

The Emmitsburg Dispatch

VOL VI, No. 16

News and Opinion in the service of Truth

AUGUST 16, 2007

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10-43: FYI.
Getting back to
school safely



Big leaguer, big mystery

Emmitsburg's major leaguer
disappeared 59 years ago

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THINGS HEAT UP IN EMMITSBURG

BY STEPHANIE LONG
Dispatch Staff Writer
slong@thedispatch.us

EMMITSBURG, Md. — On August 4, things heated up in Emmitsburg at the Mayor's Community Bar-b-que, and only one man walked away the ultimate champion as Emmitsburg's first Grand Griller.

Alan Fitzgerald, a.k.a Al's Flamin' B.B.Q., is the one who owns the bragging rights as the Grand Griller of barbeque chicken. He won the title with an award-winning family recipe. For several years Fitzgerald has been working on his recipe and although the barbeque was his first competition, Fitzgerald didn't seem too surprised at the outcome.

"I always knew I had good stuff," Fitzgerald said.

With one win under his apron, Fitzgerald is hungry for more chicken to barbeque and he intends on entering contests in the future.

Randy Hall of Team Boonedock also savored a sweet victory, taking home second place for his sweet and spicy family recipe. Cooked with mesquite-soaked charcoal, smoked with apple chunks and lathered in secret sauce, Team Boonedock's recipe was passed down to Hall from his father and Hall wanted to let everyone know one thing.

"I wanted to show off how good



-STEPHANIE LONG / THE DISPATCH

Randy Hall (left), of Team Boonedock, shows off his barbeque chicken at the Mayor's Community Bar-b-que. Team Boonedock walked away from the competition with second place.

the chicken is," Hall said with a smile.

Although Hall wanted to show off his dad's recipe, he did not enter the competition solely based upon that desire.

"The fact that the money raised is being donated to the college fund was a big motivator to enter," he said.

All of the money raised from the approximately 250 dinners sold at the barbeque will be put into a scholarship fund that Emmitsburg Mayor James Hoover is attempting to set up.

The cause behind the barbeque

also motivated Glenn Higgs to enter the contest.

"I really love how the mayor does things for the community," Higgs said. "This is what small towns are all about."

Not only did Higgs participate in the competition, but he also walked away with a third place win. Higgs used a Holland Grill, which prevents the chicken from being exposed to an open flame, to cook his chicken. He

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Town enacts water restrictions

BY JAMES RADA JR.
News Editor
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EMMITSBURG, Md. — With water being used in greater amounts than it was last summer and nine inches less rain, the Emmitsburg Town Commissioners have begun implementing water restrictions in town.

The commissioners voted 4-0 to prohibit the watering of lawns and gardens with sprinkler systems. This means that all outdoor watering in town needs to be done with a hand-held hose and only flowers, trees and shrubs can be watered. Violators will get a warning for their first offense, a \$50 fine for the second offense and a \$100 fine for each offense thereafter.

Town Manager Dave Haller told the commissioners during a recent town meeting that the situation had "intensified" over the past few weeks.

"We've been in a dry spell for the last seven months and we're nine inches short in our precipitation for the same period last year," Haller said.

The town wells are down an average of eight feet each with the largest being 18 feet down. Rainbow Lake is 14 inches below the spillway when it was only four inches low a month ago.

Haller said the reason for the increased usage in water is outdoor use by residents watering their lawns and gardens. A lawn sprinkler can spray 250 gallons in 33 minutes, the equivalent of an additional water tap.

Some of the extra usage has been offset by system improvements that have cut in half the

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Recent area rains help but don't end drought

BY JAMES RADA JR.
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EMMITSBURG, Md. — On August 9, Mike Hillman was like a kid at Christmas as he watched an approaching storm. He stood outside at a fence as the breeze picked up and whipped at the trees. He looked west as the gathering storm clouds obscured his view of the Catoctin Mountains and smiled.

He climbed over the wooden fence and stood in what had been pasture but was now a growing dirt

patch. He kicked at the ground stirring up a little dust cloud.

"We need this storm. Now if it just doesn't miss us," Hillman said.

That's been part of the problem with the drought that the region is experiencing. When storms do come, they have been spot showers that moved through quickly. Three weeks earlier, Hillman had stood in the wash stall in his barn watching a storm approach. As he looked out the window, he could see a downpour, but as he looked out the front of the barn all he saw was sun.

As the first raindrops fall, he

lifts his face to the sky and says, "Yes!"

Then he jumps the fence again and rushes inside up to the second-floor porch of his house. The rain is coming down harder now and Hillman is all smiles. When the storm

abates, he hurries out to his wife's garden checking the rain gauge. Eight-tenths of an inch had fallen.

"That's not much, but it's four times the amount we got in all of June and July," Hillman said.

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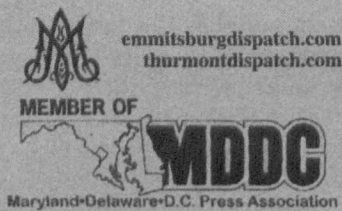
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OPINION

A Word from the Mayor

Things were smokin' in Emmitsburg at the barbecue

I am very happy to say my first Community Chicken Bar-B-Que Competition was a great success. Alan Fitzgerald from Fairfield, Pennsylvania won 1st Place and the title of "Emmitsburg's Grand Griller", Randy Hall from Emmitsburg won 2nd Place and Glenn Higgs from Emmitsburg won 3rd Place. Six other competitors; Jubilee Foods, The Butcher Block, Century 21 Mountain View Realty, Up County Family Center, Francis Elder Post 121 American Legion, and Smokin' For You

Bar-B-Que also competed in the competition. Despite the very hot weather, I believe everyone who competed and all those who attended the barbecue had a good time.

I certainly enjoyed myself and I had a lot of help from my family. In addition to my wife and four kids, my oldest brother and sister-in-law from Baltimore and my nephew from the Eastern Shore also came to help. I also had a tremendous amount of support from the Emmitsburg Business Community. Jubilee Foods donated all of the chicken for the event (352 quarters), E+ Copy Center donated all the posters, *The Emmitsburg Dispatch* donated all the newspaper adds and through the Emmitsburg Business and Professional Association (EBPA) many local businesses donated over 20 door prizes, four bicycles and the cost of the band. Jubilee foods

even did a few extra things for the event, they rented a chicken costume and had one of their employees wear it during the barbecue, they also placed a large ad in their weekly store flyer the week before the barbecue. When I contacted each of the businesses and the EBPA, each of them were excited about the event and wanted to help. Anytime I needed something from any of them they were all very supportive and ready to assist. Libby Briggs, President of the EBPA called and sent me emails regularly to make sure I had everything I needed.

I also had three other helpers; Bob Hance from the Carriage House, Jennifer Buchheister from *The Emmitsburg Dispatch* and Dr. Christine Curley were the judges. They each sampled chicken from each competitor and selected the winners. I know they enjoyed it be-

cause they already asked if they can have the same job next year. Yes, there is going to be another barbecue chicken competition next year.

As mayor, I believe one of the most-important responsibilities of my job is to maintain a community spirit but, this event was a little different than our other community events. This event was hosted by me personally, not by the town. I did it this way because I want to encourage or challenge future mayors to be community minded.

After all bills were paid and the money was totaled the proceeds that I was left with was \$860. Diana and I have decided to add an additional \$340 to have a total profit of \$1200. This money will be used to create a scholarship and go towards some of the cost for next year's event.

Again I want to thank all of the sponsors and donors for their great support. I look forward to doing this again next year. I want to see this become an Emmitsburg tradition for many, many years.

James Hoover
Emmitsburg Mayor

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CORRECTION

The August 2, 2007 article "A birthday bash 90 years in the making," Johnny Gregory, Moselle B. Gregory's grandson, was solely responsible for making all of the arrangements for his grandmother's helicopter ride.



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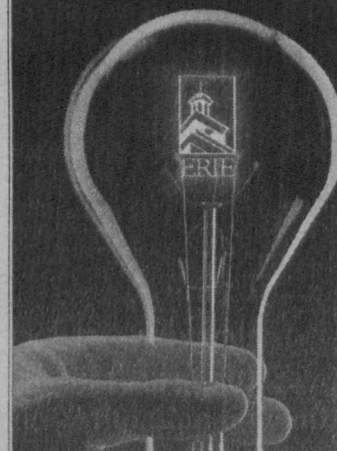


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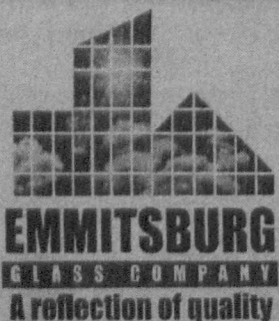


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Drought

-Continued from page 1

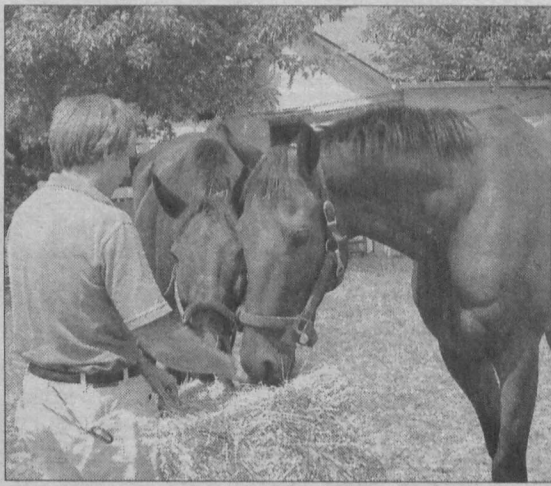
Frederick County farmers have been struggling with the lack of water since May. At that point, Hillman started having to feed his horses hay when they were in the field.

"We've never had to do that before in the 18 years we've been here," Hillman said. "They've always been able to forage in the field."

Now Hillman is paying for hay he never had to pay for before and he's paying twice as much for it because it's in short supply because hay harvests have been off as much as 50 percent.

Frederick County farmland covers around 195,000 acres or about 10 percent of the state's total farmland. As the largest agricultural county in the state, it supports about 1200 farms. So when the rain doesn't fall in the county, it can make the difference between the survival of small and large farms.

Stanley Foltz, dairy science extension agent, said, "Many of our farmers are really struggling. Many of our guys who have been doing all right are taking money out of savings now."



- JAMES RADA JR. / THE DISPATCH

Mike Hillman is having to feed his horses hay during the summer for the first time since he's lived in this area. The lack of water in the region has turned his grass brown and led to torn up patches in his pastures that will have to be reseeded.

Many farmers had to take from savings last year to get by and this year's drought will only make it tougher for them to recover, according to Foltz.

"We're going to see quite a few more farmers get out this year," Foltz said.

According to him, over the past 10 years, Frederick County has lost about 5 percent of its dairy farms a year. Between May 2006 and May 2007, the number of dairy farms in the county fell from 138 to 125 or 9.5 percent.

Not all farmers in the county are suffering, though. Bob Black with Catocin Mountain Orchards, said, "My father had the foresight back in the 1960's to have irrigation

ponds dug."

The four irrigation ponds are spring fed, and although the levels are off somewhat, they are still full.

The lack of water has given Black a sweet peach crop, though. "The peaches are the best tasting ever," he said. "The dry conditions mean they've been filling up with sugar not water."

Black does have to be cautious with his workers in the field. He makes sure they have plenty of water and take frequent breaks.

"When I hear the weatherman say, 'Stay inside,' I have to laugh. When you've got crops, you've got to harvest them or lose them," Black said.

Restrictions

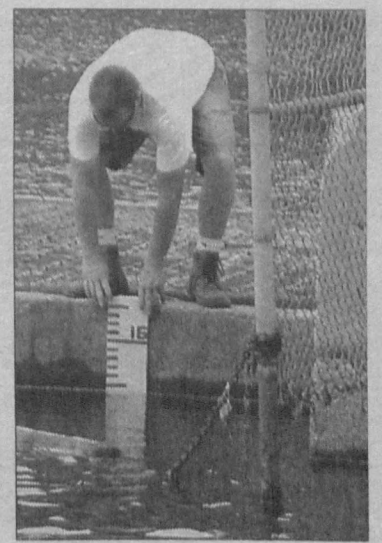
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percentage of water lost in transit through the water pipes. A July 30 memo from Haller to the commissioners noted, "However, it appears as if that increased system efficiency is being offset by excessive (and most likely unnecessary) residential consumption."

Haller also pointed out after the meeting that the top 10 commercial users in town have used less water this year compared to last year.

"I'm hoping it will become a non issue as we move into September," said Commission President Chris Staiger.

The commissioners will examine whether further restrictions will be needed at the August 20 town meeting.



- JAMES RADA JR. / THE DISPATCH

Emmitsburg Water and Wastewater Operator Kevin Stultz checks the depth gauge near the overflow at Crystal Lake. The lake depth is 14 inches below normal, which led to the town enacting water restrictions.

Heat

-Continued from page 1

also used his secret sweet n' sassy sauce, which he makes late at night to prevent anyone from copying his recipe, to season the chicken.

"This is my passion, my fun time," Higgs said. "I'm not much to look at, but I'm good to have around."

With nine different varieties of chicken to sample, a moon bounce to jump on, and Springfield Exit playing music, there was plenty to do to keep those busy who weren't caught up in the heat of the competition.

Overall the first annual Em-



- STEPHANIE LONG / THE DISPATCH

mitsburg Community Bar-b-que seemed to be a success, which is a good thing for Hoover, who has already purchased the ribbons for next years competition, scheduled for the first Saturday in August.

Winners of the bar-b-que contest recieved ribbons from the Mayor. L to R: Glenn Blanchard, Emmitsburg Town Commissioner, Mayor James Hoover, Alan Fitzgerald, Glenn Higgs and Randy Hall.

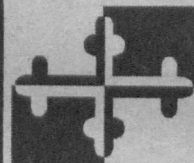
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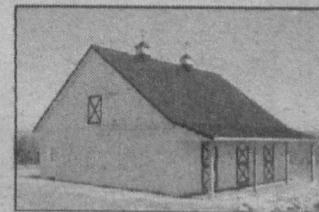
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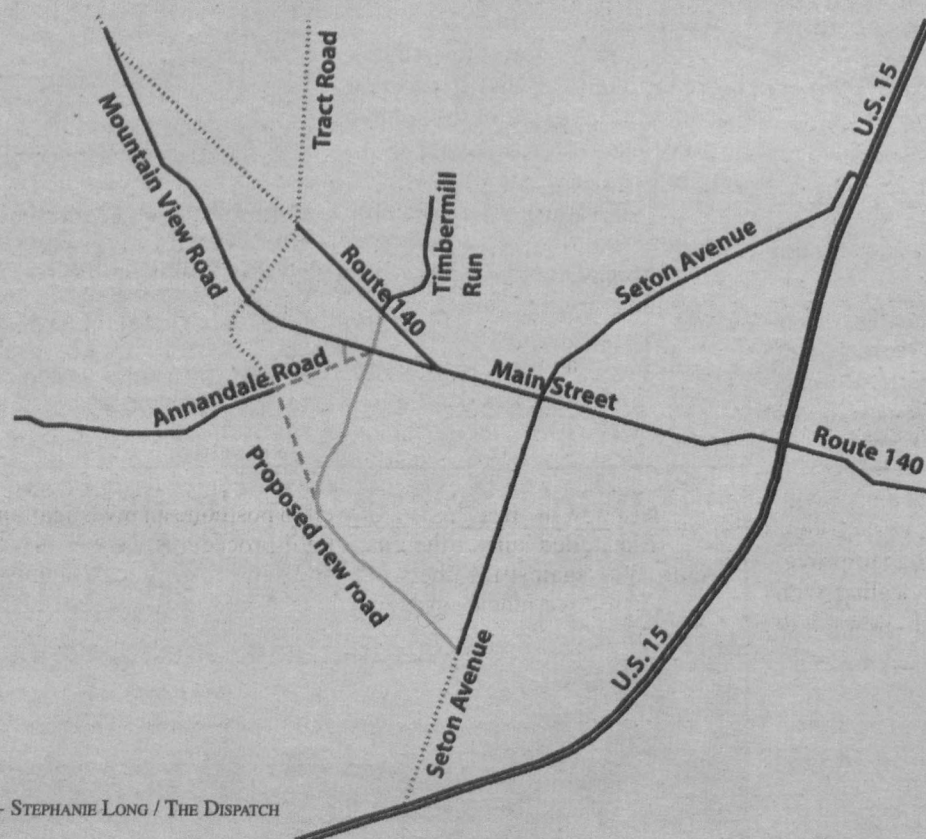
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TOWN NEWS

P&Z Commission studies bypass alignments

EMMITSBURG BYPASS PROPOSED ROUTE



MAP KEY

FIRST STAGE

SECOND STAGE

THIRD STAGE

The proposed alignment for the Emmitsburg bypass would be implemented in three phases and require a new road to be built southwest of Emmitsburg from Route 140 to South Seton Avenue.

BY JAMES RADA JR.

News Editor

jrada@thedispatch.us

EMMITSBURG, Md. — With a 50 percent increase in traffic expected to come through downtown Emmitsburg from Pennsylvania, the Emmitsburg Planning and Zoning Commission is looking for a way to divert traffic around town.

Sarah Franklin with Jakubiak and Associates told the commission, "It hinders downtown revitalization to have these large trucks going through town."

Jakubiak and Associates has been drafting the update to the town's master plan under the direction of the planning commission.

The town already deals with an average of 8,000 vehicles a day going through downtown, but with proposed development in Pennsylvania, that number could jump to 12,000 vehicles a day. In addition, the draft comprehensive plan update would allow for 915 new homes in town and the traffic they would bring.

"Another thing these drivers do is tend to use alleyways to bypass, which causes safety concerns," Franklin said.

Jakubiak's suggestion is to build a north-south bypass around the town that diverts traffic from Route 140 west of town and brings it out on South Seton Avenue near the intersection with Route 15. It would consist of phased in improvements

to the roads.

The first stage would be a new road that moves south from near the intersection of Route 140 and Timbermill Run, turns east across Emmitsburg Community Park near Toms Creeks and intersects South Seton Avenue across from National Emergency Training Center.

The second phase would be improvements to Annandale Road to the point where a new road breaks off to the southeast and connects with the previously built new road.

The third phase would be a new road that moves south from the intersection of Route 140 and Tract Road and then turns east to connect to the previously built new road.

Additional improvements would be made from the Tract Road / Route 140 intersection north to the MD/PA line and south from the bypass intersection with South Seton Avenue along South Seton to the intersection with Route 15.

When Commission Chairman Larry Little suggested that trucks would still drive through town to get to points east, Franklin said that the bypass would divert trucks if an interchange was built at South Seton and Route 15.

The present comprehensive plan calls for an east-west bypass north of town, but Franklin said Jakubiak and Associates wasn't supporting this alignment because a lot of the land in that area was deed restricted for agriculture preservation.

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TOWN NEWS

Emmitsburg seeks a new MDE consent order

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

EMMITSBURG, Md. — Emmitsburg could see a lot more growth this next year than it has seen in recent years. The town has satisfied a consent order with the Maryland Department of the Environment that limited the number of water and sewer connections that could be made to the town system. Having met the terms of the consent order, the order expired.

"Without the consent order, we really don't have a lot of options to not providing taps for growth," Mayor James Hoover told the town commissioners on Aug. 6.

The town was using the consent order as a way to control growth. However, now that there is no order and there is both water and sewer capacity, the town has no reason not to allow property

owners within the town limits to buy taps for their property.

The two uncompleted subdivisions in town, Brookfield and Southgate, have about 65 building lots awaiting taps. Beyond that, Hoover said there is nothing approved in the town pipeline that

spills by pumping sewage into a lagoon near the treatment plant where it can sit until the plant can process it, the town hasn't addressed the problem of dealing with high flows.

"What we did is create a way to get it to the plant without spilling it," Hoover said.

He is working to have a new consent order enacted with MDE until the town can address how to deal with high flows, which

can overburden the sewer plant.

The previous agreement with MDE lasted four years and cost the town \$3.5 million in improvements. He said that dealing with the problem of high flows will cost "at least that much and probably more." It will also take five to eight years to address, though Hoover said he hopes that a new agreement wouldn't be in force that long.

"Without the consent order, we really don't have a lot of options to not providing taps for growth."

James Hoover
Emmitsburg Mayor

wouldn't require annexation.

The town commissioners allocated its annual 20 taps in July. Hoover said a few days later the town was notified that the consent order had expired.

"While MDE is satisfied, I don't believe I am. I don't believe this staff is and I don't believe this board is," Hoover said.

He said while the town has addressed the problem of sewage

Emmitsburg's Election Day coming

EMMITSBURG, Md. — Make sure your vote is heard. The last day to register to vote in the upcoming Emmitsburg municipal election is Aug. 24. Registration applications can be obtained at the Emmitsburg Town Office at 300A-1 South Seton Avenue.

The election will be on Tuesday, September 25 at 22 East Main Street. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Two commissioner seats will be open for the election.

Candidates for town com-

missioner must file written applications for their candidacy with the town clerk no later than 21 business days prior to Election Day.

A write-in candidate must file a certificate of candidacy with the town clerk before noon on the seventh day preceding the election.

All candidates will be posted on the Town bulletin board in the way in which it appears on the certificate.

- J. Rada

Commissioners make P&Z appointments

EMMITSBURG, Md. — The Emmitsburg Town Council voted 4-0 on August 6 to appoint Patrick Joy to the Planning and Zoning Commission to move alternate Patrick Boyle to a voting position. Boyle's move means there is now an opening for an alternate member on the Planning and Zoning Commission that needs to be filled.

- J. Rada

Judge hears Elder lawsuit arguments

BY JAMES RADA JR.
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FREDERICK, Md. — Though Frederick County Circuit Court Judge Julie Stevenson Solt heard arguments from the Town of Emmitsburg to dismiss former Town Commissioner Arthur Elder's lawsuit against the town on Aug. 15, it will still be a few weeks before she issues her decision.

"This case, I know, has been hanging around forever," Solt told the two parties at the beginning of the hearing.

Elder filed suit in the circuit court against members of the town government on Nov. 23, 2005, seeking \$5.4 millions he claimed resulted from the town ethics investigation. The investigation determined that Elder had violated the town ethics code.

A U.S. district court judge reviewing constitutional issues alleged in the suit in April 2006 rejected Elder's due-process-related claims, and dismissed a claim that the town should pay Elder's legal fees. However, the remaining charges were remanded back to the Frederick County Circuit Court.

Attorneys and litigants were in circuit court to argue about the case that has gone on for two years. Defense attorney Victoria Shearer asked Solt to dismiss the remaining five charges against the mayor and town commissioners.

One of the charges wanted a declaration that the town code was flawed because it had

no procedural guidelines for an ethics investigation.

"It (the code) was approved by the state itself yet the plaintiff argues it does not comply with state law," Shearer said.

However, Elder's attorney Rosemary McDermott argued while the town code was similar to the model code, it wasn't similar to state law. "The local code should not be compared to the model code but the state law."

She also noted that citizens had urged the town council to postpone an investigation until procedures were in place and to dismiss Ethics Commission Chairman Ted Brennan because he was biased.

"The plaintiff is claiming the ethics commission investigation is biased, yet he refused to participate," Shearer said.

The second charge was that the investigation should be declared tainted and biased because Brennan was a former political opponent of Elder's.

The other three charges dealt with negligence on behalf of the town toward Elder, defamation of Elder's character and that the town had inflicted emotional damage on Elder.

"He has been vilified. He is a pariah in the community. His neighbors walk the other way when they see him coming," McDermott said.

Solt spent about half an hour listening to the arguments and announced that she would have her decision by the end of August or early September.

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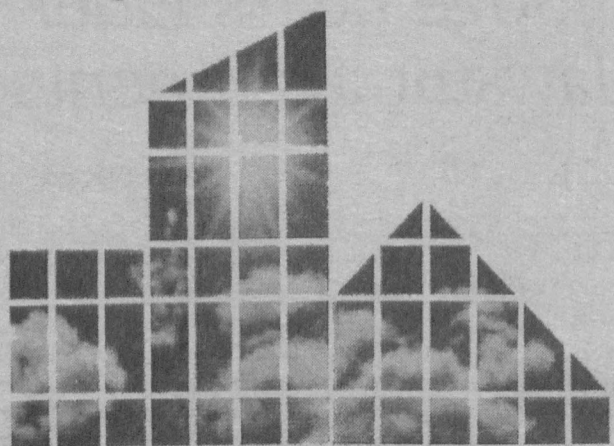
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10-43: For Your Information
**Community deputies
serving Emmitsburg**

Getting back to school safely

By DFC JOHN BARTLETT
Contributing Writer

The summer vacations and the break from school are almost over. It is time to begin preparing our kids for another school year. We need to think about the safety of our kids while traveling to and from school, school events, and safety on the playgrounds. Parents should also be alert when transporting the kids to school. Children sometimes run out into traffic. Drivers should be especially alert around crosswalks and stopped buses. Main Street, Seton Avenue, and the alleys are loaded with kids waiting on the bus or walking to school. Drivers must be aware that it is the law to stop for pedestrians in the crosswalks and for stopped school buses.

Kids that are walking to school should follow basic safety tips:

- Obey all traffic signals and the crossing guards' instructions.
- Use the crosswalks for crossing the streets and look for vehicles.
- Walk with a friend or sibling.
- Wear reflective bands as they make you more visible to traffic.

If you're riding your bike to school, remember:

- Always wear a helmet.
- Check behind you before changing lanes.
- Watch for things in the roadway like holes, loose gravel, or

anything that might cause you to lose control of your bike.

- Stop at stop signs and all traffic lights.
- Signal before making a left or right turn.
- Listen and look for vehicles.
- Don't wear headphones, loose clothing, or shoes that may slip off the pedals.

Remember to think safety before getting on or off the bus:

- Have a safe place to wait for the bus away from heavy traffic.
- Wait for the bus to completely stop before approaching it.
- Use the hand rails when entering or exiting the bus.
- Stay in your seat and refrain from causing any distractions for the bus driver.
- When exiting the bus, walk at least ten steps away so the bus driver can see you are in a safe place.

- Pay attention to other vehicles when getting on and off the bus. Vehicles have to stop for a school bus when its lights and sign are engaged, but not all do.

While at school, remember playground safety:

- Check the surface of the ground and make sure there is wood chips, mulch, sand, or mats made of safety-tested rubber around the equipment.
- Make sure the ground is free from broken glass or anything that could cause injury.
- Do not wander away from

the playground.

- Have any drawstrings on shorts, jackets, or sweatshirts removed or tucked in. These can cause strangulation by catching on things.
- Never go to anyone that calls for you just outside the playground. If this happens, tell a teacher immediately.
- If you find something suspicious on the playground such as a package, backpack, or anything that looks out of place, don't touch it and tell a teacher.

Going over these safety tips with our kids may help prevent incidents that may hurt them. Especially stress the importance of not talking to or going with someone they are unfamiliar with. Parents may want to take turns being with the kids at bus stops or may want to contact the local schools to ask where they could volunteer. Start preparing the kids now for a safe and exciting school year.

Town Meetings

Municipal meetings

Town Meeting
August 20, 7:30

Parks Committee
August 21, 7:30 p.m.

Planning and Zoning
August 27, 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.



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REGIONAL NEWS

Carroll Valley talks about regional group for Emmitsburg bypass

BY STEPHANIE LONG

Staff Writer
slong@thedispatch.us

CARROLL VALLEY, Pa. — For quite sometime many in Emmitsburg have been pushing to build a bypass for the town to cut down high traffic numbers, but thus far nothing has come of it. Now one borough commissioner from Pennsylvania is hoping to help his Southern neighbors get what they've been waiting for.

At the Aug. 14 Carroll Valley Borough Council meeting, Commissioner William Reinke proposed a rather unique idea to the council, that Carroll Valley residents and Emmitsburg residents team up together and form a bi-state coalition that would work together, across state lines, to help bring forth the Emmitsburg bypass.

Reinke said that many drivers from Pennsylvania, including himself, pass through Emmitsburg to get to Route 15 and head to points south for their jobs.

Therefore, the backlog of an estimated 10,000 cars that pass through Emmitsburg each day is due in part to Pennsylvanian drivers.

Thus far Emmitsburg has not been able to solidify plans to build a bypass for Emmitsburg due to funding cost and other issues, such as Emmitsburg's close position to the Mason-Dixon Line, which prevents the bypass from being built north of town unless it is approved by Pennsylvania.

Reinke suggested that by having a regional group help push the cause, it may be easier to deal with interstate issues that arise from the project and the bypass might have a greater chance of coming to pass if the communities work together.

At one time, long before Mason and Dixon ever drew a line, Carroll Valley and Emmitsburg resided in the same region, Reinke said, and now the existence of a line shouldn't keep the states from working together to bring something to pass that will

benefit both communities.

"I really do believe it's a win, win situation," Reinke said.

Reinke did petition for help from community members to form the coalition and help out with the bypass effort. Catherine Forrence, of Emmitsburg, was quick to offer her help to the cause.

"I think he's got it right," Forrence said. "A grassroots effort should carry some weight."

As bypass advocate, Forrence has an established website, www.masondixonbypass.com, which gives information about the traffic issues in Emmitsburg and the benefits of a bypass.

The council seemed to agree with Forrence that a coalition might help the bypass effort, but no official ordinance was drafted to constitute an official coalition.

Those interested in getting involved in the bypass effort can become a part of the coalition itself or visit Forrence's site for information on how to take action.

Residents encouraged to report gypsy moth damage

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — Maryland is currently experiencing the worst gypsy moth outbreak in a dozen years.

Despite the spraying of more than 50,000 acres of public and privately owned land in May by the Maryland Department of Agriculture, wooded areas of Cecil, Harford, Baltimore, Anne Arundel, Howard, Montgomery, Carroll, Frederick, Washington, Allegany and Garrett counties are having problems with defoliation by the gypsy moth. MDA encourages landowners to call the nearest regional Forest Pest Management Office to report gypsy moth damage.

The increase in gypsy moth populations this year can most likely be attributed to dry weather the last two seasons. Dry weather generally benefits the gypsy moth because it discourages the spread of the virus and fungal diseases that can infect and kill gypsy moth caterpillars.


Many residents and homeowners are seeking advice to combat the heavy populations on their properties. At this



time of the year, gypsy moths are mostly full grown and have already done their damage, so spraying and other preventative measure are not likely to be effective.

The best actions to take are those which preserve the health of the trees. Trees that have lost 60 percent or more of their leaves to the gypsy moth are at the greatest risk. These trees may try to re-foliate, and will be in a weak and vulnerable condition.

Trees can benefit greatly from being watered with a slow trickle of water over several hours. Water flow should be slow enough so that there is not run-off, but that allows the water to pool and soak into the ground. Homeowners are encouraged to also seek the advice of an arborist or licensed tree care expert.

More information about the gypsy moth, what homeowners can do, and current conditions is available on line at www.mda.state.md.us/go/gypsymoth.com or by calling the Central MDA Regional Offices at (301) 662-2074.

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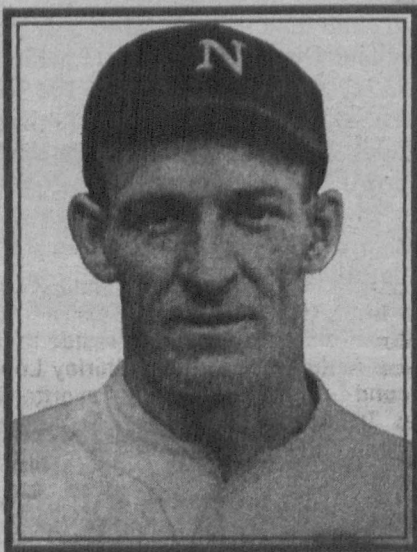
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Emmitsburg's major leaguer disappeared 59 years ago



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

EMMITSBURG, Md. — Many a young boy picks up a bat, walks to the plate and dreams of slugging his way into immortality. Tolbert "Percy" Dalton was such a boy and he did manage to find his own type of immortality. Not because he is forever remembered as one of

baseball's greats, but because he is one of the few major league players whose death date is unknown.

Dalton was also a lay preacher for the Columbia Primitive Baptist Church in Burtonsville, Md.

"The church he was an elder in, to my knowledge, had other smaller worship locations in the state of Maryland. As an elder we understand that he would make occasional appearances at Sunday services at the main church. He

would speak to certain topics relevant to the beliefs the church had. He would also baptize new members," said Richard Bozzone with the Society for American Baseball Research. Bozzone has been researching Dalton to try and find where and when he died.

On August 1, 1948, two deacons from the church visited Dalton's Emmitsburg home. Dalton had failed to show up for a church meeting on July 4.

Dalton had only lived in Emmitsburg for a year, having moved here from the Baltimore area to become editor for the *Emmitsburg Chronicle* when it restarted publication after a five-year hiatus during World War II. He and his wife lived with his wife's daughter and son-in-law, Lois and George Heller.

The two deacons couldn't find Dalton. No one in his family knew what had happened

to him. Since that day no one has ever been able to ascertain his whereabouts.

During the four seasons he played professional baseball, Dalton went by the name of Jack. He was an outfielder who started in the minor leagues in Des Moines where he batted .208 in 1910. He was invited mid year to join the Brooklyn Robins, predecessor to the Dodgers. He slumped and was sent to the minor league team in Newark, NJ. He returned to the Robins in 1914

and then played for the Buffalo Blues in 1915 and Detroit Tigers in 1916. His best year was 1914 when he batted .319. The following year his batting average was .293 with 28 stolen bases. He finished his career in 1916 playing most of the season for San Francisco in the minor leagues and eight games for Detroit.

However, by 1948, at 62 years old, his glory days were forgotten. Dalton was living in Emmitsburg with his second wife, Thelma Bradshaw.

Though Dalton was too old to steal bases, he possibly found one thing he could still steal. Ralph Harris, a former member and editor of the Primitive Baptist Church paper, knew two of Dalton's sisters (now deceased). He asked them what happened to their brother.

"Their response was that he had absconded with the subscription funds for the church paper. Although Harris did not have firsthand knowledge of the theft, the story was confirmed by several of the church leadership when he became editor," Bozzone said.

Dalton happens to be one of the very few 20th Century major league

players for whom death information is not known.

"There are 15 20th Century players for whom we do not have death details but Dalton is, by far, the most well known of the players," Bozzone said.

Bozzone has been assisted in his search for Dalton by another SABR member Al Quimby. What has made the task so difficult is that not even the family of Jack Dalton has information on what happened to him.

No missing persons report appears to have ever been filed with the Maryland State Police. No articles about his death have ever turned up. He simply vanished.

SABR member Bill Haber of Brooklyn, NY also worked on the Dalton case. Though now deceased, Haber's research over 20 years has corrected errors in more than 200 professional baseball players' biographies. Haber tracked some of Dalton's relatives to Emmitsburg in 1978. He was told that Dalton had simply fallen off the face of the earth and never made contact with any of his relatives after he left Emmitsburg. He did not even show up for his brother's funeral in 1954.

Dalton was born July 3, 1885 in Henderson, Tenn. He had three sisters Lura, Lena and Lola and one brother Pleasie.

Following Dalton's baseball career, SABR determined that in 1921 and 1922 he was a salesman living in Baltimore. In 1930, he was living in Elkridge, Md. By 1940, he was living at Catonsville, Md. at 2 North Prospect St. In April 1942, his World War II registration card lists him as a clerk in the Finance Office of the U.S. Army's Third Corps headquarters in Baltimore. After the war, he became involved with the Primitive Baptist Church and moved to Emmitsburg.

Bozzone is seeking any additional information. You can reach him at boz9@msn.com or by phone at (860) 872-6743. Dalton's disappearance can also be found on www.aafra.org.

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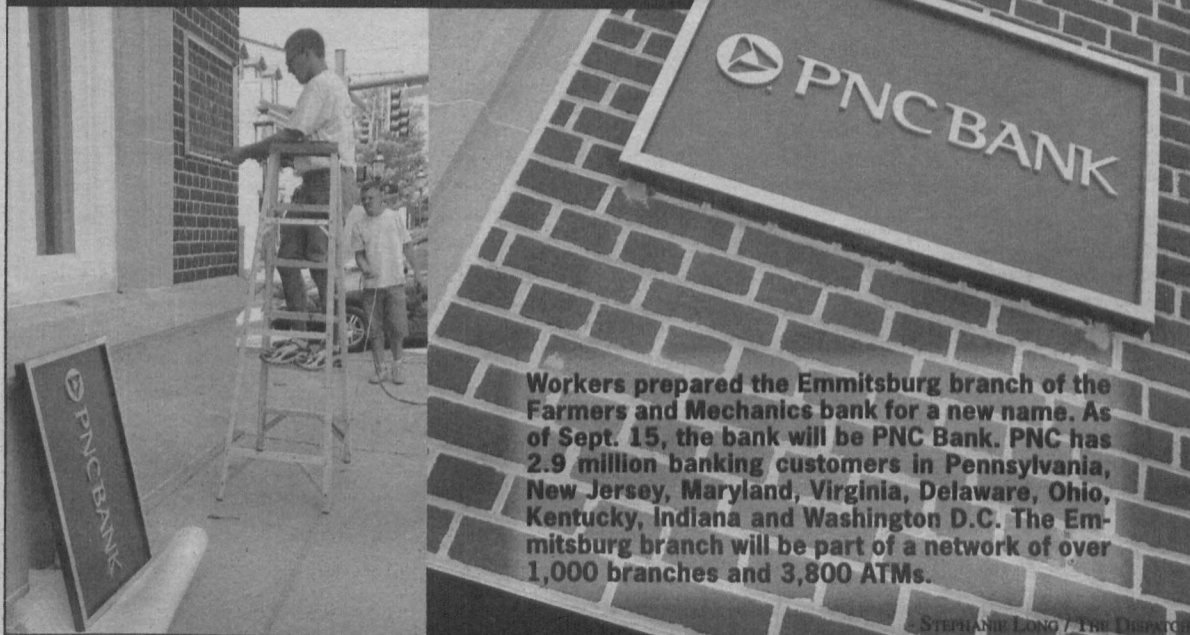
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COMMUNITY NEWS

A rose by any other name



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STEPHANIE LONG / THE DISPATCH

Thurmont Lions elect new officers



-PHOTO COURTESY OF THE THURMONT LIONS CLUB

The Thurmont Lions Club recently installed its new officers for the 2007-2008. Past District Governor Margarito (Och) Ochoa presided over the installation ceremony held at Cozy Restaurant. Pictured, from left, front row: Susan Favorite, Immediate Past President; Robin Keeny, First Vice President; Paul Cannada, President; Joyce Anthony, Secretary; Shirley Long, Membership Chairman. Second row, from left, Doug Favorite, Treasurer; West Hamrick, Dues Treasurer; Joel Weiss, Second Vice President; Larry Mundy, First-Year Director; Och Ochoa, Two-Year Director; Albie Little, Tail Twister; Don Keeney, First-Year Director; Russell Favorite, Lion Tamer. Not pictured, Rosemary McDermott, Third Vice President and Bill Reckley, Second Year Director.

Thurmont Seniors discover hidden talents



Senior citizens studied acrylic painting at workshops taught by local artist Nancy Rice. The workshops were part of the offerings for seniors at the Thurmont Senior Citizens Center. Pictured (l to r) are front row: Joan Follin, Dottie Kline, Nancy Davis and back row: Joan Malloy, Clara Schumacher, Irene Matthews and Nancy Stull.

-PHOTO COURTESY OF THE THURMONT SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER

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The (retired) Ecologist Correlating the weather



BY BILL
MEREDITH

Dispatch
Columnist

"You can prove anything with statistics." - Humphrey Appleby

"There are lies, damned lies, and statistics." - Mark Twain, or perhaps, Benjamin Disraeli

"Rain is grace; rain is the sky condescending to the earth; without rain there would be no life." - John Updike

Dog Days started in the first week of July, and will end around the time this issue of *The Dispatch* is published. Traditionally this is a period when the weather gets hot and humid; it used to be a topic of conversation, but since blogs, iPods and air conditioning became commonplace, most people take the attitude of, "Well, it's summer... what would you expect?" But this year, the onset of Dog

Days coincided with a prolonged dry spell that got everyone's attention. Lawns turned brown, cornfields dried up, suburbanites fretted about whether they would be allowed to water their flowerbeds, and the few farmers who haven't yet conceded their land to developers began to worry if they could make it through another year. And people of my generation remembered old times.

My parents built a house in 1923, and my father proceeded to dig a well near the back door, using dynamite to penetrate the hard West Virginia shale. He was lucky enough to find water at a depth of 16 feet without blowing up either himself or the house. The well supplied water for drinking and cooking via a pump at the kitchen sink; water for laundry came from a cistern filled by rainwater drained off the roof. Since there was no bathroom in the house, these two sources were sufficient to supply the family in normal times. However, we were always aware of the system's limitations, and from my earliest memories I was cautioned to conserve water during Dog Days. My grandmother was a weather watcher of long and superstitious experience, and she believed if Dog Days started in a certain phase of the moon we would have a drought. I never was able to pin her down about the exact connection with the moon, but she was right occasionally, and no one seemed to remember it when she was wrong.

My early childhood years coincided with the drought that resulted in the Dust Bowl, and there were several summers when our well went dry. Luckily, grandma's well was on a better aquifer; I recall my father carrying water from it each day in our 3-gallon milk bucket, while I toddled behind him with a pail improvised from a coffee can, spilling most of it before we got home. This aspect of the "Good Old Days" ended just after the war, when "city water" was piped into

our area from Fairmont, about three miles away. But although that was 70 years ago, even now when Dog Days arrive the memory comes back, like a salmon returning to the stream of its hatching after years at sea.

As I write this, we are nearly 10 inches below the normal rainfall total for the year. Official records have been kept locally for the past 140 years, starting in 1867 at Mount St. Mary's and then, for the past 50 years, by the late Lucille Beale; they show that our average annual rainfall is just under 44 inches. Recently, just for curiosity, I made a graph of these records; the main thing it revealed is why it is so hard to prove anything about what causes our weather. The data points from one year to the next vary in a wildly erratic pattern that looks completely random at first glance; the driest years were 1888 and 2001, when we had about 27 inches, and the wettest was 1996 with over 75 inches. The overall trend looks as if the average may have dropped a couple of inches since 1867, but the procedure for calculating the regression line on the graph that would prove or disprove such a conclusion is tedious, and I haven't got around to doing it yet. However, after staring at the graph for a while you can begin to see a general pattern of alternating wetter and drier periods occurring at roughly 20-year intervals.

Making sense out of weather patterns is fiendishly difficult work; information piles up at rates that can swamp the memory capacity of our biggest computers. Efforts to deal with it before the computer age sometimes produced confusion that reached comic opera proportions, yet some of our basic theories about weather arose from those efforts. Beginning in the late 1930s, Dr. C. G. Abbott of the U. S. Weather Bureau did a Herculean study of over 20 different components of weather in an attempt to find what had caused the Dust Bowl drought. He made a graph of these factors as they had varied over many years; since he had no computer, he plotted each factor by hand in a different color on a sheet of graph paper that was

over 30 feet long. The graph was so unwieldy that he had to keep it rolled up around a Quaker Oats box like a Biblical scroll, and he worked on it until he was past 90. He claimed his graph showed a correlation between periods of drought in the midwestern U. S. and sunspot cycles. Most people regarded him as somewhere between mildly eccentric and outright loony; however, years after his death meteorologists found that his method predicted a drought that occurred in the late 1960s.


The problem with Abbott's theory was that sunspots occur in maximum numbers every 11 years, and at that time there was no known mechanism by which they could influence rainfall. Since 1960, satellite measurements have shown that the sun's radiation varies with the sunspot cycle, and the cycles themselves occur in pairs, so they could actually cause weather to change at 22-year intervals. Present-day measurements seem to confirm a correlation between sunspot cycles and wet or dry periods, but correlation is not proof of cause and effect. When teaching statistics to my ecology classes, I used to remind them that the growth of the stock market in the 1960s correlated very well with the length of women's skirts over the same period of time.

At the point where we are now, we can only hope that history will repeat itself. In the past 140 years there were three years in which we had less than 30 inches of rain, and each of those was followed by wetter than normal seasons. But the dots and lines on my graph sound a cautionary note; since 1960, the fluctuation in rainfall from year to year and cycle to cycle seems to have gotten more extreme. Whether this correlates with global warming is an interesting question; proof of such a correlation will be extremely difficult, and the nature of science is such that the question will probably not be settled in my lifetime. In the meanwhile, I have to be satisfied with the wisdom of a farmer who was quoted years ago in the Saturday Evening Post: Dog days will end. Rain will come; it always has, and it always will.

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Community

CALENDAR

August 16 – Baltimore Pike Farmers Market. At Mulligan MacDuffer (1360 Baltimore Pike) is open from 2 - 7 p.m. every Thursday. Call (717) 337-1492 for information.

August 17 – Outside Luau. 6 - 10 p.m. Members & guests \$5. Roast Pig, BBQ Chicken and trimmings. Cash bar and DJ. Tickets available at Thurmont American Legion.

August 18 – Live and Silent Auction at Lewistown Fire Hall. Registration begins at 6:30 p.m. Silent Auction stops at 8:30 p.m. and the live Auction starts at 8:45 p.m. Advance tickets \$20 or \$25 at the door. Appetizers

and refreshments provided. For more information or to purchase tickets contact Denise Hurd (301) 271-0460 or thehurd26@comcast.net

August 18 – Concert at Adams County Winery at 251 Peach Tree Road, Orrtanna, from 1 - 5 p.m. Free admission, rain or shine. Featuring Bill Hedrick Band, a 50's band. For more information, call (717) 334-3631 or visit www.adamscountywinery.com.

August 18 – Eisenhower Skeet and Trap Shoot at the Eisenhower Farm. Visit www.gettysburgfoundation.org or call (717) 338-1243 for information.

August 18 – Growing Native Ambassador Training at Strawberry Hill Nature Center. Nature lovers, find out about becoming a Growing Native Ambassador. Ambassadors organize and lead seed collection events in their communities and educate others about this important conservation project. Trainings are free, fun and informative. To sign up for upcoming trainings, contact Colleen Langan, Growing Native Project Director at (301) 608-1188, ext. 211, langan@potomac.org, or www.growingnative.org.

August 19 – Community Potluck Dinner at Thorpewood. 4 - 8 p.m. Let us know what dish you will be bringing. RSVP by calling (301) 271-2823.

August 19 – Basket Bingo at the Guardian Hose Company activity building. Doors open at 11:30 a.m., bingo starts at 1 p.m. \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Benefits Catocin Recreation Council Girls' Softball. For tickets, contact Bob Marlow at (301) 271-7063 or Margaret Burns at (301) 271-4691.

August 20 & 27 – Frederick Regional Youth Orchestra Auditions at the Frederick Church of the Brethren. The FRYO, a non-profit organization, is holding spring membership auditions for new woodwind, brass, and percussion players, as well as new string players, to audition for their new concert season. Membership in the FRYO is through audition and is open to students who have played their instruments for at least one year. \$10 non-refundable audition fee for new members. A small number of need-based scholarships are available. Visit our website at www.fryo.org for more information about the orchestra, or call (301) 473-4140 to schedule an audition.

August 21 to 25 – South Mountain Fair at South Mountain Fairgrounds, 615 Narrows Road, Arendstville (Rt. 234). Adams County's only Pennsylvania State Fair recognized organization. Visit www.southmountainfair.com or call (717) 677-9663.

August 23 to 26 – Gettysburg Fall Bluegrass Festival at Granite Hill Campground, 6 miles west of Gettysburg on PA Route 116. Held annually, featuring some of the country's best

stars of bluegrass music. For more information and tickets, visit www.gettysburgbluegrass.com or call (717) 642-8749.

August 24 – Family Pool Party at the Emmitsburg Pool. 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. For more information, call (240) 629-6300.

August 24 – 11th Annual Literacy Gold Tournament at Penn National Golf Club (Founders Course). Deadline for registration is August 1. Price is \$75 per player and includes greens fees, cart, refreshments on course, favors and drinks. Contact Marie Steinbacher at (717) 385-3078 to register.

August 24 to 26 – The Gettysburg Championship at The Links at Gettysburg. Duramed Futures Professional women's golf tour; 8 a.m. tee offs. For tickets and information, visit www.thegettysburgchampionship.com.

August 25 – Horse Show at the South Mountain Fair in Arendstville, PA. Draft, Mule and Light Horses and Ponies can register starting at 9 a.m. Entry fee: \$1 exhibitor number; \$4 class before 8/20; \$5 class after 8/20. Ribbons will be handed out up to 5th place and premiums will be paid. For more information visit www.southmountainfair.com, or call Dianna at (717) 752-6260.

August 25 – American Auctions at the Frederick Fair Grounds, call (301) 639-8871 for more information.

August 25 – Basket Bingo at Lewistown Volunteer Fire Hall. 11101 Hesson Bridge Rd., Thurmont. Doors open at 4 p.m. games begin at 6 p.m. Food available by Lewistown VFC. 22 games. Advance tickets \$20 – at door \$25. Call Tammy (301) 271-2408 or Jill (301) 898-3608.

August 25 – 10th annual Car Show at Taneytown Volunteer Fire Company Carnival Grounds, 49 Memorial Dr., Taneytown. 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Antiques, customs and hotrods as well as special interest vehicles and trucks. Music and food available. For more information contact Charlie Parrish (410) 756-2705 or Don Staub at (410) 756-6381.

August 25, 26 – Used book sale sponsored by The Thurmont Thes-

pians at St John's Lutheran Church in Thurmont (beside the firehouse.) from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. both days. Come stock up on reading material at great prices for the upcoming winter days ahead. Bake sale and homemade soup also available. For info or to donate books, call (301) 271-7613.

August 25 – Concert at Adams County Winery 251 Peach Tree Road, Orrtanna. 1 - 5 p.m. Free admission, rain or shine. Featuring "The Wow Brothers", a 60's, 70's, 80's and 90's big band and country band. For more information, call (717) 334-3631 or visit www.adamscountywinery.com.

August 25 – 13TH Annual Civil War Music Muster sponsored by the Gettysburg National Military Park. Civil War brass bands, fife and drum and parlor music are presented in concert on the Cyclorama lawn followed by a concert at the Pennsylvania Monument in the early evening. Event is free to charge and open to the public. For more information call (717) 334-1124 ext. 430.

August 26 – Celebration of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton's 233 birthday at the National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Visitor Center. Registration of Elizabeth's and Elizabeth Anns of all ages starts at 12:45 p.m. The event will start with a mass at 1:30 p.m. and will be followed by a family fun day in the courtyard with refreshments, games, snow cones, birthday cake and music. This day gives special recognition to all "Elizabeths" in attendance. Everyone is welcome to attend.

August 31 – Eleventh Annual Longaberger Basket Fundraiser Luncheon at the Stephanie Maitland farm will be held from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. to benefit the American Cancer Society and the Adams County Breast Cancer Coalition. A garden luncheon and an inspirational and educational program is planned. Call Laura Reyka at (717) 339-2018 for ticket options.

September 2 – The 54th consecutive, annual reunion of the descendants of the late David and Anna Bell Keilholtz will be held Sunday, in the Thurmont Community Park. Daphne Underwood Moehring, president, encourages all relatives, especially those living in the area, to attend. The 12:30 p.m. buffet meal will feature carry-in covered dishes of favorite foods with fried chicken supplied. There will be games for the children. Adults should bring \$2 wrapped-prizes for bingo. For more information, contact Linda Shields at (301) 447-2854 or Ruth Ann Derr at (301) 371-9439.

September 3 – Annual Labor Day Festival at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish, Church St. Thurmont, MD. 12 - 5 p.m. Family style fried chicken and ham dinner. Adults \$10, children 6-12 \$5, 5 and under free. Air conditioned dining and ample parking. Live music by The Home Comfort Bluegrass Band, bingo and more.

September 4 – Adams County Historical Society monthly meeting will feature Chuck Teague speaking on "A 5-Star View of Gettysburg-General Eisenhower Assesses the Battle." The meeting at 7:30 pm is free and open to the public. Call the ACHS at (717) 334-4723, ext. 201 for information or visit www.achs-pa.org.

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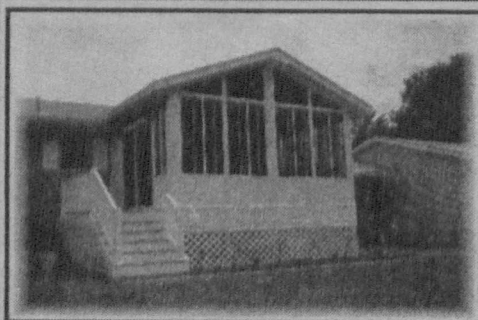
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Arts & Entertainment

C A L E N D A R

August 17 - Submissions Due for the 4th Annual Juried Art Exhibition. Anyone over the age of 18, who is a resident of Adams County or a member of the Adams County Arts Council, is eligible to submit up to three works. \$25 entry fee. The exhibition will be held October 5 - 7 in the Historic Gettysburg Railroad Station, Gettysburg. Show awards include Best of Show, 2nd Prize and 3rd Prize. All cash awards. For more information or to obtain an entry form call (717) 334-5006, email info@adamsarts.com or visit adamscountyartscouncil.org.

August 17 - Concert in the Park with The Pickin' and Grinnin' Comedy Variety Show at the Emmitsburg Community Park Pavilion. 7 - 9 p.m.

August 23 & September 27 - Alive @ Five along the banks of Carroll Creek, Frederick. Join friends and neighbors for this happy hour event, complete with live music, beer, wine, and food. 5 - 8 p.m.

August 25 - 13th Annual Music Muster at Gettysburg National Military Park. Band and Parlor music of the Civil War period. Music ensembles include brass bands, fife and drum groups and individual musicians. 10 a.m. For more information (717) 334-1124.

August 26 - Thurmont Summer Series Concert with the Star-Spangled Big Band. Free concert at 6 p.m. in Thurmont Memorial Park on East Main Street. Bring your own lawn chair or blanket to sit on.

August 28 & October 2 - Exploring Watercolor Studio. The Washington County Museum of Fine Arts in Hagerstown. Instructor; Bob Wantz. Tuesdays 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. For more information on fees, dates and times, call the museum at (301) 739-5727. For the hearing impaired, call our TDD at (301) 739-5764. Registration can be made via our secure web site at www.wcmfa.org. Registration is required for all classes.

August 31 - Concert in the Park with Dan Sherman (Classic Rock) at the Emmitsburg Community Park Pavilion. 7 - 9 p.m.

August 31 to Oct. 5 - Art for Toddlers: Exploring Nature through Art at the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts in Hagerstown. Instructor; Allison Weaver. Fridays 9:45 - 10:45 a.m. or 11 a.m. - 12 p.m., ages 2-3. For more information on fees, dates and times, call the museum at (301) 739-5727. For the hearing impaired, call our TDD at (301) 739-5764. Registration can be made via our secure web site at www.wcmfa.org. Registration is required for all classes.

September 1 - Beginner's Watercolor Workshop at the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts in Hagerstown. Instructor; Bob Wantz. Saturdays from 1 - 4 p.m. For more information on fees, dates and times, call the museum at (301) 739-5727. For the hearing impaired, call our TDD at (301) 739-5764. Registration can be made via our secure web site at www.wcmfa.org. Registration is required for all classes.

Sept. 4 to Oct. 16 - Painting Water in Watercolor at the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts in Hagerstown. Instructor; Kent Roberts. Tuesdays 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. (No Class Oct. 2). For more information on fees, dates and times, call the museum at (301) 739-5727. For the hearing impaired, call our TDD at (301) 739-5764. Registration can be made via our secure web site at www.wcmfa.org. Registration is required for all classes.

Sept. 5 to Oct. 24 - Painting with Oils at the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts in Hagerstown. Instructor; Ski Holm. Wednesdays 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. For more information on fees, dates and times, call the museum at (301) 739-5727. For the hearing impaired, call our TDD at (301) 739-5764. Registration can be made via our secure web site at www.wcmfa.org. Registration is required for all classes.

Sept. 6 to Oct. 18 - Hand Building with Clay at the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts in Hagerstown. Instructor; Jane Pin-

gleton-Evans. Thursdays 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. For more information on fees, dates and times, call the museum at (301) 739-5727. For the hearing impaired, call our TDD at (301) 739-5764. Registration can be made via our secure web site at www.wcmfa.org. Registration is required for all classes.

Sept. 6 to Oct. 11 - Beginning Drawing Studio at the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts in Hagerstown. Instructor; Mike Gouker. Thursdays 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. For more information on fees, dates and times, call the museum at (301) 739-5727. For the hearing impaired, call our TDD at (301) 739-5764. Registration can be made via our secure web site at www.wcmfa.org. Registration is required for all classes.

September 7 - Concert in the Park with Dan Sherman (Classic Rock) at the Emmitsburg Community Park Pavilion. 7 - 9 p.m.

Thespians seek actors for "Tradin' Paint"

THURMONT, Md. - The Thurmont Thespians will hold open auditions for their November 2007 production of a brand new NASCAR-theme comedy by Catherine Bush. The auditions will be August 26 and 27 at the St. John's Lutheran Church Social Hall, 15 North Church Street in Thurmont beginning at 7 p.m. Needed to fill the roles of "Tradin' Paint" are two women and at least six men. One of the male roles requires an African-American actor in his 30s or 40s.

Beth Royer Watson will direct "Tradin' Paint" which opens Friday, November 2 and runs for six performances over two weekends, closing Sunday, November 11. All performances will be at the American Legion Auditorium, 8 Park Place in Thurmont. All rehearsals will be held at the St. John's Lutheran Church Social Hall, 15 North Church St. in Thurmont. Auditions will consist of cold readings from sections of the script. Advance copies of the audition material are available on request by calling Beth Watson at (301) 416-0864 or email:

beth.watson@myactv.net for more information.

In "Tradin' Paint," Darla Frye's life is on the skids. Her mother is dead, her delusional, dog-catching boyfriend is only interested in her fried chicken, and her job stocking auto parts at the Big Mart Distribution Center is going nowhere fast. All this, combined with the fact that Darla's father abandoned the family "26 years ago next Wednesday", has left her "fraught with deep-seated insecurities". Then one night, on a dark, deserted country road, a woman named Lucky Tibbs teaches Darla how to change a flat tire - and in doing so, changes her life. Now Darla is on a quest to find her true "destiny." It's a journey that takes her into the inner world of stock car racing and includes an unexpected friendship with a gay, black college professor, a head-on collision with a car battery, and a heavenly visit with the late Dale Earnhardt. It's one helluva ride with a lot of "tradin' paint" but Darla discovers it's the bumps in the road that makes the trip worthwhile!

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OBITUARIES

Mr. Roland Hubbard

Roland Francis Hubbard, 59, of Emmitsburg, died Tuesday, July 17, 2007 at Hershey Medical Center.

Roland was born June 10, 1948 in Gettysburg, the son of the late Charles Roland and Marie Frances Gelwicks Hubbard.

He is survived by his daughters, Shelly Small, and JoAnn Wood; companion, Robin Motter; brother Charles Hubbard, sisters Suzanne Kreit, and Patricia "Trish" Miller; grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian burial was held July 20, 2007 at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, with the Rev. Vincent J. O'Malley, C.M., as celebrant. Interment followed in New St. Joseph's Cemetery in Emmitsburg.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, c/o Building Fund, P.O. Box 376, Emmitsburg, MD 21727-0376.

Mr. Thomas Garrett

Mr. Thomas Alexander Garrett, 82, of Brookfield Manor, Keymar, died Thursday, July 19, 2007, at Lorien Nursing Home of

Mount Airy. He was the husband of the late Betty Lou Beane Garrett, his wife of 33 years, who preceded him in death on July 7, 1981.

Born in Rockville on July 5, 1925, he was a son of the late Thomas Moore and Anna Brad-dock Hurley Garrett.

Surviving are three children, Nancy Warfield, Donna Myers, and Donald Garrett; six grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Besides his wife and parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, H. Ashton Garrett.

Funeral services were held July 23, 2007 at Molesworth-Williams Funeral Home, 26401 Ridge Road, Damascus with The Rev. Paul N. Leatherman Jr., officiating. Interment followed in Forest Oak Cemetery, Gaithersburg.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Alzheimer's Association, Western Maryland Chapter, 108 Byte Drive, Frederick, MD 21702, with a memo of Alzheimer's research.

Mrs. Ruth Keller

Ruth Evelyn Keller, 88, of Keymar, formerly of Middle-

town, died Sunday, July 29, 2007, at Northampton Manor Nursing Home in Frederick.

She was the wife of Wilmer H. Keller. Born in Wolfsville on April 6, 1919, she was a daughter of the late Ira Thaddeus and Amy Susan Willard Warrenfeltz.

Surviving besides her husband, are two sons, Gene Wilmer Keller, Gary Warren Keller; five grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; one brother, John Warrenfeltz; and a number of nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by three sisters, Alice Warrenfeltz, Marguerite Haupt and Ether Hoffman.

Funeral services were held August 1, 2007 from Zion Lutheran Church in Middletown with The Rev. Kathryn Vitalis Hoffman, her pastor, officiating. Interment was made in the Mt. Zion United Methodist Cemetery, Myersville.

Pallbearers were Carl Gue, Aaron Keller, Andrew Keller, Wes Keller, Robert Pearl and Kenneth Warrenfeltz. Honorary bearers were John Burrier, Leonard Kesner, Bill Williams and Austin Marker.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Middletown Volunteer Fire Co. or to Zion Lutheran Church.

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For more information or to
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nise Hurd 301-271-0460 or
thehurd26@comcast.net.

Community Potluck Dinner

August 19 at Thorpewood. 4
-8 p.m. Let us know what dish

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calling 301-271-2823.

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August 24 at the Emmitsburg
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josh@blackhorsecarriers.com to set up an interview.



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