

# The Emmitsburg Dispatch

VOL VI, No. 4

News and Opinion in the service of Truth

FEBRUARY 15, 2007

## Feature: Local woman adds "Luster" to the National Horse Show

Rocky Ridge artist  
named the official  
artist of the 2006  
National Horse Show  
- See page 8

## An in-depth look at the details of Emmitsburg's Town Comprehensive Plan Draft

- See below



## Daughter of Charity heads to Kenya for multi-year mission

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## What killed Gettysburg Slots?

- See page 7

# First look at the town comprehensive plan draft

BY JAMES RADA JR.

News Editor

jrada@thedispatch.us

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The Emmitsburg Planning and Zoning Commission is beginning to work through a draft of the town comprehensive plan that, when approved by the town commissioners, will lay out the plan for Emmitsburg's development for the next 25 years.

"As a guide, this Comprehensive Plan allows Emmitsburg to make day-to-day development decisions

on the basis of reasoned and adopted policies, rather than on the individual merits of proposals," the plan reads.

The Dispatch obtained a copy of the 84-page draft through a freedom of information request. Here's a look at some of the items of interest.

### Demographics

After Emmitsburg's fast-growing decade in the 1990s when it grew faster than Frederick County (3.1 percent a year vs. 2.66 percent), growth has leveled off to its pre-1990 levels.

Even so, the town's projected population over the 30 years since 2000 is expected to more than double, to 4,875 residents.

Emmitsburg is also becoming a town of new residents versus "old-timers." The draft plan notes, "Six out of every ten persons added to the population since 1960 were added between 1980 and 2000."

This does not mean that the residents aren't older, however. About 21.4 percent of the town's population are senior citizens, as compared to 9.6 percent countywide. The draft

plan attributes some of this difference to the fact that senior group quarters like St. Catherine's and Villa St. Michaels account for much of the living space in Emmitsburg.

### Economic Development

The draft plan notes that among Emmitsburg's 116 businesses, "The Town differs from the County in that the County has a relatively large number of businesses in Professional, Scientific, and Technical services while the Town has more Religious

and Automotive establishments which make up the Other Services category."

Also, employment opportunities in town are more than double the number of available workers, though only 18 percent of the town's workforce actually work in Emmitsburg.

Between 1998 and 2003, the number of jobs in town increased from 1,955 to 2,486. That's a 27 percent increase for Emmitsburg compared to a 24 percent increase in Frederick

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## This Issue

### Emmitsburg Updates and looking ahead ...Mayor Hoover

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### Historic maps come home

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### Citizens rank objectives in town survey

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### Taneytown Teens teach anti-smoking message

- see page 7

## Business



### Dance studio adds artistic flavor to Thurmont

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### Education Catocin's drop-out rate ranks low

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## County may close stretch of Eylers Valley Road

BY JAMES RADA JR.

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THURMONT, Md. — A property owner on Eylers Valley Road wants to close a section of the road from Kelbaugh Road to Three Springs Road and a local resident organization is not happy with the possibility.

"It's a beautiful country road and now he wants to cut off all traffic and have the property revert to him and one other property

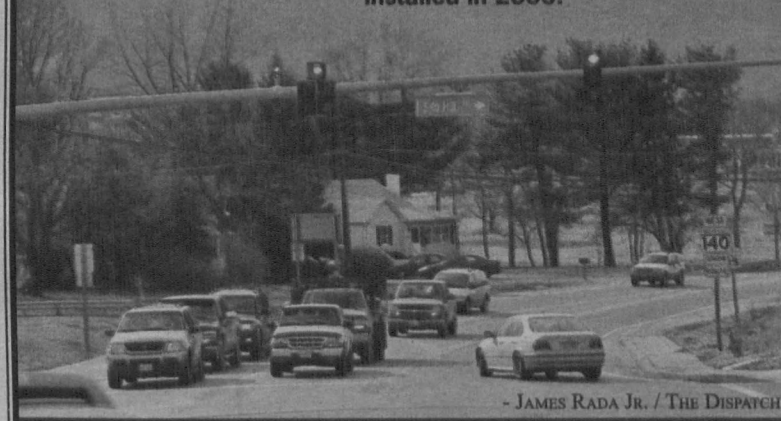
owner," said Mary Gerstner, president of the Eylers Valley Citizen Association.

The Frederick County Commissioners have scheduled a public hearing on the issue for March 20. At that time, they will decide whether the gravel road should be taken out of the county's rural roads program and the property beneath the road turned back to the property owners, which would, in essence, turn that stretch of road

- See Road Close on page 3

## Red light. Green light. Go!

The new Silo Hill traffic light went active on Feb. 6. Now that it is controlling the flow of traffic at the Silo Hill/Route 140 intersection, the hope is that the number of accidents will decrease. This light replaced the flashing yellow light that the Maryland State Highway Administration installed in 2003.



- JAMES RADA JR. / THE DISPATCH

## Tension growing between towns and county

BY JAMES RADA JR.

News Editor

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THURMONT, Md. — Frederick County mayors see the county trying to influence municipal issues. Frederick County commissioners see it as a municipal issue that affects the surrounding county.

More and more, the county and municipalities are running up against each other and the issue, more times than not, involves growth and annexation.

"The county commissioners and the planning commission have no role in our growth boundary except in determining consistency," Thurmont Mayor Martin Burns said. "They should let Thurmont do what is best for Thurmont."

His issue with the county involves whether the town should accept any of the annexation requests it is currently considering. At least one commissioner has expressed an opinion on the Myers farm annexation request before the project has come before the commissioners.

Burns said the board is "hypocritical" because it criticizes the town for considering an annexation outside its growth boundary to increase residential property, but the commissioners are willing to throw

out their own approved region plan in New Market so they reduce residential property.

Commission President Jan

- See Tensions on page 5

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

## Road to close to the public?

It has come to my attention that Three Springs Road between Kelbaugh Road and Eyler's Valley Road may soon be a private road. The Frederick County commissioners are to vote on this in the very near future.

What a shame that such a picturesque road, with its mountain beauty and especially the roadside stream and waterfalls, would be closed to the public. If you were unaware of this pending road closure, would you

please join me in contacting the Frederick County commissioners to state your opposition?

- Mary Helen Shields  
Emmitsburg

## No to Eylers Valley Road closing

I was surprised and dismayed that on Jan. 17 the [county] planning commission recommended closure of a section of Eylers Valley Rd. to the public. The applicant represents the owner - Mr. Iselin, a Virginia resident - of a fishing camp there. The same applicant tried the same thing in '97, but we (the Eylers Valley Citizens Assoc.) demonstrated an avalanche of opposition and prevailed.

This is a very beautiful and old gravel road - one of the last few in the county. It runs through the forest

along Little Owens Creek in the Thurmont mountains. It is among those designated by the county as "Rural Roads." I fail to understand why the county would assign this designation, only to relinquish the road to private owners. No gravel road is easy to maintain, but should we close them all because they may be costly to repair?

Closure is not in the county's best interests for other reasons: e.g., 1) precedent set at a time of surging development and loss of natural places

for public enjoyment; and 2) emergency services response time delays without immediate access to this section of road, especially in winter.

We locals also depend on it to enter and exit the area during bad winter weather. Planning commission members were impressed by the applicant's argument about protecting the forest and trout from road salt and erosion. We think it is inequitable to favor one family over many others also trying to preserve their forest land (e.g., DNR's Forest Stewardship program) and protect their pieces of trout stream. We, like the applicant, also suffer from other nuisances - roadside trash, beer parties, and parked cars.

We encourage all who care about preserving natural resources for public access to come to the BOCC hearing on March 20. Help us create that "avalanche" again.

-Jane Sachs  
On behalf of the Eyler Valley  
Citizen Association  
Thurmont

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.

Emerald Beneficial  
Association Elects Officers

The officers of the Emerald Beneficial Association for the ensuing year were elected by ballot on Sunday, Jan. 27, 1907. The following are the successful candidates:

Edwin Chrismer, president; J. Edward Baker, vice-president; P.F. Burket, treasurer; Charles O. Rosensteel, secretary; John Cool, assistant secretary; James A. Baker; James A. Rosensteel and George I. Wagner, stewards; Daniel W. Stouter, messenger; James Seltzer, marshal.

Branch meets the fourth Sunday of each month at the home of C.O. Rosensteel on East Main Street.

## Committed to Jail

For threatening to kill John T. Davis, of Thurmont, David Green was arrested last week and taken to Frederick, where he was committed to jail in default of \$100 bail.

It is alleged that in a quarrel Green picked up an axe and assaulted Davis. Deputy Sheriff W.H. Stull was notified and arrested Green, taking him to Frederick before Justice Jones.

Attempt Made to  
Enter Shoe Store

On Tuesday night an attempt was made by some man to enter Mr. M. Frank Rowe's shoe store. Sometime after eleven o'clock that night Mr. Charles Rowe was returning to his home and as he passed under Mr. Rowe's store, he heard someone on the roof of the awning. When he got to a place where he could see he discovered a man who was evidently trying to enter Mr. Rose's store by the room recently vacated by The Chronicle. Mr. Rowe informed his father, Mr. Edward Rowe, but while he was doing this the man made his escape.

Hays' Generator Permitted  
By Underwriters

Messrs. J.T. Hays & Son, manufacturers of the Hays Acetylene Generator, who have had their generator before the National Board of Fire Underwriters for inspection, have been notified that it is now placed on the permitted list of Acetylene Generators.

The Hays Acetylene Generator can now be placed

in buildings without interfering with the insurance.

## A Jolly Sleighing Party

Last Friday night a party of young people, chaperoned by Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Rowe and Mrs. Albert Patterson, took advantage of the snow and good sleighing and drove to Mr. N.C. Stansbury's where they were delightfully entertained by the Misses Stansbury. The young people were indebted to Miss Grace Rowe for the pleasure of the trip.

The Emmitsburg Bottling Works, a home company composed of Messrs. Luther and T.E. Zimmerman and Mr. Edward Shriver, is turning out soft drinks of the finest quality. If the standard of all this factory's output continues up to that found in the case presented to The Chronicle staff, these gentlemen should not be uneasy as to the future of their enterprise.

## An Enjoyable Pound Party

A delightful pound party was held Monday night, February 11, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel A. Waybright of near this place. A large crowd was present and the evening was pleasantly spent in games and amusement. At a late hour all were invited to the dining room, where a sumptuous collation was spread, to which all did ample justice. Among those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Peter Eyler, Mr. and Mrs. Asbury Fuss, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Baker, Misses Emma Eyler, Lizzie Eyler, Carrie Fuss, Alice Fuss, Helen Fuss, Pauline Baker and Mary Weigand; Messrs. Nerve Eyler, Charles Fuss, Elmer Fuss, Guy Baker, Jones Baker, John Cornell, of New Windsor, Joseph Eline and Master Wilbert Fuss.

## A New Station at Motters

The Emmitsburg Railroad has about completed its new station at Motters Station to take the place of the old building burnt on the night of the 26th of December last. The structure is quite an improvement on the old building. Mr. C.G. Walter is the contractor. There will be a comfortable waiting room and a commodious warehouse in the same building.

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## Comp Plan

-Continued from page 1

County during the same time period.

"Despite the higher levels of employment within the area, the median income for Emmitsburg is lower than that of nearby municipalities as well as significantly lower than the County as a whole. Factors that contribute to this likely include a relatively low labor force participation rate along with the presence of college students and senior citizens," the draft report reads.

The draft plan recommends that the area along Creamery Road be gradually transformed from industrial uses to light industrial and business park uses "which are more compatible with an in-town location

and the surrounding institutional and residential uses."

### Housing

More than half of the housing units in Emmitsburg are single-family homes and slightly less than 6 percent are vacant.

The average age of a house in Emmitsburg is 68 years.

In recent years, the number of permitted housing units in town has been growing at a rate of about 32 a year, but these are more-expensive homes and not generally considered workforce housing.

Within the town boundaries, the draft plan notes, "Emmitsburg has in-fill potential for about 200 additional units at a density of 3.5 units per acres within the Town boundary."

The draft notes that the town's

growth will be accelerating. "It is projected that between 2009 and 2030 new units will be added at a rate of about 40 units per year, or 840 new households in total. By 2030, the Town may be expected to have approximately 1,950 households."

For future development, the report states, "Development in the floodplains along Tom's Creek, Flat Run, and Middle Creek is to be avoided due to the increased potential of flooding when vegetation is removed from the stream buffer."

Currently, Emmitsburg has about 60 houses, located in Brookfield and Southgate, in its development pipeline.

The plan recommends no new rural residential zoning within the town's municipal growth boundary. However, being within the boundary does not mean the property is within

the town limits. Because of this, the county government could still issue rural residential permits. If so, the draft plan recommends not extending water and sewer services to the lots.

Areas for future residential development should expand to the north, filling the area between Brookfield and Route 15. Other residential development should be between Mountain View Road and Annandale Road.

### Traffic

The traffic on Route 140 in the Emmitsburg area has increased 149 percent between 1980 and 2005. To help alleviate this traffic, a new bypass alignment is suggested for the town.

Emmitsburg Mountain View Parkway would begin near the Md.-

Pa. line and follow Mountain View Road. It would then continue across a new road across Annandale Road to South Seton. From there, it would continue eastbound along Route 15.

"The recommended parkway is preferred because [it] is less disruptive to sensitive environmental features, agricultural lands, and to existing residential uses, it can be made part of a land use development plan and thus is far more likely to be implemented, directs traffic into arrangements that can have a positive economic benefit to the Town, provides a more direct routing to U.S. 15, and it is more compatible with small town character and the land use plan recommend herein," the plan states.

-See **Comp Plan** on page 5

## Road Close

-Continued from page 1

into a long driveway.

David Olney with the Frederick County Office of Transportation Engineering said that issue was raised when one of the property owners sent a letter the county government asking that the road be closed.

Four reasons were cited for the request: 1) The road has proven to be dangerous; 2) The environmental impact on the nearby stream would be great if the road were upgraded; 3) The property owners could potentially be held liable for accidents on that stretch

of road; and 4) The closure only affects two property owners.

It was discussed at the past four roads board meetings and they decided to support it," Olney said. "The commissioners voted to take it to a public hearing. I haven't heard anything negative about it." Gerstner said the community is just now becoming aware of the potential closure. She is gathering opponents to speak at the hearing.

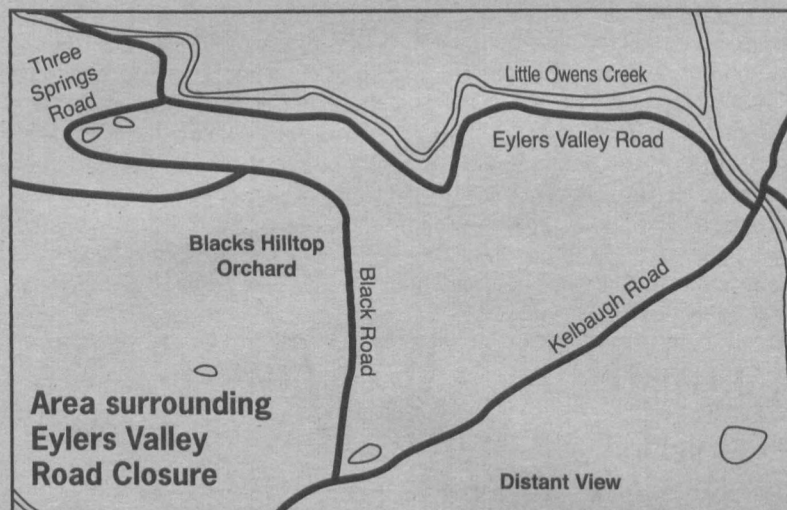
"Two to three times in the past a President has fished there, but none recently," Gerstner said. "If they are worried about the affect of road maintenance on the stream, then they should test it first."

As for the concern that the stretch of road is dangerous, Ol-

ney said there has only been one reported accident there in the past five years.

"The problem is many, many minor accidents that never get recorded," Olney said.

If the road is closed, travelers will have to use Kelbaugh, Black and Three Springs roads to circumvent the closed stretch of road.





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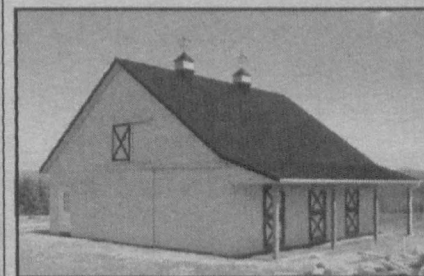



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## EDITORIAL

### ★ Making a Difference

## Go ahead, make my day... brighter.

We've all heard the old saying, "Good things come in small packages." How true! Recently we've been taking notice at how many times during a regular day we benefit from the kindness or compassion of those we have come in contact with - some we only know by their first name and some we've never met before. But we have been inspired by their kindnesses. Bill at the gas station. Michelle and the ladies at the grocery store. Helen and the ladies at the bank. And the list can go on and on.

Have you ever had a bad day

- maybe the bills are falling behind and groceries have become a luxury or the kids are testing every ounce of patience that you have. Maybe you have been dealing with very difficult family situations or illness and you just feel like the weight of it all is too much to bear. Then you run into a stranger who gives you a genuine smile and says, "Hello." You may even share in a small conversation and the next thing you know, you feel a little lighter in your step because of it.

Every moment of every day is an opportunity for each one of us

to be that person that smiles and says, "Hello." It can be as simple as a kind gesture like holding the door for a stranger. It can be as small as a big hug and kiss to the child who is struggling. It can be as easy as sharing a laugh with someone you don't know.

People, especially in this wonderful area we call home, are good people. We all have our "stuff" that tries to keep us from spreading joy, but if we can reach beyond our own woes, our own hectic daily routine, and reach out in love to those that we meet daily, even complete strangers, not

only will we be transformed and feel better, but we WILL make a difference in someone else's life. Isn't that what life all about?

If you know someone who has made a difference in your life or in the community, let us know. We want to share their story so that others will also be inspired to "Make a Difference". Email: editor@thedispatch.us, fax 301-447-5990 or mail us at The Dispatch P.O. Box 358 Emmitsburg, MD 21727. The Dispatch will continue our monthly column featuring these recognized individuals.

## A Word from the Mayor Updates and looking ahead

While there's still a chill in the air, it is also time to begin planning for this year's community activities. Over the past four years, activities such as the Farmers' Market, pool parties, Concerts in the Park and a Comedy Show have been established. In addition to these activities being planned and scheduled to take place again this year. I am also planning a Community Barbeque event. I am planning the barbeque with the intent of a little friendly competition. To have the barbeque, I will need between five and ten competitors to barbeque their best chicken. There will be a total of 250 chicken dinners equally divid-

ed between all of the competitors. Each competitor will barbeque the same amount of chicken. Over the next several months, you will see additional information about the barbeque (and other events) and how to enter the competition. The tentative date is set for Saturday, Aug. 4.

This year to enhance the community spirit of our events, we will be accepting donations at each event for the Emmitsburg Food Bank.

In other business, in a partnership with Mount Saint Mary's University, I have been hosting a radio show, "Eye on Emmitsburg" on Sunday evenings from 7 to 8

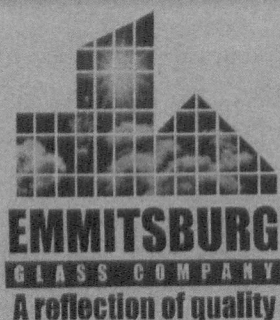
p.m. I believe the show has been very successful and I have been able to get some really great guests to share information on how other layers of government and community organizations may effect and or improve the quality of life in Emmitsburg. The radio show can be heard on WMTB 89.9 FM or at [www.msmary.edu/wmtb](http://www.msmary.edu/wmtb). The show is not played when students are on break or out of school.

We have heard from many of you about the condition of the street during the South Seton Avenue water and sewer line construction. Due to asphalt plants not operating in the winter, the contractor can only use cold patch

to make temporary patches to the road. The projected is expected to be completed in the next 45 to 60 days, weather permitting. Seton Avenue has been and will be one of the most visible sewer and water line projects the town has to complete. Although it is not expected to begin right away, our next project, East and West Lincoln Avenue, will also create some inconveniences. As we are doing these major projects, we are also taking into consideration improving adjacent curb cutter and sidewalks where applicable.

- James E. Hoover  
Mayor of Emmitsburg

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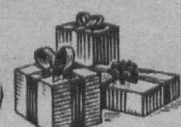
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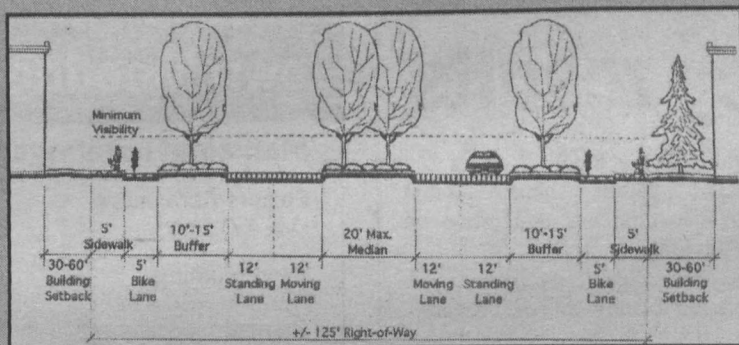
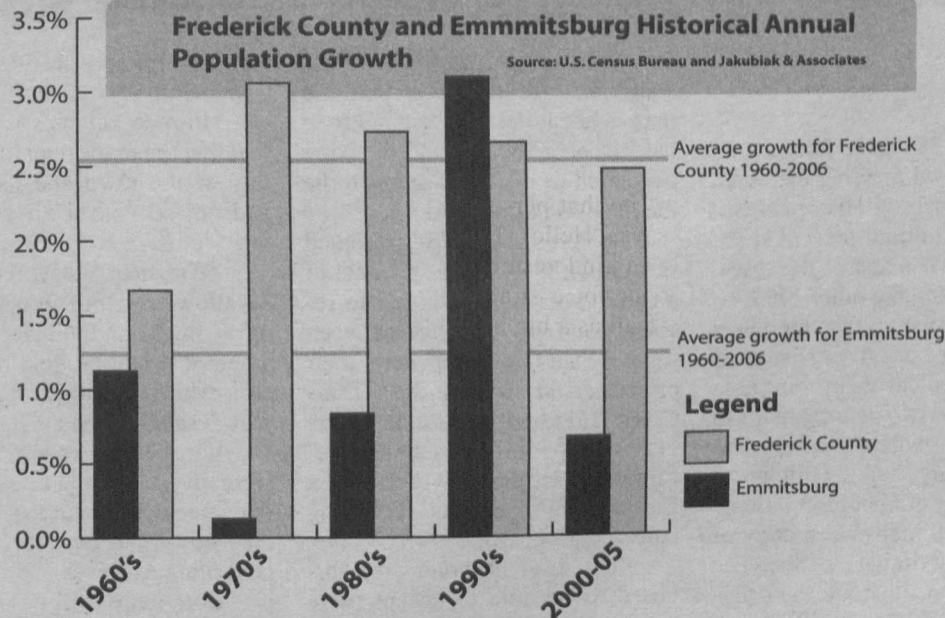
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## TOWN NEWS



## Comp Plan

-Continued from page 3

The bypass would include one lane in each direction, with median strips separating the lanes from sidewalks and bicycle lanes and from each other. The bypass speed limit would be 35 miles per hour.

Overpasses are also proposed sometime in the future for the North and South Seton interchanges with Route 15.

## Opportunities

The draft report notes that the compactness of the town creates good potential for mixed used com-

munities and the efficient use of infrastructure.

"Emmitsburg's geographic location makes it a prime candidate for adopting ecological principles into its planning decisions," the report states. The town should seek to create interconnected green corridors and parks.

The plan also recommends that the town apply to become a Main Street Maryland community and adopt an adequate public facilities ordinance.

The comprehensive plan was last updated in 1998. This draft plan will be discussed and altered by the planning commission and then sent on to the commissioners for their debate and approval.

## Household and population forecast 2000-2030

	2000	2030	Difference	% change
Households	862	1950	1088	126.2
Populations/Households	2.6	2.5		
Population	2273	4875	2603	114.4

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and Jakubiak &amp; Associates, Inc.

## Tensions

-Continued from page 1

Gardner said, "I think the concern is between some municipal leaders and one commissioner in particular."

In January's county/municipality meeting, Commissioner John Thompson agreed that the county commissioners have no obligation to do anything in an annexation proposal other than rule on consistency.

Commissioner Kai Hagen did not like that. He said, "You're saying the default of not doing anything is the town gets what it wants. That's risky."

New Market Mayor Winslow Burhans has also run into conflicts with the county, so much so that the

county actually sent a letter to New Market residents correcting what it considered misinformation from town government about possible New Market annexations.

"With respect to adversarial relations with the County, you should know that we've been trying to meeting with them for years," Burhans wrote in an e-mail to the Dispatch. "However, Lennie and Jan have refused until we pass an APFO as effective as theirs. That defeats the purpose. They will not even sit and collegially sit and discuss the concerns we raised. Now Jan and Kai are all about working w/ us while running a referendum through Town. Kai Hagen and Jim Jamieson (Friends of Frederick) came to our first workshop in October and before we even opened the meeting slapped

down their petition against it. They already formed their opinion and undermined the whole process. Hagen has repeatedly come to meetings and repeated the message. That's an insult to every board member in town who worked hard and devoted time to inform and discuss the issues."

In Frederick City, the commissioners recently voted to remove \$1 million of capital funds that would have helped the city with renovations of Harry Grove Stadium to which the county had committed earlier. Thompson also tried to have other funds committed for city projects removed, which could still happen as discussions about the county's capital budget continues.

Both Burhans and Burns said the issue of conflicts with the county will be a topic of discussion at the next

meeting of the county chapter of the Maryland Municipal League.

"The Mayors have taken exception to the BOCC's behavior," Burhans wrote. "This includes the letter they sent. That is not proper protocol."

Calling the situation "unique," Gardner said, "The reason I felt we needed to do it is that the town had published information that the only way the town would get water is through annexation and that just wasn't true. ... If that had not happened, I don't think the commissioners would have taken a position as a board."

She said both the county and municipalities make decisions that impact each other and both groups need to keep that in mind as they make their decisions and keep an open dialogue about those issues.

## Join the Emmitsburg Community Chorus

The Emmitsburg Community Chorus is rehearsing for the spring season. Anyone who likes to sing is welcome. All parts are needed, especially tenors and basses. There is no audition, and you may start whenever you can. Rehearsals are held on Tuesday evenings at the St. Joseph's Provincial House on Seton Ave, Emmitsburg, in the Guadalupe Room from 7 to 8:30 p.m. For further information, please call Ellie Davis, (301) 898-9776.

## Emmitsburg baseball &amp; softball to hold tryouts

Emmitsburg Baseball and Softball will be holding tryouts for the Minor and Major League teams on March 3:

**Minor League** - Ages 7 & 8. 3-5 p.m. Mount St. Mary's Memorial Gym.

**Major League** - 9 & 10 year olds teams and 11 & 12 year old teams. 1-3 p.m. Emmitsburg baseball fields. Rain date: March 10, 1-3 p.m.

All registrations must be received by March 1. For registration information, contact Theresa Topper, (301) 447-6653.

- J. Demmitt

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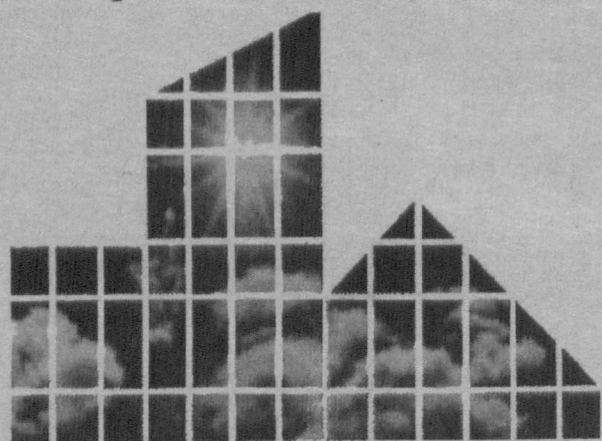
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## TOWN NEWS

### Historical maps find safe resting place

BY BRENDAN WEEKS  
Contributing Writer

EMMITSBURG, Md. — At the Feb. 5 town meeting President of the Emmitsburg Historical Society Mike Hillman presented the town with two maps of the town, one dated 1908, the other 1797.

"It gives me and the members of the Emmitsburg Area Historical Society great pleasure in being able to return these two historic maps to their rightful owners - the citizens of Emmitsburg," said Hillman at the beginning of his presentation.

The 1908 map was a copy of one originally drawn in 1808. The map alleges to illustrate the original lot holders in town. Research

of town deeds partially refutes this claim, but for the most part the map is accurate. The original map has not been located and the copy presented to the town seems to be the only one of its kind.

The second map presented was drawn in 1797, the product of a court order which set out to resolve boundary disputes between several land owners and their properties known as the "Toms Creek Hundred." Hillman refers to this map as his "Rosetta Stone," further solidifying his belief that Emmitsburg's correct founding date was 1785, not 1757.

"It's a great honor for this board to be able to accept these two documents," said Emmitsburg

commissioners' president Chris Staiger.

Hillman believes it is important that the maps remain the property of the town and its citizens, and not be with a private collector.

"The map must never again be allowed to fall into the hands of a single individual or group where it might be held hostage to their whims or hidden from public view," said Hillman.

If for some reason the town were no longer able to care for the documents, Hillman requested that they be turned over to the Maryland State Archives.

Both maps will be on display at the Emmitsburg town office.

### Town survey results

Emmitsburg government surveyed its citizens by mail in October 2006 to rank their support on 20 different objectives. About 12.5 percent of the population responded and the objectives showing the strongest support were as follows:

- The conservation/preservation of a "green belt" around Emmitsburg.
- Encourage small and home-based businesses to locate

and remain in town.

- Build a bypass around town to eliminate congestion on Main Street.
- Create overpasses on U.S. 15 to allow for safe crossing.
- Libraries, schools, community centers and the downtown should be accessible by walking or biking.
- Churches and institutions should continue to contribute to human development and understanding.

### Town Meetings

#### Municipal meetings

**Streets Committee**  
Feb. 17, 11 a.m.

**Town Meeting**  
Feb. 19, 7:30 p.m.  
Alternate appointment to the planning commission  
Presentation from  
Catoctin High School Principal Newkirk  
Resolution on Emmitsburg Elementary School expansion

**Parks Committee**  
Feb. 20, 7:30 p.m.

**Planning Commission Workshop**  
Feb. 22, 7:30 p.m.  
Comprehensive Plan

**Planning Commission**  
Feb. 26, 7:30 p.m.  
Sign ordinance

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

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## REGIONAL NEWS

# Taneytown teens teach anti-smoking message

By BRENDAN WEEKS  
Contributing Writer

TANEYTOWN, Md.— There is a stigma sometimes attached to teenagers: they are characterized as selfish and inconsiderate. Those fortunate enough to meet Allison Elli (14) and Ed Blankenship (15) have no choice but to reconsider their misconceptions.

Elli and Blankenship have teamed up with executive director of the Carroll County Training and Development Center, Michelle Barattucci, who, in 2006, introduced them to her idea to start an anti-smoking project for kids in Taneytown.

"What has always been a passion of mine is fostering emotional intelligence in youths," said Barattucci, "using common sense and helping them make good choices."

When Barattucci told the teens about her idea, they were excited. "She told us about this grant and it sounded really cool," said Elli.

"I had the vision, but visions don't go anywhere if you don't have a group of people to make them real," said Barattucci.

For the next three weeks, they all worked together through long nights, writing a grant proposal. On Nov. 30, 2006, Matchless Productions was awarded nearly \$10,000 from the Cigarette Restitution Fund of the Carroll County Health Department. "It is an awesome responsibility," said Barattucci.

Matchless Productions targets children between the ages of 9-13. "For a kid that age, the easiest thing to get their hands on is tobacco," said Blankenship, who recognizes the dangers of smoking and the habits it can form. "It takes you into worse places than you can imagine," he said.

The team designed the program to teach smart decision making through hands-on activities. "Kids don't know how to make good choices," said Barattucci. "We are a see, hear, do program," said Barattucci.

"They get to learn about it and then do it," said Elli. Elli and Blankenship worked together and came up with activities and games for the kids that would be both effective and fun. They use game parodies, such as "Ingredients Bingo" and "Consequence Charades," to foster new

ideas about staying healthy.

"We show them different ways to pull yourself out of a situation," said Blankenship.

According to the team, community involvement is essential to the success of the program. "A lot of people say peer pressure and stop there," said Blankenship. "It's not just peer pressure." At the end of the day, along with a tee shirt and DVD for the kids, a parent package is sent home that teaches parents how to keep their children healthy.

"We can't be successful without the community. We really want this to be a community effort to work with the children," said Barattucci.

"We are just really a group of ordinary people who want to make a difference," said Barattucci.

The program ran for the first time on Jan. 27 and was considered a success. "The process works and as we moved through the day there were a number of wonderful relationships formed," said Barattucci.

The program will be offered again on Feb. 24 and March 24. For more information, contact Barattucci at (410) 857-9020, or e-mail Matchlessproductions@yahoo.com.

## Possible Maryland slots and strong opposition killed Gettysburg casino

HARRISBURG, Pa. — The drain legalized Maryland gaming would have had on a Gettysburg casino and the strong public opposition to the project combined to help convince the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board not to grant a gaming license to Crossroads Gaming Resort and Spa.

Contained within the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board's order issuing slots licenses to Sands Bethlehem Gaming in Bethlehem,

Pa. and Mount Airy #1 in Monroe County, Pa. are the reason three other projects, including Crossroads were denied applications.

The order, issued Feb. 1, notes that the 3,000-slot machine and 225 room resort was expected to have revenues of \$289.2 million a year. However, if gaming were legalized in Maryland (where 60-65 percent of the visitors to Crossroads were expected to come from), revenues

would drop 15-20 percent.

"This scenario would place Crossroads at the bottom of the revenue generation models, a position any applicant should desire to avoid in a competitive licensing situation as is present here," the order notes.

The Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board also made special note of the strong public opposition to the casino as a strike against the project.

- J. Rada

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March 5 - 9

M - Beef tips over noodles, peas, baked applesauce  
T - Rice Krispy chicken, mashed potatoes, corn  
W - Liver & onions, mashed potatoes, green beans  
Th - Hog Maw, coleslaw, applesauce  
F - Baked chicken pot pie, broccoli, jello

March 12 - 16

M - Hamburger steak, parsley potatoes, green beans  
T - Turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, sauerkraut  
W - Spaghetti, tossed salad, garlic bread  
Th - Pot roast, biscuits, applesauce  
F - BBQ pork sandwich, oven roasted potatoes, coleslaw

March 19 - 23

M - Lasagna, tossed salad, dessert  
T - Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, stewed tomatoes  
W - Slippery ham potpie, green beans, fruit  
Th - Roast pork, stuffing, mashed potatoes, sauerkraut  
F - Chicken tender wrap, pasta, jello

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## FEATURE

# Local artist adds "Luster" to the National Horse Show

BY BROOKE VINYARD  
Dispatch Intern

ROCKY RIDGE, Md. - Every painting has a story. For Linda Luster, the updated version of the National Horse Show logo conveys the story of her own passion and life long pursuits. Luster, who lives in Rocky Ridge, was named the official artist of the 123rd National Horse Show last year. The National Horse Show, which was held Nov. 29 through Dec. 3 in Palm Beach, Fla., is the largest and most-prestigious outdoor horse show in America.

A close friend of Luster's noticed an ad in *The Chronicle of the Horse* magazine for an artistic contest and recommended that she enter. While she didn't give much thought to the contest, she sent in a link to her website as her entry. A committee of six judges reviewed a total of 15 entries and narrowed it down to four semi-finalists. From there, they chose Luster to be the official artist. Last October she received a telephone call while attending the Penn National Horse Show and was informed she had been proclaimed the winner. Luster said at the time of the call, she had forgotten all about the contest and had no idea what they were talking about.

"They were doing an interview," Luster said. "I had no idea, so I called back and asked to redo the interview!"

As the winner, Luster was required to re-create the original 1883

National Horse Show poster, giving it an updated look. The image was modernized to depict a female rider, as opposed to a male rider. Luster justifies her decision to make such changes, saying "Look at all the winners in the major competitions like the Olympic team, they're all women." The rider's attire was also updated. The updated painting was later auctioned off to the highest bidder. She also designed the invitations to the 2006 black tie gala and was given a large booth to sell her work from during the week-long festivities.

In addition to being named the official artist, Luster received a silver medal from the United States Dressage Foundation for her skills in the equestrian field. She has also graced the cover of *'The Chronicle of the Horse'* magazine nine times since 1982.

Raised in an army family, Luster developed a strong interest in both art and the equestrian field at a young age. After taking her first lessons at an army base stable, Luster made her way to focus on dressage, which she would train in for sixteen years.

Like riding, painting has portrayed a large role in her life. From childhood and throughout high school, Luster worked in an open studio with esteemed painter Jack Clifton where she learned to foster her skills in painting. She earned a bachelors degree in painting and printmaking from the University of North Carolina at

Greensboro in 1974. She went on to receive a degree in commercial photography from Cape Fear Technical Institute in Wilmington N.C.

While living in Raleigh, Luster took a job with the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources in the Archaeology and Historic Preservation Branch as a photographer, and then became the exhibits designer for the North Carolina Museum of History. Luster continued to paint until 1984, when she and her husband Doug moved to Maryland; it was then that she gave up art and began her equestrian pursuits. She took her first job as a horse groomer and rider at the Willowlake Farm in Mount Airy, where she cared for over 20 horses. She eventually became the trainer, training both horses and riders to the FEI level. In 2000, Luster and her husband bought a 10-acre estate in Rocky Ridge, where they renovated a house, and built both a barn and home studio. Luster then resumed her career as an artist.

Today, Luster works out of her home studio, creating 15 to 20 commission pieces a year on average. Linda Luster's passion for painting and experience in the equestrian field, allows her to capture an essence of beauty in all of her work, resulting in the immense achievement in the artistic world.

For more information on Linda Luster and her work you can visit her website at [www.lindalusterstudio.com](http://www.lindalusterstudio.com)



Rocky Ridge resident artist Linda Luster, pictured above with horse Carlos Boy, was named the official artist of the 2006 National Horse Show, for her work in equestrian art. Her experience as an avid horse trainer has furthered her ability to convey beauty and emotion in her subjects. The painting to the right is among those used by the horse show.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF LINDA LUSTER

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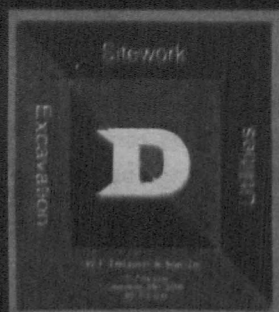
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## BUSINESS

## ESP adds artistic flavor to Thurmont



-RAYMOND BUCHHEISTER / THE DISPATCH

Thurmont's ESP Dance and Music first began in the late 1960's in the basement of owner Linda Sicilia's home. Today the studio is one of the most reputable in Frederick County, having won countless awards in both regional and national competitions. Pictured above, principal dancer, Megan Adelsberger, 18, is aided by instructor Ashley Boyer.

BY BRENDAN WEEKS  
Contributing Writer

THURMONT, Md. - When Linda Sicilia's dance teacher passed away in the late sixties, she decided to take the reigns of a piece of Thurmont's cultural side. For over 35 years her dance studio has provided the town with an outlet for the performing arts.

Sicilia opened her first studio in the basement of her mom's home. "My dance teacher died and there were a couple of students who wanted to continue," said Sicilia. On the garage next to the home still hangs a sign noting "studio 2," when the business began to expand.

From that point on the business began to blossom. The studio relocated several times. At one point it was even in the back of the old fire hall. Today the studio is on Water Street in a building that Sicilia was able to purchase and is currently renovating.

Over the years, ESP Dance and Music has gained a reputation for being one of the best studios in the area. Their dance troops regularly participate in both regional and national competitions.

They have won countless awards as well as scholarships for individual dancers. But the honor that Sicilia is most proud of was achieved last year at a national competition held in New York City. One of her dance groups was invited to participate in a gala. "That was thrilling for me," said Sicilia. "They only pick five groups in each category and we were one."

Sicilia attributes the studio's success largely to the creativity of her daughters, Kyra, Kela, and Kara, who also work at the studio. "The girls are very creative musically," she said. "Their choreography is very different than most places, and that's just a gift they have."

She also identifies their constant interactions with each other as a means to a creative end. The youngest daughter, Kara, lives in a basement apartment in her mother's house and her

two sisters are always stopping by with ideas about dance. "We don't go to work, we live work," said Sicilia. "From the time we get up, it's work. We talk about choreography. It's just constant."

"It's nice," said Kara Sicilia. "We actually get along really well. We're very, very close."

Another factor in their success is the desire always to continue learning about the art form. A couple of times each year they invite teachers from Los Angeles and New York to come and teach at the studio. "We bring people in so (the students) are exposed to a lot of different ideas," said Sicilia.

They also require that students and teachers alike attend "master classes" that are offered at the competitions. "We don't just compete; we educate our students and ourselves," said Kara, who also teaches at ESP.

As time marches on, Sicilia sees popularity trends shifting in the dance world. Males have been increasingly interested in taking dance lessons, particularly hip-hop. "I'm finding a lot of boys like to dance," said Sicilia. One of their male students, Patrick Cubbedge, was noticed in a competition and played a part in the 2003 movie Camp.

As far as what's in store down the road for the studio, Sicilia is slowly handing over the business to her daughters. "I'm trying to let the girls take over more," said Sicilia. "But it's hard when you've been doing it since you were five." Perhaps eventually the studio might branch out and open another facility in other cities. "We've talked about it," said Sicilia. "When the time is right."

ESP Productions, 15 Water Street, Thurmont, currently offers classes ranging from ballet to tap to hip-hop. Classes are offered for students as young as three and also for adults. More information can be found at [www.espdance.com](http://www.espdance.com), or by calling (301) 271-7458.

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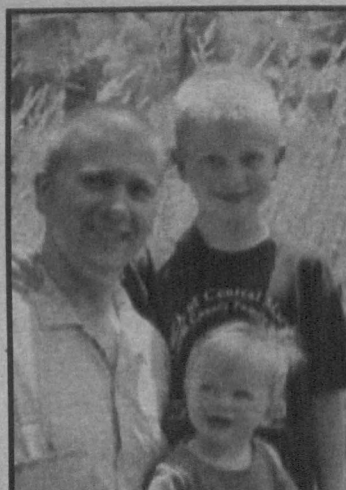
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## Economic development meeting

THURMONT, Md.- The Thurmont Economic and Development Committee will meet on Feb. 21 at the Cozy Restaurant for a 6 p.m. dinner and 7 p.m. meeting. Susan Gray of the Frederick County Library will discuss how the library can be a source for business. Tammy Green with F&M Bank's Thurmont branch will discuss the bank's recent merger.

Thurmont Business Expo applications are available at the town office or by calling Vickie Grindler at (301) 418-8642 or by e-mail at [Vickie@thurmontfirst.com](mailto:Vickie@thurmontfirst.com). The business expo will be on Friday, June 30 at Catocin High from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

-J. Rada



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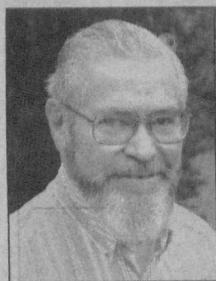
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## The (retired) Ecologist

## Global Warming and the New China Syndrome



BY BILL MEREDITH

Dispatch Columnist

*"Let China sleep. When she awakens, she will shake the world."*

*... Napoleon Bonaparte*

The first half of January started with temperatures in the 70s and golf in shirtsleeves; but then, as always happens, it was followed by the second half. Reality set in; the jet stream remembered where it is supposed to be this time of year, and a prolonged cold wave sent the temperatures into single digits. Pipes, roads and airports froze all over the country, and over a dozen deaths resulted. With all this going on, I expected big things from the silly section when Groundhog

Day arrived; but I was to be disappointed. Newspapers carried a few obligatory references to Punxatawny Phil, but this year they were crowded off the front page by real news.

"News" may not be the right word, because there wasn't much that was really new. The war, of course, was in the forefront; but except for the "surge" debate it was just dragging on in its downward spiral. The Republicans in Congress were still acting like republicans, and the Democrats were still acting like democrats, and neither group was acting much like statesmen. Testimony before congress confirmed that the administration had suppressed EPA studies that supported global warming, and the mountain of evidence for the human impact on climate change got a little higher with major reports from British and U. N. commissions. But the thing I found most interesting was the increasing volume of news concerning China and globalization.

I didn't learn much about China in school. I could find it on a map;

I knew it was a very old culture because we read Charles Lamb's "Essay upon Roast Pig" in English class, and in the movies Charlie Chan quoted an ancient sage named Confucius. My perception of the Chinese people was based on a series of stereotypes ranging from the shuffling cooks and laundry workers in the movies to the regal photos of Madame Chiang Kai-shek in Life magazine. I knew China had a huge population; I knew the communists took over the country after World War II, and that they fought against us in Korea, but I understood that only in the most simplistic terms.

In the early '70s I got a small grant to study radiation ecology at Oak Ridge, Tennessee. One of the classes dealt with the environmental effects of accidents at nuclear reactors. There had been a few accidental spills of radioactive material, but never a real meltdown; it was before Three Mile Island and Chernobyl, so nobody knew exactly what would happen if a reactor got out of control. It was believed that if a meltdown occurred, the uranium and plutonium in the core, which are some of the heaviest materials known, would burn through their protective shielding and start sinking into the ground, but no one knew how far down into the earth the stuff might go. Physicists have

a weird sense of humor, and one of them had suggested that it would go all the way through and come out in China, so the whole scenario was named the "China Syndrome." The term was popular for a while... there was even a movie made about it... but after Chernobyl it wasn't funny any more, and it fell out of use.

I think "China Syndrome" would be a good term to apply now to the emergence of China as an industrial power. There are all kinds of economic, geopolitical and military implications to this, but they all pale in comparison to the environmental impact China will have. In the 1960s when environmentalists were just beginning to quantify the impacts of our own industries and affluent lifestyles, someone said we were lucky that China had such a primitive economy, for with a population four times as great as ours, even a third-world industrial economy would produce enormous amounts of air and water pollution. You could still joke about it in those days, and someone remarked, "If a billion poor Chinese produce that much pollution, think what a billion rich Chinese will do!" It isn't a joke any more; over 50 Chinese cities have populations of a million or more (compared to about 10 in the U. S.), and the level of air and

water pollution in those cities is far worse than anything this country saw in pre-EPA days. The Chinese middle class is growing and more people are demanding cars. Pundits argue about whether the Chinese economy will surpass ours, but no one doubts that China will soon exceed the U.S. as the world's major producer of greenhouse gases. And those gases will not stay at home. Dust from the overgrazed grasslands in China has been identified in the U.S.; it blows across the Pacific, over our heads, and on across the Atlantic. Carbon dioxide from Chinese automobiles and power plants follows the same path.

Napoleon is said to have remarked, "Let China sleep; when she awakens she will shake the world," or, in another translation, "the world will be sorry." I have not been able to find out why he said this; some sources claim it was while he was in delirium from arsenic poisoning, and others say it was in response to a suggestion to extend the French colonial empire. Whatever the circumstances, it was both wishful thinking and prescient. With the development of world travel and communication in the 20th century, there was no possibility that China could continue to "sleep" in the Napoleonic sense; and the world order has indeed been shaken by its emergence as an industrial power.

There is some hope in recent months that we may get enough consensus on global warming to begin to deal with it seriously, and the temptation is to think that will solve the problem. The new China Syndrome shows us this is not so. By our standards there are a lot of things wrong with the Chinese system of government, and the American public is generally opposed to doing anything that would alleviate their problems. We need to re-think this attitude. Where the environment is concerned, China's problems are our problems too. We need to urge them to deal with the problem of greenhouse gases; and to do that effectively, we need to get our own house in order.

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## EDUCATION

# County schools have low drop-out rates

BY SUSAN ALLEN  
Contributing Writer

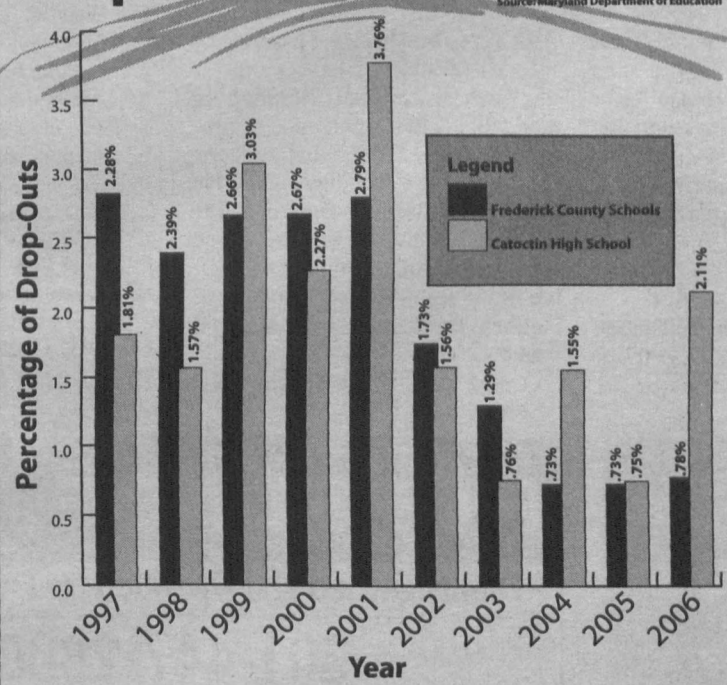
THURMONT, Md. - For the third year in a row, Frederick County Public Schools has achieved the lowest school dropout rate in Maryland. With the state "satisfactory" standard set at 3 percent, in 2004-2006 less than 1 percent of Frederick County students dropped out of school. Statistics for FCPS show steady improvement since 1997.

At Catoclin High School, the figures are not quite as positive. Although the school meets the state standard, in 2006 CHS had the highest dropout rate in the county. Since 1997 its rate has fluctuated.

These changes are not news to Curtis Howser, CHS guidance counselor. "We are perpetually fighting the fact that Catoclin historically has had one of the highest drop-out rates in the county ... with meeting after meeting with students" having academic problems. Tutors are available for students having difficulties passing high school assessment tests. "We have an active drop-out prevention program in place [in FCPS and at CHS]...with alternatives for students, and we try to be flexible."

Work-study offerings, internships, GED programs, and the Flexible Evening High School are open to students. Howser adds that "within the past two years we have had a 'virtual school'" so that students can take classes online. Online courses include English 11 and

## Drop-Out Rates 1997-2006



12 and American Studies 1 and 2, math, algebra, biology, and health.

"The main problem," says Howser, "is reading. Our struggling students can't read well." CHS now has a reading specialist on staff, as do the elementary schools and Thurmont Middle School. "Our educators are putting in a lot of hard work" to keep students in school and to graduate.

## Never at a loss for words



Roger Troxell (L) and Sue Sanders (R) hand out dictionaries to all third graders at Emmitsburg Elementary School. The Thurmont Grange provided the free dictionaries as part of a service project to support education. This is the second year the Grange has distributed dictionaries to EES students.

- ROBERT A. ROSENSTEEL SR. / THE DISPATCH

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### CHECK OUT MOUNT SPORTS!

The Mount was selected to host the 2007 Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Men's Lacrosse Championships at the brand new Waldron Family Stadium on May 4 and 6. And the baseball team was picked to finish second in the Northeast Conference in a preseason poll by Collegiate Baseball. **More news at [www.mountathletics.com](http://www.mountathletics.com)**

### NEW MOUNT BUSINESS TEAM WINS GRANT

The new Mount St. Mary's Students in Free Enterprise-or "SIFE"-team is off and running with one of 50 national project grants sponsored by Goldman Sachs. Through SIFE, the largest student organization in the world, student teams develop learning opportunities in real-world projects focusing on market economics, entrepreneurship, financial literacy and business ethics. They are evaluated on the success of their programs through SIFE competition at regional, national and global levels.

The Goldman Sachs project grant begins this February with Mount SIFE team vice president Katie Bushong attending a training day in Dallas, Texas, with other selected schools from the United States, Germany and China. Throughout the spring semester, Katie will be leading Project Y.E.S., Youth Entrepreneurial Success, an interactive program created to empower students ages 12-14 with the knowledge of market economics, entrepreneurial skills, business ethics and financial literacy. She and fellow project team members Abby Diffenderfer and Dave Sofield will be entering the Goldman Sachs competition in July 2007.

SIFE is a partnership with businesses and higher education to prepare students for future leadership roles. Projects are a great way for students to integrate classroom teachings with practical application, and the many levels of competition provide outstanding networking opportunities with corporate business leaders.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For a complete schedule of events visit [www.msmary.edu/calendar](http://www.msmary.edu/calendar) and for more information on any of the events below call 301-447-5366

#### ECHOES OF THE PAST—

MAXINE MAXWELL

February 15, 2007

Knott Auditorium, 7 p.m.

This dramatic performance takes a look at what it has been like to be black and female over the past 150 years.

#### COMEDIAN JEFF KREISLER

February 16, 2007

Purcell, 9 p.m.

#### FROM JOPLIN TO FREE JAZZ—

MOUNT JAZZ WORKSHOP

February 19, 2007

Knott Auditorium, 7 p.m.

Opening with Scott Joplin's "Maple Leaf Rag" and concluding with Ornette Coleman's "Turnaround," the Workshop will perform an overview of jazz history—including tunes from Louis Armstrong, Miles Davis, John Coltrane and other jazz greats—in recognition of Black History Month.

#### HAPPY HOUR: COMEDY WITH A

TWIST—BERNIE MCGRENAHAN

February 27, 2007

Knott Auditorium, 7 p.m.

Thirty minutes of stand-up comedy followed by thirty minutes of impactful message on alcohol abuse.

#### LESLIE'S DRAGON: A FATHER'S STORY OF A DAUGHTER'S BULIMIA

February 26, 2007

Laughlin Auditorium, 7 p.m.

Sponsored by the Department of Sociology, for National Eating Disorders Awareness Week. The speaker's name is Mr. Ronald George.

#### ATHLETICS

For a complete schedule, athlete profiles and live stats visit [www.mountathletics.com](http://www.mountathletics.com)

#### MEN'S BASKETBALL

Feb 17 vs. Monmouth, 7 p.m.

#### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Feb 17 vs. Monmouth, 3 p.m.

#### NATIONAL SHRINE GROTTO OF LOURDES

#### MIRACLES

Friday, February 23

6:30 p.m., Holy Hour

7:30 p.m., Mass and Sermon

#### ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday, February 21

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## OBITUARIES

### Mr. Joseph Hobbs Sr.

Mr. Joseph Henry Hobbs Sr., 77, of N. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg, died Feb. 1, 2007, at home.

Born June 18, 1929, on his parents' farm in Fairfield, Pa., Joe was one of 16 children of the late Raymond and Zita Sneering Hobbs.

Surviving are four children, Joseph Henry Hobbs Jr., Steven Bruce Hobbs, M. Elaine Norris and Joyce Annette Giannini; 10 grandchildren; four brothers, Larry Hobbs, Paul Hobbs, Karl Hobbs and Michael Hobbs; and 11 sisters, Mary K. Brinkman, Rosetta Bream, Martha Bravo, Carolyn Lydon, Ann Marie McCleaf, Corona Naylor, Lillian Harner, Angela Parrish, Agatha Foscatto, Linda Steinle and Janet Hobbs.

Funeral services were held Feb. 6, 2007, with a Mass of Christian burial from St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church, Emmitsburg, with his pastor, the Rev. Vincent J. O'Malley, C.M. as the celebrant. Interment was in New St. Joseph Cemetery, Emmitsburg.

### Mr. Glenn Reifsnider

Mr. Glenn William Reifsnider, 80, of Keymar, died Jan. 29, 2007, at Lorien Taneytown in Taneytown.

Born Jan. 14, 1927, in Keymar, he was the son of the late Isaiah W. and Alice Marie Rinehart Reifsnider.

Surviving are his wife of 61 years, C. Georgette Ashbaugh Reifsnider; two sons, G. Wayne Reifsnider and Douglas E. Reifsnider; one daughter, Sheila D. Robertson, all of Keymar; five grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; one brother, Roger Reifsnider of Keymar; and two sisters, Alice Crabbs of Westminster and Doris Grimes of Keymar.

Funeral services were held Feb. 1, 2007, at Grace United Church of Christ, Taneytown, with his pastor, the Rev. Steven M. Ostendorf-Snell, officiating. Interment was in the church cemetery.

### Mrs. Kathleen Thorpe

Mrs. Kathleen Mary Thorpe, 74, of Waynesboro Pike, Emmitsburg, died Jan. 28, 2007, at home.

Born July 8, 1932, in Lyndhurst, N.J., she was a daughter of the late Francis and Eleanor Maguire.

Surviving are one son, Michael F. Thorpe of Smithsburg; one daughter, Kathleen M. Fogle; six grandchildren; and a number of nieces and nephews.

A Memorial Mass was celebrated

on Feb. 1, 2007 from St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church, Emmitsburg, with the Rev. Vincent J. O'Malley as celebrant. Interment was in New St. Joseph Cemetery, Emmitsburg.

### Mrs. Mary Weddle

Mrs. Mary Lorraine Weddle, 84, of 11725 Legore Bridge Road, Keymar, died, Jan. 29, 2007, at Washington Hospital Center, Washington, D.C.

Born Dec. 26, 1922, in Frederick County, she was the daughter of the late Charles William and Jennie Smith Horner.

Surviving are three daughters, N. Nadine McFarland, Sharon L. Hyser and S Diane Kling; two sons, E. Weddle; 11 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and 5 great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Feb. 2, 2007, at Oak Hill Church of God. Interment was in Oak Hill Cemetery.

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## RELIGION

## Sister heads to Kenya for multi-year mission

BY JAMES RADA JR.  
News Editor  
jrada@thedispatch.us

EMMITSBURG, Md. — When Sister Mary Shea was in the sixth grade a Daughter of Charity came to her school and Shea had to opportunity to go with the sister to deliver food to the poor for Thanksgiving.

"I appreciated their simplicity," Shea said. "I saw how grateful one lady was for the little bit we did for her."

That moment shaped her entire life to the point where that simple act as a child now leads her to Kenya.

Shea left for Ireland on Jan. 11 from Emmitsburg. After some preparations there, she will fly on to Kenya where she will serve in the Daughters of Charity's African ministries to parishes, prisons and slums.

Shea volunteered to serve in a foreign mission even when she was still training to be a Daughter of Charity 21 years ago. She was always passed over, though.

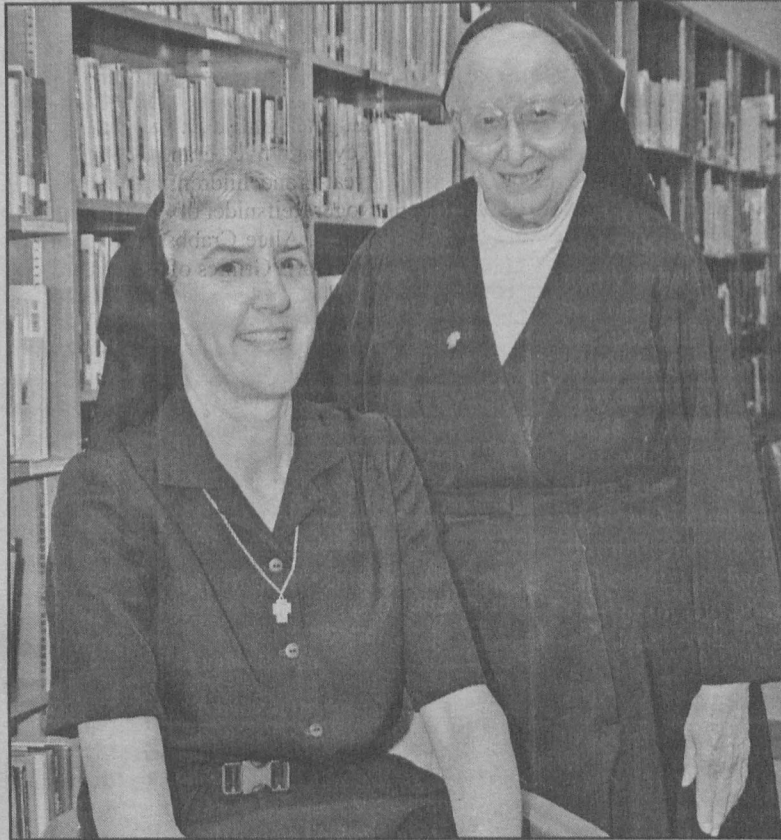
"I've always had a desire to serve overseas," Shea said. "The last 21 years was just God's way of preparing me."

That preparation has included getting her master's degree in social work and serving in a hospital, an outreach center and a maternity home in different locations in the South.

Shea said working with the poor can be a challenge at times, but it is worth the hard work.

"You will get reminders at times that what you're doing makes a difference to them," Shea said.

The Kenyan mission where Shea will be going has established an aggressive set of goals for 2007 to be accomplished by the handful



— ROBERT A. ROSENSTEEL SR. / THE DISPATCH

Sister Mary Shea (L) is headed to Kenya to serve a mission for the Daughters of Charity. She is seen here with Sister Hilda Gleason (R) who helped establish the Daughters of Charity Taiwan mission. Gleason has been a role model for Shea.

of sisters there. The Daughters of Charity plan to develop a treatment center for people with AIDS, start a mobile clinic, expand their tailoring classes, compete a shop where crafts made by local women and furniture made by local men can be sold and opening a Daughters of Charity seminary for Kenyan women. All this is to be accomplished in addition to their normal ministry work, retreats, counseling and prison

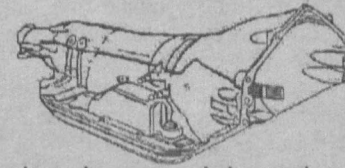
ministry work.

Before she left, Shea made sure to say goodbye to her family because she expects it will a couple of years before she sees them again. Despite the sadness at their parting, it's hard for her to suppress the happiness she feels at having a 21-year-old wish come true.

"Some of it will be a mystery that unfolds, but I've always depended on divine providence," Shea said.

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Feb. 23 • Networking 7:30 am • Seminar 8-9 am  
Holiday Inn Ft. Detrick • 999 W. Patrick St., Frederick  
Please register by Feb. 20

The Chamber is honored to have Colonel Mary R. Deutsch, Commander, US Army Garrison, of Fort Detrick, as our speaker for this month's Seminar.

To learn more, become a member, or register for events, call 301.662.4164 or visit [www.frederickchamber.org](http://www.frederickchamber.org).

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## Community Calendar

## LOOKING AHEAD

**Feb. 17 – Country Butchering.** Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company. Advance orders by Sunday, Feb. 11: call Gertie Whetzel 301-271-4253, Dennis Mathias 301-271-4252, Teressa Kaas 301-271-3781 or Helen Burrier 410-775-2758. Pick up meat from 6 - 10 a.m. at the Activities Building (old fire hall). Buffet breakfast from 6 - 10 a.m.

**Feb. 17, 24, March 10, 17 – Maple Sugaring Program.** 10 a.m. and noon. Strawberry Hill Nature Center, 1537 Mount Hope Road, Fairfield, Pa. Learn how maple syrup is produced. Hands-on program suitable for the whole family. Participants will engage in a syrup "taste test" with

silver dollar pancakes. We'll tap a maple tree, collect maple sap, and watch sap being boiled down the old-fashioned way. Fee for non-members. Register no later than the day before the program: 717-642-5840.

**Feb. 18 – Daytona "500" party.** 12:30 p.m. until NASCAR race ends. New Windsor Fireman's Building, 209 High St. Food and beverages available. Tickets: advance purchase, \$20; at the door, \$25. Benefits Terra Rubra Lions Athletic Club Girls Softball Program and the Terra Rubra Lions Club Field Maintenance and Building Fund. Information: 443-398-4618 or 410-751-1673.

**Feb. 18 – Save our Liberty annual meeting.** 1 p.m. in the Village Hall on Main Street, Fairfield, Pa. Election for board members. Refreshments. Information: 717-642-5747.

**Feb. 19 – Taneytown Chamber of Commerce monthly meeting.** Networking begins at 6 p.m. Hesson-Snyder American Legion Hall, Post #120, Taneytown. Information: 410-756-4234.

**Feb. 19 – Emmitsburg Historical Society.** 7 p.m. Emmitsburg Community Center.

**Feb. 19, 26, March 5, 12 – Overeaters Anonymous weekly meetings.** 7-8 p.m. Catocin View Seventh Day Adventist Church, 15601 Catocin Mountain Hwy. A, U.S. Rt. 15, Thurmont. Information: [www.frederickregionoa.org](http://www.frederickregionoa.org) or call 301-694-3554.

**Feb. 20 – Celebrate the Chinese New Year.** Lunch out at Peking Palace at 11:45 a.m. Sponsored by the Thurmont Senior Center. 301-271-7911.

**Feb. 20 – Shrove Tuesday All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Supper.** 5-7:30 p.m., Harriet Chapel Parish Hall, 12625 Catocin Furnace Road, (Route 806 south of Thurmont). In honor of Betty Anderson and Albert Sweeney for their faithful service to the parish and the wider community. \$4.50 for adults, \$2.50 for 7-12, free for 6 and under. Information: Janet Martin 301-271-2733.

**Feb. 20, 27 – Moms' Club.** 1 p.m. UpCounty Family Center, 303 W. Lincoln Ave., Emmitsburg. 301-447-2810.

**Feb. 21 – "The Challenges of ADHD."** 6-8 p.m. Thurmont Elementary School, 805 E. Main St. Dinner at 6; program at 6:30. Scott Winget, Psy. D., from Monocacy Neurodevelopmental Center, will focus on ways to make life more manageable for children, parents

and caregivers dealing with ADHD. Registration: Families Plus! at 301-694-9002 or Debbie Wivell, CASS Coordinator at 240-236-1770.

**Feb. 23 – In God's Hands Coffee House.** Weller United Methodist Church, 101 North Altamont Ave., Thurmont, 301-271-2802.

**Feb. 23, 24 – Country Butchering.** Sponsored by the Wolfsville Ruritan Club. To place an order, call Bob Condon, 301-293-1109 or Geraldine Miller, 301-293-2926 by Feb. 12. Orders will be available for pick up on Friday, Feb. 23, 5-7 p.m. and Saturday, Feb. 24, 8-11 a.m. at the Wolfsville Ruritan Park Grounds on Brandenburg Hollow Road. Proceeds will benefit community activities and park maintenance.

**Feb. 24 – Basket Bingo.** Doors open at 6 p.m.; bingo begins at 7. Mother Seton School, 100 Creamery Road, Emmitsburg. Tickets for 20 games - \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Call 301-447-3161.

**Feb. 27 – EBPA General Meeting.** 11:30 a.m. Carriage House Restaurant, Emmitsburg. Agenda: presentation of scholarship contributions to Betsy Day and John Ratnavale of the Frederick Community Foundation, Ron Luna with the new plans for Main Street Grill, and Elizabeth Prongas with updates on Frederick County's Thurmont Region Plan.

**Feb. 28 – International Tooth Fairy Day & lunch.** Noon. Enjoy activities, meal and program. Thurmont Senior Center, 806 E. Main Street. 301-271-7911.

**March 2-4 – Vocation Discernment Retreat.** 8 p.m. Friday until 1 p.m. Sunday. Elizabeth Ann Seton Retreat Center and Shrine, 333 South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg. Sponsored by the Daughters of Charity. Information: Sr. Mary Catherine Warehime, 410-646-1074, [devoc@doc.org](mailto:devoc@doc.org) or Sr. JoAnne Goecke 301-447-2554 [srjoaneg@yahoo.com](mailto:srjoaneg@yahoo.com)

**March 3 – M.S.H.S. 1st Annual Train Show.** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Activities Building, Arcadia, Md. carnival grounds in western Baltimore County just off Route 30 approximately one mile east of the Baltimore/Carroll County line on Arcadia Avenue. Sponsor: Maryland Steam Historical Society, Inc. To become a vendor, contact Bruce Warch (Pa.), 717-417-3318 and/or Dave Miller (Md.) 443-375-2926. Fees: \$20 per table, checks only. Forms also at [www.marylandsteam.org](http://www.marylandsteam.org).

**March 3 – Annual spring supper and bazaar.** Begins at noon. Elias Lutheran Church, Emmitsburg. Crafts, Home-baked products, white elephant table. Adults \$9; children 6-12 \$3; carryouts \$10.

**March 3-4 – Historical Winter Market.** Lynfield Event Complex, 10142 Hansonville Rd., Frederick. Merchandise and supplies for all types of historical re-enactors: Colonial, French and Indian War, Revolutionary War, Native American, Mountainman, Civil War. Free evaluations of antique weapons. Information: David Mantz, 101 Birdell Rd. Honey Brook, PA. 19344, 1-888-846-4676.

**March 3, 4 – 3rd Annual Adams County Fishing and Outdoor Expo.** Saturday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Buchanan Valley Fire Company, Route 234, approximately 2 miles off Rt. 30 between Gettysburg and Chambersburg. Admission: \$3 for adults, free for children under 12. Proceeds enable the Watershed Alliance and Trout Unlimited to help preserve the water quality of Adams County. Free parking.

**March 4 – Catocin Youth Wrestling Mason Dixon "B" Division Qualifying Tournament.** Begins at 9 a.m. Catocin High School, 14745 Sabillasville Road, Thurmont.



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## A&E Calendar

### LOOKING AHEAD

#### Events

**Feb. 22 – Storytelling at the Majestic.** 7 p.m. Majestic Theatre, Gettysburg, Pa. Nationally acclaimed African-American storyteller Charlotte Blake Alston and the John Blake Jr. Jazz Quartet. Family-oriented performance. Tickets: \$7-\$10. Available online at [www.gettysburgmajestic.org](http://www.gettysburgmajestic.org) or at the door.

**Feb. 24 – "Memories of Elvis" with Michael Hoover.** Carroll Valley Resort, 121 Sanders Road, Fairfield, Pa. Dinner at 6 p.m. Show begins at 8:30 p.m. Special guest appearance by legendary recording artist, Ronnie Dove. Tickets: show only, \$15; show and dinner, \$40. Reservations and questions: 717-642-7009 or 800-548-8504.

**March 6 – Pulitzer Prize winning poet Claudia Emerson.** 6:30 p.m. Frederick Community College, JBK Theatre, F Building. Emerson will read from her award-winning book, *Late Wife: Poems*, which received the 2006

Pulitzer for Poetry. Information: contact Suzanne Beal, at [sbeal@frederick.edu](mailto:sbeal@frederick.edu) or 301-846-2491.

#### Concerts

**Feb. 22 – Tellin' on the Downbeat.** 7 p.m. Storyteller Charlotte Blake Alston, and her brother, jazz violinist John Blake Jr., with his quartet, weave storytelling and jazz into a tapestry for the whole family. The Majestic, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg. 717-337-8200 or [www.gettysburgmajestic.org](http://www.gettysburgmajestic.org).

**Feb. 25 – Caledonia.** 3 p.m. The very best of Scotland's music performed by 10 of today's top Celtic musicians and world-renowned fiddle champion Bonnie Rideout. The Majestic, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg. 717-337-8200 or [www.gettysburgmajestic.org](http://www.gettysburgmajestic.org).

**March 9 – Ladysmith Black Mambazo.** 8 p.m. Enjoy the powerful, soul-stirring music of this internationally-acclaimed South

African group. The Majestic, 25 Carlisle St., Gettysburg. 717-337-8200 or [www.gettysburgmajestic.org](http://www.gettysburgmajestic.org).

**March 11 – Frederick Choral.** 4 p.m. Evangelical Lutheran Church, 35 East Church Street, Frederick. Free performance of Bernstein's "Chichester Psalms" and the Dave Brubeck Mass, "To Hope! A Celebration." Information: visit [www.frederickchorale.org](http://www.frederickchorale.org), or call 301-662-8506.

#### Stage

**Through March 10 – "Forever Plaid."** Four young, eager male singers, killed in a car crash in the 1950s on the way to their first big concert, are miraculously revived for the posthumous chance to fulfill their dreams and perform the show they never did. Way Off Broadway Dinner Theater, 5 Willowdale Drive, Willowtree Plaza, Frederick. Tickets: 301-662-6600, [www.wayoffbroadway.com](http://www.wayoffbroadway.com).



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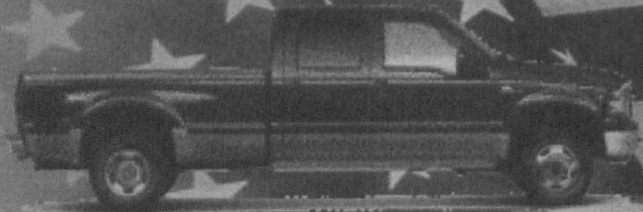
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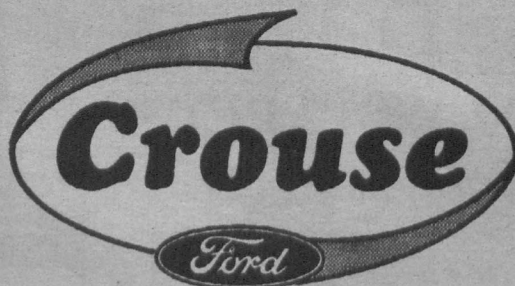


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