

# The Emmitsburg Dispatch

VOL V, No. 10

News and Opinion in the service of Truth

MAY 18, 2006

## Federal court rejects Elder's due process claims

BY RICHARD D. L. FULTON

Emmitsburg News Editor

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BALTIMORE, Md. — U. S. District Judge L. Frederick Motz has rejected denial of federal due process-related claims alleged by former Emmitsburg town commissioner, Arthur "Art" Elder, in his lawsuit against the Emmitsburg Ethics Commission, one of its members, and Mayor James E. Hoover, and dismissed the claim that the town should pay Elder's legal fees. At the same time, Judge Motz, while questioning the merits of Elder's state law claims, remanded those claims to the Circuit Court for Frederick County for review.

Motz wrote in his April 21 decision that the town ethics commission did not deprive Elder of due process during its 2004-2005 investigation into ethics complaints filed against him. "What they did deprive him of," Motz stated, "was his ability to engage in certain conduct ..."

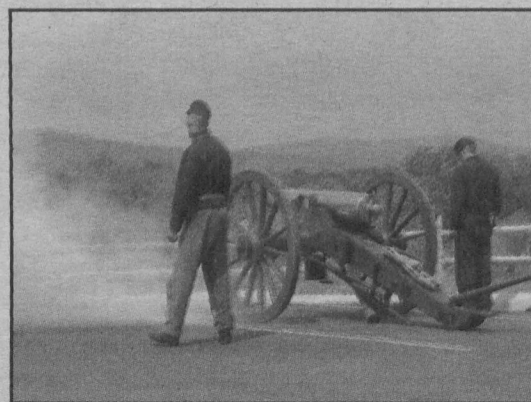
Elder filed suit in the Circuit Court for Frederick

-See **Elder** on page 3



- Photos by RICHARD D. L. FULTON / THE DISPATCH

## Tour center officially opens with a bang



Members of the South Mountain State Battlefield artillery team sent a resounding volley toward Emmitsburg on May 16 as the ribbon was cut marking the official grand opening of the new \$5.4 million Mason-Dixon Discovery Center, the new area visitors' center on U.S. 15. Work on the center began in Sept. 2003. Guest speakers at the event included Maryland Secretary of Transportation Robert L. Flanagan; Assistant Secretary of Tourism, Film, and the Arts, Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development, Dennis Castleman; Senator David R. Brinkley (MD); John Fieseler, director of the Tourism Council of Frederick County and Emmitsburg Mayor James E. Hoover. More than a hundred local, county and state officials and guests attended the ceremony.

### This Issue

**Monsignor Phillips monument unveiled**

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**Silo Hill accidents increase**

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**Water surcharge adopted**

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### Local History



**Depression-Era cabin on Toms Creek**

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## County covers ambulance company permit fees

BY RICHARD D. L. FULTON

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EMMITSBURG, Md. — Frederick County Commissioners voted 4-1 on May 8 to grant up to \$30,000 relief from permit fees and a 75 cent per-square-foot

excise tax that would be due the county from the construction of the new Emmitsburg Volunteer Ambulance Company building.

Commission President John L. "Lennie" Thompson Jr. cast the only dissenting vote.

The proposed 25,895 square foot, two-story EVAC structure

would generate an excise tax of \$19,421, with permit fees due the county amounting to over \$4,500.

EVAC President Joseph Pelkey said that plumbing permits would be another \$600, and there is no estimate yet on electrical permit fees.

**Building largely for 'social' functions**

The \$1.9 million facility will be located on a 4.01-acre tract on Creamery Road, purchased in 2004 for \$130,000 from Sheridan "Dan"

-See **Ambulance** on page 5

## 'Eisenhower convoy' reenactment set for June 28

BY RICHARD D. L. FULTON

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EMMITSBURG, Md. — The Maryland State Highway Administration has scheduled June 28 as the date the 1919 "Eisenhower convoy" will stop at the South Seton Ave. bridge over Toms Creek for a commemoration ceremony and the unveiling of a historic marker.

The event is being planned to

celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of the national highway system, for which President Dwight D. Eisenhower was the leading proponent. Eisenhower's inspiration to establish a national highway network began in 1919 when he joined a military experiment to see how fast the army could get from coast to coast.

Jennifer Gavin, American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials deputy

Director of Communications, said the experiment, "was a really bad experience. The roads were awful." The convoy found the roads across the country in such bad shape it

took them more than a month to get to the West Coast.

-See **Eisenhower** on page 5

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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.

## Another attempt to clarify retirement plan numbers

As I stated in my earlier comments, I was not sure where the number \$471,000 came from as the cost to the town to join the state retirement plan. However, I was recently informed by Commissioner Staiger that it was one of three preliminary cost projections I gave him on Feb. 23, 2006.

I do now believe that number

to be slightly high and that the cost to finance the fee to enter the program to be closer to \$40,000 - \$43,000 per year for ten years.

As I stated earlier, the town has reduced its annual payroll by about \$67,000 by not filling two vacancies in the Planning Department. That does appear to produce a savings of approximately \$24,000 - \$27,000

per year. It is very likely that part of that apparent savings will be used to fund planning consultant services.

I say once again, I hope this helps to clear up the numbers issue related to this matter.

- David Haller

Town Manager, Emmitsburg

## Dispatch ad exec wins MDDC awards

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — Amberlee Ohlsen, advertising sales executive for *The Dispatch Community Newspapers*, won two awards for advertisements at the recent Maryland-Delaware-DC Press Association annual advertising awards banquet.

The banquet was held at the Annapolis Sheraton on April 27 to recognize excellence in the creation of ads in 11 different categories.

Ohlsen won awards for her design work with two ads, while

working for *The Carroll County Times*. In the category for local retail color ads less than one-half page in size, she won 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place honors. The 2<sup>nd</sup> place award was for a Winfield Community Volunteer Fire Department "Thank you" ad and the 3<sup>rd</sup> place award was for a Winfield Community Volunteer Fire Department "Motorcycle rally" ad.

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."

## 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 10, 1906

### The Future Trolley Ride

A genuine pleasure trip can be had this summer by going to Pen Mar on the Fast Mail and then board an electric car for Waynesboro, at Greencastle, transfer to the Hagerstown line at Shady Grove and visit Hagerstown. If you are not tired, get on another car and make the trip to Braddock Heights. Return to Hagerstown and come home on the fast mail in the evening.

### Race Suicide

"Race suicide has finally reached the parsonage," declares Rev. George D. Lindsay, pastor of the Westminster Presbyterian Church, of Greensburg, Pa., in a communication sent to the ministers and laymen of Pittsburg, containing a strong appeal for larger salaries for ministers. He declares further that "churches are making race suicide" by the payment of small salaries, and that it has come to the point where the average preacher had to remain single or marry a rich woman.

### Strawberry Festival

The Ladies Aid Society of the Methodist Church will hold a strawberry and ice cream festival Saturday evening, May 26<sup>th</sup>, on the lawn in front of the church. This is an evening of the Memorial Day celebration in the Hall, and should, therefore, be liberally patronized. All are invited.

### Fair Dealings

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph A. Miller of near Loys, and Chas. E. Miller, of Taneytown, were the guests of Mr. Albert Biddinger and family near Haughs, and also attended the dedication services at the church. The members of that church deserve credit for the handsome brick structure they have erected on the old grounds.

Mr. Joshua H. Wood of near Rocky Ridge visited his sister in Frederick one day last week, from which place he went to Washington on business. He returned home Saturday well pleased with his trip.

### In Head-On Collision

Two Western Maryland freight trains were in a head-on collision a short distance west of Avondale about 2 o'clock Tuesday morning. The trains were wrecked and several trainmen were injured. They were: W.G. Mackley, of Thurmont, conductor of train No. 103; left hand crushed and arm and shoulder severely bruised; Wm. F. Brown, 1413 Holbrook Street, Baltimore, engineer, right knee and leg injured.

### A Powerful Rat

One day last week, Mr. Chas. Martin of Catoclin Furnace noticed something after his chickens and on investigating found it to be a rat. Fortunately, he succeeded in killing it, and found it to be of unusual size. He measured it and found that from the end of its nose to the tip of its tail was 19 inches.

### They Get No Divorce

Judge John C. Motter, associate judge of the Circuit Court for Frederick county, delivered a written opinion on Friday last. The opinion was delivered in the case of Mrs. Ellen Fitz against Levi Fitz, of Thurmont. Mrs. Fitz charged ill treatment and abuse. The couple were married in Frederick in 1868, and after living together for 30 years, Mrs. Fitz left her husband because of alleged abuse, he being 60 years of age and she 55. In ruling on the case Judge Motter delivered the following opinion:

"The testimony shows that both the plaintiff and defendant are somewhat hot tempered, and if any fault is to be found, it should be equally shared by them. Both are well along in years; were married more than 30 years ago, and there is no substantial reason to be found in the testimony why they should not continue to remain husband and wife for the probably few remaining years of their lives. It is therefore, ordered that the bill of complaint filed in the cause be dismissed, each side to pay its own costs."




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## Elder

-Continued from page 1

County on Nov. 23, 2005, seeking \$5.4 million in damages, resulting from the town ethics investigation.

### Due process argument dismissed

Elder, a town commissioner from 2002 to 2005, was found by the town's ethics commission to have violated town ethics regulations, and was further served with a cease and desist order preventing him from participating as a town commissioner in issues in which he might have a personal interest.

The former commissioner claimed he had been denied due process because the ethics committee had not provided him with the guidelines under which they intended to operate, and also that the investigation was being led by a former political opponent.

Elder did not participate in the ethics inquiry, although, according to affidavit, the commission asked him several times to do so.

The federal judge indicated in his decision that he found nothing in Elder's complaint that warranted federal action beyond his dismissing due process-related claims.

Motz wrote, "Elder alleges that every stage of the investigation was infected by personal vendetta

and suffered from constitutional infirmity...(but)...he has not pled facts that would entitle him to relief."

"The fourteenth amendment due process clause protects persons against the deprivation of life, liberty, or property...the defendants' actions with respect to the investigation and the release of the commission's report did not deprive Elder of his life or property," the judge determined.

### No right to town-paid defense Case sent to circuit court

Elder had also claimed that he was entitled to repayment of his legal expenses because he was a town official at the time of the ethics investigation. Motz said that repayment of these expenses was part of Elder's due process claim. However, because the ethics investigation was not equivalent to a civil suit, the town is not responsible for paying Elder's fees.

Motz pointed out that "Maryland law grants immunity from civil suit to local government officials for non-malicious discretionary acts conducted within the scope of their employment" and "towns are required to provide a defense for them (town officials) whenever they are sued for 'any act arising within the scope of (their) employment or authority.'"

Elder claimed that the investigation entitled him to a defense provided by the town, "making the defense fee a property

## Judge comments on state aspects of Elder suit

BALTIMORE, Md. — U.S. District Court Judge L. Frederick Motz, who rejected federal due process claims brought by former Emmitsburg Commissioner Art Elder in his lawsuit against certain town officials and boards, questioned the merit of the remaining state-level allegations.

Elder filed suit in the Circuit Court for Frederick County on Nov. 23, 2005, seeking damages he claimed resulted from the town ethics investigation concluded in April 2005.

In addition to dismissing federal-level complaints in Elder's lawsuit, Motz commented on state-related complaints, while remanding them for consideration to the

Circuit Court in Frederick County.

Regarding claims for alleged negligent infliction of damages from emotional distress and claims of humiliation, the judge wrote that Maryland "does not recognize an independent tort of negligent infliction of emotional distress," and "Elder is unable to point to a single Maryland case recognizing the existence of an independent tort of humiliation."

Addressing Elder's claim of damages from being denied due process, Motz stated, "The defendants did not violate Elder's constitutional right to due process."

The judge also questioned Elder's claim that ethics commission Chairman Ted

Brennan had acted out of malice. Motz wrote that in a defamation claim involving a public official, "malice" means that "the defendant acted with 'knowledge that (the publication) was false or with reckless disregard of whether it was false or not.'"

"Nowhere in the complaint (filed by Elder) does Elder assert that either the defendant (Brennan) knew that the (ethics) report was false or (that Brennan) recklessly disregarded its falsity," the judge stated.

— R. Fulton

(See related stories, "Federal court rejects Elder's due process claim" and "Mayor and Elder's attorney comment" in this issue.)

right protected by the due process clause."

But Motz stated, "The fundamental problem with this argument is that it improperly equates the commission's investigation with a civil suit. Because the two are not the same, Elder did not have a right to a town-funded defense."

The judge then remanded the remaining, state-law claims to the Circuit Court for Frederick County, because he concluded that no federal causes of action remained.

The federal court decision is available online at [www.mdd.uscourts.gov/Opinions152/Opinions/Opinion%20-%20Final.pdf](http://www.mdd.uscourts.gov/Opinions152/Opinions/Opinion%20-%20Final.pdf).

(See related stories, "Judge comments on state aspects of Elder suit" and "Mayor and Elder's attorney comment" in this issue.)

## Mayor and Elder's attorney comment

EMMITSBURG, Md. —

Mayor James E. Hoover, cited in a lawsuit filed by former town commissioner Art Elder, in conjunction with an ethics investigation concluded in April 2005, said he was not surprised by the federal district court decision.

U.S. District Judge L. Frederick Motz dismissed federal-level complaints in his April 21 decision on Elder's lawsuit filed in the Circuit Court for Frederick County on Nov. 23, 2005, finding that the defendants' alleged wrongdoing, even if it could later be proved true, did not amount to a deprivation of Elder's claimed constitutional right of due process, the federal right allegedly violated by the ethics commission's actions.

"I'm not surprised that the federal charge (relating to due process) has already been dismissed and I expect the state charges to be dismissed," Hoover told *The Dispatch*.

"I hope to see that this issue is concluded in the very near future so the town can use its time and resources on more appropriate and valid matters," he said.

Attorney Rosemary A. McDermott, representing Elder in this litigation, told *The Dispatch* that she felt the federal judge basically agreed with her, that the case belonged in state court.

McDermott said she felt Motz simply stated that he did not think Elder's constitutional rights were violated in that an elected official doesn't have due process rights.

"The judge said the other issues should be handled by the state courts and that's the one we're very interested in... That's where it belonged in the first place," McDermott stated.

Asked if she had filed, or intended to file an appeal, McDermott said she "preferred not to discuss" an ongoing case.

The federal issues in the case were "only one aspect of this whole big issue," she said.

— R. Fulton

(Editor's Note: See related stories, "Federal court rejects Elder's due process claim" and "Judge comments on state aspects of Elder suit" in this issue.)

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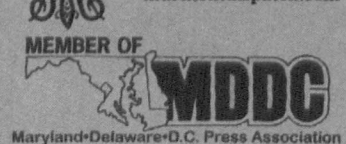
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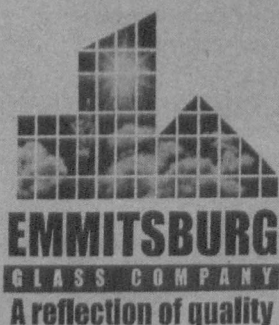
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## EDITORIAL

# Founding date questioned 38 years ago immediately after the "bicentennial"

The article reproduced on this page appeared in *The Emmitsburg Chronicle* on May 10, 1958, and was written by Dr. Grace Tracey, of Hampstead, Md. Clearly, the founding date issue is not new.

Dr. Tracey set out to correct the

"confusion" and inaccuracies that had surfaced with the 1957 "bicentennial" celebration. Her research refutes a 1757 town founding date. We have retyped the article for easier reading. The layout of the town's lots was hand-drawn by Grace Tracey.

She and her father, Dr. Arthur G. Tracey, devoted a lifetime to meticulous research of the colonial and early Federal period land records in western Maryland.

The Emmitsburg Area Historical Society independently reached the

same conclusions about Emmitsburg's founding date, as it turns out, using the same reference materials.

Permission to reprint this article from *The Emmitsburg Chronicle* courtesy of Eric Glass, The Taney Corporation.

# EMMITSBURG CHRONICLE

"READ BY MOST EMMITSBURGIANS"

EMMITSBURG CHRONICLE, EMMITSBURG, MARYLAND, FRIDAY, MAY 10, 1958

## First Layout Of Town's Lots

Preceding the naming of the town of Emmitsburg, this area actually was two towns or villages overlapping each other. To the amazement of many, portions of the town were in Pennsylvania, later being re-surveyed and being declared in the State of Maryland.

The above map shows the first lots laid out and sold in Emmitsburg. Samuel Emmit reserved Lot No. 1 for his wife. This lot, designated by the above map, was nine doors from the Square on East Main Street.

Confusion has reigned since the town celebrated its Bi-centennial almost a year ago and a number of inaccuracies in dates have been turned up. This paper is grateful to Dr. Grace L. Tracey of Hampstead, Md., for her valuable research work which turned up many of these inaccuracies. The facts which she relates, are substantiated by court records and not hearsay, or old family letters. Dr. Tracey, in the interest of history and accuracy, has furnished the Chronicle the following information and supplied the illustration above.

Emmitsburg, Frederick County, Md., was laid out on a tract of land called "Carrollsbury," August 12, 1785. (Frederick County deeds, Liber WR 6 folio 82.)

"Carrollsbury" (5000 acres), was surveyed for Charles, Daniel and Mary Carroll on Sept. 2, 1732 (a large part of "Carrollsbury" was in Pennsylvania - then believed to be Maryland).

On May, 13, 1757, the Carrolls sold 2260 acres of "Carrollsbury" to Samuel Emmit (Frederick County deeds Liber F folio 237). The Carrolls sold the remaining acres of "Carrollsbury" to William Cochran (Frederick County deeds Liber F folio 239).

From Oct. 12, 1759 until Aug. 20, 1739, Samuel Emmit sold parts of "Carrollsbury" to Abraham Emmit, William Cochran Sr., Henry Williams, Charles Robinson, Robert Flemming, William Shields, Samuel

Carrick, William Emmit, Josiah Emmit and Abraham James Emmit. The 320 acres that Samuel Emmit sold to his youngest son, Abraham James Emmit, was the "old Emmit Plantation" located in the forks of Toms Creek and Flat Run (Frederick County deeds Liber WR 11 folio, 708).

In his deed of Aug. 12, 1785 "for all that piece \*\*\* wherein the lots of a new town are laid

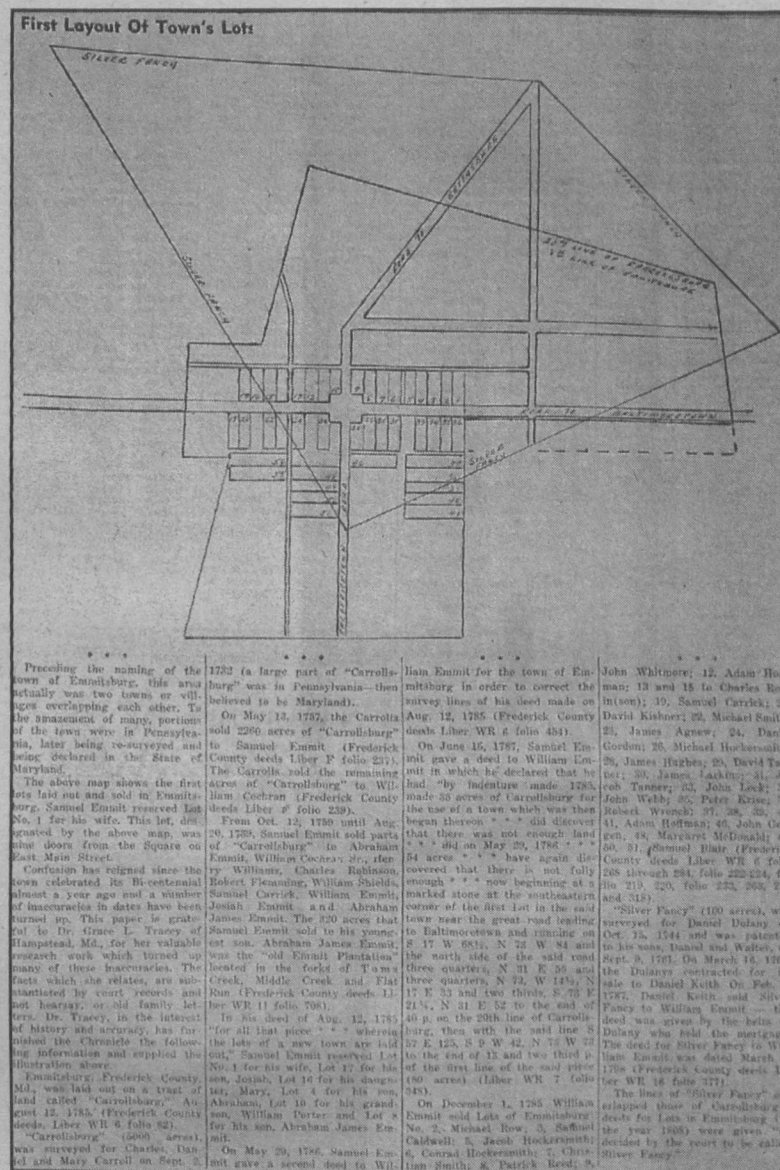
out," Samuel Emmit reserved Lot No. 1 for his wife, Lot 17 for his son, Josiah, Lot 16 for his daughter, Mary, Lot 4 for his son, Abraham, Lot 10 for his grandson, William Porter and Lot 8 for his son, Abraham James Emmit.

On May 29, 1786, Samuel Emmit gave a second deed to William Emmit for the town of Emmitsburg in order to correct the survey lines of his deed made on Aug. 12, 1785, (Frederick County deeds Liber WR 6 folio 454).

On June 16, 1787, Samuel Emmit gave a deed to William Emmit in which he declared that he had "by indenture made 1785, made 35 acres of Carrollsbury for the use of a town which was then began thereon \*\*\* did discover that there was not enough land \*\*\* did on May 29, 1786 \*\*\*

54 acres \*\*\* have again discovered that there is not fully enough \*\*\* now beginning at a marked stone at the southeastern corner of the first Lot in the said town near the great road leading to Baltimoretown and running on S 17 W 68.5, N 73 W 84 and the north side of the said road three quarters, N 31 E 55 and three quarters, N 73, W 14.5, N 17 E 33 and two thirds, S 73 E 21 1/4, N 31 E 52 to the end of 40 p. on the 20th line of Carrollsbury, then with the, said line S 57 E 125, S 9 W 42, N 73 W 73 to the end of 13 and two third p. of the first line of the said piece (80 acres) (Liber WR 7 folio 348).

On December 1, 1785 William Emmit sold Lots of Emmitsburg: No. 2, Michael Row; 3; Samuel



Caldwell; 5, Jacob Hockersmith; 6, Conrad Hockersmith; 7, Christian Smith; 8, Patrick Reed; 9, John Whitmore; 12, Adam Hoffman; 13 and 15 to Charles Robin(son); 19, Samuel Carrick; 20, David Kishner; 22, Michael Smith; 23, James Agnew; 24, Daniel Gordon; 26, Michael Hockersmith; 28, James Hughes; 29, David Tanner; 30, James Larkins; 31, Jacob Tanner; 33, John Lock; 34, John Webb; 35, Peter Krise; 36, Robert Wrench; 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, Adam Hoffman; 46, John Gorgen; 48, Margaret McDonald; 49, 50, 51, Samuel Blair (Frederick County deeds Liber WR 6 folio 268 through 284, folio 222-224, folio 219, 220, folio 233, 263, 273 and 318).

"Silver Fancy" (100 acres), was surveyed for Daniel Dulany on Oct. 15, 1744 and was patented to his sons, Daniel and Walter, on Sept. 9, 1761. On March 16, 1763, the Dulany's contracted for its sale to Daniel Keith. On Feb. 7, 1787, Daniel Keith sold Silver Fancy to William Emmit -- the deed was given by the heirs of Dulany who held the mortgage. The deed for Silver Fancy to William Emmit was dated March 9, 1798 (Frederick County deeds Liber WR 16 folio 377).

The lines of "Silver Fancy" overlapped those of Carrollsbury -- deeds for Lots in Emmitsburg (in the year 1808) were given "as decided by the court to be called Silver Fancy."



## Ambulance

-Continued from page 1

and Greg Reaver of Emmitsburg Glass Co. Pelkey told *The Dispatch* the nearly \$2 million price tag does not include the cost of the land.

The commissioners previously supported the Guardian Hose Company, Thurmont, in construction of its planned new fire station by paying off excise and county permit fees, also in the amount of \$30,000.

However, the new Guardian building, which will cost \$2.2 million, will be devoted entirely to emergency services with no portion set aside for social functions or fundraising.

Only about one-third of the new EVAC building will be directly related to emergency medical services, with two-thirds devoted to social and fundraising functions.

According to plans filed with the town, the building's first floor will be 70 feet by 211 feet; while the second floor will be 60 feet by 70 feet. Although the second floor will be devoted to housing ambulance personnel, only a 55-foot by 70-foot area on the first floor, the ambulance bay, will be directly related to emergency operations.

Nearly three-quarters of the lower floor will be used for non-emergency purposes, including bingo and other fundraising activities, complete with kitchen facilities and bathrooms to serve special events. That area would also provide the town with a social hall for events.

## County to consider fate of former ambulance headquarters

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The Frederick County Board of Commissioners will determine if the Emmitsburg Volunteer Ambulance Company (EVAC) will be able to sell its former headquarters on South Seton Avenue once the company moves into its new building.

The board told EVAC representatives at the commissioners' May 8 meeting that they would consider the company's request to sell the building and put the money toward paying for their new facility to be built on Creamery Road.

In 1988, the Emmitsburg Ambulance Company built its present 5,000-square-foot facility on a tract of county-owned land on South Seton adjacent to the Emmitsburg Community Center.

The company pays the county \$1 per-month rent to use the land. When the ambulance company relocates, their lease stipulates that the building will become county property.

EVAC President Joseph Pelkey told the commissioners that the most likely market for the empty building would be a farming operation that could use the structure to house animals or equipment.

Pelkey told *The Dispatch* that if the building could not be sold, the county would likely just demolish it.

— R. Fulton

### \$135,000 in tap fees

The town of Emmitsburg assessed the new ambulance headquarters \$36,000 for water taps, \$36,000 for sewer taps and \$63,000 in sewer surcharges, amounting a total of \$135,000 for eight taps, Town Manager David Haller told *The Dispatch*.

Most of the taps don't relate to providing emergency services. Six of the eight taps are strictly related to social functions. Only two taps on the second floor relate directly to emergency services, according to the plans.

Although there is a connection

(tap) fee for water and sewer services, the town does not charge the ambulance company for water and sewer usage thereafter.

In order to finance the new building, the ambulance company had to take out a \$1.9-million loan. The annual payback rate on the loan, based on non-profit status, would be \$112,000, according to Pelkey.

In addition to donations, EVAC told the county commissioners that it had raised \$142,000 during its second year of bingo and \$135,000 last year from its bingo games. Fees for ambulance services brought in \$6,000 to \$7,000 per quarter, Pelkey stated.

Groundbreaking for the new building is slated for June 3 at 1 p.m.



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## Bridges hamper the 1919 expedition

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

EMMITSBURG, Md. —

Future President Dwight D. Eisenhower got a on-hands look at America's highway system in 1919 when he joined a military experiment to see how fast the army could get from one coast to the other.

Eisenhower, then an army lieutenant-colonel, was directed to join the military convoy in Frederick. From Frederick, the convoy headed north, a path which set it on a collision course — literally — with Emmitsburg.

According to the future president, the convoy consisted of "various types of light and heavy motor trucks, touring cars, special makes of observation cars, motorcycles, ambulances, trailers, tractor and machine shop unit." The group started out in Washington, D.C., picked up Eisenhower in Frederick, and seemed to be sailing along fairly smoothly until they made their way through Emmitsburg down Seton Avenue.

Eisenhower summed up

the developing problem in his Nov. 3, 1919, report to the chief of the motor transport corps, "The road through Maryland was of concrete, and excellent in all way (up to Emmitsburg) ... Ten miles of dirt road from Emmitsburg, Maryland, to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, had several old, low covered wooden bridges. Many were too low to admit passage of high topped vehicles."

The comment was apparently an understatement. One of the military vehicles actually got wedged in the Emmitsburg covered bridge on South Seton Avenue over Toms Creek, forcing the whole convoy to disperse to get around the old wooden structure.

It was previously reported that the top of the bridge had to be removed to allow the convoy to pass through. This was not the case, and was the result of a misunderstanding when a number of bridges that were damaged during the convoy were discussed. Records show that the top of the truck may have been damaged, not the top of the bridge. "Mack Machine Shop #5 damaged

top on low bridge between Emmitsburg and Chambersburg, Pa." is recorded in the "Daily log of the first transcontinental motor convoy" for July 8, 1919.

Valerie Edgar, a spokesperson with the Maryland State Highway Administration, said she believed the lighter vehicles forded Toms Creek to bypass the bridge once it was clear passage would be a problem, but heavier vehicles were forced to find another route altogether.

Thus, the Emmitsburg covered bridge gained the dubious honor of having been the first bridge that proved to be a stumbling block for the convoy. Some 80 bridges were damaged or destroyed between Maryland and California, according to the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials.

In World War II, General Eisenhower would push the German army back toward Berlin to help end the war, but little more than two dozen years earlier, a little wooden bridge in Emmitsburg had proved to be an immovable object that stopped him in his tracks.

## Eisenhower

-Continued from page 1

### State announces convoy reenactment details

Valerie Edgar, SHA spokesperson, said the convoy will include President Eisenhower's great-grandson, Merrill Eisenhower Atwater, a full-scale section of a covered bridge will be erected at the South Seton bridge for the ceremony, and a historic marker will be unveiled.

The convoy will include 20 vehicles, half of which will be passenger cars, including some antiques, along with "eight or nine 18-wheelers, two buses, and one or two recreational vehicles," Edgar said. The convoy may be joined by a "rolling display vehicle" explaining the national highway system.

The reenactment will take place in reverse, beginning in San Francisco, basically following Interstate 80, then turning south in Gettysburg to use Route 15, and ultimately taking Route 270 from Frederick into Washington, D.C.

The trip is a collaborative effort involving essentially all of the departments of transportation in the states through which the convoy will travel. The event will conclude with a celebration in Washington, D.C. on June 29, the anniversary date of the 1956 act creating the

highway system.

More information about the historic event is summed up in the "Daily log of the first transcontinental motor convoy" for July 8, 1919:

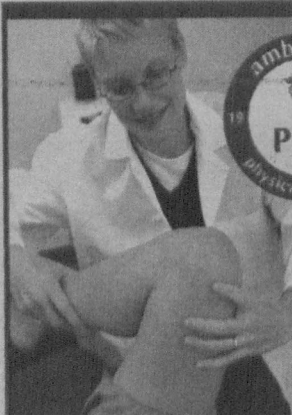
"Departed Frederick, 7 am... Unsafe covered wooden bridge, one mile south of Emmitsburg (South Seton bridge) reached at 9 a.m. Two hours delay due to unsafe and covered bridges too low for shop trucks, necessitating detours and fording ... pulled Class B Machine Shop (10 tons) out of mud on bad detour near Emmitsburg after two Macks in tandem had failed."

The convoy traveled the 62-mile journey from Frederick to Chambersburg, Pa. in ten and a half hours. Not just a fun army outing, considering this excerpt from a brief prepared by Captain William C. Greany, United States Army Motor Transport Corps, after the trip ended:

"The personnel (in the convoy) consisted of 24 expeditionary officers, 15 war department, staff observation officers, and 258 enlisted men. Twenty-one men were lost through various casualties en route ... nine vehicles were destroyed or so damaged as to require retirement while en route."

Few photographs apparently exist of the South Seton covered bridge. In 1923, it was replaced with the current concrete bridge presently undergoing renovation.





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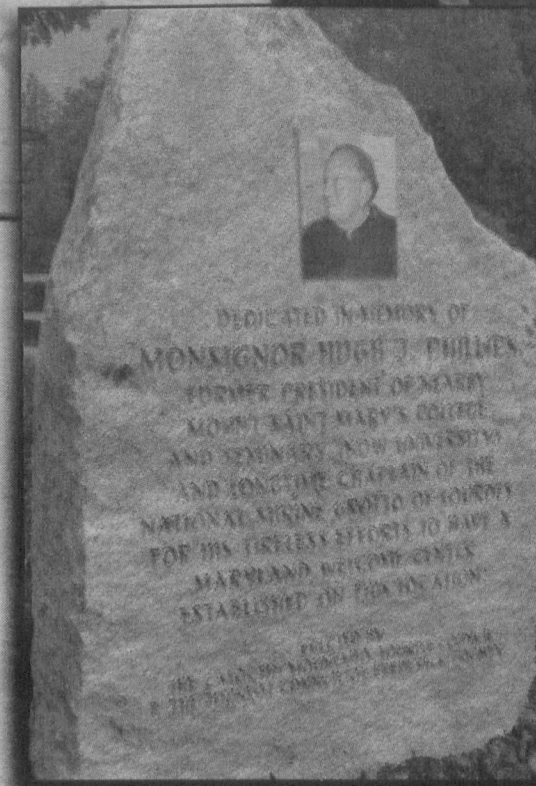
## TOWN NEWS

### Monument dedicated to Monsignor Phillips at visitor center



—RICHARD D. L. FULTON / THE DISPATCH

Former Mount St. Mary's College (now university) and Seminary President Monsignor Hugh J. Phillips was honored May 16 with the dedication of a memorial garden and monument at the new state visitors' center on U.S. 15 outside of Emmitsburg. Phillips, who died in July 2004, was also a long-time chaplain of The National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes. He had lobbied for the first tourist center at the present location in the 1980s, and was honored for his promotion of tourism in Maryland. Attending the ribbon cutting was Mount St. Mary's University President Thomas H. Powell (left), along with numerous local, state and county officials.



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## TOWN NEWS

## Increased Silo Hill traffic concerns residents and SHA

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

EMMITSBURG, Md. — Town Commissioner William B. O'Neil Jr. suggested at the May 1 board meeting that the commissioners consider adopting a resolution calling on the state highway administration to install a regular traffic light at the Silo Hill Road, East Main Street (State Rt. 140), and State Rt. 904F intersection.

"I challenge the SHA to put a fully functional light at that intersection," O'Neil stated. What concerns elected officials and residents is an increase in accidents at the intersection, guarded only by a single yellow flashing light.

In a recent e-mail to the news editor, O'Neil wrote, "...One of the comments made by SHA officials was that traffic flow was insufficient to require a fully functional light. Given the recent increase in traffic accidents, however, I believe it is absolutely imperative for the state to move forward immediately with a fully functional light before more people are seriously injured or, worse, killed."

#### Accident rate soaring

Since April 1 alone, there have been seven reported accidents at the Silo Hill and 140-904F intersection, with two injuries, more than tallied by SHA over the past two-and-one-half-year period. Four accidents occurred in April and three thus far in May.

According to SHA information, there had previously been five reported accidents at the Silo Hill and 140-904F intersection — one in 2003, three in 2004, and one in 2005 (up to Aug. 2005, the latest available data).

#### SHA already studying Silo Hill traffic

Kellie Boulware, SHA spokesperson, said the state began a 30-day review of traffic patterns at the intersection, starting about the week of April 24.

"We decided to look at that location when we did the ramp change at North Seton and had received some comments from residents over increased traffic due to ramp closure," she stated. The SHA installed the flashing yellow traffic light at the intersection in 2003.

The "Silo Hill intersection" is the convergence of three roads — Silo Hill Road, Md. State Route 140 (aka West Main Street) and Md. State Rt. 904F.

Silo Hill Road provides access to the Silo Hill housing development, Sleep Inn, Jubilee shopping center, Silo Hill Exxon and McDonalds. Westerly, Route 904F takes traffic to southbound U.S. 15; while Route 140 provides access to U.S. 15 northbound lane, and continues on to other points. To the east of the intersection, Route 140 serves as the main street through Emmitsburg.

Board President Christopher V. Staiger raised the same concerns at the May 1 meeting stating that closing the crossover at the north end of Seton, combined with the ongoing bridge restoration on South Seton, funneled more traffic than normal through the Silo Hill intersection.

The SHA spokesperson said the analysis would be complete at the end of May and that the data would be reviewed with the goal of having results by mid-summer.

Boulware told *The Dispatch* the



—RICHARD D. L. FULTON / THE DISPATCH

This May 15 accident at the Silo Hill intersection is the latest in an increasing number of collisions likely due to the bridge closure on South Seton Avenue and the closure of the U.S. 15 crossover on North Seton Avenue. Concerned Emmitsburg commissioners may be asking the Maryland State Highway Administration for an emergency stoplight, while the state is conducting a "routine" month-long study of traffic patterns at the intersection.

survey is considering traffic volume, pedestrian traffic, accident history and looking at increased residential and commercial development in the area to determine what action, if any, the state needs to take.

Possible outcomes include "leaving the signal as is or converting it to a full signal," she said. A round-about, or circle, could also be an option, Boulware stated, but would involve acquiring rights-of-way, funding and construction, and would be a more long-term project.

### Town Meetings

- **Commissioners Meeting**  
1st & 3rd Monday  
7:30 p.m.
- **Planning and Zoning Commission**  
Last Monday  
7:30 p.m.
- **Street Commission**  
June 20  
7:30 p.m.

Meetings are held at the Emmitsburg Town Office, Emmitsburg Community Center, 300A South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg. For information call 240-629-6300 or visit [www.emmitsburgmd.gov](http://www.emmitsburgmd.gov).

### Commissioners adopt water surcharge

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The town commissioners unanimously adopted on May 16 a \$7,000 surcharge for new tap connections to the town water supply.

According to the regulations, new residential units will pay only one \$7,000 surcharge each, while the number of taps allocated to new commercial and other types of structures will be based on a scoring method developed by the town.

Town Manager David Haller has urged the town to consider adopting the surcharge as a way to generate revenue that could be used to address the water system's current and future needs to ensure that town residents and business have needed water.

The treatment plant needs a major piece of equipment, a clarifier, to help deal with particulate matter in the drinking water drawn from sources such as Rainbow Lake. That equipment and the process together could cost up to \$500,000.

It currently costs the town about \$1 million a year to operate the water supply system and there are concerns that the existing facility might only support another 200 connections before reaching capacity.

— R. Fulton

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## REGIONAL NEWS

# Planners table two Fairfield developments

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

FAIRFIELD BOROUGH, Pa. — Two developments, one a multi-hundred-unit proposal and the other an in-fill project, were tabled at the May 8 borough planning

commission meeting to permit further engineering reviews.

The Empire Homes development, a nearly 500-unit proposal spanning Fairfield and Hamiltonban Township, dubbed "McGinley's Choice," was tabled to allow the developers time to prepare documents granting the town an extended review period.

Borough Solicitor Matthew Battersby restated his previous suggestion that the planning committee's normal 90-day review period should be extended an additional 90 days because of the size and scope of this project.

The 350-acre, 479-unit McGinley's Choice, as proposed, would consist of 142 single-family homes, 145 neo-traditional homes (with detached garages) and 192 townhouses.

The "Fairfield Commons" in-fill project proposed by developer David Sites was also tabled, to allow Sites time to review and address engineering comments and "work out technical items."



—RICHARD D. L. FULTON / THE DISPATCH

## Fairfield Post Office officially opens

The new Fairfield area post office held its grand opening on May 15, including swearing in new Postmaster Norman Eckard. The postal service did not install sidewalks. The post office is considering offering in-town cluster mailboxes to facilitate local mail delivery so that residents will not have to walk on the side of the road to reach the post office.

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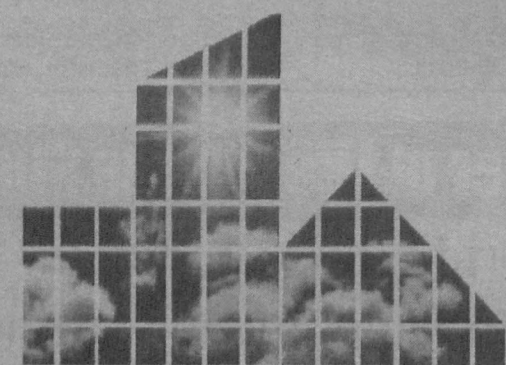
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## Chamber Circus Fundraising Event

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One hour prior to show time the midway will offer elephant rides, pony rides, a moon bounce, and food. The show is approximately 1 hour and 35 minutes long.

There will be two shows - 5:30 and 7:30

p.m. Advance tickets are \$12 for adults (ages 15+), \$14 for adults on show day. Children 2 and under are free with an adult. Each adult ticket includes two children free (ages 2-14). Additional children are \$5 per child at the door on show day.

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## REGIONAL NEWS

# Gaming board holds final hearing on Gettysburg area casino proposal

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

GETTYSBURG, Pa. — For the second time this year, hundreds of area residents and representatives of Crossroads Casino & Spa filled the Gettysburg College student union building ballroom to participate in or observe the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board's hearing on Crossroads' casino proposal to build a slots facility in Straban Township on Route 30 near the U.S. 15 interchange.

May 17 marked the last of three public hearings on the casino proposal to file for a state operating license. PGCB announced that comments could be filed until June 2, via a form on the PGCB Web site, <http://www.pgcb.state.pa.us/>.

Plans for the casino call for an initial 3,000 slots, with a future expansion to 5,000, along with

several restaurants and a hotel.

The proposed facility's proximity to the Gettysburg Battlefield has caused a furor among residents and historic preservation groups, who want PGCB to deny the project.

David LeVan, a managing partner in Battlefield Harley Davidson, is the chief executive officer of Crossroads Gaming, which has been adamant that the proposed casino site is not on ground directly related to the battle. "No part of this property is hallowed ground," he stated previously.

The PGCB began the final hearing with a videotaped replay of Crossroads' April 5 presentation. The gaming board heard testimony throughout the day, both for and against the casino, concluding with closing remarks by Chance representatives.

By press time, only

Pennsylvania College Guard member Jay Hagerman had spoken, opposing the casino, calling it "a national travesty," and asked, "What's next? A Pearl Harbor casino and U.S.S. Arizona spa?"

Referring to the recent 6-3 vote of the Gettysburg Board of Supervisors to support the casino, after being offered a guaranteed \$1 million revenue annually from the casino, Hagerman said, "Our local government has forsaken us."

LeVan told *The Dispatch* that the gaming board would now be conducting its own (internal) reviews and processing the applications, including the public hearing testimony.

Not sure when the PGCB would rule on the application, LeVan said, "Things keep changing, but we're told toward the end of the year."

## Tax rates cut; taxes will most likely rise

BY JAMES RADA JR.  
Thurmont News Editor  
jrada@thurmontdispatch.com

FREDERICK, Md. — The Frederick County Commissioners made some large cuts in the county property tax rate and the urban fire tax this week, but most residents will probably still see increases in their tax bills.

On May 16, the county commissioners lowered the county property tax rate from \$1 per \$100 of assessed value to 93.6 cents, which is the constant-yield rate. This followed a May 15 meeting where the commissioners lowered the urban fire tax rate from 13.5 per \$100 of assessed value to 12.8 cents. The suburban fire tax rate remains at 8 cents.

Commissioners President John L. Thompson, Jr. said, "This is the first step in getting our fiscal house in order, but it is not the last one."

Despite these rate cuts, most

property owners will still see their taxes owed for those items increase because of the fast-paced rise in assessments.

Properties in northern Frederick County were reassessed this year and the average annual increase for each of the next three years will be 20.3 percent. A home valued at \$250,000 this year will be worth \$300,750 next year. Even with the property tax rate cut and the 5-percent cap on taxable assessment increases, the property taxes on this home will still increase from \$2,500 to \$2,625.

County Commissioner Jan Gardner, who voted against the tax cut, favored expanding the property tax credit from \$100 to \$225 for owner-occupied homes and reducing the tax rate to 95 cents per \$100 of assessed value.

Gardner said the expansion of the property tax credit, "would give residential property owners greater tax reduction than this

tax-rate reduction would do."

A \$250,000 home in an urban fire tax district (a district with paid rather than strictly volunteer firefighters), such as Emmitsburg, would have a fire tax bill of \$337.50 this year. Next year, the bill would be \$384.96 and fire taxes are not subject to the 5-percent property tax cap.

The urban fire tax rate cut was made possible when the commissioners moved the response area for the New Market Volunteer Fire Company from the suburban district to the urban district.

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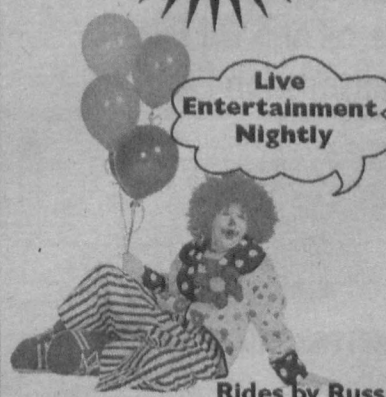
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## REGIONAL NEWS

### Three-way residential stop sign proposed

By WILLIAM K. REINKE  
Contributing Writer

CARROLL VALLEY BOROUGH, Pa. - The borough council passed a resolution during the May 9 meeting to advertise its intention to create a three-way stop at the intersection of Ski Run and Trout Run Trails in the "K Section" of Carroll Valley.

The proposal, which would lead to the first multi-way stop at any residential intersection in the

borough, came about after the council learned the results of a traffic study conducted by the Carroll Valley Police Department. The council had requested the study, responding to citizens' concerns about the high number of pedestrians and volume of speeding auto traffic.

Police Chief Richard Hileman II presented the results of the survey, which was conducted between April 13 and 23, at the May 9 council meeting. While the traffic counters did not support the anecdotal

evidence of excessive speeds on Ski Run Trail, they did determine that the Ski Run and Trout Run Trails intersection was potentially dangerous.

Based on the department findings, the public safety committee recommended, and the council agreed, to propose a three-way stop at the intersection. The matter is open for public comment and the decision will be finalized at the next borough council meeting on June 13.

### Motions to televise meetings die on council floor

By WILLIAM K. REINKE  
Contributing Writer

CARROLL VALLEY BOROUGH, Pa. - After a long and lively debate about televising council meetings, two motions to seek funding died on the council floor May 9, along with the hope of having future meetings broadcast by ACTV 10.

Most of the council members supported televising the meetings as part of their commitment to improve communication to the citizenry, but no one supported the 12-month

contract ACTV was proposing, and there was concern over the \$200 per month cost for the project.

As Council President Thomas Wolf put it, "I'm 100 percent for this, and 100 percent against paying \$200 a month for it."

Several council members thought a one-month trial was not long enough to gauge the value to the community and suggested entering into a short-term agreement. Councilman Thomas Fitzsimmons summarized this opinion when he said, "I agree with the concept but can't agree with any contract longer

than six months."

Councilman Ted Talbert, the self-described "bad boy of the bunch" on this issue, spoke on behalf of the naysayers, saying he found the broadcast to be "interminably boring." While he agreed to support the council's consensus on the matter, he felt that "if you really care about what's going on, you can get here, or read the meeting minutes on the Website, or call one of us. None of us really hide."

Two motions to enter into a short-term contract for broadcasting failed for lack of any support from the council members.

### County begins on-line bid notification system

FREDERICK, Md. - Those who want to do business with Frederick County Government will soon be able to use an electronic registration and bid notification system with the county's purchasing department.

Vendors and contractors may now register at [www.co.frederick.md.us/purchasing](http://www.co.frederick.md.us/purchasing) in preparation for the launch of the service on July 1. After that date, bid notices will

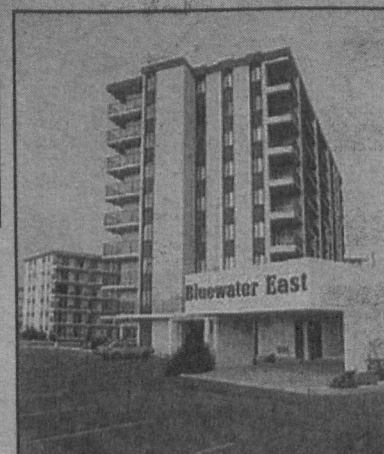
be sent by e-mail to those registered electronically with the county for their designated products or services.

The new notification system is offered free of charge because it was developed by the county's Interagency Information Technologies Division as a public service.

For those who do not have Internet access, the purchasing department has an in-house computer

station designated for vendor and contractor use. The department is located in Winchester Hall, 12 East Church Street, Frederick, Md., and is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

For more information about the new registration and bid notification system, contact the purchasing department at (301) 694-1067 or via e-mail at [purchasing@fredco-md.net](mailto:purchasing@fredco-md.net).

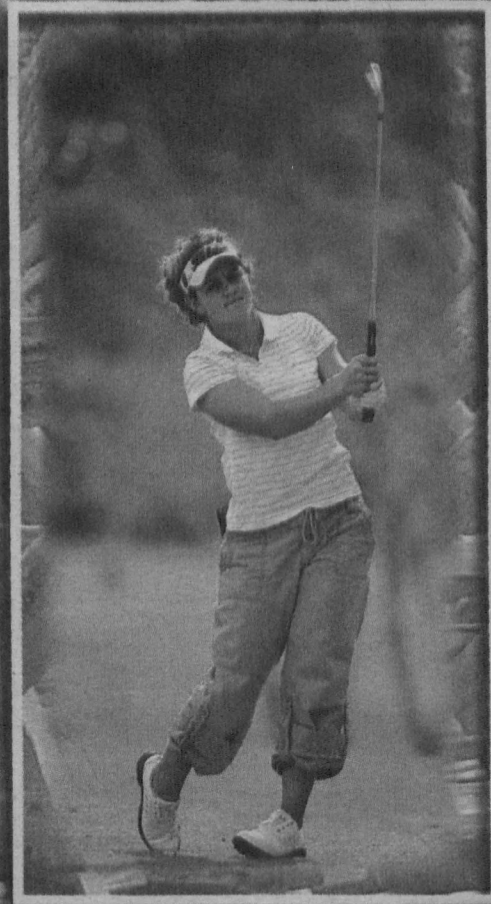


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# SUMMER

A Mason-Dixon area guide to Activities, Services and Events for summer 2006!



Discover where  
America happened - page 3

Experience the colors and  
scents of the Lavender Festival - page 6

Follow the pros on the FUTURES tour - page 7

**The Dispatch**  
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# Plan a great summer!



Welcome to the premier edition of SUMMERTIME! a Mason-Dixon area guide to activities, services and events for summer 2006, brought to you

by The Dispatch Newspapers, LLC, Emmitsburg, Md. and its advertisers and sponsors.

With so much to see and do in the Mason-Dixon area, it's hard to choose. This guide organizes a variety of entertainment options for your summer enjoyment. In these pages you'll find articles, business advertisements, and directories.

Our award-winning reporters have interviewed a number of local business owners to tell you what the businesses have to offer. Our advertisers have highlighted the variety of activities and services they provide. Our guide will help you and your family throughout the summer, focusing on what's going on in our area, helping you plan day/evening or weekend fun.

SUMMERTIME! is free to you, compliments of  
*The Dispatch Community Newspapers.*

Currently we publish two newspapers, *The Emmitsburg Dispatch* and *The Thurmont Dispatch*. Both papers are printed the first and third Thursday of every month and mailed to every home and business in each paper's circulation area – more than 15,000 copies total, at 100% market saturation for our advertisers.

The papers are filled with local and regional news, community events, columns by local writers, sports and recreation and regional entertainment listings. We are not a wire-service publication, preferring to include local news that concerns you directly.

We hope you find this guide useful as you make your summer plans in the Mason-Dixon area, and welcome your comments. We thank the advertisers who have joined us this time around, and look forward to our next regional guide.

Amberlee C. Ohlsen  
Advertising Account Executive

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# Taking a 'Journey through Hallowed Ground'

BY JAMES RADA JR.

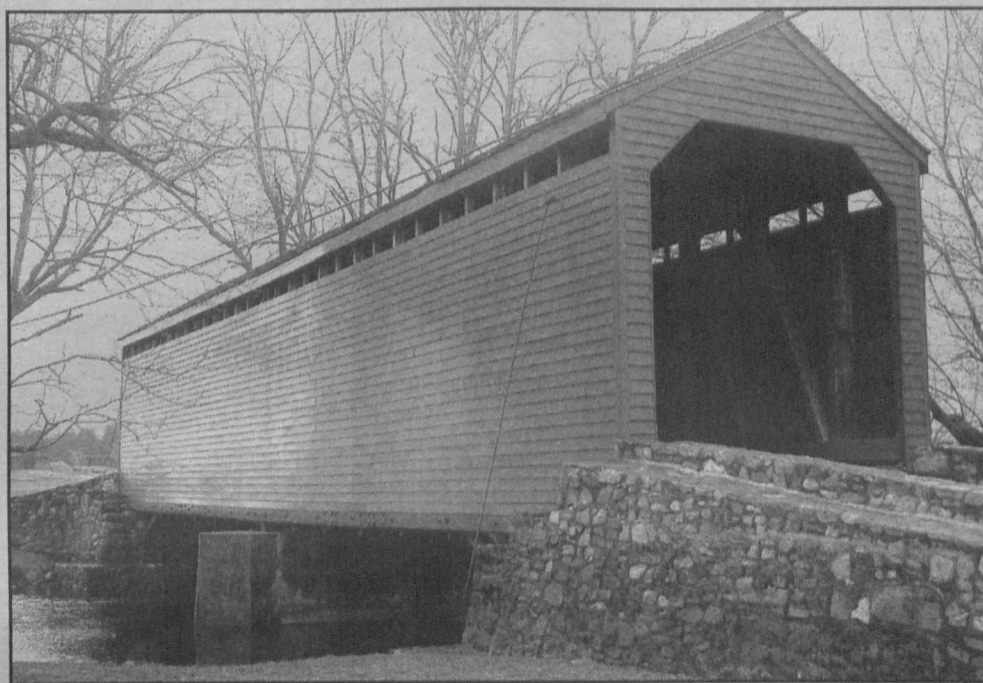
The Union Army marched north through Thurmont (then known as Mechanicstown) on their way to Gettysburg. Early American Indians traveled through the area on the Old Carolina Road. America's first saint lived and served here.

Thousands of commuters daily make this "Journey Through Hallowed Ground" along the U.S. Route 15 corridor without realizing all of the region's history. The tourists who visit northern Frederick County, Md. and southern Adams County, Pa. are seeing an area rich in American history.

James Gangawere, formerly with the Frederick County Office of Economic Development, now working with the Town of Thurmont on business and economic development issues, said the U.S. Route 15 corridor has "been called where America happened, but maybe it should be called where America is happening."

It's because of the current value of the route, not its historic value, that recently led Thurmont town commissioners to join the growing number of municipal governments signing resolutions of support for the "Journey Through Hallowed Ground."

The "Journey Through Hallowed Ground" began in 1996 as a public-private partnership to attract attention to the historic value of the 175-mile region from Gettysburg, Pa. to Charlottesville, Va. It is home to significant and unique historical, cultural, scenic and natural legacies. The "Journey Through Hallowed Ground" corridor follows U.S. Route 15 and Route 20 on a 175-mile meandering course from Gettysburg, through Frederick County, Md. and ending in Charlottesville.



-DICK BLOOM / THE DISPATCH

**Built in 1880, the Loys Station Covered Bridge, 90-feet in length, spans Owens Creek and is located on Old Frederick Road near Thurmont. It's one of the stops on the Journey Through Hallowed Ground tour.**

"It's a movement that celebrates the history and culture of the area from Monticello through Gettysburg," said Gangawere.

Hallowed Ground Executive Director Cate Magennis-Wyatt said some of the historical significance in the region includes:

- 6 U.S. presidential homes
- Over 11,000 years of Native American history
- 13 National historical landmarks
- 3 world heritage sites
- 47 historic districts
- 15 Main Street communities
- The largest concentration of Civil War battlefields in the country.
- More than 1 million acres on the National Historic Register

"This corridor is sort of like the binding, if you will, on the chapters in our American History and a trip every

*"This corridor is sort of like the binding, if you will, on the chapters in our American History and a trip every American should be taking."*

the route but also appreciating it.

"If we do absolutely nothing, it will become the ipso facto outer beltway," Magennis-Wyatt said.

One of the goals of the organization is not to deprive property owners of their rights but to encourage them to preserve their historical sites or sell them at fair-market value. "We are not asking anyone to underwrite our heritage," said Magennis-Wyatt.

The "Journey Through Hallowed Ground" can benefit businesses. With promotions being done for sites along the journey, local businesses have an opportunity to capitalize on the tourism the "Journey Through Hallowed Ground" organization is looking to attract.



-RICHARD D. L. FULTON / THE DISPATCH

**The Dobbin House on Steinwehr Avenue in Gettysburg was a Civil War hospital and stop on the Underground Railroad.**

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# Where to stop on the Hallowed Ground Journey

The Journey Through Hallowed Ground follows the U.S. Route 15 and Route 20 corridor for 175 miles from Gettysburg, Pa. through Frederick County, Md. and ends in Charlottesville, Va. Here are the Hallowed Ground sites in the Mason-Dixon Region:

## Southern Adams County, Pennsylvania

- Adams County Courthouse (a historic structure in Gettysburg)
- David Wills House (site of the final edits of "The Gettysburg Address")
- Dobbin House (Civil War hospital and Underground Railroad stop)
- Eisenhower National Historic Site (President Eisenhower's weekend retreat)
- Gettysburg College (Civil War field hospital and command post)
- Gettysburg National Military Park (Civil War battlefield)
- Lincoln Cemetery (burial site of Gettysburg's African-American citizens and Civil War veterans)

- Lincoln Railroad Station (Civil War railroad station)
- Lutheran Theological Seminary (Lutheran seminary)
- Sachs Covered Bridge (covered bridge near Gettysburg)
- Soldiers National Cemetery (site of Lincoln's "Gettysburg Address")

## Northern Frederick County, Maryland

- Catoctin Furnace (standing remains of Catoctin Furnace Stack #2)
- Emmitsburg Historic District (largely intact antebellum neighborhood)
- Fourpoints Bridge (1876 steel bridge)
- Graceham Moravian Church and Parsonage (18<sup>th</sup> century church)
- Loy's Station Covered Bridge (covered bridge near Thurmont)
- Mother Seton Shrine and St. Joseph's College (shrine to Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton)

For more information, visit [www.hallowedground.org](http://www.hallowedground.org).

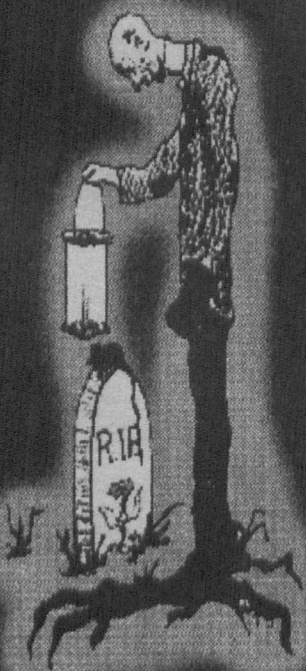
Walk into the realm of the unknown with period dressed storytellers as you hear tales of local haunts and legends. The only tour company in the area owned and operated by Cindy Codori Shultz, 6th generation granddaughter to the Historic Codori Farm (site of Pickett's Charge). Over ten years of superb storytelling makes us the only company in the area recommended by the Paranormal Investigators and Research Association. General Public, Group and Private tours available.

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## Plan a visit to Gettysburg National Military Park

The Gettysburg Battlefield is one of the National Park Service's most-visited military parks, and includes 6,000 acres, with 26 miles of park roads and over 1,400 monuments, markers, and memorials, according to the NPS. The park grounds and roads are open daily this summer from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Self-guided auto tour maps are available at the Visitor Center and Cyclorama Center. Licensed battlefield guides are also available.

Interpretive summer programs at Gettysburg National Military Park begin on June 10 and end on Aug. 12. There will be a variety of ranger-conducted programs, walks, tours, campfire programs, living history programs, children's programs and Battle Walks.

For more information on summer events, contact Gettysburg National Military Park at (717) 334-1124, ext. 422 or 431, or visit [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

### Selected summertime offerings:

#### May 27-28 – Living History Weekend

Annual "Forgotten Regulars" Memorial Day Weekend with Sykes' Regulars, programs at Meade's Headquarters, Battery M, 2nd U.S. Artillery camp and programs at the Pennsylvania Monument, and the 10th Virginia Infantry camp and programs at Spangler's Spring.

#### May 29 – Memorial Day Parade and Ceremonies

Parade at 2 p.m. followed by a ceremony in the Soldiers' National Cemetery.

#### June 17 – Greater Gettysburg Brass Band Festival

The Wildcat Regimental Band will present a concert on the history of the American Brass Band Movement, along with a grand concert in the afternoon at the Cyclorama Center. Free.

#### June 17-18 – Fifties Weekend at the Eisenhower National Historic Site

Revisit the popular culture of the 1950s. See Detroit's finest 1950s cars, Rock and Roll, the Hula-Hoop and more. Ranger programs and guest speaker on the issues of Eisenhower's day. Included in site admission. (717) 338-9114.

#### July 1-2 – Living History and Battle Anniversary Weekend

The Mifflin Guard, a battalion-sized infantry group, camp and programs at the Pennsylvania Monument, and The Regiments

of the Confederate Forces (CMF), camp and programs at Pitzer Woods.

#### July 1-3 – 143rd Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg

A series of special National Park Service ranger-conducted Battle walks. Free.

#### July 9-14 – The Eisenhower Academy

A one-week institute for schoolteachers covering Eisenhower's foreign and domestic policy, 1950s popular culture and Eisenhower's leadership. Fee. (717) 338-9114.

#### July 22 – Remembering Korea, The Forgotten War at the Eisenhower National Historic Site

Talks by veterans and a flag ceremony commemorate the armistice. Included in site admission. (717) 338-9114.

#### Aug. 19 – Eisenhower Skeet and Trap Shoot

Sponsored by the Friends of the National Parks at Gettysburg. Learn about Eisenhower's interest in the shooting sports. Watch shooting competitions. Included in site admission. Skeet and trap shooters registration: (717) 334-0772.

#### Aug. 26 – 12th Annual Civil War Music Muster

Civil War brass bands, fife and drum and parlor music in concert on the Cyclorama lawn, followed by an early evening concert at the Pennsylvania Monument. Free.

## Gettysburg's 'haunted' side

GETTYSBURG, Pa. – Tired of the routine, or just looking for a different angle to explore this world famous historic site? A number of businesses in Gettysburg offer "ghost tours" around the town, although no such commercial tours are permitted on the battlefield within the confines of the national park.

Probably the largest local group offering "ghost tours" is Gettysburg Battlefield Tours (GBT) through its Ghostly Images operation.

GBT owns a number of historic sites in town, including the Soldiers National Museum (formerly the Gettysburg Orphanage and then Charlie Weaver's Soldiers National Museum), the Lincoln Train Museum, the Jennie Wade House and Museum, and the Hall of Presidents.

Ghostly Images manager Joe Svehla says the goal of the paranormal tours is "to provide quality tales of the supernatural to everyone who may be searching for a ghostly experience... Several of our tours actually take you inside a truly haunted building."

For tour information, contact GBT at (717) 334-6296.

Also offering "ghost tours" are:

\* Gettysburg Ghost Tours (717) 338-1818

\* Sleepy Hollow of Gettysburg Candlelight Ghost Tours (717) 337-9322

\* Ghosts of Gettysburg (717) 337-0445.

For more information, go to [www.spiritsofgettysburg.com](http://www.spiritsofgettysburg.com). - R. Fulton



# Father-son Civil War dealers create smokers' sanctuary

## You'll find more than just cigars here

STORY AND PHOTOS

BY RICHARD D. L. FULTON

A father and son team, transplanted to Gettysburg from Bucks County, Pa., has found a way to counter today's tobacco abolitionists by creating a smokers' "safe house."

Bill Synnamon and his son Brendan took steps to give smokers a break, and created the Union Cigar Club at 5 Baltimore Ave., Gettysburg, and a place for socializing amidst a town of bars gradually converting to non-smoking.

But the cigar sanctuary is just the latest in a series of father-son enterprises that include founding a nationally acclaimed Civil War artifacts dealership and managing major Civil War shows.

### Union Cigar Club offers more than stogies

The Union Cigar Club, located in one section of the old House of Bender, opened Remembrance Day weekend (Nov. 2005). Synnamon said, "We started because every bar around here began putting up signs to stop smoking. That's how it started ... to provide a place to smoke."

"My wife, Jan, calls it (the founding of the shop) a product of my mid-life crisis," he said.

Synnamon said the cigar shop, lounge and coffee bar immediately "became a very

nice social place and has already been a success, (and is) already paying dividends just from successful local support, and tourist season hasn't even kicked in yet."

Over 30 cigar manufacturers are represented in the shop, which offers more than 200 facings (brands).

The lounge is equipped with plush lounge and couch seating, café tables and chairs along the wall, casino carpeting, a 52" flat screen plasma TV, and a large smoke-eater, while the shop offers custom humidors, lighters, pipes and supplies, and pipe tobacco.

The coffee bar offers "some of the best coffee in town," Synnamon noted.

The Union Cigar Club will hold two events this year, "Cigars under the Stars" and "The Big Smoke."

"Cigars under the Stars" will be held June 7 at the main clubhouse and patio of The Links at Gettysburg, 601 Mason-Dixon Road from 7 to 10 p.m. Tickets for this limited-seating event are \$100 per person. The featured vendor will be Camancho Cigars, from Miami.

"The Big Smoke" will be held June 16 at the Gettysburg Hotel on the Square.

Proceeds will benefit the National Latino Police Officers Association.

Visit [www.unioncigarclub.com](http://www.unioncigarclub.com) for additional information on memberships and event details.

### The Union Drummer Boy

The movement that culminated in two successful Gettysburg enterprises began in Eastern Pennsylvania when Synnamon and his son began investigating their Civil War ancestors around 1990.

The two attended a Civil War show in Gettysburg where, "Brendan developed an immediate love for the artifacts and I saw it as an opportunity to teach him business."

Artifact fever eventually turned into an artifact shop – the Union Drummer Boy, first in Lambertville, N.J., and then in Lahaska, Bucks County, Pa. Brendan also began selling at Civil War reenactments, and joined the 28<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania at age 13, and participated in the filming of the movie "Gettysburg."

Fifteen years later, the shop is now in Gettysburg where the idea began for the Synnamons. In addition to the shop at 13 Baltimore Street, started nine years ago, the business attends some 23 shows a year from coast to coast.

"We specialize in authentic Civil War artifacts and enjoy a reputation for fair and honest dealings,"

Synnamon said. The Union Drummer Boy buys, sells and trades Civil War collectibles, and maintains an online catalog at [www.uniondb.com](http://www.uniondb.com).

The father and son duo will also be sponsoring two Civil War events this year. The "32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Gettysburg Civil War Collectors' Show" will be held June 24, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and June 25, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Allstar Complex, Eisenhower Inn, 2634 Emmitsburg Road.

The "19<sup>th</sup> Annual Gettysburg Civil War Book, Ephemeria & Relic Show" will be held July 1, 1-6 p.m., and July 2-3, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., at the Gettysburg Hotel on the Square.

Proceeds from the Civil War shows go toward battlefield preservation. For additional information on all events, call (717) 334-2350.

Synnamon and his son serve as board members of the Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association (GBPA), Pennsylvania Antique Appraisal Association, Company of Military Historians, Certified Appraisers Guild of America, and the Anna Ross GAR Museum (Philadelphia).



Bill Synnamon of the Union Cigar Club shows off some of the cigars available at his shop located at 5 Baltimore St. in Gettysburg.



Authentic Civil War artifacts are on display and for sale at the Union Drummer Boy.

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# Local farm again hosts Lavender Festival

Willow Pond Farm, a family-owned herb farm in Fairfield, Pa., will host the fifth annual Pennsylvania Lavender Festival from June 16-18.

This is the only festival of its type in the mid-Atlantic region, and will feature tours of lavender fields and demonstration gardens, workshops led by nationally known experts, herbal cooking and pick-your-own lavender. Plants, food, body and bath products along with crafts by local artisans will also be available.

Tom and Madeline Wajda have owned the farm for more than a decade and are nationally recognized for their work in organic gardening, plant cultivation and herbal cuisine. They propagate more than 70 different varieties of lavender.

Some 40 varieties of lavender will be for sale, along with other herbs and perennials, lavender products and herbal products. Lunch is available, and there will be live entertainment each day.

The grounds include demonstration gardens featuring culinary herbs, edible flowers, antique roses, lavender, mint, scented geraniums, salvias, medicinal herbs, biblical plants, and dye plants. The farm also features a silver "moon" garden, sun and shade gardens, a butterfly garden, and a 250-foot-long perennial border.

Willow Pond Farm is certified organic; all plants and gardens are cultivated in strict



-RAYMOND BUCHHEISTER / THE DISPATCH

Two visitors to last year's Lavender Festival at Willow Pond Farm on Tract Road near Fairfield pose in a field of lavender for their photo taking friend.

adherence to organic standards.

Admission, shuttle and parking are free. Hours are Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Willow Pond Farm is located at 145 Tract Rd., Fairfield, Pa., 10 minutes west of Gettysburg, Pa., and 45 minutes north of Frederick, Md. For more information

about the farm, visit [www.willowpondherbs.com](http://www.willowpondherbs.com). For more information about the festival, call (717) 642-6387 or visit [www.palavenderfestival.com](http://www.palavenderfestival.com)

## Two Great Civil War Shows!

The Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association Presents  
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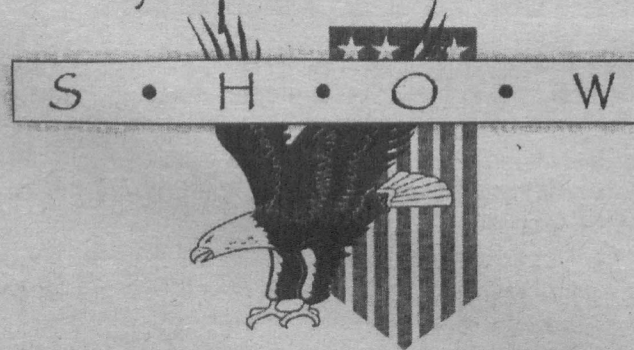
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Saturday, June 24 • 10am to 5pm  
Sunday, June 25 • 9am to 2pm

**ADMISSION: \$6/Children Under 12 Free**  
With parent or guardian

More than 400 tables of educational displays and authentic Civil War artifacts for sale, from leading collectors and dealers of Civil War memorabilia featuring Accoutrements, Weapons, Uniforms, Documents, Books, Photographs & Personal Effects From the Civil War Era - 1865 & earlier

The 19th Annual Gettysburg Civil War

Book, Ephemera & Relic



Saturday, July 1 • 11am-1pm Early Bird Admission \$25  
• 1pm-6pm General Public  
Sunday, July 2 • 11am-6pm General Public  
Monday, July 3 • 11am-6pm General Public

**ADMISSION: \$6/Children Under 12 Free**  
With parent or guardian

To be held at the Historic

**Gettysburg Hotel**

On the Square, Gettysburg, PA

Primary focus will be Civil War Books, Photographs, Diaries, Letters, Documents, Autographs, Political & more

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:  
717.334.2350 Email: [info@uniondb.com](mailto:info@uniondb.com)



# A professional-level golf course in Adams County

The Links at Gettysburg has caught the attention of professional golfers in the region.

On March 30, Links President Rick Klein signed a 3-year agreement with the Duramed FUTURES Tour, a group promoting women's golf, to host "The Gettysburg Championship" from 2006-2008.

The Links offers beautiful views of the Adams County countryside on a European links-style course. It is challenging for all levels of golfers and can host outings of up to 288 golfers with premier service.

Tracy Kerdyk, vice president of business development and communications for Duramed FUTURES, and a University of Miami Sports Hall of Fame inductee, called The Links course "exceptionally challenging. (The competitors) will use just about every club in their bag."

The first tournament will be August 25-27. The 54-hole tournament will be the first professional

golf event held in Adams County. It is being presented by Klein Builders Group, Inc. and Hanover Honda. The event will offer a \$75,000 prize and will bring the first professional tournament to the golf complex, which opened outside Gettysburg on Mason-Dixon Road in 1999.

The Links offers golfers wide-open fairways and water on 14 holes. Shots are made from elevated tees into greens carved into red rock canyons. While the elevated tees allow for strong drives, the fairways can be narrow, so accuracy is the key.

The links-style course features water and high heather in rough areas, including a European stone walk bridge to one green that gives the course a European look.

The course plays 7,031 yards from the tips, with a 73.9 rating, making it extremely challenging for low handicappers. Three other tee areas, at 6,648, 6,184 and 4,861 yards, make the course accessible to all players.

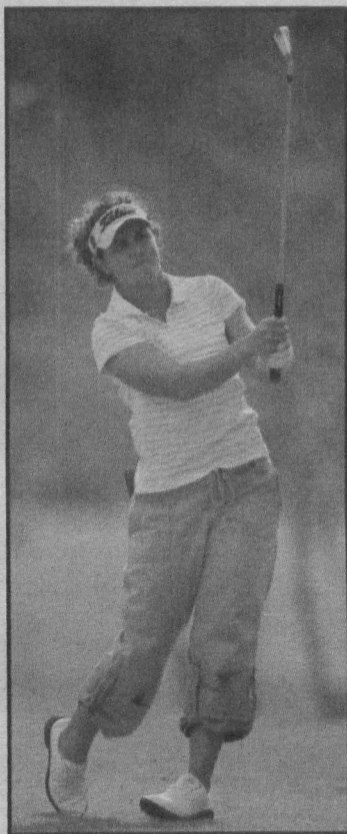
Designed by Lindsay Ervin and Stephen Klein, Golf Digest designated The Links one of its 4-Star Places to Play courses and *Golf Week* named it the No. 9 public course in Pennsylvania for 2006.

At a press conference with The Links, Duramed FUTURES staff and event sponsors on March 29, Kenneth Picking, general manager of The Links, called the agreement with Duramed Futures "a new tournament ... a new beginning." The agreement essentially salvages golf competition for Central Pennsylvania after the loss of the

championships formerly held in York.

On June 5-6, the Pennsylvania Golf Association will sponsor its Senior Better-Ball Tournament at The Links. More than 120 players age 55 and older will compete in the 36-hole tournament, which will be The Links first statewide competition.

The members of the Baltimore and Washington, D.C. Chapters of the Executive Women's Golf Association were so impressed with The Links during a 2005 tournament, they will return for the 2006 "Battle of the Beltway" on Aug. 12-13.



**Becky Lucidi during a Duramed FUTURES golf tournament. Her best career finish since turning professional in 2003 was second-place at the 2005 Jalapeno FUTURES Golf Classic in McAllen, TX. Photo courtesy of Duramed FUTURES Tour.**

**"Possibilities Abound -  
Give me the Run Around"**

**301-271-4347**

**GET IT DONE**  
Errands Service



**THE LINKS AT  
GETTYSBURG**

*The Links At Gettysburg - golf's Gettysburg address*

**Home of the Duramed FUTURES Professional Women's Golf Tour (Aug. 25-27, 2006)**

**Host for the Pennsylvania Golf Association's State Senior Better-Ball (June 5-6, 2006)**

The area's premier golf community invites you to visit our spectacular facility and imagine the possibilities:

- World-class, 18-hole golf layout featuring 12 lakes and red-rock cliffs.
- "The Wedding of Your Dreams," featuring our elegant Clubhouse and stone patio with mountain views.
- Award-winning Executive Chef George T. Keeney and The Links' five-star service staff.
- Luxury condominiums, The Retreat at The Links At Gettysburg.
- French Country architecture for single-family homes in Battery Ridge, The Lookout, Roundtop and new Garrison Falls sections of The Links Community.
- Community Center, featuring swimming pool, locker rooms with spa and fitness room.



**Tour The Links at [www.thelinksatgettysburg.com](http://www.thelinksatgettysburg.com)**  
Click on "Today's Specials" for discounts and to receive our monthly E-Newsletter.

**The Links At Gettysburg**  
601 Mason Dixon Road • Gettysburg, PA 17325  
(717) 359-8000  
[info@thelinksatgettysburg.com](mailto:info@thelinksatgettysburg.com)



## Golf for the big...

### Carroll Valley Golf Course

Rt. 116 West, Fairfield, Pa.  
(717) 642-8252, [www.carrollvalley.com](http://www.carrollvalley.com)

The course, designed by Ault & Clark, consists of six par 3s and five par 5s. The course measures 6,688 yards.

The course has a four-star rating from *Golf Digest* and *GolfStyles* named it as one of the 100 Must-Play Courses of the Middle Atlantic.

### The Links at Gettysburg

601 Mason Dixon Road, Gettysburg, Pa.  
(717) 359-8000, [www.thelinksatgettysburg.com](http://www.thelinksatgettysburg.com)

The link-style course features water and high heather in rough areas, with a European stone walk bridge to one green that gives the course a European look. It plays 7,031 yards.

Designed by Lindsay Ervin and Stephen Klein, The Links opened in 1999. The course has a four-star rating from *Golf Digest* and *Golfweek* named it the No. 9 public course in Pennsylvania for 2006.

### Maple Run Golf

13610 Moser Road, Thurmont, Md.  
(301) 271-7870, [www.maplerungolf.com](http://www.maplerungolf.com)

Designed by Russell Moser, this beautiful course has hosted Former President Clinton and a host of his guests. The course has been completely restored and consists of four par 3s, 10 par 4s and 4 par 5s. The course measures 6,626 yards.

### Meadow Brook Golf Course

835 Goulden Road, Gettysburg, Pa.  
(717) 334-0569

Designed by Roger Weaver, this course has

rye fairways and bent-grass greens. The course measures 6,290 yards. The signature hole is No. 3, a 120-yard par 3 with an island green.

### Mountain View Golf Course

Rt. 116 West, Fairfield, Pa.  
(717) 642-5848, [www.carrollvalley.com](http://www.carrollvalley.com)

Nestled in the valley of a serene mountain range, this course features a natural grass practice range. The golf shop and small dining area are located in a distinguished pre-Civil War farmhouse. The course has a four-star rating from *Golf Digest*.

## ...and the small

### Allstar Family Fun & Events

2638 Emmitsburg Rd., Gettysburg, Pa.  
(717) 334-6363, [www.allstarpa.com](http://www.allstarpa.com)

The 30-acre outdoor activity area features two 18-hole miniature golf courses, a 14-acre lake with paddle boats, two go-kart tracks, an outdoor playground with battery-operated cars, horseshoe pits, driving range and outdoor sports fields.

The 70,000 square-foot indoor facility features a 46,000-square-foot indoor arena, arcade games, billiard room, indoor soccer, volleyball, basketball, a kiddie ball pit and slide, batting cages and a space capsule thrill ride.

### Mulligan MacDuffer Adventure Golf

1360 Baltimore Pike, Gettysburg, Pa.  
(717) 337-1518, [www.mulliganmacduffer.com](http://www.mulliganmacduffer.com)

Two 18-hole miniature golf courses over four acres of landscaping, waterfalls, streams and caves to play through. The clubhouse has an ice cream stand and video game room.

# State Parks/Campgrounds

## MARYLAND

### Catoctin Mountain Park

The federal government essentially established the park to provide work during the Great Depression of the 1930s. Originally planned to provide recreational camps for federal employees, one of the camps eventually became the home of the presidential retreat, Camp David. Two campgrounds, picnicking, fishing, 25 miles of hiking trails, scenic mountain vistas.

### Owens Creek Campground

A 51-site campground offers family camping from April 15 through the third Sunday in November. First-come, first-served basis. Each site is limited to one camping unit (tent or trailer) and a maximum of 5 people. Maximum tent size is 9'x12'. Trailers up to 22' in length are accepted but there are no hookups. Picnic tables and grills.

All sites are first-come, first-served, and reservations are not accepted. Campers self register by completing an envelope and enclosing the \$20 per night site fee. Golden Age Passports and Golden Access Passports are accepted.

### Camp Misty Mount

Rustic chestnut cabins constructed by the Works Progress Administration. Available to individuals, families and groups. Pets not permitted. Reservations will be accepted beginning the first business day of each year. Information and reservations: (301) 271-3140.

Catoctin Mountain Park, 6602 Foxville Road, Thurmont, MD 21788-1598. Visitor information: (301) 663-9388. On-line contact form, <http://www.nps.gov/cato/pphtml/contact.html>.

### Cunningham Falls State Park

In 1954, the area of which Cunningham is to be a part was divided into two parks, divided by Maryland Route 77. The northern 5,000 acres is now Catoctin Mountain Park, a unit of the National Park Service. The remaining 5,000-acre parcel was named Cunningham Falls State Park.

The park offers swimming in three designated areas of Hunting Creek Lake, boating, playground, trails, hunting, picnicking, fishing and camping.

Houck Area (140 campsites) and Manor Area (31 campsites). Family camping, camper cabins and day use. Boating, swimming in three designated areas of Hunting Creek Lake, hiking trails, picnicking. Fishing in Big Hunting Creek. Trail guide available.

Cunningham Falls State Park, 14039 Catoctin Hollow Road, Thurmont, MD 21788. (301) 271-7574. For camping reservations, call 1-888-432-CAMP (2267), or register on-line at <http://reservations.dnr.state.md.us/>.

## PENNSYLVANIA

### Michaux State Forest

A more than 85,000-acre state forest, in Adams, Cumberland and Franklin counties, just north of the Maryland state line. Three state parks - Caledonia, Pine Grove Furnace and Mont Alto - are located within Michaux State Forest boundaries.

Miles of trout waters, numerous lakes and reservoirs for warm-water fishing, primitive

camping, hiking, horseback riding, bicycling, and snowmobiling. Picnicking and day-use activities at the Old Forge State Forest Picnic Area. The forest includes about 39 miles of the Appalachian Trail.

### Caledonia State Park

The 1,125-acre Caledonia State Park is in Adams and Franklin counties, midway between Chambersburg and Gettysburg on US 30. Caledonia is in the northernmost section of the Blue Ridge Mountains known locally as South Mountain. Camping, picnicking, fishing, hiking, swimming, golf. Totem Pole Playhouse.

**Camping:** 184 tent and trailer sites are available in two campgrounds. Two cabins are available for rental year-round. The summer season rental period for cabins goes from the second Friday in June to the day before the third Friday in August. The camping season opens the second Friday in April and ends after deer season in December.

To reserve a campsite, cabin or picnic pavilion, call 888-PA-PARKS, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Campsites can be reserved from 11 months up to noon of the day of arrival. Cabins and picnic pavilions can be reserved from 11 months to two days in advance.

**July 8 - 25th Annual Arts & Crafts Fair:** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Approximately 200 skilled craftspeople and artists will display and sell a wide variety of handcrafted items. For more information, call Debbie Bowers (717) 352-2161.

Caledonia State Park, 101 Pine Grove Road, Fayetteville, PA 17222-8224. (717) 352-2161 or e-mail [caledoniasp@state.pa.us](mailto:caledoniasp@state.pa.us).

### Pine Grove Furnace State Park

The 696-acre Pine Grove Furnace State Park is in a mountain setting in southern Cumberland County. Two lakes: the 25-acre Laurel Lake and the 1.7-acre Fuller Lake. Beaches open from May to September, 8 a.m. to sunset. Picnicking, motor boating, fishing, bicycling.

**Camping:** 71 tent and trailer sites available year-round, along with cabins and a youth hostel.

Pine Grove Furnace State Park, 1100 Pine Grove Road, Gardners, PA 17324. (717) 486-7174 or e-mail [pinegrovesp@state.pa.us](mailto:pinegrovesp@state.pa.us).

### Mont Alto State Park

The 23-acre Mont Alto State Park is in Franklin County, one mile from the town of Mount Alto. Trout fishing, hiking, two picnic areas with approximately 50 tables and two picnic pavilions.

Mont Alto State Park, c/o Caledonia, Fayetteville, PA 17222-9610. (717) 352-2161 or e-mail [caledoniasp@state.pa.us](mailto:caledoniasp@state.pa.us).

### Codorus State Park

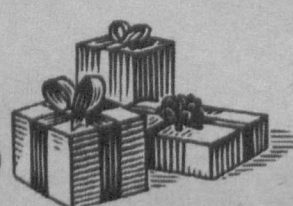
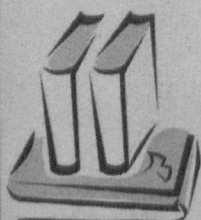
The 3,329-acre Codorus State Park is in the southwest corner of York County, about three miles southeast of Hanover, Pa., along PA 216. Includes the 1,275-acre Lake Marburg, with its 26 miles of shoreline. Fishing, boating, a large swimming pool open from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day, seven-mile bridle trail network, trail biking and hiking trails.

**Camping:** 198-sites available from the second Friday in April until the third Sunday in October.

Codorus State Park, 1066 Blooming Grove Rd. Hanover, PA 17331-9545. (717) 637-2816 or e-mail: [codoruspp@state.pa.us](mailto:codoruspp@state.pa.us).

Visit us today!

## St. PETER'S BOOKS & GIFTS CAFE

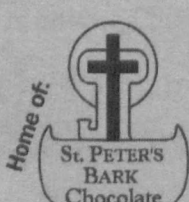


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- FINE BELGIAN CHOCOLATE

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**9am-6pm M-F**  
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**& 1st Sunday of Month:**  
**11am-2pm**  
**301-447-1901**

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(Also Near McDonald's, Car Wash, & Sleep Inn)



# Horseback riding stables and trail guide



Participants in the spring 2006 Gettysburg Equestrian Historical Society event ride down one of the Gettysburg National Military Park battlefield trails. Photo courtesy of Jason Fall.

## If you need a horse...

### Hickory Hollow Horse Farm

301 Crooked Creek Road, Gettysburg, Pa.  
(717) 334-0349,

[www.hickoryhollowfarm.com](http://www.hickoryhollowfarm.com).

Horseback riding by the hour on the Historic Gettysburg Battlefield March through November. 1-4 hour scenic rides. Call for appointment. For history buffs, Hickory Hollow offers historic guided rides with a 2-hour minimum ride up to 5-hour ride. Licensed battlefield guide accompanies. Also offers boarding, training.

### Artillery Ridge Campground/ National Riding Stable

610 Taneytown Road, Gettysburg, Pa.

(717) 334-1288; (866) 932-2674,

[www.artilleryridge.com](http://www.artilleryridge.com).

Offers 2-hour guided tours on horseback describing the 3-day battle history. Also, one-hour trail rides with trailmaster. Make reservations well in advance. Facilities also available for those with their own horses. Novice to advanced riders are welcome.

## If you have your own horse...

### Gettysburg National Military Park

Bring your own horse and ride the battlefield. All riders must stay on the trails. A good starting point is McMillan Woods Campground where there is parking for horse trailers. Ride begins near Pickett's Charge.

From downtown Gettysburg, take Rt.30 west for eight-tenths of a mile, turn left on

Seminary Ridge, go straight at the next two stop signs and one traffic light (Seminary Ridge becomes Confederate Ave here). Go 3/4 mile & turn right on gravel road (McMillan Woods Youth Group Campground). Trails are marked.

### Gettysburg Equestrian Historical Society

[www.thegehs.org](http://www.thegehs.org)

The Gettysburg Equestrian Historical Society holds four trail rides during the year to raise funds for trail improvement projects on the Gettysburg Battlefield. Rides are approximately 3 1/2 - 4 hours long, covering the 2nd and 3rd day's battle and narrated by a licensed battlefield guide. Remaining 2006 rides are June 4, Aug. 27 and Oct. 15. To register, call Donna (717) 476-2696.

## For kids...

### Breezy Hill Stables

15117 Mud College Road, Thurmont, Md.

(301) 271-4133, [www.breezyhillstables.com](http://www.breezyhillstables.com)

Celebrate a child's birthday with a party at the stable. Includes pony rides for each child and the chance to groom horses.

Also boarding, training, miles of trails.

## For kids and kids at heart...

### Land of Little Horses

125 Glenwood Drive, Gettysburg, Pa.

(717) 334-7259,

[www.landoflittlehorses.com](http://www.landoflittlehorses.com)

Performing animal theme park allows you to get up close and personal with small horses and other farm animal friends. Displays, shows with animal stars and special events. This summer also features a "Kids in the Country Day Camp."

## Other "horsey" things to do...

### Hanover Shoe Farms

Rt. 194, South Hanover, Pa.

(717) 637-8931

Visit the Hanover Shoe Farms foaling barn, stallion barn and breeding shed. This horse farm operation is the largest Standardbred breeding

farm in the world. Main entrance is located on Rt. 194 between Littlestown and Hanover.

## Therapeutic Riding...

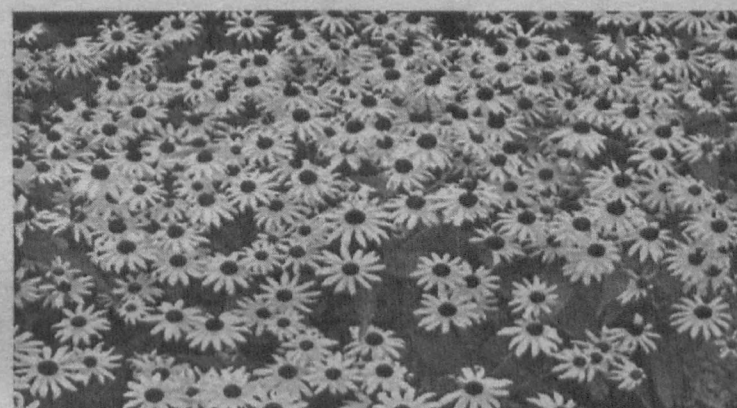
### Tranquility Farm Equestrian Education and Renewal Center

11819 Whates Lane, Thurmont, Md.

(301) 272-3400,

[www.tranquilityfarmequestrian.com](http://www.tranquilityfarmequestrian.com)

Tranquility Farm Equestrian and Renewal Center's purpose is to establish and administer programs that bring together rescued equines and persons suffering from physical, mental or emotional injury.



## Windborne Flowers

Cut Your Own Flowers, Fresh Bouquets,  
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Open Thursday, Friday and Saturday  
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See us at the Emmitsburg Farmer's Market

Fridays 3:00 to 6:30 p.m.

**Windborne Farm**

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**Enjoy a visit to the farm**

Pick flowers, walk our trails, view birds and  
wildlife, picnic on the grounds

## Breezy Hill Stables

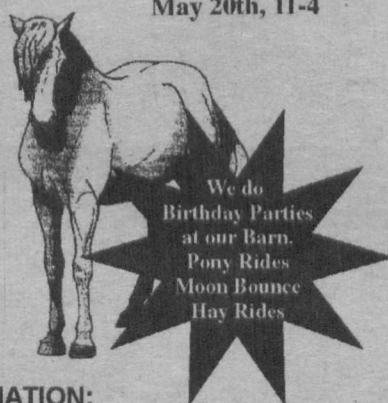
### Summer Camps NOW FORMING - AGES 5-16

- June 26-30 General Camp
- July 3-7 General Camp
- July 10-14 Jumper Camp
- July 17-21 Dressage Camp
- July 24-28 Western Camp
- August 7-11 General Camp
- August 14-18 General Camp

### We Offer

Horse and Pony Leasing  
Horse Boarding  
Lessons

Free Life Horse  
Family Fun Day  
May 20th, 11-4



FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
301-271-4133 or [www.breezyhillstables.com](http://www.breezyhillstables.com)



# Summertime Arts & Entertainment

## Family Fun

### Great Frederick Historic Treasure Hunt

June 1 through September. A free self-guided walking tour of historic sites in downtown Frederick. The 4-page treasure hunt maps/entry forms are available at the Frederick Visitor Center at 19 East Church Street. The answers are simple (architectural details, dates, names) and can even be discovered by preschoolers as well as "post-schoolers!" The outdoor treasure hunt walk takes about 2 hours to complete. (301) 228-2888.

### Family Expo

June 3, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. One of the largest children's and family events in the Frederick and surrounding area. The Great Frederick Fairgrounds, 797 E. Patrick St., Frederick. (301) 748-3626.

### Frederick Festival of the Arts

June 3-4, Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Juried arts market, entertainment, children's activities, literary activities, multi-cultural food, film festival and art demonstrations. South East Street and Carroll Creek Park, Frederick. (301) 694-9632. [www.frederickarts.org](http://www.frederickarts.org).

### Pennsylvania Lavender Festival

June 16-18. Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Some 40 varieties of lavender will be for sale, along with other herbs and perennials, lavender products and herbal products. Lunch is available. Live entertainment. Willow Pond Farm, Fairfield, Pa. [www.palavenderfestival.com](http://www.palavenderfestival.com)

### Summerfest Family Theatre

Saturdays in June, July, August. 7 p.m. Free theatrical performances for children and families in Baker Park's Bandshell, 121 N. Bentz St., Frederick. (301) 694-2489.

### Walk-n-Wag

June 10, 9 a.m. Annual event for dogs and their people, hosted by the Frederick County Humane Society. Registration tent opens 9 a.m. and the walk begins at 10 a.m., followed

by doggy contests, live entertainment, food, area rescue organizations, vendors with pet and animal-related products. Baker Park, 121 N. Bentz St. Frederick. (301) 694-8300.

### 84th Annual Barbara Fritchie Classic

July 4. Oldest running half-mile dirt track event in America featuring grand national dirt trackers. Frederick Fairgrounds, 797 E. Patrick St., Frederick. (301) 663-8333.

### Frederick's July 4th Independence Day Celebration

Noon-10 p.m. Four stages of entertainment, children's activities, fireworks and more! Baker Park, 2nd & Bentz St., Frederick. (301) 694-2489.

**Guardian Hose Parade**, July 13, Thurmont, Md. Rain or shine.

### Frederick Sports Expo

Aug. 18-20. Friday, noon to 8 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Any type of sport featured including hunting, fishing, boating, camping, ATVs, kayaking, etc. Activities planned for the entire family. Great Frederick Fairgrounds, 797 E. Patrick St., Frederick. (301) 748-4648. [www.fredericksportsexpo.com](http://www.fredericksportsexpo.com).

### Rose Hill Day

Aug. 20, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. An afternoon of old-fashioned fun in the park featuring a show of 150+ antique vehicles, and the Children's Museum's ice cream social. Free fun, games and hands-on activities and crafts on the manor's front lawn. Rose Hill Manor, 1611 North Market St., Frederick. (301) 694-1650. [www.rosehillmuseum.com](http://www.rosehillmuseum.com).

### St. Elizabeth Ann Seton's 232nd Birthday Celebration

Aug. 27, 1:30-4 p.m. Mass in the Basilica followed by a Family Fun Day in the courtyard with refreshments, clowns, entertainment and music. National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, 333 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg. (301) 447-6606. [www.setonshrine.org](http://www.setonshrine.org).

## Carnivals

- July 13-14:** Barlow Firemen's Carnival, 2005 Taneytown Road, Gettysburg, Pa.  
**July 28-July 1:** Gettysburg Fire Department Carnival, Long Lane, Gettysburg, Pa.  
**July 10-15:** Guardian Hose Carnival, East Main St., Thurmont, Md.

## Galleries, Exhibits, Art Shows

### First Saturday Gallery Walk

June 3, July 1, Aug. 4, 5-9 p.m. Featuring artists creating interactive works of art LIVE on downtown sidewalks. Exhibit openings, guest artists and live entertainment. More than 80 shops, galleries and restaurants are open until 9 p.m. or later. [www.downtownfrederick.org](http://www.downtownfrederick.org)

### Frederick's Camera Clique Photographic Competition

July 15 to Aug. 31. Frederick Community College, Mary Condon Hodgson Art Gallery, 7932 Opossumtown Pike, Frederick. (301) 846-2513. [www.frederick.edu](http://www.frederick.edu).

## Concerts

### "Summon the Heroes"

June 17 at 8 p.m. The Frederick Orchestra annual pops concert, conducted by Dr. Elisa Koehler. Frederick Community College, JBK Theater, 7932 Opossumtown Pike, Frederick. (301) 663-8476. [www.frederickorchestra.org](http://www.frederickorchestra.org).

### Alive @ Five

June 22, July 27, Aug. 24, Sept. 28. Downtown Frederick along the banks of Carroll Creek. Join friends and neighbors at a music-filled

## Civil War-related Events

### 142nd Commemoration of the Battle of the Monocacy

July 8, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Living historians portray various aspects of the "Battle that saved Washington." Monocacy National Battlefield, Rt. 355, Frederick. (301) 662-3515 [www.nps.gov/mono](http://www.nps.gov/mono)

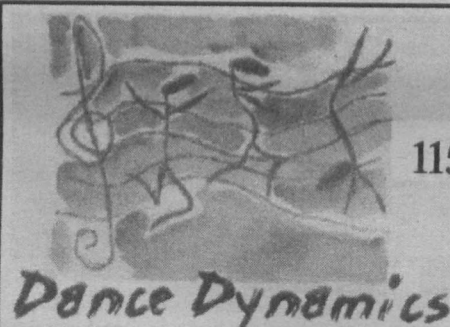
### Civil War Encampment

July 8-9, Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Living history encampment, demonstrations, and crafts to portray what military life was like on the grounds of Rose Hill Manor during the Civil War. Skirmish 2 p.m. Saturday; Church service, 10:30 a.m. Sunday.

celebration on the fourth Thursday of June through September. Beer, wine, food and great live music all are featured. (301) 698-8118. [www.downtownfrederick.org](http://www.downtownfrederick.org).

### Frederick Catoctones Annual Show

June 24 at 2 and 7:30 p.m. An acapella musical performance presented by a men's chorus and quartets. Frederick Community College, Jack B. Kussmaul Theater, 7932 Opossumtown Pike, Frederick. (301) 607-4093. [www.harmonize.com/catoctones](http://www.harmonize.com/catoctones).



**Dance Dynamics**  
 115 B East Baltimore St. Taneytown  
 (Located behind the Rescue Mission)

June 19-23 Beginning Dance Camp (Ages 5-12)  
 July 24-28 Int/Adv. Dance Camp (Ages 8 and up)  
 July 10 - Aug 2 (4 week summer session)

For more information call:

410-756-6805

301-447-2745

Music Lessons available by appointment



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Tess Hartman as Jean Perkins and Meyer deLeeuw as Henry Perkins discover Henry has picked up a briefcase full of money in the comedy "Funny Money" performed at the Totem Pole Playhouse in Fayetteville, Pa. Photo courtesy Totem Pole Playhouse.

## Summer Theater

### Carroll Arts Center

91 W. Main Street, Westminster  
(410) 848-7272, [www.carr.org](http://www.carr.org)

**July 11 – "Much Ado About Nothing."** 7 p.m. Tickets, \$10-15. This famous Shakespeare play will be presented in conjunction with the Olney Theatre Center and the Boston University Theatre Institute.

### Fredericktowne Players

306 E. Patrick St., Frederick  
(240)-315-3855, [www.fredericktowneplayers.org](http://www.fredericktowneplayers.org)

**July 21-30 – "Gypsy."** Tickets, \$6-18. Performing at Tuscarora High School, the cast will bring back the Broadway musical hit from the 1950s.

### Hood College

Hodson Outdoor Theater, 401 Rosemont Ave., Frederick (301) 668-4090

**June 8-18 – "The Two Gentlemen of Verona."**

Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m., Sunday, 5 p.m. The Maryland Shakespeare Festival will take two average guys on an excellent adventure through Renaissance Italy as they discover how girls, pirates, bad music and a dog can very nearly ruin a really good friendship.

### Majestic Theater

25 Carlisle Street, Gettysburg, Pa.

(717) 337-8200, [www.gettysburgmajestic.org](http://www.gettysburgmajestic.org)

**July 15 through August 31 – "For the Glory: The Civil War at Gettysburg."** Tickets, \$40-45. This inspiring musical focuses on the emotional impact of the war on the hearts and minds of Americans of every age, race, belief system, and walk of life. This musical weaves together elements of pop, country, gospel, rock and folk into an unforgettable theatrical experience.

### Maryland Ensemble Theatre

31 W. Patrick St., Frederick.

(301) 694-4744, [www.marylandensemble.org](http://www.marylandensemble.org)

**May 12-June 17 – "Urinetown, the musical."** Tickets, \$15-20. The three-time Tony award-winning musical offers a tale of love and triumph over greed. When a Gotham-like city faces a water shortage, its residents are deprived of their toilets and must pay to use public facilities controlled by a sinister corporation.

### The New Play House, Inc.

Cultural Arts Center, 15 West Patrick St., Frederick

(301) 668-8019, [www.newplayhouse.org](http://www.newplayhouse.org)

**June 15-25 – "Holmes and Watson."** Tickets, \$10-12. Presumed dead for three years, Sherlock Holmes shows up on Watson's doorstep, and finds the good doctor less than willing to welcome back the man who deceived him. Written by Lee Shackleford.

### Thurmont Thespians

Thurmont American Legion, Thurmont

(301) 271-7613, [www.thurmontthespians.org](http://www.thurmontthespians.org)

**July 20-29 – "Teenages."** Tickets, \$8. This 9<sup>th</sup> Summer Music Theater workshop performance is geared toward children and teenagers and is the world premiere written and composed by Kurt Johnson.

### Totem Pole Playhouse

Caledonia State Park, 9555 Golf Course Road, Fayetteville, Pa.

(888) 805-7056, [www.totempoleplayhouse.org](http://www.totempoleplayhouse.org)

**June 3-18 – "Rounding Third."** Tickets, \$23-30. Follow the journey of two Little League coaches through an entire season – from their first meeting to the climactic championship game. Don is a rough, blue-collar win-at-all-costs veteran coach and Michael is a corporate executive who is a newcomer both to the town and to baseball. Together they form an alliance that benefits their sons and the team.

**June 20-July 2 – "I'll Be Back Before Midnight!"**

Tickets, \$23-30. Comedy and mystery combine as a husband brings his wife to a remote cabin to recover from a nervous breakdown. The owner is an old farmer who greets the couple with frightening ghost tales and when the husband's lustful sister arrives, the fragile wife's nerves are pushed to the breaking point.

**July 5-16 – "Incorruptible."** Tickets, \$23-30.

Welcome to Priseaux, France, c. 1250 A.D. where the brothers of the local monastery confront a great challenge: Saint Foy, their Patron Saint, hasn't worked a miracle in thirteen years and the pilgrims have stopped coming. All seems lost until a one-eyed minstrel arrives, inspired to save the day. Suddenly, miracles abound.

**July 18-30 – "Lend Me a Tenor."** Tickets, \$23-

30. The year is 1934 and the gala opening of the Cleveland Grand Opera Company is in jeopardy because world-famous tenor Tito Morelli arrives too late to rehearse. He's too drunk, and he passes out. Who will save the night's performance of "Otello?"

**Aug. 1-13 – "Sylvia."** Tickets, \$23-30. Greg and Kate have moved to Manhattan after raising their family in the suburbs. When Greg brings home a dog he found at the park – or that has found him – with the name "Sylvia" on her nametag, a tug-of-war for Greg's affection begins.

**Aug. 15-27 – "Forever Plaid."** Tickets, \$25-32.

Back by popular demand. Capture those golden days of the 50s, through the Plaids, a quartet of handsome young singers, reviving such favorites as "Love is a Many Splendored Thing," "Rags to Riches" and "Three Coins in the Fountain."

### Weinberg Center for the Arts

20 W. Patrick St., Frederick.

(301) 228-2828, [www.weinbergcenter.org](http://www.weinbergcenter.org)

**June 24-25 – "Cinderella."** Tickets, \$8-15. Students from the Frederick School of Classical Ballet and guest artists bring this story to life in classical style.

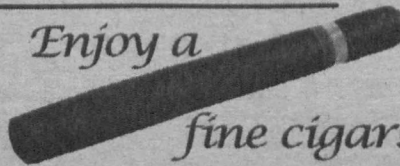
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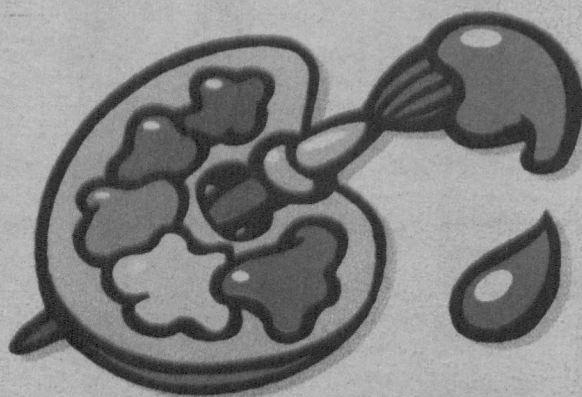
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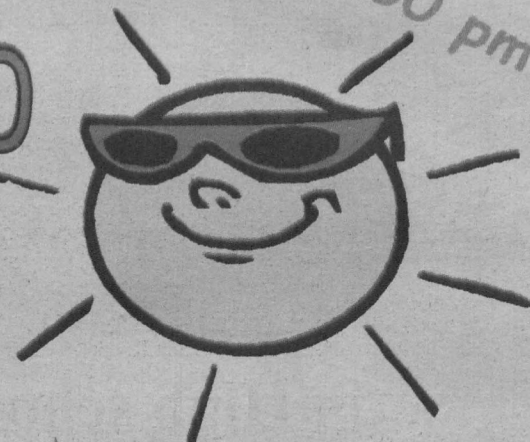
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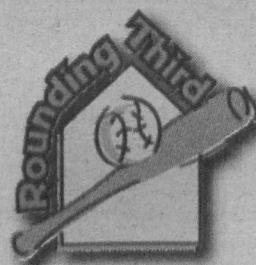
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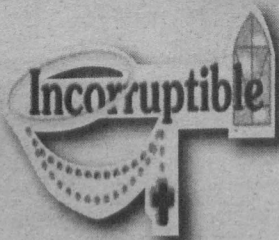
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August 15-27

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## EDUCATION

## Mother Seton School principal retires – *honored by students, staff and families*



**Sister Mary Catherine  
Conway**

BY SUSAN ALLEN  
Contributing Writer

Sister Mary Catherine Conway, principal at Mother Seton School since 1995, will be leaving MSS in August to serve in youth ministry for the Daughters of Charity province, which extends from Maryland to Florida.

She was honored during the final liturgy of the school year, held on May 11. The Home School Association presented a \$1,000 donation in her name toward the school's expansion fund. In addition, she was given a prayer book compiled by students,

staff, and families.

The surprise event was a capstone to her service at MSS, which included teaching first grade from 1968-1979. Ron Valenti, superintendent of the Division of Catholic Schools for the Archdiocese of Baltimore, and Assistant Superintendent Carol Goldbeck, attended the liturgy. As an added surprise, many of Sister Mary Catherine's brothers and sisters had been invited to the liturgy and joined her for a special luncheon at The Carriage House Inn afterwards.

Among her accomplishments while serving as MSS principal, Sister Mary Catherine cites the school expansion which created classroom space for kindergarten and pre-kindergarten classes and a multi-purpose room for the fine arts program. Library and technology facilities were also expanded, and tuition assistance and scholarship awards increased. She counts her greatest accomplishment, however, as "being able to give and receive love" within the MSS community.

Sister Joanne Goecke will begin service as MSS principal in August.



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

**Top right:** Home school association President Laura Weber presents Principal Sister Catherine Conway with a \$1,000 donation in her name toward the school's expansion fund during a surprise retirement ceremony held May 11 at Mother Seton School. **Bottom right:** Owen Stein, 5, kindergarten student at MSS and son of Mark and Melissa Gelwicks, fights back tears as he presents farewell flowers to Sister Catherine.

## Catoctin High school achieves national ranking

BY SUSAN ALLEN  
Contributing Writer

Catoctin High School and six other local schools now rank in the top five percent of all U. S. high schools in enrolling students in Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate courses. *Newsweek* magazine recently published its list of "America's Best High Schools" based on the 2006 Challenge Index, which focuses on student participation in these high-level, academically challenging classes.

Ann Bonitatibus, director of high schools for Frederick County Public Schools and former principal at CHS, says that this is a "culture shift" that all schools had to go through ... At Catoctin there was a concerted effort" by the staff to "recruit and invite students" to

try college-level work while in high school, and to support them once they enrolled in the classes.

Curtis Howser, CHS guidance counselor, agrees, saying that the school's philosophy is to challenge more students to "look up and beyond" their previous expectations for themselves. CHS is now offering a wider variety of AP classes for its students.

The Challenge Index was devised by Jay Mathews, an author and journalist with *The Washington Post*. The index divides the number of college-level tests a school gives to all students by the number of seniors who graduate in June. Studies show that students who take even one college-level course in high school have greater success after high school, as reflected in their college graduation rates.



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## EDUCATION

# Choir enjoys the sweet sounds of success

BY JAMES RADA JR.  
Thurmont News Editor  
jrada@thurmontdispatch.com

THURMONT, Md. — After two show choir competition wins this year and a hoped-for third win in June, the Thurmont Middle School Show Choir certainly isn't singing the blues.

In March, TMS Spirit won the Tri-State Show Fiestaval in Martinsburg, W. Va. They followed it up by winning the Fiestaval choir competition in Gatlinburg, Tenn. in April.

"This is the show choir's sixth year in existence and its third year in competition," said choir director Berna LaForce, a teacher at Thurmont Middle School.

Last year, TMS Spirit won first place at both the Tri-State Show Festival and the Music in the Parks Festival at Hersheypark. The choir will compete again in Hersheypark festival in June.

"I do it because I like the singing and dancing," said eighth grader Shayna Beard.

This year's performance show is called "The Beat Goes On." It features a variety of music from the 1950s through the 1980s.

With their variety of competitions, the middle-school students are becoming experienced public performers.

"You're fine until you get to the door," said eighth grader Amy Eyler.

"It takes a while once you get on stage to calm down, too," added Shayna.

Thurmont Middle School students try out for the choir at the end of each school year and commit to practicing for two hours after school every Thursday during the school year.

"We have 33 students in the choir and 60-70 tried out last year," said LaForce.

The ones that make the show choir form strong friendships. "I really like making new friends here and at the competition," said eighth grader Kristin Williams.

"On the whole, we get along very well. Though they talk a lot,



The Thurmont Middle School Show Choir has won two regional competitions — one in Tennessee and one in West Virginia — this year, and they are hoping to win a third competition in Hershey, Pa. in June. The choir is performing a medley of classic songs from the 1950s to the 1980s under the direction of teacher Berna LaForce. Photo courtesy of Berna La Force.

they work hard," LaForce said.

Although successful at Thurmont Middle, few middle schools put together a show choir, LaForce said. In TMS Spirit's regional competitions, they may only compete against four other middle schools.

"I think we probably do a lot more choreography than other schools," said LaForce.

The students agree that the choreography is part of the fun. Mention it to them, and the students start moving their hands and arms to imitate parts of their

favorite dances.

"I really like the dancing," Amy said.

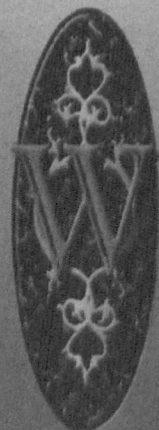
This year, the choir was also able to purchase \$5,000 in costumes and props for their performance.

"The local businesses were very generous in supporting us for our fundraising," LaForce said. "They donated a large portion of the money we needed."

About half of the show choir will be moving on to Catocin High next year and they are hoping to have a show choir started there.

"We're starting a petition," Kristin said. "If we can get 35 people to sign up, they'll try and find a teacher to do it."

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The atmosphere was full of murder and mayhem on a recent Sunday afternoon, as 24 members of the Mount community participated in the Criminal Justice Student Association's CSI Challenge.

Eight teams of three people used evidence collection kits to gather information about two separate mock crime scenes. A burglary was set up in the Sheridan Hall sport's lounge, while a murder was staged in the greenhouse. Frederick County Police Department Crime Scene Investigator, Wendy Martyak, helped create the scenes.

Evidence included blood, glass, screwdrivers, bloody footprints and murder weapons, and was packaged in actual crime scene technician kits.

Teams were judged on evidence collection technique and report writing. They were expected to investigate the evidence by photographing, sketching and interviewing witnesses.

"I really enjoyed the chance to be hands on with evidence collection," said CJSA President Jennifer Speed. "And I learned how difficult it is to determine what is evidence and what isn't."

"As a biology major, I was interested in the forensic aspect of the investigation," said senior Shannon Gibbons. "[My team] collected evidence and indicated how certain items must be tested for DNA and trace evidence. My partners, Sherlock (Lindsay) Wood, Detective (Lindsey) Cunningham, and myself had fun looking for the clues."

The winners of the CSI Challenge will be announced at the Criminal Justice Student Association's annual barbecue later this month. They will be awarded the Dine Cup by the Frederick City Police Department.

Speed noted that the CSI Challenge will be held again next year, and hopes to make it an annual event.

"We hope that next year we will be able to incorporate more police departments, as well as other schools," she said. The FPCD is constructing a building to use for scenarios, and Speed says she hopes to move the challenge there so that the scenarios can be even more involved.

For more information on the Mount's Criminal Justice Program, including the Criminal Justice degree for working adults, please contact Dr. Timothy W. Wolfe, at 301-447-5373.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Stay up-to-date with Mount events by visiting [www.msmary.edu](http://www.msmary.edu), click on "News & Events." For athletic schedules, stats and player interviews, visit [www.mountathletics.com](http://www.mountathletics.com)

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June 23-25

Laity Retreat at Mount St. Mary's Seminary, Silent Retreat—directed by Fr. Jack Lombardi

## Spiritual conference with Fr. Benedict Groeschel, CFR

Friday, July 7, 7 pm Mass/7:30 p.m.

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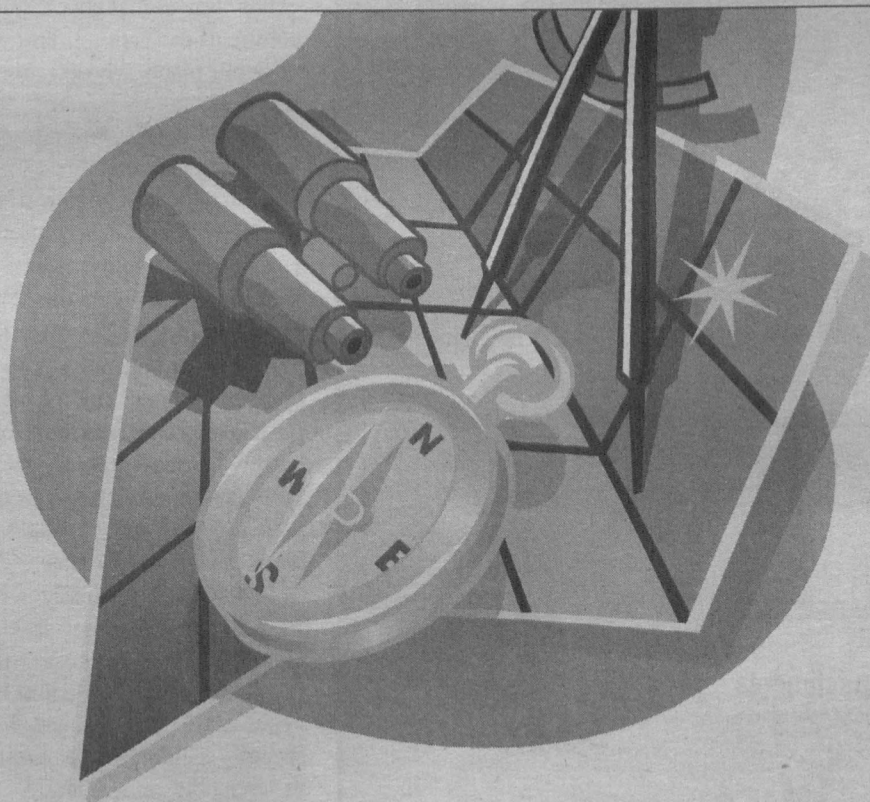
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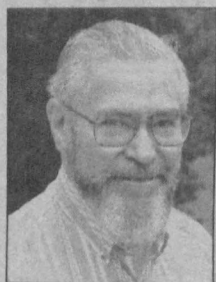
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## The (retired) Ecologist

## Invasion of the Alien Mustard



BY BILL  
MEREDITH

Dispatch  
Columnist

"... and thick and fast they came at last, and more and more and more ..."

-Lewis Carroll  
"The Walrus and the Carpenter"

When we bought the five-acre lot in 1968, where our house now stands, it was an open field, mowed for hay each year. After a year or so, the man who did the mowing no longer wanted the hay, so we planted several hundred trees in the field. Nearly all of them were eaten by field mice, but the area was quickly invaded by seeds from a host of local plants.

Over the next decades these invaders produced a textbook example of the process of "old-field" succession; in fact, the field served as

a laboratory for my ecology classes for several years. As successive groups of students recorded the process, weeds replaced the grass; woody shrubs like multiflora rose, poison ivy and honeysuckle vines replaced the weeds; and fast-growing, scrubby trees like locust, mulberry and box elder replaced the woody shrubs. By the time my grandchildren began to appear in the late '80s, the former hayfield had become the "Great Forest," where they took their first walks and began to learn lessons of plants, birds and

insects that they still cherish.

Toward the end of the 1990s I began to notice a change; the trees had matured enough to create a continuous canopy, and in the shaded area under it the multiflora rose was dying out. This pleased me because it is an alien species, native originally to Asia, and specializes in crowding other plants out, and I had hopes of introducing some native wildflowers into the area. But here and there I began to notice round, dark-green leaves that I did not recognize growing close to the ground. They proved to be biennials; the following spring they shot up rapidly to a height of three or four feet, and produced clusters of small white flowers. Each flower had four petals, arranged symmetrically in the form of a cross. Upon seeing this, a switch clicked on in my head; my memory reached back 52 years and retrieved the words "Cruciferae: mustard family."

I had grown up thinking mustard was yellow stuff that came in little urn-shaped jars with "French's" molded on them, and was intended to be spread on hot dogs. It was not until I was 20 that I was disabused of this idea; the thing that did it was a course in field botany. There I learned that "mustard" was the name of a family of plants whose flowers all have that particular shape. It includes familiar garden vegetables such as cabbage, broccoli, radishes and turnips; it also includes several common weeds. At the time I took the course, the most familiar of these weeds was "black mustard," the yellow flower that covers unplowed cornfields each spring. This was one of many plants whose Latin names we had to memorize; *Brassica nigra* still flashes through my mind whenever I see it.

In the old classical method which was still being used when I learned botany, you began by memorizing the general characteristics of the plant families that grew in your area. Then when you found a new kind of plant, you put it in its proper family and began to narrow it down by color, size, smell, taste (sometimes dangerous in those days before safety regulations!), or other peculiarities such as thorns or leaf shape. Eventually, with help from knowledgeable friends, or as a last resort, by poring through reference books, you could find the genus and species names. It was a strongly tactile process and tedious to learn; but once learned, it stuck

with you. Thus when I found the white-flowered mustard plant, all of that flashed through my mind like the microfiche reader in the library at high speed.

I had already observed the shape and texture of the leaves, the size, color and shape of the flowers, and the form of the seed pods, so it seemed automatic to crush a leaf and smell it. It gave off the aroma of fresh garlic, which clicked another memory switch: it was garlic mustard. I had seen it five years earlier on a trip with the Audubon Society.

In Europe where it originated, garlic mustard is a common weed of old fields and roadsides. It is a nuisance, but is eaten by various insects and animals which keep it under control. It probably came to America like many other weeds, either accidentally in hay and bedding on ships that transported livestock, or was brought intentionally for use as a medicinal plant or salad herb. It seems to have been noticed for the first time by botanists in New England in the 1860s, though it may have been there much earlier. Like all mustards, it produces thousands of tiny black seeds which travel by sticking to the fur of animals; and like many alien species, it had no natural enemies in this country. So it multiplied rapidly, turning up in patches all over the country except in the dry regions of the Southwest.

This spring the garlic mustard has completely covered my woodlot, producing a dense growth that reaches above shoulder height. It has crowded out many other plants, including several small trees I planted last spring. And it hasn't stayed in the woods; it has come up in the garden, in flowerbeds and borders all over the yard. I have spent the spring mowing it back and uprooting it, but like Lewis Carroll's oysters, it just keeps coming. Battling it seems as futile as trying to bail out a boat with a teacup.

At a time when native plants all over the country are struggling to avoid extinction because of habitat loss from development and pollution, invasive alien plants are more than a problem; they have become a disaster, the last straw. If they have any value, it may be as a metaphor; perhaps they are a warning to us. After all, we too are alien invaders; and look what we have done to this continent since our arrival 500 years ago.

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## LOCAL HISTORY

## Depression-Era cabin still in use along Toms Creek

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

EMMITSBURG, Md. — Traveling south on U.S. 15 outside Emmitsburg, one can spot to the west what appears to be one or two log cabins sitting across the field beyond wire mesh fencing bearing ominous "No Trespassing" signs.

The structures are actually a large log cabin and a matching boathouse situated on Toms Creek and located on land now belonging to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Because the cabins sit within a federal compound, they are not generally accessible to the public. The federal government, however, did not build the cabin and boathouse.

FEMA inherited the buildings when the agency bought the 107-acre St. Joseph's Academy site in 1979 as the future home of the National Emergency Training Center.

The log structures themselves actually date back to the Great

Depression era when the Daughters of Charity owned the land. The daughters had been using the creek near the cabin for recreational purposes for years prior, as verified by Victorian turn-of-the-century photographs preserved in the provincial house archives.

The cabin and boathouse were built along the creek in 1935, according to *The Valley Echo*, a publication produced by journalism students at St. Joseph's College. While the cabin was new to the site, the log boathouse replaced a pre-existing plank structure.

The spacious cabin was designed to provide a recreational and

community center for college staff and for students from both the college and St. Joseph's High School.

A

small dam had been built across Toms Creek near the cabin's location in 1780, long before the cabin itself was built. The dam provided water for the raceway for the Troxell Mill that was built just downstream at the same time.



—RICHARD D. L. FULTON / THE DISPATCH

The 70-year old cabin located along Toms Creek was originally built by St. Joseph's College for student and faculty use. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) acquired the compound when it purchased the current land from St. Joseph's for the National Emergency Training Center. The cabin is still used for federal and non-profit events. (Left) Students from St. Joseph's Academy enjoy rowing their boats on Toms Creek in this late-1800s or early-1900s photo. Photo courtesy of the Archives, Daughters of Charity, Emmitsburg.

(Emmitsburg Area Historical Society) In 1935, the dam was improved, although it had to be reconfigured to avoid damaging a tree dated at 300 to 400 years old (*The Valley Echo*, May 10, 1935, Vol. 4, No. 6).

The dam allowed staff and students to boat on the resulting, small, man-made lake. But it also served another purpose — the

ponded area behind the dam was a major source of ice for St. Joseph's institutions. In 1914, the stream channel was deepened to increase ice production, according to Sister John Mary Crumlish ("St. Joseph's Central House 1809-1959," published 1959).

The cabin is still used today by federal agencies and non-profit organizations for special events,

and is administered by NETC Building and Grounds, according to Merrill Sollenberger, with NETC.

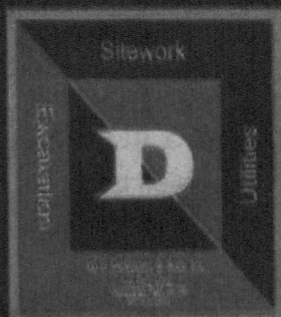
*Editor's Note: Special thanks to Bonnie Weatherly, archives manager, Sister Eleanor Casey, archival assistant, Daughters of Charity, and to the Emmitsburg Area Historical Society for their assistance with this article.*

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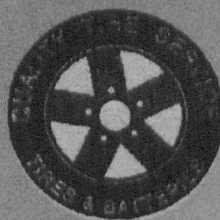
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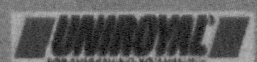
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# Arts & Entertainment

## LOOKING AHEAD

### Basement provides perfect spot for teens to hang out

BY NICOLE M. BELANGER  
Contributing Writer

A grand, historic church in sleepy Emmitsburg is not the place you might expect to find a rock concert on a Friday night, but the odd combination has worked so far.

The Basement, a coffee house in the bottom floor of the Elias Lutheran Church, is celebrating one successful year of operation this month.

"The Basement was something I felt called to do. There are not many low-cost, safe and fun things for families and or teens to do in our area," said Lesly Potts, founder of the site and a church member.

On the second Friday of each month, Christian bands, mostly rock, fill the church basement with loud music, attracting teens and young adults, where they can also get refreshments and spend time with friends.

The bands, some that travel from as far away as Tennessee, have attracted up to 100 people, said Pastor Jon Greenstone, who calls the venue a success.

Usually there are two bands that play during the night, which runs from 7 until 10 p.m.

The concerts are free and open to the public. Donations that are given provide some compensation to the bands, Potts said.

"The number of Christian bands that want to come play has been overwhelming," Greenstone said, calling some of the groups "awesome."

Potts believes the monthly event has had a positive impact on young people in the area and she plans to continue offering the music in the future. In fact, she already has a lineup through the rest of the year.

"We have had a very successful year and our attendance seems to be growing," she said.

### Band schedule for The Basement:

- June 9 – Sapient Dove
- July 14 – David Peterson, acoustic guitar
- Aug. 11 – Kristen Leigh
- Sept. 8 – JC Mason acoustic and HHGC (Holy Harmony Gospel Quartet)



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### For Children

**May 20, 27- "Cinderella."** 2 p.m. Share the magic and hope of Cinderella as she discovers a sense of self-worth and belonging. This classic tale of wicked stepmothers, selfish stepsisters, a whimsical fairy godmother and dashing prince comes to life in a style that young and old alike will adore. \$8-12. The Fun Company at the Maryland Ensemble Theater, 31 W. Patrick St., Frederick. (301) 694-4744.

**May 27, 28 – "The Jungle Book."** 7 p.m., 3 p.m. A cast of 7 to 10 year olds will perform. The show is an extraordinary musical adventure starring Mowgli, the boy raised by wolves, and all of his animal friends he meets in the jungle. \$5. Carroll Arts Center, 91 W. Main St., Westminster. (410) 848-7272.

### Concerts

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

**May 20 – Baltimore Symphony Orchestra.** 8 p.m. Roberto Minczuk, conductor, Ilya Finkelshteyn, cello, performing Barber's "Adagio for Strings," Haydn's "Cello Concerto in D Major" and Beethoven's "Symphony No. 4 in B-flat Major, Opus 60."

Pre-concert lecture at 7 p.m. Frederick Community College, JBK Theater, 7932 Opossumtown Pike, Frederick. (301) 694-5978.

**May 27 – American Salute.** 8 p.m. The Spires Brass Band concert of popular and patriotic American Music. Frederick Community College, JBK Theater, 7932 Opossumtown Pike, Frederick. (301) 694-5978.

### Dance

**May 20 – Gettysburg Dance Center presents "Steppin' Out."** 7 p.m. Holly Fox, instructors, and students offer an exciting evening of dance. \$4-6. Riegle Auditorium, Gettysburg Middle School, Gettysburg. (717) 334-5006.

**June 3 – Fair Squares Dance Group.** 2-3 p.m. Performance at the Gazebo. Gettysburg Village, 1863 Gettysburg Village Drive, Gettysburg. (800) 868-7553.

**June 3 – The Merritt Dance Company Spring Concert.** 7 p.m. Presented by the Merritt Athletic Club & The Right Moves Dance Co. \$3-5. Carroll Arts Center, 91 W. Main St., Westminster. (410) 848-7272.

### Festivals/Events

**June 3-4 – Frederick Festival of the Arts.** Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Juried arts market, entertainment, children's activities, literary activities, multi-cultural food, film festival and art demonstrations. South East Street and Carroll Creek Park, Frederick. (301) 694-9632. [www.frederickarts.org](http://www.frederickarts.org).

**June 16-18 – Pennsylvania Lavender Festival.** Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Some 40 varieties of lavender will be for sale, along with other herbs and perennials, lavender products and herbal products. Lunch is available. Live entertainment. Willow Pond Farm, Fairfield, Pa. [www.palavenderfestival.com](http://www.palavenderfestival.com).

### 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

**Through May 27 – "Urinetown, the musical."** 8 p.m. The three-time Tony Award winning musical comedy inspired by the works of Bertold Brecht and Kurt Weill, offers a tale of love and triumph over greed. When a Gotham-like city faces a water shortage, its residents are deprived of their toilets and forced to pay for use of public facilities controlled by a sinister corporation. All hope seems lost until one brave soul plans an uprising intended to bring relief for all. Tickets: \$17-20. Maryland Ensemble Theater, 31 W. Patrick St., Frederick. (301) 694-4744.

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## QUILTERS

# It's about the designs — and the memories



BY MARY  
ELLEN  
CUMMINGS  
*Dispatch  
Columnist*

Recently, my grandson told me about a scientific article he had read about the future of mankind. It seems scientists have gone beyond cloning and are now concentrating on genes. "They" say in the future our genes will be altered so that humans will not need to eat! My grandson is 17 and thoroughly believes in the possibility. When I was 17, my peers and I laughed at people who said, "Man will walk on the moon."

At age 18, I became seriously interested in quilting. Not in my wildest imagination did I think that some day quilts would be objects of Art - using fabric, paint, photography, buttons, beer cans, etc. Quilts were supposed to be warm and cuddly, as well as pretty to look at.

My quilting group often discusses the future of quilting - the old-fashioned kind. We think the "9-patch" block, in all its variations, can be used to make

great quilts.

Many of the quilting magazines seem to be emphasizing the world of art quilts. I do admit that I find some of the creations fascinating. My reaction is always, "How much time did it take to make that?"

My latest issue of "Quilt" magazine highlights my kind of quilt-world leaders. A report on Eleanor Burns who makes quilts with today's quicker methods and old-time patterns, also, an article about the Gees Bend, Ala., quilters - who also use older patterns. In the beginning these quilters made covers out of necessity; now, they make them for the love of quilts and because of the designs.

Keffe Fassett moved from California to England and fell in love with old things - farmhouse, barn, church, etc. He says, "So much of what is made today seems to have been thrown together with no thought for its aesthetic impact on the world."

He goes on to say that, "proportions, colors, and textures" are of special interest to him. He feels these are the reasons he likes patchwork, traditional quilts more than art quilts. That and nostalgia - childhood memories are guiding forces at this time.

## Singers Wanted

The Clustered Spires Chorus of Sweet Adelines is looking for new members. The Sweet Adelines will host open rehearsals in Frederick at the C. Burr Artz Library on May 24 from 7-9 p.m. Sweet Adelines perform four-part acapella harmony, barbershop style. Whatever your voice tone, there is a singing part for you! The music includes special arrangements of today's ballads, upbeat songs, popular songs, show tunes, and even jazz. For more information, call Cindy at (301) 644-1589.

## OBITUARIES & BIRTHS

### Sister Mary Joan Doyle, DC

Sister Mary Joan Doyle, DC, 87, died April 28, 2006, at Villa St. Michael, Emmitsburg.

The daughter of Mary Fleming and John Doyle, both from Ireland, Mary Doyle grew up in Philadelphia, Pa. with her

brother and sister. Sister entered the Daughters of Charity in 1944.

In 1956 Sister Mary Joan became a missionary in Bolivia, where she served for 29 years. She retired in 1994.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on May 1, at the Basilica of the National Shrine

of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Emmitsburg.

### Births

Amy and Rick Chase, Fairfield, a son, March 25.

## Student sought for library board

FREDERICK, Md. - For the second year, the Frederick County Public Libraries Board of Trustees is looking for a non-voting teen representative to its board and will be accepting applications until Friday, May 26.

Sandra L. Doggett, President of the Board of Trustees, said that the board's purpose is to give students a chance to participate in county government. In return, the library asks that the student advise the board on what will make libraries more meaningful and useful for teens.

The term will run from July 1 of this year

through June 30, 2007.

The student will join the library board, currently consisting of Ms. Doggett, Theodore E. Haas, Eric S. Larson, Frances G. Baker, Luis Lobo, Robert G. Marmet, and Tina B. Prenskey. As a non-voting member, the student representative will not attend executive or closed sessions.

Application packets are available at all Frederick County high schools (see the library media specialist) and are also available at all FCPL branch circulation desks. Applications can also be obtained by e-mailing [ecromwell@fredco-md.net](mailto:ecromwell@fredco-md.net).

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# Community Calendar

## LOOKING AHEAD

**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 – Life Horse, Inc. Spring Family Fun Day at Breezy Hill Stables.** Noon to 5 p.m. 15117 Mud College Road, Thurmont. Pony rides, hayrides, food, games, face painting, and moon bounce. Free. Donations accepted. Information: (301) 271-4133. [www.breezyhillstables.com](http://www.breezyhillstables.com).

**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.

**May 20-23 – Thurmont Thesians auditions for summer youth musical, "Teenages."** May 20 from 9 a.m.-noon, May 22 and Tuesday, May 23 from 6:30-9 p.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church Social Hall, 15 N. Church Street, Thurmont. Needed: between 12-20 teenage boys and girls; one male child (5-7 years old); five adult males and females, ages 20 to 75.

**May 21 – Annual Foxville School Reunion.** Foxville Schoolhouse. Dinner will be served at 12:30 p.m. Bring a covered dish and a friend.

**May 22-27 – 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Emmitsburg Carnival.** Rides and amusements open at 6 p.m. Sponsored by Mother Seton School, 100 Creamery Rd., Emmitsburg. Bingo every night, food, nightly bands.

**May 23 – Class: Exercise & Movements to Build Muscle & Relieve Arthritis Pain.** 1 to 2 p.m.; repeated from 7 to 8 p.m. Frederick County Extension Office. Dress comfortably; bring a set of small hand weights and a floor mat. Cost: \$3. Pre-registration and pre-payment required. Call (301) 694-1594, ext. 11599 for class availability.

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

**May 24 – Animal Assisted Therapy.** 7 p.m. Carriage House, Emmitsburg. Speaker - Dr. Strimple, former President of the American Veterinary Medical Association. He will share his ideas on using animal-assisted therapy for the handicapped, the elderly, children-at-risk and prison inmates. Part of a public education series sponsored by the Emmitsburg Veterinary Hospital.

**May 26 – Networking Know-How: How to Make Great Connections.**

11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Holiday Inn, W. Patrick Street, Frederick. This program is based on Contacts Count, a nationwide training company helping people make the most of their networking experiences. Registration: [www.woaonline.net](http://www.woaonline.net). Sponsored by Women Out n About, LLC.

**May 27 – 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Gathering of Gearheads.** Registration begins at 8 a.m. Fellowship Baptist Church, 110 Mt. Hope Road, Fairfield, Pa. Registration: \$10. Open to all cars, trucks and motorcycles. Free for spectators. Information: 717-642-6767.

**May 29 through June 3 – Union Bridge Fire Company Carnival.** 8 West Locust St., Union Bridge, Md.

**June 6 – Walker Bros. Circus.** 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Memorial Park, Park Drive off Route 140, Taneytown, Md. Sponsored by Taneytown Chamber of Commerce. Tickets: (410) 756-4234 or (410) 371-4265.

**June 10 – Fr. Joseph Iannuzzi. Booksigning.** 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. St. Peter's Bookstore, Emmitsburg. Signing his latest book, "The Antichrist and the End Times." Followed by a talk at Ski Liberty Resort and Conference Center, Fairfield, Pa. at 3 p.m.

**June 15 – Free workers comp seminar.** 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Sheraton

Four Points, 1910 Dual Highway, Hagerstown, Md. Hosted by IWIF, Maryland provider of workers' compensation insurance. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Limited seating; reservations required. Call 1-800-264-IWIF, ext. 2180, or e-mail [kbrown@iwif.com](mailto:kbrown@iwif.com).

**July 14 – Fr. Bill McCarthy. Booksigning.** Noon to 1:30 p.m. St. Peter's Bookstore, Emmitsburg. Followed by a talk at the Ski Liberty Resort and Conference Center in Fairfield, Pa. at 2:30 p.m.

**July 15 – MSM Crab Feast & Auction.** 6 p.m. Frederick Elks Club. Benefits Mount St. Mary's University athletic scholarships. Tickets: \$50. Reservations: (301) 447-5227.

**Sept. 2 – Wayne Weible. Booksigning.** 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. St. Peter's Bookstore, Emmitsburg. Signing the updated hardcover anniversary edition of "Medjugorje The Message."

**Sept. 8 and 9 – Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show.** Catocin High School.

**Oct. 28 – George Weigle. Booksigning.** St. Peter's Bookstore, Emmitsburg. Author of "John Paul II: A Witness to Hope," and "God's Choice." Talk following at The Lynfield Event Complex, Frederick.

### This summer at The National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes

**June 3 – Fr. Andrew Apostoli,** Franciscan Friars of The Renewal, will celebrate Mass at 6 p.m. followed by a talk on Bishop Fulton J. Sheen at the National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes, Emmitsburg. Fr. Apostoli is the main Postulator for Bishop Sheen's cause for sainthood.

author of numerous books. Mass followed by a healing service will be held on Friday the 14<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. Booksigning at St. Peter's Bookstore in Emmitsburg, July 15, noon to 1:30 p.m.

**July 7 – Fr. Benedict Groeschel,** Franciscan Friars of The Renewal. Mass at 7 p.m. followed by a talk at The National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes.

For more information, contact Fr. Jack Lombardi, Chaplain of the Grotto, (301) 447-5318.

**July 14, 15 – Fr. Bill McCarthy,** Missionary of The Holy Apostles, co-founder of My Father's House Spiritual Retreat Center in Moodus, Conn., and

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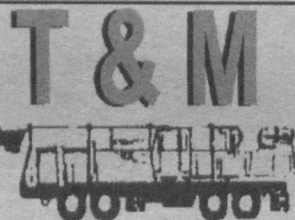
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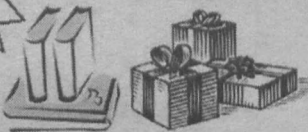
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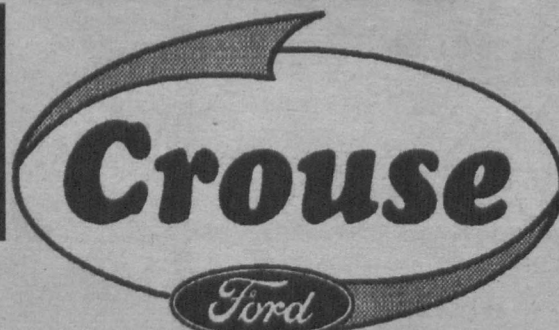


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