not all of the excesses generated spillage. However, Lucas said there were a couple of incidences in addition to those the mayor listed.

According to Lucas, the wastewater treatment plant exceeded its lawful capacity on 14 separate occasions by more than twice the allowable limit. It exceeded its capacity on 5 occasions by more than 3 three times its limits. It exceeded its 800,000-gallon capacity by more than 4 times that limit during one incident.

Lucas said there is nothing new

about the over-taxation of the treatment plant's capacity or occasional resultant spillages. "The system has been plagued by the infiltration and inflow problems and infrequent spillage of raw sewage since the 1970s. It's fair to say the problem has increased."

The spillages primarily impact Flat Run Creek and Tom's Creek. Flat Run Creek discharges into Tom's Creek, which flows into the Monocacy River. The creek and the river are part of the Upper Potomac Tributary Basin, which collectively drains more than 2,000 square miles of MD. Tom's Creek is itself part of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, according to Heather Lynch, a spokesperson with MD Department of Natural Resources.

Lucas thinks most of the I&I impact is along Little Run Creek. Some of the terra cotta piping there is badly degraded or blocked with iron and debris build-up. The town plans to replace 3,000 feet of pipeline along Little Run Creek starting in April. It has acquired a \$275,000 loan for that purpose.

Council President Patrick B. Boyle believes "Little Run is 90 percent of the problem." Commissioner Elder disagrees. "I don't think this Little Run Creek repair is going to take care of everything."

Lucas recommended that the town conduct a study of the whole system. "I can't tell you the extent to which Little Run will mitigate the problem. I can't say," Lucas stated.

Mayor Hoover stated that the town "has been working on several issues to improve problems with our sewer system. About three years ago, the town re-lined a section of sewer line on the east side of N. Seton Ave. Just recently Provincial House and FEMA re-lined a sewer line between their two facilities. Currently the town is advertising for bids to replace the sewer line that runs from the old Rutters store to N. Seton Ave., and we have also done some preventive maintenance to the pumps and valves at the Creamery Rd. pump station." (*see A word from the Mayor, page 9 of Dec./Jan.2004 issue of The Emmitsburg Dispatch.*)

"It is not like the town has just thrown its hands in the air or said, 'Well, it only happens when it rains; there's nothing we can do,'" Hoover said. "We are working toward improvements. We still have a very long way to go."


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

Commercial Development Plans may cause Moratorium Revision

By Raymond Buchheister
Editor & Publisher

Commercial development concerns may stall passage of a proposed new construction moratorium ordinance for Emmitsburg. Commissioners will consider the ordinance at the Feb. town meeting. The moratorium would ban all new construction for periods of 180 days, based on satisfactory performance of proposed wastewater collection system improvements. Only pre-approved developments could proceed during the moratorium. This would allow South Gate and Brookfield developers to continue building without interruption. No new site plans and record plats would be approved. The ordinance would therefore exclude all new commercial proposals. Commercial developers are expected to attend the Feb. Town meeting to voice their concerns.

Last October Town Manager Dave Haller proposed a managed growth plan to slow town's growth rate. The plan would have limited the number of new water and sewer taps issued; and allowed for no more than 25 residential units per year. Under this plan Town commissioners reserved 5 discretionary taps to allow commercial development to proceed. Since September South Gate and Brookfield developers have pressed the commis-

sioners to reject Haller's proposal. They prefer a limit only on new development. The managed growth plan has disappeared. In its place is the proposed building moratorium. Now commercial developers have started to ask how this proposal will affect them.

Dan Reaver, a partner of Emmitsburg East Industrial Park, LLC and owner of Emmitsburg Glass Company, has worked 5 years on developing and selling his commercial lots. Currently he has 3 of 5 lots under contract.

Reaver is also in the final stages of selling the Emmitsburg Glass building to Kirby Delauter of W.F. Delauter and Son, owner of Silo Hill Car Wash. Delauter plans to move his general contracting company to Emmitsburg. Reaver plans to build an entirely new warehouse complex for the Glass Company. He will build either in the industrial park or on the property across from Mother Seton School. Reaver has already spoken to Commissioners about their proposed actions. He plans to go on record against the moratorium at the Feb. meeting.

W. Dale Hess, Jr., owner of 11.2 acres where the Sleep Inn Hotel and the Silo Hill Car Wash are located, has been working on leases with a number of businesses, "most recently with Dollar General." The proposed mora-

torium would block Hess' ability to lease his land; at least until the wastewater treatment system is fully repaired.

"We're going to fight this tooth and nail if we have to," Hess said, adding, "I understand that they (the commissioners) have to fix the infrastructure problems, but not giving us an opportunity to get a good client is going too far."

Council President Patrick Boyle told *The Emmitsburg Dispatch* he was previously unaware that the temporary moratorium would stall any commercial proposals. He learned about the concerns just prior to the Jan. 21 meeting.

Boyle said the commissioners could vote in Feb. to direct Town Planner Michael H. Lucas to revise the pending ordinance. A revision could

permit small commercial developments during the moratorium.

Commissioner Clifford L. Sweeney told *The Emmitsburg Dispatch*, "I wouldn't vote for any ordinance which would block any commercial business." He said, "We do have to limit the houses (until the wastewater treatment system is overhauled), but I don't want to keep any business out."

Sweeney said he had not known of any planned commercial developments when the commission directed the town planner to draft a moratorium ordinance.

Commissioner Joyce A. Rosensteel said she wants to hear more testimony before deciding if she would support the proposed ordinance in its present form. "I'm not committed yet to a decision and want to hear more from the community."

Commissioner Art Elder previously stated he would not favor a moratorium that would block commercial development.

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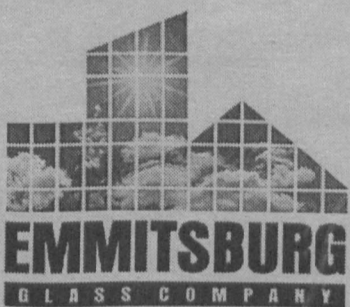
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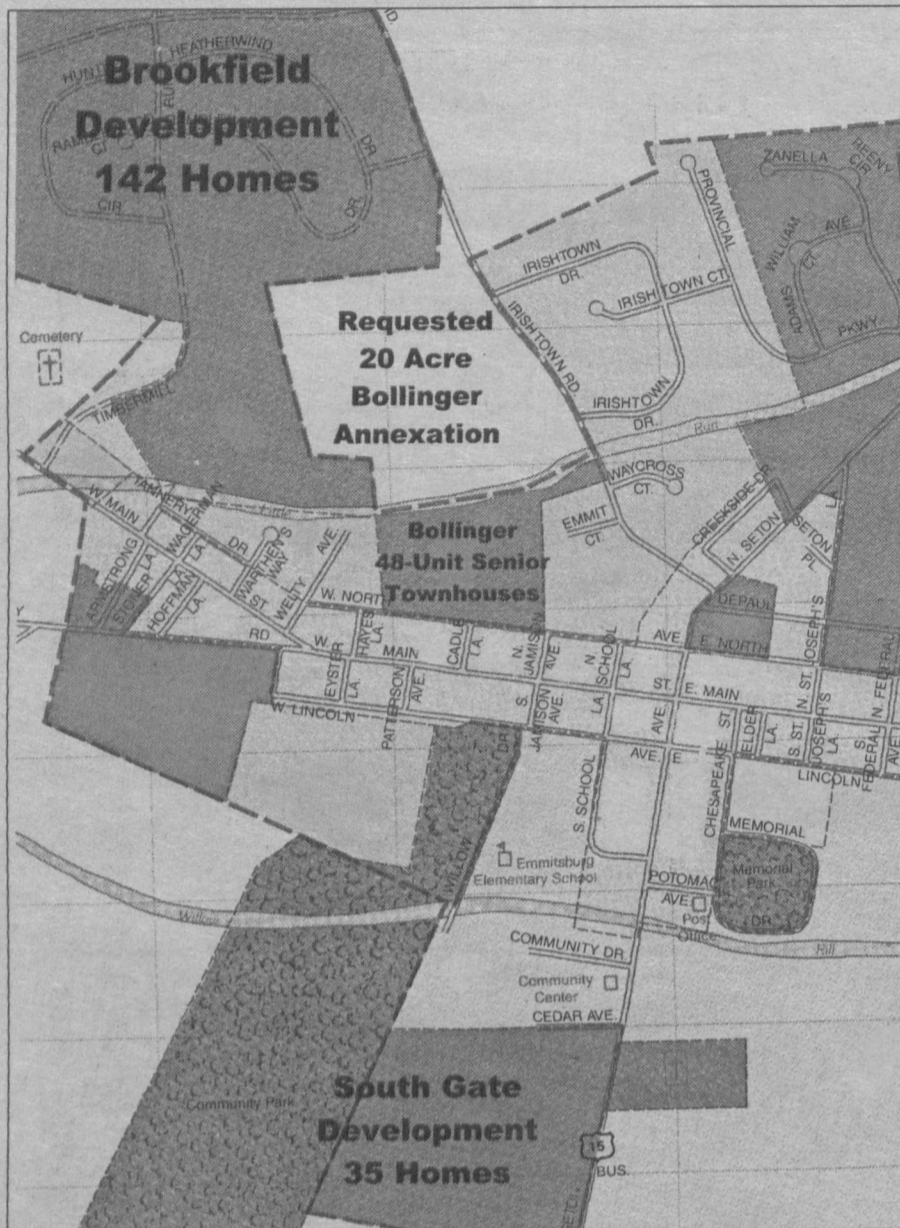
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—RAYMOND BUCHHEISTER / THE EMMITSBURG DISPATCH
(L-R) Thomas Carolyn, owner of Apple Tree Homes listens intently as Town commissioners debate how far to go with a managed growth plan for Emmitsburg. "I would be financially ruined" by a strict building moratorium, he said. Carolyn's attorney, G. Randall Whittenberger verifies figures during the proceedings. Whittenberger issued a letter to Town officials requesting "fair treatment." He asked for grandfathering provisions for the South Gate arguing that the municipality is already committed to the project by requiring letters of credit and entering into public works agreements. He called for Town commissioners to carefully consider the costs of infrastructure repair against "a much larger legal battle where the builder's financial back is forced against the wall." Previous owners of the 12.6-acre subdivision, Charles and Betty Hogendorp of Cradle Pine Land Development, sit in to lend Carolyn their support.

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South Gate

—Continued from page 1

division, Charles D. Hogendorp, Jr., received final site plan approval from Emmitsburg town commissioners. Thomas Carolyn, development company owner, said Apple Tree Homes purchased the tract "contingent on Hogendorp acquiring site plan approvals." Groundbreaking took place in April 2003.

Carolyn said that Apple Tree Homes could "start digging basements" next week. The development could take about 2 years to build-out completely. The developer has completed virtually all of the curb, gutter and paving, as well as the rest of the basic infrastructure.

Buyers can choose from 7 different Colonial-style homes, all of which include two-car garages, full or partial basements, maintenance-free vinyl siding, wall-to-wall

carpeting, all major kitchen appliances, and a host of other exterior and interior features. Options are available, including a front porch on the largest home to enjoy the mountain setting.

Apple Tree Homes currently has 12 building permits for South Gate in various stages of approval, according to Carolyn. With one permit finalized, model home construction work could begin.

Carolyn told The Emmitsburg Dispatch that Apple Tree Homes had sold 21 homes at one point, but the number is back to 18. "A couple of them (potential buyers) backed out over concerns about the town's proposed moratorium," he said. In addition, Apple Tree Homes stopped sales when a managed growth plan for Emmitsburg became an issue.

South Gate may be seriously delayed depending on what town commissioners do. Officials are considering several possibilities. One option would limit construction within the town of Emmitsburg to no more than 25 units, distributed among all the approved or newly proposed developments. A more moderate version would exempt developments with currently approved site plans.

Carolyn said, "I have made a substantial investment (in this property)," adding that, with a strict moratorium, "I would be financially ruined." Carolyn told the commissioners in Jan., "You are talking about putting a moratorium on something the town plans to have fixed by August. This is a Trojan Horse. This is not a growth issue. It is a sewer capacity issue."

Apple Tree Homes, based in Reisterstown, normally works on 3 to 4 developments at once. Established in 1990, the company has built hundreds of homes in more than 20 developments "from PA to the MD Eastern Shore," according to Carolyn.

Hi, I'm Dianne Walbrecker.
I would like to serve
as one of your
Commissioners.



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TOWN NEWS

A word from the Mayor

A job well done

A year ago, the Emmitsburg Ambulance Company introduced a new youth activity for local teens. Several kids have enjoyed the teen dances provided by the Ambulance Company one Saturday night each month. Starting at 7:00 p.m., parents can drop kids off to enjoy an evening of dancing and hanging out with friends. Once the teens arrive at the dance, they are not permitted to leave unless a parent or guardian accompanies them. The "locked door" policy is in place to assure parents that the teens will remain at the dance in a safe environment. The Ambulance Company showed its dedication to teens and the community when in the early months attendance was very low. Even after many dances attracted less than a dozen teens, the Ambulance Company continued to promote them. With low attendance, it would have been very easy for the Ambulance Company to justify discontinuing the dances. However, rather than throw their hands in the air and quit, they became more determined to make the dances a success for the community. In recent months, each dance has had an average of 50 to 60 teens in attendance. I applaud the Ambulance Company for their effort and dedication to continue through the hard times to make a successful youth activity. If you are interested in more information about the teen dances, you can contact the Emmitsburg Ambulance Company at 301-447-6626. I am sure they would be glad to talk to you about their success. The next dance is scheduled for Feb. 21. Dates through June are listed on the

Ambulance Company's website, www.emmitsburgems.org.

The Town's resident deputies also started a youth activity this past summer. Deputy James Moxley requested approval from the Town to provide a community Rocket Club. Deputy's James Moxley and Kevin Eyler instruct kids on how to make rockets. Since the kids are building rockets that contain a very low-grade explosive material (needed to shoot the rocket), each child receives a brief safety course before building his or her rocket. While providing instructions and assistance, the deputies continue to teach safety awareness at every club meeting and rocket shoot. The first rocket shoot was held this past July. Kids shot their rockets in Community Park. A second shoot took place in Dec. The group is currently building its second set of rockets. As another way of helping the community, the Emmitsburg Ambulance Company offered the Rocket Club the use of the Ambulance building as a meeting place. The Rocket Club meets there one Thursday night each month. If you would like more information on the Emmitsburg Rocket Club, contact Cathy at the Town office at 301-447-2313 or talk to Deputy James Moxley or Kevin Eyler.

On behalf of the Town of Emmitsburg, I want to thank the Emmitsburg Ambulance Company and our resident deputies, James Moxley and Kevin Eyler, for the community service they are providing to our young people.

-Jim Hoover
Mayor of Emmitsburg

PUBLIC NOTICE ELECTION JUDGES NEEDED

The Town of Emmitsburg is accepting applications of interest to serve as an election judge for the April 27, 2004 election.

Please respond in writing to:
Town of Emmitsburg
PO Box 990 Emmitsburg, MD 21727-0990
or, mayor@emmitsburg.net

A description of judges' of elections duties can be obtained at the town office at 300A South Seton Avenue.

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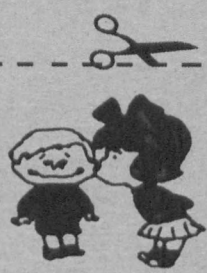
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RELIGION

Incarnation Church Honors Audrey Glass

By Susan Allen
Staff Writer

Audrey Springer Glass was the surprise guest of honor on Dec. 7 at the final celebration of Incarnation Church of Christ's 235th anniversary. Audrey played the organ that day and directed the choir. She has been playing the organ there since she was a teenager, at least 40 years. A representative of the UCC Central Atlantic Conference, Dr. Jerry Foltz, had come to bring greetings and light the Advent candle. The whole congregation was invited to a catered luncheon following the worship service. Audrey knew all this; it had been planned for months. What she didn't know was that she was the

guest of honor.

Every one of the 75 church members and friends present wore red socks, Audrey's preferred footwear when playing the organ. A banner proclaimed, "Audrey's Socks Rock!" The church consistory gave her a new pair of red socks, and a mock check for \$340,000, the estimated value of her volunteer hours spent at choir rehearsals and church services. Following the luncheon, the Incarnation choir offered a musical tribute. Friends and family members hailed (and roasted) Audrey through poems and anecdotes. Her pastor, Rev. Ted Haas, and friend, Rev. Ben Jones, blessed the occasion with praise and prayer.

Father Vincent O'Malley Settles on Holy Ground

By Roy J. Horner
Dispatch Contributor

Father Vincent O'Malley became pastor of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Emmitsburg in late Dec. When asked if he was interested in the pastorate of St. Joseph's, Vincentian Father Vincent O'Malley thought of two words: "holy ground."

"When I say 'holy ground,' that has special meaning for me," the 58-year-old priest said during a recent interview. "When I use that phrase, I don't use it lightly. It's holy ground because of Mother Seton," Father

O'Malley said. "And I also know John Neumann passed through this area. When he was assigned (as a priest) to Baltimore, he went as far south as Richmond and as far north as York. I would say to walk on this holy ground inspires me and excites me. And I pray to those two saints who walked on this same soil."

"And then Gettysburg is right up the road," Father O'Malley added. "There was a great loss of life there, where the purpose was really freedom for all people. So that's holy ground."

Since history is his favorite subject, this assignment is a fine match.

Priests of the Vincentian order have a say in where they serve. "Our assignments are always mutual," Father O'Malley said. "So when the provincial called me and asked if I was willing to come here, I said yes. I said I would be happy to come here." Father O'Malley saw the St. Joseph assignment as an opportunity to return to parish ministry. "Parish life is family life...it's the most real context," he said.

A native of Paulsboro, NJ, Father O'Malley was ordained in 1974 after studying at Mary Immaculate Seminary in Northampton, PA. He has a bachelor's degree in philosophy, a master's of divinity and a master's in art and history. He brings a breadth of administrative, educational and pastoral experience.

The new pastor has begun to get to know his parishioners and church neighbors in Emmitsburg's ecumenical community. His plans for St. Joseph's center on the parish's mission. "I'd like to focus on continuing to fulfill the mission statement - that we're here to bring people closer to Jesus through the Word and Sacraments, and in the church that Jesus founded. Part of the church's mission is to be of service to the entire community - and not just to Catholics - which this parish does marvelously."

Father O'Malley transferred to Emmitsburg from a teaching position at Niagara University, NY. While at the University, he kept his heart and mind "in the real world" by teaching courses at NJ's Attica State Prison. For several summers he also served as a chaplain at Michigan's Jackson State Prison, which he said is "the largest walled prison in the world."

He was curate at St. John the Baptist Parish in the Bedford-

Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn for 3 years. The parish had a majority mix of Hispanics and African-Americans; and the people pulled together to meet the "enormous needs" of the poverty-stricken neighborhood. The Sisters of Charity and the Daughters of Charity had a vital support role in the parish, running a thrift shop and conducting literacy classes. The parish also has the second largest soup kitchen in New York City, Father O'Malley noted.

Also a published author, Father O'Malley has written 3 books in the past 9 years. A fourth title is due out in Sept. Another is scheduled for publication in 2006. His writing specialty is the saints. His second book, "Ordinary Sufferings of Extraordinary Saints," has widespread appeal for all people of faith. Readers will find vignettes of more than 100 saints and their sufferings, from sicknesses and family stresses to tribulations in church or society. "I demonstrate with brief stories that any suffering you can imagine or have experienced, I can find a saint who has gone through a very similar suffering," Father O'Malley explained. "And I give you their words and tell how they endured their sufferings in Jesus. You name me the suffering, and I'll find you the saint."

As both a student and teacher of history, Father O'Malley is interested in St. Joseph's Church's place in the history of both Emmitsburg and his religious order. The parish was founded in 1786. Vincentian priests came to Emmitsburg in 1850 to serve as spiritual directors for the Daughters of Charity of St. Joseph, the order Mother Seton founded. In 1852, Archbishop Samuel Eccleston of Baltimore asked the Vincentians to come to St. Joseph's Church. They have provided the parish with priests and pastors ever since.

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 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

In 1797, The Methodist Congregation purchased the log church that was built at Tom's Creek in 1757 by families who were mostly Lutherans and reforms. Since the old log church at

Tom's Creek had been used for 146 years; In 1903, the present church's cornerstone was laid.

10926 Simmons Road
Sunday Services at 8:00 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
Worship with Holy Communion - 10:30AM
Sunday School - 9 AM
301-447-6239

OBITUARIES

Mrs. Mary Hatter

Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Brown Hatter, 84, Emmitsburg, died Jan. 4. She was the wife of Ralph Leonard Hatter, who died in 1967. Mrs. Hatter was a member of Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church, Foxville, and St. Anthony's Shrine, Emmitsburg. She served on the Democratic Central Committee and was vice president of the New Frontier Democratic Women's Club, Emmitsburg.

Surviving are 6 children: Janet Mask, Mary-Jo Birgensmith, Loretta Blevins, Joan Schreiber, Ralph L. and Edgar J. Hatter; 11 grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; a brother, Charlie M. Brown; and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church, Foxville. Interment followed in Brown Family Cemetery, Foxville.

Ruby A. Hurley

Ruby Ann Hurley, 57, Sabillasville, died Jan. 14 at Washington County Hospital, Hagerstown. Her husband, Harold L. Hurley, died Feb. 3, 2003. Mrs. Hurley was a member of the Friends Creek Church of God, Emmitsburg.

Survivors include 3 sons: Michael Hurley, Sr., John Hurley, and Wayne Hurley; two daughters, Brenda Marsh and Joni L. Hurley; three brothers, Wilbur, Sterling and Robert Stouter; two uncles, Sam and John Turner; 7 grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at the Friends Creek Church of God, with her pastor, the Rev. William Parks officiating. Interment was in the church cemetery.

Mr. James Lankford, Jr.

Mr. James W. Lankford, Jr., 88, Emmitsburg, formerly of Westminster, died at home Jan. 9. His wife, Marguerite Rita M. Rosensteel Lankford, died June 7, 1993. He was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Emmitsburg, and a former member of St. John's Catholic Church, Westminster. Mr. Lankford graduated from Baltimore Polytechnic Institute and worked in construction for most of his life.

Surviving are 3 daughters: Linda Ann Wright; Kathleen Warthen, Marguerite Swope; one sister, Helen Krichten; 15 grandchildren; and 32 great-grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. John's Catholic Church, Westminster, with the Rev. Steve Trzeciecki as celebrant. Interment was in the church cemetery.

Mr. Carroll Little

Mr. Carroll James Little, 73, Thurmont, died at home Jan. 14. Mr. Little was a member of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Roman Catholic

Church, Thurmont.

Surviving are his wife Anna; 3 daughters, Judy Miller, Joann Kneer, and Linda Carty; 4 grandchildren; 2 great-grandchildren; three brothers, Leo, Phil and Thomas Little; 2 sisters, Patricia Carson and Betty Boose; and many nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Anthony's Shrine Parish, Emmitsburg, with his pastor, the Rev. James Hannon, as the celebrant. Interment was in Mount Carmel Cemetery, Thurmont.

Mr. John Little

Mr. John "Jack" B. Little, 67, Emmitsburg, died Jan. 6 at Washington Hospital Center, Washington. Mr. Little was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, the Carpenter's Union, a past member of American Legion Post 168, AMVETS Post 7, and VFW 6658.

Surviving are 6 children: Tim Little, Mary Lou Little, Pam Bolin, Tony Little, Scott Little, and Ed Little; 11 grandchildren; 4 brothers, Carroll, Leo, Philip, and Thomas; two sisters, Patricia Carson and Betty Boose; and many nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Emmitsburg. Interment was in the church cemetery.

Mr. Lawrence Ott

Mr. Lawrence Joseph Ott, 81, Thurmont, died at home Jan. 1. Mr. Ott was a member of St. Anthony's Shrine Parish, Emmitsburg.

Surviving in addition to his wife are 6 children: Lee Ott, Judy Allis, Gloria Krietz, Richard A. Ott, Patsy Azzarello, Bonnie Ott; 8 grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren; two sisters, Betty Weatherly and Doris Asper; two brothers, Charles Ott and John B. Ott Jr.; and several nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Anthony's Shrine Parish with Father Jim Hannon assisted by Ruth Ann Ward as the celebrants. Interment was in Blue Ridge Cemetery, Frederick.

Sister Justin Posey

Sister Justin Posey, DC, 92, died Jan. 11 at Villa St. Michael, Emmitsburg. She was a member of the Northeast Province of Daughters of Charity (Albany Province). The former Mary Margaret Posey graduated from St. Joseph's High School, Emmitsburg, in 1929; received her bachelor's degree in 1936 from St. Joseph College, Emmitsburg; and a master's degree from Catholic University in 1951. She entered Daughters of Charity in 1930 and was a teacher for much of her community life. She later worked in health care ministries.

Surviving are one sister, Sister Lauretta Posey, DC, Villa St. Michael, Emmitsburg; and numerous cousins.

A Mass of Christian burial was held at the Basilica of the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Emmitsburg. Interment was in the cemetery on the grounds of St. Joseph's Provincial House, Emmitsburg.

Mr. Joseph Sanders

Mr. Joseph Glesson Sanders, 93, formerly of Emmitsburg, died Jan. 7 at Frederick Memorial Hospital. He was a member of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Emmitsburg.

He was a life member of VFW Post 6658, Emmitsburg and American Legion, Francis X. Elder Post 121, Emmitsburg.

Surviving are 3 children: Stephen M. and Jeffrey L. Sanders, and Cynthia S. Mallette; 5 grandchildren; and 2 great-grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Emmitsburg, with his pastor, the Rev. Vincent O'Malley, C.M. as the celebrant. Interment was in St. Mary's Cemetery, Fairfield.

Mrs. Mary Sanders

Mrs. Mary Virginia Lingg Sanders, 85, Emmitsburg, died Dec. 26 at Gettysburg Hospital, Gettysburg, PA. She graduated from St. Joseph's Academy, Emmitsburg. For 35 years Mrs. Sanders was co-owner of Sanders Garage, Emmitsburg. She was a member of St. Anthony's Shrine Parish, Emmitsburg, and the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Survivors include one daughter, Alma Topper; one son, George Sanders, Jr.; 4 grandchildren; 11

great-grandchildren; two sisters, Sophie Lind and Emma Rebert.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Anthony's Shrine with the Rev. James Hannon as celebrant.

Mr. Donald Sweeney

Mr. Donald Walter Sweeney, 85, died Dec. 26 at St. Catherine's Nursing Center, Emmitsburg. He was a member of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Emmitsburg.

Surviving are his wife Betty; 2 sons, Donald Ross Sweeney and Ronald Leroy Sweeney; 3 daughters, Maxine Shriner, Jackie L. Sweeney, and Alicia M. Wood; 9 grandchildren; 7 great-grandchildren; one great-great-granddaughter; one brother, Albert Sweeney; and 2 sisters, Liza Knott Thurmont, and Angel Toms.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Emmitsburg, with the Rev. Stephen P. Trzeciecki as celebrant. Interment was in New St. Joseph's cemetery, Emmitsburg.

Mr. Ronald Wierman


Mr. Ronald Wierman, 52, Kaiserslautern, Germany, formerly of Emmitsburg, died at home Jan. 6 after a short battle with cancer. Mr. Wierman graduated in 1969 from Catocin High School, Thurmont. He served in the U.S. Army for 23 years, retiring in 1993. He was a member of the American Legion Post 121 in Emmitsburg, and AMVETS Post 7 in Thurmont.

Surviving are his wife Brigitte; 2 daughters, Sabine Steinbach and Tina Wierman; two sisters, Carolyn Lewis and Shirley Freshman; one brother, Jeffrey L. Wierman; and several nieces and nephews.

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Community Center —

—Continued from page 3

materials (hazmat), asbestos and lead paint. They removed identified sites. The hazmat contractor returned to remove additional asbestos sites discovered during the demolition phase. "Whatever we found, we removed," Mr. Ennis stated.

High groundwater levels were another major concern. Engineers knew there was a history of lower level flooding. This past year's heavy rain and snowfall added to their difficulties. In recent months Southgate subdivision construction created additional runoff. Design modifications solved the problem. Workers waterproofed the foundation and upgraded the sump pumps. They also dredged out ditches along Cedar Ave. (on the south side of the building) and redirected the sump pump flow away from the foundation.

Inside there are noticeable changes, along with safety features. The building wiring meets current codes, and there is a new sprinkler system. There are fully accessible public bathrooms on each level. There is carpeting in the library, town offices, and lower level offices. The senior center dining and recreational

rooms and the Head Start classroom have new vinyl tile floors. The Senior Center and Head Start both plan to use the enlarged and refurbished kitchen. The gym floor, which was in good condition, has been refinished. There is new lighting throughout the center. The new windows and exterior lights match the design of Emmitsburg's streetlights.

Outside there have been improvements as well. There is more parking and better access. Library patrons can use the additional parking lot on the east side of the building. The main parking lot has been resurfaced, with a curb cut through on Community Drive to access the parking area. Head Start children will now have a small, fenced, soft surface playground on the west side of the building.

For those unable to attend the grand re-opening, the senior center will continue its open house Feb. 9-13, with refreshments and entertainment. The Health Department's Family Planning Clinic will officially open for business Feb. 25.

Burry Moser Gehr Architects, LLC, Hagerstown, developed the design for the Community Center. McAlister-Schwartz Co., Rockville, was the general contractor.

Community Center Recollections

Up the front stairs ... they have been replaced, but the look and feel is the same. It is hard to disregard the nostalgia of place and times gone by. As I move through the front door, I find myself transported back to the *principal's office* - been there, done that. Look down the hall, there, on the left, Mrs. Anders' second grade classroom. "Og the Caveman" bubbles up in my memory. In front of me is Ms. Edna Stull's third grade room. On the right is Mary Scott's domain. I'm standing right in the middle of the hall and nobody is yelling at me! Pleasant memories. Fond memories.

But the promise of these renovations brings a new sense of excitement. What was once the domain of hopping, skipping, noisy elementary students and matronly school "marms" has given way to Emmitsburg High and Elementary School's recent transition into a true Community Center.

In the basement (Pappy Kugler's realm) are the Health Department and Head Start offices and the Senior Center. The expanded library occupies the middle floor — an expansion from about 2,000 square feet to 6,000 square feet, augmented with new equipment. The top floor will be the aerie of the town government. Three

floors jam-packed with organizations, agencies, and service providers supporting the community of Emmitsburg. Three floors, elevator service - life is good.

In truth, anyone who has a history with this old building may feel a tug on his heartstrings; but will soon realize that the transformation is good. More recent residents who missed the building the first time round will find a place in their hearts for it and what it brings to this village.

The Grand Opening and ribbon cutting on Feb. 7 will be a time for all residents, new and old, to wish our new community ship bon voyage. All the offices will be open. Everyone is invited to explore EHS-2 to see what amenities she offers.

The Friends of the Library, Emmitsburg Branch, extend a personal invitation to kids, parents, grandparents, students, home schoolers, researchers, surfers, readers, et.al, to visit our new facilities. It is the perfect time to begin an exciting and fruitful new relationship with the Emmitsburg Branch of Frederick County Public Libraries.

- Bo Cadle
Emmitsburg

Emmitsburg Library Celebrates Renovation

Expanded Hours, New Programs and Services

By Susan Allen
Staff Writer

The Emmitsburg Library will re-open in the Community Center on Mon, Feb. 9. Joan Fisher, Branch Manager, estimates that the library's usable space

branch library to offer its patrons wireless remote computer access.

The library occupies the entire first floor of the Community Center. The restored stairs and building entrance facing S. Seton Ave. lead directly into the library. Especially charming is a unique



—RAYMOND BUCHHEISTER / THE EMMITSBURG DISPATCH

With a paint brush, artist Crystal Hansen brings to life Dorothy from "The Wizard of Oz." Dorothy is one of several fairytale characters that appears in a floor-to-ceiling mural Hansen has been commissioned to paint on two walls of the Library's children's room.

has doubled. The public can tour the facility during the Community Center's Open House on Sat., Feb. 7, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

There are many "firsts" in the library's history. It was the first public library in Frederick County (est. in 1906). It is the first of Frederick County's present library branches to benefit from a major renovation and expansion. It will be the first county

feature next to the new children's books. In an alcove that was part of the principal's office in the old Emmitsburg School is a child-sized reading nook. A floor-to-ceiling mural commissioned by the Friends of the Emmitsburg Library decorates two walls. The Friends' arts committee reviewed 15 design proposals before selecting artist Crystal Hansen's entry. The picture books her own children enjoyed inspired Ms.



Hansen, a Frederick resident. "I wanted the children to feel as if they could walk into the pictures, and I wanted it to be fun." Her mural shows the view from a castle window. This is her first experience creating art for a children's library. She looks forward to sharing it with visitors at the open house. Special library activities during February will relate to the mural's characters and symbols.

Regular library users will notice major structural changes in the reading, stacks, and periodicals areas. Some interior walls have been removed, creating more floor space for bookshelves, computers, tables, and other furniture. New windows on the north, east, and west walls let in natural light for readers and browsers. There is a large circulation desk in the center. An interior hallway leads to the new community room, which will be available at no charge for nonprofit and com-

cial events.

Wed. Feb. 11, 7 p.m. Local storyteller, Joanne Hay, will tell stories and sing songs with a Valentine's Day flavor for ages 5-12.

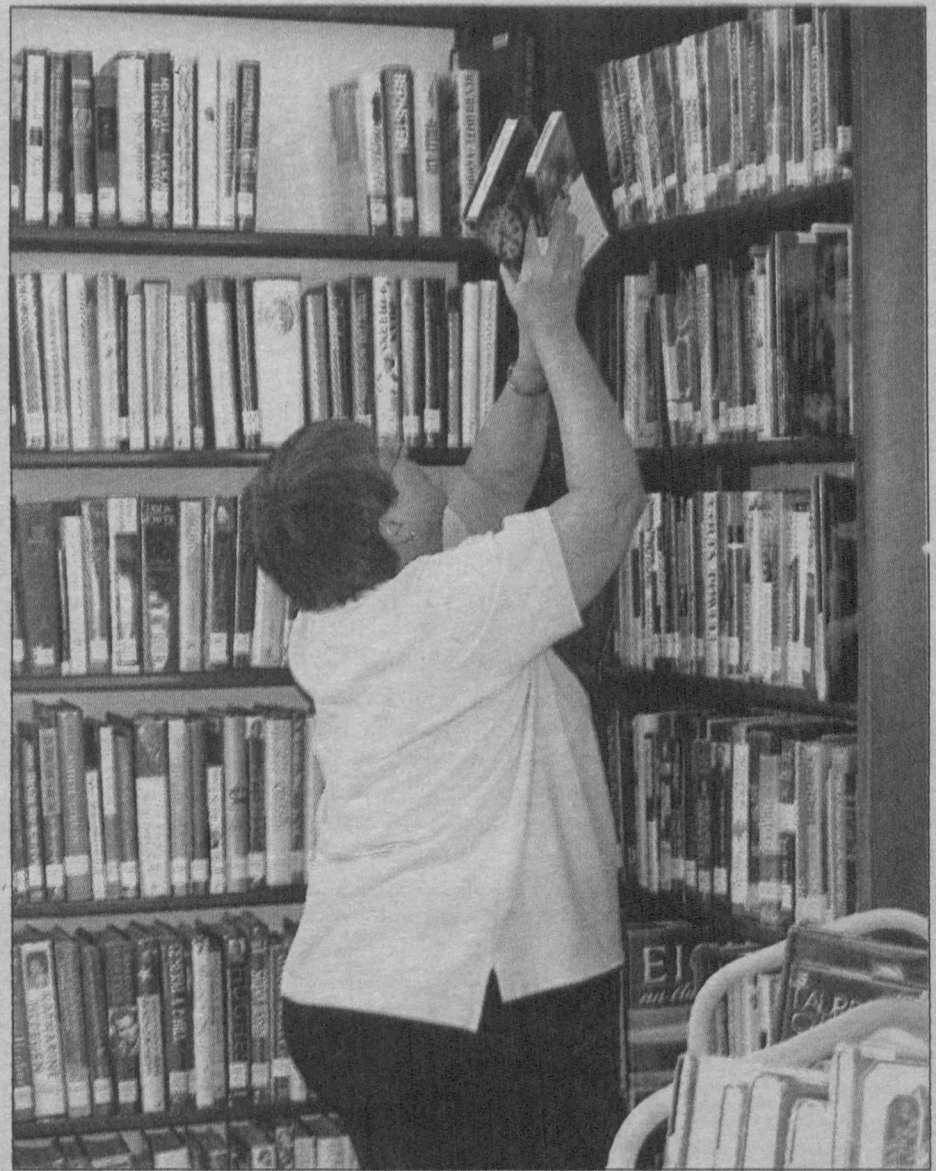
Thurs. Feb. 12, 1 p.m. Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and author, William Ecenbarger, will discuss his book, "Walkin' the Line: a journey from past to present along the Mason-Dixon."

Sat. Feb. 14, 2 p.m. Young people from the community will present a vintage fashion show that chronicles the 9 decades of the Emmitsburg Library.

Sat. Feb. 21, 1 p.m. Join the Home Comfort Bluegrass Band for singing, dances and games.

Sat. Feb. 28, 2 p.m. Slim Harrison, local folksinger and storyteller, will weave song and story magic around a Sadie Hawkins Day theme.

Thurs. March 11, 4:30 p.m. David



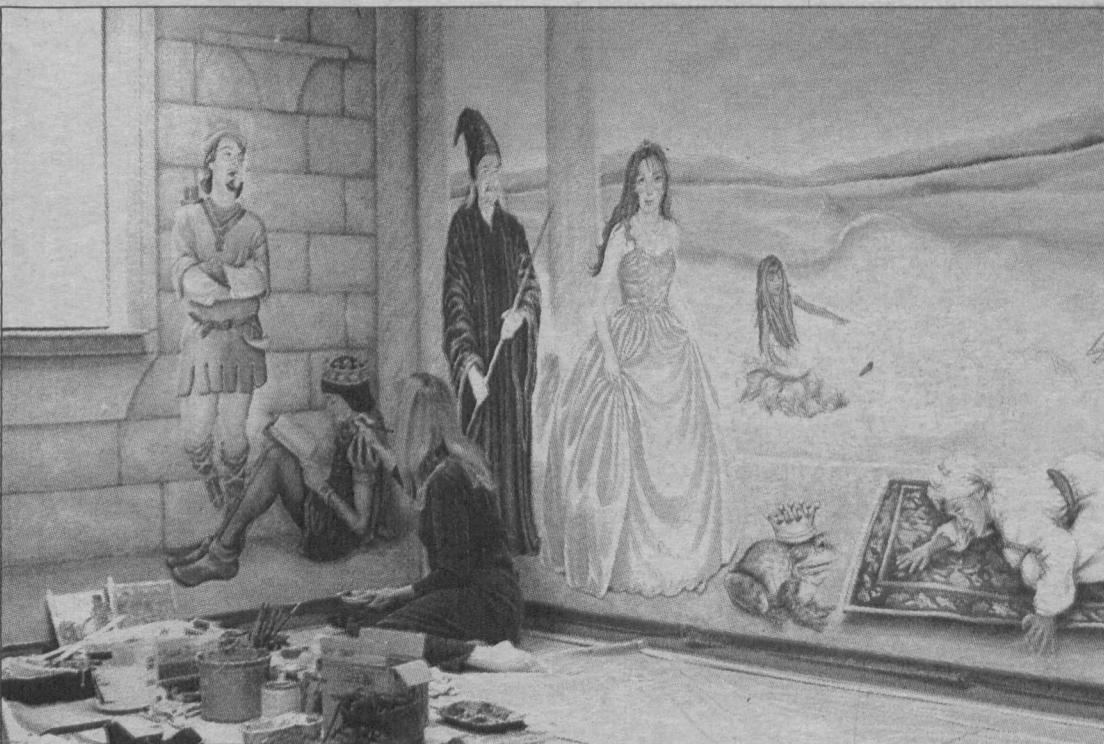
—RAYMOND BUCHHEISTER / THE EMMITSBURG DISPATCH

Emmitsburg Library staff and friends are excited about their newly renovated space that will re-open in the Community Center on Mon, Feb. 9. Staff members put together shelves (bottom photo) while Joan Fisher, Branch Manager, shelves books. The updated library branch will offer a broader selection of services and materials. Boxes of books (photo - pg. 10) that have been in storage will again be available to the community.

well, the public has been clamoring to return to this well-equipped facility, and the staff is delighted to offer a broader selection of services and materials to meet the changing needs of Frederick County," said Darrell Batson, Director of Frederick County Public

Libraries.

Library hours have been expanded. Beginning Mon. Feb 9, hours are Mon.-Thurs. 10-9, Fri. 1-5, and Sat. 10-5. The Emmitsburg Branch has a new telephone number at the Community Center: 240-629-6329.



—RAYMOND BUCHHEISTER / THE EMMITSBURG DISPATCH

Working late into night time hours, Crystal Hansen paints in the corner of an alcove that was once part of the principal's office in the old Emmitsburg School. The floor-to-ceiling mural, commissioned by the Friends of the Emmitsburg Library, decorates two walls of a child-sized reading nook in the newly renovated Library. About her design for the mural, Hansen said, "I want the children to feel as if they can walk into the pictures. I want it to be fun."

community organizations if no library activities are scheduled. The room has a built-in screen to use with slide, overhead or computer projectors. There is also space for a small bookstore, public restrooms and a new staff office and workroom.

The Library will specialize in local history and genealogy. There will be two microfilm copies of the original *Emmitsburg Chronicle* newspapers, along with a reader-printer. Researchers may use one copy; the other will be an archival resource. The Friends of the Emmitsburg Library underwrote the cost of the *Chronicle* microfilm. Ms. Fisher encourages residents with documents, photographs, artifacts, or area history and genealogy knowledge to volunteer and share copies of their papers.

The month-long "Grand re-opening Celebration" will include a series of spe-

Hildebrand, sponsored by the MD Humanities Council, will offer music and stories from early MD.

In the future, the library will offer a monthly Saturday program for 6-12-year-olds. Ms. Fisher anticipates more afternoon programs for children and senior citizens. In addition, the library staff expects to coordinate programs with the county Parks and Recreation Department, which now has an office in the Community Center. Emmitsburg Elementary and Mother Seton School class visits, which were curtailed during renovation, will resume shortly.

The Friends of the Emmitsburg Library and the Frederick County Friends of the Library contributed funds and volunteers to assist with programs and new equipment. The Frederick County Public Library system has added more books, computers, and staff. "While our temporary home served us

EDUCATION

Local Schools Welcome New Staff

By Susan Allen
Staff Writer

New teachers and support personnel are working with students at Mother Seton School (MSS) and Emmitsburg Elementary School (EES). Amy R. VanLenten joined the MSS roster as school consultant (guidance counselor). She is a licensed clinical social worker and experienced counselor. Sarah Fawley, guidance counselor at EES, transferred from a similar position at North Frederick Elementary School.

New faculty members at Mother Seton are Maureen Lorei, a Mercyhurst College graduate, teaching middle school social studies; Danielle Kuykendall, science teacher; and Teddy Peyton, physical education instructor. Both Mrs. Kuykendall and

Mr. Peyton are Mt. St. Mary's College graduates.

Kelly Canfield, former teacher at Middletown Elementary School, has joined the kindergarten faculty at EES. Julia Wilson, first grade teacher, previously taught at Thurmont Primary School. Gary Burgess, formerly with Thurmont Middle School, is teaching a combined third/fourth grade class. Missy White and Jill Rhoads, recent graduates of Mt. St. Mary's, are teaching third and fourth grades respectively. Terry Wilt and Laurie Wiles, former AmeriCorps tutors at EES, have joined the staff as pre-kindergarten and kindergarten assistants.

Jane Keilholtz, LPN, is the on-site nurse for MSS. Jo Kerns, Tara Horning, and Becky Wilson are special education assistants for EES students.



-PHOTO COURTESY MOUNT ST. MARYS COLLEGE
(L-R) Frank DeLuca, Vice President for Advancement; Mary Anne Kelly, President of the St. Joseph College Alumnae Association; Angie Bernal, first recipient of the St. Joseph College Alumnae Association Scholarship; and Dr. Thomas Powell, President of Mount St. Mary's College and Seminary.

St. Joseph College Alumnae Scholarship First Recipient

The alumnae of the former St. Joseph College, Emmitsburg, award a scholarship to an international student attending Mount St. Mary's College and Seminary. The student receives \$2000 each year of her undergraduate study. St. Elizabeth

Ann Seton established St. Joseph College to provide advanced education for young women. The scholarship continues her work. Angie Bernal, formerly of Colombia, S.A., is the first recipient.

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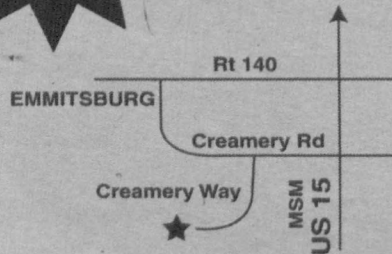
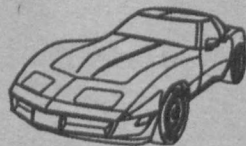
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Scholarships for graduating seniors

Graduating seniors can apply for a number of local scholarships to help pay for college. Service organizations, schools, and The Community Foundation of Frederick County, MD, Inc. offer a variety of academic scholarships. The Foundation lists over 100 scholarships available for the 2004-05 school year. The Foundation's website, www.cffredco.org, includes application packets, guidelines and instructions.

The Emmitsburg Lions Club offers 3 scholarships to high school seniors living in its service district, the Emmitsburg Elementary School district and the 21727 zip code. Available are the Dr. George Morningstar Memorial Scholarship, the Bob Gauss Memorial Scholarship, and the Emmitsburg Lions Club Scholarship, administered by the Community Foundation.

The Lions Club and Elizabeth Prongas started the new Emmitsburg Lions Club Scholarship, with memorial contributions for Dr. Harry Prongas. The fund provides scholarships to

graduating Emmitsburg area seniors for post secondary education at the school of their choice. Dr. Harry Prongas was a Professor of History, Political Science, Government, and Economics at Frederick Community College for 30 years, and a charter member of the Emmitsburg Lions Club. The Foundation must receive the completed and signed application by March 30.

Applicants for the \$1000 George Morningstar and Bob Gauss memorial scholarships can now use the Community Foundation application. To apply for either or both of these scholarships, candidates can send one photocopied application, without financial forms, to: Chairman, Emmitsburg Lions Club, Scholarship Committee, P.O. Box 1182, Emmitsburg, MD 21727. The Lions Club must receive applications no later than March 30. Contact Lion Dianne Walbrecker for more information, getwrite@aol.com or 301-447-6962.

Emmitsburg Elementary School PTA is offering one \$250 scholarship

to a graduating Catocin High School senior. The money must be used for full-time student enrollment the first year after high school graduation. The award is non-renewable.

Eligible students must have attended Emmitsburg Elementary School a minimum of one full year (K-5). They must have an overall 2.85 G.P.A. for 4 years of high school, verified by the school's guidance office. Each applicant must include one letter of recommendation from either a high school or community contact, i.e., teacher, counselor, principal, employer, clergy, activity coach; along with

an acceptance letter from any accredited 2 or 4-year college or technical school.

Interested students can submit completed applications on or before March 31 to Greta Nettleton, Scholarship Committee, Emmitsburg Elementary School PTA, 300 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg, MD 21727.

The winner will be announced at the school's awards ceremony. Emmitsburg Elementary School PTA will disburse the funds after receiving the full-time student enrollment certificate, sent from the educational institution's registrar's office.

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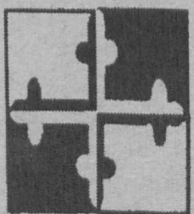
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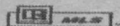
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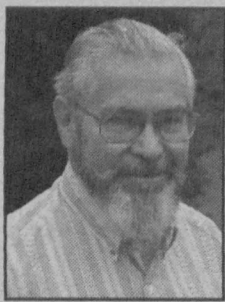
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The (retired) Ecologist

Random Thoughts on the Last Walk of the Year



Bill Meredith
Dispatch Writer

I've always found it strange that, for someone with such limited mathematical ability, I am fascinated by statistics. This came to mind early in December when I made out my checklist to record daily bird sightings; I noticed that in each of the last three Decembers I had recorded 48 species. As a result of teaching genetics for 40 years, I knew enough about probability to be aware that if you flip coins long enough you will eventually get 10 heads in a row, so getting the same number of birds three years in a row was just a statistical coincidence. Nevertheless, when the last week of December arrived and I found my list again contained 48 species, I began to feel uneasy.

On the last Sunday of 2003, a high pressure system settled over the Carolinas and pumped warm air northward, raising the temperature in Emmitsburg above 50 degrees and making a walk imperative. So as soon as lunch was finished, I started walking toward Toms Creek with two specific objectives in mind. First, I would not come back until I had found at least one more bird. Second,

I expected that the idea I had for my next Dispatch article would gel, as usually happens on a walk, so when I next sat down at the computer the words would flow into a more or less cohesive essay.

The first objective was met simply enough; I found a half-dozen myrtle warblers eating poison ivy berries in a vine-covered tree near the creek. But the idea I was nurturing did not gel; it dissipated into the air, replaced by a number of small, unrelated observations that were more trivial than the intended topic but would not go away. And now, the editor's deadline has arrived; so here they are, in no particular order. Maybe that other idea will come back later.

Usually I walk straight past the ball fields in order to get to the woods as quickly as possible, but that day, purely on a whim, I decided to walk around the newest field. Stopping behind the chain-link fence that encloses right field to listen for birds, I spotted a softball in a drainage ditch. My instinct was to go and get it, but it was under a rather formidable thorn bush and would also have required wading through water up to my knees. So I left it there, assuming whoever was responsible for retrieving home run balls had had the same problem. However, I had gone no more than 20 feet before I saw another ball, in the open, in plain sight; and by the time I got to left field I had found 10 more. They were all brand

new, unmarked except for a bit of mud. I put one in my pocket and threw the rest over the fence, back into the playing field. But my mind was no longer on birds; I left the area thinking of how things have changed.

When I was in school, softball was the favorite game at recess. We got one new ball in the fall, and it had to last. If someone hit it over the fence or into the woods, the game stopped and everyone searched until we found it. After a few weeks it got lopsided and mushy, so even the biggest kids couldn't hit it over the fence. When the stitching began to break, I was usually nominated to take it home and re-sew it, using string saved from old feed sacks. This went on until finally the stuffing broke out of the center; and when it could no longer be repaired, we had to give up softball and play something else. The budget allowed for only one more ball, and we had to wait until spring for it. Nowadays, apparently, if a ball goes over the fence no one bothers to retrieve it; a new one is thrown in and play goes on. I suppose the cost of a softball is a trivial matter in today's economy, but I am depressed to see this attitude of casual disregard for wastefulness being reinforced among our children, especially in a game that is known for its potential to build character.

As I walked up the stream bank I heard the roar of a 4-wheeler being started at a farm a quarter-mile to the south. A minute later a red fox appeared, running at top speed from the patch of woods on the left. He was in beautiful condition, with a thick, lustrous coat and a full, bushy tail trailing behind him. It was his territory, and he knew what was going on. The 4-wheeler tore off from the farm toward the woods the fox had just vacated, and there it was joined by two more of the noisy abominations; and the three of them proceeded to chase each other among the trees. So much for the soil and the wildlife.

The walk went on. Besides the myrtle warblers, I saw 20 other species of birds, all of which I had seen previously that month... an unremarkable list. What I did not see was more remarkable. The tufted tit-

mouse, usually one of the most abundant residents of that habitat, was missing; if fact, they have not been at my feeder this winter, and I saw only one in the whole month. And for the first time ever, I did not see a single crow on the entire walk. Perhaps it was one of those statistical oddities that happen if you wait long enough; but more likely, it was an ominous sign. West Nile virus is known to have reached Maryland... one more factor to add to the ever-growing file of environmental stresses our bird populations must contend with.

Life goes on the best it can. It was winter, but a witch-hazel tree was coming into bloom. Under the ice at the edge of a pond were bubbles of oxygen, produced by green algae I could see growing there. It was spirgyra; although I could see only its stringy outline, I knew it was composed of filaments of clear cells with intricate, spiral-shaped chloroplasts, and it was surrounded by a microcosm of minute, mindless, yet fantastically beautiful animal life... a miniature ecosystem. Perhaps not having a mind is an advantage; perhaps not knowing about the future makes optimism possible.

Sometime during every walk, I think of my father. It is not just maudlin sentimentality; rather, I think, it is some odd kind of imprinting, for my first walks were with him. One day, half-way through his 86th year, he watched his morning TV program, laid down to take a pre-lunch nap, and died peacefully in his sleep. In doing so he taught us an important lesson: in spite of our sense of loss and sadness, the next day the sun came up on schedule and the rest of the world went about its business as usual. In similar fashion, the year 2003 slipped quietly into history. There are softballs rotting in the field, West Nile virus killing native birds, AIDS and famine in Africa, an earthquake in Iran, an economy out of control, young people dying in a senseless war in Iraq... and trees blooming in the dead of winter, and algae growing under the ice. Make sense of it if you can; look for peace where you may find it. For a while yet, life goes on.



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Weatherization funds available to assist local elderly, disabled, and low-income

By Richard D. L. Fulton
Staff Writer

Many local elderly, disabled and low-income residents may be eligible for funding to "weatherize" their homes to conserve energy and help reduce winter utility bills. Interested individuals and families can call 301-694-2410, or write to Frederick County Dept. of Social Services (FCDSS), Energy Assistance, P.O. Box 237, Frederick, MD 21705-0237, to request an application packet.

According to Jeannine Jennings, FCDSS Home Energy Program coordinator, applicants must meet income

eligibility requirements to qualify. Elderly or disabled persons who live on a limited income, receive public assistance, supplemental security income, food stamps, or certain veterans or Social Security disability benefits may qualify automatically. Subsidized housing residents may also qualify, even if their heating bills are paid as part of their rent.

Program representatives are also available the second and fourth Wed. of each month, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, at Seton Hall, Emmitsburg. Advance registration is not required, but Jennings advises residents to call the office for a list of household docu-

ments to bring to the program.

Jennings reported, "Last fiscal year the Home Energy Program processed 2,900 applications for energy assistance, of which 2,200 qualified." This year the office has already received nearly 2,300 applications.

Once applications are approved, the Frederick Community Action Agency's Weatherization Program office conducts an energy audit on homes that may need physical alterations. The audit checks for proper insulation, heat escapes, related health and safety attributes, furnace operation, hot water pipes and potential water heater problems or malfunctions. Residences can be privately owned or rentals. However, if the residence is a rental, the owner must agree to the audit as well as to paying 25 percent of improvement costs.

Mark Colie, FCA Weatherization Program coordinator, told The Dispatch that 95 homes required alterations last year to address heat leakage. Those changes ranged from adding insulation to replacing a furnace.

"The problems with heat loss in the home are not as simple as was once thought," Colie pointed out. "Years ago, heat loss was addressed through adding insulation and storm windows, but the heat might have actually been escaping up and through the walls." Scientific equipment is now used to pinpoint heat loss locations.

Colie warned do-it-yourselfers that sealing a home too tightly can create back-drafts. These can affect furnace operation, use up oxygen, depressurize the home's interior, create a moisture-retention problem and potentially create dangerous gas buildups.

After completing needed work, Colie's staff retest the homes to make sure problems have been resolved. "The program does work," Colie said, "and people can feel the difference," both in heat retained and lower energy bills.

The U.S. Dept. of Energy (DOE) is a primary funding source for MD Weatherization projects. Elizabeth Cahall, Weatherization Coordinator for the Philadelphia (Mid-Atlantic) Regional DOE Office, told the Dispatch that MD received \$2,685,405 in 2002. That money helped finance energy improvements for 1,237 low-income households.

"This year the DOE has provided the State of MD with \$2,606,578 for DOE-assisted weatherization projects," Cahall said. Because the state's fiscal year began in Oct., the number of households receiving assistance in 2003 is not yet available.

Additional weatherization funding for counties comes from the state Electrical Universal Service Program, administered by MD Dept. of Human Resources. Money for this program comes from a use tax paid by the state's utility customers.

Here's how Protect yourself from identity theft

Safeguard your S. S. number. Don't carry your Social Security card in your wallet. If your employer or health plan ID card has the S.S. number on it, ask for a different "identifier."

Ask banks for passwords for your credit cards and bank accounts. Use passwords even for teller transactions.

Check your credit reports. Every 6 months look for suspicious activity. The credit bureaus that keep the records make them available online for \$9 per report but you can also call for them. The 3 major credit agencies are Experian: 888-397-3742; TransUnion: 800-680-7289; Equifax: 888-766-0008.

Speak up. If you've been scammed, send out a fraud alert. Phone the credit agencies. If you have been victimized by fraud, they will supply an initial credit report free, and another free one after 90 days. For \$70 to \$80 a year, Equifax and Experian will alert you if anyone applies for credit in your name.

Contact any creditors with whom the thieves have run up bills. As a shortcut, use the Federal Trade Commission's fraud affidavit at www.consumer.gov/idtheft/. Many businesses will accept it in place of their own forms.

Get a police report. Creditors often require this document as evidence that you're a victim.

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SPORTS AND RECREATION

Girls still Striving for Equality

Megan Zimmerman
Intern Writer

Particularly in the 20th century, women made progress in the age-old battle against male dominance. Title IX of the Education Act, passed in 1972, banned gender discrimination in schools, in academics and in sports. Young women now play football and an estimated 80 MD public school girls participate in varsity or

JV wrestling. But, despite many successes, male supremacy is still evident in sports.

Tracey Kelly-Franklin, Catocin High School Girls' Basketball Coach, says policies have changed since she played in high school. "Girls barely got any recognition at all," she noted. But now, even though the girls' budget and facility usage is the same as the boys', Kelly-Franklin still sees a difference. "The media definitely give

the boys' teams more attention."

Just look at the numbers. Since 1989, televised coverage of women's sports has only increased from 3.7% to an insignificant 8.7% of all sports coverage. ESPN Magazine's 2003 NCAA Hoops Preview names 65 of the top men's teams, along with only 8 women's teams. A Vanderbilt University study found that men represent 85% of sports coverage in major newspapers, while women only receive about 15%. Is this what women had in mind?

Kelly-Franklin believes there has been great progress for women, but more still needs to be done. "I think improvements need to stem from the professional and collegiate level,

because it will then feed into high school sports."

Vanessa Blair, Women's Basketball Head Coach at Mount St. Mary's College, has already taken collegiate level steps. Blair explains, "Even though the basketball teams at the Mount are equally represented, we still get the word out about women's sports through working in the community, and regularly inviting high school and youth teams to watch us play."

Blair says that the future holds great potential for women's equality in sports. Although this is crucial, what's even more important to her "is that the girls get to do what they love to do — play basketball."

Defending the Bowl Championship Series (BCS) — the Numbers don't Lie

By A.J. Russo
Editor
Sports & Recreation

Those concerned about the frenzied, emotional end to the college football regular season are scratching their heads, wondering how the number one team (USC) in the coaches' poll was left out in the cold—not invited to compete for the national championship (The Nokia Sugar Bowl on Jan. 4, 2004).

Well, despite the fact that Southern California is never in the cold (sorry), the real explanation lies in the complicated, yet objective way the BCS ranks football programs. This year in particular, the system performed exactly the way the founders intended, and precisely the way it should.

But first - about the BCS

Prior to the 1998 football regular season, the FedEx Orange, Nokia Sugar, Rose and Tostitos Fiesta Bowls joined the Atlantic Coast, Big East, Big 12, Big Ten, Pacific-10 and Southeastern Conferences and the University of Notre Dame to form the Bowl Championship Series (BCS).

The series was established to deter
LSU 2
USC 1

One might argue that emotions can play a role in influencing polling (Do you really think USC alums are going to vote for Oklahoma?) and that memories become selective with time (Oklahoma lost in the final regular season game, but who remembers who beat USC?). So, despite the fact that all three teams had 1 loss, Oklahoma was bumped from 1 to 3 in these polls.

Computer Average: Average of

Anderson & Hester, Richard Billingsley, Colley Matrix, Kenneth Massey, New York Times, Jeff Sagarin's USA Today and the Peter Wolfe rankings. The computer component is the average of six of the seven rankings. The worst computer ranking is disregarded.

Oklahoma 1.17
LSU 1.83
USC 2.67

Note that the average of these polls brings the numbers back to sensibility (eliminating the outliers, such as season ticket holders and benefactors).

Schedule Rank: Rank of schedule strength compared to rank of schedule strength of other Division I-A teams' actual games played, divided by 25. This component is calculated by determining the cumulative won/loss records of the team's opponent (66.6 percent) and the cumulative won/loss records of the team's opponent's opponents (33.3 percent).

Oklahoma 11 (.44)
LSU 29 (1.16)
USC 37 (1.48)

Here is where USC lost ground and why Oklahoma stayed on top. It's easy to win with the right schedule.

Losses: One point for each loss during the season.

Oklahoma 1
LSU 1
USC 1
Nothing gained here.

Quality Win Component: The quality win component rewards, to varying degrees, teams that defeat opponents ranked among the top 10 in the weekly standings. The bonus point scale ranges from a high of 1.0 point for a win over the top ranked team to a low of 0.1 for a victory over the 10th-ranked BCS team. The BCS Standings at the end of the season determine final quality win points. Quality points are awarded just once even if one team defeats another team more than once during regular season. Quality win points are based on the standings determined by the subtotal. The final standings are reconfigured to reflect the quality win point deduction. Whew!

Oklahoma 0.5
LSU 0
USC 0

Oklahoma lost ground for losing to Kansas State (unranked).

Total Score: the lower the better
Oklahoma 5.11
LSU 5.99
USC 6.15

So, if you gaze at the numbers, although the coaches and media reacted emotionally (Since when are you only as good as your last win, anyway?), the other polls appeared more rational and it appears that easy opponents were USC's Trojan horse (sorry, again). It's Oklahoma vs. LSU—the numbers don't lie.

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Outside the Game A Pioneer

By A.J. Russo

An eleven-year-old pioneer? Seems ridiculous that we might name her in the same breath with Sandra O'Connor or Sally Ride. But an 11-year old starting quarterback for the Illinois Harvey Colts, Jasmine Plummer, is the first girl ever to play quarterback in a Pop Warner football championship.

She joined the Pop Warner Mighty Mites division at age 6; led her team to an undefeated record last year; and this season, graduated to Junior Pee Wees and took the Colts to an 11-1 record.

Okay, some of you may be asking how I can compare her to a Supreme Court Justice or an astronaut. Even she's baffled. "It's like big deal like — it really ain't no big deal because it's — I'm just playing around with my friends and stuff. And I just have fun... I just like to play football because I don't like to play with Barbie dolls."

But those in the know realize this is as big as Notre Dame hiring its first African-American football coach, as big as Annika Sorenstam playing at the Colonial, as big, yes I said as big, as Billie Jean King beating up on what's his name.

Granted, there are many years between this championship and Jasmine's high school and college career, and who knows what will happen in between, but when asked if she'd ever think about playing in the NFL, she says, "Sometimes ... yes."

When asked how she thinks she can best prepare for her future in football, she replies, "Like, be good in school. ... I got to play harder because the boys are going to get bigger."

Pretty smart kid. So, at least for now, she's got aspirations and her head seems to be screwed on tightly. What's the significance of Jasmine's participation and her new found notoriety?

A little background first.

Although statistics from the National Federation of State High School Associations reflect tremendous increases in female interscholastic sports participation over the past two decades — unquestionably the result of wider opportunities for girls because of the passage of Title IX — male participation in youth sports is still, by far, predominant. This difference persists for a complex variety of cultural, physiological and psychological reasons, including the failure

of institutions (including youth programs) to provide opportunities for young women, as well as fragile issues of female identity, self-esteem, social awareness and consciousness-raising, which form a less visible wedge between ideal and reality.

Jasmine's participation, particularly at quarterback, leads the way for other girls to aspire to the most important position in an otherwise male-dominated sport. She has shown

that it is possible not only to compete, but also to be a leader. Talk about narrowing the gender gap. Jackie Robinson would be proud.

And how about her influence on the not-so-easy-to measure issues of female identity, self-esteem, social awareness and consciousness? We'll have to wait and see. But you know pioneers like Billie Jean King and Peggy Fleming are someplace smiling.

A.J. Russo is a professor at Mount St. Mary's College and the author of seven novels. His science thriller, *The Healer*, is available through Amazon.com. He is the former head coach of men's lacrosse at RIT and Mount St. Mary's and is currently head coach of Hood College's men's lacrosse team, scheduled to play its first season in 2005. His opinions do not necessarily reflect those of Mount St. Mary's or Hood College.



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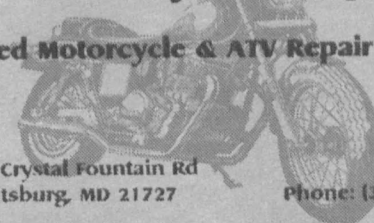
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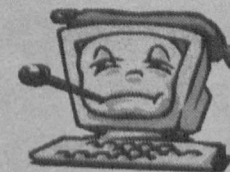
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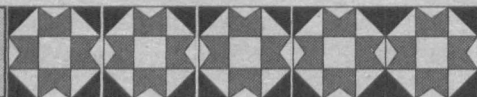


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QUILTERS



Cleaning old quilts

By Mary Ellen Cummings
Dispatch Writer

Last year, I wrote some instructions for cleaning quilts. However the year finished its course before I did. I didn't have the opportunity to give you, perhaps, the most important information—the cleaning of old quilts. By old quilts, I refer to quilts made to be used; made before 1960; or, made from tops pieced by an ancestor and completed recently. Only an expert should clean very old quilts, those that are true antiques, those made of delicate fabrics and/or embroidered. Do not try to clean them yourself!

Before cleaning any old quilt, check for rips, tears and fraying. Mend! Then air it outside if possible. If this is not feasible, put it in the dryer for a few minutes using the air-fluff setting. A little fabric softener on a damp towel leaves a nice, fresh scent. Do not put softener directly onto any quilt. If air-dried outside, a toss in the dryer will remove additional lint and dust.

Another method of cleaning quilts, especially those that can't be washed, is by using the vacuum cleaner. Yes! I said vacuum cleaner. After checking for damages, spread the quilt on a clean sheet on a large flat surface. Set the vacuum cleaner on lowest suction and put a nylon

stocking over the nozzle. Fasten securely. Place plastic screening over the area to be cleaned. It should be available from home building suppliers. Always vacuum through the screening to avoid damaging quilt fabrics. The screening used must be very small mesh and flat. Someone suggested plastic craft grid, but that type might allow fabric to be sucked up into the grid. After finishing one side, turn the quilt over and vacuum the reverse side.

If you feel that you "absolutely must" wash your quilt, do so with extreme caution. Scrap bag quilts dominate the category of quilts made to be used. You probably don't know if the colors are fast or fugitive. Therefore, you may have colors running into each other all over the quilt. This would not bother me. A washed, somewhat faded and dye stained quilt tells me that this quilt was made by loving hands, and had been used many times by someone secure in the love of the quilt maker. This quilt says, "I am old and dependable."

Improper storage probably ruins more quilts than washing and cleaning does. Since there are several different methods of storage and protection, I'll address the subject at a later date.

Timeline for quilting projects: start your vacation and beach quilts now.

PEOPLE TO PEOPLE

People To People is a section in The Emmitsburg Dispatch for personal and family news, announcements, and messages. Unlike Letters to the Editor this is paid space and has the lowest rate in the newspaper. It's not for businesses. The submission must be signed and include the writer's address and phone number to be used for verification. The Dispatch will only edit for punctuation, grammar, and spelling. Deadline for submission is the 15th of each month.

Annual Wivell Christmas Party

Roy and Helen Wivell's descendants held their annual Christmas Party at the Rocky Ridge Fire Hall on Dec. 28. Of the 441 family members, 248 attended. Therese Topper led the blessing prayer. Helen Reaver led a prayer for those who have died and read a family prayer for everyone.

Therese and Phil Topper and children portrayed Wivell family members in a skit titled, "What if this happened on Christmas Day in 1960 at the Wivell Farm House?" Phil and Therese

played Dad and Mom Wivell. Other characters were Phil, Jr. — Dick; Rick — Sam Wivell, Jr.; Keith — Roy Jr.; Rachel — Margie; Nora — Pat; Anne — Helen; Trina — Therese. In the story Mom Wivell was expecting her 21st baby, and daughter Helen was pregnant again. Who would go first?! Dad Wivell couldn't remember the grandkids' names and asked them for their numbers. The grandkids played the famous Wivell game, "Pit," in the background while Jim slept. The noisy game woke him and he wondered what he'd missed. It was a job well done. P.S., Mom Wivell did deliver her baby on Christmas Day.

Paul Wivell updated everyone on family births, weddings and major anniversaries. Ed Reaver joined the over-62 "Roses and Thorns Club." Phyllis Green shared some family history. She said that the Wivell name is

widespread in Upper Marlboro, MD; and the family home was built in 1889 at Lyndon Hill. She also read Great-Grandfather Wivell's 1914 obituary from The Frederick Post. Frank Wivell is buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Emmitsburg.

Many family members won door prizes: Luke Kelly, \$10; Rick Wivell, \$10; Robby Reaver, \$10; Jamie Wivell, \$5; Josh McFerren, \$5; Wayne Yoder, Booby Prize; Fred Hoff, Sr. and Vince Reaver, Sr., fruit; Liz Reaver and Matt Wivell, flowers.

Next the great-grandchildren recreated the Nativity Scene: Mary — Carolyn Shields; Joseph — Levi Wivell; Jesus — Emma Wivell; Shepherds — David Shields, Ryan and Jacob Wivell; Kings — Luke Kelly and C.J. Topper; Angels — Maria and Emily Kelly, Carrie and Sydney Reaver, Haley Crum, Cassidy Wagman, Hannah Grecco. (The writer regrets any names missed.)

Our senior choir led traditional Christmas carols. Although Santa did not appear this year, Therese Topper and her helpers distributed the Christmas gifts to everyone.

We are blessed to belong to such a large family. We wish everyone a holy, happy and most of all, a healthy New Year.

-Helen Reaver
Emmitsburg, MD

Notes of Thanks

On behalf of Ron Sweeney and myself we thank all who donated and gave of their time and talents to make Ron's benefit dance a very memorable evening.

We are sincerely grateful to everyone who contributed in any way. Thanks for the support and especially the prayers.

God Bless You!
Gratefully,

Ron, Julie, and family

The Hance Family sends a sincere thanks to all of the volunteers, entertainers and guest of Emmitsburg's 14th annual "Evening of Christmas Spirit". Mark your new calendars for Monday, December 6th, 2004. Happy Holidays to All!

Sincerely,
The Hance Family and
"Carriage House Crew"

Anniversary

Congratulations to:

Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert V. Eiker, Sr. of N. Seton Avenue Emmitsburg who quietly celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on November 6th.

Births

Congratulations to these new parents:

Jenny and James Long, Emmitsburg, a son, Oct. 11.

Mr. and Mrs. Shelton L. (Jennifer B.) Mooney, Jr., Emmitsburg, a daughter, Oct. 19.

Beth Burrier and Chad Knott, Emmitsburg, a son, Nov. 3.

Kimberly Cool and Paul Costabile, Emmitsburg, a daughter, Nov. 6.

Mr. and Mrs. Steven (Tammy L.) May, Emmitsburg, a son, Nov. 12.



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Looking Ahead

Feb. 6- April 25. Exhibition of Contemporary Chinese Watercolors. Washington County Museum of Fine Arts Groh Gallery. Hagerstown, MD. Collection of David and Irene Eyer of Oakland, MD and Key West, FL. Official opening Sun. Feb. 8 from 2-4 p.m. Info: 301-739-5727.

Feb. 7 & 8- Emmitsburg Baseball and Softball Registration. Emmitsburg Ambulance Building. Cost: Tee Ball (boys 5 to 6, girls 5-7) \$25; Minor League Baseball (boys & girls, 7-9) \$25; Major League Baseball (boys & girls, 9-12) \$30; Junior League Softball (girls 9-12) \$30; Senior League Softball (girls 13-16) \$30; Junior League Baseball (boys 13-15) \$40; Senior League Baseball (boys 16-19) \$40. Family Maximum: \$80 per family. All NEW registering players must bring a copy of their birth certificate to be kept on file with the league. Anyone not registered by March 1 pays an additional \$5 fee. Financial Aid is available and strictly confidential.

Feb. 7- Valentine's Dance. BYOB dance from 8 p.m.-12 Midnight at the Thurmont Activities Building. Music by "Secret Agent". Cost: \$8.00 per person in advance; \$10 per person at the door. Set-ups and snacks will be available for purchase. Tickets: Loretta at (301) 845-7706 or Denise at (301) 447-6816. Dance is sponsored by CHS Class of 1979.

Feb. 8- Longaberger Basket/Pampered Chef Bingo. Sponsored by CHS Safe n Sane to benefit 2004 CHS seniors. Doors open at 11 am. Games start at 2 pm. \$15 in advance. \$20 at the door. Thurmont Activities Building. Food and drinks available. Tickets: 301-447-3054.

Feb. 11- Emmitsburg Library Grand Re-Opening Series: Joanne Hay. Local Storyteller to tell stories and sing songs with a Valentine's Day theme for ages 5-12. 7 p.m. Emmitsburg Public Library in the Community Center on S. Seton Ave.

Feb. 12- Emmitsburg Library Grand Re-Opening Series: William Eckenbarger. Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and author will discuss his book, "Walkin' the Line: a journey

from past to present along the Mason-Dixon." 1 p.m. Emmitsburg Public Library in the Community Center on S. Seton Ave.

Feb. 14- Emmitsburg Library Grand Re-Opening Series: Vintage Fashion Show. 2 p.m. Youth from the community will present a vintage fashion show that chronicles the 9 decades of the Emmitsburg Library. Emmitsburg Public Library in the Community Center.

Feb. 13-15- Mount 2000 & Beyond. Eucharistic Retreat weekend organized by Mount St. Mary's Seminars and held at the Mount AARC Arena. In its ninth year, this retreat seeks to assist young people in developing a closer relationship with Jesus Christ through the ministry of the church. Ages 9th grade to 33. Cost: \$35 /person. Free overnight accommodations for all participants. Registration by mail only. The Franciscan Friars of the Renewal to host this years retreat. To register, visit our website at www.msmary.edu/mt2000/mt2000beyond@yahoo.com MT2000 & beyond hotline (301) 447-3428.

Feb. 16- Historical Society Meeting. 7 p.m. at Elias Lutheran Church. The regular meeting of the Greater Emmitsburg Historical Society. Public encouraged to attend.

Feb. 20- Slippery Pot Pie Dinner. The Graceham Moravian Church to sponsor a Slippery Pot Pie Dinner Fri., Feb. 20th, from 3-7 p.m. at the church. Menu: Ham pot pit, turkey potpie, green beans, Cole slaw, applesauce, dessert, and a drink. Cost: Adults \$7, Children 5-10, \$4. Carryout \$8. The church is located at 8231 Rocky Ridge Road, 2 miles past the Thurmont Elementary School on Rt. 77 east.

Feb. 21- Country Butchering. Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company. Advanced Orders by Sun., Feb. 15. Call Bob Kaas (301) 447-2488, Helen Ogle (301) 271-2880, or Dennis Mathias (301) 271-4252. Pick-up Meat Saturday from 6 a.m.-12 noon at the Activities Building (old fire hall). Buffet Breakfast at the Activities Building from 6-10 a.m.

Feb. 21- Emmitsburg Library Grand Re-Opening Series: Bluegrass Band. 1 p.m. Join the Home Comfort

Bluegrass Band for singing, dances and games. Emmitsburg Public Library in the Community Center on S. Seton Ave.

Feb. 21- Teen Dance. From 7-10 p.m. at the Emmitsburg Ambulance Company. The dance is a monthly event featuring contests and prizes. Held for youth ages 11-17. Cover charge is \$5.00. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Parents are required to drop children off and pick them up at the door. Youth are required to stay in the building until a guardian arrives to pick them up.

Feb. 23- Emmitsburg Planning Commission Meeting. 7 p.m. at the Town Office in the Community Center on S. Seton Ave. The Regular Meeting of the Town Government Planning and Zoning Commission. Agenda: Residential Sprinklers - referral from the Mayor and Board of Commissioners. Comprehensive Plan - Continuing review. Public encouraged to attend.

Feb. 24- Teen Esteem: I Am Because I Can (inclement weather date - Feb. 26) 6:30 p.m. Gettysburg Hospital. Free interactive program for girls 11-14 and a parent(s) or significant other in a child's life. Topics: Self-esteem, healthy eating, and misconceptions in the media. Guest speakers include Pamalee Lady, Penn Laurel Girl Scouts; Betsy Wargo, MS, RD; and Laura Reyka, RN, Gettysburg Hospital. Call 717-334-4646 to register.

Feb. 26- Community Day at Liberty Mountain. Liberty Mountain Resort is holding its Annual Community Appreciation Day. Lift tickets, ski rentals and lessons will be 1/2 price for local residents: Emmitsburg, Fairfield, Carroll Valley, Gettysburg, and Orrtanna. The Tubing Hill is not included in this half price offer. For more information on this event: www.skiliberty.com

Feb. 27- Country Butchering. Catoctin FFA Chapter, in cooperation with the Catoctin FFA Alumni Association, to hold a country butcher-

ing at Catoctin High School in the agriculture center. Head butcher: Harold Lenhart. Thirteen hogs to be cut up and sold. A large variety of meat to be made available for sale: Sausage, pork chops, pudding, ham, ribs and roasts. Call Mr. Beaven for Information or to place an order: 240-236-8117. Orders due by Feb. 17th. Orders may be picked up between 3:30-8:00p.m. on Friday Feb. 27th in the agriculture shop at Catoctin High School. There will be no Sat. pick up. Extra meat will be sold on first come basis Fri., Feb. 27th.

Feb. 28- Emmitsburg Library Grand Re-Opening Series: Slim Harrison. 2 p.m. Local folksinger and storyteller to weave song and story magic around a Sadie Hawkins Day theme. Emmitsburg Public Library in the Community Center on S. Seton Ave.

Feb. 28- All You Can Eat Buffet Breakfast. Tom's Creek United Methodist Church. 6-11 a.m. Featuring wide variety of breakfast favorites. Adults \$5, Ages 5-10 \$2.25. Advance orders: 410-756-2034 or 301-447-6384 by Feb. 22. Sausage \$2.25 lb; pork chops \$2.60 lb; scrapple \$1.50 lb; loose sausage \$2.25 lb.

Mar. 6- Beef, Turkey & Ham Supper. Elias Lutheran Church of Emmitsburg will hold its annual Spring Bazaar on Sat., Mar. 6 starting at 1 p.m. Supper includes filling, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, stewed tomatoes, coleslaw, applesauce, and cake. Also, crafts, home baked products and White Elephant table. Adults \$8, Children 6-12, \$3, Carryout \$9.

Mar. 6- Modesty Fashion Show. Gettysburg College Union Ballroom 2-4:30 p.m.

Fed up with bare midriffs, halter tops and low-rider jeans? One area teen decided to take matters into her hands. Keynote speaker: International model Constance Coxon of San Diego, CA. Tickets: \$3 donation. Seating is limited. Info: Real Commitment 717-338-9500 or email waiting4rc@pa.net

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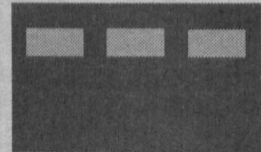
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Capture the Memory: Emmitsburg Elementary PTA is now selling The Cat's Meow Village collectable of the Emmitsburg Elementary School. The Cat's Meow Village is a national line of wooden, handcrafted collectibles commemorating structures across the USA. Please support EES PTA. If interested contact Becky Clarke 301-271-3644. Limited number available.

Pilgrimage to Assisi: The Elizabeth Ann Seton Fraternity of Secular Franciscans will sponsor a pilgrimage Oct 9-17, 2004. The round trip, simple pilgrim accommodations, local transportation, and guides will cost about \$1800, based on thirty participants. If interested, please contact: Dr. Robert Miller 301-447-5781 or romiller@msmary.edu by March.

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