

The Emmitsburg Dispatch

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News and Opinion in the service of Truth

JULY 6, 2006

Toms Creek bridge site of highway 50th anniversary

BY RICHARD D. L. FULTON
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EMMITSBURG, Md. – In 1919, a military convoy “battled” its way from Washington, D.C. to California, to test equipment and to see how fast the military could get from coast to coast.

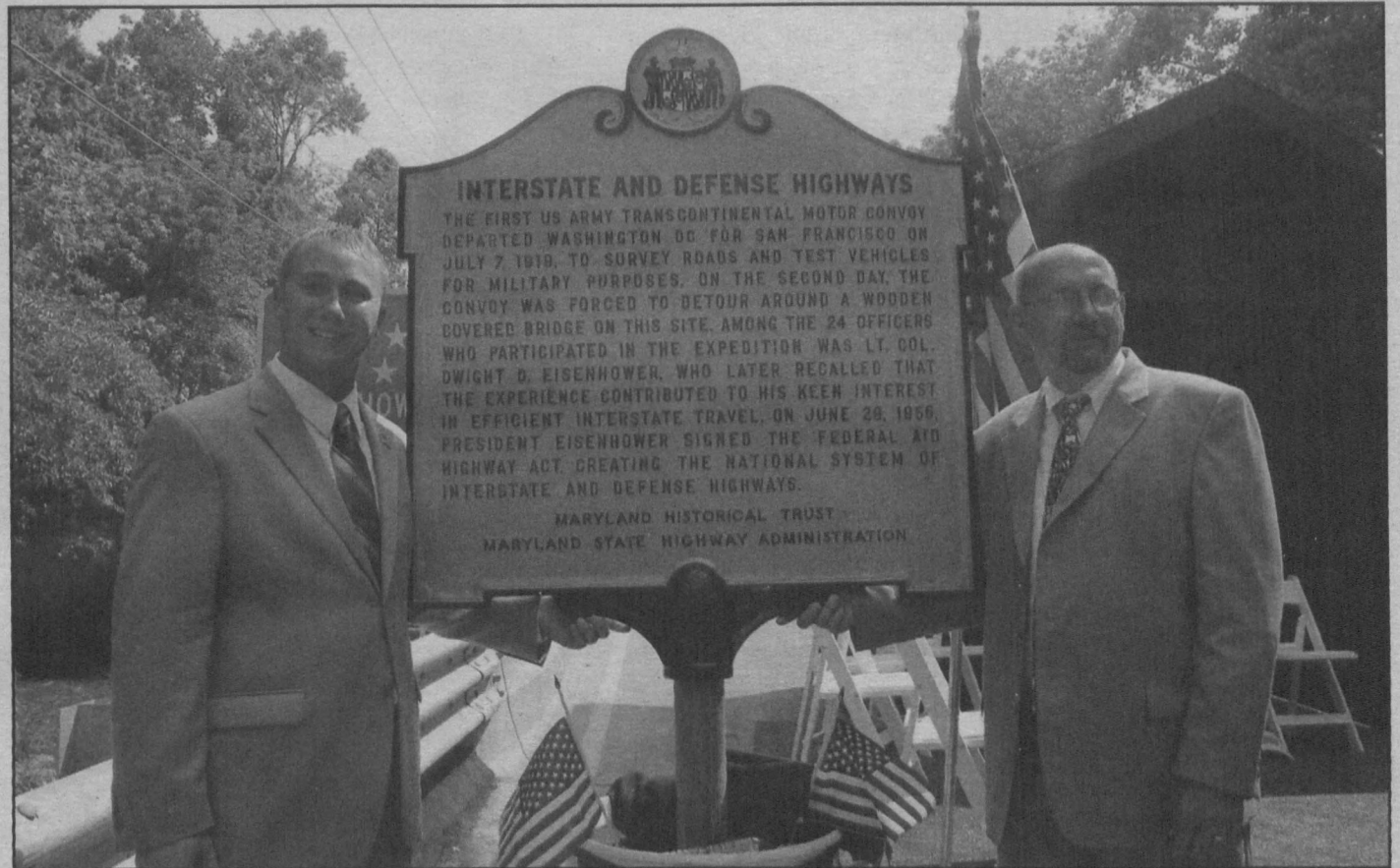
The first stumbling block on the journey that would ultimately claim 21 lives and eight vehicles proved to be the “Bridge of Sighs,” a lonely covered bridge of unknown vintage which carried South Seton Avenue across Toms Creek.

A frustrated Lt. Col. Dwight D. Eisenhower looked on as the Transcontinental Motor Convoy scattered in all directions to find a way to bypass the little bridge over which the oversized military and civil vehicles could not cross.

The bridge that helped inspire a U.S. President

On June 28, beneath a blistering sun after days of record-setting rains, the Maryland State Highway Administration commemorated the 50th anniversary of the national highway system and the stalling of the 1919 convoy at the South Seton bridge.

-See **Anniversary** on page 3



-RICHARD D. L. FULTON / THE DISPATCH

Merrill Eisenhower Atwater (left), great-grandson of President Dwight D. Eisenhower, joins Mayor James E. Hoover beside the new historic marker provided by The Maryland Historic Trust and the Maryland State Highway Administration to commemorate the Toms Creek bridge's historic place in the evolution of the national highway system.

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Community Day



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Sports



A pair of champs
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Silo Hill could get stoplight next year

BY RICHARD D. L. FULTON
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EMMITSBURG, Md. – Silo Hill intersection could get a traffic light “within a year” as a result of a multi-year Maryland State Highway Administration accident and traffic review, although a

roundabout is also a possibility.

Town staff learned of SHA’s decision at a meeting Thursday, June 29, scheduled with SHA representatives to discuss concerns about the intersection. The board of commissioners will review the stoplight and roundabout options for further action.

Three roads come together at

the Silo Hill intersection: Silo Hill Road; East Main Street (MD Rt. 140); and MD Rt. 904F. Westerly, Route 904F takes traffic to the southbound lane of U.S. 15, while Route 140 provides access to the 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.

After the meeting with SHA, Mayor James E. Hoover said that SHA had reviewed reported accident data back to 1991, as well as traffic patterns the agency had recorded periodically at the intersection starting in 1994.

-See **Stoptlight** on page 3

Decades of sewer spills may be over

BY RICHARD D. L. FULTON
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EMMITSBURG, Md. – In spite of heavy rains during the last week and a half of June, changes made in the town’s wastewater collection system are already paying off – no spills in spite of the persistent deluge.

When he saw that the area was to be hit with large amounts

of rainfall, Town Manager David Haller asked that work be speeded up along a section of the wastewater collection system being replaced through the Waybright property to the treatment plant.

Even though the treatment plant was subsequently hit with as much as 1.9 million gallons in one day, the new line held and the town got through its first major storms without a sewage spill.

New line held despite storms

Although still compiling data from the more than a week of storms, Haller said, that on

Sunday, June 25 alone, the plant processed 1.9 million gallons of predominantly “wild water,” well

-See **Sewer** on page 3

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Dispatch encourages its readers to express their thoughts and opinions about issues that appear in this publication or affect the community. Letters must be exclusive to the *The Dispatch* and should be no longer than 300 words in length. They must be signed and include the writer's address and phone number for verification purposes. The Dispatch reserves the right to edit letters for content and space.

1757 was a very good year

Well, it is a hot topic again! The town meeting was flooded with people from all over the tri-state area and the discussion began one more time.

We are all trying to determine what the founders said or meant to say. I say, 1757 was a very good year. 1957 was an even better year. I was there. I was nine years old. I remember it well.

As our community leaders and citizens prepared to celebrate our bi-centennial in 1957, they met, discussed and re-hashed research and thoughts; they made a great decision.

"We the people," celebrated in

1957. I can remember older ladies and men dressed in 1800s costumes, people riding horses and ponies, the town and our houses dress up with decorations, the make-believe jail with fun and games for everyone. Men grew beards. I think Mr. Sprankle won the longest and Mr. Tohor for the most unusual. He grew a beard on one side and kept the other side shaved. I can still picture a towering man I knew well. He stood about 7-foot tall and rode a unicycle in the parade - Mr. Richard Hanner.

So many people attended the meeting to comment or testify. A few lived immediately adjacent to our corporate limits, some within

Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia. Personally, I am tired of "out of town" people trying to tell us how to run our community.

So let Samuel Emmit speak per the editorial in *The Dispatch*. He talked to us in 1757 and we all agree: 1757 was a very good year.

I mentioned no decision was needed (6-19-06). Samuel Emmit made the decision in 1757 and "We the People" confirmed it in 1957.

Let's celebrate 2007. See Emmitsburg at its finest. We have the time, people and talents.

- Larry Little
Emmitsburg, Md.

Enough can't be said

That's right, enough can't be said about the new Gateway Theaters on Route 30 East in Gettysburg. Last month, a friend of ours from Connecticut expressed interest in seeing "Fields of Freedom," a 30-minute film about the three-day Battle of Gettysburg.

We experienced outstanding "royal treatment" from each and every employee. Sound far-fetched or overstated? Well, it's absolutely true. They've an assortment of hot lunch foods as well as popcorn, sodapop and candies. In my opinion, they far surpass any other theater in all aspects and I've been to many, worldwide. Two employees even took time as we enjoyed a 'theater-lunch' to gently inform us that

the movie would be commencing shortly.

We entered the theater and were pleasantly amazed that the seating construction affords everyone a perfectly clear view, in extremely comfy seats.

Along with the beautiful soundtrack, this film is so incredibly true-to-life and spellbinding by the acting and the digital technology used in the battle scenes, that your heart and soul are touched in a most profoundly deep manner.

Let's face it; today's world is sadly full of distrust, hostility, fear, tragedy and laziness. Stepping into the Gateway Theater is like stepping back in time, perhaps to the 1950s, a far happier and peaceful era when

most people were polite, caring, considerate, and helpful to others, always with a smile and actually enjoying their work.

"Fields of Freedom" is only 30 minutes long, but it's now by far, my ultimately favorite film. I'd like to gratefully and graciously applaud Robert Monahan and his film crew for this outstanding movie, and his theater employees who made our visits there so pleasant.

Visits? Yes indeed! I returned again last week with another visiting friend and in two weeks, I'm taking my youngest granddaughter.

- Catherine (Adelsberger) Curtis
Gettysburg, Pa.

Kudos for Bill Meredith's columns

I'm sending off a few lines to let you know how much I always appreciate *The Dispatch* columns of Bill Meredith, especially his recent "In Vino Veritas."

I have relocated to the area from New York City to live with my daughter and family in Orrtanna, Pa. As an 87-year-old, retired after working for 40 years for *The New York Daily News*, I can classify myself as a senior member of the 4th estate.

Bill's column brought back so well similar experiences from my own life. I have a fair knowledge of Latin and a taste of the grape would have definitely made studying it more palatable. My two children are university professors (one at the Mount, the other at the University of Southern Maine), and many times we have referred to the phrase *in vino*

veritas in conversations. Bill's other incident brought back fond memories, too. Growing up as a young lad, I picked elderberry grapes with my father, for the wine he made in our house in New Haven, Conn. I bet this tasteful hobby helped him get through the long, cold winters. This column, like many of Bill's, captured a simple story, so well

told. His columns make me vividly recall good stories from my own life.

I always look forward to my daughter giving me *The Dispatch*, with the hope that it will have another delightful column by Bill Meredith.

- Jeremiah P. Conway
Orrtanna, Pa.

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.

July 6, 1906

The Town Hall

It looks very much as though the people of Emmitsburg are in earnest about building a Town Hall. And well may they be, for if ever there was a place where such a structure was needed, sorely needed, that place is right here in this community.

The meeting Monday night though not largely attended, was representative of the various business interests of our town and this and the freedom from unnecessary discussion and the practical plan adopted, would seem to indicate that the success of the undertaking was assured.

The plan likely to be adopted and the one that would undoubtedly call forth a hearty response from the people generally, has for its object the issuing of shares in small denominations, purely nominal in fact, in order that everybody may subscribe and thereby feel a strong personal interest in the building which will be and should be by all means the people's building.

But right here let us beware of hectic enthusiasm. Sudden outbursts of public spirit which cool as suddenly as they originate are never productive of any good. And as we said last week "to simply call attention to an important matter of this kind and then have it discussed haphazardly on the street corners, avails nothing."

In this undertaking let us act promptly and well, let us all pull together, stick to it, and carry it to a successful issue.

We will never regret it.

LIVE LOCAL NEWS
Affairs of Interest to the
Readers of *The Chronicle*

Mr. David Wachter reports that he harvested forty acres of wheat in thirty-five hours.

Mr. Harry Hopp was offered and he refused \$200 for one of the valuable horses driven in the bakery wagon.

Pipes are being laid from the water main to the house occupied by the Misses Smith on West Main Street.

Pipes from the water main have been laid to the houses occupied by Mr. Bert Hospelhorn and Mr. Pius Felix.

The local Water Company flushed the mains this week, carrying off the sediment that has been lately noticed in our mountain water.

At the meeting of the commissioners Tuesday afternoon the contract for the erection of an iron bridge at Flat Run, near town, was awarded to the York Bridge Company, of York, Pa. for \$1,099.

John A. Eyer's young son was painfully hurt last week. While playing on a stone pile, one of the loose rocks rolled on his foot, mashing one of his toes. Dr. Stone was called in to dress the wound.

Owing to a mistake on the part of the Post Office Department, our local Post Office Superintendent was reported to have been reduced from \$1500 to \$1400. A "correct notification" has been received officially reestablishing the salary of \$1500.

Mr. J. Thomas Gelwicks has given the *Chronicle* a rare relic in the shape of an old weaver's reed. He discovered it in the old house on his Friend's Creek farm, formerly known as the Adam Tressler farm. This is considerably over a hundred years old.

The boys from St. Euphemia's School defeated the local High School, Friday evening, by the score of 7 to 2. It was a good game, well played and was enjoyed by quite a crowd. Joseph Topper and James Arnold of St. Euphemia's School distinguished themselves. The High School boys were unable to connect with Arnold's curves. Battery for St. Euphemia's, Arnold and Sebold; for the High School, Gelwicks, C. Rowe and C. Frailey.

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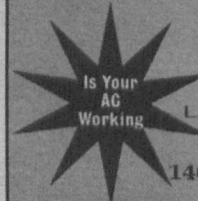
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Anniversary

-Continued from page 1

President Eisenhower had signed the Federal-Aid Highway Act on June 29, 1956, providing provided funding for the first interstate highway system.

While the 1919 convoy took 62 days to travel from Washington, D.C. to San Francisco, Eisenhower, while serving as supreme commander of the Allied Expeditionary Force, found that German autobahns, in contrast, presented a high-speed conduit for military traffic during WW II.

"That old (1919) convoy had started me thinking about good, two-lane (national) highways, but Germany had made me see the wisdom of broader ribbons across the land," then-General Eisenhower wrote.

Nearly 200 representatives from several states, along with Emmitsburg Mayor James E. Hoover, organization representatives and members of the public, attended the 2 p.m. ceremony held, literally, in the middle of South Seton Avenue. The street was closed for several hours so the ceremonial area could be set up and the recreated convoy could park.

SHA employees had built a 10-foot by eight-foot "covered bridge," and Cozy restaurant, Thurmont, set up a catering tent and offered water and food to participants and spectators.

SHA will give town ceremonial bridge

EMMITSBURG, Md. - A town park will soon gain the ceremonial covered bridge used in the June 28 Maryland State Highway Administration commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the national highway system.

Mayor James E. Hoover told *The Dispatch* that SHA will deliver the structure to town property where it will likely be incorporated into a walking path project planned later this year for Community Park.

SHA built the bridge to represent "The Bridge of Sighs," a covered bridge that once carried South Seton Avenue over Toms Creek. The bridge was dismantled in the early 1920s and replaced with the concrete bridge still in use.

Town resident Catherine Forrence had approached SHA and the *Emmitsburg Dispatch* news editor even before the event to see if the bridge could be turned over to the town.

Editor's Note: See related story, Toms Creek bridge site of highway 50th anniversary, in this issue.

- R. Fulton

Emmitsburg gains historical marker

Prior to the actual ceremony, a convoy of some 30 antique, military and modern vehicles assembled by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials arrived as part of the reenactment. The group had actually set out from San Francisco to recreate the trek in reverse, with plans to finish in Washington, D.C.

Traveling to Emmitsburg with the convoy was Merrill Eisenhower Atwater, great-grandson of the president, who described his participation in the event as "a great honor."

Mayor Hoover, master

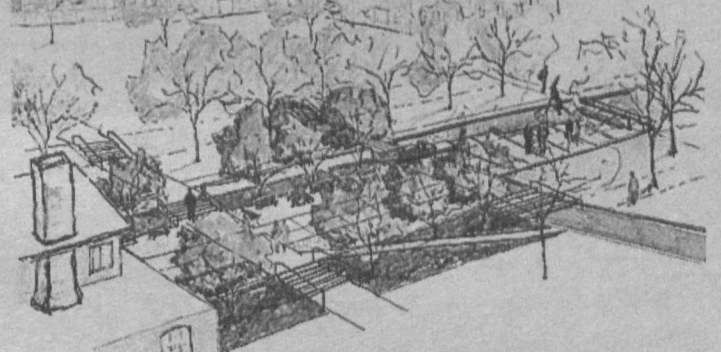
of ceremonies, pointed out to attendees that the convoy-halting incident in 1919 at the "Bridge of Sighs" presented Emmitsburg with a "special place in transportation history."

Noting that the bridge incident was the first of many difficulties that would inspire the future president to seek a national highway system, Hoover said, "Today we are celebrating his foresight."

Hoover then joined David S. Marks, chief of staff at the Maryland Department of Transportation, in unveiling the historic marker that will be installed at the site describing the problem encountered by the 1919 convoy at the bridge along with the purpose of their journey.



Work begins on the Mount's bicentennial Founder's Plaza



Work has begun on Mount St. Mary's Founder's Plaza, intended to be a centerpiece of the university's 18-month long bicentennial celebration. Plans call for completion of the plaza in the fall of 2007. Insert: University President Thomas H. Powell, (third from left), joins Dick Ridgeway (left), chairman of the Class of 1958 Gift Committee and the bicentennial and a Trustee Emeritus of the Mount, Frederick County Commissioner Michael Cady (second from left), and Tom O'Hara (far right), chairman of the Mount's Board of Trustees, at the groundbreaking ceremony June 22, marking the official start of the project. Construction has already begun on the site, as can be seen in the background.

Stoplight

-Continued from page 1

Accidents not reported to the police were not included.

The state required that a "process of elimination" be used in addressing the intersection over the years, and that "certain milestones," occur before other options were considered, Hoover said.

According to SHA data, there had been five reported accidents this year thus far at the intersection, three of which involved injuries. That brings the total accidents for

mid-year 2006 to an amount equal to the two worst years on record, 2001 and 2002, each with five reported accidents.

The mayor told *The Dispatch* it could take up to a year for a light to be installed, because of engineering and planning, and advance warning markers to alert traffic approaching the intersection. A roundabout could take years.

Board of commissioners President Christopher V. Staiger told *The Dispatch*, "A roundabout would be at least three years in a best case scenario and at substantially higher cost. While a roundabout would provide for greater safety,

I'm worried about a traffic signal leading to traffic backups on the east side of town at periods."

When the site plan was approved for Sleep Inn in the late-1990s, the town required the business to provide \$80,000 toward traffic control at the intersection, Hoover stated. That money helped pay for the current blinking light and was installed by SHA in 2003.

The mayor said the town had asked early on for traffic studies at the intersection, with both those requests and the blinking light installation indicative of town officials' proactive stance on the issue.

Sewer

-Continued from page 1

over the plant's permitted 800-gallon-per-day capacity.

During the day, rainfall amounts ranged from 2.5 inches at the treatment plant to 5 inches at the water treatment plant, according to Haller.

Before the storm front arrived on Friday, June 23, Haller had already directed the construction crew working on the line and sewer plant upgrade to cut the flow of sewage to a temporary by-pass line and let it go through a new replacement line.

A by-pass line had been installed so that workers could replace a section of the old line that crosses the Waybright property off Creamery Road, the source of sewage spills going back decades.

Dealing with potential 'wastewater geysers'

The main problem along the Waybright section of the line was a missing valve which either never installed in a vault in the 1980s when the system was constructed, or had been subsequently removed.

Haller had stated he felt that replacing this section of the line would remedy 90 percent or more of

the town's sewage spills. He chose to have an all-pressure line from the town to the plant, eliminating the gravity-fed section, and the need for a valve.

To prevent wastewater geysers erupting at the treatment plant because of the pressurized line, Haller had the wastewater routed to the bottom of a partially filled tank. The water already standing in the tank counteracts the force of the pressurized wastewater coming into it and disperses the energy.

Haller said he expects the work on the system overhaul, including treatment plant alterations, to be completed in 30-90 days, depending on system testing.

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EDITORIAL

Streamlining town government: setting agendas

One of the almost painful aspects of attending an Emmitsburg Board of Commissioners meeting is sitting through the near end of the meeting observing the board setting the agenda for the next town meeting.

The board has on occasion spent up to a half hour discussing potential items, beyond just recommending an agenda item, sometimes asking town staff for information in order to decide if an item should be included.

After all that is said and done, the board then votes on each proposed agenda item, rather than simply approving the list by consent (where a block or set of actions is approved in one vote unless there is apparent dissent on a particular item).

No other area community

interviewed by *The Dispatch* sets its upcoming agenda at a town meeting:

Town of Thurmont: Anyone may request being placed on the agenda by either contacting the town clerk or the mayor. The mayor gives final approval. There is no official limit to the number of items that may be placed on an agenda.

Carroll Valley Borough: Anyone may contact the borough manager to have an item placed on the town agenda. If the issue is complex, the town may request that it be submitted in writing. The borough prefers to receive agenda requests two to three weeks prior to the targeted meeting. Limits on the number of items to be placed on the agenda are dependant on the volume of business

anticipated at the meeting.

Fairfield Borough: Anyone may contact the secretary-treasurer to request that an item be placed on the agenda. There is no drop-dead time for doing so. There is no limit to the number of items on an agenda. A draft agenda is produced one week prior to the meeting and approved by the mayor and council members any time before the meeting.

Gettysburg Borough: Anyone may contact the borough secretary to request that an item be placed on an agenda. The agenda is set five days before a town meeting. The borough supervisors vote to approve the agenda for a particular meeting at the beginning of that meeting, and items may be added or deleted at that time.

There is no limit in the number of items that may be on an agenda.

Learning to shorten or modify what has become routine in Emmitsburg's town meetings could help provide more time to address real issues. Eliminating the cumbersome agenda process would also permit the board to address more issues at the meeting, rather than the current six-item limit.

Further, increasing the number of agenda items, while at the same time allowing anyone the right to ask that an item be added to an upcoming agenda, and allocating the duty to a town staff member, would allow greater democratic participation in the general process of governing the town.

OP ED

Study indicates Emmitsburg founded in 1757

Offering reasons why I think the town's founding occurred in 1757 requires a book-length essay based on studies in philosophy, anthropology, and other sciences.

Historians need to know *what* a town is, and what is the human act that founds one. With that knowledge they can search records to learn when the necessary circumstances existed and the founding act occurred.

Relying on knowledge of that sort, I examined an idea that the founding date occurred in 1785, but historical records do not show any founding event that year. Of course, the absence of a record is not proof that no such event occurred.

In 1757, however, Samuel Emmit did something that qualifies as the founding act of Emmitsburg.

Natural. He bought 2,250 acres of land including part within the current town limits. Not many people lived on the land then, and it would be unrecognizable as a town today. But how did Emmit's purchase found Emmitsburg?

The answer does not come from looking at maps or comparing dates when other towns have decided they were founded. It comes from understanding the natural functions of borders, the reasons why a town can be founded, and human intentions.

Unlike today. Probably most people think of a town the way Commissioner Sweeney described it at a town meeting - houses, streets, stores, shops, public buildings, a significant population, much commerce and activity. But in 1757 the town later named Emmitsburg was not like that.

To imagine what it was like, think of a place *without one* of those items - without stores, for example. Could it be a town? Certainly. Then subtract *another* item. In the end it's clear that a real town can exist without any of those items.

Primitive. A town can exist even if the people have little commerce with each other, or even don't know each other. Right now

Emmitsburgians are a community even though we never deal with some fellow citizens and do not know them.

The town founded on a rugged frontier by Samuel Emmit 250 years ago - before the American Revolution - was very primitive. It had almost none of the characteristics of a modern town. But it had all the necessary elements: people living peacefully on land with a border.

Unknown. Like countless others who founded towns, Samuel Emmit did not set out to found a town and evidently didn't know that's what he did. But his clear purpose for buying the land made it a town-founding act.

Similarly, like countless communities throughout history, the inhabitants here were not aware of what happened; but it was not necessary that they know. The fact that citizens do not know of actions taken by our president, for example, does not make the actions unreal.

Long tradition. We can obtain only an opinion about when any town was founded. Yet, for much more than 100 years, Emmitsburg citizens have understood 1757 as our founding year.

The citizens who started this tradition lived not long after early events. There's no doubt that they knew also about the town's first housing development begun in 1786 (not 1785).

The ones who preserved this tradition were not simpletons repeating a myth, as has been suggested. They were not all mistaken. Surely some in this college town researched the issue and confirmed the date. Comparing the housing development with Samuel Emmit's purchase, their reasoned judgment was that he founded Emmitsburg town on May 17, 1757.

It should be ours, too.

- Bill Steo
Emmitsburg, Md.

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Correction

Town not the lender of EVAC bond

The June 15 article in *The Dispatch*, "Board asks lawyer to look at EVAC loan deal," stated that the town would be loaning money to the Emmitsburg Volunteer Ambulance Company to facilitate construction of the new ambulance headquarters. Instead, the town is making its bond issuing capabilities available to EVAC, a municipal non-profit, so that EVAC can acquire a low interest rate loan through Farmers & Mechanics Bank.

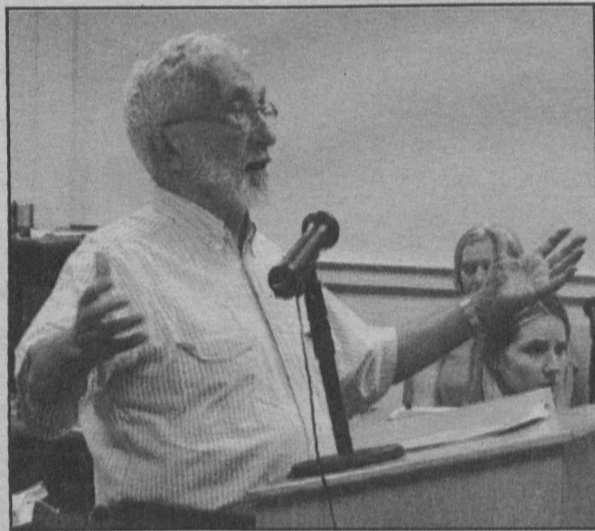
TOWN NEWS

Commissioners hear opposing views on founding date

BY RICHARD D. L. FULTON
Emmitsburg News Editor
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EMMITSBURG, Md. – Finally, the town board of commissioners may have stumbled upon a cause that will actually induce people to show up at town meetings in force ... the founding date debate.

The incentive for the heavily attended meeting on June 19 was an agenda item prompted by a paper prepared for the commissioners by town resident William Steo, who has proposed that the town adopt a 1757 founding date, inherently at odds with the 1785 founding date promulgated by the Emmitsburg Area Historical Society and its president and county resident Michael Hillman.



Emmitsburg resident Bill Steo

Steo's position is that written records could be incomplete and, in some instances, misinterpreted, or that the historical society could have made too many inferences. He also focuses on the lack of general agreement on basic definitions of the words "town" and "founding." The historical society maintains that history is a compilation of documentable events with little room for conjecture.

Tradition vs. historical reexamination

Most of those supporting a 1757 founding date believe it should remain because it has been traditionally celebrated by the town, if only by virtue of the 1957 bicentennial commemoration, based the initial Samuel Emmit land purchase that eventually, in part, evolved into the incorporated Emmitsburg of today.

This group further suggests that the 1785 proponents have been a little too free and easy with their interpretation of historical events and documents, what some call historical reexamination and others view as historical revisionism.

Resident Larry Little told the board, "1757 was a very good year.

I really don't care what anyone says. My suggestion is the community back in the (19)50s decided that 1757 was the year. They made a big decision back then."

Frederick County resident Linda Junker, who had also spoken on the founding date in 2003, like Steo, challenged the 1785 proponents' definitions of "town" and "founding." She noted, "There is no single standard for a founding date. Tradition sets the date at 1757."

Facts vs. perception?

Those supporting the 1785 date, many members of the Emmitsburg Area Historical Society, suggest that tradition is not enough if facts contradict it and said that the 1957 celebration was largely the efforts of a now-defunct promotional company.

Former Emmitsburg commissioner, now Washington County resident, Theodore Brennan said that 1757 makes for "a good argument for a philosophy class but not a history class." Looking at a 1767 Mason-Dixon map in the Library of Congress, Brennan said he saw that other parts of the map clearly showed houses, but the area where Emmitsburg now stands only shows Toms Creek and Flat Run and undeveloped land.

Emmitsburg resident and Catoctin High School teacher Talia Bookman said, "We've been misled for 100 years (on the founding date)." She added, "I preach to my daughter to tell the truth," and it is even worse to "know the truth and not change it."

Another non-resident, 81-year-old Elizabeth Gardner, told the board, "I wish the town would not be party to a lie...a falsehood...it (the founding date) should be 1785."

John Miller, from Fairfield, urged the 1757 founding date. Having viewed a document in the Frederick County Historical Society about Tom's Creek Hundred, Miller was convinced, "The true anniversary date is 2025."

Donald Beard from Hagerstown noted that James Helman's *History of Emmitsburg* lists one of his ancestors, Frederick Beard, as the head of one of the town's seven founding families. But Frederick was born on Nov. 1,

1757 – about six months after the proposed May 1757 founding date.

Michael Hillman, president of the Emmitsburg Area Historical Society, reaffirmed that people were living in northern Frederick County in 1757, in Tom's Creek Hundred, but no one was living on the land Samuel Emmit bought.

Beyond the debate...

Deciding on a founding date would resolve more than a multi-year debate. A tourist-attracting celebration could generate substantial income for area businesses.

Little told the board, "We had parades (in 1957, a whole bunch of activities. I sold soda up and down the street." Junker said not celebrating the potential 250th anniversary in 2007 would be "a disservice to the residents and businesses."

Steo also pointed out the advantage of dovetailing the town's



Emmitsburg Area Historical Society President Michael Hillman

bicentennial with that of Mount St. Mary's University, slated for 2008.

County resident Betsy Forrence suggested recognizing all of the town's key dates: 1757 - settlement; 1785 - founding; and 1825 - incorporation.

The board took no action

that evening, but will consider the founding date issue at their July 17 meeting.

See related story, "Board to examine 1757 founding date proposal" in the June 15, 2006 issue of *The Dispatch*.

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TOWN NEWS

Board approves \$1.5 million budget - including third deputy

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

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The board of commissioners unanimously approved 4-0 the \$1.5 million Fiscal Year 2006-07 budget at their June 19 meeting, as proposed by the mayor and representing an increase of more than \$187,000 over the 2005-06 budget.

Town staff indicated the increase was due largely to the cost of hiring a third deputy and capital improvement projects for the coming year. The FY 2007 CIP proposals are already mostly covered by surplus monies held over from previous years.

The town also reaffirmed by a 3-1 vote its previous decision, to maintain the tax rate for the coming fiscal year at 36 cents per \$100 of assessed property value, board President Christopher V. Staiger voting against it and Commission William B. O'Neil Jr., absent.

'Surplus' monies allocated to CIP

For the first time, the mayor included accrued surplus monies from prior budget years in the 2006-07 budget, effectively ending the town's large pool of unallocated monies.

The more than \$450,000 from

previous years will be merged with other revenue allocated to CIP, although it is unlikely that all of the money would be spent in any given year.

Along with other monies, the CIP budget for the 2006-07 fiscal year will be \$604,000, only a portion of which is earmarked for projects that will actually begin during the fiscal year. Unspent monies will simply roll over into subsequent budgets, and, in the future, surplus funds will always go to CIP.

In previous years, surplus monies were not designated for specific uses and were considered "rainy day" reserves, money for emergencies.

"The general fund has typically generated a surplus of approximately \$140,000 per year," Staiger told *The Dispatch*, "but this has been chewed up by the pension plan and third deputy."

Third deputy hiring approved

Mayor James E. Hoover had previously advocated that the town hire a third deputy from the county sheriff's office, at a total cost to the town of about \$95,000 (combined salary, benefits and overtime).

Although, the board questioned at their June 12 meeting whether crime in town had increased sufficiently to

justify the hire, the commissioners approved the submitted budget, thereby authorizing the hiring.

The mayor also clarified the misconception conveyed to the board previously by Town Manager David Haller that Hoover had cancelled a pending contract to retain the current two deputies and had asked the county to draft a new contract for three.

According to Hoover, he had signed the two-deputy contract renewal about six weeks ago, noting that their contract automatically renews unless it is cancelled. He had asked the county to prepare a contract for an additional officer if the town commissioners approved the budget item.

Commissioners Glenn Blanchard, Joyce Rosensteel and Clifford Sweeney noted that they had received citizen comments supporting hiring a third deputy.

Editor's Note: In a June 15 Dispatch article, "Town board questions hiring third deputy," a statement that the town might face "having no police protection" if the current deputies' contracts expired with no new contracts having been signed, should have read "having no locally-based police protection," since the North County deputy, a county back-up deputy, or the state police could respond in place of community deputies.

Error forced town to re-set tax rate

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The board of commissioners reaffirmed their previous vote on June 19, setting the property tax rate at 36 cents per \$100 of assessed value. The re-vote was necessary because of an incorrectly run legal advertisement in a daily newspaper.

According to town staff, *The Frederick News-Post* ran the advertisement in a size different from that proscribed by state law, resulting in the state rejecting the legal notice. Because the notice was nullified, the town had to vote again and then re-advertise the tax rate.

Mayor James E. Hoover said, "Through no fault of the town staff, that ad was not properly placed." He said Emmitsburg was not the only town affected by the publishing error.

The tax rate was initially set at the May 30 meeting in a 3-1 vote, Commissioner William B. O'Neil Jr., absent. Board President Christopher V. Staiger voted against the rate, repeating his 'no' vote at the June 19 meeting.

—R. Fulton

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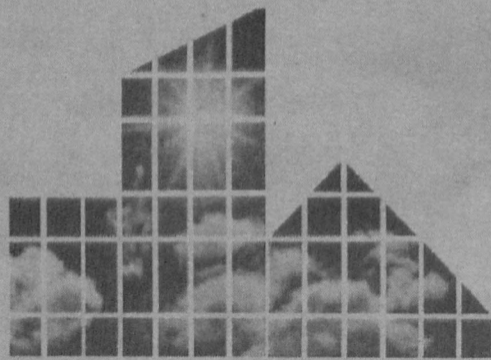
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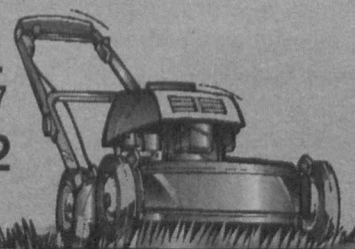
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Town News Briefs ...

2006/07 budget amended to buy car

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The board of commissioners unanimously approved a revision to the 2006/07 budget at their June 19 meeting, permitting the town to purchase a used car primarily for code enforcement use.

The town allocated \$9,679 for the acquisition of a "used, late model, four-door sedan," using state highway user funds received for the 2006 fiscal year, according to Town Manager David Haller.

Highway user funds are monies refunded to Emmitsburg for maintenance work on public streets performed by the town. State mandates only permit the refunded monies to be used for specific purposes, which would include the proposed purchase of the car, Haller told the board.

Other town staff can use the car as well, provided the purchase is primarily for code enforcement.

- R. Fulton

Enforcement/pool brings in over \$4,000

EMMITSBURG, Md. — Town code enforcement generated more than \$4,389 in May, \$1,270 of which was brought in by parking meters.

Parking tickets yielded \$2,110 in fines. Citations were issued for overtime parking (219), parking at a yellow curb (4), parking in a manner blocking a highway (1), failure to park between designated lines (1), parking in no parking zones (5), parking on the wrong side of the road (27), abandoned vehicles (1), and grass and weeds violations (6).

Pool admission fees brought-in \$919. — R. Fulton

TOWN NEWS

Silver Fancy annexation seems to be dead-ended

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

EMMITSBURG, Md. — A Buckeye Development contract to acquire a portion of the Silver Fancy farm from the Boyle family has expired, bringing to a halt plans to have the land annexed into the town.

Buckeye had proposed building a 168-unit senior housing development in an effort to make the annexation more palatable to Emmitsburg residents since they had defeated a previously approved annexation.

The town board of commissioners had approved the annexation of the proposed 67-acre tract in August 2002, but the

annexation was then defeated by referendum in the 2003 election. The company intended in 2002-2003 to develop 130 houses on the land involved. In the effort to renew annexation efforts, Buckeye changed its strategy to develop a senior housing project instead.

Buckeye has not given up hope, however, although no new contract is on the table at the present time.

Zoltan L. Nagy, a principal with Buckeye Development, spoke to *The Dispatch* about the contract, "That's pretty much really the story. We haven't come to an agreement with the Boyles to extend it."

Nagy said approved annexation was a condition for the land purchase. In order to pursue annexation further, "We need to

extend a sales contract to go through with it." The sales contract expired earlier this year, Nagy said, adding, "We're still interested. I'd like to get it back on track."

Also at risk is the preservation of an historic quarry operation that not only provided building and flagstones for St. Joseph's College, but also apparently yielded the only known dinosaur tracks dating back more than 200 million years ever found in the state.

Buckeye had marked the preserve on a recent version of their development plans and suggested the land might be given to the town for a historic site.

See related story, "Lost Dinosaur Quarry" could be wrong location" in this issue.

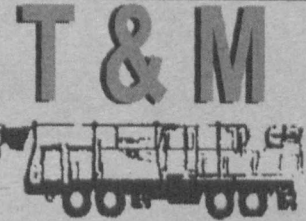
NFED scholarship awarded to mayor's son

EMMITSBURG, Md. — Brian Hoover has received a scholarship from the National Foundation for Ectodermal Dysplasias based on his scholastic achievements, community service and extracurricular accomplishments, according to the NFED.

Hoover will enter Frederick County Community College in the fall, and is the son of Emmitsburg Mayor James E. Hoover and his wife Diana.

- R. Fulton

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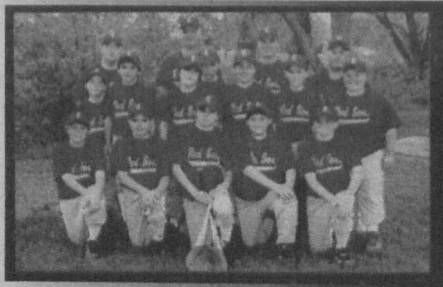
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TOWN NEWS

Old flags burned per national flag code



- ROBERT A. ROSENSTEEL SR. / THE ROSENSTEEL STUDIO

Soiled and damaged American flags are destroyed at a special Flag Day ceremony held in Memorial Park, June 14. The annual event is sponsored by the Emmitsburg American Legion Post #121, the Thurmont American Legion Post #7, and Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post #6658.

Town News Briefs ...

Planning consultant to look at Northgate

EMMITSBURG, Md. - Town planning consultant Christopher N. Jakubiak has been asked to review the Northgate entrance issue and see if an alternative entry can be found.

Town Manager David Haller said Jakubiak has also been asked to determine a cost, if an alternate entrance can be located, and contact the property owner to see if an arrangement could be worked out.

The North Seton Avenue entrance to Northgate lies within the Flat Run 100-year flood plain. Northgate and Emmit Ridge residents have expressed concerns about access to the developments during flooded road conditions.

- R. Fulton

Southgate bond contract signed

EMMITSBURG, Md. - An agreement between the town and Thomas Carolyn, owner of Apple Tree Homes, has been signed, allowing Carolyn to make certain improvements at Southgate that will close-out his responsibilities in the development.

Town Manager David Haller told *The Dispatch* that before the town releases the existing letter of credit and replaces it with a bond, he would like final approval from the board of commissioners.

Under the terms of the pending agreement, Apple Tree Homes will have to complete a list of final improvements at their Mountainview at Southgate development off South Seton Avenue to clear the way for posting a \$300,000 assurance bond in lieu of a letter of credit.

- R. Fulton

Bollinger land purchase approved

EMMITSBURG, Md. - The town will be purchasing a little less than an acre of land along South Seton Avenue for a future municipal parking lot, as approved on June 19.

The lot at 140 South Seton, owned by Josh and Lori Bollinger, contains South Seton Auto (which will be relocated later this year to Creamery Way) and a house, which is rented.

The board of commissioners approved the expenditure of \$325,000 to close on the property. The rental house will remain, but the other structures will, at some point in the future, be demolished.

- R. Fulton

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Emmitsburg Town Meeting
July 17 - 7:30 p.m.

- *Fallen Firefighters Program Presentation
- *Approval of hiring new code enforcer
- *Silo Hill intersection traffic control resolution
- *Continuing APFO review and/or action
- *Founding date consideration

Public Workshop following regular town meeting. - Emmitsburg East Industrial Park Phase II annexation.

Town Meetings

Board of Commissioners & Public Workshop
July 17, 7:30 p.m.

Water Committee
July 18, 7:30 p.m.

Planning Commission
July 31, 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.

TOWN NEWS

Nun too sweet...



-RICHARD D. L. FULTON / THE DISPATCH

Sisters from Villa St. Michael enjoy treats provided by Main Street Sweets, 1 West Main Street, and served by business owner Wendy Glass aboard the group's bus June 30. The sisters stopped at the coffee and baked goods shop during a tour of the town to learn about local history, led by Mayor James E. Hoover.

SHA looking into Main Street left-turn signals

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

EMMITSBURG, Md. —

The Maryland State Highway Administration is investigating the possibility of adding left-turn lanes on Main Street at the town "square," while minimizing the loss of parking.

Mayor James E. Hoover initially met with the SHA in early March to discuss the issue, and followed up with a letter asking the agency to look into the possibility of adding the left-turn signals.

Left-turn signals were recently installed for Seton Avenue traffic entering the intersection, and Hoover

would like to see the same done for Main Street.

Improving traffic flow at the Main Street-Seton Avenue intersection has been examined in the past, but some businesses located in and around the "square" opposed losing the parking spaces that would have to be sacrificed to establish wider turning lanes.

Kellie Boulware, SHA spokeswoman, told *The Dispatch* that the agency is looking at a way to address the Main Street turning dilemma "with minor geometric work that would require removing less parking spaces than originally proposed. This option, if we can make it work, would be more palatable."

Proponents of reducing or eliminating parking around the square have pointed out the dangers of cars backing from parking spaces directly into traffic lanes.

Hoover said he was also concerned that vehicles passing each other to make left turns off Main Street could pose a threat to pedestrians. Actually, it is against state law to pass a left-turning vehicle on the right.

Asked about a timeframe for completion of the SHA study, Boulware said, "Our hope is to have a completed proposal to present to the town officials by early fall so they may provide their comments and feedback."

Wastewater collection system suffered one May spill

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The town wastewater collection system, presently undergoing a major overhaul, experienced only one relatively small spill in May.

According to Town Manager David Haller, the system spilled 1,222 gallons of raw sewage on May 11 after the area received 1.9 inches of rain.

The wastewater plant treated an average of 406,000 gallons per day in May. With only 371,242 GPD used by customers, the balance indicates that water entered the system as "wild water," water getting into the system through cracks and breaks, or through unregulated discharges, such as from a business using a private well.

— R. Fulton

EVAC bond issuance given go-ahead

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The board of commissioners unanimously approved the use of the town's bond-issuing capabilities June 19 by the Emmitsburg Volunteer Ambulance Company that will permit the company to borrow \$1.9 million to finance their new headquarters.

EVAC will now be able to take out a tax free, non-profit loan through Farmers & Mechanics Bank. F & M representatives stated that the town would not be held in default, if EVAC were unable to make payments.

The proposed \$1.9 million, 25,895 square foot, two-story ambulance company building will be located on a 4.01-acre tract on Creamery Road.

— R. Fulton

POLICE ACTIVITY

Community pool vandalized

EMMITSBURG, Md. — One or more suspects who broke into the town pool building sometime between June 17 and 18, causing \$1,000 in damages remain at large, according to police and town staff.

Town Building Inspector Frank Henry said that someone cut a hole in the mesh fencing around the pool compound, located at 300 West Lincoln Avenue, and then entered the building which contains changing, showers and game rooms. He said the (stand alone) video games were damaged, and stuffed animal prizes in another game were removed, and some of them were stuffed into a bathroom toilet.

Town staff said the building was found locked after the burglary, suggesting that the vandals had a key. Henry said the locks have been changed since the incident.

County Deputy Troy Angell responded around 10:42 a.m. June 18 to investigate the reported burglary and vandalism after a town worker found the facility had been broken into overnight.

Deputy Jennifer Bailey, spokesperson for the Frederick County Sheriff's Office, said a portion of the chain link fencing had been thrown into the swimming pool, and confirmed that the arcade games and vending machine containing stuffed animals had been damaged. She said there appeared to be no forced entry into the pool building.

County Sergeant Dennis Shoemaker told the board of commissioners at their June 19 meeting that there were some leads into the case. Bailey said that as of June 22 she had not been notified of any arrests, and that the incident is still listed as an open investigation.

Antique Mall hit with graffiti

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The Antique Mall, located off East Lincoln Avenue, was the recent target of graffiti, according to police.

According to Deputy Jennifer Bailey, spokesperson for the Frederick County Sheriff's Office, one or more suspects struck sometime between 10 a.m. June 13 and 10 a.m. June 14, spray painting graffiti onto the east side of the building.

Bailey said the mall estimated the paint damage at about \$500. Police are still investigating the incident.

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BUSINESS

Sign goes up for new Delauter location



-RICHARD D. L. FULTON / THE DISPATCH

Workers erected the new W. F. Delauter & Son sign the end of May at the company's new headquarters on Creamery Way in Emmitsburg East Industrial Park. The firm, currently with 52 employees, officially moved in May 15 after Emmitsburg Glass relocated to its new Creamery Court building. Delauter & Son, originally from Thurmont, had purchased the former glass company building in 2005, leasing it to Emmitsburg Glass until its new facility was completed.

Work begins on new Bollinger headquarters



-RICHARD D. L. FULTON / THE DISPATCH

Work began on May 25 on the Bollingers' new consolidated headquarters on Creamery Way in the Emmitsburg East Industrial Park. The proposed two-story 22,000-square foot building will serve as offices for Bollinger Construction (owned by Josh Bollinger), and South Seton Auto Repair, Bollinger Homes, T&M Crane, all of which Bollinger owns with his wife Lori. The new facility will house approximately 15-20 employees, and is expected to be completed in December.

Allstate opens door on West Main



-RICHARD D. L. FULTON / THE DISPATCH

Mayor James E. Hoover (left) cuts the ribbon on June 30, marking the opening of Rosario Benvengi's (right) new Allstate Insurance office at 306 West Main Street. Benvengi, a former town commissioner, is an exclusive Allstate agent for the area. Emmitsburg was one of a couple of locations being looked at for the new office. "I'm glad I'm in town," Benvengi said. "I'd rather be here."

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LOCAL HISTORY

Moonshine and murder on the mountain

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

THURMONT, Md. — Even with the approach of evening, July 31, 1929, was still a warm day on Catocin Mountain. Two cars drove up the mountain on Route 77, a dirt road leading from Thurmont to Hagerstown.

Six men rode in the cars. Only five would be alive two hours later.

The cars pulled off the side of the road. Frederick County Deputy John Hemp and Lester Hoffman climbed out of one of them.

Although not a deputy, Hoffman was the only one in the group who knew his way through the forest to what an informant had described a week earlier as a "large liquor plant."

This was the Prohibition era in the U.S. and although liquor was illegal, people still craved it. And so others made moonshine in stills hidden on mountains close to farms that supplied the grain needed for the fermentation process.

The five deputies and Hoffman were headed to destroy just such a still, but first they needed to prove the Catocin Mountain operation was making moonshine.

The two men carried a jug as they headed up the winding mountain path. A man sitting atop a large rock alongside the path stood up and blocked their way.

According to *The Frederick Post*, the exchange went like this:

"Where are yuh goin'?" he asked.

"We want to buy some liquor," Hemp said.

"Yuh better git out of here if yuh don't want to git shot," the mountaineer retorted, according to the officers.

Hemp and Hoffman turned around and walked back to the rest of their group. Then, joined by deputies Verner Redmond, William Wertenbaker, William Steiner and Clyde Hauver, they all started toward the still.

"The officers, in attempting to creep up on the small vale in which the still was situated, ascended a winding mountain path, which led abruptly to the scene of the tragedy," reported the newspaper.

Hauver and Redmond led the group. As they neared the still, shots rang out. Hauver fell and the deputies scattered for cover as the moonshiners fired on them, hidden by the underbrush.

The deputies returned fire and the moonshiners retreated.

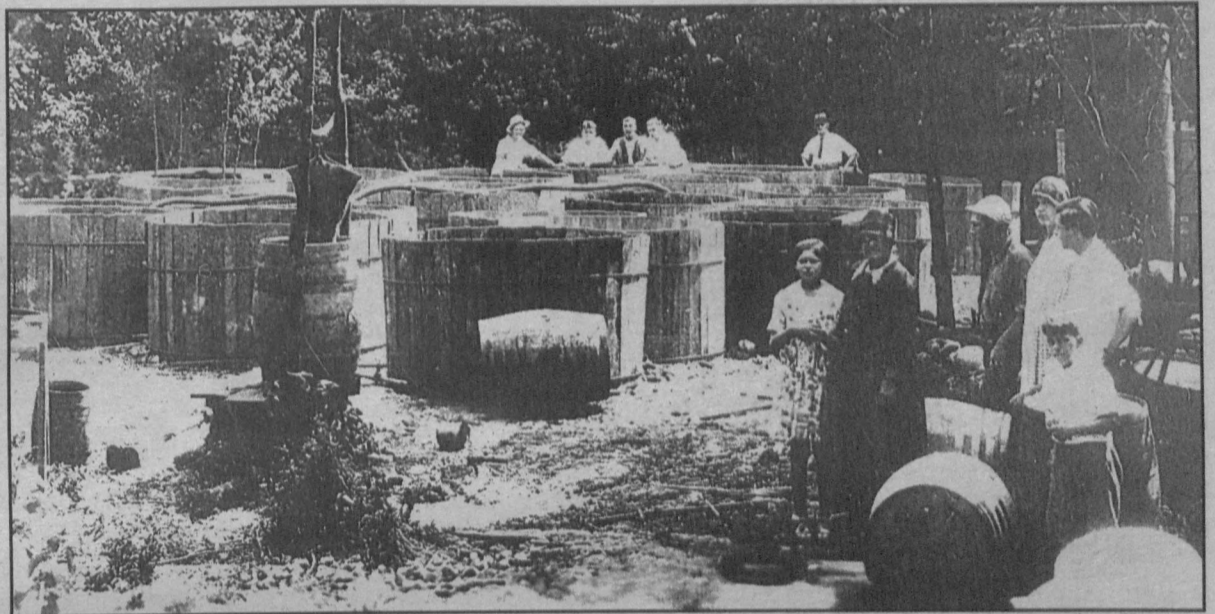
"The sheriff's forces did not immediately realize that Hauver had been mortally wounded and, thinking he had merely tripped over a root, were intent only on the capture of the moonshiners. Counting up their forces after the fusillade of firing, Hauver was missing and, returning to the scene, he was found with his head in a pool of blood and his life was fast ebbing away," the newspaper reported.

George Wireman wrote in a 1993 article, "From one of the statements gathered, it was learned that the bullet that struck Clyde Hauver was indeed intended for Deputy Redmond."

Catocin Mountain Park Ranger Debra Mills said, "Legend has it, he (Hauver) may have been involved in a love triangle and was shot in the back."

Dr. Morris Birely from Thurmont treated Hauver while waiting for an ambulance. The ambulance took Hauver to the hospital in Frederick. "Although everything possible was done for Hauver he never had a chance. When he reached the hospital he had no pulse and was nearly bloodless, so great had been the loss of blood during his time he laid in the mountain trail and during the time necessary to bring him to Frederick," reported the newspaper.

Once Hauver was on his way to Frederick, the remaining deputies used picks and axes to destroy the vats and boiler. The newspaper reported that Blue Blazes Still was "one of the largest and best equipped in Frederick County" It had a boiler from a steam



— PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN KINNAIRD

The Blue Blazes Still operated on Catocin Mountain in 1929 and used the boiler from a steam locomotive to make grain alcohol. Moonshine was dangerous because it wasn't properly aged to reduce some of the hangover effects. Also, many times the alcohol traveled through copper tubing with solder weld, absorbing lead from the welds which poisoned whoever drank it. When Frederick County Sheriff's deputies raided the still in July 1929, they found 25,000 gallons of corn mash in the barrels shown in the picture.

locomotive, 20 500-gallon-capacity wooden vats filled with corn mash, two condensing coils and a cooling box.

Mills said the still produced alcohol so fast that if a man took away a five-gallon bucket of alcohol and dumped it into a vat, by the time he returned to the still, another bucket would be filled and waiting to be removed.

A manhunt started for the moonshiners and eight men were eventually jailed. Charles Lewis was convicted of first-degree murder in the Washington County Circuit Court on March 7, 1930. Governor Theodore McKeldin commuted the sentence in 1950 when Lewis was 65. He died a short time after his release.

Today, the Blue Blazes Still is gone, but the National Park Service has a 50-gallon pot still captured in a Tennessee raid on the same location. NPS uses it for presentations about moonshining in the mountains.


"It's not because we want to glorify an illegal enterprise," said Mills. "It lets people know alcohol

production was an important part of our heritage."

The NPS actually operated the still for demonstrations from 1970 to 1989. It was the first still ever

to operate legally on government property, according to Wireman.

Alcohol production from the still stopped when the NPS lost its license in 1989.

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Greased Pig Chase winners

1-6 Juliana Donahue; 7-11 Graham Nettleton; 12-16 Edward Miller; 17 & up Steve Wivell Jr.

Sack Races - singles

1st place: 1-4 Aidan Hyde; 5-8 Rianna Joy; 9-12 Marie Grenchik; 13-16 Edward Miller; 17 & up John Wright. **2nd place:** 1-4 Taylor Wiles; 5-8 Jacob Lyons; 9-12 Graham Nettleton; 13-16 Alex McKenna; 17 & up Paula Smaldone & John Larrivee

Sack Races - doubles

1st place: 5-8 Michael Larrivee & Joseph Miller; 9-12 Erica Ridenour & Sophia Eureka; 13-16 Edward Miller & Aston Knox; 17 & up John Wright & Gary Suit. **2nd place:** 5-8 Erin Lovelace & Zoë Emory; 9-12 Rose Samples & Katie Sweeney; 13-16 Heather Pozzouli & Laken Grossnickle; 17 & up Jennifer Miller & Amanda Miller

Egg Toss

1st place: Melinda Hobbs & Harrison Cole. **2nd place:** Beth Miller & Jake Wilson

Water Balloon Toss

1st place: Eric Stone & Miriah Stone. **2nd place:** Ken Keith & Tina Winfrey/ Lydia Emory & Bill Emory (tie)

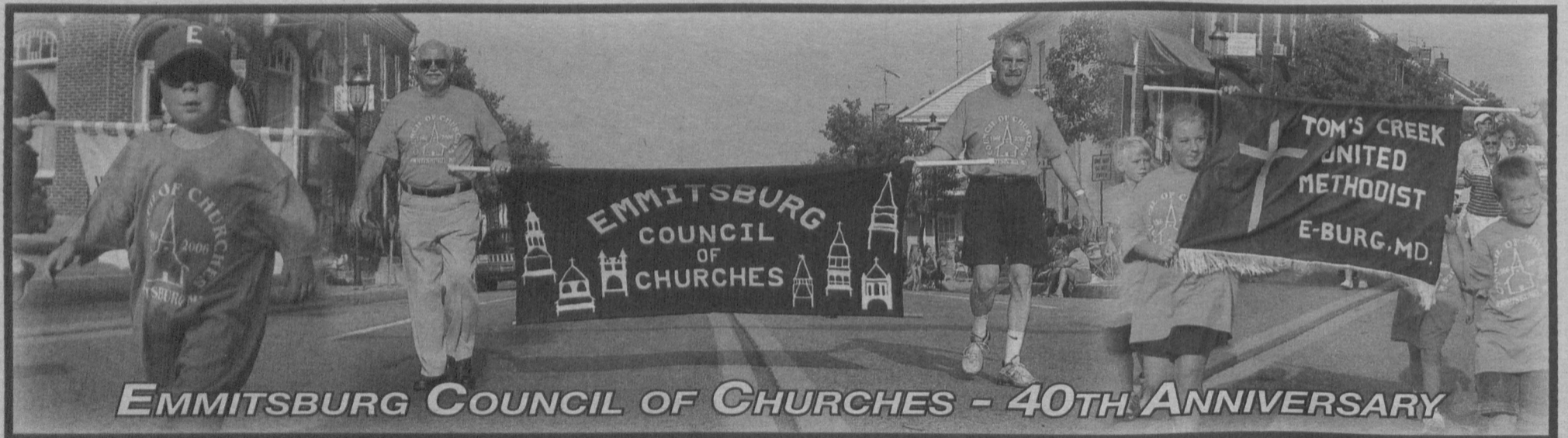
Tug of War

Three age groups: numerous winners received ribbons.

Closest to the Pin winner - Tim Geiger

Pie Eating Contest

1st place: up to 4 Taylor Wiles; 5-8 William Carter; 9-12 Rose Samples; 13-16 Katie Sweeney; 17 & up Roxanne Crampton. **2nd place:** up to 4 Katelyn Dawson; 5-8 Pete Warthen; 9-12 William Miller, Nickie Hollinger, & Josiah Julian; 13-16 Danielle Pozzouli; 17 & up Becca Goetz



-Photos by RAYMOND BUCHHEISTER / THE DISPATCH

Emmitsburg Library kicks off centennial celebration



Katie Warthen, Grand Marshall of the Emmitsburg Community Day parade, worked as the Emmitsburg branch librarian from August 1962-June 1999.

BY NICOLE M. BELANGER
Contributing Writer

As the oldest public library in the county, Emmitsburg Library officials proudly kicked off a six-month centennial celebration on July 1 with all the fanfare.

Complete with fireworks, a parade, keynote speeches and

a children's art contest, the 100th anniversary celebration was a big one, even though the library doesn't officially turn 100 until Dec. 2.

"A centennial is a super, super event and we decided we couldn't just have one celebration," said branch manager Joan Fisher.

The celebration called "Hear All About It: Emmitsburg Library Turns 100 Years Old", was held as part of the annual Lions Club-sponsored Community Day.

After a parade, which featured the award-winning Frederick County Public Library dance group, "The Dewey Decimal Dancers," and the local bookmobile, Fisher was the keynote speaker.

She recounted how the library began in 1906 as a small venue in a storefront along Main Street where patrons paid \$1 per year or 10 cents per month to check out two books at a time. Amazingly, the library had customer-friendly hours even then

and was open evenings and Saturdays to accommodate working families. The library still has these hours, Fisher pointed out.

Since then, the library has moved around town until it finally settled three years ago in its present renovated location at the Emmitsburg Community Center. It also operated independently until it joined the county's library system in the 1960s, Fisher said.

Besides the parade and speech, the day also included announcing the winners of the children's art contest. Fisher received more than 60 entries for the contest which included pictures and small sculptures around the theme, "100 Years of Discovery."

For the next several months, Fisher plans to hold other events honoring the big anniversary, and then on Dec 2, a big-scale celebration will be held.

"Since that is the actual day, that will be the big celebration," Fisher said.

Watermelon Eating
1st place: up to 4 John Warthen; 5-8 Michael Donahue & Cody Moody; 9-12 Nikki Hollinger & Rose Samples; 13-16 Katie Sweeney & Aaron Ott; 17 & up Gary Suit. **2nd place:** up to 4 Mary Larrivee; 5-8 Pete Warthen; Tyler Compton & Zoë Emory; 9-12 Laken Grossnickle & Eric Stone; 13-16 Alex McKenna; 17 & up Elizabeth Hoover.

Casting
1st place trophy: up to 6 Matthias Buchheister; 5-8 Jude O'Donnell; 9-12 Matthew McKenna; 13-16 Glenn Goins; 17 & up Brian Glass. **2nd place ribbon:** 13-16 Alex McKenna.

Horseshoe Pitch
1st place: Chris Finneyfrock & Walt Kwaltar. **2nd place:** Vince Reaver & Dave Stitely. **3rd place:** Gary Hoffmaster & Brian Reaver.

Emmitsburg Student Art Contest Winners

Savings bonds were awarded as prizes in each division: 1st place \$1,000; 2nd place \$500; 3rd place \$200; Honorable mention \$100.

Division 1 (grades K-3)

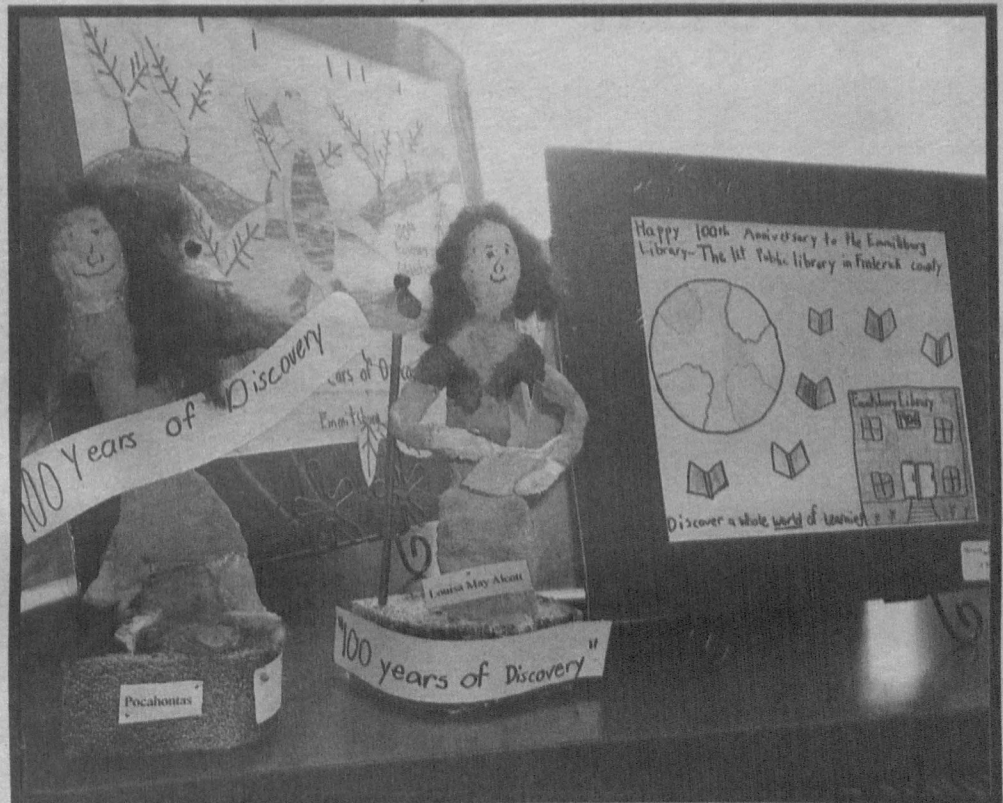
1st place: Rianna Joy (2nd grade, Mother Seton School)
2nd place: Claire B. Vietri (3rd grade, Mother Seton School)
3rd place: Katelyn Bradshaw (1st grade, Emmitsburg Elementary School)

Honorable mention:
 Caitlin Woodson (3rd grade, Mother Seton School), Erica Orndorff (3rd grade, Mother Seton School), and Caroline Mace (kindergarten, Mother Seton School)

Division 2 (grades 4-7)

1st place: Rosalyn Smaldone (6th grade, Mother Seton School)
2nd place: Joseph Crouse (7th grade, Mother Seton School)
3rd place: Natalie Monacelli (6th grade, Mother Seton School)

Honorable mention:
 Caroline Ruppert (7th grade, Mother Seton School), Jennifer Wivell (7th grade, Mother Seton School),



-RICHARD D. L. FULTON / THE DISPATCH

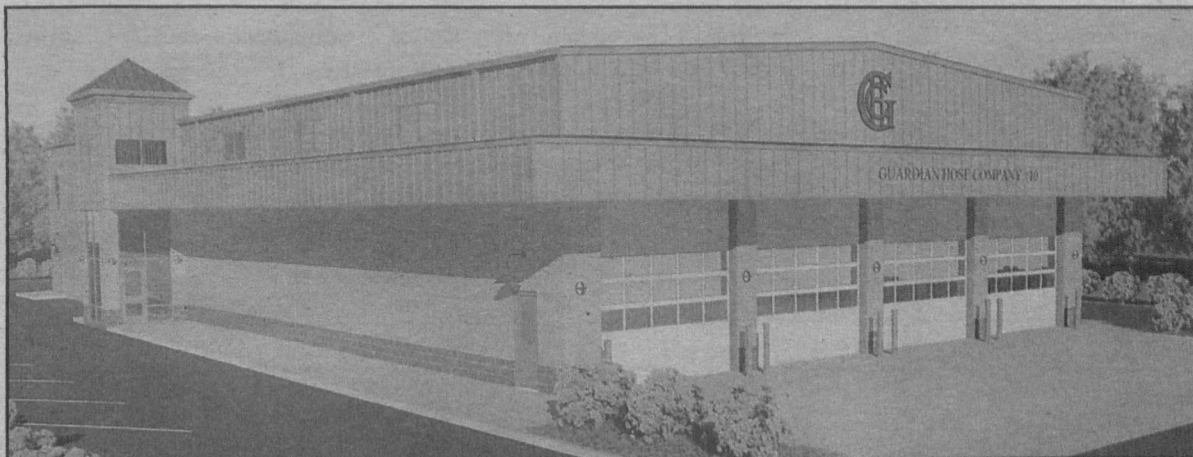
Renee Eckert (4th grade, Mother Seton School), Molly Devilbis (7th grade, Mother Seton School), Daniel Goldsborough (7th grade, Mother Seton School), and Abby Riley (4th grade, Mother Seton School)

Division 3 (grades 8-12)

1st place: Caroline Marie Shields (8th grade, Mother Seton School)
2nd place: Kristyn Bradshaw (11th grade, Catocin High School)

Guardian ceremony paves way for new facility

Scheduled for January 2007 completion



-RICHARD D. L. FULTON / THE DISPATCH

Members of the Guardian Hose Company held a fire station decommissioning ceremony July 2 for their old 1950s firehouse, followed by a groundbreaking ceremony (left) for their new building (above). Government and fire personnel participating in the groundbreaking included (from left to right) Guardian President Wayne Stackhouse, county commissioners John R. Lovell, Jr. (behind Stackhouse) and John L. Thompson, Jr. (far right), and Thurmont Board of Commissioners President Martin A. Burns (second from right). Also attending but not shown was county Commissioner Michael L. Cady. Guardian Hose officers remove the old cornerstone from the de-commissioned firehouse.

Guardian building photo courtesy of Guardian Hose Company

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RELIGION

St. John's observes 150 years of service

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

SABILLASVILLE, Md. — Though St. John's United Church of Christ celebrated 150 years serving the spiritual needs of Sabillasville residents, the church has not been without its struggles over the years.

Plans for the church began Sept. 9, 1854 when a committee formed to see how much money they could raise. In two weeks \$725.50 had been raised, and two weeks later the total was \$950. The committee purchased land from John Coon for the church.

"It is strange that it has so long been deferred; for though it is now one hundred years since the valley was first settled; yet this is the first church property in the valley though the people have all the time been churchgoers," wrote Rev. Henry Harbaugh in *The German Reformed Messenger* in 1856.

The original church building was brick, 40 feet wide, 55 feet long and 15 feet high with double doors in the front. Women entered through the left door and sat on that side of the church; men entered

through the right door and sat on that side.

"According to reliable tradition, the bricks for the church were burned from native clay in the community and were carried from the farm on which Mr. Glenn Willard now lives to the church site, a distance of about three-quarters of a mile," wrote Merle Upton Fox in his 1958 thesis, "A History of the Sabillasville Reformed Charge."

The church's 140th anniversary program also notes, "The bricks were carried in burlap aprons made from burlap bags, they were carried so that they would not chip or break."

Plans were made to consecrate the church in June 1856. The final cost was \$1,550.

"To us it was a matter of surprise that so good a church could be erected for that sum, but we found on inquiry that a good deal had been done gratis in work, material and hauling," Harbaugh wrote.

Though a bargain, the final price was still \$550 more than had been raised. Church members set out to raise half of the debt by the consecration date. They covered the debt and raised enough to build a fence around the church.

St. John's grew, but in the 1920s membership fell from about 65 to

a low of 19 members. On Sept. 8, 1921, the announcement was made that services would end due to a lack of funds and attendance.

"They had no pastor and had not elected elders or deacons for more than six years," wrote Fox.

Rev. F.F. Bahner rescued the church, agreeing to serve as a supply pastor for what was collected in the weekly offerings. He served from 1922 to 1927.

The church grew once again. Robert Bittner, Jr. remembers the church as a child. "We had big congregations that filled the church every Sunday," he said.

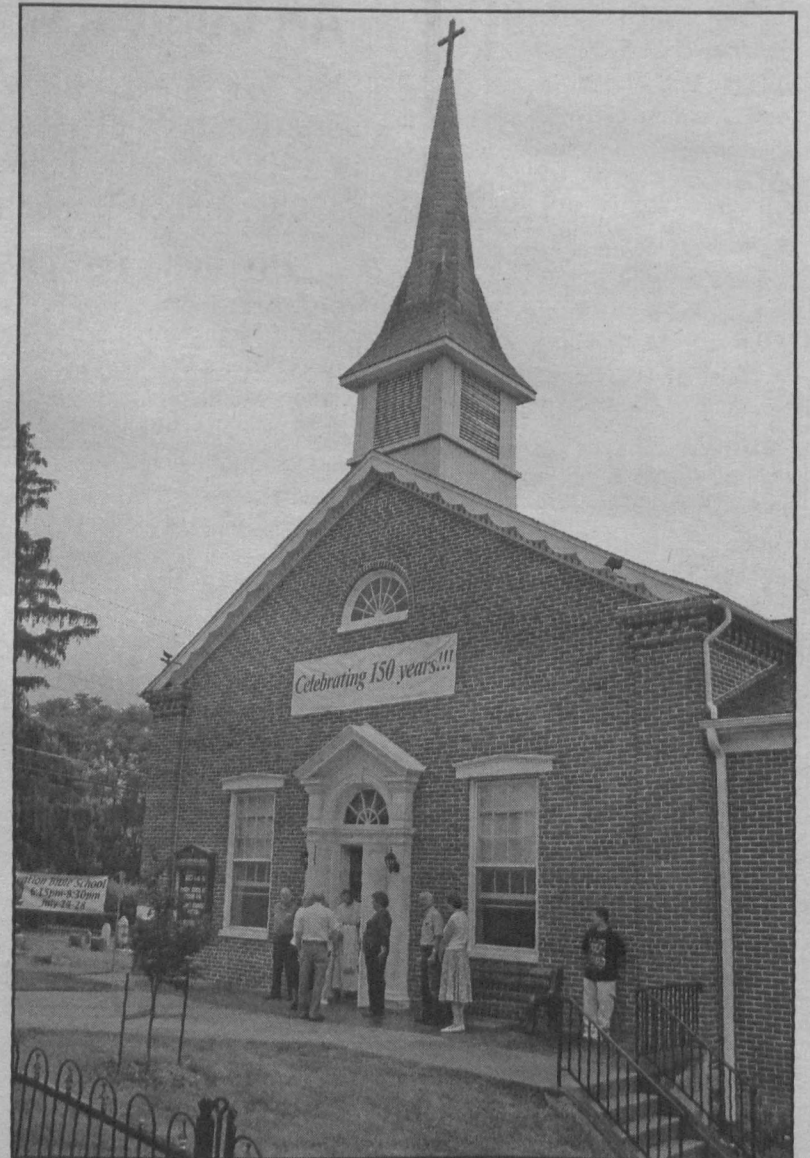
Current pastor Janet Comings said weekly service attendance is between 45 and 55 people. Comings has been St. John's pastor since 2000, and is also pastor at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Sabillasville.

"I was a rental with an option to buy," Comings said of her experience coming to the church.

She conducted the June 25 service concluding the 150th anniversary of the church. The rain paused long enough for those who attended the service to pose for a group picture in front of the church, reminiscent of older pictures of former congregations.

During the service, James Bittner talked about how the church had restored a single shingle to the roof, recognizing the beginning of the 150th year.

"We were not satisfied until a man lift was acquired and the shingle was restored to its rightful place protecting the steeple and belfry from the elements," Bittner



- ROBERT A. ROSENSTEEL SR. / THE ROSENSTEEL STUDIO

St. John's United Church of Christ in Sabillasville church observes 150 years of service to the community.

said. "I cannot help but think of the similarity between our church and our congregation. If one piece of the congregation is missing or in need of restoration, like the church structure, we are not whole and complete and repairs and maintenance must be performed through assistance, understanding and prayer."

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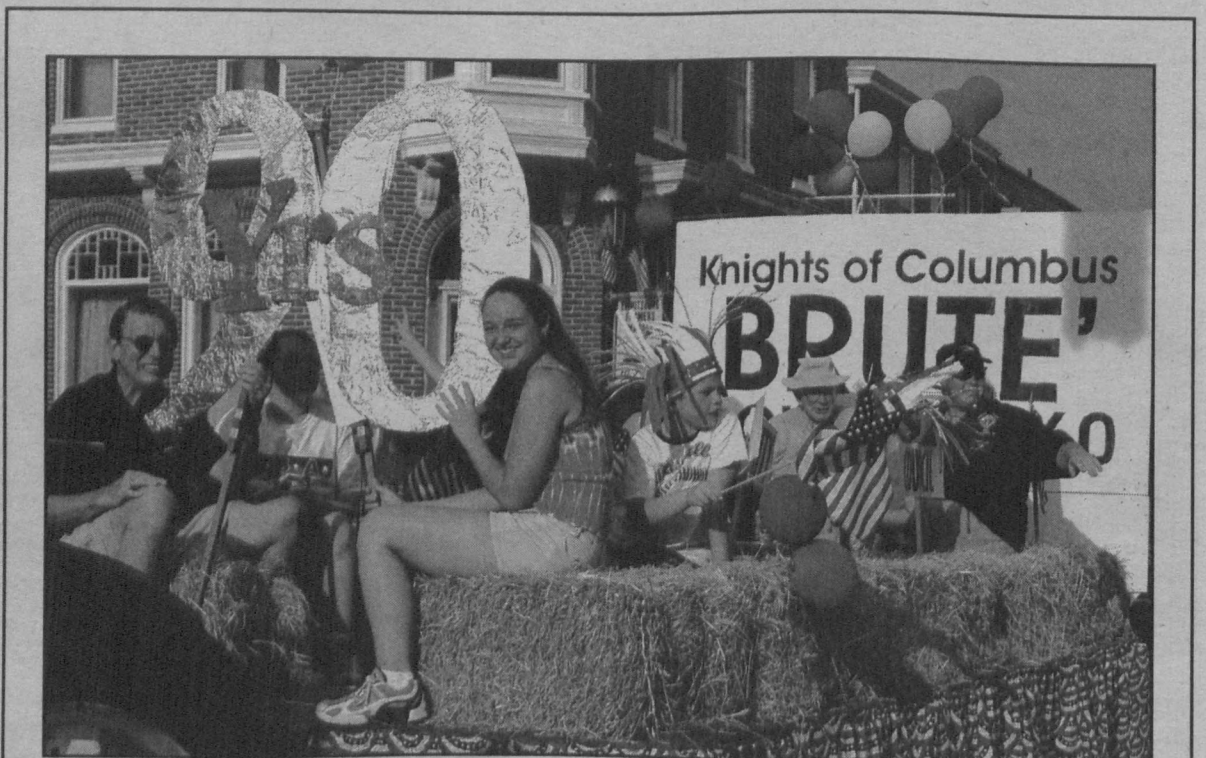
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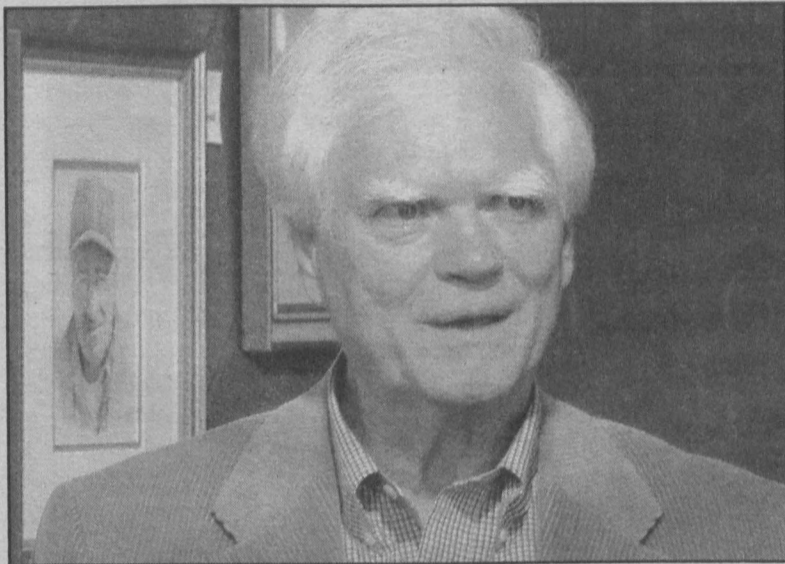


-RAYMOND BUCHHEISTER / THE DISPATCH

Knights of Columbus Bruté Council No. 1860 celebrates 90 years of service to the Emmitsburg area this year, shown here in their float in the Emmitsburg Community Day parade.

RELIGION

Emmitsburg Presbyterian pastor Rev. Ben Jones retires



Reverend R. Benjamin Jones

BY SUSAN ALLEN
Contributing Writer

The Rev. R. Benjamin "Ben" Jones first visited the Presbyterian Church pulpits in Taneytown and Emmitsburg in October 1981. The two congregations had a joint charge, but no pastor, and Jones had agreed

to fill in for one Sunday. He had recently completed 13 years as full-time minister to a large Hagerstown church and was "patching together" a new career as a teacher and artist.

One Sunday became two and then three, and soon Jones agreed to become their "permanent supply" pastor on a part-time basis.

"The people in Emmitsburg and Taneytown are good people," he says, and over the years they became "good friends, a family."

In 1989 he also married a member of the Emmitsburg congregation, the former Rebecca "Becky" Hayes.

Jones' schedule kept him from participating in Emmitsburg Council of Churches meetings. "I told (the other pastors) that whatever you can't do, I'll do." The "whatever" often meant delivering the message at the community's annual Easter sunrise service held at the Grotto of Lourdes.

Parishioners and friends at Emmitsburg Presbyterian often comment on the quality of his sermons. William "Bo" Cadle and his wife Jean began attending the church about 13 years ago, and soon invited their neighbor Pat Howes Bell to join them. Bell was inspired to join both church choirs "because his messages gave me so much to think about."

Cadle describes the messages as "artful ... gently challenging us to grow in grace. Jones says "It's just

something I do. The Bible, especially the Old Testament, is all about stories, stories about human beings ... Jesus was a storyteller. I try to put Biblical ideas into the language that people really speak ... (and) create an image ... turn the ear (of the listener) into an eye."

Jones is also a well-regarded watercolorist, interested in art even as a child growing up in East Baltimore. For many years he taught art classes at Hagerstown Community College, retiring two years ago, still occasionally accepting guest lecture requests.

He paints rural Maryland and Amish scenes, including farm animals, and other subjects. Jones

donates paintings regularly to benefit organizations, including the Maryland Symphony Orchestra and the community college. His wife frames all his paintings and oversees his art shows.

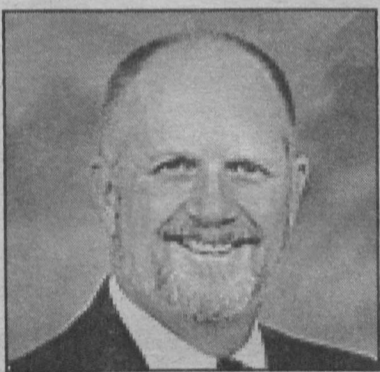
His final Sunday service was June 25. Jones received various gifts from the Emmitsburg congregation at a farewell luncheon on June 18, and a small church library was started in his honor.

"He is greatly loved and will be greatly missed," says Bell. "But his messages linger on in remembrance," adds Cadle.

Jones plans to devote more time to his painting, traveling and spending time with family and friends.

Rev. Bill Warehime leaves Tom's Creek United Methodist

BY SUSAN ALLEN
Contributing Writer



Rev. William Warehime

The congregation of Tom's Creek United Methodist Church said farewell to Rev. William "Pastor Bill" Warehime on Sunday, June 18. On July 1, Rev. Warehime will begin service as minister with Bethel United Methodist Church in Chewsville, Washington County, Md.

Many church members and


friends gathered to worship and thank him for his ministry, and stayed to extend their good-byes at a luncheon in the social hall. Rev. Warehime was minister to the rural church, located east of Emmitsburg, for six years, which he said "is about average" for clergy in the denomination.

From the beginning of his tenure at Tom's Creek, Pastor Bill was very involved in the Emmitsburg community and beyond. He was active with the Emmitsburg Council of Churches, serving the past two years as its vice president. In that capacity he worked very closely with the Emmitsburg Food Bank board on their building project, and volunteered alongside members of his congregation as they worked on the building on East Main Street. At a recent meeting the council presented him with a plaque recognizing his efforts with that ecumenical group. Council president Bill Wivell attended the June 18 service and spoke to the

congregation about Rev. Warehime's work with the council.

Rev. Warehime was also chaplain with the Vigilant Hose Company, a volunteer chaplain at Gettysburg Hospital, and a designated chaplain with the disaster response teams at Carroll Hospital Center in Westminster and Frederick Memorial Hospital.

Pastor Bill's wife Linda, also an ordained United Methodist minister, will continue as associate pastor at Brook Hill United Methodist Church near Yellow Springs. On the same date Rev. Judy Kelly, formerly associate pastor at Community United Methodist, Crofton, Md., will begin her pastorate at Tom's Creek.




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Hero's 5K Run/Walk

Location: National Emergency Training Center (Emmitsburg, MD)
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Time: 7:45 - 8:45 a.m. Registration/Check-in 9:00 am Run/Walk
Entry Fee: \$15.00 - Before Aug 1 - \$20.00 - After Aug 1/Day of Event

Official Entry Form for the Hero's 5K Run/Walk
 (You may also register at www.active.com)

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____
 Zip Code: _____ Phone: _____

Gender: Male Female
 Age Category: 12 & Under; 13-15; 16-19; 20-29; 30-39; 40-49; 50-59; 60 & Over
 T-Shirt Size: Child: L; Adult: S; M; L; XL; XXL
 T-Shirts cannot be guaranteed for entries received after August 1, 2006
 Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ (NO REFUNDS AFTER AUG 1, 2006)

IMPORTANT: READ WAIVER BEFORE SIGNING

WAIVER OF RESPONSIBILITY: In consideration of the acceptance of my entry, I, for myself, my executors, administrators and assigns, do hereby release and discharge the National Fallen Firefighter Foundation, The National Emergency Training Center, all event sponsors, the volunteer medical, radio and support staff, race organizers and their insurers, representatives, agents, employees, contractors, successors, and assigns from any and all claims for damages, demands, and causes of action arising from or out of my participation in the aforementioned run. I attest and verify that I have full knowledge of the risks involved in this event and I am physically fit and sufficiently trained to participate in this event, and that I understand the inherent dangers of distance running over public highways. I also give my permission to allow my name or picture to be used in any official document, newspaper, broadcast, telecast or other account of the event without limitation and without compensation to me.

Participant Signature: _____
 Parent Signature (If participant in under the age of 18) _____

If you have any questions, please contact herosrun@earthlink.net

Mail completed entry form to: Hero's Run c/o Graham Johnson, 8 Novice Run Trail, Fairfield, PA 17320

EDUCATION

Fairfield senior's project will benefit National Fallen Firefighters Foundation

BY SUSAN ALLEN
 Contributing Writer

Graham Johnson, a rising senior at Fairfield High School, has selected an ambitious undertaking for his senior graduation project. He is organizing a 5-kilometer (3.1 miles) run/walk on Aug. 12 as a fundraising event for the nonprofit National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, based in Emmitsburg. He hopes this first race will be a financial success for the foundation and will become an annual event.

Johnson has received approval from the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Fire Academy and the Daughters of Charity to set the race course on their properties. The race will start at the national training center,

move through the Provincial House grounds to South Seton Avenue, and finish at the fire academy. Maryland State Police will block off South Seton during the race.

Johnson also designed the race registration form and a poster. Those materials have been posted at the fire academy and other locations, and sent to the Frederick County Fire and Rescue Association for distribution to fire companies throughout the county.

Terry Gladhill, Johnson's mother, works at the fire academy and her connection helped influence his project decision. She hopes academy students will support the event. Health, fitness and conditioning, and safety are integral to the on-campus programs.

"Our firefighters are invariably

generous, and very community-minded," she said, and the local communities are in turn very supportive of firefighters.

Friends from work have offered advice and help with the race. Johnson has enlisted high school friends who "either want to run or help out," and on race day, his mother adds, everyone in the family "who's breathing will be helping out too!"

Johnson is seeking race sponsors as well as runners and walkers. For more information, contact herosrun@earthlink.net. Information is also available through the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation Web site, www.firehero.org.

Editor's Note: The Hero's Walk registration form is also included on this page of The Dispatch.

Community Foundation awards scholarships

from the Michael C. Snyder Memorial Fund

Megan Conrad of Thurmont is the first recipient of a scholarship from The Michael C. Snyder Memorial Fund. A 2003 Frederick High School graduate, Conrad is working toward a dual certification in early childhood education and special education at Mount Saint Mary's University. Her professional goal is a teaching career, with the ability to teach special needs students as well. She previously volunteered as a group leader at the YMCA, working with elementary students.

Michael Snyder was a talented writer and creative artist who planned to become a teacher, particularly teaching art to children. Snyder's life was claimed in a work-related accident on July 19, 2004 at the age of 28. His parents, Mary and David Snyder of Jefferson, established the fund with The Community Foundation of Frederick County to award scholarships and grants in their son's name.

from the New Forest Society Scholarship Fund

Maria Stevens of Woodsboro is the first recipient of a scholarship from The New Forest Society Scholarship Fund.

Stevens is a 2006 Walkersville High School graduate who plans to attend Butler Community College in Kansas to major in agricultural communications. Her goal is to become a representative for an agricultural-based business.

Founded by The New Forest Society, Inc., this fund awards annual scholarships to Frederick County residents who preferably are pursuing careers in the environmental sciences. The New Forest Society is dedicated to protecting natural resources in northern Frederick County, including the watershed area, and to promoting reforestation programs, conservation efforts, and environmental education, research and outreach services.

To learn more about the Community Foundation, visit the Web site, www.cffredco.org, or call (301) 695-7660.

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EDUCATION

Meet Joanna Stewart, a veterinarian in the making

BY SUSAN ALLEN
Contributing Writer

Joanna Stewart, named last month as University of Maryland College of Agriculture and Natural Resources outstanding senior (see *The Dispatch*, June 1), began her career path toward veterinary medicine in tenth grade. Her parents, Ron and Annie, and younger brother Joshua moved from Carroll County to their farm on Sixes Road outside Emmitsburg when she was entering sixth grade. Joanna was already active showing sheep, swine and Red Angus cattle with the Rolling Clovers 4-H club. She went to middle school and high school in Walkersville and joined FFA at Walkersville High.

From the beginning, Stewart has focused on becoming a large-animal veterinarian, a "food animal practitioner" as the profession terms it. Dr. Sarah Link, whose practice is based in Thurmont, "has been a

great role model for me." Stewart has "shadowed" Link in her practice, assisting with supplies and records while watching her work. She was a summer intern with a large-animal research facility in Reisterstown in 2005 and is working there again this summer. Probably her most interesting professional "preview" was working with other University of Maryland animal science students in the livestock "birthing center" at the Maryland State Fair. "It's a big attraction for the fair," she says, and she was interviewed by a Baltimore television station while assisting with a delivery.

In August Stewart and her newly-adopted dog, a boxer she has named Riley, will move to Blacksburg, Va., home of the Virginia-Maryland Regional Veterinary College. She's only four years of study and one licensing examination away from her goal of a practice back in Frederick County.



Joanna Stewart, future vet, shown here with one of the Red Angus cattle she showed with the Rolling Clovers 4-H club. - Photo courtesy of the family

Catoctin High School reunion planned - seeking sponsors

Catoctin High School Class of 2001 will hold its five-year reunion on Aug. 26 at the Thurmont American Legion from 6 p.m. to midnight. Tickets will be \$25 to include the classmate and one guest. There will be a social hour, dinner, dancing and more. Please RSVP no later than Aug. 7.

The reunion committee is seeking sponsors for the event. Individuals, businesses and organizations are welcome to participate. All sponsors will be announced at the reunion, and advertised in the program. Please send donations by Aug. 14 to CHS Class of 2001, c/o Penny Stonesifer, 1002 Flat Run Court, Emmitsburg, MD 21727.

Please RSVP to Penny (Eyler) Stonesifer at (301) 447-6864 no later than Aug. 7, or call her with any donation questions by Aug. 14.

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Arts & Entertainment

LOOKING AHEAD

Thurmont Thespians present "Teenages"



Appearing in "Teenages"

Top row (L to R): Ashley Russo, Ben Mathis, Emily Johnson, Jimmy Brown, Sean Collins and Becky Sees. Middle row (L to R): Matthew Fox, Cody Lowe, Shelby Ledger, Nathan Fox, Sara Johnson. Bottom row (L to R): Maura Winston, Angel Collins, Heather Kokoski, Kim Krouse, Megan Davis, Rachel Johnson Missing: Rachel Burkhardt, Becca Corbell, Elijah Miller, Lilah Moss, Bridie Winston, and Elaine Schray.

This year the Thurmont Thespians are tackling a world premiere for their annual teen theatre musical. Kurt Johnson of Waynesboro, Pa., has written and composed this rollicking musical entitled "Teenages," in which a young man sleeping and lazing his days away gets caught up in a scheme to rob the local hardware store. The repercussions are fast and furious as the characters of Good and Temptation vie for his attention. The Jury is involved in the outcome as secrets of the past come to light. In years past, Kurt composed the music for "Winnie the Pooh" and "Charlotte's Web" for The Thurmont Thespians.

Twenty-two youngsters will be on stage at The American Legion July 20-23 and then again July 27-30 as the Legion rings with the music of "Big Box Blues" and "Straight and Narrow." Kurt and Mary Beth Johnson's three daughters, Sarah, Emily and Rachel, will perform, making this very much a family affair. Matthew and Nathan Fox and Bridie and Maura Winston of Thurmont will perform with Thespians newcomer Megan Davis, also of Thurmont. Sean and Angel Collins, Becky Sees, and Lilah Moss of Frederick will also appear in the production.

Jimmy Brown of Waynesboro will play the hapless Jay, assailed by Good and Temptation at every turn; while Sean Collins, Matt Fox, and Sarah Johnson do their best to lead him astray. Elijah Miller, from Florida, appears again in Thurmont, this time as the owner of the hardware store, Ben Hopkins. Becca Corbell of Fairfield plays Jay's girlfriend who tries to get him straightened

out, aided by her friends played by Ashley Russo and Shelby Ledger. Rounding out the cast are Thurmont Thespian veterans, Kim Krouse, Heather Kokoski, Rachel Burkhardt, Ben Mathis, Cody Lowe and Elaine Schray. This is an ensemble piece and most of the youngsters play multiple roles.

The production is directed by Beth Royer Watson with Eileen Winston as musical director and Jennifer Buchheister as choreographer. Mary Lou Royer returns to the area and the Thurmont Thespians. She will do costuming and help with set decoration and coordination.

The Thurmont Thespians are an outreach to the community of St John's Lutheran Church, teaching all phases of theatre to any youngsters who sign up and promising each of them an on-stage role. Participants will also display their own artwork in the lobby in an ongoing plan to fuse visual arts with theatre presentation.

As in the past, any profits from the production will be donated to a local charity. This year the Thespians have joined with the American Legion in sponsoring boys' camp participants at Camp Westmar in Foxville. This program, serving Carroll, Frederick and Washington counties, enables local boys ages 9-12 to experience two weeks of nature lore, patriotism, and non-denominational services at the lovely 75-acre Legion camp in Foxville.

Reservations: Call Becky Urian at (301) 271-7613. Tickets: \$7 for Thursday evenings and Sunday matinees; \$10 for Friday and Saturday nights.

For Children

July 28-30, Aug. 4-6 - "Seussical the Musical." 2 p.m., 7 p.m., High-energy musical that benefits the Adams County Arts Council and Hanover Public Library's Youth Services Division. Tickets \$10-12, New Oxford High School auditorium, Gettysburg, (717) 334-5006, info@adamsarts.org.

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

Concerts

Saturdays in July, August - "Summer Concert Series." 7 p.m. Free outdoor musical performances in Baker Park's Bandshell, 121 N. Bentz St., Frederick, (301) 694-2489. www.celebratefrederick.com.

July 9 - Concert on the Lawn. 6 p.m. St. John's Lutheran Church, 8619 Blacks Mill Road, Creagerstown, Md. Featuring The Blue Grass Chapel Band. Bring your own lawn chairs. Food and drinks available.

July 8, 15 - Candlelight at Christ Church. 8 p.m. Songs and stories of a Civil War Hospital. Evangelical Lutheran Church, Gettysburg, (717) 334-5212.

July 14 - The Basement Coffee House. Live music by David Peterson on the acoustic guitar and great fellowship. Free snacks and coffee. Elias Lutheran Church, 100W North Ave., Emmitsburg, (301) 447-6239.

July 16 - Thurmont Summer Concert Series. 6 p.m. Westminster Municipal Band presents a special tribute to John Philip Sousa. Bring lawn chairs/blankets for seating. Sponsored by the Commissioners of Thurmont and the Thurmont Park Commission. Thurmont Memorial Park, East Main Street, Thurmont.

July 16 - "Sound of Music in Apple Haven." 4 p.m. Classical concert and Bavarian dinner featuring the American Virtuosi and international musicians from Asia, Europe, and America. Benefits Adams County Arts Council and Save Our Rural Heritage. Tickets \$15-25. Dr. Charles Borowsky home near York Springs (717) 528-4776 or (717) 334-5006.

July 16 - Westminster Municipal Band. A Tribute to John Philip

Sousa. 6 p.m. Thurmont Memorial Park.

July 23 - The Rohrersville Band, 6 p.m. Thurmont Memorial Park.

July 29 - Home Comfort Blue Grass Band. Sponsored by the Emmitsburg Library and Parks and Recreation committee. 6-8 p.m. Thurmont Memorial Park.

Stage

June 16-Sept. 3 - "For the Glory: Civil War Musical." Show times vary. The acclaimed Broadway musical covers a wide range of emotions including: The Union and Confederate armies singing of their excitement as they prepare to go into war, defending their respective causes; and slaves singing of their pain and misery as they are sold as property. Tickets, \$20-45. Majestic Theater, 25 Carlisle Street, Gettysburg (717) 677-7514.

July 5-16 - "Incorruptible." 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. Tickets, \$23-30. Totem Pole Playhouse, (888) 805-7056, www.totempoleplayhouse.org.

June 16-Aug. 26 - "Fiddler on the Roof." In the little village of Anatevka, Tevye, a poor dairyman, tries to instill in his five daughters the traditions of his tight-knit Jewish community in the face of changing social thought and growing anti-Semitism in Czarist Russia. Tickets \$13-38. Way Off Broadway Dinner Theater, 5 Willowdale Drive, Willowtree Plaza, Frederick, (301) 662-6600, www.wayoffbroadway.com.

July 20-30 - "Teenages." 2 and 8 p.m. Thurmont Thespians' 9th annual Summer Teen Musical Theatre presents an original musical written and composed by Kurt Johnson. Profits will be sponsor boys' camps at Camp Westmar, Foxville. All tickets \$8. Thurmont American Legion Auditorium, 8 Park Lane, Thurmont, (301) 271-7613 or reservations@thurmonththespians.org.

July 20-29 - The Musical Theatre Factory presents "Hedwig and the Angry Inch." 8 p.m. A story about a punk rock girl and her journeys. Frederick Cultural Arts Center, 15 West Patrick Street, Frederick. (301) 620-2122,

themusicaltheatrefactory.com.

July 21-30 - "Gypsy." 3 and 8 p.m. Mama Rose, a domineering stage mother, she sees her older and less talented daughter Louise become the 1930s classy burlesque queen, Gypsy Rose Lee. The show includes songs and sass like "Let me Entertain You" and the "Everything's Comin' Up Roses." Tickets \$6-18. The Fredericktowne Players, Tuscarora High School, 5312 Ballenger Creek Pike, Frederick. (240)-315-3855 or www.fredericktowneplayers.org.

Festivals

July 15 - Adams County Irish Festival. 10:30 a.m. - 8 p.m. A festival offering Irish bands, music, dance, food, gifts, crafts, and living history encampments by late 19th and early 20th Century groups. Proceeds benefit the Children's Friendship Project for Northern Ireland and the National History Library and Museum (to be built in Gettysburg). Gettysburg Moose Park, (717) 632-8627.

July 21-23 - Frederick Blues Festival. 8 p.m. on Friday, July 21 at the Weinberg Center for the Arts. 1 p.m. on July 22 and noon on July 23 at Carroll Creek Park Amphitheater, 301-698-5300. Celebrate the 10th Anniversary of Frederick's premier music festival featuring renowned national, regional and local artists. Local band Blues on Board kicks off the show on the 22nd.

Galleries, Exhibits, Art Shows

July 8, 15, 22 - Art at the Farmers Market. All-day event. Local artists will display their work at the farmers market in downtown Gettysburg. Adams County Arts Council.

July 15 to Aug. 31 - Frederick's Camera Clique Photographic Competition. Frederick Community College, Mary Condon Hodgson Art Gallery, 7932 Opossumtown Pike, Frederick. (301) 846-2513. www.frederick.edu.

July 25 - 25th Annual Arts & Crafts Fair. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. More than 200 craftspeople and artists will display and sell a wide variety of handcrafted items including: wood carvings, custom leather, folk art, baskets, needlework, pottery, stained glass, wreaths, furniture, walking sticks, silk creations, stuffed animals, and much more. Caledonia State Park, 40 Rocky Mountain Road, Fayetteville, Pa., (717) 352-2161.

OBITUARIES

Elwood Pittinger

Mr. Elwood Washington Pittinger, 84, of Smithsburg, Md., died June 12 at the Waynesboro Hospital, Waynesboro, Pa.

Born Feb. 28, 1922, in Rocky Ridge, Md., he was a son of the late John Harvey Milton and Carrie Marie Hahn Pittinger.

Surviving are four sisters, Cora Setherley, LaRue Thomas, Hilda Wilson and Mary Catherine Pittinger; two brothers, Harvey M. Pittinger Jr. and Guy E. Pittinger; and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services and interment in St. John's Cemetery, Creagerstown, will be private and at the convenience of the family.

Nathan P. Ryder

Nathan Patrick Ryder, 22, of Emmitsburg, Md., died suddenly June 20, 2006, in Ocean City, Md.

Born Jan. 24, 1984, in Gettysburg, Pa., he was a son of Dennis P. Ryder and Terry M. Orndorff Ryder, both of Emmitsburg, Md.

Ryder worked as a mason tender for Borderline Construction, and also worked for his mother at The Palms Restaurant, Emmitsburg, Md. He was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Emmitsburg.

Surviving, in addition to his parents, is one brother, Chris Ryder; one sister, Mandy Ryder; maternal grandparents Clarence and Louise Orndorff, and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Funeral services will be at the convenience of the family.

Agnes Topper

Agnes A. Wivell Topper, 93, of Emmitsburg, Md., died on June 17, 2006 at St. Catherine's Nursing Center, Emmitsburg, Md.

Born Oct. 10, 1912, she was a daughter of the late Joseph Francis (Frank) Wivell and Mary Lingg Wivell.

Surviving are four daughters, Frances (Bonnie) Lingg, Jean Orendorff, Diana Papini and Pam Cool; and one son, James Topper; 21 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; one great-grand-grandson.

She was a cook for the Daughters of Charity and taught at St. Euphemia's Grade School and St. Joseph's High School, and did volunteer work at the Seton Thrift Shop.

Funeral services were held June 23 from St. Anthony's Shrine Parish Roman Catholic Church, Emmitsburg, with the Rev. Fr. Stephen Trzeciecky, C.M. officiating. Interment was in New St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Births

Amy and William Reinke, Carroll Valley, Pa., a son, June 5

Monica Solis, Keymar, a daughter, June 10

Kathryn and Michael Riling, Sabillasville, a son, June 10

Daniela Maria Solis and Randall Varela, Keymar, a daughter, June 10

Community Calendar

LOOKING AHEAD

July 7 - Mass and Spiritual Conference. Grotto of Lourdes, Emmitsburg. "Living Spiritually in the Modern World." Conducted by Father Benedict Groeschel, CFR.

July 7-9 - All Chrysler Car Show. Carlisle, Pa. Fairgrounds. (717) 243-7855.

July 8 - Deer Discovery. 1 p.m., Catocin Mountain Park Join a ranger at the Visitor Center for a half-hour program focusing on the role and function of deer in the park.

July 8, 15, 22 and 29 - Campfire Program. 9 p.m. at the Owens Creek Amphitheater, Catocin Mountain Park.

July 9 - Snip-its of Grace United Church of Christ's History. During the 10:15 service, 40 West Baltimore Street, Taneytown. Topic will be the organization in 1894 of the Christian Endeavor Society.

July 9 - ThorpeWood Community Dinner. 4-8 p.m. Guest speaker Jim Gallion will share his knowledge about butterflies. Bring a salad to share.

July 10-12 - Summer Junior Golf Camp. 9 a.m. to noon, The Links at Gettysburg. Camp for boys and girls, ages 7-16. \$80 per junior. Registration: (717) 359-8000, #25.

July 10-15 - Thurmont Guardian Hose Company Carnival. 5 p.m. daily. Carnival Grounds, Thurmont.

July 13 - Red Cross Blood Drive. 2-8 p.m. EVAC, South Seton Ambulance Building, Emmitsburg. Call Robert Dinterman for information: 301-447-2465.

July 13-15 - Barlow Firemen's Carnival. 2005 Taneytown Road, Gettysburg, Pa. (717)-334-1717.

July 14 - Fr. Bill McCarthy. Booksigning. 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. St Peter's Bookstore, Emmitsburg. Followed by a 3 p.m. talk at the Ski Liberty Resort and Conference Center in Fairfield, Pa. Admission \$10.

July 14 - Frederick J. Metheny Memorial Golf Tournament. 8 a.m. Maple Run Golf Club, Thurmont. Benefits the Metheny Memorial Endowment Fund. Supports activities of The American Heart Association in

Frederick County. Information: Arlene Metheny, (301) 662-8612 or Maple Run Golf Course, (301) 271-7870.

July 14 - The Basement Coffee House. 7 p.m. Elias Lutheran Church, Emmitsburg. Music and fellowship. Free coffee and snacks.

July 14 - Family Pool Party. 7 to 9 p.m. Emmitsburg Pool.

July 14 and 15 - "Memories of the King." Doors open 6:30 p.m., show at 8. Holiday Inn, 2 Montgomery Village Ave., Gaithersburg. Seats, including buffet dinner: \$40 to \$50. Hotel reservations: (301) 948-8900. For tickets and more information: 1-800-318-8326.

July 15 - Volunteer Trail Workday. 9 a.m. Camp Round Meadow, Catocin Mountain Park. Join the volunteer trail crew workday. Information: call Ranger Don Stanley at (301) 663-9388. No reservations needed. Meet at Camp Round Meadow at 9 a.m. with boots, water, lunch, and gloves.

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.

July 16 - Spaghetti Dinner. 3-6 p.m. St. Mary's Church, 256 Tract Road, Fairfield. Dinner \$6, \$3 children 6-12. Information: (717) 642-8815.

July 16 - Stream Ecology. 11 a.m. Visitor Center, Catocin Mountain Park. New program, one of the park's 70th anniversary events.

July 16 - Ice Cream Social. Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, 16150 St. Anthony Rd., Emmitsburg. Following the 11 a.m. liturgy.

July 17 - Emmitsburg Area Historical Society. 7 p.m. Monthly meeting. Emmitsburg Community Center.

July 18 - Purple Loosestrife Scout Training. Begins at 10 a.m. ThorpeWood environmental education center, Thurmont. www.thorpewood.org.

July 21-22 - Yard and Bake Sale. Saint Anthony Shrine, Emmitsburg. Food and baked goods available

starting at 8:30 a.m. Spaces: \$15 for one day, or \$25 for both. Information: call (301) 447-6431 or the parish office (301) 447-2367.

July 22 - Blacksmith Shop Demonstration. 1-3 p.m. Camp Round Meadow, Catocin Mountain Park. Our volunteer blacksmith will demonstrate and explain how metal is heated and shaped into useful and decorative objects.

July 22 - Peach Festival. 4-8 p.m. Graceham Moravian Church, 8231 Rocky Ridge Road, Thurmont. Food, games, musical entertainment. Information: (301) 271-2379.

July 24 - Red Cross Blood Drive. 2-8 p.m. Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, 103 N. Church Street, Thurmont. Call (301) 271-7872 for an appointment or for more information. Walk-ins welcome.

Vacation Bible schools

July 17 to 21 - St. Stephen's UCC. 25445 Highfield Road, Cascade. 6:15 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. for ages 5-15. Crafts, singing, watching skits and playing games in a fun and exciting island atmosphere. Information: contact the church office at (301) 241-4541.

July 18 to 22 - Journey to Saint Treasure Island Faith Festival. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. St. Joseph Catholic Church, 47 DePaul St., Emmitsburg. Explore the treasures of God through music, crafts, and story. Registration forms available at the church rectory, or call (301) 447-2326. Open to children of all faiths, age 4 to 12. Cost: \$7 per child/ \$28 per family.

July 24-28 - "Fiesta-Where Children are Fired Up About Jesus." 6:30 to 8:45 p.m. Graceham Moravian Church, 8231A Rocky Ridge Road, Thurmont. Children ages 3 through 5th grade (completed). Registration: (301)-271-2379.

Aug. 7 to 11 - Mountain View Ministries. 103 Apples Church Road, Thurmont. 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. for pre-school to sixth grade children. Pre-registration recommended. Children will enjoy Bible crafts and games, experience Bible stories, along with snacks and music. Information: (301) 271-3170, (301) 271-9088, or (301) 271-2380.

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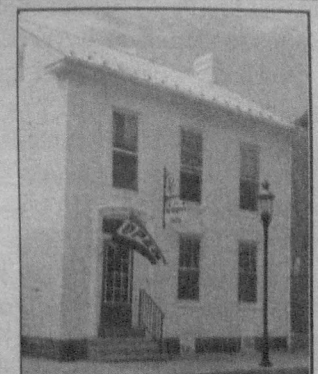
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SPORTS & RECREATION

A pair of champs scores a pair of wins



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

Ashley Metal (above) and Lauren Wildasin (right) set a record for Catoctin High School this year by becoming the only two athletes to play on two Maryland state championship teams in the same year. Ashley and Lauren played for the girls' basketball and softball teams in their successful seasons.

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

THURMONT, Md. — For Lauren Wildasin and Ashley Metal, the road to being the first Catoctin High School athletes to play on two Maryland state championship teams in the same year started in 1999 when they were nine years old.

That's when they both played on the 9-10 little league team that won the state championship.

"Ashley and I were both on that team. We started out together," Lauren said.

That experience gave them both their first taste of statewide championship and the thrill that came with it. They still have trophies and other mementos to remember the event.

This year, the girls were members of the state champion Cougars girls' basketball and softball teams. The two championship teams were only the third and fourth in Catoctin High's history and the first in 20 years.

Amazing is how both girls describe the year.

"It was amazing," Lauren said. "It's very rare to even get one."

"At the time it didn't quite feel real," Ashley said. "Then it set in. People would say how big a deal it was to not only win one championship but two."

What was also interesting is

that neither team expected to finish the season as champs.

"Everyone didn't think we'd do well (in basketball)," Lauren said. "We'd lost seniors, but once we got started, we were unstoppable."

Ashley said that she struggled with both seasons.

"I was not hitting the ball well at all during the playoffs," Ashley said. "Especially when you're a DH (designated hitter), that's not what you're there to do."

Ashley said this year taught her that success wasn't so much what she could contribute to the team, but what the individuals could do as a team.

"We had amazing players, but no stars," Ashley said. "It was a team effort."

This year both girls will return to Catoctin High as seniors. Both are wondering how you follow up a junior year in which they won two state championships.

"How do you top that for a senior year?" Ashley said.

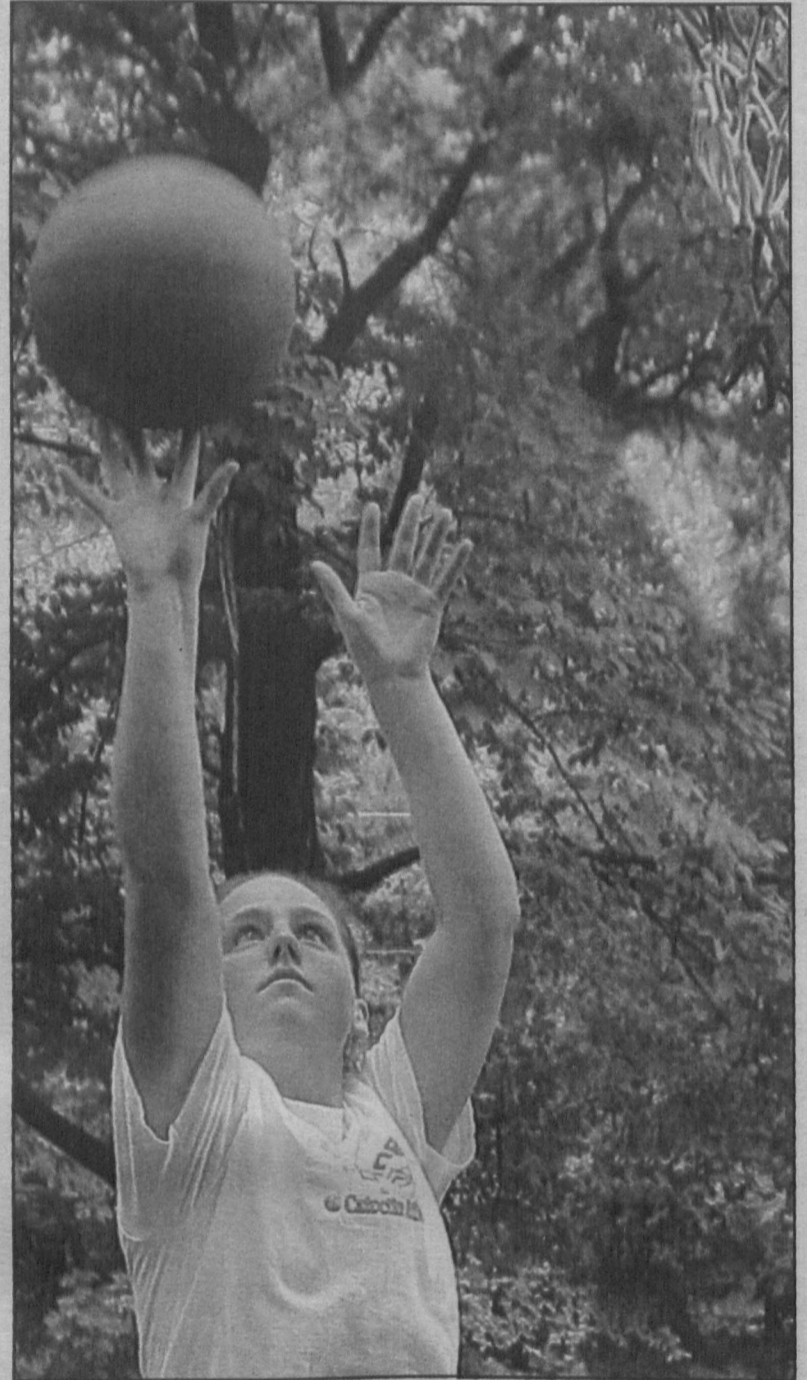
Lauren agreed. "It's going to be tough but if we work hard, we'll have a good chance to go back to states."

Lauren and Ashley have been on the varsity teams since their freshmen years, though they played for both varsity and junior varsity teams for softball until they were moved up to the varsity during the season.

As they prepare to enter college, Lauren said, "I want to play softball in college but basketball is a very close second."

Ashley wants to pursue a basketball scholarship.

Lauren's advice to aspiring athletes is, "You have to have a work ethic and practice during the season for a couple hours a day. It sounds cliché, but practice does make perfect. You've got to go out there and work for what you want."



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2006 Frederick County girls softball champs



The Lewistown Blazers are the 14-U 2006 Frederick County regular season and tournament girls softball champs. The team capped their undefeated season with a win against Catoclin 1 (4-3) on June 10. Rob Kline, Brian Smith, Charlie Lambert, Tim Clarke, Cate Erfurd and Maggie Hashemzadeh coached the team. Mountain Gate Plaza and Frederick Performance Center sponsored the team. Shown in the photo are (left to right) (front) Jessica Clarke, Amanda Kline, Kayte Lambert and Kelly Erfurd (middle) Mariah Stone (back) Maggie Hashemzadeh, Katie Despeaux, Megan Olson, Rob Kline, Samantha Smith, Amber Lovejoy, Tim Clarke.

-Photos courtesy of Gretchen Smith

The Thurmont ThunderBolts are the 2006 Frederick County Girls Softball 10-U League Tournament Champs and earned second place in the Frederick County North Division regular season. The ThunderBolts defeated Cloverhill 17-11 to win the 10-U league tournament. They finished the regular season 8-2. Tom and Cate Erfurd coached the team and Brian Smith was manager. Brian Contractors sponsored the team. Shown in the photo are (left to right) (front) Mackenzie Smith, Kristy Erfurd, Shannon Cavanaugh, Kasey Opel and Madison Bryant (middle) Kelsey Dewees, Sarah Angell, Summer Paglianete, Kaitlyn Portner and Paige McIntosh (back) Brian Smith, Cate Erfurd and Tom Erfurd.

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Emmitsburg Library offers one-on-one computer instruction

Sue Cardella, a library associate at the Emmitsburg Library, is in charge of adult programming, and eager to help more adult and student patrons learn computer skills. The library has an ongoing program, "Just Mousin' Around," that offers one-on-one instruction.

"Of course we hope to encourage our older citizens," says Cardella, but the program is open to all ages. "We start with the basics" for those who have never used a computer "and go from there." "From there" includes using programs like Microsoft Word and Excel, setting up e-mail accounts, and using the Internet.

"Even our computer-savvy patrons may not know" that the library has free access to many databases that people would have to pay for to use from their home computer, adds Cardella.

To schedule a first session, call (240) 629-6329.

-S. Allen

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Announcements

Thank you to Doris Dinterman for donating the lovely vinca plants that now surround the sign post at the Emmitsburg Public Library.

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Fellowship Baptist Church of Fairfield is accepting applications for a church secretary, approximately 30 hrs/week. Requires secretarial experience, Microsoft Office expertise, good communication skills and a love for the Lord. E-mail resume and questions to Blessedby5@aol.com.

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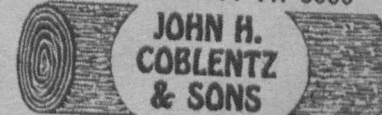
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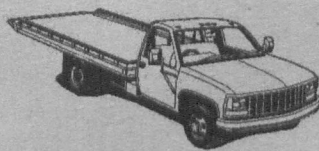
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