

The Emmitsburg Dispatch

VOL V, No. 9

News and Opinion in the service of Truth

MAY 4, 2006



-RICHARD D. L. FULTON / THE DISPATCH

Truck damages historic Emmit House property

Brick stairs and a side porch outside the 1879 Emmit House on West Main Street, Emmitsburg, were heavily damaged May 1 around 1:30 p.m. when this Thurmont Cooperative truck slammed into the yard. The driver, Charles Etchison, 21, Smithsburg, sustained minor injuries. Etchison told The Dispatch he did not know how he lost control of the vehicle. No charges had been filed by press deadline.

Two former commissioners sworn into office

BY RICHARD D. L. FULTON

Emmitsburg News Editor

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EMMITSBURG, Md.—Two former commissioners, Joyce Rosensteel and Clifford Sweeney, victorious candidates in the April 25 town election, were sworn into office May 1, expanding the board of commissioners for the first time to five members.

Rosensteel received 232 votes; Sweeney 220; and candidate Catherine Forrence received 122 votes. The election board posted a count of 310 ballots.

Rosensteel previously served as commissioner from 2002 to 2005, when she was defeated for re-election. Sweeney had served on the board from 2001 to 2004, but was defeated in 2005. Forrence, secretary of the New Forest Society and a member of the town's streets and transportation committee, has not previously held a town office.

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This Issue

It's not just gasoline –
it's ethanol

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'Big Sweep' a success

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Feature



Emmitsburg baseball

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Seton named 'Patroness of
Maryland'

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Gateway Theaters 8 opens

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Comp plan could be done by end of year

BY RICHARD D. L. FULTON

Emmitsburg News Editor

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EMMITSBURG, Md.—Newly hired town planning consultant Christopher N. Jakubiak told planning commission members

April 24 that with "fairly aggressive" work the comprehensive plan could be completed by the end of this year.

Effective immediately, the much-delayed comprehensive plan revision will be added to every planning commission meeting agenda until completed, which

could also mean holding more than one meeting a month.

Jakubiak, president of Jakubiak & Associates, Inc., Annapolis, said he reviewed the existing draft and it appeared "nothing of substance had been changed" and "it reads as if the county wrote it."

The planner said he would

be reviewing tapes from planning commission meetings as well as commissioner notes to glean as much information as possible regarding changes proposed during previous meetings held on the revisions.

-See **Comp Plan** on page 3

Dispatch writers capture press awards

BY JOYCE M. DEMMITT

Managing Editor

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ANNAPOLIS, Md.—Members of The Dispatch staff and two contributing writers were honored at the MDDC (Maryland-Delaware-District of Columbia) Press Association awards ceremony held in Annapolis on April 28.

The Dispatch entered articles in the editorial competition for the

first time this year, competing in Division F, non-dailies under 10,000 circulation. With approximately 53 newspapers in that division, The Emmitsburg Dispatch ranked in the top half of small, non-dailies.

In the Continuing Coverage category, Emmitsburg News Editor Rick Fulton, along with contributing writer Chris Patterson, captured first place honors for the "Emmitsburg Ethics Investigation," which began in 2004 and continued in 2005. The

judges summed up the work by saying, "This series stood out for the exhaustive research and legwork that was required to pull it together."

Walking away with first place

Local Column honors was Bill Meredith, for one of his Retired Ecologist columns, "A Parliament

-See **Awards** on page 3

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

Attempt to clarify retirement plan numbers

I am not sure where the number of \$471,000 came from as the cost to the Town to join the State retirement plan; therefore I will not comment on that number.

I do know that the Town is in possession of a letter from the State Retirement Agency of Maryland that states the entry cost at

\$318,265. If financed for 10 years, the annual fee to the Town would be approximately \$39,750. The Town has reduced its annual payroll by about \$67,000 by not filling two vacancies in the Planning Dept. That does appear to produce a savings of approximately \$27,000 per year after paying the above-noted annual

fee of \$39,750. It is very likely that part of that \$27,000 will be used to fund planning consultant services.

I hope this helps in some way to clear up the numbers issue related to this matter.

- David Haller

Emmitsburg Town Manager

Bollinger tract would make a good park

There is no park or recreation facility in the northern part of Emmitsburg, where the majority of the inhabitants live.

I believe that the Bollinger tract would make a suitable park for that area. That tract would not be so suitable for development

because of the terrain, limited access, etc. In the southern part of town, Emmitsburg owns excess parkland more suitable for development, being in town.

If the owner of the Bollinger tract would agree, the Town could exchange the parkland for the

Bollinger tract. Although I did not originate the idea, I think it is a good one. Why not put a park where most people live? All would benefit.

- Harold C. Craig Jr.

Emmitsburg

Overseas thank you for the Valentines

Letter to Mayor Hoover,

My name is SGT Carla Marghella. I am currently stationed in Baghdad, Iraq, and was lucky enough to get some Valentine's Day cards from the senior citizens in your town. They were beautiful cards; my unit appreciated them very much. Unfortunately, of all the cards that were sent to me from Keystone

Soldiers, none of them had a return address, so I could thank those that took the time to write to us soldiers.

I don't know if you served in the military yourself, but mail is one of the best things each and every day. Especially when you get something from a stranger, just to know that people back home remember and thank you for the job you're doing.

I would like to thank those in your wonderful town who did just that for myself and others in my unit.

If at all possible I ask your help in finding the organization or group in your town who were kind enough to send us handmade cards. The only clue I have is from the card where the first line states, "The Senior Citizens of Emmitsburg, Maryland send you our love and prayers this Valentine's Day." I would like to thank those who put the cards together, or at least have this message passed on to them.

Thank you very much. Any help would be appreciated. Let those in your town know to keep up the good work and pray we come home soon.

- Carla Marghella
Baghdad, Iraq

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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.

May 4, 1906

New Chapel to be erected

A new chapel is to be built at Mt. St. Mary's in the near future.

The building is to be 170 feet long by 84 feet wide over the transepts, each of which projects 20 feet beyond the main building, the whole building rising to a height of 60 feet above the ground. The plan is in the form of a Latin cross, with the sanctuary containing the high altar and the seminar stalls and with sacristies adjoining at the far end, the whole church having a seating capacity of about 500, including the seminarians and the choir. The style of architecture is Romanesque, and is so designed as to harmonize with the other college buildings. It is to be built of mountain granite, quarried from the mountains back of and owned by the college. The interior will be finished in light colors and in as simple a style as possible consistent with the style of the church.

It is expected that the excavations will be completed at the next commencement of the college, and it is hoped by the college authorities that the completion of the building will be one of the features for the centennial of the college in 1908.

Special attention will be given to the heating and ventilating apparatus, which will be installed in the basement in the rear of the church. The ceiling being high will afford a good opportunity for proper ventilation, which is an important factor in buildings of this character.

The building is being erected by contributions from the alumni, and the progress of the building will depend on the amount received. It will be a memorial to the Alumni Association.

Seltzer-Livers Wedding

Mr. James R. Seltzer and Mrs. Mary H. Livers were married here this morning at St.

Anthony's Parish Church, by Rev. Geo. Tragesser, pastor of the church. The mass was served by Mr. Seltzer's son, William. Mr. George Wagner was best man, and Miss Emma Lingg, a niece of the bride, was bridesmaid. After mass the married couple went to the home of the bride where they took breakfast.

During the afternoon many visitors were received. In the evening a reception was given, and very many useful presents were received. A luncheon was served at midnight...

San Francisco Needs Money

As a result of the earthquake, reconstruction of San Francisco is on in earnest. As a result many destitute men resumed work. The army ration plan was begun in the feeding of the destitute. The relief committee is uncertain how soon free supplies may fail, and plans are under consideration to prevent a famine...

At a meeting of James D. Phelan, chairman of the finance committee, and some prominent lawyers and bankers, a plan was broached for financing the city, which it is hoped will meet with the endorsement of the general committee. As it is estimated that the city has suffered a loss of \$200,000,000 by fire, it is said that there is not sufficient money in San Francisco to reconstruct the city, and that the people must look elsewhere for funds to rehabilitate their destroyed fortunes...

Chairman Phelan said he has as yet received no reply to his telegram to Secretary of War Taft, asking what the relief committee might expect out of the fund of \$2,500,000 appropriated by congress. He had information, however, that the \$300,000 transmitted Saturday by Secretary Taft was given by him as president of the National Red Cross and was not a contribution from the government.

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-RAYMOND BUCHHEISTER / THE DISPATCH

Dispatch staff wins recognition

Dispatch staff and contributing writers were named editorial contest winners at the annual MDDC Press Association Awards held April 25 in Annapolis. From L to R: Contributing Writer, Bill Meredith; Emmitsburg News Editor, Richard D.L. Fulton, Contributing Writer, Chris Patterson; and Thurmont News Editor, James Rada Jr.

Awards

-Continued from page 1

of Owls," which ran in the March 10, 2005 issue of *The Dispatch*. The judges' comments captured our motivation in submitting Bill's column: "This is brilliant. Really exhilarating reading. I learned something while being entertained."

Thurmont Dispatch News Editor Jim Rada won awards for his work while at *The Frederick News-Post*, including second place for Investigative Reporting along with Erin Cunningham for their story, "Is the Frederick Municipal Airport out of Control?" Rada and Kelly Ann Hinchcliffe won second place for Public Service Reporting for their coverage of the need for crossing

guards at county schools. He also contributed significantly to staff awards for Spot News and James S. Keat Freedom of Information Award.

MDDC is a 164-member press association, founded in 1908, which includes newspapers in Maryland, Delaware, the Eastern Shore of Virginia and the District of Columbia. Membership includes all the dailies and the great majority of the non-dailies in these jurisdictions. The association's purpose is "to bring together newspapers for the preservation and defense of the principles of the First Amendment to the Constitution, to promote the growth and development of the newspaper industry, and to foster fellowship among newspaper people within the area served by the Association."

Sworn

-Continued from page 1

What went right?

Following the election, Rosensteel told *The Dispatch*, "I'm glad I won and hope to do my best. I think we had the mayor's support whether he said it out loud or didn't, and figured he can work with us and bring the town back to reality."

"You never know (how local elections can go). I did get a lot of support. People are already calling me to get things down and I haven't even been sworn in yet," she stated.

Sweeney said he attributed his victory to "the voters finally wanting their town government straightened out and to get things done." He said, "I think our government can now get back to governing and get away from issues that distract from doing the business of the town."

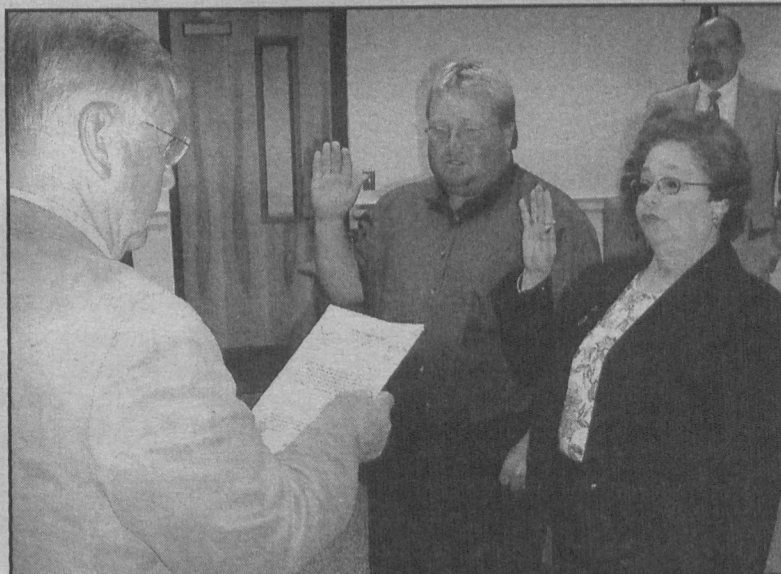
"The last couple of years the community was put to the test," Sweeney commented. "Finally, the people have gotten to the point where they know what type of government they want to run this community," he added.

Sweeney said he went door to door again as his primary means of communicating with residents. "I think by going door to door, and by being seen, helped me," as well as the newspapers "keeping everybody apprised of everything."

What went wrong?

Forrence had hoped to fare better in the election, certainly garnering more votes than in her defeat for commissioner in 2005. "I don't know ... I was pretty surprised," she told *The Dispatch* on April 26.

Forrence blamed her defeat partially on her filing on the last day candidates could do so, reducing her campaign time as a result, but the numbers weren't there as well as far as voter turnout.



-RICHARD D. L. FULTON / THE DISPATCH

State Delegate Paul S. Stull (left) swears in newly-elected board of commissioners members Clifford Sweeney and Joyce A. Rosensteel at the May 1 meeting of the board. Emmitsburg's April 25 election changed the board of commissioners from a four-member board to five members.

Rosensteel and Forrence were both surprise at the lowest voter turnout in the past several years. "I was surprised more didn't come out to vote," Rosensteel stated. In the 2004 election, voters cast 437 ballots, while in the 2005 election, 542 ballots were cast.

"I wish more people would have shown up to vote," Forrence said. "I think the low turnout wasn't good for me," she commented. She said she believes the low turnout might have reflected the perception that there was no major crisis facing the town, or that current issues weren't significant enough to warrant more voters showing up.

"I guess I should have gone door to door," Forrence said, adding, "I just didn't think it was going to be that tough."

Commissioner Arthur Elder, whose term had just expired, received four write-in votes and Harold C. Craig Jr. received two write-in votes. However, those write-in votes are invalid because the two individuals did not pre-qualify as write-ins, and their results have been removed from the official election records, according to Town Clerk Donna DesPres.

Only a single "spoiled" ballot was disqualified, although DesPres said the election judges gave no reason for the disqualification.

Comp Plan

-Continued from page 1

Jakubiak said the current plan had too much history in it and references to other communities. Instead, he said, the plan should "zero in on what is most important to Emmitsburg ... and stay away from material not necessary."

The consultant suggested a working draft could be completed by the end of July for review, with a final draft prepared by the end of August, and a public hearing during early fall. He said that the plan could be adopted by the end of the year, although it "would be a

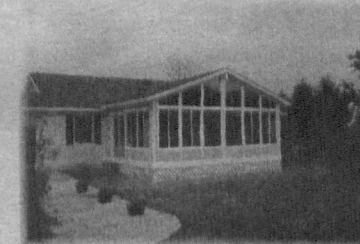
fairly aggressive time table."

Producing the initial draft of Emmitsburg's updated comprehensive plan has taken over a year and a half. The first workshops held dated back to 2004, with work continuing through 2005. The process finally seemed to come to a complete halt when Town Planner Michael Lucas and Zoning Technician Jennifer Joy resigned in late 2005.

The original comprehensive plan, adopted in 1974, was the first effort to establish planning and zoning controls in Emmitsburg, and was most recently updated in mid-90s. The current ongoing review is part of a periodic revision.

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Published twice monthly,
1st & 3rd Thursday

Next Publication: May 18

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EDITORIAL

Don't take any wooden nickels

Inaction doesn't make an issue go away. And inappropriate action, even with the passage of time, is still inappropriate.

During the recent town election, Emmitsburg voters did not have an opportunity to voice an opinion about the town's founding date. The commissioners did not revisit the issue at either their April 24 or May 1 meetings. But the reality is, Emmitsburg's town seal bears a 1757 founding date, and yet the commissioners have no plans for celebrating a 250th anniversary next year.

Former Commissioner Dianne Walbrecker even tried to get the board to make a determination about the founding date in the summer of 2005, prior to her resignation, but they refused to act.

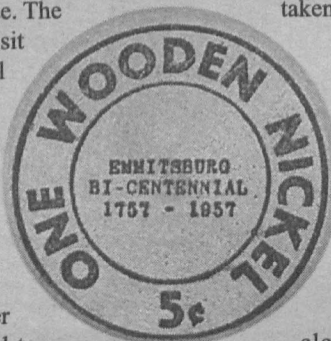
Obviously there is some question about whether 1757 is the town's true founding date.

While many people want a party, and the town richly deserves to celebrate, there are people who are opposed to celebrating in 2007. Tempers also flare at the thought of

changing the town's "founding" date from the one celebrated in 1957.

Continued inaction plagues this town. Commissioners have asked for founding date information, and then refused to act on what was presented.

And some actions taken were



clearly inappropriate, as town meeting minutes reveals.

In February 2003, 14 people spoke before the commissioners about the town's founding date. Representing the Emmitsburg Area Historical Society, Mike Hillman presented extensive documentation supporting 1785 as Emmitsburg's founding date. The commissioners tabled a decision, wanting more information. Some commented, that

not being historians, they could not really decide the issue.

In March 2003, the issue was put back on the table in an effort to get a decision. Encouraged by then-President of the board Patrick Boyle, then-Commissioner Sweeney said he supported a 1757 founding date. Then-Commissioner Rosensteel didn't want to change the founding date, but supported adding the incorporation date of 1825.

A motion by then-Commissioner Ted Brennan to "change the Town flag and Town seal to reflect the incorporation date of 1825," was approved by Boyle, Brennan and Sweeney, with Rosensteel abstaining.

The following month Boyle asked to change the March minutes, saying he had meant to "add" the incorporation date to the flag and seal, not remove the existing "Founded in 1757." Although Boyle misunderstood Brennan's motion, he ought not to have

changed what actually happened.

To this day, Brennan maintains that his motion was to remove the 1757 founding date and replace it with the town's 1825 incorporation date. Brennan's reasoning was that the seal is an official representation of town government, and the town government came into existence in 1825.

Determined, Boyle succeeded in amending the minutes, with Sweeney voting with him, and Brennan and Rosensteel abstaining.

In May 2003 Mayor Hoover questioned the validity of changing the minutes, of changing what actually occurred. Boyle said the change was legal. Brennan had lost a re-election bid; Sweeney and Rosensteel agreed with Boyle, and the altered minutes stood.

Even with the passage of time, this action was inappropriate. The town seal should appear only with the incorporation date, as the commissioners initially voted in their March 2003 meeting.

Since 1757 is still on the official seal as the founding date, then it is the commissioners' responsibility to organize a celebration for next year.

But is 1757 the town's true founding date?

History is not voted on. Events either happened, or they didn't.

Town residents celebrated a "bicentennial" in 1957, just as neighboring Taneytown had done three years earlier. Although 1757 is an important date because Samuel Emmit purchased a tract of land that year, the majority of historians who have reviewed maps, legal documents and personal accounts agree that 1785 is a more reasonable founding date for Emmitsburg.

It seems evident from the historical society's research that town residents celebrated a "bicentennial" in 1957 largely because of the efforts of the Rogers Co. in Cleveland, Ohio,

a marketing and exhibits company, in business for more than 55 years.

In an 1823 hand-written account, Father, later Bishop Simon Bruté, describes Emmitsburg as being a woods at that time.

An independent historical architect under contract with the Maryland Historical Trust wrote about the initial development of the town in 1785; and the historical trust has told Emmitsburg that no additional paperwork would be needed to recognize 1785 as the official founding date. The town had been added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1992.

Timothy Shannon, Associate Professor of History at Gettysburg

College, wrote in 2003 that it appeared obvious to him that Emmitsburg's founding date should be considered 1785, when the first lots were laid out. He saw no evidence for claiming 1757 as a founding date based on original materials from the eighteenth century.

To our knowledge, no historian, in an official capacity, has recognized a 1757 founding date.

If Emmitsburg commissioners want to leave the decision about a founding date to the historians, the historians have already spoken.

The Emmitsburg Area Historical Society seems to have sufficient evidence to prove that the "bicentennial" supplement published

in 1957 contained some colorful, yet fictitious history, probably written by the promotions company to support the 1957 celebration.

1757 is an important date in the history of Emmitsburg — that year Samuel Emmit acquired the 2,250-acre Carrollsburg tract. However, until 1785, Emmitsburg was undeveloped land; and the community that existed in this area was known as the Toms Creek Hundred.

1785 is an important date in the history of the town — in an August deed for 35 acres to his son William, Samuel Emmit wrote, "wherein the lots of a new town called Emmitsburg are laid out." More importantly, within that deed, Samuel refers to an agreement on March 5, 1785, between him and subscribers for the lots, to form a town.

Celebrating is important, but understanding what we're celebrating is more important.



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TOWN NEWS

It's not just gasoline – it's ethanol

BY RICHARD D. L. FULTON

Emmitsburg News Editor
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EMMITSBURG, Md. – The “out of gas” signs on local gas station pumps this past week are not the result of over-demand for cheap, regular gas during the ongoing price escalation.

Instead, storage tanks were being allowed to run dry before being cleaned thoroughly in preparation for the introduction of a new gasoline blend containing ten percent ethanol. Ethanol is an alternative fuel produced by fermenting and distilling crops like corn, barley, and wheat.

The Frederick area must meet certain federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) criteria “to use a fuel that meets a certain air quality standard,” Lauren Robbins, Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) transportation program manager told *The Dispatch*.

The EPA criteria mandate that certain areas must supply reformulated gasoline (RFG) as part of conforming to clean air act

mandates. RFG is gasoline blended to “burn cleaner and reduce smog-forming and toxic pollutants,” according to the EPA.

The petroleum industry has options for what can be blended with the gasoline to make it RFG compliant. Until recently, the industry used methyl tertiary – butyl ether (MTBE). But MTBE may contaminate groundwater, and has even been added to the EPA’s “Contaminant Candidate List” for further impact evaluation.

“We have been using MTBE and what people have found is that they can leak into the groundwater and give the water a bad taste,” Robbins said. EPA is also looking into possible health effects of such contamination.

A number of states have already banned the use of MTBE. In Maryland, “Western Maryland switched over earlier this year,” the MEA program manager stated.

Because of potential liability issues with MTBE, the petroleum industry has been gravitating on its own toward substituting ethanol, according to Robbins. Ethanol is

considered a safer option.

“Possibly we will have a short term impact (price increase) because the supply of ethanol gasoline available at first may not meet the demand,” Robbins noted.

A short supply is likely given an insufficient number of existing storage facilities to hold the ethanol, which cannot be sent pre-mixed with gasoline via traditional transmission lines.

“You can’t ship ethanol through the pipelines we have here because it attracts water, so the ethanol must be shipped separately, then blended at the last minute. In some states it will be difficult to do the transmission because of lack of storage (until more storage capacity is created),” she said.

Maryland has storage capacity, Robbins said, “and will be in better shape during the summer.”

Town posts pool rates for 2006 season

EMMITSBURG, Md. – Town staff have set the pool use rates and hours of operation for the coming season.

Seasonal passes

In-town family membership, \$225; out of town family membership, \$373

In town adults, \$125; out of town adults, \$200

Children (16 and under), in-town, \$100; out of town, 150

Seniors in town, \$75; out of town, \$125.

Daily passes

In town adults, \$4; out of town adults, \$6

Children (16 and under), in town, \$3; out of town, \$4.

Seniors, in town, \$3; out of town, \$4.

The pool will open 4 p.m., May 27, and will operate from 4 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Fridays, and from noon to 7:30 p.m. on weekends and holidays while schools are still in session.

When schools close for the summer, the pool will be open every day, including holidays, from noon to 7:30 p.m. – R. Fulton

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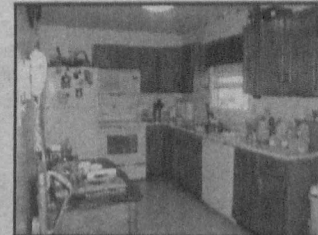
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TOWN NEWS

Manager of the Year



-RICHARD D. L. FULTON / THE DISPATCH

Lincoln on the Park manager lauded by USDA

Edna Hooper (right), site manager for Lincoln on the Park, Emmitsburg, has been named "Manager of the Year" by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for "contribution to the success of our multi-family housing program." The award was presented April 20 at the senior housing facility by USDA Delaware and Maryland Director for Rural Development Marlene B. Elliot (left). Hooper will be retiring in May

after 20 plus years with Humphrey Management, the firm that operates the facility along with more than 60 other properties. Lincoln on the Park is one of 172 rental properties in Maryland that has received financing through USDA Rural Development to provide safe, affordable, apartment living for people who do not want to, or who are not ready to, purchase and maintain their own home.

Four Knights of Columbus attain fourth degree

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The Local Knights of Columbus, Bruté Council 1860, has announced that four members have recently attained fourth-degree status.

Those attaining the rank include, Sir Knight Rev. Father Michael J. Kennedy, Sir Knight Anthony D. Topper, Sir Knight James L. Wormley, and Sir Knight Glenn E. Blanchard.

Kennedy serves as the chaplain

of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Basilica, and associate chaplain of the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Chapter of the Grand Knights. He also served for 10 years as the chaplain of the Bruté Council.

Of the other Bruté Council members, Topper is the financial secretary, Wormley is the warden, and Blanchard is the recorder. Blanchard is also a member of the Emmitsburg Board of Commissioners.

A record number of 21 seminarians and students from Mount St. Mary's University Council 1965 also attained fourth degree rank.

The Knights of Columbus was founded in 1882. Within the order, there are four "degrees" of Knighthood, each exemplifying one of the group's principles: charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism.

— R. Fulton

Town News Briefs ...

Art contest expanded

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The board of commissioners has expanded the student art contest to include all students attending schools in Emmitsburg, not just those living in the 21727 zip code.

The contest initially included only students residing in 21727. The board felt that it was unfair to prohibit out-of-town students attending schools in Emmitsburg from entering the contest, while their fellow classmates could participate.

— R. Fulton

Progress slow on adopting ethics ordinance

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The board of commissioners once again delayed action at their April 17 meeting on adopting an ethics protocol ordinance, in order to acquire additional examples of ordinances and protocols from other governmental bodies.

Commissioner Arthur Elder urged the board to get the work done. "We should stop dragging our feet on this and get it done fast," he told the board, adding that the first town ethics investigation in its history "ruined my life" and that of his wife.

Town Manager David Haller will work with town Attorney John R. Clapp to produce a draft ordinance, incorporating input from the commissioners as they review ordinances from the state and various counties.

— R. Fulton

APFO advances

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The proposed adequate public facilities ordinance (APFO), sponsored by Commissioner William B. O'Neil Jr., was still being refined at the April 3 meeting of the board of commissioners.

O'Neil is producing a final draft, based on the board's review and input, to be presented at a future work session. After the draft is completed, a public hearing will be held and a final vote scheduled. The process could take another three to four months, according to O'Neil.

APFOs are generally designed to ensure that adequate resources are available to support proposed developments.

— R. Fulton

No sewage spills in March

EMMITSBURG, Md. — Because of low rainfall in March, there were no wastewater collection system spills and the treatment plant was not overtaxed from infiltration and inflow (I&I).

Town Manager David Haller noted in his March report that the area had only 5 inches of rainfall for the month. The March average, he said, is 3.95 inches.

— R. Fulton

Code enforcement continues bringing in thousands

EMMITSBURG, Md. — Town code enforcement fetched \$4,864 in meter revenue along with fines and costs for other services during March.

According to a report filed by Town Manager David Haller, town parking meters generated \$2,269 in February, while parking tickets brought in \$2,065. Funds from meters and related tickets go toward the Emmitsburg After School Program.

Among other February citations issued were five for parking in a restricted area, one for failure to park between designated lines, and 14 for parking on the wrong side of the road.

— R. Fulton

Board still hopes for Northgate solution

EMMITSBURG, Md. — Board of commissioners President Christopher V. Staiger has contacted Sunnie Cahler, Emmit Ridge development site owner, about using land to establish a new access point for Northgate and Emmit Ridge, but has received no agreeable feedback to date.

The North Seton Avenue entrance to Northgate lies within Flat Run's 100-year flood plain. Northgate and Emmit Ridge residents have expressed concerns over access to the developments when the entrance road floods.

Emmit Ridge was never built out after the town rescinded approval of the development. The failed build-out of Emmit Ridge has also forced residents in what remains of that development to share access with Northgate.

(See related story, "Northgate access remedy may be long way off," in the Feb. 16 issue of The Dispatch.)

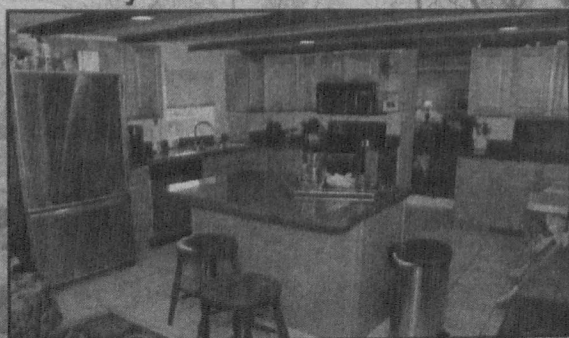
— R. Fulton



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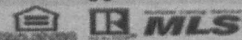


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TOWN NEWS

Town News Briefs ...

Sign ordinance progresses

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The town planning commission passed on recommendations from their April 24 meeting regarding election and political signage, but remained unclear on regulations pertaining to internally illuminated signs.

The planning commission was asked to review the sign ordinance and make recommendations to the board of commissioners based on concerns raised last year by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) about campaign sign regulations in the town sign code.

The planning commission recommended that the town create a special campaign and political signs category, and indicate that they are exempt from permits. However, public safety-related regulations would remain in effect (for example, if the sign might create a public safety hazard).

Regarding internally-illuminated signs, the commission decided to ask the board to further define the scope of what they expect the planning commission to consider, but the board seemed to agree that, if internally illuminated signs are permitted, they should only be allowed in commercial zones. — R. Fulton

Near-drought averted by April showers

EMMITSBURG, Md. — Although the town received only 0.5 inch of rain in March, creating a 3.45-inch rainwater shortfall for that month, April rains have averted at least a voluntary water ban.

However, Town Manager David Haller said in spite of the mini-drought in March, water records revealed a substantial rainfall surplus when viewed over a five-and six-month period. From Oct. 1 to March 1, the town had a 4.58-inch rainwater surplus.

Should an actual drought occur, the town has acquired special signs to post at the town entrances informing residents and visitors that a water ban is in effect, which would not only prohibit outdoor use, but could also curtail or restrict laundries and car wash activities. Car washes like Silo Hill, which recycle most of their water, would be exempt from restrictions under state law.

— R. Fulton

State wants to buy site for 'park and ride'

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) has approached a landowner with an offer to purchase property for a "park and ride" site to be located at the east end of town, east of U.S. 15.

Town Manager David Haller told *The Dispatch* that he does not know if the state's offer has been accepted, but said that the state is bound by law to pay only fair-market price for the land, and would operate the facility.

Mayor James E. Hoover previously approached the SHA in March to see if a state-owned "park and ride" facility could be established to help reduce commuter congestion.

Haller said there could be one or two other optional sites to consider if the primary objective failed. — R. Fulton

Last phase of Waybright property work to commence

EMMITSBURG, Md. — Work on the final phase of the water and sewer line improvements along Creamery Road and the Waybright property will start before the middle of May and take about 90 days to complete, according to the town manager.

J.H.G. Contractors, Frederick, was awarded a \$426,790 contract by the town on April 10 to deal with a portion of the wastewater collection system, consisting of the forced main line from the pumping station to the wastewater treatment plant.

Part of the project will address the problematic section of the collection system which has spawned numerous sewage spills because of a valve, either missing, or which was never installed decades ago.

Water and sewer pipelines have already been installed at the site, allowing the new Emmitsburg Glass Company facility to be connected to the town water supply and wastewater collection system. — R. Fulton

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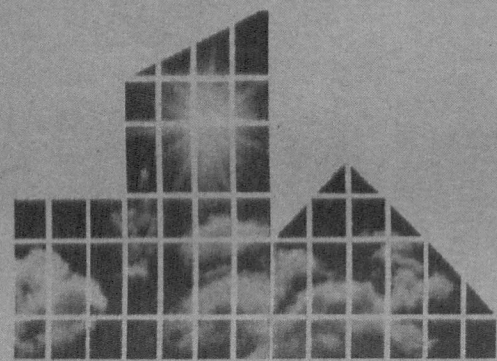
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REGIONAL NEWS

-RICHARD D. L. FULTON / THE DISPATCH

Work progresses on Keystone Fireworks' new store on Emmitsburg Road adjacent to the U.S. 15 interchange. Keystone is hoping to open the 10,000 square foot "superstore" in May. The Freedom Township business is one of two proposed stores slated for a May opening; the second is underway in Matamoras, Pa. The company, established in 1989, also maintains some 200 tent outlets around the state.

County starts electronics recycling program

FREDERICK, Md.—Frederick County residents and businesses can now drop-off electronics for recycling at the county landfill on Reichs Ford Road in Frederick. This is a permanent drop-off site to provide an environmentally friendly alternative to electronic waste disposal.

Central processing units, circuit

boards, computer chips/cards, cables, monitors, mice, keyboards, laptops, printers, scanners, power supplies, cell phones and televisions will be accepted at the drop-off site. Computer Donation Management, Inc. will recycle the items. Their goal is to recycle as much equipment as economically feasible.

A fee of \$2.95 for each 100 pounds (\$59 a ton) will be charged to help offset a portion of the cost of the program. Items may be dropped off from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

For additional information, call (301) 696-2960, or visit www.co.frederick.md.us/Recycling.

-J. Rada

County health summit planned

FREDERICK, Md. —

The Frederick County Health Department, Frederick Memorial Hospital and several other community agencies are sponsoring the "Frederick Health Summit: Improving Access to Care."

The summit will bring together representatives from across the county to identify barriers to health care, including but not limited to preventative

care, mental health and oral health. The group will also draft action plans and work to continue the process beyond the summit to develop solutions.

The summit will be held on May 12 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Frederick Memorial Hospital. Suggested participants include persons who have experienced challenges accessing affordable health services, advocates of medically underserved populations,

health care providers, the business community, the faith community, health and human service providers, parents, school administrators and personnel, and elected officials. There is no charge to participate and lunch will be provided. For more information or to register interested parties should call Julie at (301) 663-6135 x155 or e-mail jgilbert@fcmha.org by May 5. Space is limited.

-J. Rada

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REGIONAL NEWS

Two Fairfield developments to submit revised plans

BY WILLIAM K. REINKE
Contributing Writer

FAIRFIELD BOROUGH, Pa. — After redrafting their plans, Empire Homes and Fairfield Commons developers are ready to return to the planning commission, according to Zoning Officer Robert Fortenbaugh.

Both groups are expected to make presentations at the next planning committee meeting on May 8, 7:30 p.m., in the Fairfield town office.

Eric Gladhill, borough engineer, looked at the preliminary plans briefly before the April 25 council meeting. Of the relatively small, in-town development known

as Fairfield Commons, Gladhill said developer David Sites used some "pretty forward thinking" regarding the stormwater management system. "We'll have to run the calculations and see how it goes," Gladhill stated.

Gladhill said the massive Empire Homes development, a nearly 500-unit proposal spanning Fairfield and Hamiltonban Township, "is a monster and we probably won't even have comments by the next planning meeting."

Although he was not able to review the 68-page proposal thoroughly, his initial reaction was that it "looks like a really nice set of construction drawings, but not what we need for a subdivision."

Since the Empire development spans two municipalities, Fortenbaugh said he was working on scheduling joint planning committee meetings with Hamiltonban to oversee this project, which will nearly double the number of homes in Fairfield Borough.

Due to the project's size and scope, borough Solicitor Matthew Battersby suggested the normal 90 day review period currently provided for the planning committee be extended an additional 90 days.

This will allow a more thorough investigation of the "largest proposal this town has ever seen" and provide the developer additional time to comply with whatever issues arise.

USPS responds to mayor's request

BY WILLIAM K. REINKE
Contributing Writer

FAIRFIELD BOROUGH, Pa. — Much to his surprise, Fairfield Mayor Robert Stanley received a letter from the U.S. Postmaster General in response to the mayor's request for home delivery of mail within the borough.

The mayor contacted the post office in light of accessibility issues surrounding the new post office on the east side of town, specifically the lack of sidewalks leading from town to the new facility.

While the postmaster did not

agree to that request since Fairfield is much smaller than the minimum guidelines stated for warranting home delivery, he did offer the alternative of cluster boxes in town.

Fairfield Postmaster Norm Eckert has sent out postcards to all affected parties to see if they'd prefer this delivery solution instead of a box in the post office (which has traditionally been provided for no fee).

Based on the response, Eckert will propose a solution to the Postmaster General concerning number and placement of boxes.

The new post office is scheduled to open on May 1, with a grand opening ceremony scheduled for May 15.

Taneytown Chamber electric co-op sign-up reminder

TANEYTOWN, Md. —

Taneytown Chamber of Commerce reminds businesses that the final sign-up date for commercial accounts with the Electric Co-op is May 5. Due to the complexity of the sign-up, it is recommended that anyone wishing to sign up does so no later than May 1 to allow time for their application to be processed.

Any Maryland commercial customer is eligible. Information and applications to join the Electric Co-op and Chamber are available at www.taneytownchamber.org. For more information about joining the Chamber, contact the Chamber office at (410) 756-4234.

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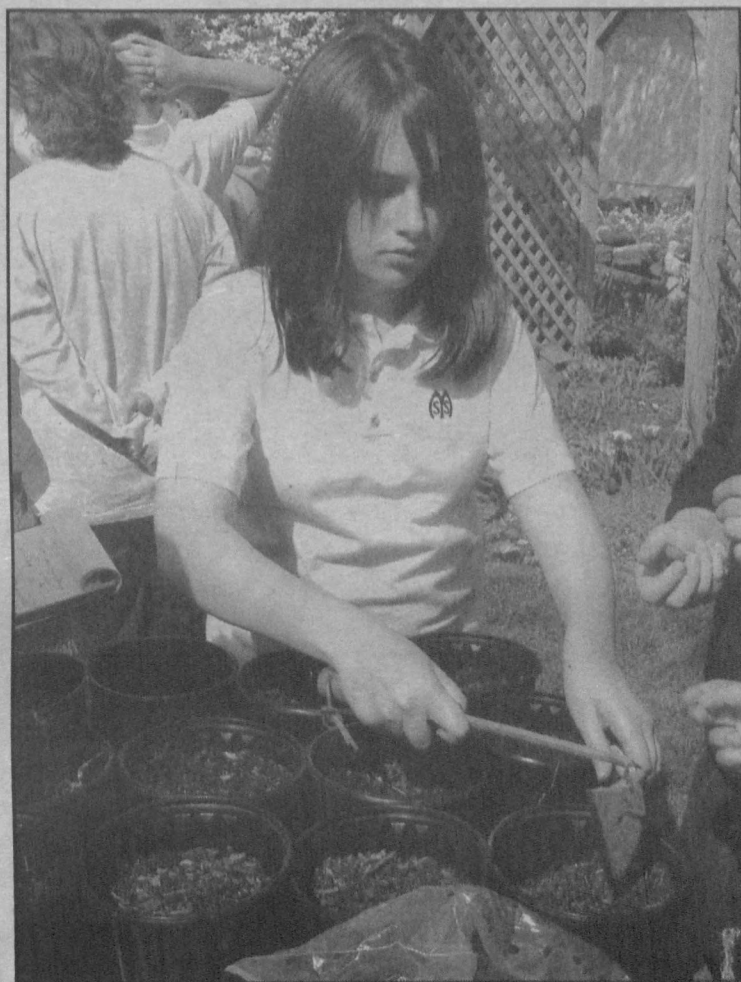
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Students learn the value of watershed trees



—RICHARD D. L. FULTON / THE DISPATCH

Mother Seton School eighth grader Maria Smaldone prepares the soil in a planter for a chestnut seed on April 27 at Elizabeth Prongas' home in Rocky Ridge. Prongas, chair of the New Forest Society, talked to about a dozen Mother Seton students about the value of conservation and the importance of trees in the watersheds. During the week, students from Emmitsburg Elementary participated in similar events in celebration of Earth Day.

Habitat for Humanity/Bob Mulvey Memorial Golf Classic

The third annual Habitat for Humanity/Bob Mulvey Memorial Golf Classic will take place Thursday, May 18, at the Maryland National Golf Club in Middletown.

The golf classic will be a four-person scramble with a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. The first-, second- and third-place teams will receive awards. A single-person fee is \$125 and a foursome fee \$500. Included in the fee are refreshments, a golf shirt, a chance to win a timeshare and Harley Davidson motorcycle, and a Maryland

National Golf Club coupon for a foursome at the price for three.

Fifteen different levels of sponsorship are available, ranging from Tournament Sponsor (\$7,000) to Tee Sponsors (\$150).

Registrations and sponsorships are due no later than May 9.

Proceeds will go toward building a new Habitat home in Frederick County. To register or sponsor, call the Habitat office at (301) 698-2449 or visit the Habitat Web site, www.frederickhabitat.org.

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The Big Sweep - cleaning up the county



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Top left: Betsey Forrence (left) and Sheila Mulligan (right) braved persistent showers to join in the Big Sweep effort April 22 to pick up litter and debris from area watersheds. Above: Catherine Forrence adds a discarded tire to her pile of trash gathered along Annandale Road.

Despite steady rain, the Big Sweep cleaned up Frederick County on April 22.

Nearly 1,200 volunteers representing 70 non-profit organizations, or businesses supporting non-profit organizations, cleaned up 100 different areas around the county.

- The volunteers collected
- 11.85 tons in bags
 - 1.1 tons of pallets
 - 11.87 tons of tires (668 tires)
 - 1.42 tons of aluminum cans,

plastic and glass bottles that will be recycled

- .99 tons of scrap metal (air conditioners, appliances, etc.) that will be recycled

With 27.23 tons of waste collected, each participant collected an average of 46 pounds of trash and recyclables.

"To date, Big Sweep teams have collected almost \$47,000," said Jeanne Mahoney, Volunteer Services Coordinator for Volunteer Frederick. "We are expecting more donations to be dropped off in the next several days, though."

- J. Rada

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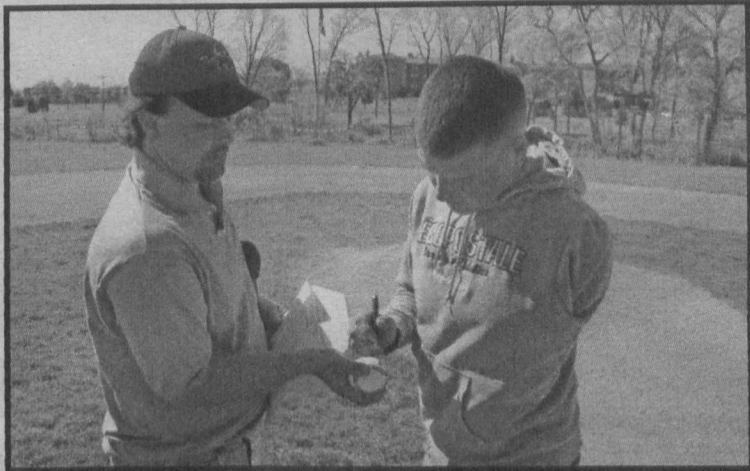
- PHOTOS BY ROBERT A. ROSENSTEEL SR. / THE ROSENSTEEL STUDIO

(Right) Emmitsburg Baseball & Softball League team members lined the field for a group shot April 29 during the opening of the 2006 season at Memorial Park. The league has more than 20 teams. Temperatures were in the mid-60s during the event.

(Below left) Corporal Adam Kisielewski, a Thurmont soldier disabled while serving in Iraq, signs a ball during the opening of the 2006 Emmitsburg Baseball & Softball League season at Memorial Park. The proceeds of a 50/50 drawing were donated to Kisielewski. The league has dedicated this season to honor those serving in Iraq.

(Below center) Emmitsburg American Legion Post 121 provided the honor guard for the flag raising ceremony April 29, opening day of Emmitsburg's Baseball & Softball League's 2006 season. The season is dedicated to those serving in Iraq, and a number of soldiers attended the event.

(Below right) The Angels, one of the newest teams in the Emmitsburg Baseball & Softball League, exercise before playing on opening day, April 29. The Angels, girls up to age 12, will compete at home and away games in the Frederick County Girls Softball League.





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EDUCATION

Local student participates in environmental leadership program

BY SUSAN ALLEN
Contributing Writer

Jeremy Bailey, a junior at Catocin High School (CHS), has been interested in reptiles and amphibians since childhood, when he and his grandfather watched and caught frogs in a family pond.

He's studied environmental science (honors and advanced placement) and forestry and wildlife management at CHS. Scouting

has given him opportunities to travel and spend many hours in outdoor pursuits. Billy Noland, his Scoutmaster in Troop 270, "thought I would be interested in this new program" about the environment, says Bailey, and gave him an application for the Highlands Environmental Program (HELP).

Applications were also distributed through science teachers in Frederick, Montgomery, Washington, Allegany, and

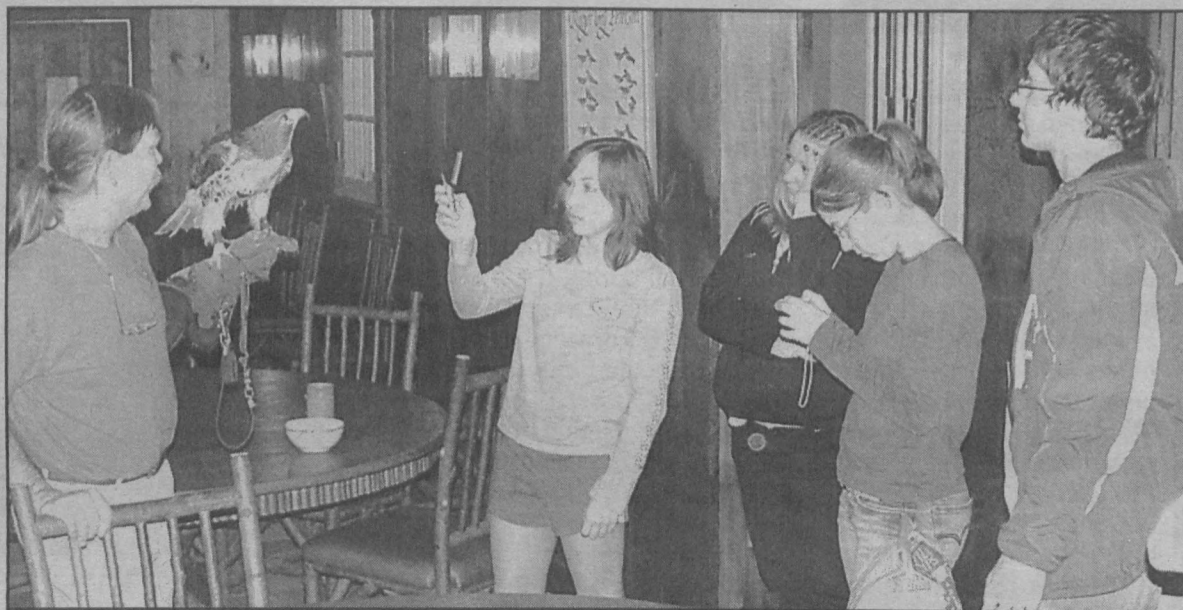


PHOTO COURTESY OF PAUL KAZYAK, MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

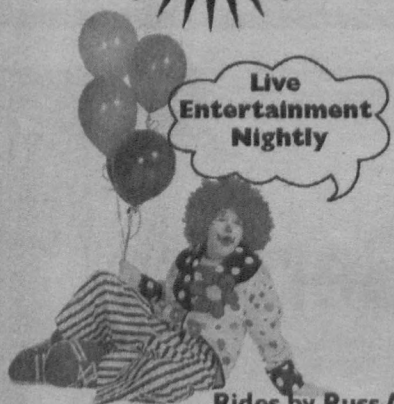
Steve Heacock, a wildlife rehabilitator from the Hashawa Environmental Center in Carroll County, introduces a red-tailed hawk to Jeremy Bailey (right) and other students during a weekend environmental leadership workshop at ThorpeWood.

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Tuesday
Catocin Promise Band

Wednesday
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Thursday
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The Dixie Highway Band

Saturday
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Garrett counties.

Bailey and the eleven other students who enrolled in HELP agreed to attend three weekend learning sessions. The first was held at nearby ThorpeWood Environmental Center, March 31-April 2. The second session will be at Swallow Falls State Park, a mountain park in Garrett County, May 19-21, and the third will be at Calvert Cliffs State Park, a Chesapeake Bay-side park in Calvert County, June 23-25. Each student is also required to complete a project related to the program curriculum.

HELP was designed and is run by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Paul Kazyak, an aquatic scientist with DNR's Resource Assessment Service, has been working to develop this pilot youth program.

"This will be an ongoing attempt to identify promising

students and expose them to state-of-the-art (environmental) science," he said, with emphasis on "restoration, protection, and stewardship."

Participating students are "self-selected," that is, they already have interests in the natural world, wildlife, or related sciences that lead them to the program. They will camp out, go on field trips and hikes, "meet leading scientists and find out what works," join in career discussions and "hands-on" activities, and "have fun." As Kazyak put it, the ultimate goal of the program is to create "well-informed ... future leaders and

team-builders."

Bailey certainly agrees that the ThorpeWood weekend was "lots of fun." The group met a wildlife rehabilitator who brought along a barn owl and a red-tailed hawk, a snake expert (Bailey's personal favorite - he hopes to become a herpetologist himself), hiked to Black Rock, and discussed regional and global issues related to the environment.

He will carpool to Swallow Falls State Park with students from Walkersville High and Linganore High Schools on May 19. He said he thinks the whole experience should be "very cool."

Frederick County schools closed May 15

On May 15, there is a 2-hour early dismissal for Frederick County students to accommodate the Teacher Work Session that was postponed due to snow Dec. 16.

Frederick County Public Schools have used only two of the five days built into the current school-year calendar for snow/emergency closing. If no additional days are needed, the last day of school for students this year is Monday, June 12. The last day for teachers is Tuesday, June 13.

The week of June 19, county school staff will begin eight weeks

of summer 4-day workweeks, closing Fridays and working longer hours Mondays through Thursdays. The exception is when the school system is closed Tuesday, July 4; that week offices are open normal hours Monday and Wednesday through Friday. Regular 5-day weeks resume Aug. 14. This is the fourth year the school system has operated the summer schedule to save facilities costs.

The 2006-07 school year begins Aug. 28. Details for next year's calendar are online at www.fcps.org.

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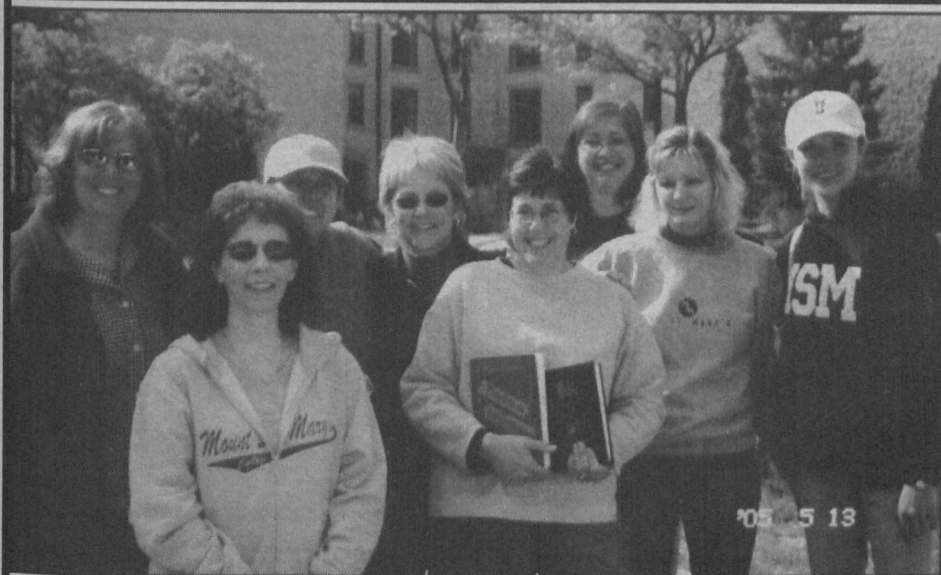
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MOUNT Recycle All That Stuff

RATS, Recycle All That Stuff, was formed by concerned staff members in 2005, after years of seeing graduating seniors and other students discard good reusable items when they begin to move out.

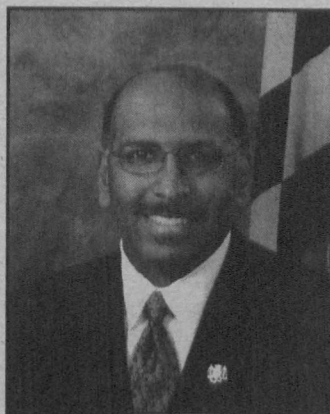
The campus throws out more than 50,000 pounds of "trash" at the end of the year. Discarded items include couches, chairs, rugs, clothing, paper products, food—most particularly that college staple, ramen noodles and other pasta—lamps, silverware, blenders, the list goes on... whole dorm rooms could be furnished by discarded items!

The highlights from last year included:

- One van full of canned and dry good was delivered to the Catocin Community Agency Service (Emmitsburg Food Bank).
- Three vanloads of various supplies—irons, shelving, rugs, Tupperware, cooking utensils, lamps were delivered to the Seton Center in Emmitsburg.
- One van of furniture was delivered to the Rescue Mission in Taneytown.
- One carload of clothes and household items was delivered to Goodwill Industries in Thurmont.
- \$700 was raised for the Dave Copenhaver Spirit Fund—an emergency fund, managed by Campus Ministry, available on a confidential basis to all Mount employees.

Maryland Lieutenant Governor Michael S. Steele WILL SERVE AS COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Maryland Lieutenant Governor Michael S. Steele will serve as the Commencement Speaker at this year's ceremony, scheduled for May 21.



In January 2003, Lt. Gov. Steele earned a place in history when he became the first African American elected to statewide office, and the first-ever Republican Lieutenant Governor in Maryland. As Lieutenant Governor, Steele serves as a partner, advisor and principal representative for Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.—working with the state's congressional delegation, state and local elected officials to promote and implement the administration's policies and initiatives.

He is a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Landover Hills, Maryland where, in 1998, he was recognized as the Man of the Year.



ONE MAN'S JUNK IS ANOTHER MAN'S TREASURE!

Come to the Mount Public Sale at the tent in the Quad
May 13, 2006
8 a.m.-Noon

Email questions to
rats@msmary.edu

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

Student Spotlight Production – Laugh Out Loud
Friday and Saturday, May 5-6, 8 p.m., Upper Flynn Hall
Student-directed productions!! All tickets \$5.00

Mount Wind & Jazz Ensemble Concert
Sunday, May 7, 3 p.m., Knott Auditorium
The Mount St. Mary's University Wind Ensemble and Jazz Workshop present their annual Spring Concert, featuring works by Ralph Vaughn Williams, Franz von Suppe, Duke Ellington, and Cannonball Adderley. Donations accepted for the Catocin Pregnancy Center.

NATIONAL SHRINE GROTTO OF LOURDES

The Cause of Bishop Fulton J. Sheen
Saturday, June 3, 6 p.m.
Mass & spiritual conference with
Fr. Andrew Apostoli, CFR

On Loving Detachment: God Heals our Minds and Memories
June 23-25
Laity Retreat at Mount Saint Mary's Seminary, Silent Retreat—directed by Fr. Jack Lombardi

Rosary Walk

National Shrine Grotto of Lourdes

Saturday, May 6, 2006
10 a.m., Meet at Seton Shrine, Emmitsburg
Noon, Mass at Grotto

Follow the sacred path that Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton once used on her way to the Holy Grotto on Mary's Mountain. Father Jack Lombardi, chaplain of the National Shrine Grotto of Lourdes, will lead a Rosary Walk from the Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton to the National Shrine Grotto of Lourdes.

Schedule:
10 a.m., Welcome, Opening Prayer and Blessing (Drop off pilgrims at Seton Shrine and then park car at the Grotto. A van will be provided to shuttle you back to the Seton Shrine to begin the Rosary Walk.)
10:15 a.m., Begin Rosary Walk
Noon, Mass at Grotto
12:45 p.m., Procession and Crowning of Our Lady (b.y.o. sack lunch and join in family fun to follow)

For more information:
Contact Fr. Jack Lombardi at 301-447-5318.

MOUNT ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY
NATIONAL SHRINE GROTTO OF LOURDES

RELIGION

Seton named 'Patroness of Maryland'

BY JAMES RADA JR.

Thurmont News Editor

jrada@thurmontdispatch.com

EMMITSBURG, Md. — She was born into society's upper crust and sank to the depths of despair before her faith in and service to God turned her eyes toward Heaven.

Elizabeth Ann Seton lived a life of service. She founded the Sisters of Charity. She is considered the patron of Catholic schools in America. She became the first American-born Catholic Saint. Pope Paul VI said in 1975, "Elizabeth Ann Seton is a saint. She is the first daughter of the United States of America to be

glorified with this incomparable attribute."

And now the Congregation for Divine Worship and Discipline of Sacraments has named her the patroness of Maryland.

"This draws a little more attention to her for people who might not have heard much about Mother Seton," said Sister Eleanor Casey, archival assistant at the Daughters of Charity Archives.

Cardinals Theodore E. McCarrick of Washington and William H. Keeler of Baltimore had petitioned the congregation for the decree.

"Mother Seton deserves the

title for a multitude of reasons," Cardinal Keeler said. "1. She was the first American citizen to be named a saint; 2. She founded the first Catholic elementary school in Baltimore in 1808 before moving to Emmitsburg and starting a school there in 1809; and 3. She founded the first community of religious women native to our country."

Seton, canonized by the Vatican in 1975, was born an Episcopalian in 1774 just as the United States began to assert its freedom. Raised in New York society, she knew many of the United States' founding fathers.

Elizabeth Ann Bayley married William Magee Seton at age 19 and



—RICHARD D. L. FULTON / THE DISPATCH

The remains of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton lie beneath the "Altar of the Relics" erected in her memory within the basilica at the St. Joseph's Provincial House of the Daughters of Charity. Her skeletal remains, now contained in a child's casket, were removed from the cemetery and placed beneath the altar in 1968.

Interior work begins at St. Joseph's



—RICHARD D. L. FULTON / THE DISPATCH

Workers with Commercial Refinishing and Restoration, Salemburg, N.C., began removing the early-1900 pews from St. Joseph's Church during the week of April 24 for renovation. The church's old kneelers will be entirely replaced, and the church donated 25 of the "retired" ones to the Grotto of Lourdes for their chapel. Scaffolding will be erected soon to facilitate cleaning and repainting of the ceiling, along with artwork restoration. The target date for the completion of the church's interior is Labor Day, according to Denny Ebaugh, working plant manager and chair of St. Joseph's Building Committee. Services will be held at the parish hall during renovations.



the couple had five children. The Setons' first years of marriage were happy ones until William Seton died of tuberculosis in 1803.

It was at this time of despair that she found strength in God and the Catholic faith. She converted to Catholicism two years later and began a life of service. Upon receiving Holy Communion on Annunciation Day in 1805, she wrote, "At last, Amabilia, at last, God is mine and I am His! Now, let all go its round — I have received Him!"

Her first attempt to start a

school failed after only two months, in part, because of her Catholic principles. Her Protestant friends in New York did not trust them.

Today the Catholic school system has 2.3 million children enrolled in 7,800 schools across the country.

The St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Shrine, the stone building that housed her first school in Emmitsburg, and the home where she died in 1821 are open to the public. For more information, call (301) 447-6606 or visit www.setonshrine.org.

SIGNIFICANT DATES IN THE LIFE OF ELIZABETH ANN SETON

- 1774, Aug. 28 — Elizabeth Ann Bayley born in New York City.
- 1794, Jan. 25 — Married William Magee Seton.
- 1803, Dec. 27 — Became a widow with 5 children in Italy. Introduced to Catholic doctrine by the Filicchi family.
- 1805, March 14 — Entered the Catholic Church at St. Peter's in New York City.
- 1809, June 1 — Assumed the religious habit at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore.
- 1809, July 31 — Founded St. Joseph's in Emmitsburg and established the Sisters of Charity of America.
- 1821, Jan. 4 — Died in White House in Emmitsburg.
- 1963, March 17 — Beatified by Pope John XXIII, title of Blessed Elizabeth Ann Seton conferred at St. Peter's in Rome.
- 1975, Sept. 14 — Canonized as St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Rome.

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OBITUARIES & BIRTHS

Mr. Elwood Eiker

Mr. Elwood Merle Eiker, 82, of Mountain View Rd., Emmitsburg, Md., died Tuesday, April 18, 2006, at the V. A. Medical Center, Martinsburg, W. Va.

Born August 17, 1923, in Emmitsburg, Md., he was the son of the late Frank Samuel and Laura Vansickle Eiker.

Surviving in addition to his wife of 56 years, Vera Andrew Eiker, are six sons, Nevin A., Kenneth E. and John S. Eiker of Emmitsburg, Clifford R. and Marvin R. Eiker of Thurmont, Md., and Morris A. Eiker of Fairfield, Pa.; five daughters, Wanda L. Winegardner, Marion, Ill., Beatrice F. Waybright, Gettysburg, Nina M., Laura A. and

Cathy E. Eiker of Emmitsburg, Md.; 16 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and one brother, Gilbert Eiker, Emmitsburg, Md.

Funeral services were held Saturday, April 22. Interment was in the Emmitsburg Memorial Cemetery.

Ms. Ruth Gochenour

Ruth D. Gochenour, 55, of Clarksburg, Pa., died Monday, April 10, 2006, at Indiana Regional Medical Center, Indiana, Pa.

Born November 22, 1950 in Frederick, she was the daughter of the late Harold and Margaret (Peterson) Sanders.

Surviving are daughters Christina L. Miller of Clarksburg,

Pa., and Pamela (Charles) Stump of Dillsburg, Pa.; son Michael Gochenour of Saltsburg, Pa.; six grandchildren; and nine brothers and sisters.

Interment was private.

Births

* Amanda and Eric Blohm, Emmitsburg, a daughter, April 2.

* Mariah and Jeff Beard, Emmitsburg, a daughter, April 3.

* Heather and Gary Burgess, Fairfield, Pa., a son, April 13.

PEOPLE TO PEOPLE

Vincent & Ruth Clarke anniversary



Vincent and Ruth Clarke of New Cumberland, Pa., recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at the Mechanicsburg Officer's Club. They were married on Valentine's Day in 1956.

They are the parents of sons Patrick, Thomas, Mark and Matthew Clarke, and daughter Rebecca Parthemore. They have six grandchildren.

Mr. Clarke is retired from the U.S. Navy and Commercial Union Insurance Company. He also volunteers at Holy Spirit Hospital.

Mrs. Clarke was the librarian at St. Theresa's School where she is now a substitute teacher.

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Dear Bob and the Staff of the Carriage House Inn,

We want to extend our sincere thanks to you, your family and your wonderful staff for making our mother/mother-in-law's 75th Birthday Party a great success. Everyone had a great time. There were many praises on the delicious food, the friendly staff, and the beautiful Ballroom.

As a person in the business, I must tell you, you have a great staff. I have been fortunate in the past working with Jeannie and Beth and they have always exceeded my expectations in their professionalism.

On behalf of Denny, myself and the "Ebaugh Family," thanks for making mom's birthday so special.

Elaine and Denny Ebaugh

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ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMS

Library Events

At the Emmitsburg Library

Make it and take it craft
(all ages)
Create a Mother's Day surprise.
May 8-13

Chess Club (ages 6 and up)
Bring an adult if you are under 8.
Second and fourth Fridays, 3:15
– 4:45 p.m.
May 12 and 26

Oak and Acorns Book Club
(grades 4-6 with adult of child's
choice)
Read and discuss great books
for kids, with snacks and
socialization.
Second Monday at 6:30 p.m.
May 8

"Did You Know?" series
(ages 6-12)
Chemistry Workshop. Walkersville
high school chemistry club repeats
their fun-filled learning experience.
Class size limited.
May 13, 11 a.m. Registration
required.

Storytimes 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
or (301) 271-2823.
May 18 from 1-2 p.m. Registration
required.

Magical Woodland High Tea
(all ages)
Bring your young wood nymphs
and woodsmen to a tea party.
May 20, 2 p.m.

Storytimes
Babies with Books
(birth-24 months with an adult)
First three Wednesdays of the
month at 10:30 a.m.
May 3, 10, 17

Two Terrific Storytime
(age 2 with an adult)
Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.
May 2, 9, 16, 23

Pre-school Storytime
(ages 3-5 with an adult)
Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.
May 4, 11, 18, 25

Family Storytime (all ages)
Wednesdays at 7 p.m.
May 3, 10, 17, 24

Global Groove (ages 5 and older)
Learn about other cultures from
around the world through facts,
folktales and crafts.
May 5

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.
May 2 and 18

Animé Club (grades 6-12)
Second Friday from 6-8 p.m.
Movie, snack, other activities.

Co-sponsored by Emmitsburg and
Thurmont Libraries.
May 12. Registration required.

SF/Fantasy Book Club
(teens & up)
Third Thursday at 7 p.m.
May 16. Stop by the desk to pick
up the current selection.

Adult programs
Leaving a legacy
Join this unique writing group to
pass on legacy stories to future
generations.
First Monday, 1:30 p.m.
May 1

Non-fiction Book Club
Second Thursday at 1 p.m.
May 11 – "A Girl Named Zippy"
by Haven Kimmel

Tuesday Evening Book Club
Second Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.
May 9 – "Earthly Joys" by Philippa
Gregory

Knitting Circle
(adults and teens)
Third Thursday at 4 p.m.
May 2 and 18

Genealogy Focus Group
(adults and teens)
Fourth Thursday at 7 p.m.
Learn about resources and share
tips with others engaged in
genealogical research.
May 25

*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

'Tis the merry month of May,
which is also Older Americans
Month. We have plans that we
hope will make you merry too! The
countywide **Senior Carnival** will
be held **May 9** at the Department
of Aging on Taney Avenue in
Frederick. Lots of games, including
bingo, musical entertainment, treats,
and the event is free and open to the
public. Our **Mother's Day lunch**
is scheduled for Friday, **May 12**;
reservations by May 8, please.

Meeting Day is **May 16**; Jim
Thompson, "the Flying Dutchman,"
will entertain us after the meeting.
There's a public **Night Card Party**
on **May 24**; doors open at 5:30 p.m.
Our bowling group is growing; join
us on Monday afternoons. Don't
forget our men's pool tournament
which continues every Wednesday
at 1 p.m.

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: May 10 and 24.

Cards, 500, and Bridge Group:
May 3, 17 and 31.

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 more information, call
program coordinator Linda Umbel,
(240) 629-6350.

Mother's Day SPECIAL MENU

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A Review...

Gateway Theaters 8 premieres 'Fields of Freedom'



-RICHARD D. L. FULTON / THE DISPATCH

The Gateway Theaters 8 opened April 21 at the intersection of U.S. 15 and 30. The theaters show new feature films as well as "Fields of Freedom," a 30-minute, \$7-million movie that serves as an introduction to the Battle of Gettysburg.

BY RICHARD D. L. FULTON
Emmitsburg News Editor
rfulton@emmitsburgdispatch.com

STRABAN TOWNSHIP, Pa. — Gateway Gettysburg, a planned complex of hotels, restaurants and businesses on Route 30 near the U.S. 15 interchange in Straban Township, formally opened its multi-screen theater on Friday, April 21.

Gateway Theaters 8, which began construction in late winter 2005, is the second major element of the complex to open. The 152-room Marriott Courtyard Gettysburg opened Feb. 1.

'The most-advanced (theater) technology in the country'

The theater complex features two main theaters, one for up to 300 guests and the other seating up to 400. Both theaters have 60-foot wide screens, three and one-half stories tall, described as "IMAX-like," by Robert J. Monahan Jr., president of The Monahan Group, the project developers. The complex contains six additional theaters.

The theaters were designed with viewing comfort in mind — ergonomic seats with wide aisles, and a high-tech sound system that ensures a constant sound level no matter where viewers sit.

Monahan told *The Dispatch* that the theaters' projection equipment is "the most-advanced (theater) technology in the country today ... all digital video and sound," and noted that the theaters could also accommodate live broadcasts and theatrical productions.

The theater offered a press preview on April 19 of the \$7 million, 30-minute high-tech movie on the Battle of Gettysburg, "Fields of Freedom,"

produced by Monahan and Greystone Films.

One of the reasons for the relatively high cost of the film was the use of "JPEG 2000 technology," he said.

A thunderous presentation of the deadly battle...

The film features the London Symphony (recorded at Abbey Road) and President George W. Bush Sr. reciting "The Gettysburg Address." The high resolution, digital format makes it possible for a viewer watching the film even from the back of the theater to see the detail like that of a horse's mane.

But the state-of-the-art sound system tops even the imagery. As the opposing troops open fire, most notably during the depiction of "Pickett's Charge," it almost sounds as if the minié balls are flying through the audience and whizzing past viewers' ears.

The end result is a thunderous presentation of the deadly battle that left 15,000 Union and Confederate soldiers dead on the field, along with 10,000 dead horses, ending the South's second invasion of enemy territory.

For those who can't handle a realistic presentation of war, potential viewers should be forewarned that the scenes of carnage are vivid ... complete with a round of canister piercing the bodies of advancing soldiers.

Monahan intended the film to serve as a visitor's introduction to the battlefield, but it is a must-see for local enthusiasts and even movie and computer "techies."

"Fields of Freedom" tickets cost \$9, and the film is shown every half hour from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. For additional information, contact the theater at (717) 334-5575 or (717) 334-5577.

A&E Calendar

LOOKING AHEAD

For Children

May 6 – 17th Annual Children's Festival. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. A day of free, hands-on activities and entertainment where children ages 2-8 and their families can celebrate the wonders of childhood. Games, entertainment, refreshments available. Baker Park, Frederick. (301) 662-4549.

May 6 – "Peter and the Wolf." 2 p.m. Borrowing from Prokofiev's mixing of musical themes and fable, this original adaptation of the boy who cried wolf is more like an old Spaghetti Western. With unexpected twists and turns, Peter and his lasso are hot on the trail of the wolf. The Fun Company at the Maryland Ensemble Theater. \$8-12. 31 W. Patrick St, Frederick. (301) 694-4744.

Concerts

May 5, 6 – Apple Blossom Jazz Festival. 8 p.m. High school and college jazz ensembles in adjudicated performances, jazz workshops, and clinics. The May 5 evening concert features The Tim Warfield Quartet and the May 6 evening concert features the Majestic Jazz Orchestra, joined by the Grant Street Dance Company and the Gettysburg College World Music Ensemble. Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg. (717) 677-7514.

May 6 – Jazz Orchestra at the Majestic Jazz Festival. 8 p.m. The group performs Axiom Asunder, a jazz retrospective by one of Gettysburg's own - Dr. Buzz Jones, director of the Sunderman Conservatory of Music. The composition incorporates music, dance, and the poetry of Langston Hughes, narrated by Professor Mwangi wa Githnji. The Majestic Jazz Orchestra is joined by the

Grant Street Dance Company and the Gettysburg College World Music Ensemble. \$10. Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg. (717) 677-7514.

May 6 – Renaissance Choral and Instrumental Music Concert. 7 p.m. This rare concert joins one of our region's premiere Renaissance bands, Spectra Musica, with the superb Mount St. Mary's University Chamber Choir. National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, 33 South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg. (717) 677-7072.

May 7 – Mount Wind & Jazz Ensemble Concert. 3 p.m. Knott Auditorium. Featuring works by Ralph Vaughn Williams, Franz von Suppe, Duke Ellington, and Cannonball Adderley. Donations will be accepted for the Catocin Pregnancy Center.

May 7 – Youth Service. 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thurmont United Methodist Church, Long Road, Thurmont. An evening of music, drama, teaching, fun, and refreshments. Sponsored by Youth for Christ. Information: (301) 271-0255.

May 12 – The Basement Elias Coffee House. 7-10 p.m. First year anniversary. "Common Clay" and "Forgiven" will perform. Elias Evangelical Lutheran Church, 100 West North Ave., Emmitsburg.

May 13 – Colours of Love. 8 p.m. A pops concert of love songs from Cole Porter, Richard Rodgers, and the Beatles to "The Little Mermaid" and "Beauty and the Beast." Kussmaul Theatre, Frederick Community College. Tickets: \$15/ \$12 for students and seniors. (301) 662-7442 or www.frederickchorale.org.

May 13 – "Tlen-Huicani." 8 p.m. Traditional music of Mexico and Latin America. Hailed as the best folk group in Mexico, Tlen-Huicani, which means "the singers" in the

indigenous Indian language of Nahuatl, is expertly guided by maestro Alberto de la Rosa. The beautiful harpa jarocho, or folk harp, is the centerpiece of the ensemble's music. \$20. Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg. (717) 677-7514.

May 18, 19, 20, 21 – Gettysburg Spring Bluegrass Festival. Over 30 of the country's best bluegrass musicians will play during the 52nd annual festival. Tickets range from \$25 to \$100. Granite Hill Campground, Gettysburg. (800) 642-8749.

Galleries, Exhibits, Art Shows

Through July 5 – "Heritage: The Photography of Charles 'Jim' Lot." Vintage photographs from the 1930s and 40s by Adams County, Pa. farmer Jim Lot, a self-taught photographer. He created photographic images of people and agricultural landscapes, which are remembered by his son, John. Majestic Theater Gallery, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg. (717) 677-7514.

Stage

May 4, 5, 6, 7 – "Play it Again, Sam." 2 and 8 p.m. The Carroll Players present - Allan is shy, nervous, insecure and continually in and out of psychotherapy. His wife has left him and he is, at age 49, trying to find an eligible woman who will find him attractive. Not an easy thing to do. In his dreams, Allan is visited by Humphrey Bogart, who tries to give Allan advice. \$8-12, Carroll Arts Center, Westminster. (410) 795-6231.

May 5 and 6 – "Laugh out Loud." 8 p.m. Upper Flynn Hall, Mount St. Mary's University. Student-directed productions. All tickets: \$5.

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A&E

Thurmont Thespians to hold auditions

The Thurmont Thespians will hold open auditions for their ninth annual summer youth musical, "Teenages," on Saturday, May 20 from 9 a.m. to noon; Monday, May 22 and Tuesday, May 23 from 6:30-9 p.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church Social Hall, 15 N. Church St., Thurmont.

"Teenages" has been written and composed especially for the Thespians by Kurt Johnson of Waynesboro, Pa. Director Beth Royer Watson has roles for approximately 12-20 teenage boys and girls as well as one male child's role (5-7 years old) and five adult male and female roles from 20 to 75. The musical director for "Teenages" will be Eileen Dwyer Winston of Thurmont and the choreographer will be Jennifer Buchheister of Emmitsburg.

Eight performances will be given at the Thurmont American Legion auditorium from July 20-23 and July 27-30. Rehearsals will begin in late May and continue through June and July on Saturday mornings and several weeknights. Everyone who auditions will receive an onstage role and perform if they attend all required rehearsals and all performances.

Auditions will consist of reading

from the script, singing a song and some basic dance steps. For more information, contact Beth Royer Watson at (301) 416-0864 or e-mail thurmontthespians@myactv.net.

"Teenages" is a story of modern youngsters on the edge of trouble, all facing difficult choices and various moral temptations. The songs are in the idiom of contemporary pop and the pre-recorded music is upbeat.

The Thurmont Thespians Annual Summer Youth musical is a full-length two-weekend community theatre production, not a summer camp. As for the past nine years, there will be no charges or fees for participation and the show's profits will again be donated to a local charity. Participants will be trained in all areas of musical theatre throughout the rehearsal and performance process by an all-volunteer staff of experienced theatre mentors.

The Thurmont Thespians, Inc. is a non-profit corporation of Maryland supported in part by grants from the Maryland State Arts Council, and the Fredrick Arts Council with rehearsal space generously provided by St. John's Lutheran Church of Thurmont.

Community Calendar

LOOKING AHEAD

May 5 – Star Party. 7:30-9:30 p.m. ThorpeWood's Stoney Lick Farm. Rain date is May 12. Senior project for Matt Simon, a junior at Governor Thomas Johnson High School. For more information, or to register, call ThorpeWood at 301-271-2823.

May 6 – Graceham Moravian Church Yard Sale. 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., 8231 A Rocky Ridge Rd., Thurmont. Sponsored by Senior High and College youth. Soup, sandwiches and baked goods. All proceeds will benefit the 2006 summer mission trip.

May 6 – "Walk for the Shepherd." 9-11 a.m. 2K walk, 30 Carroll St., Westminster, to St. Paul's U.C.C. on Bond & Green Sts. Sign-in/register 8 a.m. Free t-shirt for pledges \$20 or more.

May 6 – Doors Open Gettysburg. Visit a number of historic buildings, on the battlefield and in town, normally closed to the public. Held in conjunction with the Friends of the National Parks at Gettysburg. Free. Information: (717) 334-0772.

May 7 – Basket & Money Bingo. Kitchen and doors open at 11:30 a.m. Games begin at 1 p.m. Benefits Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company Auxiliary. Advance tickets \$15, at the door \$20. Call (410) 756-1236 or (301) 271-0233.

May 7 – Youth Service. 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thurmont United Methodist Church, Long Road, Thurmont. Music, drama, teaching, fun, and refreshments! Sponsored by Youth For Christ. Information: (301) 271-0255.

May 11 – St. Maria Goretti High School Open House. 6:30 to 8 p.m., Hagerstown Md. Prospective students and their parents are welcome to tour the facilities and

to meet the teachers. Information and directions: (301) 739-4266.

May 12 – Frederick Health Summit: Improving Access to Care. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Frederick Memorial Hospital. To discuss expanding health care resources for the uninsured and underinsured in Frederick County. For information or to register, Julie at (301) 663-6135 x155 or e-mail jgilbert@fcmha.org by May 5. Space is limited.

May 13 – Community sale. 8 a.m. to noon. Mount St. Mary's University, on campus in the "quad," under a tent in the beach volleyball area. All are invited to attend this "recycled" sales event.

May 13 – Yard Sale. 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thurmont Carnival Grounds. Spaces \$20-\$35. To reserve space, call (301) 271-4316 or (301) 271-4064. Held in conjunction with the annual Fire/Rescue open house. Benefits Guardian Hose building fund.

May 13 – "Sarah's Garden Social" 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Harriet Chapel, 12625 Catocin Furnace Rd., Thurmont. One-of-a-kind bird houses, garden accessories, Rebecca Pearl watercolor prints of "Faith in the Furnace," items by local artists and crafts people, home-baked goods, plants, food stand; display of Miller Electric 1929 Roadster Pickup. Quilt-needlework display. To benefit Catocin Parish Memorial Garden. Information: (301) 271-4234.

May 13 – The Annual Creagerstown Community Dinner. Noon to 6 p.m. Parish House. Cost \$12 adults, \$6 children, under 6 free. Proceeds benefit the upkeep of the cemetery and for streetlights.

May 13 – Moonlight Bingo. Emmitsburg Ambulance Co., 300 South Seton Ave. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Games 9 p.m. Advance

tickets \$35; at the door, \$45. Regular games paying \$75. \$1,000 jackpot. Light fare menu. Information: (301) 447-2073 or the Ambulance Station: (301) 447-6626.

May 14 – Snip-its of Grace United Church of Christ's History. 10:15 a.m. service. 40 West Baltimore St., Taneytown. Learn about the first parsonage, built in 1848. In celebration of the church's 250th anniversary. For more information, call (410) 756-2302.

May 15 – Emmitsburg Area Historical Society. 7 p.m. Emmitsburg Community Center.

May 15 – July 11. Women's study series entitled "Full of Grace, Women and the Abundant Life." Mondays 9:30-11:30 a.m. or Tuesdays 7-9 p.m. Host, presented on tape, Johnette Benkovic, who appears on EWTN, The Abundant Life. Nine weeks at St. Joseph's Parish Hall, Emmitsburg.

May 16 – Stress Management. 11:30 a.m. Thurmont Senior Center, 806 East Main St. Information: 301-271-7911.

May 20 – Silver Fancy Garden Club Plant Sale. 8 a.m. to noon. Parking lot beside Heltebride & Associates, Inc. 441 East Baltimore Street, Taneytown. Profits will be used for annual flower plantings in Emmitsburg and Taneytown. Information: (410) 756-1113.

May 20 – Spring Fest. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mt. Bethel UM Church, Foxville. Picnic woods adjacent to the church on Stottlemeyer Road. Crafts, music, food. Craft vendors needed: call (301) 416-0185 by May 1.

May 24 – Fun M & M Bingo. 11:30 a.m. Thurmont Senior Center, 806 East Main St. Information: 301-271-7911.



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full-length. One has beaded bodice and is halter style; the other has short sleeves with satin trim, bow in the back. Both are princess style at waist. \$15 each. Please call (301) 898-9776 or e-mail eddavis@adelphia.net.

Wall Stenciling. Historic Williamsburg-style and country designs for your home or business. Wall murals. Free estimates. Fairfield, Pa. (717) 549-3446. www.fairwoodsstenciling.com.

Yard Sale

Multi-family Yard Sale. May 6, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Clothing, households, furniture, baby items, lawn & garden, etc. 11241 Angleberger Road, Thurmont (near Beckley's RV Rt. 15 Lewistown)

May 13th Yard Sale-13726 Pryor Rd: 7 am - 1 pm, Herbs, 5 types of tomatoes, paprika peppers and others, red raspberry, thornless blackberry, NEW wood stove, large kettle, old stone grinder, in-wall ironing board-new, furniture, boy and girl teen clothes, stand alone patio umbrella

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Yard Sale/ Rain or Shine. Sat. May 6 from 8-2. St. John Lutheran Church parking lot, Main Street Fairfield, Pa. Food sale by Church Women's Group.

2nd Annual Brookfield Community Yard Sale. Saturday, May 20th, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Multi-family sale featuring children's toys and clothes, furniture, household items, crafts, electronics, and more. Brookfield is located off Route 140 in Emmitsburg. Turn onto Timbermill Run. Rain date May 21st.

Real Estate

Vacation Rental. Ocean City, Md., 94th street bayside townhouse, 3 bedroom, 3 bath. Also 53rd Street ocean block condo, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. \$975 weekly each, plus tax. Rents Friday to Friday. (301) 447-2342.

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Eisenhower National Historic Site

The Eisenhower National Historic Site and the Adams County Office for Aging invite active, older citizens to become Volunteer Senior Rangers.

Converting original oral history tapes to audio CDs continues. Volunteers also serve as videographers for special events and film guest speakers. Scanning the Eisenhower photograph collection and re-cataloging the Eisenhower artifacts also continues.

Volunteers tend the Eisenhower vegetable garden and are permitted to keep the harvest. Volunteers interpret at the show barn, explaining its history to the public. Training and reading materials are provided. Volunteers also help with parking during World War II Weekend and build or paint fences as needed.

If interested, contact Linda Thompson, (717) 334-9296, or 1-800-548-3240.

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