

# The Emmitsburg Dispatch

VOL V, No. 1

News and Opinion in the service of Truth

JANUARY 5, 2006



-RICHARD D. L. FULTON / THE DISPATCH

## Emmitsburg Ambulance now houses county EMS

Frederick County emergency medical services (EMS) crew members Richard B. Hartle (left), temporarily filling in for Jimmy Fisher, and Steve Barker (right) stand outside the Emmitsburg Volunteer Ambulance Company (EVAC) bay on South Seton Avenue. The career employees were transferred to EVAC headquarters after the county decided to relocate the paid crew from Vigilant Hose. The Frederick County career employees moved to EVAC on Dec. 15.

## Town rescinds DePaul snow route tickets

BY RICHARD D.L. FULTON  
News Editor

EMMITSBURG, Md. — Residents living along DePaul Street who received tickets Thursday, Dec. 15, for violating a town snow route declaration will not have to pay for the violations, according to the mayor.

Town spokesperson Patricia Feeser told *The Dispatch* that 71 tickets had been issued for parking on DePaul during the snow. Zoning enforcement officers Amy Naill and Carol Kelley issued the tickets, which each carry a \$15 fine.

Mayor James E. Hoover told *The Dispatch* that tickets were issued after DePaul Street residents had been notified by mail (on Dec. 5) that the street was to be declared a snow emergency route in town with restricted parking.

However, the mayor said that when staff sent the letter they did not remove the word "proposed" from the top of the initial draft. "As a result," he stated, "residents were confused as to whether or not it (the snow route) was in effect."

Hoover also said that signage posted on DePaul "was very vague and limited (in their wording) which

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### Feature



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**Middle School teacher nationally certified**

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## Board shortens public comment limits

BY RICHARD D.L. FULTON  
News Editor

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The board of commissioners voted 3-2 on Jan. 3 to reduce the amount of time for individual public comment

at town meetings from eight to four minutes per agenda item.

Mayor James E. Hoover and commissioners Christopher V. Staiger and Glenn Blanchard voted in favor of the time reduction. Commissioners William B. O'Neil,

Jr. and Arthur Elder voted to retain the eight-minute time limit.

The change currently applies only to town and committee meetings. The board could waive the four-minute time limit for public hearings.

Mayor James E. Hoover said previously, "Eight minutes is an excessive amount of time." He suggested reducing the

-See **Comment** on page 3

## MDCC receives conditional approval in Freedom

BY RICHARD D.L. FULTON  
News Editor

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP, Pa. — The town board of supervisors unanimously granted conditional approval to Mason-Dixon Country Club, Inc.'s (MDCC) conditional use application.

MDCC has proposed a half-billion dollar, 867-acre "golf community" of more than 1,160 homes interlaced with a golf complex spanning Freedom

Township and a portion of northern Frederick County, Md. According to Freedom Township regulations, golf communities are permitted in the affected zones only as a conditional use.

The board of supervisors rendered its decision at a Dec. 21 meeting following the final conditional use hearing on Dec. 15.

Carroll "Duke" Martin, a project manager for Mason-Dixon Country Club, Inc., told *The Dispatch* that attached to the approval were 74

conditions, but that the holidays had prevented the development staff from reviewing them in detail.

"We haven't had a chance to really go over them yet. You don't

go through 74 overnight ... but we don't believe anything really raised any eyebrows. We were happy to

-See **MDCC** on page 3

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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.

## Ethics cases likened to McCarthy era

Former commissioners Joyce Rosensteel, Clifford Sweeney, and Diane Walbrecker are ignorant of all the facts in the Emmitsburg ethics cases. Nevertheless, they boldly attacked in print a decent and honorable man, Commissioner Arthur Spalding Elder. They foolishly objected to his suing the

Town and its officials to protect his fine name.

These ethics cases remind me of the McCarthy era. Former Senator Joseph E. McCarthy, Republican of Wisconsin, smeared victim after victim without being disciplined by his party or otherwise. Justice finally caught up with him.

I hope the same will happen to the Ethics Commission. How else does one fight the smears of an Ethics Commission gone amok, except in court? To them I say, "Have you at last no sense of decency?" Ditto to the former commissioners, who appear to be running for office again by appealing to the lowest instincts.

- Harold C. Craig, Jr.  
Emmitsburg

*Editor's Note: None of the individuals quoted in "Commissioner files \$5.4 million lawsuit against town officials," in the Dec. 15, 2005 Dispatch contacted the newspaper. The Dispatch contacted all recent former commissioners for comments regarding the lawsuit.*

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

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

January 6, 1906

New Year  
at the White House

Washington, Jan. 2 - New Year's Day at the nation's capital was observed with all the traditional brilliance which time and custom have decreed to characterize the official greeting of the new year, and another was added to the long line of receptions at the White House, where the President and Mrs. Roosevelt received the people of the world, whatever their race or creed, of station high and low, who filed past till their numbers reached up into the thousands, each of them bringing a "Happy New Year."

By actual count 9052 people shook the president's hand. Last year 7115 were received. Mrs. Roosevelt remained until the end of the reception. A feature of the public reception was the large number of children who passed the receiving line.

Mrs. Roosevelt wore a gown of pale blue chiffon built over white silk. The bell skirt was trimmed with rows of ruffles, which fell from a shirred girdle. The waist was trimmed with white lace, and her only ornaments were a few diamonds. She carried a bouquet of roses and lilies-of-the-valley.

Mrs. Roosevelt and Mr. Longworth mingled with the guests in the east room. Miss Roosevelt wore a gown of slate blue chiffon over pink silk, cut low. She also wore a diamond necklace and pendant and a huge bunch of orchids.

When the hour for the reception arrived the column of waiting citizens stretched along the front of the state, war and navy building, and gave promise of one of the largest receptions in the history of the White House.

Cole's Cavalry  
To Hold Reunion

The survivors of Cole's Cavalry, one of the most widely known commands in the Union army during the Civil War, will hold their annual reunion at the home of Col. George W.F. Vernon, Baltimore, on Wednesday evening, January 10. Company C of this command

was recruited in Adams and York counties and was composed of young men of Gettysburg, Hanover, Emmitsburg, Md., and from the mountain districts in that locality.

## PERSONALS

Mrs. And Mrs. Lewis Krise and Miss Fannie Krise, of near Fairfield, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar D. Frailey on Sunday last.

Mr. E. F. Ohler, of Pittsburgh, visited his father, Mr. Samuel G. Ohler, near town.

Miss Nellie Smith, of Hanover, is visiting Miss Nellie Eyster.

Messrs. Joshua T. and Lawrence Gillelan, of Baltimore, spent the holidays with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. George L. Gillelan.

Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Albaugh and Miss Nellie T. Albaugh, of Westminster, visited Mr. and Mrs. George L. Gillelan.

Mr. Harrison Walter, of near Smithsburg, is visiting his sister, Mrs. Wm. J. Topper.

Misses Louise and Hallie Motter have gone to Washington, D.C.

Mrs. George R. Sanders spent New Year's Eve with her daughter, Mrs. G. Althoff, at Mt. St. Mary's.

Miss Margaret Guthrie, of St. Joseph's, Mo., is visiting at Mr. George P. Beam's.

Mr. David Wachter has returned home from a visit to his daughter, Mrs. Gladhill, of Harrisburg, Pa. Mr. Wachter also spent a few days in Washington and Baltimore.

Miss Georgeina Krietz, who spent the holidays in Taneytown, has returned home.

Mr. and Mrs. John McGrath and daughter, Lillian, of Waynesboro, Pa.; Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Zurgable and three children, of Baltimore; Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Roddy, of Baltimore, Mr. and Mrs. James McGrath and son, Joseph, of Philadelphia, spent the holidays with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. James McGrath. Mr. and Mrs. McGrath were made very happy by having all their children and grand-children home for Christmas.



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## Emmitsburg fall baseball finishes winning season

Emmitsburg's 9-10 year olds had a winning season this past fall, finishing 2005 with a 9-1 record. The team played against Taneytown, Littlestown, Hampstead, and two teams from Charles Carroll.

Fall ball is a way for players to improve their games and learn more skills to get a head start for spring. Volunteer coaches are needed for next season. Information provided by Angela Welty, Emmitsburg.

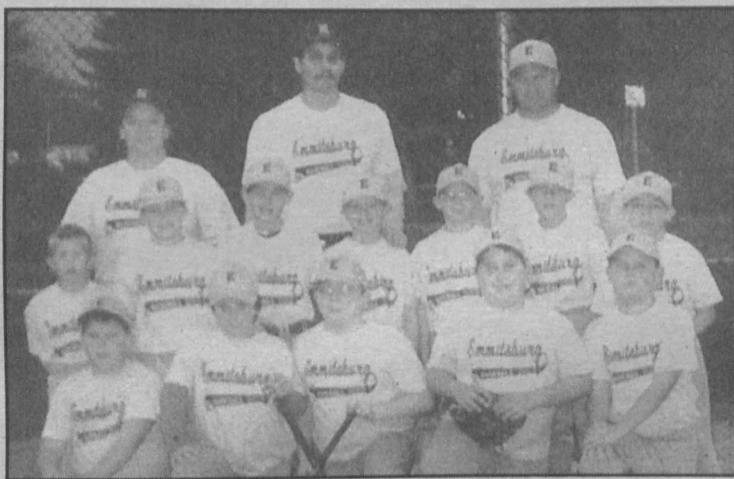


PHOTO CREDIT: ANGELA WELTY

**Back row (L to R):** Angie Welty-Manager, Dave Welty-Coach, Jim Rice-Coach **Middle row (L to R):** Noah Bolyard, Hunter Nordberg, Corey Rice, Patrick Welty, Graham Nettleton, Cameron Bolyard, Kyle Little **Front row (L to R):** Brady Topper, Nick Kubala, Patrick Little, Jared Cobb, Brenden Snurr **Not pictured:** Wesley Brown

## Comment

-Continued from page 1

public comment time for regular meetings, but extending individual time during hearings.

The allocated time limit was changed from three minutes per speaker per issue to eight minutes over two years ago when Patrick Boyle was president of the board of commissioners.

Boyle told the board at the Dec. 19 meeting, "I said two years ago I wanted (to go from three to) five minutes," adding that some residents wanted 15 minutes. "We compromised on eight minutes."

Board President Christopher V. Staiger, who had asked at the Dec. 19 meeting that the issue be placed on the agenda, said he had received comments that eight minutes was too long. Staiger said

he would support a reduction to three or four minutes.

"My concern was the eight minutes ... is an extraordinarily long amount of time," Staiger said. He added, "When there is a limited number of speakers, it's not a burden. My fear is if we get back to issues garnering more attention, you could spend an hour and a half."

Before Boyle's board changed the limit to eight minutes, speakers during public comment periods could even pass their time on to another speaker. That practice also ended when the eight-minute limit was imposed.

Commissioner Glenn Blanchard

reported contacting the Maryland Municipal League (MML) which told him that three to five minutes per individual for public comment was typical. Blanchard said the shorter time would compel speakers to be more to the point, "If you have three or four minutes ... it makes it (the comment) more specific."

Boyle blamed the lengthy meetings primarily on the commissioners. "Yes, there are people who have gotten up here and spoken for eight minutes, but I find commissioners pontificating on issues that should take five minutes. In the end, you have not said a damn thing you couldn't have said in five minutes."

## Tickets

-Continued from page 1

created more confusion."

Town staff had recommended that the street become a snow emergency route, which Hoover said he supported. "That's why we hired a superintendent (of streets, parks and utilities), to make recommendations," he said.

Since not all DePaul Street residents have off-street parking, Hoover told *The Dispatch* he "requested that a letter be sent to the residents informing them of the town's intention to make this a snow emergency route, and since there

was some homes with no off-street parking, we were going to identify a limited area of the street where we would allow parking."

Once the tickets were issued and it was brought to the mayor's attention that the signage was not as clear as he had wanted it to be, "I instructed the staff to waive those tickets," he explained.

"There will not be any tickets issued for snow removal until proper signage is in place and a new letter is sent to the residents," Hoover said. In the meantime, the mayor said that town staff would identify all the tickets written on Dec. 15 for snow route parking violations and make sure no one has to pay.

## MDCC

-Continued from page 1

get through the process although we have all those conditions set. I remain optimistic," he said.

The last of the special exception hearings was also held on Dec. 19, concluding with public comment. The respective attorneys were given until Jan. 31 to file briefs and until Feb. 10 to obtain responses to those briefs.

The board then has 45 days to render a decision, making a special exceptions request decision possible in March.

However, conditional use and the special exceptions do not necessarily pave the way for preliminary plan presentations.

"We have to go back before zoning for another special exception," Martin said. The developers plan to request an

exception for a transmission main from the development's proposed Marsh Creek pumping station to the planned treatment facility off Natural Dam Road.

Once all the necessary special conditions and conditional use approvals are obtained, MDCC plans call for a six-phase build-out, with completion slated tentatively for 2009. The development would sit principally between Emmitsburg Road and Bullfrog Road, with its northern boundary near the U.S. 15 interchange. A commercial section, including a hotel and businesses, is proposed between U.S. 15 and Shorbs Mill Road.

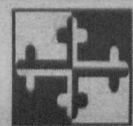
MDCC, Inc. is owned by Caswell and Marie Holloway (Holloway Development Corporation) of Philadelphia. The Holloways began purchasing land for the project around 1988, and began work on the development concept around 1998.

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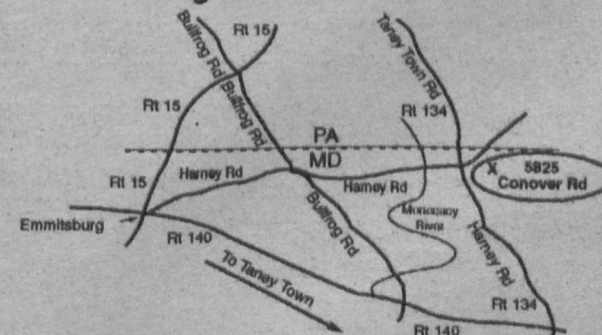
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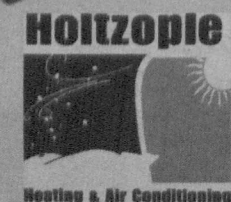
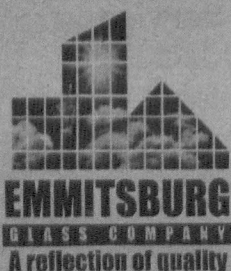
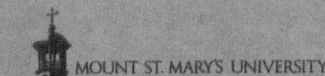


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## EDITORIAL

### News analysis

# 2006 ... Protest and Progress

BY RICHARD D.L. FULTON  
News Editor

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The year ahead will likely look at times as if Emmitsburg has entered its own "Dark Ages," with impending litigation resulting from the ethics investigation hanging over the community's head.

But there are opportunities for progress — new ordinances, infrastructure improvements, and chances for community growth.

The accomplishments in 2006 will likely depend on how well the town can proceed through the maelstrom created by those whose self-serving efforts appear to do little more than denigrate the town's attributes and the community's good will.

#### 1. Another year of ethics

*In April 2005, 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 resulting from the investigation and/or its outcome. Both were ultimately denied payment.*

Elder filed a \$5.4 million suit in November 2005, allegedly for being deprived of due process during the investigatory phase of the ethics probe, and for alleged personal injury (to reputation, etc.). O'Neil has threatened similar action, but has yet to file suit (as far as this newspaper is aware).

According to Mayor James E. Hoover, the town's insurance will most likely cover legal representation for town officials named as defendants, but it remains to be determined how Elder would be paid if he is successful in suing town administrators as individuals.

#### 2. Wastewater improvements

*Emmitsburg should see a proverbial glut of monies in 2006*

*that could be used to overhaul the wastewater collection system completely.*

Recapping from the December 2005 *Dispatch*:

— O'Neil requested a \$150,000 matching grant from the 2006 U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee allocations for "interior" projects in June. That money has not yet been distributed.

— The town submitted an \$822,000 state community development block grant (CDBG) proposal for wastewater infrastructure work in September. Notification of approval of \$656,000 of the requested amount came in December 2005.

— In October, the town learned it could be entitled to over \$1 million in "flush tax" money to put toward infrastructure improvements ultimately designed to help protect the Chesapeake Bay.

#### 3. Stagnation or progress? — Annexations

It is likely that more than one residential annexation will come before the town in 2006, first being the Silver Fancy Farm project proposed by Buckeye Development, a project whose approval was overturned in a town referendum.

Annexations have not fared well in Emmitsburg for the past two years. But if the town could assure that its infrastructure could keep pace with proposed developments, annexations might become more palatable.

A prime example of partnerships between towns, infrastructure entities and developers is McGinley's Choice development in Adams County, an Empire Homes project spanning Fairfield-Hamiltonban. Empire has committed to spending a considerable amount of money upgrading services, from schools to wastewater systems, to garner support for project approval. The strategy also tends to mute the development stymieing whining

that current infrastructure will not withstand development.

Emmitsburg has sought for years to resolve some in-town traffic congestion by possibly creating a by-pass. Annexation of westerly properties might well provide that opportunity, especially if developers were compelled to contribute monies or land toward piecing together the by-pass.

Or the town could continue to become increasingly overwhelmed with traffic from developments over which it has no control; and taxpayers will have to deal with all other infrastructure improvements.

#### 4. Historic Resources

The year 2006 will likely see monies available for improving or even preserving the community's historic attributes, and for increasing tourist-related revenues through participation in the "Heart of the Civil War Heritage" program.

Emmitsburg has an amazing and little celebrated array of historical assets from colonial times through present day that could be publicized through placards and displays.

Additionally, there is the need to commemorate or otherwise recognize the activities of minorities, including aborigines and our Black heritage. There is prehistory to promote as well — from the days of the dinosaurs to the tribes that camped alongside Tom's Creek within the future bounds of Emmitsburg 6,000 years ago.

The greatest tourist interest is the Civil War, but the community should not ignore the entire spectrum of prehistory and later history in and around this community ... and that in themselves, beg for the establishment of a town museum and cultural assets center.

#### 5. Reinventing local government

During 2005, it became painfully apparent that town meetings continued to degrade and proved counter-productive in the long run.

The mayor began to exercise his right to vote as a board member, hoping to move matters forward faster. This touched off an effort to add a fifth commissioner, while at the same time, rescinding the mayor's right to vote on the board.

But an allegedly poorly functioning four-person board is only one of the problems at town meetings. The board president needs to ride shotgun better over public comment.

During this past year, attendees witnessed a particular individual (resoundingly defeated in the 2005 town election) holding up a hand-written sign for board members to read and running back and forth to the dais trying to pass notes to a particular commissioner.

The public comment time — extended from three to eight minutes under the previous board — has gotten out of hand. One non-resident spends as much time talking about an issue as most of the commissioners. Certain other individuals sign up to speak on every topic, pass on most of them, but their actions require the board president to take the time to call their names on every issue.

While everyone favors freedom of expression, freedoms are not infrequently abused if not restrained in a responsible manner. The town needs to resume the old three-minute limit and move public comment (as per Adams County municipalities) to the front of the agenda, with no public comment permitted item by item.

Carroll Valley Borough seems to accomplish more in its three-hour town meetings (with typically a single-spaced agenda more than a page and a half long) than Emmitsburg accomplishes in two months. Reform is much needed.

## Dispatch establishes new deadlines

To be able to include your community event information and classifieds, we ask that you submit them to *The Dispatch* no later than noon on Thursday of the week before the next issue. Any items received after that time cannot be included.

**Noon, Thursday, Jan 12 — deadline for the Jan. 19 issue**

### Correction to "Looking back ... Emmitsburg 2005"

In the Dec. 15 issue of *The Emmitsburg Dispatch*, the news analysis article, "Looking back ... Emmitsburg 2005" reported that all COPE (Citizens Organized to Preserve Emmitsburg) candidates in the 2005 town election finished last. In the mayoral race, COPE member and Commissioner Arthur Elder finished next to last. Incumbent Mayor James E. Hoover led with 357 votes, Elder came in second with 126 votes, and Stanley C. Mazaleski received 54 votes. The staff apologizes for the error.



## TOWN NEWS

# Trails resolution sent to town attorney

BY RICHARD D.L. FULTON  
News Editor

EMMITSBURG, Md. — A resolution authorizing Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to produce a land management plan for a proposed public trail system has been sent by local commissioners to the town's attorney for review and comment.

The proposal to develop a multi-purpose trail system for hikers, horseback riding and non-motorized vehicles in Emmitsburg and adjacent areas was initially put forward at the Aug. 15 town meeting by Emmitsburg Commissioner Glenn Blanchard.

Tim O'Donnell, a member of the town parks and recreation committee, has been overseeing the development of the plan.

The proposed trail system incorporates a patchwork of tracts within Emmitsburg as well as on

and flanking College Mountain southwest of town. It includes land owned by the town, Mount St. Mary's and properties with state preservation easements.

As a step toward using certain town property and lands with state conservation easements, DNR must develop a management plan to ensure protection of natural resources.

O'Donnell previously said that a strong volunteer base is ready to help with the project, mostly MOOR volunteers, Catocin High School students, and his own students from Montgomery County where he teaches history.

Commissioner William B. O'Neil, Jr. expressed concerns at the Dec. 19 meeting about liability, while Commissioner Arthur Elder said he was concerned about recreational activities too near Rainbow Lake, which serves as a reservoir for town drinking water.

Mayor James E. Hoover said, "The liability would be the same as we have in the (town) parks today," and Commissioner Blanchard pointed out that reservoirs are commonly used for recreational purposes.

Town Manager David Haller warned that the town should not expect the project to be cost-free, noting that the community could have expenses associated with maintenance and site cleanups.

The board, however, recognized that DNR preparing a management plan would merely provide insight on proposal management should the town actually authorize the project.

The board voted to have town Attorney John R. Clapp review a proposed resolution authorizing DNR to proceed with a management plan for further consideration at the Jan. 16 town meeting.

## No progress on reason for missing valve

BY RICHARD D.L. FULTON  
News Editor

EMMITSBURG, Md. — Responsibility for the missing valve at a critical juncture of the town wastewater collection system remains an unsolved mystery few seem willing to tackle. The valve is the likely culprit in the spillage of hundreds of thousands of gallons of sewage over the years.

Board of commissioners President Christopher V. Staiger told *The Dispatch* Dec. 20, "I did ask the mayor," but added that he had not yet heard back from anyone on the town staff regarding the valve. "Their attitude ...

(seems to indicate) they are not interested in it. I have not gotten a definitive answer, but I have not pursued it that aggressively."

Regarding whether or not to ask county or state agencies to investigate, Staiger said, "I can't take action individually ... it would take a resolution from the town council to pursue this course."

Sixteen years and thousands of dollars in fines for sewage spills later, the apparent cause of the town's sewer ills may be a "missing" valve along a main trunk line. According to Town Manager David Haller, somehow, during 1988 or 1989 when the new sewer plant and trunk line

from the pumping station to the new plant were being built, a critical air relief valve was never installed. The overhaul cost \$10 to \$15 million at the time.

The line in question runs from the pumping station to the treatment plant. Coming from the pumping station, the sewer line crests on a hill on the Waybright property before beginning its downgrade run to the sewer plant.

### Town Meetings

#### Commissioners Meeting

Monthly, 1st & 3rd  
Monday  
7:30pm

#### Planning/Zoning Commission

Monthly, Last Monday  
7:30pm

#### Water Commission

January 17, 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).

## Town News Briefs ...

### Defendants advised not to discuss Elder lawsuit

EMMITSBURG, Md. — Defendants named in Commissioner Arthur Elder's \$5.4 million lawsuit against town officials and boards have been advised to not discuss legal matters with the media.

Mayor James E. Hoover told *The Dispatch*, "After talking to the town's attorneys we agreed that the attorneys are representing us and a memo should be sent out stating that."

"The council (as a result)," he stated, "was directed by us (town staff) to be mum on the issue and if we (the defendants) speak, it should be considered our own opinion (as individuals) and not the town's."

Elder filed the lawsuit in county circuit court on Nov. 23 for alleged damages related to the 2004-2005 ethics investigation conducted which found him to have violated ethics rules.

### Comprehensive plan set back by resignations Zoning enforcement covering after resignations

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The production of a preliminary draft of the amended town comprehensive plan could be on hold because of Town Planner Michael Lucas' resignation.

Lucas had promised to deliver the draft in time for the planning board's Dec. 20 meeting, but he and Zoning Technician Jennifer Joy, who was assisting him with the draft, have both resigned.

Lucas tendered his resignation at the end of November after having served for two years. His last day on the job was Dec. 12. Zoning Technician Jennifer Joy resigned on Nov. 21, effective immediately, after nearly two years with the town.

Zoning enforcement employee Amy Naill is helping to cover the town's zoning needs pending an official decision by town administrators on replacing the two employees.

"No one has been hired," town spokesperson Patricia Feeser told *The Dispatch* on Dec. 20. She added, "Amy and Carol have moved their schedules around in order to cover the office until the mayor and council make a decision on who goes where to do what, or they hire someone." — R. Fulton

### Commissioner seeks control over hiring/firing

EMMITSBURG, Md. — A town commissioner suggested at the board's Dec. 19 meeting that the board is authorized to approve or reject all hiring proposed by the town, a move apparently a by-product of recent planning and zoning resignations.

Commissioner William B. O'Neil, Jr. stated that the town charter appears to give the commissioners authority to approve all hiring, promotions and staff changes.

Mayor James E. Hoover told *The Dispatch* Dec. 20, "If the town council wants to have say over who the town manager or town clerk is, I'm all in support of that, but trying to pick who is the best meter maid or endorsing a zoning enforcement officer is counter-productive."

Hoover said, "This board particularly has buried itself so deep in bureaucracy that we're very inefficient ... we have become an inefficient government."

The board will seek an opinion from town Attorney John R. Clapp regarding the powers of the commission for future consideration. — R. Fulton

### County says 'no truth' to recycling cutback

EMMITSBURG, Md. — County Commissioner Michael L. Cady assured Emmitsburg commissioners that the suggestion that the county plans to eliminate recycling is a myth.

"There is no truth that the county is phasing out recycling," Cady said, adding that it is actually required by state law. The commissioner said there are plans to expand the area, not cut it, and that in the future it was hoped that all communities in Frederick County could participate. — R. Fulton

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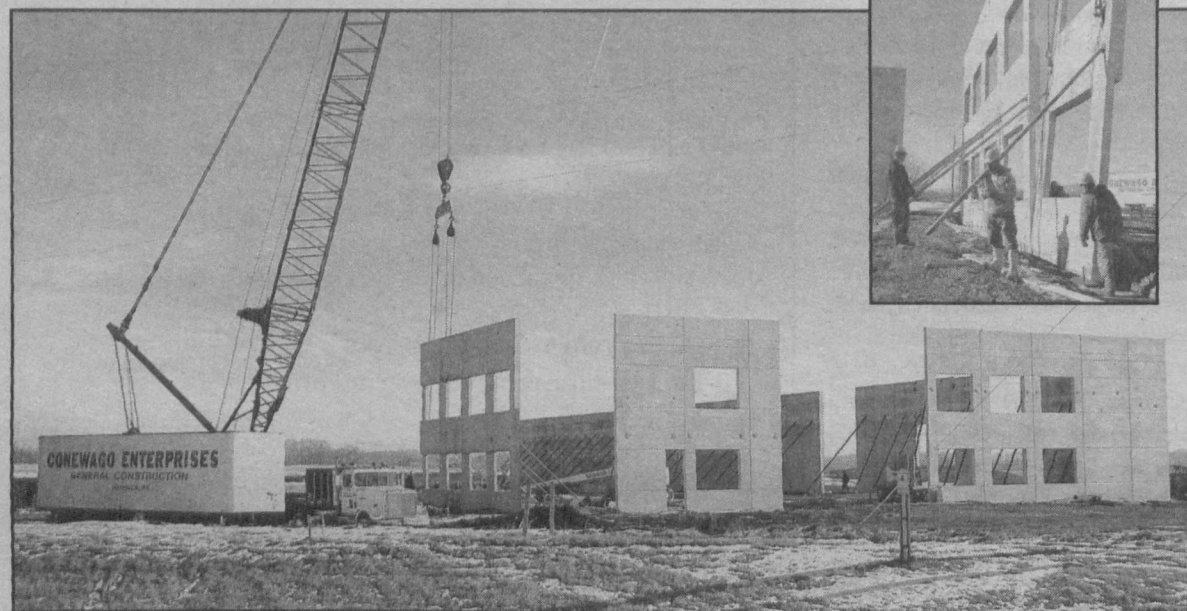
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## TOWN NEWS

# Glass company construction on target

## Aims for April move date



-RAYMOND BUCHHEISTER / THE DISPATCH

Exterior walls go up on the new Emmitsburg Glass headquarters building on Creamery Road. The nearly 42,900 square foot building is scheduled to be completed the end of March. Many of the pre-cast walls for the new Emmitsburg Glass building were in place by the end of December. The new building will consolidate operations currently in two separate facilities.

BY RICHARD D.L. FULTON  
News Editor

EMMITSBURG, Md. — Construction on the new Emmitsburg Glass facility on Creamery Road has moved ahead steadily since the initial groundwork in September, with many of the pre-cast outer walls in place as of the end of December.

The new 42,900 square foot glass company facility will merge the company's two current locations, the main plant in the Emmitsburg East Industrial Park

(EEIP) and the Seton Square administrative offices.

The glass company is "all being moved to be under one roof," said Sheridan "Dan" Reaver, president of Emmitsburg Glass. "Everything (involving permits and approvals) is approved. It's now a matter of the contractor (Conewago Contractors, Inc., Hanover, Pa.) getting it done," Reaver told *The Dispatch*.

Completion date is scheduled for March 31, with move in on April 1, Reaver said, noting that W.F. Delauter & Son, Thurmont, will move into the glass company building at EEIP after Emmitsburg

Glass vacates. (Delauter had previously purchased the building in order to relocate to Emmitsburg.)

In addition to the relocation and consolidation of the glass company, a proposed annexation of the 36-acre "Waybright property" by EEIP is heading to a public workshop scheduled for Jan. 23 at 7:30 p.m. in the town offices meeting room.

EEIP is proposing to develop the site as an industrial park to be known as Emmitsburg East Industrial Park Phase II.

Emmitsburg Glass presently employs 95 people, not including subcontractors.

## POLICE ACTIVITY

## Middle school teacher indicted Bomb threats may be connected

BY RICHARD D.L. FULTON  
News Editor

THURMONT, Md. — Investigators looking into the alleged actions of a Thurmont Middle School teacher believe there was a connection between threat letters against two students and a bomb threat which caused the evacuation of the school.

Teacher Michelle J. Dohm, 40, was arrested Dec. 22 after a grand jury indicted her on 11 counts, including making a bomb threat.

For nearly two months, Thurmont Middle School administrators had been investigating several notes left on school property and on a nearby vehicle that allegedly threatened two particular students.

The first letter or letters (school representatives have declined to release the specific number of letters involved) appeared on school property in September, with one or more

additional letters found in October. One letter was found on a vehicle off school grounds, later confirmed to belong to the parents of one of the threatened students.

Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS) concluded its investigation late in the week of Nov. 14. FCPS Communications Director Marita Loose said, "The individual suspected of making the threats is a female teacher (since identified as Dohm) and is no longer in the classroom," she told *The Dispatch*, adding, that the teacher's "employment status is (now) inactive without pay."

On Nov. 21, Thurmont Middle School students were forced to evacuate for about an hour after a bomb threat was allegedly made against the school around 11:45 a.m., according to a county spokesperson.

## No raw sewage spills for November

EMMITSBURG, Md. — With only about 3.6" of rain in the area in November, Town Manager David Haller reported that there were no spills anywhere along the town's wastewater collection system during the month.

However, the wastewater treatment plant exceeded its permitted capacity twice during November as a result of inflow and infiltration (I&I), otherwise known as "wild water" or storm and melt water which worked its way into the system:

- Nov. 29, the treatment plant processed 1,997,000 gallons of wastewater; and

- Nov. 30, the plant processed 1,445,000 gallons.

The plant treated an average of 457,000 gallons of wastewater per day (GPD). The average consumption rate for November was 315,220 GPD, indicating that 31 percent of the wastewater treated at the plant was "wild water."

- R. Fulton

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## REGIONAL

## The Crest development granted conditional plan approval

By WILLIAM REINKE  
Contributing Writer

CARROLL VALLEY, Pa. — The Crest at Carroll Valley, a development planned for property adjacent to Liberty Mountain Resort off Sanders Road, moved forward when the borough granted conditional approval to final plans during its December meeting.

The developer, Eluma, Inc. of Rockville, Md., now has 90 days to execute a subdivision and land development agreement

acceptable to the borough manger and solicitor. The motion also gives the developer 90 days to obtain a financial security agreement, or letter of credit, from a reputable, accredited bank, guaranteeing the costs of all public improvements for both Phases I and II.

Eluma must also comply with all conditions in the preliminary plan approval.

Based on this decision, Eluma estimates that construction would begin late next summer. Phase I, the first 34 of the 107 homes

planned, should be completed in about two years.

Council president Laura Scudder commended the engineering firm's work over the last several years, saying they "have been fairly amenable all the way through."

She said she was confident that the development, which includes 30 acres of green space, "would not be a slum," to which one of the engineers replied, "Oh, we won't build you a slum ... wait until you see the prices!"

## Fairfield Commons inches forward receives preliminary support from county

By WILLIAM REINKE  
Contributing Writer

FAIRFIELD, Pa. — The 22-unit urban infill project known as Fairfield Commons proposed for the vacant land adjacent to the old Adams County National Bank building on Main Street is beginning its journey through the planning process.

The development is proposed by local real estate developer David Sites, who presented his idea to the Fairfield Planning Commission at its Nov. 14 meeting.

In a memo dated Dec. 8, the Adams County Office of Planning and Development (ACOPD) wrote that it "supports the intent to

develop a creatively designed and innovative project at this location along Main Street in Fairfield," and "would be pleased to work with the borough and (Mr. Sites) to 'fine tune' the site plan."

The ACOPD concerns with Sites' proposal, mainly focused on the style and placement of the homes. The architectural drawings show units 11-16 in the middle of the property overlooking the back yards of units 1-10, which raised privacy concerns in the tightly spaced community. The county agency suggested reorienting the dwellings to face Main Street or Wortz Drive using the center of the property for recreational and stormwater management space.

ACOPD "strongly supports the concept of a creatively designed, residential ... project at this location," and a "proposal that allows a mixture of residential and non-residential use," utilizing the first floor for "office or specialty retail use ... and residential use of upper floors."

The current plan calls for 22 units on the 1.39 acres site. Most of the dwellings proposed are three story townhouses; four units are duplexes.

The existing borough ordinance allows for single family and semi-detached homes; and would have to be amended to allow the proposed townhouses. In its Dec. 27 meeting, the borough council authorized the Fairfield Planning Commission to consider this request.

The Historical and Architectural Review Board also has to hear Sites' proposal. This hearing, scheduled for Dec. 15, was postponed until Jan. 19, 2006, due to the ice storm.

## Fairfield Briefs ...

### Outgoing mayor delivers encouraging 'parting shot'

FAIRFIELD, Pa. — In his final address to borough council, outgoing Fairfield Mayor Rick Cordell said, "When I ran for this office four years ago, my message was that Fairfield is a great place to live and I want to keep it that way. Well, I still feel that way." Citing other demands on his time, Cordell said, "I wish I had more time to work with you."

In anticipation of increasing congestion on Main Street, especially in light of the proposed developments in coming years, Cordell suggested that a bypass might be the only way to preserve the character of Fairfield. He encouraged the council to "use every tool possible to guide and protect growth. I will be cheering you on." — W. Reinke

### Council approves HARB appointment

FAIRFIELD, Pa. — The borough council unanimously approved Fairfield resident Andrew Keyser for a five-year term on the Historical and Architectural Review Board (HARB) to replace outgoing member Dean Thomas. Thomas won a council seat in November and is ineligible to hold the HARB post as an elected official as per HARB guidelines. — W. Reinke

## Carroll Valley News Briefs ...

### 2006 budget approved for Carroll Valley

CARROLL VALLEY, Pa. — The borough council unanimously approved the proposed 2006 budget at their Dec. 13 meeting.

"The borough finances continue to be stable ... because of the prudent financial policies" of the council, noted Borough Manager David Hazlett. The majority of the borough's revenue comes from real estate and transfer taxes (39 percent) and earned income taxes (30 percent).

Thanks to increasing property values and population, the borough was able to pass the balanced budget for the tenth year in a row without raising property taxes. The full budget is available for review on the borough Web site at [www.carrollvalley.org](http://www.carrollvalley.org). — W. Reinke

### Carroll Valley police chief commended

CARROLL VALLEY, Pa. — In one of his last acts as mayor of Carroll Valley, Jim Becraft presented Police Chief Richard Hileman with the Mayoral Citation of Excellence and a key to the borough.

Citing a revolving door of public servants during his four-year term as mayor, with "14 council members, three council presidents, four borough managers, and two solicitors," Becraft commended Hileman for his "day in and day out commitment ... to the demands of running the Carroll Valley Police Department."

Becraft voiced frustration over the generally high turnover rate of local government officials, but stated that the knowledge and longevity of Hileman and Borough Secretary Barbara Hertz, with a combined service time of 38 years, have kept the borough running smoothly and made his job as mayor much easier. — W. Reinke

### Borough transitions to new waste collection company

CARROLL VALLEY, Pa. — Council members continue to monitor the transition of residential trash haulers, from Waste Management to IESI, which went into effect Jan. 1, 2006.

Borough Manager David Hazlett confirmed that the regular pickup day would still be Monday. Some council members have been able to set up their service over the phone. But a citizen present at the Dec. 13 meeting said he was told that IESI was not accepting phone reservations, but that residents must wait until they received a notice in the mail with a return postcard to set up service.

An IESI spokesperson told Hazlett that the mailing went out on Dec. 13. Any resident who has not received the mailing should call IESI at 877-709-1700.

Hazlett acknowledged that "transition pains" are inevitable with such changes, but remains "confident that it was the proper decision for the Carroll Valley Borough, because of the significant cost savings our residents will receive. The borough stands prepared to assist IESI and our residents in making the transition as easy as possible." — W. Reinke

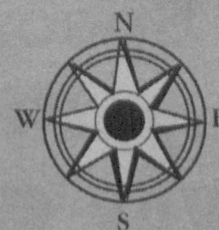
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## LOCAL HISTORY

# Remembering the Battle of Monterey Pass

By JOHN A. MILLER  
Civil War Historian of the Greater  
Emmitsburg Historical Society

The Battle of Monterey Pass took place on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1863, during the retreat of the Confederate forces from Gettysburg. At around 9 p.m. the Federal cavalry, under the command of General Kilpatrick, came into contact with Confederate

pickets from Captain George Emack's company of 1<sup>st</sup> Maryland cavalry that were stationed near Fountain Dale, located one mile south of Monterey Pass on the Waynesboro-Emmitsburg Pike.

Hearing reports of General Kilpatrick's movements, Captain Emack ordered a cannon to be deployed and loaded with its last two rounds of ammunition. The men then waited for further orders. As the weather

conditions worsened, the Federal soldiers failed to recognize the Confederate pickets who were wearing black gum blankets over their uniforms. Without making any demonstration, using their bodies to shield the gun, Captain Emack ordered the cannon to fire. The shot was fired directly into the head of the Federal column.

After the confusion subsided, the Confederates charged and drove the Federals back into Fountain Dale, where Kilpatrick's artillery was stationed. For the next several hours in the rain and darkness, the opposing forces engaged in some of the most confusing fighting of the Civil War. In some instances, the soldiers could only tell where the enemy was by flashes of the muzzle from their guns.

General Kilpatrick pushed the Confederates up the mountainside and gained the mountain summit. At Monterey House, the Federal commander deployed his artillery and shelled the Confederate wagons. During the early morning hours of July 5<sup>th</sup>, Kilpatrick's cavalry reached the road on which General Ewell's wagon train was traveling. He then succeeded in capturing and destroying a large number of wagons, and took 1,360 Confederate soldiers as prisoners.



Brigadier General  
Judson Kilpatrick

Union General Judson Kilpatrick (left) thought he was facing more Confederates at Monterey Pass than the mere handful that held off his three Union brigades. The Maryland 1<sup>st</sup> (Confederate) Cavalry, with only a single cannon and 20 men, held off 7,000 Union troopers for over five hours. The Confederates created so much confusion among the Union ranks that at one point, "From the shouting and firing among the retreating (Union) enemy we concluded that they had become panic-stricken and were (accidentally) fighting among themselves," *Captain George Emack, Company B, First (Confederate) Maryland Cavalry wrote.*

## Confederate hero of Monterey Pass recounts battle

"... The advance picket had been on duty but a short time when I was notified of the advance of a large body of Federal cavalry and artillery from the direction of Emmitsburg [Kilpatrick's Brigade]. ... I came across a lieutenant of a North Carolina battery, who had but one gun and only two rounds of ammunition ... and placing him in position, I directed him to load both charges in his gun and await orders ... Without making any demonstration, we turned and retreated before them (advancing Union cavalry) at a walk, shielding the gun as much as possible ... As soon as we passed the gun, the lieutenant fired into the head of the column. Taking advantage of the halt and confusion which followed this fire, I charged with my little party, in all only eight mounted men, and succeeded

in driving them back for more than a mile until they reached their artillery. ... After fully an hour we heard the enemy advancing. ... Lying on the ground, we reserved our fire until they were within ten or fifteen paces of us, when we gave them a volley which caused another precipitate retreat. ... My ammunition was entirely exhausted and some of my men actually fought with rocks; nor did they give back an inch. ... At about 3 o'clock AM ... running fight now ensued amid wagons and ambulances. ...

- Captain George Emack,  
Company B, First (Confederate)  
Maryland Cavalry

*Editor's Note: Excerpts from a letter available in its entirety at <http://www.cybcon.com/~warren/FirstMaryland/generate.cgi?PAGE=monterey>*

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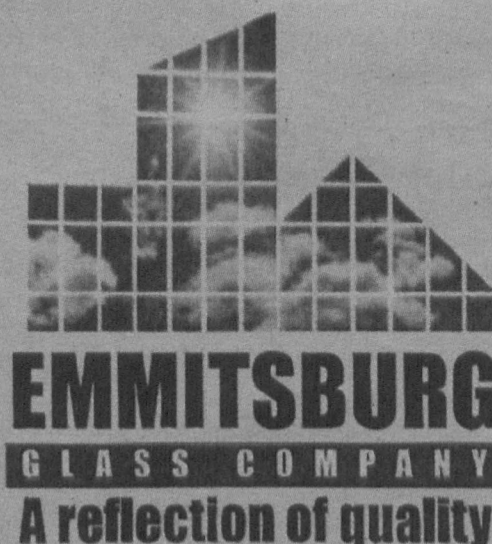
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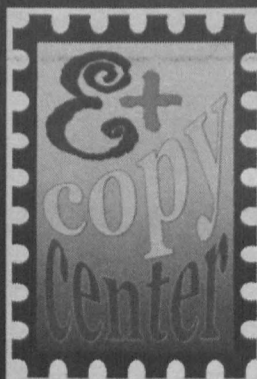
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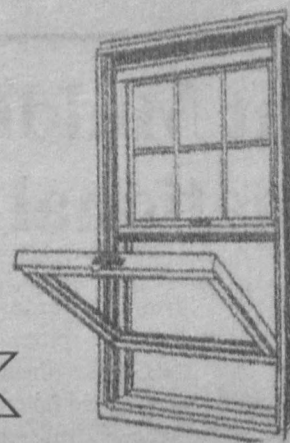
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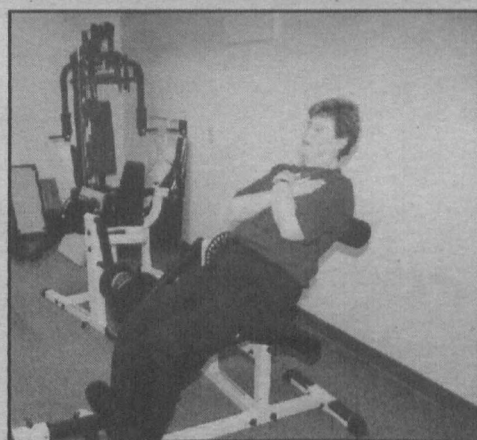
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## EDUCATION

## Thurmont Middle School teacher receives national certification

By SUSAN ALLEN  
Contributing Writer

Alicia Kuchinsky, an eighth-grade language arts teacher at Thurmont Middle School (TMS), has received certification in English/language arts (early adolescence) from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS).

Kuchinsky is one of only 23 Frederick County Public School (FCPS) teachers holding this level of certification. She began teaching at TMS in 1997 after graduating from Kings College and completing teacher's certification at James Madison University. She recently earned a master's degree in education

from McDaniel College.

The process for achieving NBPTS certification is challenging, but completely voluntary. Teachers must have a bachelor's degree, a minimum of three years classroom teaching experience, and must demonstrate a thorough understanding of their specific subject and how to teach it to students in a particular age group.

She submitted a portfolio including samples of students' written work and analyzed her own teaching methods. The analysis included a videotape recording of her work with small cooperative-learning groups and whole-class discussions. This exercise was especially valuable, she says, because she "could see what

worked" and which techniques "I'd never use again." She also had to pass a three-hour written exam in English language arts.

FCPS offers scholarships to teachers who want to prepare for national certification. Staff members also perform the videotaping and editing. Nationally certified teachers receive an annual stipend, which is matched by the Maryland Board of Education. Certification complements, but does not replace, state licensing of teachers. It is valid for ten years.

Information about the independent, nonpartisan and nonprofit NBPTS is available at [www.nbpts.org](http://www.nbpts.org).

## Local faculty nominated for Disney Teacher Awards

By SUSAN ALLEN  
Contributing Writer

Seven Catocin area teachers are among 72 Frederick County teachers nominated for 2006 Disney Teacher Awards.

Four Thurmont Middle School faculty members are nominees: Lisa Garvey (mathematics and Latin), Susan Hileman (Spanish), Alicia Kuchinsky (language arts), and Berna LaForce (chorus and theater arts.) Three elementary level teachers were also nominated: Kelly Boutin (Thurmont Elementary School), Pam Ellenburg (Sabillasville Elementary School), and Charlene Rippeon (Emmitsburg Elementary School.)

Teachers are nominated anonymously by colleagues, community members, students, and parents. Nominees must submit an application, including credentials,

letters of recommendation, and professional reflection essays, to an evaluation committee comprised of education experts.

Three teachers in each of 10 categories are then selected as national DisneyHand Teacher Awards honorees. Honorees receive a monetary award, money for their school, and a trip to Disneyland in California for the awards gala, professional development and fun in the theme park.

Although part-time teachers may be nominated, only full-time teachers are eligible to apply for Disney awards.

The Disney teacher awards were established in 1989 as a way to honor teachers who use creative and stimulating approaches to engaging their students. They are recognized for employing a variety of experiences to convey ideas and information and "inspire a joy of learning."

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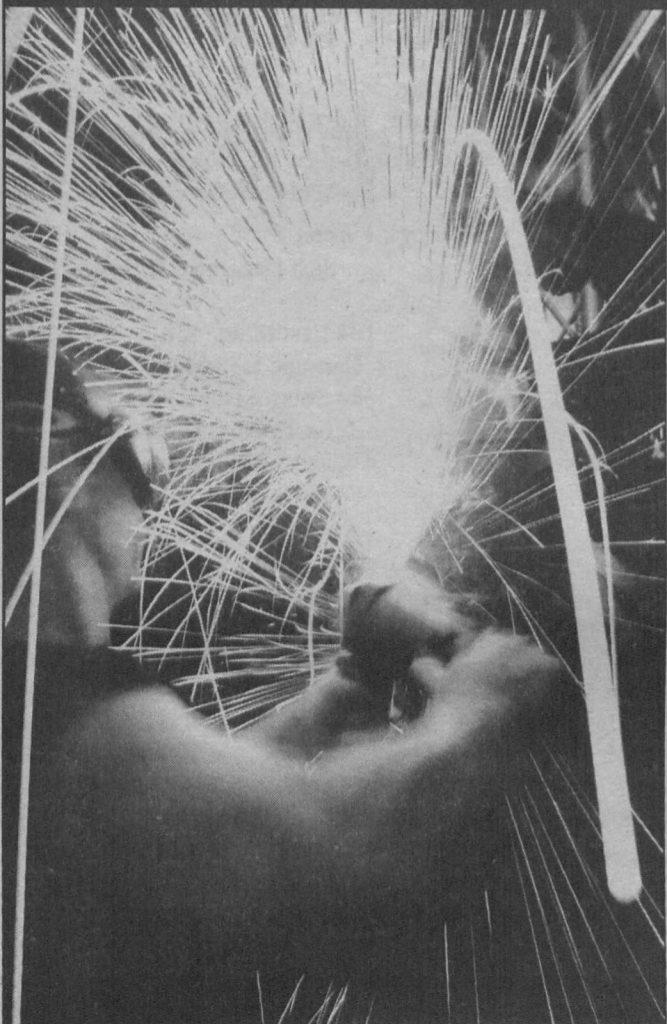
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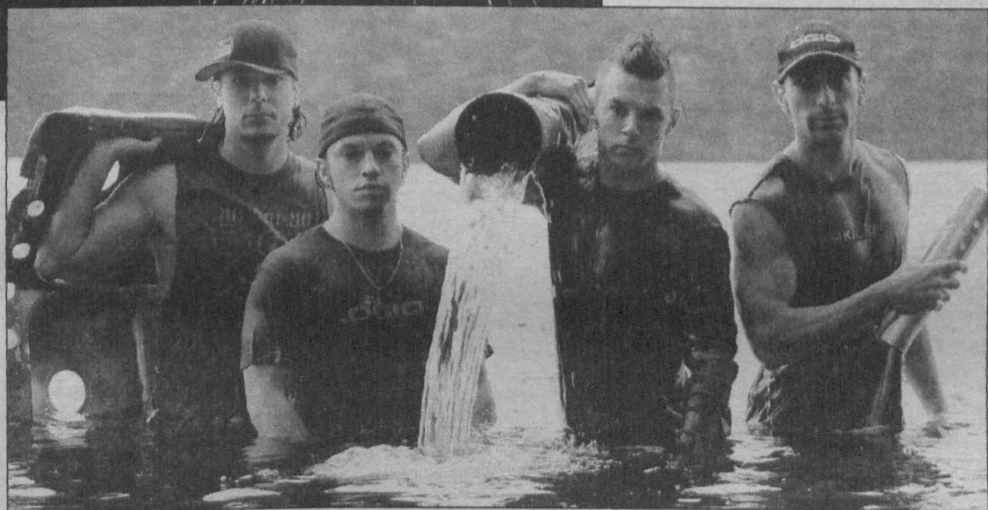


## Recycled Percussion TO PERFORM ON APRIL 19

Make plans now to attend an exciting musical event—where recycled objects stand in for musical instruments. Recycled Percussion consists of three drummers and a DJ, and is touring with a new stage performance of what they term “junk rock”—a vibrant light show and high-energy rock performance that includes a massive drum kit, buckets, metal drums and power tools. Not to mention the kitchen sink! The group has performed at more than 800 shows, including NBA and NFL halftime shows, TV shows, and at festivals and numerous colleges and universities.

Tickets will go on sale mid semester. For more information, contact Sean Adams, director of campus activities, at 301-447-5849. You won't want to miss this musical event!

To learn more about Recycled Percussion, visit [www.recycledpercussion.com](http://www.recycledpercussion.com).



### RECYCLED PERCUSSION

April 19, 2006

6:30 p.m.

Knott Arena

Tickets will be \$10 (\$5 for students) and will be available from the Mount box office mid semester. Check the *Emmitsburg Dispatch* Mount page for updates.

### 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)

### ADMISSIONS EVENTS

#### Admissions Transfer Orientation

January 12

Incoming transfer students have the opportunity to become acquainted with all facets of the campus.

#### Christian Brugger “Capital Punishment, Abolition, and Catholic Moral Philosophy: An Ethically Principled Perspective”

Thursday, February 2

7 p.m., Knott Auditorium

E. Christian Brugger is assistant professor of ethics in the department of religious studies at Loyola University in New Orleans, Louisiana. He is the author of *Capital Punishment and Roman Catholic Moral Tradition*, in which he traces the history of this moral issue. He will discuss his findings during this presentation.

#### Admissions Academic Major Day

February 3: Science

February 10: Education and Undecided

February 17: Business

Get an in-depth look at what it is like to be a science, education or business major at the Mount through simulated classes, interactions with faculty and current students and discussions with the Career Center. If you are undecided as to your major, attend our program on February 10 to learn how our Freshman Experience and Core Curriculum can help you choose a major.

### ATHLETICS

#### MEN'S BASKETBALL

SACRED HEART

January 12, 7 p.m.

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT ST.

January 28, 7 p.m.

ROBERT MORRIS

February 2, 7 p.m.

• HOMECOMING

ST. FRANCIS (PA.)

February 4, 7 p.m.

#### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

SACRED HEART

January 16, 7 p.m.

QUINNIPIAC

January 19, 7 p.m.

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT ST.

January 28, 3 p.m.

• HOMECOMING

ST. FRANCIS (PA.)

February 4, 3 p.m.

## DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. ESSAY WRITING CONTEST!

Open to all students in the Emmitsburg, Thurmont, and Fairfield schools.

Topic: If Dr. King were alive today, what would be his dream?

The purpose of this essay contest is to encourage students to reflect on Dr. King's legacy of peace, activism, and social justice. In writing this essay, think about a particular issue of our time that Dr. King would want to change, why this issue is important, how YOU could be part of Dr. King's dream, and what YOU might do to realize this dream.

### Rules

- The essay must be a minimum length of:
  - 750 words for High School students
  - 500 words for Middle School students
  - 150 words for Elementary School students
- Entries should be typed or handwritten legibly and are to be in English.
- The name, address, home / cell phone number, school name, grade, and age of the student must be submitted on a cover page accompanying the essay.
- All essays submitted become the property of Mount St. Mary's University and may be displayed in university publications or in the local newspaper.

### Deadline

On or before January 10, 2006.

### Award

- 1st prize—\$50
- 2nd prize (in each category)—citation

The winners will be invited to read excerpts of their essay during our annual Emmitsburg-Thurmont Dr. King's Commemorative celebration on the evening of January 18 at 7 p.m. at Mount St. Mary's University.

### Contact

Please submit essays to Paulett McIntosh, Director of Intercultural Development at ([mcintosh@msmary.edu](mailto:mcintosh@msmary.edu)) or Office of Intercultural Development, Mount St. Mary's University, 16300 Old Emmitsburg Road, Emmitsburg, MD 21727

For additional information, call (301) 447-5720

## CALLINGS CONFERENCE: HOW DO FAITH AND VOCATION SHAPE THE FIELD OF COMMUNICATIONS?

March 30-April 1, 2006

Sponsored by Mount St. Mary's University and *Callings*, A Mount program of theological exploration funded by the Lilly Endowment, Inc.

[www.msmary.edu/callings](http://www.msmary.edu/callings)



## OBITUARIES

### Helena M. Dell

Helena M. Dell, 83, Rocky Ridge, Md., died Dec. 24, 2005.

Born Aug. 4, 1922, in Thurmont, Md., she was the daughter of the late Felix and Edith Shorb.

Surviving are one son, Michael Shorb; one granddaughter; one sister, Loretta Moxley; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held from Stauffer Funeral Home, Thurmont, on Dec. 29. Interment was in Evergreen Memorial Gardens, Finksburg, Md.

### Paul E. Eckenrode

Paul Edward Eckenrode, 95, Braddock Heights, Md., formerly of Emmitsburg, died Dec. 25 at the Vindobona Nursing Home, Braddock Heights, Md.

Born January 12, 1910, in Thurmont, Md., he was a son of the late Charles Edward and Mary Kelly Eckenrode.

Surviving is one son, Patrick Edward Eckenrode; and one grandson.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Dec. 29, from St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Emmitsburg, Md., with his pastor, Rev. Stephen P. Trzeciecki, C.M., as the celebrant. Interment was in St. Anthony's Shrine Cemetery, Emmitsburg.

### Charles L. Keeney, Sr.

Charles Luther Keeney Sr., 77, Rocky Ridge, died Dec. 11 at the Frederick Memorial Hospital.

Born May 26, 1928 in New Midway, he was a son of the late Harvey Luther and Lana Marguerite Holt Keeney.

Surviving are his wife, Emma Lilly Gruber Keeney; two sons, Charles L. Keeney, Jr. and Carl L. Keeney; one daughter, Emma Lou

Harris; four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; two sisters, Dorothy Gilbride and Betty Moser; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held Dec. 15 from the Robert E. Dailey & Son Funeral Homes, P.A., Thurmont, with his pastor, the Rev. Esther R. Ziegler, officiating. Interment was in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Woodsboro.

### Ray L. Price, Jr.

Ray Lee Price Jr., 82, Emmitsburg, formerly of Baltimore, Md., died Dec. 16, 2005 at The Gettysburg Hospital, Gettysburg, Pa. Born Feb. 6, 1923, in Wyco, W. Va., he was the son of the late Ray Lee and Maude (Snyder) Price, Sr.

Surviving are his wife of 52 years, Mary Larmer Price; three daughters, Barbara R. Comegys, Marlene Sellers, and Juanita Leatherman; two sons, Daniel L. Price and Timothy L. Price; and four brothers, Billy Price, Wayne Price, Archie Price and Bobby Price.

Funeral services were held Dec. 20, at Monahan Funeral Home, Street, Fairfield, Pa. Interment was in Fairfield Union Cemetery, Fairfield, Pa.

### Thomas E. Siess, Sr.

Thomas (Tom) E. Siess Sr., 71, died Dec. 17, 2005, at home.

Born Nov. 4, 1934 in Waynesboro, Pa., he was the son of the late Charles A. and Edna Grace Lewis Siess.

Surviving are his wife of 32 years, Constance (Connie) L. Bauer Sheffield Siess; one daughter, Theresa Berish; five sons, Todd A. Sheffield; Thomas (Tom) E. Siess, Jr.; Harold (Chip) Siess; Richard Siess; Christopher Siess; two sisters, Mary E. Carroll, and Dorothy A.

Lloyd; one brother, Robert Siess; eight grandchildren and two great-grandsons.

Services were held Dec. 22 at the Longanacre Funeral Home Chapel, Fairlea, W. Va., with Father Tom Daigle officiating. Burial followed in the Greenbrier Memorial Gardens, Lewisburg, W. Va.

### Melvin E. Wetzel

Melvin Eugene "Gene" Wetzel, 69, Rocky Ridge, died Dec. 10, 2005, at home.

Born April 3, 1936, in Frederick, he was a son of the late Ezra David and Fannie Baker Wetzel.

Surviving are his wife, Patsy Ann Lookingbill Wetzel; one son, Melvin Eugene Wetzel, Jr.; two daughters, Deborah Eyler and JoAnne Wetzel; five grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held Dec. 13 at Thurmont United Methodist Church, 13880 Long Road, with The Rev. Michael Fauconnet officiating. Interment was in Resthaven Memorial Gardens.

### Philip A. Wetzel

Philip Anthony Wetzel, 64, Thurmont, Md., died Dec. 20, 2005, at Frederick Memorial Hospital, Frederick, Md.

Born July 20, 1941 in Thurmont, he was a son of the late Henry Russell and Mariana K. Roddy Wetzel.

Surviving are two sisters, Mary E. Frazer and Mariana K. Myers; and a number of nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Dec. 23, from St. Anthony's Shrine Parish, Emmitsburg, Md., with the Rev. Jack Lombardi as the celebrant. Interment was in St. Anthony's Shrine Cemetery, Emmitsburg.

## Emmitsburg Christmas decoration winners

Two groups of judges, one with Catherine Forrence, Diane Walbrecker and Joyce Rosensteel, and a second with six children ranging from 3 to 9 years of age, driven by Noreen O'Donnell, selected Emmitsburg's Christmas decorations winners on Dec. 20.

### Children's Choice

#### Best Decorated House

- 1<sup>st</sup> - 2070 Pembroke (\$50)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - 430 Timbermill (\$30)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - 7 Zanella Drive (\$20)

#### Best Decorated Business

- 104 East Main (\$50)  
Carriage House
- 304 South Seton (\$30)  
Rebecca Pearl Gallery
- 4 Reeny Court (\$20)  
Feud House Crafts

Honorable mentions: 4075 Carrick Court, 1 Reeny Court, 1303 Huntley Circle, 1 Adams Avenue, 101 East Main, 4 Adams Avenue, 41 Irishtown Road, 53 Second Avenue, 3010 Stonehurst, 4065 Carrick Court, 115 East Main, Ambulance Company, Briggs Associates, Ott House, and Callies Collectibles.

Emmitsburg Parks and Recreation Committee sponsored this contest.

## Register for 2006 Emmitsburg baseball and softball

Emmitsburg Baseball and Softball League will hold registration for the 2006 baseball and softball season late January and early February. Registrations will take place at the Emmitsburg Ambulance Building on South Seton Avenue. A copy of your child's birth certificate is required.

Thursday, Jan. 26	6-8 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 28	1-3 p.m.
Sunday, Jan. 29	1-3 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 2	6-8 p.m.
Sunday, Feb. 5	1-3 p.m.

## Thurmont girls softball seeks sponsors

The Catocin Recreation Council in Thurmont is offering girls softball for the second year, and is looking for sponsors.

The teams had a very successful 2005 season, with the 12 and under team going undefeated.

In 2006 the girls will play in the Frederick County Girls Softball League in five age groups: 8 and under, 10 and under, 12 and under, 14 and under, and 16 and under.

The Catocin Recreation Council is a non-profit organization run entirely by volunteers. To give the girls of Thurmont the opportunity to participate, the council needs community help and support.

Donations will help pay for equipment and umpires. A donation of \$300 or more will put your company name on a sign on the outfield fence. All contributions are tax-deductible.

Send donations to Catocin Recreation Council, c/o Bob Marlow, P.O. Box 291, Thurmont, MD 21788. Please write "Girls softball" on the memo line.

For more information, call Bob Marlow at 301 271-7063.

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# A&E Calendar

## LOOKING AHEAD

### For Children

**Jan. 14 through March 26** – **Rumplestiltskin.** After a simple miller's daughter is imprisoned after he boasts to the king that she can spin straw into gold, a mysterious and magical little man appears to save the day. Way Off Broadway Dinner Theatre, Willow Tree Plaza, Rt. 40 West, Frederick. \$10.50. 301-662-6600. [www.wayoffbroadway.com](http://www.wayoffbroadway.com).

**Jan. 17** – **Super Scientific Circus with John Lepiarz and Trent Arterberry.** 10 a.m. Step right up for this amazing show, creatively performed by a multi-talented circus clown and mime extraordinaire. The duo demonstrate seemingly impossible circus tricks and then explain the science behind the wonder. Recommended for grades 2-5 in connection with elementary science essential curriculum. \$6-10. Weinberg Center for the Arts, 20 W. Patrick St. \$10-15. 301-228-2828.

**Feb. 12** – **David Parker.** 3 p.m. Parker combines American Sign Language, live music, movement and visual comedy to create an energetic and interactive evening. Weinberg Center for the Arts, 20 W. Patrick St. \$10-15. 301-228-2828.

### Concerts

**Jan. 21** – **Legends of Yesterday: The Beatles, Everly Brothers, Buddy Holly.** 8 p.m. They are all back in this unforgettable tribute to rock 'n' roll's early legends. \$25-30. Weinberg Center for the Arts, 20 W. Patrick St. Frederick. 301-228-2828.

**Feb. 10** – **Maryland Symphony**

**Orchestra.** 8 p.m. Enjoy a birthday toast to Mozart, a celebration of the great composer's 250th birthday. The concert highlights two of his most charming works: Overture to II Re Pastore and Symphony No. 41, also known as Jupiter. The MSO's own Beverly Butts is featured in Mozart's incomparable Clarinet Concerto. \$10-25. Weinberg Center for the Arts, 20 W. Patrick St. Frederick. 301-228-2828.

### Galleries, Exhibits, Art Shows

**Jan. 7 through Jan. 29** – **InterREAAction.** Opening reception 3-5 p.m. Jan. 7. Show of triptychs reveals a unique collaboration between three artists: a photographer, a poet, and a watercolorist. Delaplaine Visual Arts Center, 40 S. Carroll St., Frederick. 301-698-0656.

**Jan. 7 through Jan. 29** – **Emerging Artists.** Opening reception 3-5 p.m. Jan. 7. Premier showcase of four young, talented artists living in the region. Delaplaine Visual Arts Center, 40 S. Carroll St., Frederick. 301-698-0656.

**Jan. 7 through Jan. 29** – **Flowers from Another Galaxy.** Featuring the otherworldly digital photography of Don Dunsmore. Delaplaine Visual Arts Center, 40 S. Carroll St., Frederick. 301-698-0656.

### Dance

**Jan. 7 and 21** – **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.

**Jan. 20** – **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.

### Stage

**Through Jan. 7** – **The Pavilion.** 8 p.m. Romantic, funny and philosophical, Craig Wright's Pulitzer Prize-nominated play explores the "what ifs" of the past when two former teenage lovers, separated by time and tragedy, reconnect at their 20th high school reunion. Maryland Ensemble Theatre, 31 W. Patrick St., FSK Hotel, Frederick. 301-694-4744.

**Jan. 21** – **Legends of Yesterday.** 8 p.m. Buddy Holly, the Everly Brothers, and the Beatles are back in this unforgettable tribute to rock and roll's early legends. \$25, \$30, \$35. Weinberg Center for the Arts, 20 W. Patrick St., Frederick. 301-228-2828.

### Movies

**Jan. 13** – **"Dr. Zhivago."** 8 p.m. Omar Shariff and Julie Christie star in this Oscar-winning love story. \$4-6. Weinberg Center for the Arts, 20 W. Patrick St. Frederick. 301-228-2828.

**Jan. 20** – **"The Black Pirate."** 8 p.m. Swordplay abounds in this silent adventure, accompanied by the mighty Wurlitzer. \$4-6. Weinberg Center for the Arts, 20 W. Patrick St. 301-228-2828.

**Jan. 27** – **"Les Choristes."** 8 p.m. A teacher changes lives with his love of music in this French film. \$4-6. Weinberg Center for the Arts, 20 W. Patrick St. 301-228-2828.

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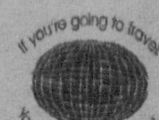
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**Jan 20-21 Stick Time**  
**Jan 27-27 Red Line**

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## ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMS

### Emmitsburg Community Center offers winter programs

Call 301-696-2936 to register.

- Jan. 12 - Basketball Skills.** Ages 4-12. Learn basketball fundamentals. Six-week program. Cost: \$27.
- Jan. 12 - Karate.** 7-8 p.m. Ages 7-14. Learn Korean karate. Eight-week program. Cost: \$30.
- Jan. 18 - Flag Football Skills.** Ages 5-9. Learn basic skills. Six-week program. Cost: \$27.
- Jan. 20 - Sports Express at Emmitsburg.** Ages 5-14. Games and multiple sports to promote team building and cooperation. Cost: \$27.
- Jan. 21, 28 or Feb. 11, 18 - Messes and Masterpieces.** 10-11 a.m. Ages 3-5. Two-week hands-on class. Cost: \$20 per participant, per session.
- Jan. 25 - Clay Creations.** 10-11 a.m. Ages 3-5. Make a craft for the refrigerator. Cost: \$10 per parent/child pair.
- Feb. 1 - Teddy Bear Tea Party.** 10-11 a.m. Ages 3-5. Story, craft and tea. Cost: \$10.
- Feb. 4 - Dinosaur Fun.** 10-11 a.m. Ages 3-5. Dinosaur craft, games. Cost: \$10.
- Feb. 8 - Funny Valentines.** 10-11 a.m. Ages 3-5. Make a valentine, play games and listen to a story. Cost: \$10.
- Feb. 22 - Little Luau.** 10-11 a.m. Ages 3-5. Hawaiian craft, island games. Cost: \$10.
- Feb. 25 - Portrait Drawing.** 10:30 a.m. to noon. Ages 8-16. Learn pencil and charcoal portrait drawing. Cost: \$20.
- Art Club Series.** Each two-week session will focus on a different style and technique of art. All materials provided. Costs, ages and times vary. Session 1 - Drawing; Session 2 - Painting; and Session 3 - Print making.
- Feb 25, March 4 - Drawing with Pastels.** 9-10:30 a.m. Ages 8-16. Two-week program. Cost: \$20.
- March 1, 8, 15, 22 - Expressive Drawing and Painting.** 6-7:30 p.m. Ages 16 and older. Basic techniques of watercolor and acrylics.
- March 8 - Shamrock Surprise.** 10-11 a.m. Crafts and a "green" story. Ages 3-5. Cost: \$10.

### Library Events

At the Emmitsburg Library

**Music and Movement** (ages 3-5)  
*Get up and dance with Debra Linton, director of Creative Kids Academy.*  
Jan. 7 at 11 a.m. Registration required.

**Oaks and Acorns Book Club** (grades 4-6)  
Bring an adult. Light snack provided.  
Second Monday, 6:30 p.m.  
Jan. 9

**Chess Club** (ages 6 and up)  
Bring an adult if you are under 8.  
Second and fourth Fridays at 3:15 p.m.  
Jan. 13 and 27

**Monthly make it and take it craft** (all ages)  
Jan. 16-21 Create a mitten magnet.

**3rd Thursdays at ThorpeWood** (ages 3-5)  
Monthly preschool story program at ThorpeWood Environmental Center, Old Mink Farm Road, Thurmont, hosted by Thurmont and Emmitsburg libraries. Directions: [www.thorpewood.org](http://www.thorpewood.org) or 301-271-2823.  
Jan. 19 from 1-2 p.m. Registration required.

**"Did You Know?" series** (ages 6-12)  
**Pondering popcorn.** Sample new

flavors and learn the who, when and where of popcorn.  
Jan. 21 at 11 a.m. Registration required.

**Storytimes**  
**Babies with Books** (birth-24 months with an adult)  
First three Wednesdays of the month at 10:30 a.m.,  
Jan. 4, 11, 18

**Two Terrific!** (age 2 with an adult)  
Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.  
Jan. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

**Pre-school Storytime** (ages 3-5)  
Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.  
Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26

**Family Storytime** (all ages)  
Wednesdays at 7 p.m.  
Jan. 4, 11, 18, 25

**For Teens**  
**Movie Makers Club** (grades 6-12)  
Join other teens to learn the basics of filmmaking. Share experiences and resources to make movies.  
First Tuesday and third Thursday at 7 p.m.  
Jan. 3 and 19

**Animé Club** (grades 6-12)  
Second Friday from 6-8 p.m.  
Movie, snack, other activities. Co-sponsored by Emmitsburg and Thurmont Libraries.  
Jan. 13 Registration required.

**Teen Book Club** (grades 6-12)

Third Tuesday at 7 p.m.  
Jan. 17 - "Shabanu: Daughter of the Wind" by Suzanne Fischer Staples

**Adult programs**  
**Non-fiction Book Club**  
Second Thursday at 1 p.m.  
Jan. 12 - "In my hands: Memories of a Holocaust Rescuer" by Irene Gut Opdyke

**Tuesday Evening Book Club**  
Second Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.  
Jan. 10 - "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time" by Mark Haddon

**Knitting Circle** (adults and teens)  
Third Thursday at 4 p.m.  
Jan. 19

**Genealogy Focus Group** (adults and teens)  
Fourth Thursday at 7 p.m.  
Learn about resources and share tips with others engaged in genealogical research.  
Jan. 26

**Beads 'n' Baubles 'n' Wire, oh my!** (adults and teens)  
Learn the basics of wire work, and create a unique piece of jewelry. Registration required.  
Jan. 31 at 6:30 p.m.

Programs, unless otherwise noted, are held at the Emmitsburg Library in the Community Center on Seton Avenue. Registration or information: 240-629-6329.

### Senior Events

Happy New Year, and welcome to 2006! Mother Nature might have some winter surprises for us this month, so we haven't scheduled many special events. **Meeting Day** is Jan. 17, with blood pressure checks the same morning. **The center will be closed on Monday, Jan. 16 for Martin Luther King Day.**

We are looking for volunteers from the community, particularly "baby boomers,"

to be part of a focus group on new programs and activities for the senior center. Please contact Linda Umbel, 240-629-6350, or [lumbel@fredco-md.net](mailto:lumbel@fredco-md.net).

The seniors encourage all eligible persons (50 years and older) to join them for regular program activities and special events. Our lunch program is open to those 60 and older. The center is lovely and the "natives" are friendly! Check us out!

**Bowling:** Mondays at Taneytown

bowling center. Carpool; meet at center at 12:30 p.m.

**Strength training & conditioning:** Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. Dress comfortably; wear athletic shoes. Participants will use small weights. Led by Linda Stultz.

**Bingo:** Jan. 4 and 18.

**Cards-500, and Bridge Group:** Jan. 11 and 25.

**Canasta & Pinochle:** Fridays at 12:30 p.m.

**Shopping at Jubilee Foods:** Thursdays at 12:30 p.m.

**Frederick shopping:** Second Wednesday, 12:30 p.m.

Programs are held in the Community Center on South Seton Avenue. Call for lunch reservations 24 hours in advance. The Senior Center will close whenever county offices are closed. To register for special events or for information, call program coordinator Linda Umbel, 240-629-6350.

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**Canaries for sale.** If interested, call 301-447-6659.

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# Community Calendar

## Looking Ahead

**Jan. 8 – Country Style Breakfast Buffet.** 7 a.m. to noon. St. Joseph's Catholic Church Social Hall, 44 Frederick Street, Taneytown. Cost: Adults \$5.50, Children 7-10, \$3.25, six and under free. Early bird special 7-8 a.m., adults \$5, children 7-10 \$3. Sponsored by Knights of Columbus, St. Joseph Taneytown Council 11631.

**Jan. 8 – Winter outdoor sports.** 1:30 p.m. Catocin Mountain Park Visitor Center. Join Clyde Hicks from the Trail House to learn more about local winter recreational areas.

**Jan. 11 – Promoting Healthy Decisions/Drugs and Alcohol.** 6-8 p.m. Catocin High School. Free dinner and childcare. Sponsored by Catocin CASS, Catocin feeder schools guidance department and Families Plus!

Dinner and childcare provided. Free, registration required: 240-236-1770 or 301-694-9002.

**Jan. 11 – NASA presentation at Lions Club meeting.** 7:30 p.m. Cozy Restaurant, Thurmont. Dr. Joseph F. Dolan, an astrophysicist at Goddard Laboratory for Astronomy and Solar Physics, will provide an update on the space center's most recent observations and successes. Free. Information: 301-271-2337 or 301-271-7305.

**Jan. 14 – Ned Dougherty book signing and talk.** Author of "Fast Lane to Heaven." Book signing from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., St. Peter's Books & Gifts Café, 101-2 Silo Hill Rd., Emmitsburg. Talk at 3 p.m. at Lynfield Events Complex, 10412 Hansonville Rd., Frederick. Admission, \$10.

**Jan. 15 – Third Sunday Service of Praise.** 6:30 p.m. Graceham Moravian Church. Music by "The Walk," message from Pastor Jeff Gehris, "Walking through the Mud."

**Jan. 19 – Potluck luncheon.** 11:30 a.m. St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Sabillasville. Sponsored by Mountaintop Seniors. All senior citizens are welcome. Information: 301-241-3287.

**Jan. 21 and Feb. 25 – Blacksmith shop demonstrations.** 1-3 p.m. Camp Round Meadow, Catocin Mountain Park. Evolution of blacksmithing and demonstrations.

**Jan. 22 – Third annual all you can eat breakfast.** 7 a.m. to noon. Mother Seton School, Emmitsburg. Adults, \$5; children, \$3; under 5, free. To benefit the Jack and Shirley Little Memorial Scholarship Fund.

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Affiliated with the

Frederick County Chapter as an Americorps VISTA member, Scherbarth designs, schedules and presents disaster preparedness messages focusing on children and youth. In partnership with the YMCA After School program, she will be sharing information on preparedness and safety during

winter storms with children throughout the county.

Organizations interested in arranging a preparedness message for children and families affiliated with them may call Scherbarth at 301-662-5131 or e-mail [bscherbarth@frederickredcross.org](mailto:bscherbarth@frederickredcross.org).



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### Emmitsburg area births

\* Mr. and Mrs. Steven King, Emmitsburg, a daughter, Dec. 18

\* Laura and Phil Culley, Fairfield, Pa. a son, Dec. 5

\* Peggy Cantler and Andy Davis, Emmitsburg, a daughter, Dec. 1

\* Erin and David Sonifrank, Emmitsburg, a daughter, Nov. 28

\* Mr. and Mrs. Jamie A. Barlet, Emmitsburg, a daughter, Nov. 30

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