

# The Emmitsburg Dispatch

VOL IV, No. 22

News and Opinion in the service of Truth

NOVEMBER 17, 2005

## County EMS crew will move to EAC

By RICHARD D.L. FULTON  
News Editor

EMMITSBURG, Md. – The Frederick County Division of Fire and Rescue Services (DFRS) has decided to move the county-paid ambulance crew from Vigilant Hose to the Emmitsburg Volunteer Ambulance Company (EVAC).

Walter Murray, director of DFRS, told the county commissioners Nov. 15 that he has decided to relocate the county crew based on meetings he has attended between EVAC and Vigilant Hose.

Clarence E. "Chip" Jewell, director of Frederick County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Services, told *The Dispatch* that Murray had decided to move the crew after he had "met with all the personnel (involved)." Jewell added that arriving at a decision was "short and sweet."

At this point in time, Jewell said no date has been set for the move. He said that Murray had advised the county commissioners, "they would need to get together with the fire and rescue operations people and ensure a smooth transition."

County Commissioner Jan H. Gardner told *The*

-See **Ambulance** on page 7



-RICHARD D. L. FULTON / THE DISPATCH

## Local Legion Salutes Veterans

Members of the Frances X. Elder Unit 121 of the Emmitsburg American Legion (above) fire a salute in front of the World War I monument on the Ellis Hotel site in honor of the military veterans of Emmitsburg on Veterans Day, Nov. 11. (right) Marker at the gravesite in the Elias Lutheran Church cemetery of one of the country's first veterans, Christian Clos, recognizing his role as an American soldier in the Revolutionary War.



## This Issue

**Comp plan revisions could include re-zoning**

-see page 5

**Muti-generational turkey farm continues in Thurmont**

-see page 12

## New Poster



**"The Stained-Glass Windows of Emmitsburg"**

-see page 13

## Town comprehensive plan revisions move forward

By RICHARD D.L. FULTON  
News Editor

EMMITSBURG, Md. – The commissioners got a first look during their Nov. 7 meeting at the proposed revisions to the comprehensive plan, including some zoning changes which would,

among other things, expand the village zone.

Town Planner Michael Lucas shared the draft with the board, pointing out changes the town could implement once the final draft winds its way through a public hearing process and official approval.

Maryland law requires that municipalities update their comprehensive plans if deemed necessary by the community. Rezoning can be considered as part of that effort. Revised plans are filed with the Maryland Department of Planning depository library.

**Plan embraces 'traditional neighborhood' concept**

Lucas pointed out that the proposed plan tries to incorporate elements of what planners call "traditional neighborhood design."

-See **Plan** on page 5

## Saving 'hallowed ground' and irreplaceable vistas

*Catoctin Land Trust helps preserve open space*

By RICHARD D.L. FULTON  
News Editor

Few corridors in America have witnessed more history than the 175 miles from Charlottesville, Va., to Gettysburg, Pa.

Lying in the shadow of the Appalachian Mountains, this corridor contains innumerable, invaluable and irreplaceable

historic and natural assets. Battlefields, covered bridges, and historic homes and farms line the route. Known as "The Journey Through Hallowed Ground," the corridor was named in 2005 by the National Trust for Historic Preservation as one of America's 11 most endangered historic places.

The potential is enormous for

intense development and spillover from population growth within metropolitan areas like Baltimore-Washington, Richmond, and their suburban environs. Can the

greenways, the grand views and the historic sites be saved in the wake of demand for bedroom

-See **Land Trust** on page 9

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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 *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 for verification purposes. *The Emmitsburg Dispatch* reserves the right to edit letters for content and space.

# Who picks up the tab?

In the interest of balanced and unbiased press, please print the following in response to your article, "Hope Alive celebrates ground-breaking of women's shelter," in the Nov. 3, 2005 issue of the *Dispatch*.

On Oct. 27, 2005, Hope Alive, Inc. opened their gates in Harbaugh Valley in Sabillasville. What they failed to open though, was their way to the hearts of this community. Through their loud speakers which broke the silence in the valley for miles, they

announced the arrival.

From the very beginning, Hope Alive, Inc. has ignored the concerns of local communities, changed a democratic process of debate to an attitude of conflict, and excluded the collective voice of our citizens.

In case our state and local government and their supporters (from the other side of the county) missed the point, here is the fact. For a price tag of more than \$2,500,000 - most of which was funded by our tax dollars

- Mrs. Sue Oehmig, Hope Alive president, and her husband Mike Oehmig, along with fifteen other board members - total of 17 board of directors, will take charge of 25 women and children. Add four full time and four part time employees, and that is 25 people to take care of 25 people.

We would like to wish them all the best, but the question is this: "Who is going to pick up the tab for these fifty people?"

- Majid Afkhami  
Sabillasville, Md.

## 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.

Nov. 17, 1905  
More Light

For the *Chronicle*,

Our town has, according to the declaration of strangers visiting it, one of the most beautiful locations in the State of Maryland. Nature has done much for us in the questions of beauty and utility. The view of the Mountain and the highly cultivated valley in which we are situated is a source of restful pleasure to the eye of the visitor from the city. Many wearied with the humdrum of city life come each season to partake of our joys. There is no reason in the world that Emmitsburg should not be one of the mountain resorts of Western Maryland. All that is needed is a little of what is commonly called "get up," to bring about this result. One thing and that is a very important one, is the lighting of our streets. Here we must confess ourselves woefully behind the times. The old coal oil lamps that were an eyesore a generation ago still disfigure our streets and merely add to the inconvenience attendant on a dark night. Strangers who are impressed with our neatness in the daytime lose that good impression once they see the town after dark.

It is high time that our public spirited citizens get together and endeavor to find a remedy for this very palpable evil. This is the day when all things do not come to those who wait; nor is anything accomplished by those who are governed by the principle: "Let good enough alone." We must be up and doing if we do not wish to be relegated to the class of deserted villages.

### Caught in Corn Husker

On Tuesday morning while assisting in operating a corn husking machine on the farm of Mr. Edgar Shriver, in Liberty township, Mr. Luther M. Zimmerman, of this place, who is a member

of the firm of Zimmerman & Shriver, met with a very painful accident. When in the act of taking a corn husk from the rolls of the machine the rolls caught his glove and pulled his right hand into the rolls. Mr. Zimmerman proceeded in pushing the belt from the pulley and the machine was stopped as soon as possible, and with the aid of levers the rolls were prided apart sufficiently to release his hand, which was badly torn and the flesh mashed. The little finger and the one next to it were very badly cut and bruised, but fortunately no bones were broken. Mr. Shriver brought Mr. Zimmerman to town in "double quick time," where his injured hand was dressed by Dr. J. W. Eichelberger, and is doing as well as could be expected.

Nov. 24, 1905

Mr. F.A. Diffendal sold his house with 12 acres of land, situated two miles west of Emmitsburg, to Mr. Victor E. Rowe for \$60.00.

Mr. Chas. D. McCarren sold a mountain lot of 11 1/2 acres of land, west of town to Mr. Victor E. Rowe for \$175.00.

Mr. Lewis M. Motter sold a mountain lot of 28 acres to Mr. Eugene L. Rowe for \$500.00.

Mr. William Gillelan has purchased the Scott Seiss farm, situated on Bull Frog Road, in Pennsylvania, for \$2,500. He has taken possession of the farm.

### Union Thanksgiving

#### Service

The annual Union Thanksgiving Service will be held on next Thursday, Nov. 30, in the Reformed Church of this place, beginning at 10:30 a.m. The sermon will be delivered by the Rev. Kenneth M. Craig, pastor of the Presbyterian Church. The offering will be for the worthy poor.

**16th Annual  
An Evening of Christmas Spirit**

**An Evening of Christmas Spirit  
Monday, December 5th  
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm**

**Schedule of Events:**

- 6:00pm - Emmitsburg Tree Lighting Ceremony in front of the Community Center. Join the United Church of Christ Choir in caroling and Mayor Hoover in the lighting of the town Christmas tree which will be decorated by our local elementary school children.
- 6:30pm - Visit with Friends for an Open House at the National Emergency Training Center - in Building B, the Student Recreation Center.
- 7:00pm - Enjoy Caroling, Horse drawn Surrey, Hay rides through town, complimentary hot dogs and cookies, live nativity scene, entertainment from local vocalists and musicians. Visit Santa and His Elves.

Canned goods and donations accepted for the Emmitsburg Lions Club Christmas Food Drive.

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# Contractor wins re-bid for DePaul street paving

BY RICHARD D.L. FULTON  
News Editor

EMMITSBURG, Md. —

A somewhat reluctant board of commissioners voted 4-1 at a special Nov. 9 meeting to award the proposed DePaul Street roadwork to W.F. Delauter & Son in the wake of re-bidding the project.

The commissioners had previously approved awarding the bid for the proposed resurfacing of DePaul Street to L.W. Wolfe Enterprises, Inc., Myersville, at their Oct. 17 meeting. But the award was rescinded after they learned that the proposed scope of work would not address all of the road's problems.

Wolfe had submitted the low bid for the project, \$41,595 (*erroneously listed as \$31,595 in the Nov. 3, 2005 issue of The Dispatch*). The only other bidder was W.F. Delauter & Son, Thurmont, who bid \$73,364.

## Problems with bidding process began with site visit

The initial scope of work entailed only resurfacing (overlying) the road, and the initial round of bids addressed only that work.

According to town Inspector Frank Henry, representatives of Wolfe Enterprises and the town subsequently made a site visit. After that visit, Wolfe indicated there was more damage involved with the road than previously assessed, and said that simply resurfacing would not fix the problems.

Specifically, some of the road foundation was badly eroded; a hump in the DePaul-Federal intersection was causing drainage problems on neighboring properties; and previous patchwork had turned into what Commissioner Glenn Blanchard described as "reverse speed bumps."

Corrective measures suddenly included addressing the hump/drainage problem by removing the hump and installing a swale system, leveling the road, and correcting the previously patched

areas, in addition to the repaving.

Wolfe estimated he could do the additional work for \$25,000 more than their initial bid, a total of about \$66,000.

Subsequently, Delauter representatives were asked to visit the site. After that visit, the town rescinded the previous bid package and re-bid the project with a new scope of work that included all the deficiencies Wolfe had noted.

## Elder says town should have stuck with repaving

The new bids from Wolfe and Delauter were opened in public on Nov. 9, and were the subject of the special meeting held later that evening.

Even though Wolfe had previously stated the work could be done for roughly \$66,000, the company's new bid was \$96,450.

Delauter's bid was \$90,382, more than \$6,000 less than Wolfe's.

Henry described DePaul as "the worst road in Emmitsburg," in terms of being rundown. He said if only the resurfacing were done (as per the original proposed scope of work), the road might last four to five years and would need repaving again. And that wouldn't address the drainage problem at the DePaul-Federal intersection or the other problems.

He said if all of the problems were addressed at once, the road could have a lifespan of 10 to 15 more years or longer.

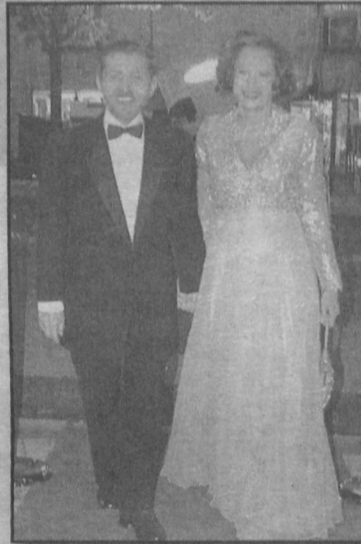
Commissioner Arthur Elder, the only dissenting vote, questioned the wisdom of doing nearly \$100,000 worth of work to a road that might have to be cut in the future to install and/or repair water and sewer lines.

"I just can't justify going away from the first bid (for only resurfacing) since we're just going to dig this thing up anyway (and then make repairs)," he said.

Board President Christopher V. Staiger said he felt that reverting back to the original repaving-only bid was probably just "planning for failure."



PHOTOS BY DICK BLOOM / THE DISPATCH



Senator Terry Punt and Jackie White, owner of the Dobbin House Restaurant



1991 Gettysburg College alum Carson Kressley of "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy" and fashion commentator for the NBC Today Show



Dianna Rawlins and Mark Redding of Arentzville

# THE MAGIC BEGINS AGAIN AT THE MAJESTIC THEATER GRAND RE-OPENING NOV. 14, 2005



Marian Thomas Harbaugh, owner of The Country Store, Biglerville, Pa.



Executive Founding Director of the Majestic Theater, Jeffrey Gabel



Jennifer and David LeVan Co-owners of Battlefield Harley-Davidson. LeVan is a member of the Gettysburg College Board of Trustees and a principal in the proposed Gettysburg Gaming Resort and Spa

## Commissioners question DePaul bid process

EMMITSBURG, Md. —

The town commissioners voted 4-1 at a special Nov. 9 meeting to award the proposed DePaul Street roadwork to W.F. Delauter & Son after re-bidding the project.

Neither Mayor James E. Hoover nor any of the commissioners seemed especially pleased with the way the bid process happened. In fact, it seems, there is no bidding protocol or policy in place to provide procedural guidelines.

Hoover said he had asked town Attorney John R. Clapp to begin work on documents related to bidding, and said he would provide them at a future meeting.

Commissioner William B. O'Neil, Jr., referring to bidders being given separate on-site walkthroughs and comments made that bids were left open or accessed before the sealed bids were opened, said, "I'm concerned the bid process may not be inviolate here."

Elder said that one estimate was written as a note and given unsealed

to Town Manager David Haller's administrative assistant, Patricia Feeser.

Feeser told *The Dispatch* she was not aware of having received any note as described by Elder.

Nevertheless, the board generally agreed that a policy is needed to govern the bidding process. O'Neil said, "Clearly ... this whole process is a total mess ... that's got to be stopped today." Staiger agreed, saying, "I think we have identified a weakness in the process." — R. Fulton

## Seton Center seeks Thanksgiving and Christmas sponsors

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The Seton Center, Inc. a nonprofit agency serving people in need primarily in northern Frederick County, needs sponsors for families this Thanksgiving and Christmas. Thanksgiving sponsors provide non-perishable food items and a gift certificate for perishable items. Christmas sponsors can provide toys, clothing, food, or all three, for a family. Cash donations are also needed for both holidays.

Last year the Seton Center had 54 sponsors who served 108 families at Christmas. For more information, contact Sister Patricia Nee at 301-447-6102 from 9 a.m. to noon and 1-4 p.m. Monday-Friday, or e-mail [setoncenterinc@doc.org](mailto:setoncenterinc@doc.org).

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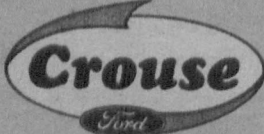
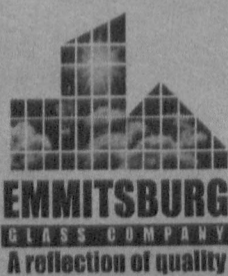
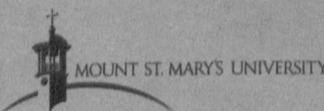


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**EDITORIAL**

**Being thankful every day**

"Come ye thankful people, come. Raise the song of harvest home. ..."

When Henry Alford wrote that hymn in 1844, Thanksgiving was still very much a harvest festival. The crops were "safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin."

Students continue to learn about the voyage of the Pilgrims on the Mayflower. They understand that the first Thanksgiving feast took place in 1621: Plymouth Governor William Bradford invited the Native Americans to join the pilgrims in a three-day feast to give thanks for the harvest.

Nearly 400 years later,

Thanksgiving is still a time of thanks, of family, and food. But where does thanksgiving fit into our daily lives? We may have forgotten how simple it is to give thanks.

Teaching children how to be thankful is relatively easy. Even a very young child can understand "thankfuls," time spent each night before bed thinking back on the day, and finding at least one good thing, one thing for which to be thankful. Some days it might be playing with a special friend, or having a birthday party, enjoying a warm sunny day, or maybe just having a good nap. No, not just, "I'm thankful this day is over."

As we get older, we take less time to be thankful. Often we forget

completely about being thankful, lost in the rush of our day-to-day lives. We focus more on what went wrong with each day than what went right.

Ravaged by hurricanes, earthquakes, famine and war, so many in this world have so little. Being thankful in those situations might mean gratitude for food, water and shelter. We who have so much in comparison, can benefit from reflecting on our many blessings.

In this time of thankfulness, it might just be time to begin a habit of daily thankfuls, so that each day becomes one of thanksgiving. Even if the one good thing about the day is just having a good nap.

"I am thankful that *The Dispatch* provides a forum to residents of Carroll Valley/Fairfield that allows citizens to know what is going on in their small hometowns."

— Bill Reinke,  
Contributing Writer

"I am thankful that the writers and editors of *The Dispatch* are so encouraging in my learning of journalism."

— Megan Zimmerman,  
Contributing Writer

"I am thankful for a great group of creative people at the paper. Thanks to all those who have let me come into your homes with my words of quilticisms for the new and not so new crafters who are perpetuating this wonderful craft."

— Mary Ellen Cummings,  
Columnist — Quilters

"I'm thankful that there are people like Bo and Jean Cadle in the community who had the idealism and energy to start a local paper, and that there continue to be so many people willing to give their time and talents to keep it going; and I'm thankful to live in a community that seems to appreciate and support these people and their work."

— William Meredith,  
Columnist — Retired Ecologist

"I am thankful to Ray, Jen and the rest of *The Dispatch* staff for publishing my column, 'Outside the Game.'" — A.J. Russo, Sports Editor

"Government actually is "of, by, and for the people" only if they know what their government is doing. *The Dispatch* keeps telling us — in depth, in every issue — and so enables us to be better citizens, to make democracy happen, not just praise it. All my gratitude is too small for this great gift that this newspaper gives us."

— Bill Steo,  
Editorial Consultant

"As a photographer I am thankful for the talent the Creator has allowed me to have and for the cosmic connections that have brought me to be part of the tight-knit family at *The Dispatch*. Thanks to the Creator as well for all the folks that bring the local eye to the news in areas we cover!"

— Dick Bloom,  
Photographer

**Thankfuls from *The Dispatch*...**

In this Thanksgiving season, staff and contributing writers reflect on *The Dispatch*, on what it means to the communities it serves and to them personally. Their comments acknowledge gratitude for readers, advertisers and sponsors, and demonstrate the pervasive sense of humor that keeps us all going when deadlines are near.

"I am thankful for the generous support of businesses and our sponsors who make it possible for us to publish the newspapers so that small local communities have information specifically dedicated to their areas. I'm also thankful for the newspaper's staff because without their dedication and talent, and their willingness to wear several hats at once, we couldn't produce the same quality product. I'm joyful that *The Dispatch* can provide local employment and that it gives me a creative avenue to utilize talents I would not otherwise be able to use."

— Raymond Buchheister,  
Editor & Publisher

"I am thankful that we have an office and that *The Dispatch* is no longer working out of our home!"

— Jennifer Buchheister,  
Advertising & Business Manager

"I'm thankful to be a part of *The Dispatch* staff — people who do their jobs creatively, with honesty and integrity, and who approach each day with a good sense of humor. And I'm thankful for our readers, who genuinely care about their communities and want to share their news with others."

— Joyce M. Demmitt,  
Managing Editor

"I am thankful that we have been able to expand the business in this past year; and that we've hired additional news help, someone to do layout, and another person to help with photography assignments."

— Richard D. L. Fulton,  
News Editor

"I am thankful to have a job to support my family and to be a part of a team full of talent, diversity and joie de vivre."

— Lori Stromberg,  
Advertising & Subscriptions

"I'm thankful for all the great people I work with at *The Dispatch*."

— Toya Warner,  
Advertising Design

"To be thankful is to be part of a team at *The Dispatch*, in faith, a growing beauty in where our heart is."

— Shannon Cooley,  
Graphic Design

"I am thankful for the support and interaction *The Dispatch* receives from its readers. I am thankful for the ad sponsors that make it possible for the paper to continue offline and online each year. I am thankful for such strong dedication from Raymond and Jennifer Buchheister, their writers and staff to bring us important informative news and information."

— Wendy M. Shepherd,  
Webmaster

"I am very thankful for the opportunity to become a better writer and connect with the citizens of Emmitsburg and Thurmont."

— Susan Allen,  
Contributing Writer

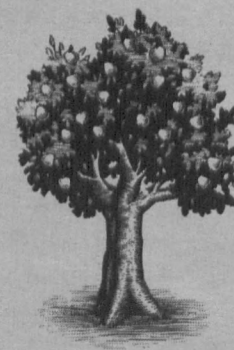
"I am thankful that *The Dispatch* is growing and continuing to be an important source of news in the community."

— Nicole M. Belanger,  
Contributing Writer

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-RAYMOND BUCHHEISTER / THE DISPATCH

## Bruté visitors search for clues

Members of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis visited Emmitsburg from Oct. 12-14 to gather accounts that might lead eventually to sainthood for Simon William Gabriel Bruté de Rémur, a former instructor at Mount St. Mary's and aid to Mount founder Father John DuBois. Seen here (L to R) are Roseanne Huckleberry, notary, Monsignor Frederick Easton, the delegated judge for Bruté's cause and also the judicial vicar of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, Reverend James Bonke, promoter of the cause, and Sister Eleanor Casey, archival assistant, St. Joseph's Provincial House.

# Comp plan revisions could include re-zoning

BY RICHARD D.L. FULTON  
News Editor

Town Planner Michael Lucas showed the board of commissioners some of the proposed comprehensive plan revisions at their Nov 7 meeting. (See related article "Town Comprehensive Plan revisions move forward" on the front page).

Included are possible zoning changes, whose principle purpose would be to expand the village zone to conform to current uses, rather than past practices.

Re-zoning and zoning-related changes include the creation of a "floating zone," and expansion of the village zone where expansion seems logical.

A "floating zone" is one not anchored to a particular piece of real estate, but rather, can be superimposed over any developable tract of land based on negotiations with the town.

"If someone comes in with a creative design, such as a neo-traditional development, the proposal might allow them to achieve the same density with less (mass) development," Lucas told *The Dispatch*. For example, a development might gain certain density bonuses in exchange for a greater amount of open space on the site.

A "floating zone" becomes a way to permit a developer to trade off certain limitations inherent in existing zoning for certain considerations that might, in

actuality, be more beneficial to the town.

Lucas noted that several areas presently zoned industrial haven't been used that way for years. One such site is home to the antique mall off Lincoln Avenue and on another is the pregnancy center off East Main Street.

To ensure that an industry does not come along later and build a factory in the middle of town, the proposal would change the zoning of these properties to village zone. "It's not that it's there now (an industrial use). It's the potential," Lucas stated.

Another proposed change would reclassify the R-1 zone containing St. Joseph's Church to village zone as well.

As per state law, during a municipal comprehensive plan review, property owners have the right to request zoning changes.

Among the possible changes is a more controversial request from Richard Demmitt, developer of Brookfield, who is asking for re-zoning of approximately 11 acres of land he owns within the town. The change would eliminate a commercial area and increase the density for proposed houses.

Lucas displayed a draft map showing Demmitt's property as it would appear if re-zoned, but noted that the map was only based on Demmitt's request, and did not reflect town staff recommendations.

In late June 2003, Demmitt applied for a zoning change for 10.8

undeveloped acres in Brookfield. Included were four parcels, 7.1 acres zoned low density residential, 9 acres zoned high-density residential, and 2.8 acres zoned for business. Demmitt requested that 9.9 acres be re-zoned R3, high-density residential, and that the remaining .9 acre be re-zoned open space.

Demmitt made the request based on a zoning law article that allows for zoning amendment and reclassification if a mistake has been made. The board of commissioners ultimately rejected the re-zoning request in a 3-1 vote at the Nov. 20, 2003 meeting.

## Plan

-Continued from page 1

A "number of subdivisions" built in Emmitsburg in recent years "reflect suburban designs," not a traditional neighborhood, he said.

Traditional neighborhood design consolidates development near existing developments, emphasizes a community's traditional mixed-use village zone, and creates a "walkable" community with key elements within reasonable walking distance of each other. Emphasis is placed on addressing the significance of edges and gateways to the community and expanding community recreational assets. The design works to preserve "defining" views, and insure adequate public facilities and resources.

Lucas emphasized the additional responsibility of taking steps to ensure that adequate funding is available to attain the goals of the plan.

### Comp plan envisions a west-end bypass

The comprehensive plan, as drafted, provides for the possibility of creating a much sought after and frequently discussed bypass.

According to Lucas, the plan envisions the bypass being built on land outside the west end of town. That land could at some future date be annexed into the town.

As part of any annexation agreement or approval, the plan recommends that the property owner(s) provide right of way for the section of the bypass that would run through the annexed property.

Lucas told the commissioners that ultimately the idea was to link U.S. 15 directly to Route 140, eliminating the need for through-traffic to come up South Seton Avenue and turn left at the town square.

### Civil War heritage provision to be included

Emmitsburg is considered one of the targeted investment zones (TIZ) in Frederick County as part of the "Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area." The project is designed to increase historical awareness in the Civil War-impacted areas and thus increase tourism in those regions.

Participation in the proposed zone would qualify the town for a number of grants and loans, but first the town must "activate" its TIZ status. The activation process begins at the planning commission level. Participating towns must amend their comprehensive plan to incorporate a "Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area" management plan.

Although the heritage area representatives approached the town rather late in its comprehensive plan development, Lucas assured *The Dispatch* that the desired mandate supporting the heritage area would be included in the draft he will take back to the planning commission.

### The end of the process begins

Producing the initial draft of the town comprehensive plan has taken over a year and a half. Public workshops were first held in 2004, and continued into 2005.

Lucas intends to have the initial draft to the town planning commission at their November meeting. Following any changes from that group, the proposed draft would be subject to public review for 60 days, and then a public hearing.

The planning commission can make additional changes or forward the final draft to the mayor and board of commissioners for possible adoption. The draft can be sent back to planning for further changes, or approved. After approval, the plan will be sent to the Maryland Department of Planning depository library, to be filed as an official town document.

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## TOWN NEWS

## Lawsuit likely to follow dismissal of bankruptcy complaint

By RICHARD D.L. FULTON  
News Editor

EMMITSBURG, Md. — An apparent attempt to undermine the bankruptcy proceedings of a local printing operation may not only have failed, but will likely result in a lawsuit being filed against the complainants.

Attorney Jeff Orenstein, with the law firm of Goren, Wolff & Orenstein, LLC, Rockville, Md.,

representing David Runkle, told *The Dispatch* on Nov. 10 that the complaint against his client has essentially been dismissed. Runkle is the former owner of RyWest, Inc., and purchased Chronicle Press from Arthur Elder.

Runkle filed for bankruptcy in 2003. A complaint against him was filed with the U.S. Trustee Office (part of the U.S. Department of Justice) in 2004, nearly a year after the bankruptcy case had been closed.

Orenstein said the trustee office was the complainant, basing its actions on "information provided to them by people they refused to identify due to confidentiality rules."

The attorney said the trustee office subsequently reviewed the complaint and facts associated with it and "determined they were misled in the allegation and they have agreed to dismiss the case against Runkle and, on November 4, filed a notice of dismissal.

They found the complaint had no merit."

He said anyone with an objection to the dismissal has 20 days from Nov. 4 to file, but "We're not expecting anyone to object, and if they do, we have a pretty good idea who that would be."

Orenstein stated further, "Once this case is over (after the first week in December no objections can be filed), Runkle and his wife will file complaints

for abuse of process, defamation of character, and tortious interference with business relations. I would anticipate filing the case in U.S. District Court probably within the next four weeks."

"As part of the suit," the attorney explained, "we will be subpoenaing the records of the Department of Justice to get the documents that led to the initiation of the complaint filed by the trustee's office."

## Turning north onto U.S. 15 from N. Seton to end

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) will soon end drivers' options of cutting across U.S. 15 or turning north onto Rt. 15 from North Seton Avenue.

The SHA is completing a right-turn ramp to allow traffic on North Seton to turn south onto U.S. 15. Traffic will no longer be permitted to proceed from North Seton across U.S. 15, or to make a left (north-bound) turn.

David Buck, director of SHA communications, told *The Dispatch* that contractors have increased the pace of work for "about a week and a half" and are "moving quickly towards getting the paving done."

"Paving," he said, "should be completed hopefully in the next week to ten days, but there is more than just the paving involved." Buck said it presently appears that the work would be completed around the end of December. — R. Fulton

## Frederick attorney says actions against town will be filed 'soon'

By RICHARD D.L. FULTON  
News Editor

FREDERICK CITY, Md. — Attorney Norman C. Usiak told *The Dispatch* Nov. 9 that he intends to file multiple legal actions against the Town of Emmitsburg relating to the outcome of the ethics investigation.

"I think there is going to be a number of actions filed against the town," Usiak stated, adding that because of the conduct of the mayor and "leadership" of the town, "We have no other recourse than to take this to court."

In April, the town ethics commission determined that commissioners William B. O'Neil, Jr. and Arthur Elder had violated the town's ethics code. Both subsequently sought payment of alleged legal expenses incurred as a result of the investigation and/or its outcome. Both were ultimately denied payment.

"They (the town administration) could have addressed it maturely and professionally," Usiak said. "Litigation is what happens when people take those positions." He would only say the intended legal

actions would come "soon."

The Frederick-based attorney is presently representing Thurmont Attorney Rosemary McDermott in an effort to recoup legal expenses she claims to have incurred in assisting O'Neil with issues relating to the ethics investigation.

Usiak said he was initially under the impression that he was representing O'Neil, as he indicated in a Sept. 20 letter to the town. However, he stated, "Apparently, I'm not representing him anymore." O'Neil recently told *The Dispatch*, "Mr. Usiak was never my attorney."

## Town News Briefs ...

### St. Joseph's can proceed with acquiring tap

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The board of commissioners voted unanimously at their Nov. 7 meeting to amend town regulations, giving former tap holders the right to connect to the wastewater collection system.

The change in provisions will allow St. Joseph's Church, North Seton Avenue, to acquire a tap they had once been paying to reserve, but had stopped paying for because it remained unused.

The key provision of the newly adopted policy states that anyone who has previously had a water and/or sewer tap and still owns the property involved, and who gave up that tap less than ten years ago, be allowed to "bring their account up to date" and acquire the tap.

Without the provision, St. Joseph's would have been forced to pay \$11,000 for a new tap, and could have lost the money they had previously paid the town for sewer service the church never had.

Father Vincent O'Malley thanked the town for the decision, calling it "a good compromise" and said that he "appreciates the creativity" employed to assist the church in gaining the tap. — R. Fulton

### Zoning certificate guide prepared by Emmitsburg

EMMITSBURG, Md. — Sometimes residents and business owners seeking zoning certificates have a difficult time finding out exactly what must be done to acquire their certificate.

In response to this confusion, the Emmitsburg Planning and Zoning Office has produced a booklet entitled, "Applying for an Emmitsburg Zoning Certificate," to guide people through the process.

Included with the free publication is a zoning permit application, a copy of the applicable zoning ordinance, a list of Frederick County permitting contacts, and a phone directory of land surveyors.

For a copy of the packet, contact the town office at 240-629-6300. — R. Fulton

### A Word from the Mayor

## Holiday spirit and generosity fills the town

As the holiday season approaches and the stores are filling up with Christmas decorations, with all of the anticipation, excitement and generosity, this is truly a wonderful time in Emmitsburg.

Emmitsburg is a town of great generosity and spirituality, and it is at this time of year that this quality is most evident; many of you go out of your way to be more kind than usual. You take the time to extend kindness and love to strangers, neighbors, and loved ones alike — perhaps by doing nothing more than opening a door or helping a neighbor with a task or chore such as raking the leaves or shoveling snow. Many of you spend time at the Provincial House with the elderly at St. Catherine's and The Villa, and of course many give to the

poor and help those in greatest need without hesitation. These deeds and many others may seem to go unnoticed at times, but it is what provides the Christmas and holiday spirit in abundance. You may not always hear thank you, but be confident, your acts of kindness are very much appreciated!

Many Emmitsburgians take the opportunity during the holiday season to volunteer their time to help make the swags that hang on the town's streetlights. If you wish to join us, we will gather at the town garage on Lincoln Avenue on Nov. 19 at 9 a.m. (the Saturday before Thanksgiving). One word of advice, if you are able to help, your assistance will be very welcome, but don't suggest the use of artificial decorations. Emmitsburg is known for its live

decorations and there is a lot of pride in every swag made. I have been told that the making of the live decorations has been an Emmitsburg tradition for more than 25 years.

On Monday, Dec. 5, the annual tree lighting will be held in front of the Community Center followed by a live manger scene in front of the Carriage House Inn. Whatever the venue, the season is really about friends, family and community.

I hope to reconnect with all of you over the season, and I hope to see you at the many events being held this year in Emmitsburg. I extend the warmest of wishes to you and your family for a happy and safe holiday season.

— Jim Hoover  
Mayor of Emmitsburg

# TOWN NEWS

## State's attorney sees no problem with parking tickets issued in name of fictitious police force

BY RICHARD D.L. FULTON  
News Editor

EMMITSBURG, Md. — Zoning enforcement officers continue to issue parking tickets in town in the name of the Emmitsburg Police Department, a force that hasn't existed since the 1980s, but the state's attorney sees no immediate problems with the issue.

"First, the tickets are not being issued by the 'Emmitsburg Police Dep't.' They are being issued, I assume, by ... a parking enforcement officer employed by the town. The fact that the ticket says 'Emmitsburg's Police' on it is not a problem as I see it," State's Attorney Scott L. Rolle told *The Dispatch*. He added, "The fact that the ticket refers to them that way is not legally relevant to the validity of the ticket."

Rolle also said he had no problem with the town accepting payment by checks made out to a non-existent police force. "If the

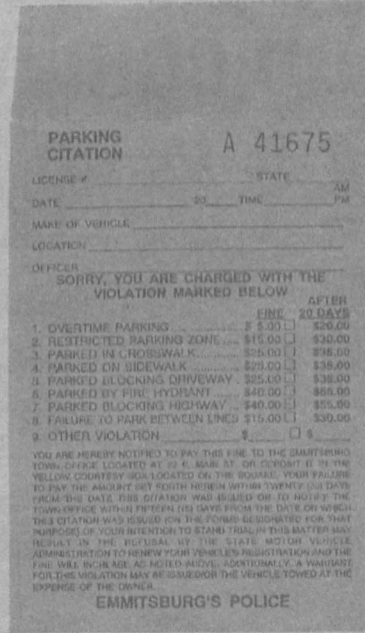
town is putting the funds in the town coffers, there's no problem there. They are legally empowered to do so."

"I would suggest to the residents who have received the tickets to either pay them by mail, or take it to court and fight it if they feel they are not guilty of the offense, or take it to court and challenge the validity of the ticket," he said.

Additionally, the address for the "Emmitsburg Police Department" on the tickets is given as 22 East Main Street, the address of the old town hall, currently the local office of the community deputies from the county Sheriff's Office.

The reporter was in that office recently when an area resident attempted to pay a parking ticket fee to one of the deputies, who declined to accept it, explaining that deputies are not authorized to accept ticket payments.

"It appears to me," Rolle stated, "that the town (likely) ordered tons



### 'Vintage' ticket envelope calls for payment to non-existent Emmitsburg Police Department. State's attorney says there is no problem.

of these things some years ago and they are still using the old ones, perhaps in a money-saving mode. I'd be wary of challenging them too strongly as the fines seem as outdated as the tickets."

Town staff, asked when the town might consider replacing the tickets, did not respond by press time.

## Ambulance

-Continued from page 1

*Dispatch*, "I understand it could happen as early as this week (week of Nov. 14)." Gardner said she was under the impression the move would be made "as soon as it could

reasonably be accomplished."

"I supported our staff making that decision. It was always the intent to have the crew at Vigilant on a temporary basis," Gardner said. She noted, "Some people in Emmitsburg will be happy with that, some people in Emmitsburg will be unhappy."

"I think our career staff would

do a good job no matter where they are housed. I think everything should proceed well," she added.

Walter Murray was not available for comment by press deadline.

*Editor's note:* See "County crew placed at Vigilant in 2004" in the Oct. 20, 2005 issue of *The Dispatch*.

## Town Meetings

- **Commissioners Meeting**  
Monthly, 1st & 3rd Monday  
7:30pm
- **Planning/Zoning Commission**  
Monthly, Last Monday  
7:30pm
- **Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance Workshop**  
November 20, 2005  
7:30pm
- **Street Commission**  
November 30, 2005  
7:30pm

Meetings held in the Emmitsburg Town Office, Emmitsburg Community Center, 300A S. Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg.

For more information call 240-629-6300 or visit [www.emmitsburgmd.gov](http://www.emmitsburgmd.gov).

## Bradford pears, nice-looking but tough on sidewalks

BY RICHARD D.L. FULTON  
News Editor

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The board of commissioners at their Nov. 7 meeting directed town staff to develop a town policy on how best to deal with sidewalks damaged by town-owned trees.

Growing roots of trees planted along the walkways years ago have cracked a number of the sidewalks and made them dangerous. Some of these damaged areas are within town rights of way.

Town staff had suggested that code regulations on sidewalk construction and repair would have to be changed to permit the town to pay for damages caused by the trees. Mayor James E. Hoover took exception to that claim and said the town should assume responsibility for damages caused by its own actions.

"I don't think we need to change the ordinance," Hoover said, "The trees planted by the town caused the damage."

Hoover further stated that the problematic trees should be removed and the sidewalks repaired, with no replacement tree provided unless future damage to sidewalks from roots and trunk

growth could be prevented.

"I do think we should put a policy in place ... that the town shall not replace that tree unless a tree box is installed," he said. Tree boxes are containment wells that help prevent the spread of the root system.

Discussion about repairing the tree-damaged sidewalks has been ongoing in the streets committee for some time.

Commissioner William B. O'Neil, Jr. stated, "When the trees were planted by the town, it was my belief ... the town should pay for the repair." He said one of his concerns beyond pedestrian safety is the liability issue if someone falls as a result of sidewalk damage caused by a town tree.

The town planted Bradford pear trees (*Pyrus calleryana* 'Bradford') to provide a scenic small town street appearance, but the pear trees "grow fast and are not very strong," Hoover said.

Staff was asked to develop a proposed policy to deal with the issue, looking into a selection of suitable tree replacements that does not include the Bradford pear. The commissioners will review the staff proposal at a later date.

### Emmitsburg Community Thanksgiving Service

The Emmitsburg Community Thanksgiving Service will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 23 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 100 North Seton Avenue. Rev. Wade Martin of Trinity United Methodist Church will deliver the message.

The service is an annual ecumenical event sponsored by the Council of Churches, and all are welcome.

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REGIONAL NEWS

# Mason-Dixon wraps up conditional use testimony

## Proposed homes reduced by 14 units

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP, Pa. — Mason-Dixon Country Club (MDCC) representatives concluded their testimony at the Nov. 10 conditional use hearing before the township board of supervisors.

Perhaps the most significant development among testimony given was the decrease of the number of homes in the proposed development and some golf course holes re-alignments to address a number of concerns.

The proposed development must secure conditional use approval for a 598-acre portion of the project as a golf community, and special exceptions applicable to the commercial portion of the overall development.

Dennis M. Couture, senior associate with Dewberry, the project's engineering and planning firm, testified on a number of changes proposed as a result of comments received during or between previous hearings.

These changes included:

- Holes #7 and #14 in the "north gold course" have been shifted to avoid disturbing mature forest growth;

- A tee-box was shifted to allow for better buffering and hole #16 was shifted to avoid disturbing mature forest growth in the "south golf course;"

- 12 homes were eliminated from "Neighborhood R" and the road shortened;

- A single family home was eliminated in "Neighborhood A" to accommodate a tree stand; and,

- A building lot was eliminated in "Neighborhood D" because of the possible presence of archaeological relics.

Other experts who have testified previously for the development recapped some of the changes, altering their previous presentations because of the reduction in housing units.

### Additional information given

Key points in testimony from individuals given on Nov. 10:

- An additional, lined res-

ervoir is proposed on the Maryland portion of the development, capable of holding about 15 million gallons of treated water as a reserve;

- Eminent domain would be a tool of last resort in acquiring land on which to build a ramp in conjunction with the proposed reconfiguration of the Old Emmitsburg Road-U.S. 15 interchange; and,

- There is no intent to draw water from Middle Creek as part of the water supply system.

The conditional use hearings began in September. The applicants concluded their testimony by the end

of the Nov. 10 meeting. The hearing was continued to Dec. 15, at 7 p.m., to allow parties to the hearing, including residents, to comment or address their concerns.

Special exception hearings before the township zoning hearing board will continue. Contact the township office for more information: 717-337-2926.

For additional information on the Mason-Dixon County Club proposal, see "Developers scraps plan for 120-foot water storage tower: MDCC exception and conditional use hearings continue" in the Oct. 20 issue of *The Dispatch*.

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## Pennsylvania election results - Nov. 8, 2005

<b>Carroll Valley Borough</b>		<b>Robert R. Stanley (R)</b> 83	
<b>Mayor</b>		<b>Dean Thomas (write-in)</b> 87	
<b>Ron Harris (R)</b>	331	<b>Alex M. Kessell (write-in)</b> 12	
		<b>Phyllis Gilbert (write-in)</b> 9	
<b>Tax Collector</b>			
<b>Nancy C. Neighbors (D)</b>	348	<b>Borough Council, 2-year</b>	
		<b>Lloyd W. Geer (R)</b> 101	
<b>Borough Council, 4-year</b>		<b>Robert J. Costello (R)</b> 103	
<b>John Van Volkenburgh (R)</b>	156	<b>Dean Thomas (write-in)</b> 57	
<b>Ted Talbert (R)</b>	234	<b>Alex M. Kessell (write-in)</b> 5	
<b>Daniel Patton (write-in)</b>	136	<b>Election Inspector</b>	
<b>Tammy Lytle (write-in)</b>	109	<b>Elizabeth A. Cornwell (D)</b> 57	
<b>Lynn Smallwood (write-in)</b>	97	<b>Margaret Orner (R)</b> 87	
<b>Mike Tome (write-in)</b>	89	<b>Election Judge</b>	
		<b>Lorraine Welcomer (D)</b> 130	
<b>Borough Council, 2-year</b>			
<b>Alan Olson (D)</b>	146	<b>Freedom Township</b>	
<b>Thomas K. Fitzsimmons (R)</b>	203	<b>Tax Collector</b>	
<b>Lynn Smallwood (G)</b>	43	<b>Brenda M. Ohler (R)</b>	211
<b>Election Judge</b>		<b>Supervisor</b>	
<b>Ray Rabenold (R)</b>	291	<b>Paul Kellett (D)</b>	128
		<b>Paul Sharrer (R)</b>	120
<b>Fairfield Borough</b>		<b>Election Judge</b>	
<b>Mayor</b>		<b>Mac Heebner (D)</b>	180
<b>Robert R. Stanley (D/R)</b>	114	<b>Hamiltonban Township</b>	
<b>Dwight Topper (write-in)</b>	9	<b>Tax Collector</b>	
<b>Tax Collector</b>		<b>Amy L. Harbaugh (D/R)</b>	473
<b>Ray C. Fitz, Jr. (R)</b>	137		
<b>Borough Council, 4-year</b>			
<b>Ronald O. Shanks, Sr. (R)</b>	90		

<b>Supervisor</b>	
<b>Coleen N. Reamer (D)</b>	304
<b>Bob Gordon (D/R)</b>	337
<b>Stephen W. Jacobs (R)</b>	255
<b>Charles H. Knepper, Jr. (L)</b>	52

<b>Constable</b>	
<b>Charles N. Knepper, Jr. (L)</b>	292

<b>Election Inspector</b>	
<b>Jamie L. Phillips (R)</b>	389

<b>Liberty Township</b>	
<b>Tax Collector</b>	
<b>Natalie A. Williams (R)</b>	235

<b>Supervisor, 6-year term</b>	
<b>Peter F. Foscatto (R)</b>	234

<b>Supervisor, 2 year term</b>	
<b>Andrew W. Snyder (R)</b>	119
<b>John Bostek (write-in)</b>	172

<b>Election Inspector</b>	
<b>Mildred D. Weatherly (R)</b>	209

<b>Election Judge</b>	
<b>Lois Stultz (R)</b>	232

Unofficial results as of 3 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 9, 2005, including write-in candidates and absentee ballots. Winners are in

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## REGIONAL NEWS

### Land Trust

-Continued from page 1

communities and the services needed to support them?

No army that ever fought within this corridor ever surrendered in it. Nor do the many activists, dedicated to preserving what they can, intend to give up.

#### A greenbelt for Emmitsburg

Local business leader, and president of the Catoctin Land Trust, Donald Briggs commented at a "Journey Through Hallowed Ground" press conference earlier this year at the Washington, D.C. National Press Club that Emmitsburg, with Mary's Mountain (aka College Mountain) to its back, is "Maryland's billboard" for those entering the area from Pennsylvania.

The Catoctin Land Trust was established as a non-profit organization in 2000 by Briggs, Thorpe Wood Executive Director Samuel T. Castleman III, and Raymond Herdon, with the Conservation Fund, a national organization based in Arlington, Virginia.

Present members include Briggs (president); Treasurer James Draper, Draper & McGinley, P.A., Secretary James Wilburn, Advanced Land and Sea, Inc.; Castleman; Geordie Newman, Chesapeake Wildlife Heritage; and Andrew Nichols, Teamlink, Inc.

From the start, the group's primary objective has been to try to preserve the greenery of the countryside surrounding Emmitsburg, and the views afforded of the mountains immediately to its west. "The trust was established to protect the views and watersheds around Emmitsburg and the Catoctin mountains," Briggs told

*The Dispatch.*

Part of the reasoning behind the greenbelt concept involves aesthetics. "We want to leave something for tomorrow. The vista is important. It is part of what we enjoy living around," Briggs stated.

However, much is based on hard science as well. Beyond scenic values, greenbelts surrounding populated areas protect water quality by filtering pollution contained in storm water runoff which could otherwise freely discharge directly into area rivers and streams.

Additionally, greenbelts add to the available natural habitats essential for many native plants and animals, according to the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

#### Getting the job done

During the organization's first four years, it has amassed an impressive amount of farmland with development restrictions and watershed lands nearly surrounding Emmitsburg, and has secured deed restrictions and preservation easements on more than 1,700 acres of land.

Various strategies and tactics have been used. "We're either putting easements on properties or doing deed restrictions that limit and define any development to a specific area on a given tract," Briggs stated.

Of course, little could be done without property owner cooperation. At least two-thirds of the total greenbelt properties to date were donated by property owners to the Conservation Fund, or were purchased outright, and then administered by Sustainable Conservation LLC, a special corporation established by the fund to serve in a stewardship capacity.

Other property easements and guarantees are obtained through making property owners aware of tax incentives. Briggs told *The Dispatch*, "We approach them with certain tax benefit potential which gives them an alternative to breaking up traditional farm tracts that have been in families for years."

As part of those settlements, property owners generally agree to reserve a portion of their land for open space, with any future development restricted in both degree and location on the tract. This is defined and spelled out in the deed, and the agreements are perpetual.

A major portion of the proposed greenbelt was purchased outright through fundraising, the 550-acre mountain tract (formerly the Ski Mountain Liberty property) acquired for about \$2 million.

"About 2000, I went to the Conservation Fund about the Ski Mountain Liberty property. Met with the owners, set up an acquisition price," Briggs said. He added that state GreenPrint money was obtained for the purchase and the town agreed to be the owner.

Maryland created the GreenPrint program in May 2001. Designed to protect lands critical to the state ecology, GreenPrint essentially expanded the pool of money available for state land acquisitions.

#### Beyond the greenbelt

The Catoctin Land Trust continues to work to obtain strategic properties to help preserve the vista and the watersheds.

"We're working on other adjoining properties (to expand the greenway)," Briggs said, adding that, "We're looking forward to having approximately 2,500 acres by the end of the year (dedicated to some form of preservation)."

Trust members are also considering developing trails within the greenbelt area, and connecting them both to the Catoctin Mountain Park, and to the Appalachian Trail.

Briggs sees other existing grounds not slated for development as part of the overall greenbelt pattern, including the Grotto grounds.

Preserving mountainside properties also continues. "The Mount has about 300 acres of mountainside preserved," Briggs noted. Along with the former Ski Liberty site and town watershed properties, about 1,600 acres of mountain land are already set aside for permanent preservation.

#### Example of success

The work of the Catoctin Land Trust reflects the degree of success dedicated local efforts can achieve.

There are many preservation entities out there - groups of local citizens, non-profit preservation associations or chapters of larger national groups. What Briggs and others would like to see now is connectivity between the various and sometimes independent groups.

For more information about the Catoctin Land Trust, contact Don Briggs at 301-447-3110 or Sam Castleman, 301-271-2823, or visit [www.catoctinlandtrust.org](http://www.catoctinlandtrust.org).

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- Dec. 9: Beef Wellington, Mashed Potatoes, Broccoli
- Dec. 14: Chicken ala King, Biscuits, Applesauce
- Dec. 15: Slippery Ham Potpie, Limas
- Dec. 16: Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans
- Dec. 21: Spicy Hot Smoked Sausage, Potato & Cheese Pierogis, Green Peppers & Onions
- Dec. 22: BBQ Beef on Kaiser Roll, FF, Coleslaw
- Dec. 23: Chicken Croquettes w/ Mushroom Sauce, Scalloped Potatoes, Peas & Carrots
- Dec. 28: Chicken Club Sandwich, FF
- Dec. 29: Beef Stroganoff over Noodles, Broccoli
- Dec. 30: Monte Cristo Sandwich, FF

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### Tracts in the Emmitsburg Greenbelt

More than 1,700 acres in or around Emmitsburg have some form of protected status, ranging from restricted development to prohibitions on development as a result of the efforts of the Catoctin Land Trust. The amount could reach 2,500 acres by the end of 2005.

Emmitsburg's greenbelt to date:

- Boyle Road tract (White Farm) - 167 acres
- North Seton access tract (Papp Farm) - 75 acres
- Irishtown Road tract (Sponseller Farm) - 40 acres
- Irishtown Road tract (Webb Farm) - 40 acres
- Mountain View Road tract (Warfield Farm) - 350 acres
- Annandale Road tract (Ski College Mountain) - about 550 acres
- Old Frederick Road tract (Localm) - 79 acres
- Dry Bridge Road tract (Crotz) - 9.7 acres
- Keysville Road tract (Marshall) - 30+ acres
- Creamery Road tract (Hobbs Farm) - 149+ acres
- Harney Road tract (Yasde) - 46 acres
- In town - 180 acres

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## REGIONAL NEWS

## Threats prompt letter from Thurmont principal

By RICHARD D.L. FULTON  
News Editor

THURMONT, Md. —  
Thurmont Middle School Principal Barbara G. Keiling sent letters to parents Nov. 15 about an ongoing investigation into threats made against two students.

Middle school staff have been investigating the source of several student-specific "threat" letters discovered a month ago. The Frederick County Sheriff's Office is conducting an investigation as well. School administrators believe that

a school staff member may have planted the notes.

"I'm writing to inform you about some disquieting activities. ... During the past month, our administration team has become aware of and has been investigating threatening notes targeting two ... students," Keiling wrote.

She stated that notes were found in different areas of the school, and that one had been found on the windshield of a vehicle parked off school grounds.

"Sadly, we have reason to suspect a staff member may be responsible,"

she wrote, adding, "That individual is not in school now, and, pending the outcome of our investigation, FCPS (Frederick County Public Schools) will take appropriate disciplinary action. ..."

Keiling said school administrators "have taken all appropriate measures to address this situation."

The FCPS investigation is related to possible internal disciplinary action. Any criminal action would result from the sheriff's office investigation.

Marita Loose, FCPS

communications director, confirmed that the vehicle involved belongs to the parents of one of the threatened students. However, she could only say there were "a few notes" involved in the overall incident, and could not give the actual number. She said FCPS intends to conclude its investigation the week of Nov. 21.

Loose added that counseling services would be provided to students if requested either by them or by parents as a result of the incidents, and said they should contact the school to request counseling.

Deputy Jennifer Bailey,

spokesperson for the Frederick County Sheriff's Office, told *The Dispatch* that the investigation is still open, and that "at this point we are not confirming who we are looking at."

Bailey said the threats were being handled by the sheriff's office criminal investigation section. "It could be a lengthy investigation," she added, noting that the board of education is "being very cooperative."

Neither the FCPS nor the sheriff's office would discuss the actual contents of the letters due to the on-going status of the investigation.

## County commissioners refine legislative package

By NICOLE M. BELANGER  
Contributing Writer

FREDERICK COUNTY, Md. —  
When the Frederick County Board of Commissioners meets with state delegates later this month, they will present one of the biggest legislative packages in recent years.

After a public hearing and much debate, commissioners have cut four of the items from the list of 21. But

because community organizations can add their own items, commissioners expect the final package to include several more things.

"It's a long, long process," said Commissioner Jan Gardner.

The package now includes several solid waste proposals, a divorce fee that will benefit the local battered women's shelter and a request to reenact the local management board that oversees some community organizations.

Many items on the list have been included in previous years, but have not been passed in the state legislature.

Some new items this time include a residency requirement for county commissioners, an impact tax and a real property tax freeze for low-income seniors.

Commissioner John "Lennie" Thompson is disappointed that his public ethics reform act failed to achieve the necessary votes, but said he

is not surprised.

"I still believe that the County Commissioners should not be able to accept money from those who have business pending before us," Thompson said.

Other proposals that failed included one to increase the salary for the state's attorney, legislation to control unlicensed vehicles, such as the motorized scooters and a mandatory beverage tax that would help pay for

landfill fees.

The next step in the process is a breakfast with local members of the state delegation on Nov. 21. The delegates will then hold a public hearing of their own on Saturday, Dec. 10 at 10 a.m. in Winchester Hall, which the commissioners also attend.

Local delegates then vote on the package in early January to decide what they will put forth to the entire general assembly.

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- Kids – Bring in a homemade ornament  
to help Decorate Santa's Tree and receive  
a token for a free meal

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## OBITUARIES

### Theodore Forrest, Jr.

Theodore Thomas Forrest Jr., 91, formerly of Sabillasville, died Nov. 1 at the Martinsburg Va. Nursing Facility, Martinsburg W. Va.

Born June 1, 1914, in Point of Rocks, he was a son of the late Theodore S. and Lola Mae Smith Forrest, Sr.

Surviving in addition to his wife, Evelyn L. (Green) Forrest, are one daughter, Faye L. Kuhn; two sons, Dennis R. Forrest and Dale R. Forrest; 10 grandchildren; 13 great grandchildren; one sister, Helen Green; and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held on Nov. 5 at the Robert E. Dailey & Son Funeral Homes, P.A., Thurmont, with the Reverend Harry Lambert and the Reverend William Parks of the Church of God of Prophecy officiating. Interment was in Resthaven Memorial Gardens, Frederick.

### Mrs. Anne Tokar

Anne Louise Tokar, 75, formerly of Emmitsburg, died

Oct. 21, 2005, in Frederick.

Born May 13, 1930 in Wythesville, Va., she was the daughter of the late L. B. and Gussie Ringg Lefler.

Mrs. Tokar was the last surviving member of her immediate family.

Funeral services were held at the Robert E. Dailey & Son Funeral Homes, Frederick, on Oct. 26, with the Reverend Lloyd Fuss officiating. Interment was at the Emmitsburg Memorial Cemetery, Emmitsburg.

### Mrs. Carmen Topper

Mrs. Carmen Elizabeth Austin Topper, 84, Emmitsburg, died Oct. 12, 2005, at Somerford Place, Frederick, Md.

Born July 21, 1921 in Keysville, Md., she was a daughter of the late Upton and Carrie Fox Austin.

Surviving are one daughter, Cheryl Paugh; and two sons, Nevin Topper and Kevin Topper; 11 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; one sister, Charlotte Crum; two brothers, Melvin Austin and William Austin; and one sister-in-law, Betty Austin.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Oct. 17 from St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Emmitsburg, with her pastor, the Rev. Vincent J. O'Malley, C.M., as the celebrant. Interment was in new St. Joseph's Cemetery, Emmitsburg.

### Sister Amelia Zurgable, DC

Sister Amelia Zurgable, DC, 96, died Oct. 27, 2005, at Villa St. Michael, Emmitsburg.

The former Mary Mildred Zurgable was born in

Emmitsburg to Thomas G. and Virginia Lingg Zurgable.

She graduated from St. Joseph's High School and St. Joseph College. She entered the Daughters of Charity in 1932, and had a long career in dietetics.

Surviving are several nieces and nephews and one sister-in-law, Irene Zurgable.

A Mass of Christian burial was offered Oct. 31 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Emmitsburg.

## Births

Tracey and Charlie Ruby, Rocky Ridge, a son, Oct. 24

Ashley Somin and Jeremy Smitely, Emmitsburg, a daughter, Oct. 28

Mr. and Mrs. John H. Wiles Jr., Emmitsburg, a daughter, Oct. 31

Nikki and Mike Brown, Sabillasville, a daughter, Oct. 31

Colleen and Donald Harmon Jr., Fairfield, Pa., a daughter, Nov. 3

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# Multi-generation turkey farm continues to produce gobblers

By RICHARD D.L. FULTON  
News Editor

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Thurmont. What began as a local turkey operation established on Elm Street decades ago expanded in a few years to include a 300-acre farm in Graceham. Today, the farm has been reduced to some 50 ac-res, but the wholesale-retail store at 30 Elm Street, Thurmont still thrives.

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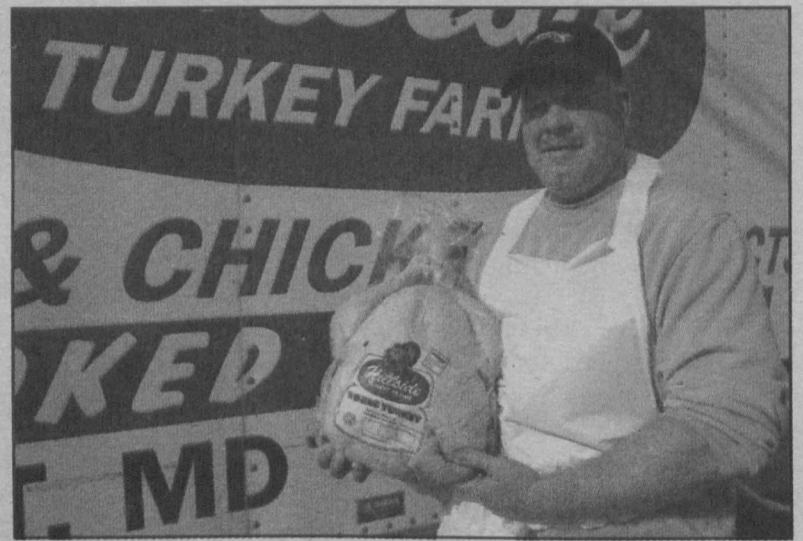
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### Fat turkeys offer low-fat diet

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—RICHARD D. L. FULTON / THE DISPATCH

Brian Smith (above), owner of Hillside Turkey Farm along with his wife, Judi, holds a packaged whole turkey, one of many turkey products offered by their Thurmont-based, store. While the family’s specialty remains turkeys, the store (below) offers a variety of poultry and other meats. Photo courtesy of John Kinnaird.



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The turkeys eat almost their entire worth. Smith said a turkey costs about 92 to 93 percent of its sale value in upkeep and feed, which includes the cost of keeping the birds comfortable. In the summer, they have to be kept cool. “In three days of 100 degree heat or more you’ll start losing them,” he stated, and in winter, “They don’t like cold either.”

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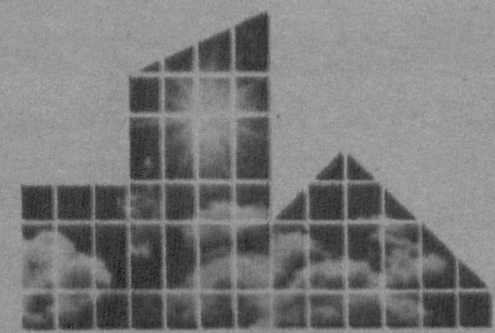
pounds.” No preservatives are used during processing, he stated. “It’s all natural.”

Smith said that turkey is much lower in fat than beef and pork, and that some products, such as turkey sausage, are as much as 98 percent fat free.

Turkey is offered at the store in about every form anyone has thought up including whole and smoked turkeys, turkey sausage, lunch meat, soups, pot pies, scrapple, meatloaf, barbeque, filets and steaks. The store also offers chicken, duck, geese, shrimp, oysters, pork and cheeses.

For more information on Hillside Turkey Farm, store hours and products, contact the Thurmont store at 301-271-2728.

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# “The Stained-Glass Windows of Emmitsburg”

*A faith-inspired project of the Council of Churches*

By SUSAN ALLEN  
Contributing Writer

The image on the poster is a typical Gothic-style church window made of colored glass, probably familiar to both Christian and non-Christian viewers. Look closely and you may realize that the elements are not from one window but from many, pieced together to form a coherent whole. These are “The Stained-Glass Windows of Emmitsburg,” brought together by the Emmitsburg Council of Churches (ECC). Most of the town’s churches are represented, as are windows from the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception at Mount St. Mary’s University and the Basilica of the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

The poster project began in January 2005. Audrey Glass of Incarnation United Church of Christ brought a poster of stained-glass windows, made by the Lewisburg, Pa. Arts Council, to the ECC bimonthly meeting. A church member had suggested that the council might be interested in a similar project. Rev. Jon Greenstone, Elias Evangelical Lutheran Church, recalls that his response was nearly instantaneous – “I know a woman who would love to do this.” He offered to contact her on behalf of the group.

Dorothy Blauvelt Ralson had already visited Elias Lutheran Church and St. Joseph Catholic Church to photograph windows, statuary, and gravestones. Ralson, a member of St. James Lutheran Church in Gettysburg, is “fascinated by religious art and iconography” of all faiths, and drawn by the

beauty of sacred places. Greenstone referred her to local clergy, university officials, and members of the Daughters of Charity.

Over the next months Ralson took hundreds of photographs, convinced that the project was her “service to God.” Her work was done free of charge.

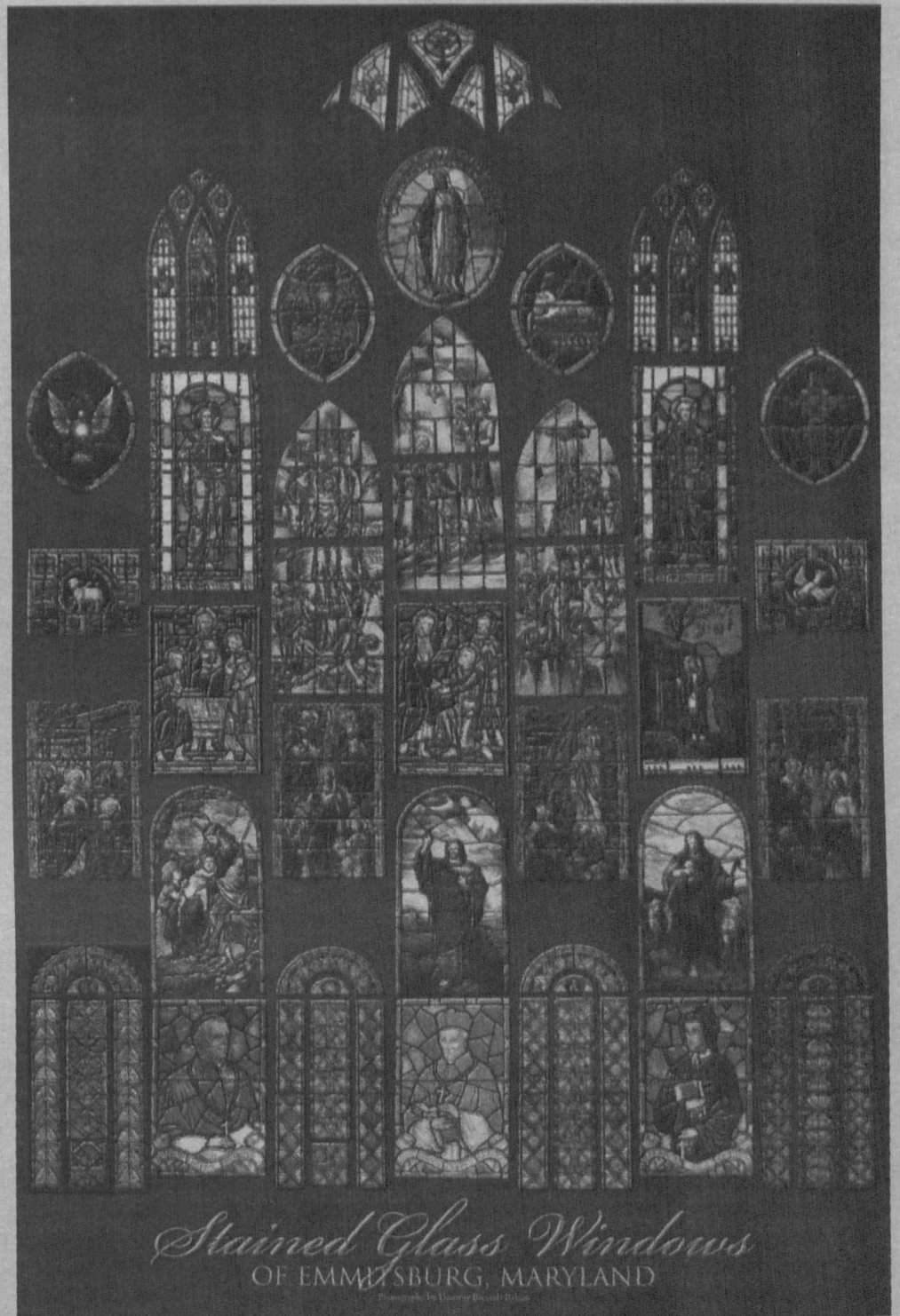
Putting the poster together from the photos proved to be beyond the technical abilities of poster committee members Greenstone, Glass, Rev. Bill Warehime (Tom’s Creek United Methodist Church) and Fr. Vincent O’Malley (St. Joseph’s Catholic Church).

Fawn O’Hara, a graphic artist who is director of publications in Mount St. Mary’s Office of Communications, was recruited to provide professional expertise to the process of digitizing and selecting the photos. She became, in Ralson’s words, “the architect” of the project, sequencing the photos into an overall window design. She too did not accept payment for what was “a very difficult” effort.

O’Hara also connected the poster committee with Whitmore Printing in Lancaster, Pa. for the final edition.

The finished 18x24-inch poster incorporates figures of the Holy Family with many traditional symbols. Greenstone feels that Christians can look at it and say “this is the faith,” while others can appreciate its artistry.

Funds raised by poster sales will be used by the council and its member churches in their various ministries. There are 1,000 posters available, at \$10 each, through church members and clergy. Information: 301-447-6239.



## A word from the pulpit Images of Faith

By PASTOR JON GREENSTONE  
Elias Evangelical Lutheran Church

A couple of weeks ago I had the privilege of leading an early morning worship service in the sanctuary of an Eastern Orthodox church while I was on a pastor’s retreat in western Pennsylvania. My experience of leading worship in that space was unique, in that the sanctuary featured myriads of brightly colored icons.

Icons are beautiful artistic renderings of Biblical characters, early Christian martyrs, and heroes of the faith. In Eastern Orthodoxy, icons are aids to the worship and devotional life of the church. They are not images to be worshiped, but rather, they act as representations and examples of lives lived in steadfast faith – models for us to emulate. An icon is like a lens through which we can enter into the life, faith or testimony of one of the early saints. The painted image is like the cover of a book; it is an invitation to open this life and read

about it more deeply and thereby experience what the person on the cover thought, believed, and the manner in which they lived out their actual life of faith in Jesus Christ.

When we are considering the lives of the early saints there can be an additional layer of faith involved, this is the idea that these

saints are not merely historical figures that recollect faith stories from the distant past, but that they are a mystical body of the church that dwells amongst us today, which we refer to in the Apostles Creed as “the communion of saints.” When we consider “the communion of saints,” we should keep in mind that the saints of the church are not limited to the ancients, but are inclusive of our more recently departed loved ones in Christ as well.

-See **Images** on page 14

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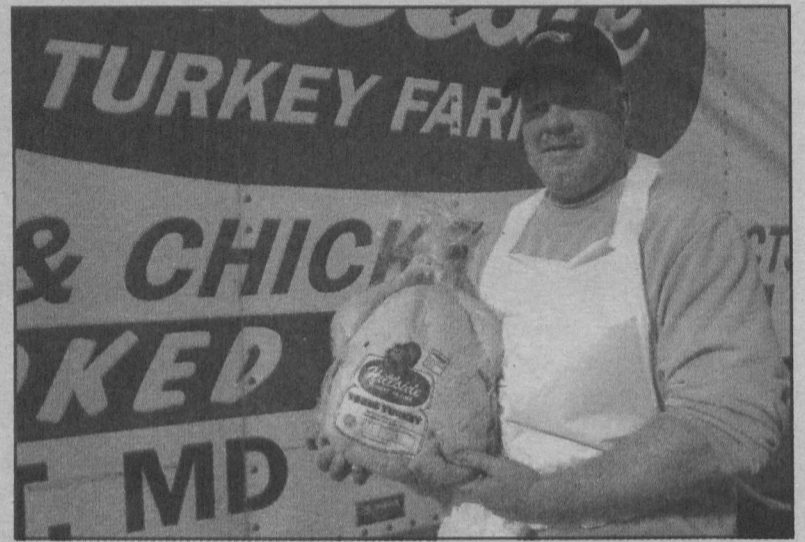
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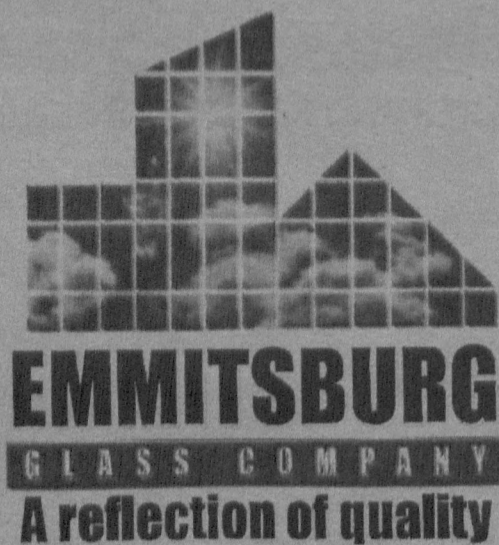
pounds.” No preservatives are used during processing, he stated. “It’s all natural.”

Smith said that turkey is much lower in fat than beef and pork, and that some products, such as turkey sausage, are as much as 98 percent fat free.

Turkey is offered at the store in about every form anyone has thought up including whole and smoked turkeys, turkey sausage, lunch meat, soups, pot pies, scrapple, meatloaf, barbecue, filets and steaks. The store also offers chicken, duck, geese, shrimp, oysters, pork and cheeses.

For more information on Hillside Turkey Farm, store hours and products, contact the Thurmont store at 301-271-2728.

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# “The Stained-Glass Windows of Emmitsburg”

*A faith-inspired project of the Council of Churches*

By SUSAN ALLEN  
Contributing Writer

The image on the poster is a typical Gothic-style church window made of colored glass, probably familiar to both Christian and non-Christian viewers. Look closely and you may realize that the elements are not from one window but from many, pieced together to form a coherent whole. These are “The Stained-Glass Windows of Emmitsburg,” brought together by the Emmitsburg Council of Churches (ECC). Most of the town’s churches are represented, as are windows from the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception at Mount St. Mary’s University and the Basilica of the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

The poster project began in January 2005. Audrey Glass of Incarnation United Church of Christ brought a poster of stained-glass windows, made by the Lewisburg, Pa. Arts Council, to the ECC bimonthly meeting. A church member had suggested that the council might be interested in a similar project. Rev. Jon Greenstone, Elias Evangelical Lutheran Church, recalls that his response was nearly instantaneous – “I know a woman who would love to do this.” He offered to contact her on behalf of the group.

Dorothy Blauvelt Ralson had already visited Elias Lutheran Church and St. Joseph Catholic Church to photograph windows, statuary, and gravestones. Ralson, a member of St. James Lutheran Church in Gettysburg, is “fascinated by religious art and iconography” of all faiths, and drawn by the

beauty of sacred places. Greenstone referred her to local clergy, university officials, and members of the Daughters of Charity.

Over the next months Ralson took hundreds of photographs, convinced that the project was her “service to God.” Her work was done free of charge.

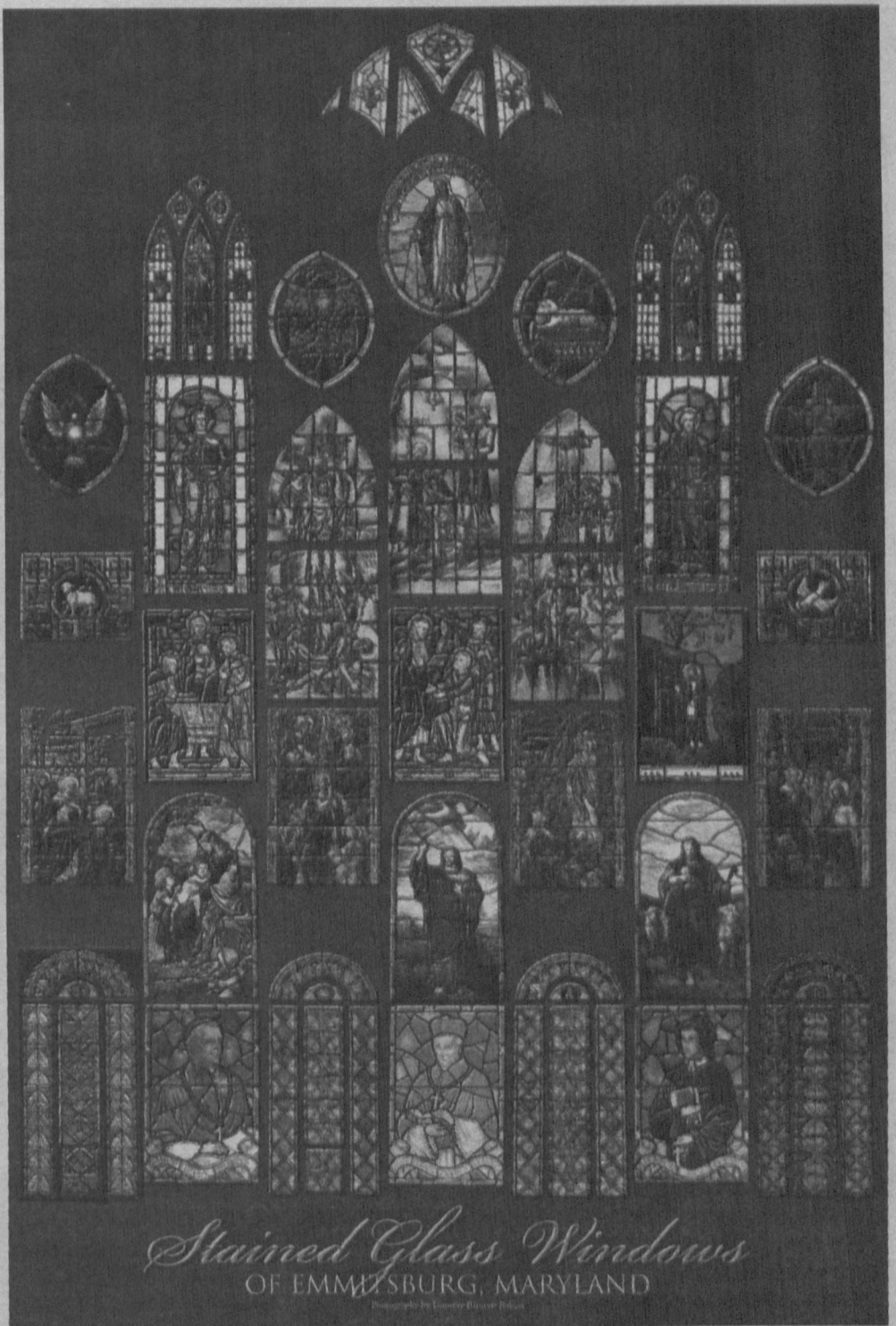
Putting the poster together from the photos proved to be beyond the technical abilities of poster committee members Greenstone, Glass, Rev. Bill Warehime (Tom’s Creek United Methodist Church) and Fr. Vincent O’Malley (St. Joseph’s Catholic Church.)

Fawn O’Hara, a graphic artist who is director of publications in Mount St. Mary’s Office of Communications, was recruited to provide professional expertise to the process of digitizing and selecting the photos. She became, in Ralson’s words, “the architect” of the project, sequencing the photos into an overall window design. She too did not accept payment for what was “a very difficult” effort.

O’Hara also connected the poster committee with Whitmore Printing in Lancaster, Pa. for the final edition.

The finished 18x24-inch poster incorporates figures of the Holy Family with many traditional symbols. Greenstone feels that Christians can look at it and say “this is the faith,” while others can appreciate its artistry.

Funds raised by poster sales will be used by the council and its member churches in their various ministries. There are 1,000 posters available, at \$10 each, through church members and clergy. Information: 301-447-6239.



## A word from the pulpit Images of Faith

By PASTOR JON GREENSTONE  
Elias Evangelical Lutheran Church

A couple of weeks ago I had the privilege of leading an early morning worship service in the sanctuary of an Eastern Orthodox church while I was on a pastor’s retreat in western Pennsylvania. My experience of leading worship in that space was unique, in that the sanctuary featured myriads of brightly colored icons.

Icons are beautiful artistic renderings of Biblical characters, early Christian martyrs, and heroes of the faith. In Eastern Orthodoxy, icons are aids to the worship and devotional life of the church. They are not images to be worshiped, but rather, they act as representations and examples of lives lived in steadfast faith – models for us to emulate. An icon is like a lens through which we can enter into the life, faith or testimony of one of the early saints. The painted image is like the cover of a book; it is an invitation to open this life and read

about it more deeply and thereby experience what the person on the cover thought, believed, and the manner in which they lived out their actual life of faith in Jesus Christ.

When we are considering the lives of the early saints there can be an additional layer of faith involved, this is the idea that these

saints are not merely historical figures that recollect faith stories from the distant past, but that they are a mystical body of the church that dwells amongst us today, which we refer to in the Apostles Creed as “the communion of saints.” When we consider “the communion of saints,” we should keep in mind that the saints of the church are not limited to the ancients, but are inclusive of our more recently departed loved ones in Christ as well.

-See Images on page 14

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# The Mayflower Compact



BY SUSAN  
PAIGE  
MORRISON

Governor of the Society of  
Mayflower Descendants in the State  
of Maryland

Nearly 400 years ago, on Sept. 6, 1620, a small ship named the Mayflower sailed from Plymouth, England with 102 passengers on board. Little did they know what an impact their 66-day voyage would ultimately have on land they settled.

For most in the United States, our Pilgrim Fathers are remembered for the first Thanksgiving, celebrated in 1621.

Perhaps not as well remembered, but of monumental significance, is the "Mayflower Compact."

The original destination of the Mayflower was "Northern Virginia," about where Manhattan is today. However, as the ship approached the desolate coast of Cape Cod, it was obvious that they were much farther north than intended — north of the limits of the existing Virginia Colony and beyond any organized law.

Differences of opinion had arisen during the voyage and continued as the group argued whether to stay at Cape Cod or to continue sailing south. These differences had to be reconciled if the colony was to survive. Some form of government was necessary.

That event led the Pilgrims to write the "Mayflower Compact." It was an agreement signed by each man on the Mayflower, indentured servants included, promising to obey the laws that would be drawn up and agreed upon by all male members. (Unfortunately, as a sign of the times, women were not permitted to participate in the governing process.)

As explained by Duane A. Cline in his study, "The Pilgrims and Plymouth Colony: 1620," the Compact expresses four major ideals:

1. The deep faith and belief in God and His divine guidance, which was held so dear to the Pilgrim Fathers;
2. Their deep loyalty to the native England and to the King — even though they had been persecuted and exiled by his actions;
3. Their mutual regard for one another as equals in the sight of God; and
4. Their intent to establish just and equal laws upon which would be built a truly democratic form of government—the first in recorded

history.

Cline said, "Without precedent, they made all men equal before the law. Here is the birth of popular constitutional liberty, foreshadowing our Declaration of Independence, the Bill of Rights and the U.S. Constitution."

What a gift the Pilgrim Fathers gave us by planting the seeds of the American democratic form of government more than a century before the Declaration of Independence was written.

As we prepare to enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday, we hope the spirit of the Pilgrims will be in your thoughts. In addition, the more than 300 members of the Maryland Mayflower Society, each a direct descendant of at least one of those 41 men who signed the Compact, urge you to remember that the Pilgrims were the first to realize that power stems not from a king or dictator, but from the people themselves. Government by the consent of the people is the great idea we, as a nation, inherited from the Pilgrim Fathers.

*Editor's Note: The General Society of the Mayflower was founded in 1897. The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Maryland was chartered March 5, 1938. To learn more about the Mayflower Compact, visit the Society's Web site: [www.Mayflower.org](http://www.Mayflower.org) or [members.aol.com/MdMayflower2001/](http://members.aol.com/MdMayflower2001/).*

## Accidental disease could wipe out turkey farm but purposeful threats also a concern

THURMONT, Md. — Today, there is more to running a turkey farm than raising and selling the birds. Health and security issues have forced farmers to restrict who may visit a farm beyond a handful of authorized employees.

Concerns about an array of contagious influenzas, avian flu being just one, some of which can be carried by humans either within their bodies on clothes or belongings, have forced farms to adopt strict visiting guidelines.

Brian Smith, who co-owns the Thurmont-based Hillside Turkey Farm with his wife, Judy, told *The Dispatch*, "There's all kinds of things (that could threaten the health of the farm's turkeys) — all kinds of influenza."

School groups can no longer tour, and as Judy Smith said, "We can't let people on the farm. You could wipe out our whole farm with something on your shoes."

People who raise birds or have birds as pets could carry or transport diseases without even knowing it. "Wild fowl can all carry different diseases," Smith stated.

The arsenal of medications available for preventative

purposes or disease treatment has also been reduced over the years. "There's nothing we can give turkeys anymore as far as antibiotics due to health regulations," he said.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) provides most of the advice regarding health issues and determines what turkey farmers like the Smiths can or can't do to protect their birds.

While concerns are primarily related to people accidentally carrying in natural diseases, terrorist-related threats are not out of the question. "Someone could do it on purpose (spread a disease as a means of sabotaging the food supply)," Judy Smith said.

According to the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), "Agricultural terrorism would be difficult to detect due to similarities between intentional and natural outbreaks of food-borne illnesses and deaths."

For more information on bioterrorism, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Program Web site, <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/>.

## Images

-Continued from page 13

And so, the spiritual discipline of contemplating the lives of those uncounted millions who have gone before us can become a powerful tool for building up our faith. We are never alone in our trials; but we have this great cloud of witnesses who have tread the same paths of life that we face and have overcome all of life's trials by the one in whom they placed their trust, Christ the Lord.

Here in our own churches of Emmitsburg we also have opportunities to experience a deeper level of worship because we have beautiful stained glass windows that depict the life of Jesus, the Holy Family, Mary the mother of our Lord, the disciples, and numerous signs and symbols of the church throughout the ages.

Each of our church's windows can allow an opening for us to explore some aspect of the Christian faith. Even a non-religious person can be open to appreciate the stories depicted in our stained glass windows, for they have much to say about our local culture, history and the values that shaped the fabric of the community. Furthermore, we

can enter into a deeper appreciation of the devout lives of our local ancestors who made sacrifices in terms of their giving—even in hard times.

A spirit of generosity and devotion to God made it possible for artisans to be requisitioned and come to Emmitsburg to use their gifts in shaping lead and molding beautiful colored shades of glass or painting faith-filled images — all given to the glory of God.

The windows of our churches provide a medium through which we might learn more about God's love and how God has come to us in the person of his Son. From the seventeenth chapter of John's gospel we gain comfort in knowing that Jesus remains with us through all of time, even as he prays before his crucifixion: "And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. ... Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth" (John 17:11,17).

In as much as a picture can paint a thousand words, so our church windows continue to speak to us and we are thankful to those saints who made such language possible. The peace of God be yours always.

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# Emmitsburg & Thurmont Charitable Resources

## Catoctin Pregnancy Center - 301-447-3391

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The Center's goal is to assist women in a crisis pregnancy to choose life for their child in an atmosphere of privacy and love. Services available: counseling, mothers and young children can obtain free pregnancy tests, free diapers, formula, and clothes.

Referrals to social services available as needed. The center seeks to give women all the information they need to make an informed decision regarding their pregnancy.

Hours: Tuesday - 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday - noon to 2 p.m. Friday - 1 to 3 p.m.

## Community Agency School Services (CASS) - 240-256-8081

CASS is an organization supported by the Frederick County Public Schools and designed to provide integrated, coordinated, family focused management services to families of children who are in risky situations.

A primary goal of CASS is to emphasize prevention and early intervention in an effort to break the cycle of poverty that leads to academic failure, chronic health problems, homelessness, teenage pregnancy and unemployment.

## The Emmitsburg Family Center 303 West Lincoln Avenue

### Includes:

- **The Central Maryland Catholic Charities (CCMC)** - 301-447-3611

Counseling, emergency services, and education are provided to all people, regardless of religion, race, income, or residence. Crisis intervention, assistance in finding material resources, social concerns, consultation/training for other professional, advocacy, and public education are among the services provided. Counseling fees are based on a sliding scale beginning at \$1 per session.

- **The Infants and Toddlers Program** - 301-769-1611

Meets on Thursdays from 1-4 p.m. Serves children from birth to three years old who are developmentally delayed.

- **Up-County Family Center** - 301-447-2810

Mission is to serve parents with children from birth to three years old and mothers-to-be. Developmentally appropriate childcare is available for children while their parents are attending the center. Service coordinators provide outreach. The center provides free transportation for participants within a 10-mile radius.

### Services include:

- \* Formal parenting education classes

- \* Daily living skills seminars

Screening assessments of babies and toddlers by a child development specialist with appropriate follow-up referrals for identified problems

- \* On-site ABE/GED program

Home teaching

- \* Flexible High School for pregnant or parenting teens

- \* Women's support groups

- \* Employable classes, computer literacy classes and jobs club

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Mission of Mercy, a nonsectarian community-based organization, provides free medical and dental care and prescription drugs to anyone who is uninsured or underinsured in Maryland and Pennsylvania. Patients can make their own appointments to see a medical doctor.

Schedule and directions available at [www.amiissionofmercy.org](http://www.amiissionofmercy.org).

### Local clinics:

**Thurmont** - 301-631-2673 Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, 103 North Church Street

**Taneytown** - 410-857-2999 St. Joseph Catholic Church, 44 Frederick Street

**Gettysburg** - 717-337-6469 Gettysburg College, Musselman Stadium, West Lincoln Avenue extended

**Senior Citizens** - 240-629-6350 Emmitsburg Community Center on South Seton Avenue, directly behind the Ambulance Building. Linda Umbel, program coordinator

The center is open five days a week from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and offers a variety of activities for anyone 60 years and older. A noonday meal is offered each day for a donation. (suggested \$3 at present) Reservations for a meal must be made 24 hours in advance. Transportation and shut-in meals are available. A monthly meeting is held on the third Tuesday with speakers or other activities. Bingo and card parties are held several afternoons each

month. There is a bowling group on Mondays and exercise groups with certified trainers on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

**Senior Citizens** - 301-271-7911 Thurmont Senior Center, 806 East Main Street. Anna Rollins, program coordinator

The center is open five days a week from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and offers a variety of activities for anyone 60 years and older. A noonday meal is offered each day for a donation. (suggested \$3 at present) Lunch reservations must be made 24 hours in advance. Transportation and shut-in meals are available. A monthly meeting is held on the third Wednesday with speakers or other activities. Bingo and card parties are held several afternoons each month. There is an exercise group on Tuesdays and Thursdays, weekly shopping trips and other activities.

## Seton Center Outreach Program 301-447-6102

16840 South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg

The program offers family support and emergency assistance to families in northern Frederick County and Fairfield areas, while promoting family life and self-esteem. Depending on family needs, resources are available for rent, electricity, heating, food vouchers, gasoline vouchers and prescriptions.

The outreach program also distributes FEMA funds for utilities, rent or mortgages.

Hours: 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

## Thurmont Clothes Closet - 301-271-4511

Thurmont United Methodist Church, 13880 Long Road.

Good used clothing free for all ages. For emergency clothing or household needs, call Joan at 301-271-4523. Donations of good used clothing, shoes, and bedding are accepted at the church. No toys or household items. For furniture donations call Joan.

Hours: First Monday of every month at 6 p.m. Third Tuesday of every month at 10 a.m.

## Religious Coalition for Emergency Human Needs - 301-631-2670

22 South Market St. Suite 6D Frederick, MD 21701. Rev. Brian Scott, Executive Director.

Office hours: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

The Religious Coalition for Emergency Human Needs is an ecumenical organization comprised of people of faith committed to making their faith real through acts of compassion that manifest God's caring presence.

The Coalition provides increasing range of short-term emergency assistance to Frederick County families and individuals. They also provide:

- Referrals to the SHARE supplementary food program.
- Individuals and families who need help in paying a security deposit and paying Energy bills may receive assistance.
- Emergency cold weather shelter is available for men and women during the winter months
- **Food bank locations:** Brunswick, Emmitsburg, Frederick, Jefferson, Middletown, Thurmont, Walkersville. Emergency Shelter Location - Frederick
- **Medical assistance** - assistance in obtaining prescription medications
- **Assistance in living** -

financial counseling for those who find money management difficult

- **Information and referral for** - Anyone facing an emergency: contact the Client Services office. Professionals seeking information on how to assist those in need

Clothing and toiletries

Cooperative and affiliate relationships are maintained with local, county, and state organizations.

If you would like to volunteer in the food banks, emergency shelter, or wish to support the ministry of the Coalition financially, please call 301-631-2670. It is the Food Bank policy to serve residents in their community.

**Emmitsburg Food Bank** - Free food and support for Emmitsburg residents. 502 East Main Street, Emmitsburg. For more information contact the Frederick office, 301-631-2670. Hours of operation: Monday evenings 7 to 8 p.m., Wednesday afternoon 1 to 3 p.m.

**Thurmont Food Bank** - Free food and support for Thurmont residents. St. Johns Lutheran Church - North Church St. (next to the firehouse). To make donations or deliveries, call 301-271-2802. Hours of operation: Tuesday evenings 5-7:30 p.m., Fridays 3:30-5 p.m.

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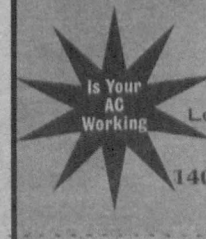
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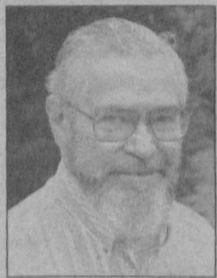
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*The (retired) Ecologist*

# Entropy Strikes Again... or, why you shouldn't start an herb garden after you're 60



BY BILL  
MEREDITH

*Dispatch  
Columnist*

One of the most fundamental laws of science states that energy tends to flow from more concentrated to less concentrated forms. This may sound abstract, but in fact it has practical applications. The energy required to build and maintain a well-ordered structure or system represents a concentrated form; and as we all know, such structures or systems tend to wear out and break down. As things break down, the energy that went into building them is released in a form that physicists call entropy. In simple terms, you must spend a lot of energy working to create something orderly, like a garden, but the minute you stop working at it, it goes to pot. Entropy accumulates, and chaos results. My post-retirement life is an example.

About ten years ago my wife decided she wanted an herb garden. I'm not sure why, for she uses only a few kinds of herbs in cooking; perhaps it was because she saw a picture of one in a magazine. Whatever the reason, the result was that a strip of lawn was plowed and she went shopping for herbs. A selection of them appeared from various nurseries, and they were set out in neatly arranged clusters and rows. Nature, in the form of ecological succession, took over at that point. Many herbs are only a few generations removed from their ancestral weeds, and they refused to stay where they were planted, spreading invasively and crowding out their less aggressive neighbors. Simultaneously, real weeds moved in, some of which looked remarkably like their domesticated relatives. The ultimate humiliation was that the little plastic tags that identified the herbs had a distressing tendency to get lost or disintegrate from exposure to sunlight. So even before the first season was over, a substantial amount of entropy had accumulated in our corner of the universe.

The full extent of the chaos didn't dawn on me until the following spring when plowing time arrived. I had assumed the herb garden would be plowed and planted anew, like the regular garden; but my wife informed me that the herbs were perennials and I would have to weed and spade around them. Unfortunately, I was not intellectually equipped to do this; I could recognize most of the weeds, and even recalled the Latin names of many of them, but I did not know one herb from another. My wife didn't know most of the herbs either, but it didn't seem to bother her as much; she looked at it as another opportunity to go shopping. So she went and bought a book on herbs, and also brought home a new array of specimens to be planted.

Each in our own way, we began putting more energy into the system. I started reading the book, trying to learn how to recognize herbs so I could impose some order on the arrangement of the garden. While I did this, my wife experienced an energy surge and planted the new herbs wherever

she could find an empty space; thus obliterating all remaining traces of the original orderly plan. In the long run, this did less damage than you might think, for the book wasn't much help. I was discovering that at age 65 my brain was not as receptive to new facts and details as it had been at 20; the names I learned one day were forgotten 24 hours later. And a few days later, when cleaning the house my wife picked up the book from where I had left it and put it on a shelf somewhere among her collection of an estimated 3,000 cookbooks. I've been looking for it without success for the past nine years ... I know it's there somewhere, because we never throw anything away.

Over the years, garlic, leeks and chives became hopelessly intermingled with wild onions, while mint, fennel and tansy crowded out everything else. Here and there, peering timidly out from under the weeds were small, isolated patches of stunted green things that a friend suggested might be thyme, chamomile and sage. The only thing that was holding

its own was horseradish, which was valiantly surviving among a mix of curly dock and cocklebur. Finally, this fall my wife admitted that things were out of hand, and I got permission to dig the entire garden up. My own energy level has diminished considerably; the garden area is only about four feet wide and 30 feet long, but it took three days to spade it up, sort out and transplant the surviving perennials, and apply a layer of mulch.

The garden looks pretty good now. The unadorned strip of mulched soil running through the lawn has an orderly simplicity about it which I find satisfying. I know the appearance of order won't last; by next May the weeds will come back, and my wife will again bring in an assortment of new herbs to be strewn at random through the cultivated space. But I look forward to seeing whether any of the anonymous herbs I salvaged will come up next spring; perhaps by that time I will find the herb book and be able to figure out what they are. Chaos still looms, but hope springs eternal.

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## Jaci Drass—MERITORIOUS NEW TEACHER CANDIDATE



Congratulations to Jaci Drass (Class of 2005!) She has been recognized as a Meritorious New Teacher Candidate by the Mid-Atlantic Regional Teachers Project. This program awards exceptional new teachers with recognition and regional reciprocity in the states of Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, and

Washington, D.C. Jaci was one of 192 new teachers that received recognition during the first year of this program.

Currently, Jaci teaches second grade at Tuscarora Elementary School in Frederick County. Jaci finds her daily experiences as a new teacher to be extremely rewarding. She says, "I am having the absolute best time of my life! I have a student who came to me speaking only French. I can't tell you how hard and rewarding it has been all at the same time to work with him. Everyday is a small celebration for our entire class as we watch him learn to count and read. One day after a week of trying to learn to count money, it finally clicked. He went running from desk to desk repeating "I've got it!" in English! It was one of those moments, like so many others everyday, when I am reminded of why I decided to be a teacher."

For more information on the Meritorious New Teacher Candidate program, visit the Mid-Atlantic Regional Teachers Project website at [www.martp.org](http://www.martp.org).

## MOUNT RECOGNIZES PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS

Upon his arrival in 2003, President Thomas H. Powell established the Presidential Scholarship Award. The award is given annually to members of the faculty and staff who excel in their particular area—from teaching to program management. A \$750 stipend accompanies the award, to be used for the recipient's own personal development.

The recipients of the 2005 Presidential Scholarship are Brian Ecker, director of accounting and business operations; Paulett McIntosh, director of intercultural development; Renee Miller, administrative assistant in seminary development; Fr. John D. Mindling, seminary academic dean and Elaini Tsoukatos, professor of foreign languages and literatures.

President Powell had fond words for each of the five scholars, explaining that the Mount would simply "collapse" without Ecker's financial expertise while McIntosh teaches the community to "think deeply about cultural diversity." He honored Miller for her



Left to Right: Dan Soller, President Thomas H. Powell, Paulett McIntosh, Christopher Blake, Elaini Tsoukatos, Brian Ecker, Msgr. Steven Rohlf, Mike Malewicz, Renee Miller, Fr. John Mindling, and Frank DeLuca

professionalism and talent and recognized both Fr. Mindling and Tsoukatos for their scholarship and attention to students.

In addition to receiving the stipend, their names will be engraved on a plaque outside of the President's Office.

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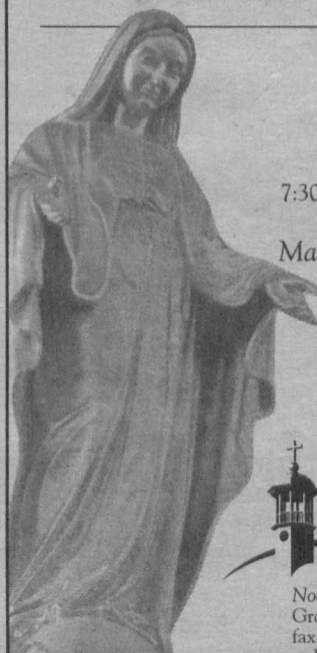
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"The Grotto as Refuge of God's Medicine"

**FRIDAY NOVEMBER 18**

6:30 p.m.—Holy Hour  
 7:30 p.m.—Mass and Healing Service

*Married Couples Prayer Services*

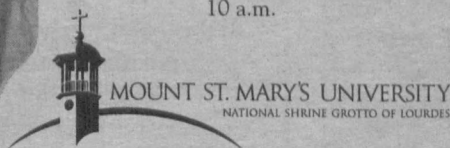
**SATURDAY NOVEMBER 19**

7:30 p.m.

*Thanksgiving Day Mass*

**THURSDAY NOVEMBER 24**

10 a.m.



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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Stay up-to-date with Mount events by visiting [www.msmary.edu](http://www.msmary.edu), click on "upcoming events" in the upper right corner. For athletic schedules, stats and player interviews, visit [www.mountathletics.com](http://www.mountathletics.com)

### "Our Town"

Nov. 17, 8 p.m.; Nov 18, 8 p.m.; Nov 19, 2 p.m.

Upper Flynn Hall

Tickets are \$5. For more information call 301-447-5308

### Late Night Players

Friday, November 18

Purcell Hall, 9 p.m.

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### "Marx in Soho"

Wednesday, November 30

Purcell Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Marx presents a dynamic, heartfelt, humorous examination of world history and American politics in Howard Zinn's brilliant, engaging play Marx in Soho starring Bob Weick as Karl Marx.

### Mount Chorale Advent Concert

Sunday, December 4

Chapel of the Immaculate Conception, 3 p.m.

### Wind Ensemble/Jazz Concert

Sunday, December 11

Knott Auditorium, 3 p.m.

## ADMISSIONS EVENTS

### Discovery Day

December 5

Call 301-447-5214 for more information.

## ATHLETICS

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

BINGHAMTON (Liberty Mt. Night)

Mon., Nov. 21, 7 p.m.

LOYOLA (The Catholic Clash)

Sat., Dec. 3, 2 p.m.

FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON

Sat., Dec. 10, 2 p.m.

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

NAVY

Tue., Nov. 29, 7 p.m.

FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON

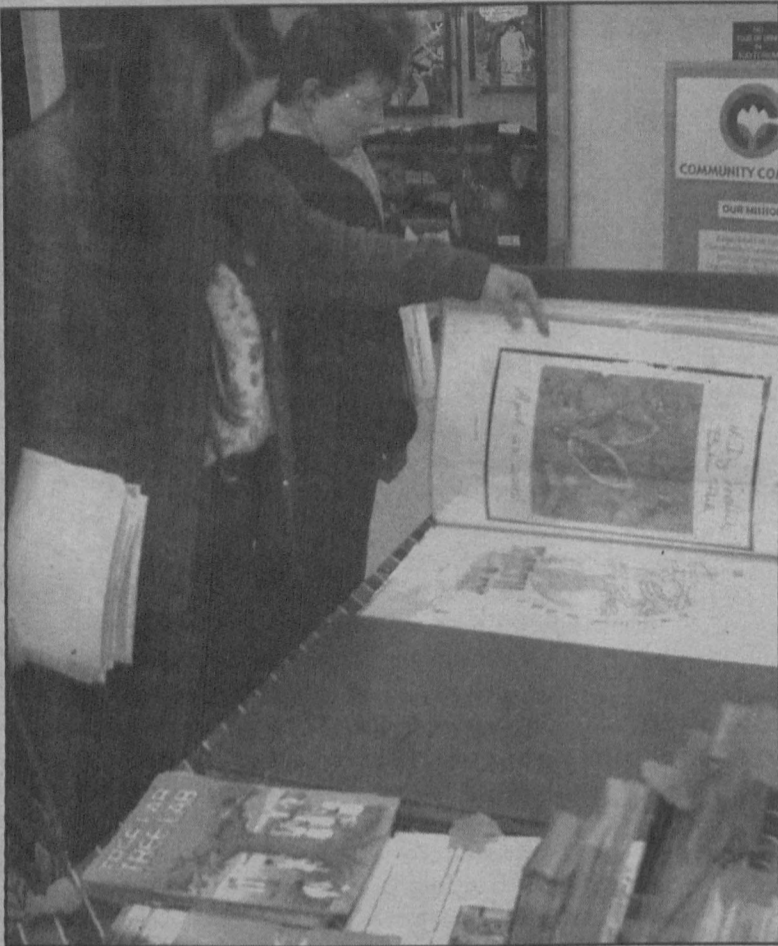
Sat., Dec. 10, 7 p.m.

PRINCETON

Wed., Dec. 28, 7 p.m.

EDUCATION

# Sabillasville Elementary School dedicates rain gardens



-DICK BLOOM / THE DISPATCH

Teachers, principals, parents and representatives from sponsors, Community Commons, Frederick County Public Schools and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service look over the Schoolyard Habitat projects on display during the Nov. 3 reception at Catoclin High School.



Front row seated L to R: Michael Clise, Travis Conner, Breanne Mackley-Kelly, Cordell Miller, Aaron Scalese. Second row seated L to R: Bailey Leach, Aaron Bartoe, Victoria Brown, Johnny Kempisty, Sterling Fogle, Leeah Hawes, Morgan Toms, Sam Bittner, Ethan McClure. Back row standing L to R: Joshua Wilber, Richard Coates, Carley Weagley, Dakota Harris, LaToine Thompson, Daniel Wolfe, Jacob Elsbree, Christina Miller, Jeffrey Elsbree, Madison Fraley, (next student's face obscured at parents' request), Randi Willard.

## Schoolyard Habitat schools recognized

Catoclin High School (CHS), along with Emmitsburg, Sabillasville, and Thurmont elementary and Thurmont Middle School were among the nine Frederick County schools recognized for their Schoolyard Habitat projects at a reception at CHS on Nov. 3.

The Chesapeake Bay Field Office of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) developed and promotes the Schoolyard Habitats Program. Coordinated by the school system, the Community Commons, and USFWS, the pilot projects are designed to encourage students to create natural habitats and have meaningful stream or bay experiences.

CHS students conducted stream analysis and created a nature trail and butterfly garden for the school and the community. Emmitsburg elementary students created an outdoor school area, including a wildflower meadow and picnic tables. Sabillasville students planted a rain garden, which will allow water to run off sidewalks and be absorbed by growing plants. Thurmont Middle School students planted 131 trees to help decrease runoff and erosion and will add a native plant garden to the front of the school. Thurmont elementary students planted five native trees in this past spring, and will plant a wildflower meadow in spring 2006.

## Students show off their rain garden plots

Students in Brenda Smith's third-grade class show off their handiwork in one of the rain garden plots at Sabillasville Elementary School. Coordinated by Smith, this project was part of the county's Schoolyard Habitat Program.

BY SUSAN ALLEN  
Contributing Writer

Students and staff at Sabillasville Elementary School (SES) gathered at the flagpole on Nov. 8 to dedicate their new rain gardens. The project, one of Frederick County's schoolyard habitats, enlisted every student in planting spicebush, Monarda ("bee balm"), and black-eyed Susan in

two plots at the school entrance. Principal Karen Locke emphasized that the selected plants absorb a lot of water and will help prevent runoff from rainwater and snowmelt.

Also attending the dedication were Mary Rae Cantwell, Ray Toms, and Shirley Ford of the Northwest Frederick County Civic Association (NFCCA), and April Wells, Schoolyard Habitat Teacher

Specialist. The NFCCA donated funds for the rain gardens. They have also planted numerous trees to reforest the slope at the back of SES. Four maple and pagoda dogwood trees donated by member Nancy Brandenburg were planted at the school on Oct. 28. Wells encouraged the children to be patient and wait for their plants to grow and flower next spring.

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## HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMS

### Catoctin High drama department to present children's holiday show

BY SUSAN ALLEN  
Contributing Writer

Just in time for the Christmas season, Catoctin High School's drama department is opening a "brand new venture - something for the little guys" with its production of "Toy School."

This is the school's first play specifically aimed for children. Director Karen Stitely hopes the show will fill a void in local holiday

activities for area families.

The premise of the hour-long play is that all toys must pass a training course before they are assigned to children and allowed to ride with Santa Claus on Christmas Eve. If they fail to improve their behavior, they are sent to the "toy dump" and never matched with a child. The 17-member cast portrays an assortment of toys from a doll with "diva" attitude to puzzle pieces that fight each other all the time. Stitely says that the toy characters learn valuable

lessons about conquering fears, cooperation, and building on what they're good at, as they attempt to graduate from "Toy School." The show includes familiar toys and games and comic action that will suit a young audience.

Three performances of "Toy School" are scheduled: Friday, Dec. 2 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 3 at 2 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 4 at 2 p.m. General admission is \$5. Information: 240-236-8141.

### Holiday gift drive for Gulf Coast foster children

The National Foster Parent Association (NFPA) has launched a holiday gift drive for the more than 8,000 foster children affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Needed are new, unwrapped toys for children ages 2 to 17. NFPA recommends books for all ages, toddler toys, youth toys, Walkman

CD players, electronics, puzzles, games, dolls, gift certificates, and stocking stuffers. Gift donations can be sent to distribution points in Mississippi or Louisiana. Addresses are available on the NFPA Web site, [www.nfpainc.org](http://www.nfpainc.org).

Gift registries for foster children have been set up by

Amazon.com and Target. To view them, visit [www.amazon.com/gp/registry/JPLXNMVTOSM3](http://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/JPLXNMVTOSM3) or [www.target.com](http://www.target.com) (click on "gift registries", complete the baby registry section with NFPA (first name) and Christmas (last name).

The National Foster Parent Association is based in Gig Harbor, Wash, and works to support foster parents and serve as a strong voice on behalf of all children. There are currently more than 500,000 children in the foster care system in this country.

### Salvation Army Christmas Assistance

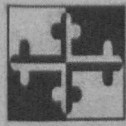
The Salvation Army will accept applications through Nov. 30 for families needing assistance with children's clothing and gifts for Christmas.

Please bring the following information: proof of all income and bills in the household; picture ID or birth certificate; Social Security card for all adults in the house; birth certificate or medical card

with date of birth for each child; Social Security card for each child; clothing and shoe size for each child.

Visit The Salvation Army, 223 West Fifth Street, Frederick. 301-662-3311. Nov 28-30 from 9 a.m. to noon and 6-8 p.m.

Toys and clothing will be provided for children birth through 12 years old only.



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(Community Center)

6:30pm - FEMA/ Fire Academy Open House, Building B, Student Recreation Center  
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# Arts & Entertainment

## State prosecutor takes stage in 'A Christmas Story'



-RAYMOND BUCHHEISTER / THE DISPATCH

In a scene from "A Christmas Story," Ralphie, played by Jacob Brittingham, models his new bunny suit for (from L to R) his mother, played by Jana Kigin; the "old man," played by Scott Rolle; and the narrator, (Ralphie as an adult) played by Charlie Perkins. The play, based on the novel by Jean Shepherd, presented by Fredericktown Players, Inc. and Hobbytown USA, will run Dec. 8 through 11 at Tuscarora High School, Frederick.

BY MARY ELLEN MITCHELL  
Contributing Writer

Is it too early for Christmas just yet? Is your calendar filling up with holiday plans? Well, there is one more event you'll want to make room for in your social schedule.

Frederick County's very own State's Attorney, Scott Rolle, is playing one of the leading roles in the Fredericktowne Players' performances of "A Christmas Story," the weekend of Dec. 8 to 11.

The novel and screenplay for "A Christmas Story" were written by humorist Jean Shepherd and tell the 1940s tale of young Ralphie Parker (played by Jacob Brittingham) and his scheme to get a Red Ryder BB gun for Christmas. Rolle plays Ralphie's father.

The story was made famous in a 1983 movie starring Darren McGavin, Melinda Dillon and Peter Billingsley as Ralphie.

"The movie has almost a cult following," director Jana Moberly told *The Dispatch*, "but audiences will find many of the elements from the movie and a few new plot twists in the stage version." You will still get to hear the famous, "You'll shoot your eye out" line about the BB gun and see the boys double-dog daring

each other to lick a cold lamppost.

Rolle is one of only a few adults cast in the telling of this childhood tale. It is his third part ever, and the first time doesn't count because he didn't speak any lines. Last year he was cast as Sam Wainwright in "It's a Wonderful Life" — with just a few lines.

When questioned, Rolle fully admits he is no actor and misses the opportunity to improvise on his feet, like he might do in trial. "I am doing this play as an activity with my 12-year-old daughter Devon. It means a lot to the two of us to have an activity we can participate in together."

Asked about other hidden talents, he alluded to high school days and a garage band that he and his brother organized. "I play the guitar, but not very well," Rolle admitted modestly.

The play is scheduled to run at a new location for the Fredericktowne Players, the Tuscarora High School Theater. Sponsored in part by Hobbytown USA, performances are scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 8 at 8 p.m., Friday, Dec. 9 at 8 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 10 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 11 at 3 p.m. Special student pricing for the Saturday matinee is \$5 per ticket. For information and directions, call 240-315-3855 or visit [www.fredericktowneplayers.org](http://www.fredericktowneplayers.org).

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## County exhibit ties it all together

Ornamental samplers, elaborate pictorial embroideries and German show towels stitched by generations of immigrants are just some of the needlework on display in the Historical Society of Frederick County's current exhibit.

"Common Threads: the Tex-

tile and Needlework History of Frederick County" is on display through Nov. 28. The exhibit gives visitors the opportunity to view elaborately embroidered needlework illustrating the mountain scenery around Emmitsburg sewn by girls attending St. Joseph's Academy, cross stitch samplers crafted by German-Americans, family woven coverlets produced in Middletown and patchwork quilts pieced by women from all over the county.

Quilts, coverlets, knitted stockings and crocheted blankets show the popularity of textile production in Frederick County in its varied forms. Some of the tools used to create these textiles are also featured in the exhibit.

The Historical Society of Frederick County is located at 24 E. Church St. Museum hours are Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday from 1-4 p.m. Admission is \$3. For more information, call 301-663-1188.

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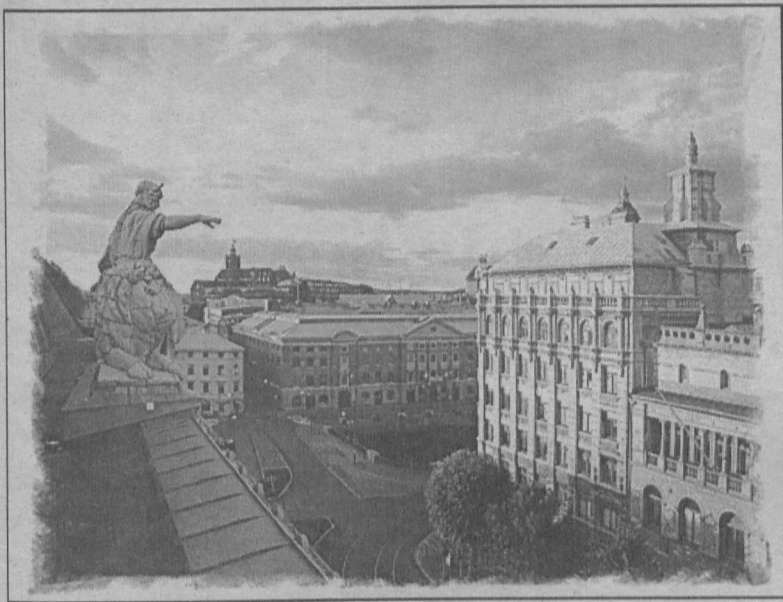
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This untitled print by Barbara Scheide is among the works currently displayed at the Delaplaine as part of the "15 Years of the Artists' Gallery" exhibit which runs through Nov. 27.

## Celebrating 15 years of artists' work

By DIANN DEVART  
Contributing Writer

Often called Frederick's first and most enduring artists' cooperative, The Artists' Gallery is celebrating its 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary this month with a group show. What is different about this show is that it is not being held at the East Church Street home of the gallery, but instead is displayed in the main gallery at the Delaplaine Visual Arts Center.

The venue itself adds to the artistic celebration taking place and the Delaplaine couldn't be happier.

"The show is fabulous, I love these (artists)," Jim Gordon, the Delaplaine's director of operations, said.

The show, "15 Years of the Artists' Gallery," features work by both present and past members of the cooperative in a variety of media and should not be missed according to Gordon.

Gallery members come from varied background and include college faculty, published authors and individuals trained in some of the country's finest art schools.

Members include Palma Allen, Jeff Bohlander, Kristen Bohlander, Steven Dobbin, Enrique Domenge, Nina Chung Dwyer, Christine Hahn, Chet Hanchett, Teke Hoffman, Nancy Jacobs, Phyllis Jacobs, Regina Kaiktsian, Nancy McLoughlin, Joanna Morrison, Doug Moulden, Barbara Scheide, Irina Smulevitch, Shelley Stevens and Deborah Winram.

Allen, a photographic artist, with a

studio in Frederick, licenses images to book publishers, art agencies, graphic artists and magazines. She has been known to use infrared film as an outlet for her interest in old architecture and art. Explaining this technique she said, "I try to visualize what might have been or what could be."

Winram uses montage/collage, the layering of objects, photographs and text, to tell her story. The elements are taped, glued, drawn into, painting over, copied and used as a means to reveal more than one moment.

This show is a celebration of The Artists' Gallery beginning and growth over the last 15 years. The cooperative opened in 1990 at the Mahogany Craft Furniture Store and assumed its present name and location on East Church Street in 1992. Through the years it has presented close to 150 shows.

Hoffman, an original member of the cooperative, remembers a lot about the journey of those involved with the gallery and says through the years they have formed a family.

The celebration of this "family" will run through Nov. 27 at the Delaplaine Center, located at 40 S. Carroll St. in Frederick. For information on this show, call 301-698-0656. The Delaplaine is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and from 1-4 p.m. on Sundays.

For more information on The Artists' Gallery, call 301-696-8187. The gallery is located at 4 East Church Street in Frederick and is open Friday through Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.

# A&E Calendar

## LOOKING AHEAD

### For Children

**Nov. 19 through Jan. 8, 2006** – **Mr. Willowby's Christmas Tree.** Way Off Broadway Children's Theatre's adaptation of Robert Barry's classic Christmas story. Way Off Broadway Dinner Theatre, Willow Tree Plaza, Rt. 40 West, Frederick. \$10.50. 301-662-6600. [www.wayoffbroadway.com](http://www.wayoffbroadway.com).

**Nov. 25** – **"The Muppet Christmas Carol."** 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. A wacky and wonderful way to kick off the holiday season. \$4-6. Weinberg Center for the Arts. 20 W. Patrick St. 301-228-2828.

**Nov. 26 - Dec. 31** – **Mother Goose Holiday Sing-Along.** 2 p.m. When Mother Goose has to throw a "holiday party," she enlists the help of Jack and Jill, Little Miss Muffet and others to create a delightful celebration of sing-a-long fun. Presented by The Fun Company. 31 W. Patrick St. Frederick. 301-694-4744.

### Concerts

**Nov. 17 and 18** – **Bless this House.** 8 p.m. The Majestic Theatre, 25 Carlisle Street, Gettysburg, Pa. Enjoy the traditional "blessing" of a new theater and honor the Majestic's renovation. More than 100 performers celebrate the past, present and future of this landmark in a concert of music and drama. \$16. 717-337-8200.

**Nov. 20** – **A Woman's Heart** featuring Mary Black, Maura O'Connell, Sharon Shannon, Cara Dillon. 8 p.m. Performing together and alone, backed by some of the best Irish musicians around. \$39-47. Weinberg Center for the Arts. 20 W. Patrick St. Frederick. 301-228-2828.

**Nov. 20** – **Blue Moon Big Band.** 8 p.m. Eichelberger Performing Arts Center, Hanover, Pa. Box Office 717-637-7086 or [www.goepac.com](http://www.goepac.com).

**Dec. 2** – **Symphony Band and Wind Ensemble Concert.** 8 p.m. Conducted by Lewes Pedell. The Majestic Theatre, 25 Carlisle Street, Gettysburg, Pa. 717-337-8200.

**Dec. 3** – **A Celtic Yuletide.** 8 p.m. Eichelberger Performing Arts Center, Hanover, Pa. Box Office 717-637-7086 or [www.goepac.com](http://www.goepac.com)

**Dec. 3** – **Christmas Choral Concert.** 8 p.m. Conducted by Robert Natter and Sharon Davis Gratto. The Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle Street, Gettysburg, Pa. 717-337-8200.

### Dance

**Nov. 18** – **Swing Dancing, Music by the FCC Jazz Orchestra.** Lessons 8-9 p.m. Band plays until midnight. Walkersville Town Hall, 21 W. Frederick St. Walkersville. \$12. 410-635-8974.

**Nov. 19** – **Ballroom Dancing.** 7:30 p.m. Professional instructors lead a variety of ballroom dances. Walkersville Town Hall, 21 W. Frederick St. Walkersville. \$10. 301-339-2535.

**Dec. 3 and Dec. 17** – **Ballroom Dancing.** 7:30 p.m. Professional instructors lead a variety of ballroom dances. Walkersville Town Hall, 21 W. Frederick St. Walkersville. \$10. 301-339-2535.

### Festivals/Events

**Nov. 19** – **142nd Anniversary of Lincoln's "Gettysburg Address."** 10 a.m. Memorial services in Gettysburg National Cemetery. Sponsored by the Lincoln Fellowship of Pennsylvania.

**Nov. 19** – **Remembrance Day.** 1 p.m. Gettysburg. Parade of Civil War troops to the Albert Woolson Monument for a wreath-laying ceremony. Sponsored by the Sons of Union Veterans.

**Nov. 25 through Dec. 31** – **Gettysburg Yuletide Festival.** Weekends. Home tours, holiday concerts, arts and crafts, fireworks and more. Information: 717-334-8151.

**Nov. 30** – **Scents and Sweets Competition.** 5:30 p.m. Kick-off for a month of holiday-themed events in historic Frederick. Bakers and florists, both amateurs and professional, create gingerbread structures and centerpieces. Displayed at the Delaplaine Visual Arts Education Center, 40 S. Carroll St. Frederick.

### Literacy

**Nov. 19** – **Book Signing -Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC.** 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. St. Peter's Books and Gifts Cafe, Emmitsburg. Followed by a talk at Mount Saint Mary's University.

### Galleries, Exhibits, Art Shows

**Through Nov. 27** – **Paintings by Tom Clark.** Well-known local photographer Tom Clark has taken up painting. The Pavilion Gallery. Delaplaine Visual Arts Education Center. 40 S. Carroll St. 301-698-0656.

**Through Nov. 27** – **15 Years at the Artists' Gallery.** The Artists' Gallery, a cooperative gallery located on Church Street in Frederick is celebrating their 15-year anniversary. This show will feature work by both present and past members in a variety of media. Reception on Nov. 5 from 3-5 p.m. Delaplaine Visual Arts Education Center. 40 S. Carroll St. 301-698-0656.

**Through Nov. 28** – **Common Threads: An Exhibition at the Historical Society of Frederick County.** A fascinating look into the history of Frederick County. 24 E. Church St. Frederick. 301-663-1188.

**Through Dec. 1** – **Primitive Ancestry.** A mixed media exhibition of new works by Jude Swafford and Jayson Swafford. Frederick Community College Mary Condon Hodgson Art Gallery. 7932 Opossumtown Pike, Frederick. 301-846-2513.

### Movies

**Nov. 18** – **Buster Keaton Double Feature: "The Cameraman" (1928), silent, & "Spite Marriage" (1929), silent.** 8 p.m. Buster Keaton's first feature film for MGM, followed by his last silent film – both accompanied by the mighty Wurlitzer. \$7-9. Weinberg Center for the Arts. 20 W. Patrick St. Frederick. 301-228-2828.

### Stage

**Nov. 18-26** – **David and Lisa.** 7 p.m. The strange, appealing and utterly fascinating story of two mentally disturbed adolescents. \$5. Actors Anonymous, 31 W. Patrick St. 301-694-4744.

**Nov. 18 - Jan. 7** – **An Old Fashioned (Radio) Christmas.** Set in the 1950s radio station of WWOB, join the on-air personalities as they get ready for Christmas. \$22-36. Way Off Broadway Dinner Theatre, 5 Willowdale Drive, Frederick. 301-662-6600.

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## QUILTERS

# Join or form a club, but quilt together



BY MARY ELLEN CUMMINGS  
*Dispatch Columnist*

Quilt making with a group is an option some women are hesitant to try. The reasons for this hesitancy are as numerous as the women. Sometimes all that's needed is a little push. However, not all groups of quilters are Utopian, and the new member gets discouraged.

Several quilting magazines feature quilt groups, but approach the subject from the accomplishment angle. Photos and text attest to what these groups have done — for community, “in memory of,” and charities. The “Aids quilt” and those made to commemorate 9-11-01 are well-known examples of group efforts. However, not everyone is comfortable being involved in such a grand scale.

Not many publications featuring quilts escape my attention, and, I remember only one article actually focusing on groups. The author had advised, “don't quilt alone,” citing

benefits of being part of a group. If you are interested, check church activity groups, senior centers, community events groups, or your favorite fabric shop. If you fail to find a group to work with, start your own. All it takes is 4 or 5 people interested in getting together to talk, snack, work on handwork or crafts.

One option is to join a quilt guild. These are structured groups, men and women, who are interested in the world of quilts. Some guilds have as many as 300 members. They meet in splinter groups, but all members are working on the same projects.

A guild in Gaithersburg, Md., held a one-day workshop to make baby quilts. Fifty women made 65 small quilts that day. One lady in that guild does not quilt, or even sew. She just loves quilts and collects old ones.

Guild meetings are usually monthly and have structured programs. Jinny Beyer, Kaye Wood, and Alex Anderson are typical of the nationally known experts in quilting who appear at guild meetings. They also have classes and demonstrations.

Informal quilting groups, like senior groups, are unstructured, have fluctuating hours and no dues to pay. Get together usually include lunch or snacks. You don't have to be a quilter to join in. The project may be

one quilt a year to raffle or quilting for other people, or each other.

Attend a quilting session with several groups to see which has the style you like. But, don't be misled. All groups are not alike and none are problem-free.

One ladies-aid group at a large church quilted on only one quilt at a time and quilted only for customers. Some ladies, who did not quilt, attended, but complained there was nothing they could do and felt left out. The leader suggested these ladies could fix lunch each week. One woman did nothing but thread needles for the eight quilters.

One quilter, a family member, worked at three different senior centers. At each one she “climbed a miiff tree” (her favorite saying) and quit.

Some quilters are fast, some slow. Some leave knots showing. Others make uneven stitches. One woman may complain all day and one may talk more than she works. But, hey, that's how it is with a family.

Remember these ladies can give you recipes for improving your weight, health, and husband. If you don't have a husband they will help you find one. They will support you in critical times, and laugh with you in happy times. Try it! You might like it.

*Editor's Note: This column originally ran in the Oct. 2002 issue of The Dispatch.*

## PEOPLE TO PEOPLE

People to People is a section in *The 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 writers's address and phone number to be used for verification.

# Sweet Adelines welcome new director



Robin Blythe

Robin Blythe is the new director of The Clustered Spires Chorus of Sweet Adelines.

Blythe's twenty-five years of

directing experience began with Sweet Adelines choruses in Japan in 1980. She moved to Nashville, Portsmouth, Silver Spring and Baltimore. For the last five years she directed “Hometowne USA,” Rockville, Md.'s barbershop chorus. A music education graduate of James Madison University, she currently teaches kindergarten through eighth grade music at St. Martin's School in Gaithersburg.

The Sweet Adelines rehearse Wednesday nights at the Frederick Church of the Brethren, Fairview Avenue, Frederick. Guests are welcome every Wednesday night from 7-9:30 p.m. Visit the Web site, [www.harmonize.com/clusteredspires](http://www.harmonize.com/clusteredspires), for more information and directions.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

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### Services

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**If I could show you a way to get healthier,** would you be interested in listening to what I have to say? Call Jeanne at 301-447-3100 today!

**In need of clothing or have good clean clothing** that can be used for local community needs? Please call Kathy at 301-271-3346 for drop off times or to receive clothing as needed. Thank you! S.D.A. Church, Thurmont, MD 21788.

**Do you experience “hot flashes?”** Relief is here! Call Jeanne at 301-447-3100 today!

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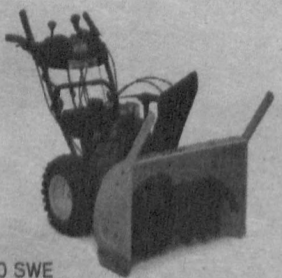
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# Community Calendar

## LOOKING AHEAD

### November

**Nov. 17 – Neighborhood Crime Watch meeting** 6:30 p.m. St. John's Parish Hall, Sabillasville, Md. Frederick County Deputy Kevin White and Corporal Tom Johann will speak on crime prevention and safety solutions. Information: 301-241-3020.

**Nov. 18 – "Farming in Frederick County: making the best even better."** 8:15 a.m.-3 p.m. Libertytown Volunteer Fire Co. Activities Building. Sponsored by Frederick County Farm Bureau. Co-hosted by Delegate Paul Stull and County Commissioner Mike Cady. Lunch is \$8. Information: 301-694-1104.

**Nov. 19 – Family History Seminars.** Sponsored by the Historical Society of Frederick County. Register in advance: [www.hsfcinfo.org](http://www.hsfcinfo.org), or call 301-663-1188.

**Nov. 19 – Country Butchering.** 6-10 a.m. buffet breakfast; meat pickup 6 a.m. to noon. Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company. Advance orders by Nov. 13. Call Dennis Mathias 301-271-4252, Helen Ogle 301-271-2880, or Bob Kaas 301-447-2488.

**Nov. 19 – Apple dumpling sale.** 9 a.m. to noon. Thurmont Community Ambulance Service, Inc. 27 North Church St. Pans of dumplings: \$12. Stop by or call to place an order: 301-271-7550.

**Nov. 19 – Christmas Craft Bazaar.** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Camp Eder, 914 Mt. Hope Rd, Fairfield, Pa. Information: 717-642-8256.

**Nov. 19 – 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Anthony Shrine Parish.** 4 p.m. Mass followed by a reception at sister parish, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Thurmont.

**Nov. 19 – Shrimp Feed.** 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Doors open at 5:30. Guardian Hose Activities Building, Thurmont. Cost: \$15 per person. Tickets: 301-271-7550 or 301-271-2391 Sponsored by Thurmont Community Ambulance Service, Inc.

**Nov. 20 – Third Sunday Service of Praise.** 6:30 p.m. Graceham Moravian Church Rocky Ridge Rd., Thurmont. Music by: The Walk Message. Gerry Van Der Linden. Please bring a canned good for the Thurmont Food Bank.

**Nov. 20 – Community Potluck Dinner @ ThorpeWood.** 4-8 p.m. Guest presenter: Cindy McGee, with Flights End Raptor Center. Dinner begins at 5; presentation begins around 6:30. Bring a dish to share. RSVP by Nov. 16: 301-271-2823.

**Nov. 21 – Emmitsburg Area Historical Society meeting.** 7 p.m. Emmitsburg Community Center.

**Nov. 22 – The Salvation Army Community Thanksgiving Dinner.** Tuesday noon to 6 p.m. 223 W. Fifth Street, Frederick. Free to the public.

**Nov. 24 – Annual Thanksgiving Day Dinner.** Noon to 5 p.m. Creagerstown Parish Hall, 8619 Black's Mill Road. Adults \$12, children \$6. Benefits Creagerstown Lutheran Church.

**Nov. 25 and 26 – Déjà Vu 2005.** Pike Restaurant, Rt. 97, south of

Gettysburg. Oldies party. Reserved tables available, seating limited. Tickets: \$20 per person, available only at the restaurant.

**Nov. 28 – Community Blood Drive.** 2-8 p.m. Thurmont United Methodist Church, 13880 Long Rd. Call 301-271-4511 to schedule. Bring a photo ID. Walk-ins welcome.

### December

**Dec. 2 – Taneytown Business Breakfast.** 7:30 a.m. breakfast, program at 8:10. Thunder Lanes, Taneytown. Children's Chorus of Carroll County and a surprise visitor. Reservations: 410-751-1100 x20 or e-mail [nbmccormick@taneytown.org](mailto:nbmccormick@taneytown.org) by Nov. 30. Cost: \$5.50 at the door.

**Dec. 2-3 – Christmas Country Craft Fair.** Friday, noon to 7 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. St. Josephs Church Parish Hall, DePaul St. Lunch available both days, breakfast on Saturday.

**Dec. 3 – Annual Christmas Bazaar and Supper.** 1 p.m. Beef, turkey and ham supper with apple fritters. Elias Lutheran Church, Emmitsburg. Adults \$9, children 6-12 \$3, carryouts \$10.

**Dec 3, 10 and 17 – Apple dumpling sale.** 9 a.m. to noon. **Thurmont Community Ambulance Service, Inc.,** 27 North Church Street. Stop by the ambulance building or call in your order: 301-271-7550.

**Dec. 3 and 4 – Christmas in New Market.** Carolers, walking tours, luminary display, town concerts, visit from Santa, Christmas treats.

**Dec. 5 – An Evening of Christmas Spirit.** 6-9 p.m. Emmitsburg tree lighting in front of the Community Center followed by an open house at the National Emergency Training Center. Caroling, horse-drawn surrey, hayrides, complimentary hot dogs and cookies, live nativity, music. Canned goods and donations accepted for the Emmitsburg Lions Club Christmas food drive.

**Dec. 6 – Free college financial aid workshop.** 7:30-9:30 p.m. Farmers & Mechanics Bank, 110 Thomas Johnson Drive, Frederick. Workshop conducted by Dr. Herm Davis, author of "College Financial Aid for Dummies." To reserve space, call 301-644-4440.

**Dec. 8 and 9 – Holiday open house.** 5-8 p.m. Come see ThorpeWood's beautiful 16'+ Christmas tree adorned with homemade decorations, fruits and 3,000 twinkling white lights! Santa will visit, and cookies and punch will be served. RSVP: 301-271-2823.

**Dec 10 – Cookie Walk.** 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Tom's Creek United Methodist Church, Tom's Creek Church Road; off Rt. 140 Emmitsburg. Cookies are \$6 per pound. Boxes provided. Information: 301-271-3260.

**Dec 10 – Live Nativity.** 5:30 to 8 p.m. Tom's Creek United Methodist Church, Route 140 between Taneytown and Emmitsburg. Free hot chocolate and cookies.

Information: contact Rev. Bill Warehime at 301-447-3171 or 410-2593301.

**Dec. 11 – Christmas Concert.** 10:30 a.m. Mountain View Ministries, 103 Apples Church Road, Thurmont. Features the Wingert Family Singers. Free. Information: 301-271-2380 or 301-271-9088.

**Dec. 11 – Holiday Home Tour.** Noon to 5 p.m. Liberty Township, Pa. Tours of several historic and modern homes. English afternoon tea at the Pecher farm. Tickets: \$15 each or two for \$25. Information: 717-642-5436.

**Dec. 11 – Christmas in Emmitsburg Home Tour.** 1-4 p.m. Sponsored by St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Tickets: \$15 in advance, \$18 the day of the tour. Tickets can be purchased by mail or in person at St. Joseph's Rectory, 47 DePaul St., P.O. Box 376, Emmitsburg, MD 21727. Information: 301-447-2326.

**Dec. 11 – Emmitsburg Community Chorus Concert, "A Glorious Night of Miracles."** 3 p.m. The Basilica of St. Joseph's Provincial House on Seton Ave, Emmitsburg.

**Dec. 17 – Children's Christmas party.** Begins at 10 a.m. Vigilant Hose Co. 6 Fire Station. Crafts, Maggie the clown, refreshments and an honored guest. Sponsored by the Emmitsburg Lions.

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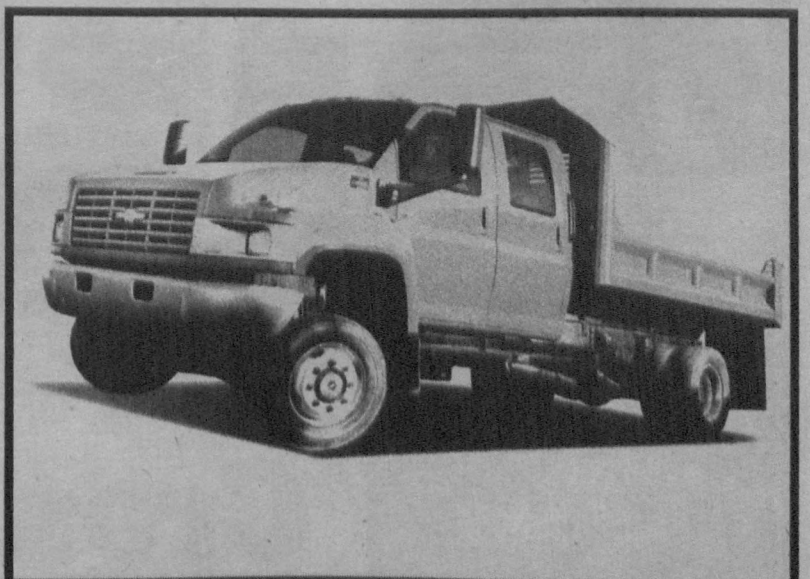
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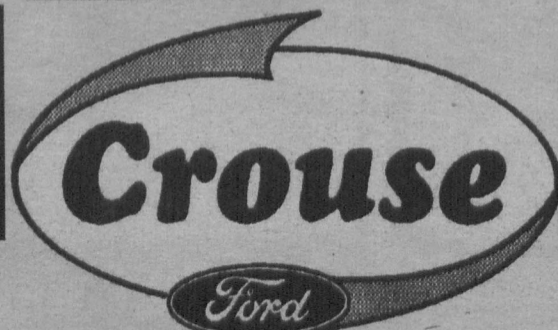


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