

The Emmitsburg Dispatch

Vol III, No.7

news and opinion in the service of truth

May 19, 2004

Bollinger referendum vote slated for May 25

Staff Report

Emmitsburg residents will have the final vote, May 25, on whether or not the Bollinger annexation will stand as approved by the Board of Commissioners, or will go the way of the Silver Fancy Farm annexation of 2003. That year, led by Citizens Organized to Preserve Emmitsburg (COPE), residents voted against the incorporation of 67 acres on N. Seton Ave. for a residential extension of the town.

Voting will take place from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., at the Resident Deputies Office (aka Old Town Hall) at 22 East Main St. A sample ballot with a synopsis of the referendum will be posted on the bulletin board next to the office.

Three election judges, Carolyn Pavek, Kathleen "Katie" Warthen, and Candace Lookingbill will oversee the voting.

Members of Citizens Organized to Preserve Emmitsburg (COPE) have led the effort to challenge and overturn the annexation by gathering more than 76 pages of voter signatures in an initial attempt to have the issue added to the April 27 ballot as a referendum issue. However, since there was not enough time to advertise the referendum prior to the printing of the April 27 ballot, there will be a separate referendum vote.

COPE vice-president Harold C. Craig, Jr. previously stated, "Obviously, sprawl overwhelming the infrastructures is bad, both for individual residents and the whole community."

"Having been a neighbor of the Bollingers since Josh Bollinger was five years old, my natural inclination is to favor his application. But my mind says, 'No,'" he said.

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—JENNIFER BUCHHEISTER/THE EMMITSBURG DISPATCH

Michele Cuseo, Dispatch staff writer, poses with West Wing cast members Richard Schiff and Martin Sheen during a break in filming an episode of *The West Wing* in Thurmont. Sheen portrays President Josiah Bartlett, and Schiff portrays White House Communications Director Toby Ziegler in the award-winning NBC series.

"The West Wing" films on location in Thurmont

By Michele Cuseo
Staff Writer

With Thurmont, Md., in such close proximity to

Camp David, it's only natural that the producers of "The West Wing" TV series would want to tape the show in the area.

The producers decided to film in Frederick County because they could not find a similar location in
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\$1.1 million budget proposed for town
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Gonzales to speak at Mount graduation
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County failed to trigger Emmitsburg tornado alert Fire chief scrambled to set off alarm

Richard D. L. Fulton
Managing Editor

As a twister-producing storm descended on the Emmitsburg area Saturday evening, May 15, Emmitsburg residents experienced their first emergency alert via the new public address system.

The town emergency broadcast system, attached to utility poles, was installed earlier this spring.

But the system required the quick actions of the local fire chief to trigger it, since Frederick County had no idea how to use the system, according to a copy of an e-mail

received by *The Emmitsburg Dispatch*.

The severe storm began to converge on the Emmitsburg area sometime after 8 p.m. Saturday. The National Weather Service issued a tornado warning for Frederick and Carroll counties, and a number of television and radio

stations began to broadcast the alert to area residents.

A tornado warning means a tornado has been spotted or detected on weather radar, according to the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA). A tornado watch means that conditions
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"Triassic Park:" Emmitsburg could be home to Maryland's only dinosaur park

By Richard Fulton
Managing Editor

On May 6, a small abandoned quarry on Emmitsburg resident Patrick B. Boyle's property became the center of attention, a site known in some circles as the "Lost Dinosaur Quarry."

Gathered at the quarry were Boyle; National Park Service Chief Ranger Vincent L. Santucci, of the George Washington Memorial Parkway; Dr. Peter Kranz, director of the non-profit, Washington, D.C. - based Dinosaur Fund; and Buckeye Development Project

Manager Fran Denmark.

The group met to discuss establishing a park devoted to the unprecedented 19th century discovery of ancient dinosaur tracks in the quarry, and the historic relationship of the quarry to early construction at St. Joseph's Academy site (now the site of

the National Fire Academy) and St. Joseph's Church.

Ancient tracks came to light in the 19th century

According to Kranz, the quarry, just off North Seton Avenue on Boyle's Silver

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100 Years Ago "In this place" From the *Emmitsburg Chronicle*

This column offers a regular look back at Emmitsburg through the eyes of the *Emmitsburg Chronicle* which first appeared on June 14, 1879, published by Samuel Motter. In 1909 the paper became known as *The Weekly Chronicle*. It continued regular publication, allowing for a 5-year hiatus during World War II, until February 9, 1977.

A small fundraiser sponsored by the Friends of the Emmitsburg Branch Library made it possible for the library to purchase a new copy of the *Emmitsburg Chronicle* microfilm. This column now returns to the *Dispatch* thanks to those efforts. The microfilm is an important link to the history of the community and is the source for this column.

Eric Glass, the current owner of the rights to the *Emmitsburg Chronicle*, and the majority holder of a small group of individuals who last published the *Chronicle*, donated the original microfilm of the newspaper to the library. We are indebted to Mr. Glass for providing the original copy and extend our

thanks and appreciation to the following donors for continuing the legacy of protecting and preserving our history "in this place."

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New Engine

May 13, 1904 - The new engine for the Emmitsburg Railroad arrived in this place at an early hour last Sunday morning. The new engine is larger than the old one and contains all the modern improvements used in the

construction of first-class railroad engines, and was made to order at the Baldwin Works in Philadelphia, Pa.

Officers Elected

May 13, 1904 - The annual meeting of the Vigilant Hose Company was held at the Firemen's Hall last Friday evening, at which time the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Charles R. Hoke; Vice-President, Andrew Annan; Secretary, Charles B. Ashbaugh; Treasurer, J. Henry Stokes; Captain, H. M. Ashbaugh; First Lieutenant, J. William Rowe; Second Lieutenant, C.C. Rowe; Chief Nozzleman, W.E. Ashbaugh; Hose Director, Norman Hoke.

Mount Gym struck by lightning*

May 13, 1904 - The new gymnasium at Mt. St. Mary's College was struck by lightning Monday afternoon, but beyond the cracking of a few stones in the chimney and the displacing of a few slates, no damage was done.

Horses at Public Sale

May 20, 1904 - Messrs. Patterson Bros. will sell at public sale at their stables in Emmitsburg on Saturday, May 21, 1904, at 1 o'clock, p.m., a car load of fine West Virginia Horses, suitable for all purposes, and among which are Heavy Work Horses, Fine Drivers and good Brood Mares. Remember the date, May 21 at 1 p.m. Sale rain or shine.

The Fete of the Season

May 20, 1904 - A Lawn Festival for the benefit of St. Euphemia's School will be held on May 31 and June 1, 1904. The ladies in charge promise a most enjoyable time and cordially invite all, young and old, to attend. One of the attractions will be a hot chicken supper, which will be served each evening from 5 till 9 o'clock. Encourage by your presence the efforts of these good ladies and show your appreciation of the good work St. Euphemia's School is doing in this community by making this festival a grand success.

Warm Weather

May 27, 1904 - With the appearance of the hand organ (barrel organ turned by a hand crank) men in town last week the weather gradually

moderated until it became quite warm this week. All those people who have been longing for warm weather can rest assured that there will be plenty of it from now on. The mercury in the thermometer stood at 88 degrees on Wednesday afternoon. Very good for a beginning.

The President to go to Gettysburg

May 27, 1904 - President Roosevelt will attend the memorial services at Gettysburg on Decoration Day (Memorial Day), and will deliver the memorial address. The address will be noteworthy, not only because Mr. Roosevelt is a forceful, earnest orator, who always has a message to the veterans when he speaks in public, but also because his Gettysburg address will be his last public utterance for sometime, possible until after the election. Mr. Roosevelt will leave Washington on Sunday night preceding Decoration Day, reaching the battlefield early Monday morning. During the morning he will drive over the battlefield. After the address he will hold an informal reception, and will then leave for Washington, arriving there that evening.

*Title added for clarity.

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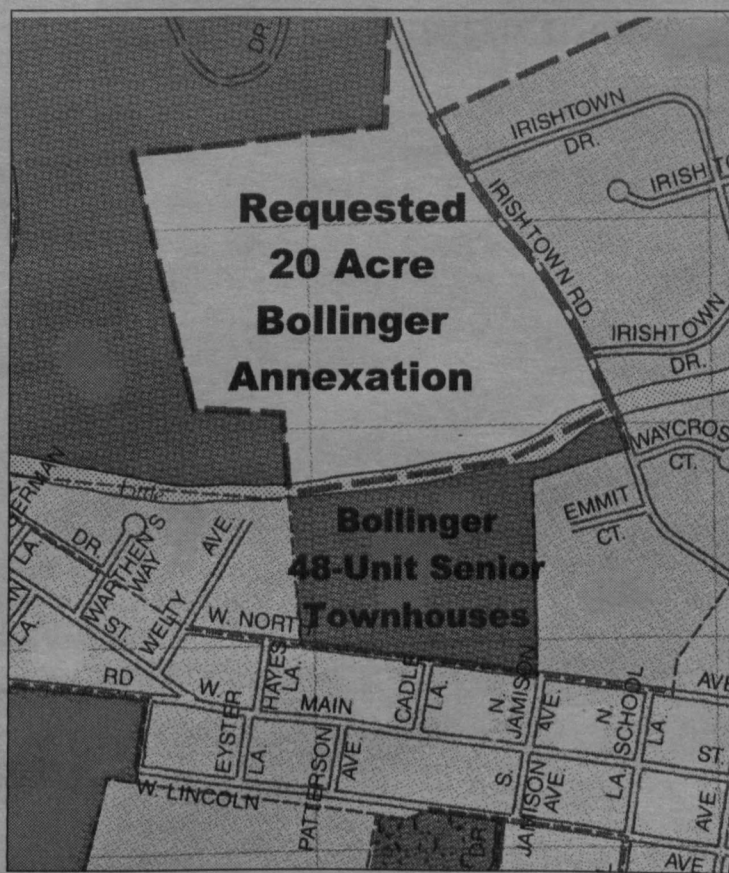
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Referendum vote —

—Continued from page 1

"Therefore, I suggest that the proposed annexation be defeated at every step, by Emmitsburg's Planning & Zoning Committee, and, if necessary, by the commissioners, the mayor, or by referendum," Craig stated.

Others disagree, saying that development is necessary and helps pay for the long-needed infrastructure upgrade.

In the recent election, former commissioner Clifford Sweeney campaigned in favor of annexing property "as part of a managed growth strategy." He said, "To shut the town down totally, banning annexa-

tion and suspending residential development, would destroy it."

During the candidate forum, Sweeney proposed that, "In order to fix things we need grants and bonds, and to try to have new developments help pay for sewer problems."

Josh Bollinger told *The Emmitsburg Dispatch*, "I'm a life-long resident and I feel like some of the residents are hanging me out to dry. They're selling out a local businessman and life-long resident." He noted that his businesses, South Seton Auto Repair, T&M Crane, and Bollinger Homes, provide many jobs for the local community.

Bollinger said he doesn't understand why the annexation of his property is being treated the same way as Boyle's was a year ago. "I'm completely surrounded by the town, the property is already part of the town," he exclaimed, quickly pointing out that his property is fully engulfed by the town and with the exception of several hundred square feet is nearly an enclave. (see the sub-head "Impact on Brookfield" in the article *Emmitsburg Commissioners approve*

Bollinger Annexation, COPE gathers signatures for referendum petition in the March 2004 issue of The Emmitsburg Dispatch.)

Because he is a local resident he said, "I understand there are sewer and water issues. Here's \$75,000 toward repairs and we're willing to wait." As part of the annexation agreement, he would pay \$75,000 to the town to be used to help finance the rehabilitation of the sanitary sewer collection system. And, he would wait three years before building, giving the town time to address the failing infrastructure.

Bollinger thinks his proposal to develop is in the town's best interest. The R-2 zoning of his parcel would permit up to 77 single-family houses or 103 townhouses, or a combination. He has agreed to build no more than 50 single-family dwellings and no townhouses.

The annexation of the 20.3-acre Bollinger tract became effective February 11, 2003, when town Mayor James E. Hoover signed off on the Board of Commissioners February 2 approval.

The tract being annexed is located off Irishtown Road and is owned by Josh Bollinger, Rosemary Bollinger (his mother), and Harriet Gigeous (Josh Bollinger's aunt).

The Board of Commissioners voted April 19 to amend one of the conditions placed on the Bollinger annexation approval, imposing several new restrictions in the process.

The board voted 2-0 (Clifford L. Sweeney absent, Arthur Elder voted against) to drop the condition at the time the annexation was approved which stated that no dwelling units could be built on the annexed land until the town's sewage treatment plant met its permit limits for 180 consecutive days.

The board ultimately voted to replace the 180-day "moratorium" requirement with conditions that there "be no building activity for three years," that "no preliminary or final plats will be approved by the town Planning and Zoning Commission during that three years," and that the development "be subject to any restraint in place at the end of the three year period."



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Next Publication June 2

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-Raymond Buchheister
Editor & Publisher

World University Weightlifting Championships come to Emmitsburg, Volunteers Needed

From June 30 to July 3, Mount St. Mary's College in Emmitsburg will host the 7th World Weightlifting Championships for University and College Students.

This is the first time Maryland has hosted the World Championship in an Olympic sport.

Officials estimate that 175 athletes, both men and women, from approximately 60 countries, will compete in 15 different weight classes. The event is free and open to the public.

For some countries, this will be the last qualifying meet before they select their Olympic Team for the 2004 Summer Olympic Games in Athens, Greece.

Volunteers are needed to help staff the event and welcome international visitors to Emmitsburg. Volunteer Coordinator, Belinda Teague-Levy stresses that no specific expertise or weightlifting knowledge is required. "It is just such a special and unique opportunity for volunteering," Teague-Levy estimates the need for more than 100 volunteers. If you are interested, contact Belinda Teague-Levy at bteague-levy@fredco-md.net or call 301-694-1101.

An estimated 300 athletes, coaches, team managers, officials and dignitaries will begin arriving in northern Frederick County on June 27 to prepare for the competition. Athletes, coaches, team managers and medical personnel will live on Mount St. Mary's campus. Officials, dignitaries, other

guests and attendees will stay at the Cozy Inn, Thurmont, the event's headquarters hotel. The Super 8 in Thurmont will handle overflow. The event will bring an estimated \$500,000 in revenue to the area.

Mike Cady, Frederick County Commissioner, is the Event Director. Involved with weightlifting for 40 years, Cady is an International Referee and a U.S. Senior International Olympic Coach. In 2001, while the region was bidding to host the 2012 Olympic Games, Coach Cady presented a bid to host the World University Weightlifting Championships to the World Weightlifting Congress in Turkey (prior to being elected as a County Commissioner). Although the Washington - Baltimore Coalition did not win the 2101 bid, Coach Cady succeeded in bringing the World University Weightlifting Championships to Emmitsburg. His bid won over those submitted by Tokyo, Rome, London and Paris.

Cady said he chose the Mount because, next to the University of Maryland, it has the best complex and accommodations, and he wanted to keep the event in Frederick County.

To host such an event, Cady said, an institution must be able to provide accommodations, cultural cuisine, and security, manage competition and drug testing, and provide cultural experiences unique to the area. Mount St. Mary's College and Seminary has hosted international events in the past.

What is weightlifting?

Weightlifting has been a Summer Olympic sport since the beginning of both the ancient and modern Olympic Games. Women first competed at the 2000 Olympic Games. The first female gold medalist was American Tara Nott in the 48Kg (105.7 lb.) weight class.

Differing significantly from powerlifting, the sport of weightlifting involves the movement of free weights without supportive structures (i.e., bench press and squat racks) and is the only Olympic sport that uses weights. It has been described as a gravity-defying athletic movement combining gymnastics with weights.

The two competitive lifts are the "two hand snatch" and the "two hand clean and jerk." In the snatch athletes take the bar from the platform to an overhead position in one movement, often in less than a second. World-class athletes can lift double their body weight. In the clean and jerk, competitors move the bar from the platform to the shoulders in one movement and then take it overhead in a second movement. World-class athletes are approaching three times their body weight in this lift. Judges combine an athlete's best of three attempts in each of the two lifts to determine medal winners. Gold, silver and bronze medals are awarded in each weight class.

For general information about the World Weightlifting Championship for University and College Students, visit www.2004wwuc.org.

West Wing

—Continued from page 1

California that matched the actual Camp David area.

"The West Wing" cast and crew has been filming for the past week in the areas surrounding the Hunting Creek Lodge, the ThorpeWood Nature Preserve and Maple Run Golf course.

The NBC series is the winner of four consecutive Emmy Awards as Outstanding Drama Series. The show has been a big TV hit, giving viewers a fictitious, yet realistic, behind-the-scenes view of the Oval Office.

Richard Schiff, who plays Toby Ziegler, the White House Communications Director, told *The Emmitsburg Dispatch* that the scenes filmed for "The West Wing" in the Thurmont area will simulate peace negotiations between the Palestinian and Israeli leaders at Camp David hosted by President Bartlett (played by actor Martin Sheen).

Two special actors, an Israeli (Armin Mueller-Stahl) and a Palestinian (Makram Khoury), appear in this episode. Schiff said he was impressed with their acting abilities and noted that these actors are famous in their

own countries.

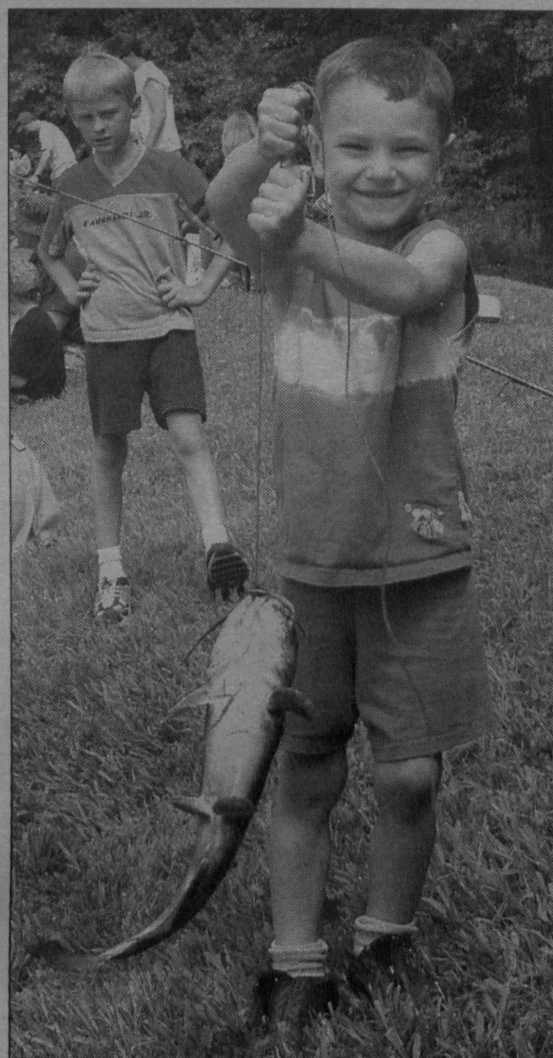
Schiff was most impressed though with their off-screen friendship. "Both actors are working for peace (outside of the TV world) and are truly good friends," he said.

Schiff said filming "The West Wing" is like creating a movie each week. One of his best experiences was directing a show called "Talking Points," the 19th episode. "The experience made me truly appreciate the talent, quality and work the crew and cast put into making the show," Schiff told *The Dispatch*.

—Continued on page 5

Kid's Fishing Derby

Dawson Norris, age 5, catches a lunker (a big fish). Norris was one of 150 children who participated in this year's Kids Fishing Derby sponsored by the Borderline 4X4 Club. Children fish for about two hours and qualify for prizes based on the combined weight of all the fish they've caught. Prizes are awarded to the top ten in each of the three age groups, 1-5, 6-10, and 11-15. There is an additional award in each class for the biggest lunker caught. Every aspect of the annual event is free. Each child receives a tackle pack and can win door prizes in a no-cost raffle. Fishing equipment is available for those who don't have their own. Hot dogs, snacks, and drinks are provided for the kids and their families. The Borderline 4X4 Club is a non-profit organization established for the sole purpose of raising money to help youth. It donates funds to Little League, Football League, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, schools for special events, and makes private donations for special needs people and kids in Emmitsburg, Thurmont, and Fairfield. The annual derby is held at Kline's pond located on Rt. 15 between Emmitsburg and Thurmont. For more pictures and a complete list of winners, visit The Emmitsburg Dispatch web-site, www.emmitsburgdispatch.com.



—RAYMOND BUCHHEISTER/THE EMMITSBURG DISPATCH

West Wing

—Continued from page 5

Actor John Spencer, who plays Leo McGarry, the President's Chief of Staff, made similar comments. Spencer said he is proud of the show, adding, "We work so hard to keep the quality of the show the best. There is an enormous amount of talent with the actors and the crew. Our crew is exceptional and the skeleton that holds us together."

He said he enjoys observing politics but wouldn't have wanted a political life for himself. "So, in that way, this show is perfect," Spencer said.

Spencer identifies in many ways with the actor he plays, as a workaholic, and with the love, respect and devotion he feels for the president (and the friendship

he has with Martin Sheen, the man).

"For a show without sex and violence, we are still a hit!" Spencer observed.

Many of the actors and crew enjoyed playing golf between shoots. Sheen confirmed that he'd already played 20 holes (by 1 p.m.). Schiff had only played about nine.

The Emmitsburg Dispatch asked Sheen about his recent trip to the National Shrine Grotto of Lourdes in Emmitsburg. Sheen, a Catholic, said, "It was my first time there. I'd always wanted to see it and finally got a chance."

The episode(s) being filmed will air during the sixth season. The show is currently finishing its fifth season. "The West Wing" airs on Wednesday nights at 9 p.m. on NBC.

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P18575R14	63.91	P20575R14	52.10	P22555R16	79.31	P23575R15	77.88	--	--
P19575R14	66.21	P21575R14	53.36	P22550R16	89.87	PP23575R15XL	81.77	83.00	83.00
P20575R14	66.72	P20575R15	54.10	P24550R16	95.47	LT23575R156ply	89.16	96.44	96.44
P21575R14	68.51	P21575R15	55.18	Hankook H418		P26575R15	83.15	--	--
P20575R15	69.24	P22575R15	57.61	P18560R14	57.07	30X950R15	91.10	100.00	100.00
P21575R15	70.77	P23575R15	58.53	P19560R14	57.86	31X1050R15	98.57	107.29	107.29
P22575R15	74.19	17570R13	49.20	P21560R14	63.58	32X11.50R15	104.04	114.22	114.22
P23575R15	77.48	18570R13	50.95	P19560R15	60.74	33X1250R15	111.59	121.38	121.38
P17570R14	61.88	18570R14	51.36	P20560R15	62.90	35X1250R15	--	127.06	127.06
P18570R14	64.12	19570R14	52.92	P21560R15	67.89	P22575R16	78.10	--	--
P20570R14	71.17	20570R14	56.53	P22560R15	68.56	P24575R16	82.51	--	--
P21570R14	73.36	21570R14	58.11	P20560R16	68.74	P23570R16	89.09	--	--
P20570R15	72.67	20570R15	57.88	P21560R16	69.64	P24570R16	85.23	--	--
P21570R15	75.22	21570R15	59.77	P22560R16	72.15	P25570R16	94.14	--	--
P22570R15	77.02	17565R14	54.22	P23560R16	74.31	P26570R16	88.51	--	--
P17565R14	61.67	18565R14	55.26			P27570R16	96.67	--	--
P18565R14	62.84	19565R15	60.86			LT22575R16	93.48	--	--
P19565R14	66.63					LT24575R16	106.83	109.30	109.30
P18565R15	65.19					LT265.75R16	100.00	109.10	109.10
P19565R15	68.96					LT285.75R16	115.17	125.26	125.26
P20565R15	72.40					LT215.85R16	92.51	--	--
P21565R15	74.29					LT235.85R16	104.73	115.29	115.29
						P265X70R17	96.20	--	--
						LT33X12.50R16.5	118.48	129.77	129.77

TOWN NEWS

News Briefs

Mayor vetoes board-approved Daughters of Charity buffer

The town Board of Commissioners approved a riparian buffer proposed by the Daughters of Charity at their May 3 meeting, but the mayor has been forced to veto the action.

The commissioners acted on the request made by Sister Carol Durkin, representing the Daughters of Charity.

The Daughters have proposed a riparian buffer along Willow Rill. The rill is a seasonal stream named after a long-dead black willow that grew near its embankments in town, according to *Dispatch* Writer William Meredith.

A riparian buffer is usually designed to minimize erosion of stream banks, and to act as a natural filter to prevent certain forms of pollution from getting into the stream.

Acting on Commissioner Art Elder's motion, seconded by Commissioner Dianne Walbrecker, the board voted unanimously to approve the

riparian buffer.

What's missing here is why voting on the issue was a problem: not on the agenda, not given to the town planner ahead of time...

Sister Durkin told *The Dispatch* that she has all the necessary approvals, including those from the state.

Mayor James E. Hoover, however, stated that it was inappropriate to act on a public comment on an item not included on the meeting agenda and not reviewed by town staff to ensure compliance with the ordinance. What ordinance?

Hoover told *The Emmitsburg Dispatch* that he vetoed the action so that it would be added to the June Town Meeting agenda. He said he would further recommend the riparian buffer be given only conditional approval, requiring a sign-off by the staff who would review the paperwork to determine if the proposal is in compliance with the town ordinance.

Town Board of Commissioners reorganizes

In the wake of the April 27 town election, two new board

members were sworn-in by Mayor James E. Hoover, and a new board president elected, at the board's May 3 meeting.

Elected to the Board of Commissioners were William O'Neil and Dianne Walbrecker. Following the swearing-in ceremony, the board elected O'Neil commission president.

The newly elected members will serve three year five month terms. The term extensions allow new commissioners more time on the job before beginning annual budget preparation responsibilities.

Board authorizes potential of \$600,000 for sewer line repairs

The town Board of Commissioners approved an ordinance authorizing the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) to reserve up to \$600,000 for rehabilitation of the Little Run sewer line.

MDE holds the money in reserve, and the town can draw

down any amount up to the total \$600,000.

The sewer line work has to be rebid because previous bids were rejected. Mayor James E. Hoover said the bids received were double the engineering estimates of cost.

The town staff has restructured the scope of work prior to the re-bidding.

The mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held May 21st, 2:30 p.m., at the Town Office meeting room. Bids will be opened on June 9, 3 p.m.

AT&T money could be used for widening Lincoln Avenue

Town staff is reviewing a proposed contract with AT&T that would allow the communications company to lay a long distance transmission line through Emmitsburg.

According to Town Planner Michael H. Lucas, AT&T would pay the town a \$103,000 permit fee to install fiber optic cable

along Lincoln Avenue. The cable would continue a transmission line coming from Westminster.

Lucas told *The Emmitsburg Dispatch* that the money received from AT&T would likely be used to widen East Lincoln Avenue at some future date, and to replace the fencing along Mother Seton School.

The fee would also pay for moving existing utilities back 20 feet to allow for the road widening. The utilities would not have to be moved for AT&T to implant its transmission cable.

Lucas said there are no immediate plans to widen East Lincoln Avenue. If and when the work is done, Lucas expects it to help alleviate some of the town's traffic congestion.

The contract with AT&T could be signed "within a couple of weeks," Lucas stated, adding, "We will be getting \$103,000 for granting AT&T the privilege of passing through. It's a win-win situation."

Alarm

—Continued from page 1

are favorable for a tornado to occur.

A county Sheriff's Office deputy also reported seeing a funnel cloud. Sheriff's Office spokesperson Deputy First Class Jennifer Bailey told *The Emmitsburg Dispatch*, "My understanding is that at 8:19 p.m. (Saturday), Cpl. Rudy Torres told dispatch that he saw a funnel cloud in the Emmitsburg area," but that rain became so heavy he could not continue to see it.

Vigilant Hose Company chief Robert Rosensteel, Jr., who was attending a social event at the firehouse, noticed the storm approaching and e-mailed Mayor James E. Hoover.

After seeing a tornado alert for the Emmitsburg area on the firehouse television, and learning that deputies spotted a funnel cloud south of town. Rosensteel said he "called past Chief (Frank) Davis to confer with him about activating the warning system. We both agreed that the need was justified and proceeded to activate the system."

"While I tried to prepare the system, Frank made a phone call to the Frederick County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to see if they

were going to activate the system. Much to our surprise we were told that they didn't know how," Rosensteel told the mayor.

"It took some quick thinking but we were able to get the alert to sound," Rosensteel stated. "It took several tries to get it right, but once we got it we activated it about five times with the whoop siren and the tornado message."

Rosensteel concluded, "After the tornado warning had elapsed, we prepared a vocal message to announce that the tornado warning has expired. It stated 'Emmitsburg residents, the tornado warning has expired. Please remain alert for severe weather.'"

Mayor Hoover stated in a follow-up e-mail to Rosensteel, "Like you, I am concerned that Frederick County did not know how to activate the system. I know that we know that Frederick County is not trained. Bottom line, we need to complete the written policy when/how to activate this week."

The EOC is operated by MEMA and is part of the Maryland Military Department. The EOC did not respond to a call for information.

Wayne Powell, public information officer for the Vigilant Hose Company

(VHC), told *The Emmitsburg Dispatch* that in spite of the fact that the EOC did not trigger the alert, "We at the firehouse don't see it as a failure, rather, as a lessons-learned opportunity."

"Given that Emmitsburg's system is the first of its kind in Frederick, the non-activation here on Saturday evening (by EOC) is probably more of the Emmitsburg town officials' need to clarify when they want the county communications staff to activate it short of an actual sighting, if that's what's wanted," he stated.

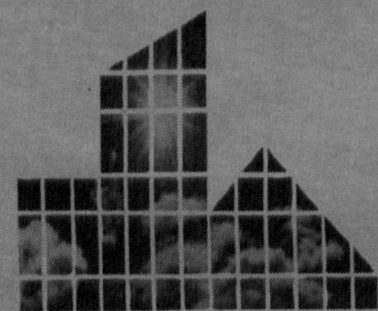
Powell said, "The folks at VHC did what was needed and Saturday night was a great dry run (for the new system)."

Linganore High School prom goes at Mount St. Mary's Knott Athletic Recreation Convocation Complex (ARCC) headed for cover after hearing the funnel cloud report.

Tom Kiniry, director of Public Safety at the Mount, told *The Emmitsburg Dispatch*, "My dispatcher received a call from an MSM staff member of the ARCC informing us that the sheriff deputies were instructing the high school students to go downstairs and stay away from the windows due to a tornado watch they just received."

—Continued on page 7

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Commissioner Boyle steps down

Richard D. L. Fulton
Managing Editor

Patrick B. Boyle, former Emmitsburg Board of Commissioners President, relinquished his seat on the board May 3, after serving for the past six years.

Boyle told *The Emmitsburg Dispatch*, "I want to thank all of the commissioners, staff and mayors and say I enjoyed their company." He said, "We might have had some hard times, but by the next day it was over and we moved on."

He served with a number of commissioners and under two mayors during his years on the board.

Boyle noted that the elections have definitely changed since he was first elected commissioner in 1998, along with James E. Hoover, Christopher Staley and Clifford L. Sweeney.

"This was a tough, dirty election (2004) brought on by a

certain few in town," he stated, adding, "The dirty politics started in 2002 and increased in 2003 by the same people. It has increased tremendously."

Boyle recounts board accomplishments

Reviewing the accomplishments of the various commissioner boards during his tenure, Boyle said, "In 1998, we (the town) borrowed money and finished paying off the 1997 payroll." The same year, he stated, the commissioners also acquired state and federal funding for the new water plant.

"In 1999," he said, "the board of commissioners refinanced long-term indebtedness (20-30 years debts) to ten year debts and brought the interest rate down."

During 2000, the commissioners had the Mount St. Mary's waterline constructed and set up the commitment to buy water from the Mount. Additionally, he said, they creat-

ed an enterprise fund to pay for the line, so the town would not have to borrow money for the project.

Also in 2000, the commissioners established a graduated water and sewer billing system. During 2000 and 2001, the town added a backhoe, a dump truck and mowers to its service equipment.

"In 2001," Boyle said, "we worked out the arrangements with the county for the community center, and started working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to put an addition onto their current facility."

During 2002 the commissioners established a water and sewer billing system which allows customers to pay quarterly, came to an agreement with FEMA regarding its permits, and built the new men's softball field. Other accomplishments involving Boyle included repaving DePaul Street, East

Lincoln and Chesapeake Avenues, the deal negotiated with the state to buy the 500-acre former Ski Mountain property, the work with Hess Enterprises to bring in the Sleep Inn, and cooperation with developers to bring in residential developments.

Boyle noted that residential growth increased the tax base by 31 percent during his tenure.

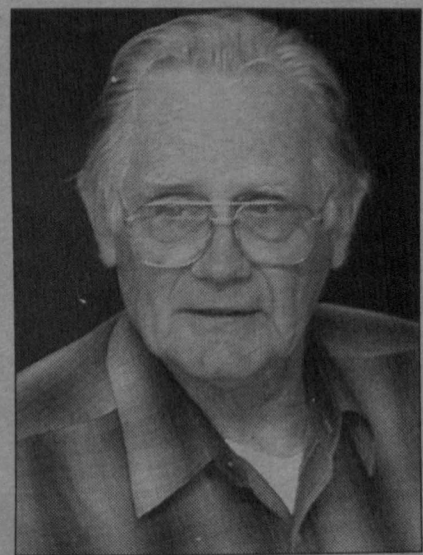
"I think if the town continues with what we (the out-going commissioners and those remaining) have done, the town will be in great shape," he said.

As a final warning, Boyle cautioned, "You can't have any new revenue if there is no development," adding, "The developers are paying to fix the infrastructure."

"In three years the infrastructure should be fixed and repaired with the way it is now (current revenue-generating processes)," he said.

Unfinished business

Boyle told his fellow commissioners and those attending the May 3 town meeting, "Sitting up here is altogether different from sitting out there," indicating that the general resident cannot possibly know all that goes on behind the scenes in providing services for the town.



Patrick B. Boyle

Turning to "unfinished business," Boyle said he would like to see the commissioners complete the new park, including the bathrooms and concession stand.

He stated he would also like to see the town "finish the streets that we started," and give the new commissioner who will be liaison to the streets committee "the burden to start with a bypass (to help alleviate town traffic congestion)."

"The town should maintain the water and sewer (infrastructure) and the South Seton Avenue waterline should be completed," he said, adding, "They should make sure the smoke tests of the water and sewer lines are completed."

\$1.1 million town budget proposed

Richard D. L. Fulton
Managing Editor

The Emmitsburg Board of Commissioners received the town's proposed fiscal year 2005 budget at the April 21 meeting. They must adopt a budget before July 1 because the town fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30.

Town Manager David Haller presented his \$1,107,986 general fund budget to the board for study and comments, noting that the proposed budget would not increase the tax burden on the community.

"This is a balanced budget with no tax increase," he stated. The budget calls for continued support of the fire and ambulance companies through reduced sewer and water rates, a \$3,000 cash donation to each service, and a contribution for a new ambulance."

Alarm

—Continued from page 1

Quinton Banks, public information officer for MEMA, said, to date, the agency has not received official confirmation that a tornado formed nor that it touched down anywhere in the area.

Powell said there were localized, spotty power and phone outages across the region and some downed trees from the storm, although they appeared to be the result of "straight-line wind and not the result of tornado activity."

Additionally, the Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund budget will include \$513,500 for water and \$589,750 for sewer. Enterprise fund monies are not considered part of the general budget.

Haller told *The Emmitsburg Dispatch* that he chose to segregate the revenue in that manner because water and sewer services "should be run like companies."

"A lot of towns don't do that," he said, but he prefers treating them as self-sustaining enterprises. Separating the sewer and water departments from the general fund requires them to generate their own revenue (through use fees) and not use tax dollars.

Budget Highlights:

Tax Rate: Haller expects that town revenue will meet the general fund bottom line through ordinary means and existing taxes. As a result, he anticipates no tax increase.

Public Safety: The single largest expenditure in the proposed budget is public safety, \$243,000. Included are deputy and meter person salaries, insurance coverage, and ambulance and fire company donations.

Parks: Parks and recreation is budgeted at \$154,000, \$63,000 of which is earmarked for salaries. Among the subcategories, the next largest is \$45,000 for public pool operating expenses.

Planning and Zoning: Planning and zoning expenses are budgeted at \$61,000. Of this, \$22,000 is designated for salaries.

Garbage Collection: The proposed budget allocates \$120,000 for garbage collection-related expenses, including \$119,000 for removal and tipping (disposal) fees.

Streets: The town proposes \$152,000 for street-related expenses, including \$65,500 for salaries, \$28,000 for street utility services and \$15,000 for repairs and maintenance.

Legislative Expenses: The proposed legislative expenses budget is \$122,726. Included the After School Program, \$15,000; legislative duty-related salaries, \$24,300; operational expenses, \$25,930; legal expenses, \$10,000; and accounting and auditing expenses, \$15,000.

Executive Expenses: Total proposed executive expenses amount to \$95,900, and includes executive salaries, \$24,000, operating expenses, \$43,000, and management expenses, \$15,000.

Water enterprise fund: The Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund will allocate \$513,500 to support water supply-related projects. This is a self-sustaining budget item.

Sewer enterprise fund: The Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund will allocate \$589,750 to support wastewater collection system-related projects. This is a self-sustaining budget item.



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—PHOTO CATHE CURTIS FOR THE EMMITSBURG DISPATCH

(L-R) Dinosaur Fund President Dr. Peter Kranz, quarry owner Patrick B. Boyle, and National Park Service Chief Ranger Vincent L. Santucci discuss the present site of the Emmitsburg quarry. Kranz noted that overgrowth and debris would have to be removed to restore the site to its historic appearance.

Triassic Park —

—Continued on page 1

Fancy Farm, is the “only known location in Maryland with dinosaur footprints from the Triassic Period.”

Kranz told *The Emmitsburg Dispatch*, “The quarry is still the same as it was over a hundred years ago.” It appears that the quarry only functioned to supply building projects at St. Joseph’s Academy and ceased operations when rock was no longer required.

James A. Mitchell, a mid-19th century professor at Mount St. Mary’s, credited with discovering the first dinosaur tracks in 1895, found them in academy flagstones that had come from the old quarry.

Mitchell published scientific papers on the finds and took measures to preserve the rare dinosaur tracks, including having slabs of them removed from the academy pathways. While his papers remain, the tracks have long since been lost.

Kranz stated, “For more than 100 years, the exact location from which the track bearing stones were taken was not known, and believed lost, by many,” adding, “Recently, through searching old records and photographs, the precise area from which they were taken has been pin-

pointed (the Silver Fancy Farm site).”

Importance of a dinosaur park

Santucci stated that the site “has both historic and scientific significance,” adding, “An ever-increasing number of people are becoming interested in fossils. This is an opportunity to provide an education (on early dinosaurs), and is worthy (at least) of nomination for the National Landmark Program.”

“Federal dollars can help with publications and interpretive signs,” he noted, while a friends group or other partnership could provide logistical support, such as site maintenance and monitoring.

“Dinosaur tracks tell you about the behavior of dinosaurs and things you can’t get from bones,” he said, adding, “Most of what is to be learned about life has yet to be discovered.”

The only similar site on the East Coast is Dinosaur State Park in Connecticut. Like

the proposed Emmitsburg dinosaur park, the Connecticut park is based on the prevalence of tracks found at that location.

Dinosaur-themed spots are much more common in the West, noted Santucci. “There are fewer dinosaur localities in the East,” he said. Development has covered a lot of potential sites with

asphalt, while Eastern vegetation makes finding locations more difficult.

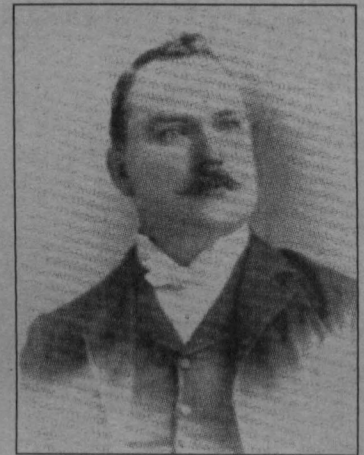
“Reviving” the quarry site

Kranz noted that overgrowth and debris would have to be removed to restore the site to its historic appearance, but some of the slabs of rock seen in an old 1898 photograph of the quarry are still visible.

“We could use blasting (to clear some of the overburden layers and debris), or clearing the site and preparing it for presentation could be done with a lot of manpower,” he suggested.

“My idea would be to establish an interpretive park, clear the trees out (of the quarry proper) and construct some kind of visitor’s center,” he said, adding, “or less ideally, post interpretive signs at the site.”

Kranz has sought other money for the proposed park, including county and state funding, but has continually received mixed reactions. “Some of them say it is a good idea. Others want to know where the money is going to come from and who



Professor James A. Mitchell, c.1893.

—PHOTO COURTESY OF MOUNT ST. MARY’S ARCHIVES & DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL COLLECTIONS, MOUNT ST. MARY’S COLLEGE & SEMINARY EMMITSBURG, MD.

will manage it,” he stated.

Santucci said that much of the work in creating the park could be accomplished through community, organization and government partnerships.

Site could change hands

Since Kranz and Boyle’s initial discussions about establishing the park, Buckeye Development has offered Boyle a letter of intent to purchase his farm, including the quarry site.

Denmark, the Buckeye Project Development Manager, said, “It could take



—PHOTO COURTESY MARYLAND SCIENCE CENTER

FOSSIL OF DINOSAUR TRACKS, CHARACTERISTIC THREE-TOED PRINTS OF ONE OF THE TEN-FOOT LONG EARLY DINOSAURS THAT STALKED THE LAKE SHORE OF PREHISTORIC EMMITSBURG. THIS SLAB, OWNED BY THE DAUGHTER(S) OF CHARITY, WILL BE PART OF A DINOSAUR DISPLAY OPENING MAY 29 AT THE MARYLAND SCIENCE CENTER, BALTIMORE, MD (INFORMATION: 410-685-5225).

three or four years for the purchase (by Buckeye) to actually make it through the process."

She told *The Emmitsburg Dispatch*, "I think that it's an exciting project (the possibility of a dinosaur park)," adding, "We think that the state parks and recreation should work toward making it available."

Kranz pointed out that, although the Boyle tract is under a letter of intent to purchase, the immediate area around the dinosaur quarry "is not developable (for housing)," and includes steep embankments, is located on the floodplain, and contains wetlands adjacent to Flat Run.

Piecing together a quarry history

The old quarry's primary function was to produce building stone for various structures at St. Joseph's Academy, and flagstone for the academy's pathways.

Stone from the quarry may have been used as early as 1810 in the foundation and cellar of the "White House," a home ultimately occupied by Saint Elizabeth Seton and the Sisters of Charity, and possibly even in the old stone "farm house," built about 1750, that the "White House" replaced.

Researchers are still trying to ascertain the site's full history, since it is uncertain when the quarry initially opened and when it ceased operations.

Hunting for the tracks of the ancient hunters

The rocks in and around Emmitsburg suggest that over 200 million years ago the area was an arid mud flat bordering stagnant, briny lakes. Occasionally wet seasons brought relief to the parched landscape, filling the near-dry lakes with fresh water.

As these ancient lakes ebbed

and flowed in size between the predominant dry spells and less frequent wet periods, life followed the water's edge. The most notable scavengers and hunters were the dinosaurs who left their footprints in area rocks.

All of this took place during the prehistoric Triassic Period. To the east, north and south, were scorched landscapes and shallow briny lakes during the arid, near desert-like periods. During scarcer, wetter times, stands of primitive plants bordered lakes teeming with life.

To the west, the Appalachian Mountains were as high as the Himalayas today. It would take 200 centuries to weather the Appalachians down to their present size.

Along the shorelines, one might find the distinct three-toed tracks of ancient dinosaurs (some left four-toed prints), or catch a glimpse of one digging in the mud for clams or worms.

Triassic Period dinosaurs were ancestors of the giants we know so well from movies such as "Jurassic Park" or "The Lost World." Huge dinosaurs, such as the well-known *Tyrannosaurus rex* (T.

rex), were still 100 million years in the future when the early Emmitsburg dinosaurs left their tracks in the ancient mud.

Rarely exceeding a dozen feet in length, most Triassic dinosaurs ranged from a few feet to a maximum of 20 feet. Many were bipedal (walked upright on two feet). Others may have walked on all fours, but with much-reduced forelegs. These dinosaurs hailed the birth of the Age of

Dinosaurs.

The first step in hunting for dinosaurs is locating a place where they may have visited, rocks layers of the appropriate age, and a potential source of food and water.

Virtually all of the rock in Emmitsburg is of the right period for dinosaurs, about 170-150 million years old. Some of the layers represent the prime hunting ground for dinosaur tracks. Where there were wetter periods, aquatic

life and plants flourished providing an abundant food source.

Dinosaur footprints occur sporadically throughout these rock beds, collectively called the Gettysburg Formation, ranging from Frederick County into Adams County.

These dinosaurs were not very big, and aside from the few capable of attacking other dinosaurs, most probably preferred a reasonably steady diet of worms, freshwater clams and crustacea (crayfish and their relatives), and where they may have been present, fish.

The "Lost Dinosaur Quarry" represents a typical dinosaurian environment, offering what was then fresh water and veggies. Stepping into this old quarry, one can almost hear the dinosaur dinner bell ringing.

Editor's Note: The writer is a published, lay-professional paleontologist credited with the discovery of a number of new species of life in Alabama and Maryland. He has contributed specimens to the Smithsonian Institution, the Chicago Field Museum, and the Los Angeles Museum of Natural History, and was acknowledged in the Pennsylvania Geologic Survey publication, "Fossil Collecting in Pennsylvania."



—PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MARYLAND GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
THE EMMITSBURG QUARRY AS IT APPEARED IN 1898 IN THIS MARYLAND GEOLOGICAL SURVEY PHOTOGRAPH. THE QUARRY WAS THE SOURCE OF FLAGSTONE FOR ST. JOSEPH'S ACADEMY, ACCORDING TO DR. PETER KRANZ, PRESIDENT OF THE DINOSAUR FUND ([HTTP://WWW.GLUE.UMD.EDU/~GDOUGLAS/](http://www.glue.umd.edu/~gdoUGLAS/)). SOME OF THE SLABS OF ROCK SEEN IN THE OLD PHOTOGRAPH ARE STILL VISABLE TODAY.



—PHOTO COURTESY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY.
Typical Upper Triassic dinosaurs as they may have appeared foraging for food along an ancient lake in this scene from a museum.

EDUCATION

Counsel to president will speak at Mount graduation MSM president rescinds honorary degree offer

Staff Report

Judge Alberto Gonzales, counsel to President George W. Bush, will speak at

Mount St. Mary's commencement May 23 in spite of both the college's decision to rescind an offered

honorary degree and a protest petition signed by a total of 61 faculty and students.

Gonzales has also served as a former Justice of the

Supreme Court of Texas and Secretary of State in Texas.

Gonzales previously served as counsel to then Governor Bush, advising him on death penalty related issues in Texas, according to an article by Alan Barlow entitled "The Texas Clemency Memos" published in July/August 2003 *The Atlantic Monthly*.

According to Barlow, "Gonzales's summaries were Bush's primary source of information in deciding whether someone would live or die."

Kelly Pilger wrote in the May 5 *Mountain Echo* (the Mount's student newspaper), "Some faculty members have prepared a letter to Powell, stating the reasons why they do not want Gonzales to speak at commencement. The letter says, 'a commencement speaker should represent and articulate well the values fundamental to our mission... We believe the college should not invite for commencement speakers whose public record is glaringly incompatible with significant aspects of our mission.'"

The article elaborates, "Part of this is because of the Catholic Church's stance on the death penalty. The catechism of the Catholic Church says, 'The traditional teaching of the

church does not exclude recourse to the death penalty, if this is the only possible way of effectively defending human lives against the unjust aggressor. If, however, non-lethal means are sufficient to defend and protect people's safety from the aggressor, authority will limit itself to such means.'"

President Powell said, "Judge Alberto Gonzales has graciously agreed to bring greetings and congratulations from the President of the United States to our graduates, and it is in that capacity, on behalf of President Bush, that he is speaking and we welcome him."

"Judge Gonzales is an outstanding Hispanic leader in this country with a long history of involvement with the Catholic Charities organization in Texas," Powell stated. "Judge Gonzales will not be here to discuss his personal views on any subject. We are pleased that a representative from the White House is taking this time to be respectful of our students."

Mount President Powell offered Gonzales an honorary degree from the college, but has since rescinded the offer.

Kate Charuhas, associate director of marketing and public relations at the Mount, told *The Emmitsburg Dispatch* that the president withdrew the offer because of procedural issues.

"The offer was revoked because the Mount president had not sought proper approval from the board of trustees' executive committee before offering the degree, not due to Gonzales' involvement with death penalty issues," she said.

Powell admitted he made a mistake and "should not have proffered the honorary degree in the first place. That was an error on my part and I've apologized."

Charuhas was not aware of any faculty or student protests planned to take place during Gonzales' commencement speech.



"Tribute to a Friend" dance raises \$5,000

On March 13 the Community Foundation of Frederick County held a dance at Mount St. Mary's College to raise money for the "Tribute to a Friend" scholarship fund.

Emmitsburg photographer Robert Rosensteel's photography studio, the Rosensteel Studio, sponsors the annual dances, with assistance from various co-sponsors.

Rosensteel initiated the "Tribute to a Friend" scholarship by making and selling an 8x10 photo in memory of local firefighters who had died between October 1997 and February 1998, including firefighters who had died of natural causes. The photos raised about \$1,400.

He invested the money from the photo sales and started what would become an annual fundraiser, the yearly scholarship dance held at Mount St. Mary's College. The first dance was held in 2000.

This year's dance raised \$5,000 which Rosensteel presented to the foundation April 9.

Students interested in applying for the "Tribute to a Friend" scholarship can find additional information at the foundation web site, <http://www.cffredco.org>, or can call 301-695-7660.

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MOUNT ST. MARY'S COLLEGE AND SEMINARY

Saving LIVES

By Kate Charubas

For Mount St. Mary's seniors Jeff and Jaimee Thoelen, what began as a way to fill spare time their freshman year has developed into something much more meaningful—a vocation.

Four years ago, Jeff and Jaimee Thoelen were drawn to the Mount by athletic programs and solid financial aid packages. It didn't hurt that their older brother and great uncle had both graduated from the Mount and spoke fondly of the school.

But once they settled into college life, their plans shifted. Jeff opted not to join the cross-country team, deciding instead to volunteer with the Emmitsburg Ambulance Company. It was a natural fit, laughs Jeff. "I've always been a sucker for lights and sirens."

He encouraged his sister to join a few months later.

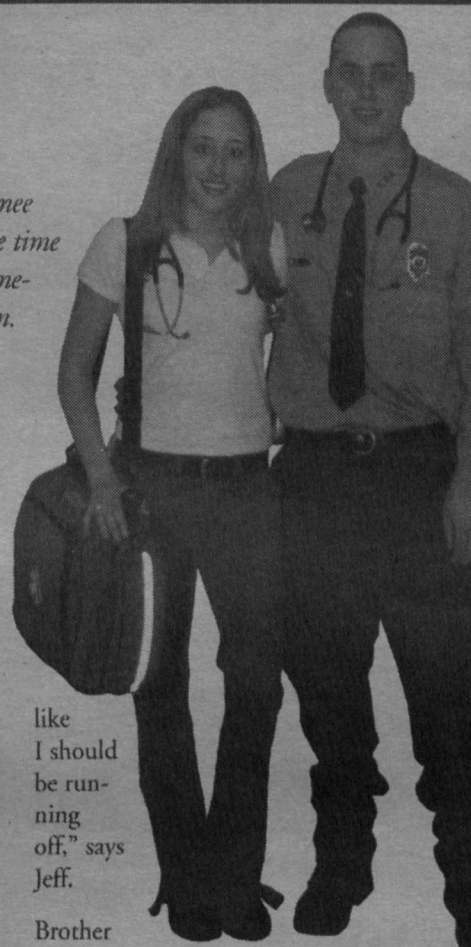
The twins, from Blooming Grove, N.Y., began as observers, riding along on calls, but not assisting with any of the medical treatments. As sophomores, the two became "first responders," and were trained to respond to the scene initially and stabilize patients until the ambulance arrived. During their junior year, Jeff and Jaimee stayed through winter breaks in order to take the classes needed to become emergency medical technicians (EMTs).

As certified EMTs, they assist paramedics on call and provide basic medical treatments like checking vital signs and treating symptoms before transporting patients to the hospital. It always surprises patients when they find out the people helping them in Emmitsburg are native "New Yorkers" and college students.

Jeff also serves on the company's board of directors and often joins company members at weekly bingo matches held in Emmitsburg.

Having students certified as EMTs also comes in handy on campus. The twins respond to various calls at the Mount—often involving ill students needing assistance.

"They are always quick to respond whenever a student or employee has been hurt," says Tom Kiniry, director of public safety. "If I'm in class and distant sirens are heard, my professor will look at me



like I should be running off," says Jeff.

Brother and sister will soon put their skills to work after graduation. Jaimee plans to enter the Columbia University's School of Nursing and may specialize in pediatric nursing. Jeff, an accounting major, is considering a career in law enforcement, perhaps the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He's also considering medical school because of a "pivotal moment" during a recent call when he used an automatic external defibrillator (AED) to "jumpstart" a patient's heart—literally bringing the patient back to life.

As Jeff and Jaimee move forward with their vocations, the Mount and Emmitsburg communities will surely feel their absence.

"The ambulance company offered a unique way to serve the Mount community. I invite anyone interested in this type of work to volunteer! Get an application, fill it out, and I promise you that you will not be let down." — Jeff Thoelen

If you'd like to know more about becoming an EMT, contact the Emmitsburg Volunteer Ambulance Company to pick up an application, 301-447-6626.

MOUNT CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Seminary Laity Retreats

www.msmary.edu/seminary/retreats
All inclusive retreat cost is \$130. For more information, 301-447-5017

June 11-13

"The Mystery of the Eucharist: Living Out the Mass."

June 18-20

"Devotion to the Virgin draws its inspiration from the Bible. How does Mary appear in the Scriptures?"

July 9-11

"Disciplined Desire: Living God's Virtues in a Stress-Filled World"

Grotto Day Retreat

www.msmary.edu/grotto
For more information, Carol Spoonhour, 301-447-5318, or spoonhour@msmary.edu

Saturday, May 22

"The Practice of the Presence of God—How to Meditate."

Upcoming retreats

June 5-Family Retreat

July 17-Women's Retreat

July 31-Men's Retreat

2004 Summer Sports Camps

<http://mountathletics.collegesports.com>
For additional camps being offered, check out the above website.

Girls Basketball Camp

June 20-24 (ages 10-18)

Resident: \$440

Commuter: \$330

301-447-5791

Boys Basketball Camp

June 24-28 (ages 8-17)

Resident: \$425

Commuter: \$325

August 6-8 (HS team camp)

\$200/camper

301-447-5387

Baseball Camp

July 11-15 (ages 7-12)

July 25-29 (ages 13-17)

Resident: \$395

Commuter: \$285

301-447-3806

Womens Lacrosse Camp

June 20-23

Resident: \$380

Commuter: \$300

301-447-3802

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AGRICULTURE & NATURE



-RAYMOND BUCHHEISTER/THE EMMITSBURG DISPATCH

Plant Exchange

(L-R) Valerie Heck and her mother Susie from Taneytown show their plants to an unidentified gardener and Annetta Rapp at the second Plant Exchange sponsored by the Friends of the Emmitsburg Branch Library. Gardeners brought in cuttings to exchange with each other. Plants flowed in and out of the market held in the parking lot in front of the new community center. Shoppers could also make monetary donations to the library and choose plants to take home even if they had none to exchange.

ThorpeWood seeks naturalist trainees and volunteers

ThorpeWood, a Thurmont-based environmental education center, needs naturalist trainees and volunteers. The naturalist trainees will explore the surroundings of the center's nature preserve. Volunteers help maintain the property and participate in various nature-related programs.

During the coming summer weekends, ThorpeWood will offer a Volunteer Naturalist Training Program. Training will include "nature walks" through the forested preserve led by experienced guides, and talks by professors and other natural sciences experts. In return for 30 hours of naturalist training (ten three-hour sessions), participants are required to provide 20 hours of volunteer work. Because space in the program is limited, ThorpeWood recommends early registration.

In addition, ThorpeWood needs regular volunteers. They

help with gardening, trail maintenance, invasion plant control, and American Chestnut restoration projects. Volunteers also serve as tour guides, provide informational presentations for weekend events, contribute to the newsletter, and assist with office work.

ThorpeWood, a property of Thorpe Foundation, is located at 12805-A Mink Farm Road, Thurmont, on a 110-acre nature preserve in the Catoclin Mountains. The Thorpe Foundation is a not-for-profit organization serving youths and local and regional communities by modeling stewardship of natural resources and providing environmental education through hands-on learning.

For additional information, to register for the Volunteer Naturalist Training Program, or to volunteer in general, contact Terra DeMedici at 301-271-2823.

Agriculture Industry Youth Grant Applications

The Frederick County Office of Economic Development is accepting applications for the annual Ag-Industry Youth Grant until June 30, 2004.

This grant is available to young people, up to 18 years of age, who live in Frederick

County and would like to begin a new agricultural enterprise or modify an existing agricultural practice. It provides capital to young people who might not otherwise have the funds for a project.

"Agriculture businesses have a major economic impact

on Frederick County," said Marie Keegin, Executive Director of the Office of Economic Development. "It's important to support youth involvement in agriculture to insure the future of Frederick County's Ag-Industry."

According to Economic

Development Ag-Industry statistics, Frederick County accounts for 10% of Maryland's total farmland, making it the largest agricultural county in the state. Local farmers produce over \$100 million of agricultural products each year.

Recent Youth Grant awards

have supported horticulture businesses, grapevine propagation used for vineyard planting, and embryo transfers in dairy cows.

Grant applications are available from the Office of Economic Development, 301-694-1058.

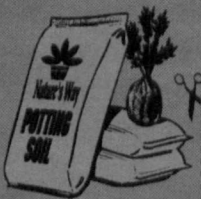
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From the managing editor's notebook...

State seeking artists for new Black Bear stamp

Richard D. L. Fulton
Managing Editor

They're up there in them thar hills... those cute, fuzzy little bear cubs just waiting for you to wander too close so that big, maybe not-so-cute, fuzzy momma can show you what real bear fangs look like.

Fascinating to watch, at least from a reasonably safe distance, the black bear has been making a comeback in many areas of its original East Coast habitats. Locally they tend to inhabit Western Maryland and a small slice of the mountainous terrain that includes portions of Frederick County, notably the Catocin Mountain area.

They are the only bear

species still living in the state, and there are between 266 to 437 of them here, according to a 2000 state survey.

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is holding its eighth annual Black Bear Conservation Stamp 2004-2005 Design Contest to solicit artwork for next year's Black Bear conservation stamp.

The contest began April 20 and will continue through June 11, with entries judged on June 16.

"Proceeds from the sale of the black bear stamp are used to compensate farmers in Maryland experiencing agricultural damage caused by black bears. The proceeds from this contest will

be added to the Black Bear Compensation Fund," the DNR states on its stamp competition web page.

The DNR competition web page lists competition rules along with an on-line entry form, <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/wildlife/bbstampcontest.html>. To get all the "bear facts," interested artists can also contact Doug Wigfield at 410-543-6595 for additional information.

Since Emmitsburg is located in the foothills of bear country, it would be nice to see a local artist walk away with the honors.

The editor would give it a shot, but stick figures aren't likely to make it into the finals.

Maryland Black Bear Conservation Stamp



2003-2004 Black Bear Conservation stamp By Steve Oliver, courtesy of DNR.



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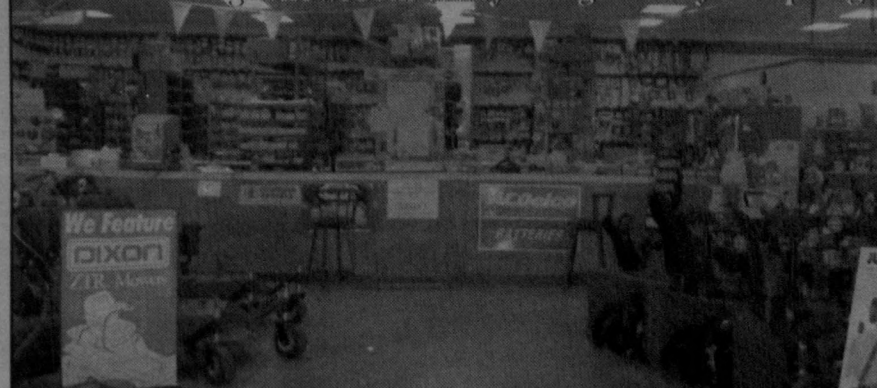
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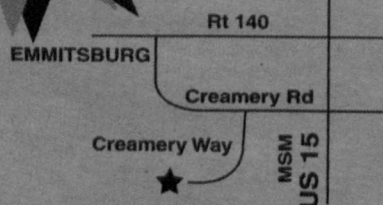
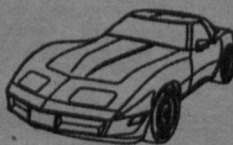
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May 29 – Golf Tournament. 8:30 a.m. Shotgun Start at Cedar Ridge Golf Course. Cost per person \$65, which includes green fees w/cart, awards banquet w/ lunch buffet located in JoAnn's Ballroom at The Carriage House Inn. Sponsored by Emmitsburg Lions Club to benefit community projects. Hole sponsorship

Jul. 11 – Maryland-Pennsylvania Horse Show Circuit. Show is open to all types of horses, registered and non-registered. Gettysburg Riding Club, Gettysburg. Information: 717-334-3043.



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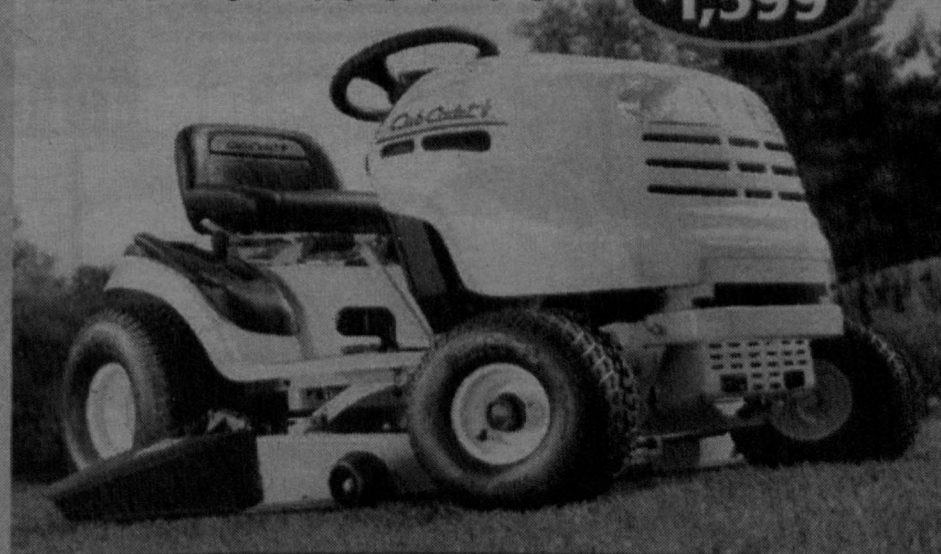
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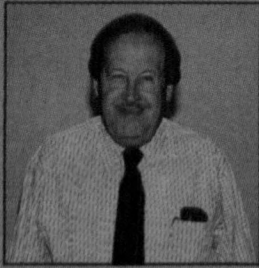
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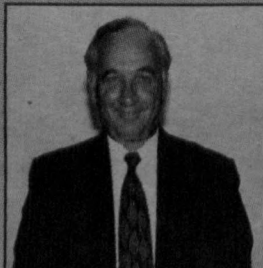
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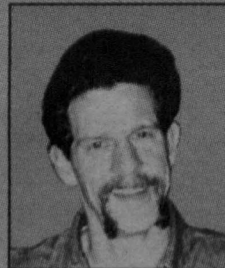
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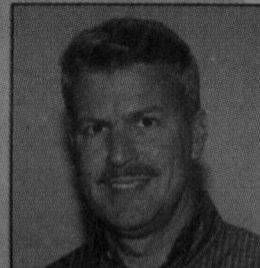
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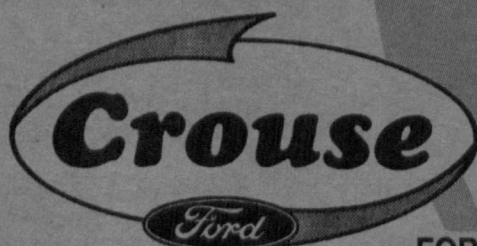
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