

The Catoctin Banner

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Rodman Myers Honored by Community Foundation

by Deb Spalding

Mr. Rodman Myers of Thurmont is well-known for his extensive volunteer efforts that have served as a driving force behind the scenes of the Thurmont and Emmitsburg Community Show for many years. While his efforts are on spotlight during the annual Show, he is a dedicated advocate of agricultural efforts in Northern Frederick County year-round. His efforts were recognized in November by the Community Foundation of Frederick County when they honored him with the Wertheimer Fellows Award during the Foundation's annual meeting event at the Holiday Inn and Conference Center in Frederick.

The award was made possible via a bequest from the late Janis Miller Wertheimer, a well-known Frederick businesswoman and volunteer. Her legacy of giving continues through this annual acknowledgement. Each Fellow is awarded \$10,000 to contribute to a nonprofit of choice. Mr. Myers' choice was the C. Rodman and M. Jean Ogle Myers Fund that provides grants in support of the Frederick County 4-H Therapeutic Riding Program, and the Maryland FFA Foundation.

Mr. Myers' volunteer efforts include being a 64-year member of the Thurmont Grange, a member of the Maryland Fair Board, a



Pictured are Jean and Rodman Myers (seated) with their children (back row from left) Patty Johnston, Cheryl Lenhart, Robert Myers, and Andrea Mannix during the Community Foundation's annual event in November.

member of the Catoctin High School Future Farmers of America Alumni, serving as a director for the Thurmont Cooperative for more than 40 years, serving as a representative on the Maryland State Grange at the Maryland Agriculture Commission and serving as a director for the former Thurmont Branch of the Farmers & Mechanics Bank for 20 years. He also served with the Atlantic Dairy Cooperative, the Maryland Council of Farmer Cooperatives, and the Soil Conservation District. The Myers Family was inducted into the Maryland Agriculture Hall of Fame in 1991.

Along with his wife, M. Jean Ogle Myers, he owns and operates a 425 acre farm in Thurmont where corn,

Rodman Myers Honored

— Continued on page 19

Davis Receives EBPA Community Service Award

by James Rada, Jr.

The Emmitsburg Business and Professional Association presented Dorothy "Dot" Davis with its annual "Extraordinary Community Service Award" at its annual awards banquet in December 2013. Davis has served in a number of positions with the Vigilant Hose Company Auxiliary and Toms Creek Church. She was on hand with many members of her family to receive the award and watch a video of her life and people she knew congratulating her on her award.

Dot and her late husband, Allen, owned The Palm's Restaurant in Emmitsburg from 1962 to 1981. She served as an Emmitsburg Town Commissioner from 1983 to 1985. She's been a member of the Vigilant Hose Company Auxiliary since 1982, and has served as President for fifteen years. She has also held other officer positions and chaired many committees. She is often seen working in the kitchen at various functions that are held by the fire department and the Auxiliary. She was inducted into the Vigilant Hose Company Hall of Fame in 2007.

She is a member of Tom's Creek Church, where she currently serves as Chairperson of the Administrative Council. She has also served as Chairperson of the Trustees, the Staff Parish Committee, the Fellowship Committee, and was on the Building Committee for the recent expansion



EBPA Treasurer Allen Knott presents Dorothy "Dot" Davis with the Extraordinary Community Service Award at the Emmitsburg Business and Professional Association (EBPA) Annual Awards Banquet in December 2013.

and addition of the church. She has chaired many fundraising activities at the church, such as breakfasts and dinners.

On a personal note, Dot has three children, four grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren, all of whom reside in Emmitsburg. Dot continues to volunteer and participate in many fundraising activities for their schools and athletic programs.

The banquet was held on December 6, 2013, at the Carriage House Restaurant. EBPA Treasurer Allen Knott served as the master of ceremonies. Besides Davis, awards were given to: Pam Bolin on behalf of the Emmitsburg Ambulance Company for not only its service as ambulance company but its support of community projects; Cliff Sweeney

Davis Receives Award

— Continued on page 14



See the Winner of our Home Holiday Decorating Contest

— page 15

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THE POSTAL CUSTOMER

Three Vie for Open Thurmont Commission Seat

by James Rada, Jr.

Thurmont's special election on January 7, 2014, will be more competitive than the general election in October. During the general election, three candidates sought two open seats on the Thurmont Board of Commissioners. Three people will be running for one open seat during the special election on January 7.

Bill Blakeslee, Wes Hamrick, and Randy Cubbedge are seeking to fill the unexpired term of John Kinnaird, who was elected Mayor in October 2013.

Blakeslee is both a former commissioner and a former chief administrative officer for Thurmont. He said during the nominating convention on December 10, 2013, that he is running for the position, because he believes that he still has a lot to contribute to the town.

Hamrick is a manager with AT&T and a member of the staff of Stauffer Funeral Home. In the community, he is also a member of the Lions Club, Weller United

Methodist Church, and the Guardian Hose Company.

"As a commissioner, this will allow me to service the community at a new and different level and, hopefully, bring fresh ideas and perspectives for betterment of this town," Hamrick said during the nominating convention.

Cubbedge served twenty-nine years with the U.S. Park Police and is chairman of the town's planning and zoning commission. He said if elected commissioner, one of his goals is

to see that the town's master plan continues to be implemented.

"Keep Thurmont small. Keep Thurmont vibrant, but also give Thurmont a place to continue to grow," Cubbedge said.

The winner of the special election will serve two years, filling out Kinnaird's term.

The election will be held January 7, 2014. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. at the Fireman's Activity Building, located at 123 E. Main Street in Thurmont.

COZY Restaurant

Prepare for the New Year with New Year's Eve Land & Sea Spectacular Buffet!

Celebrate With Us First!

4pm-close Adults \$19.99

Featuring:

Atlantic Salmon w/ Dill Sauce	Stuffed Pork Loin	Fried Shrimp
Baked Flounder w/ Crab Sauce	BBQ Ribs	Clams
Prime Rib & Sirloin Roast	Steamed Shrimp	Fried Oysters
Baked Tarragon Chicken		

Includes 40 item salad bar, veggie & clam Chowder & dessert bar!

103 Frederick Rd. Thurmont, MD 21788

COZY Restaurant

Welcome in the New Year with New Year's Day Brunch!

8am-3pm \$14.99 adults

Omelet Station made to order!

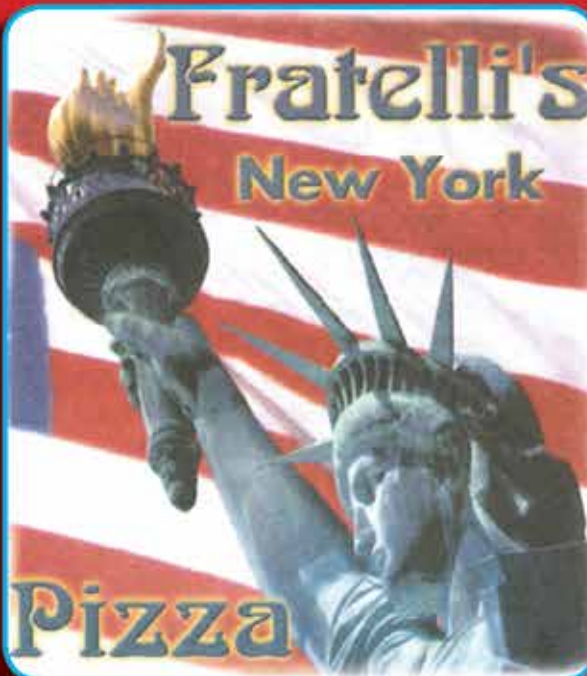
Featuring:

French Toast	Bacon	Hoppin John
Fried Chicken	Sausage	Beef Burgundy
Mac & Cheese	Waffles	Baked Fish
Sirloin Steak	Corn Fritters	Scrambled Eggs

Includes 40 item salad bar, 2 soups, & dessert bar

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103 Frederick Rd. Thurmont, MD 21788



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Restaurant

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\$2.00 OFF Any Pasta Dinner
(includes Salad & Bread)

TUESDAY:

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WEDNESDAY:

\$4.99 Fish and french fries
Small Meatball & Cheese **\$3.99**

~WING WEDNESDAY~

50¢/Each - Plain, BBQ, Buffalo or Old Bay

THURSDAY:

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Any Pretzel Melt and Fries - **\$4.49**

Shrimp and Fries - **\$4.99**

Specials not valid with any other offers.

January Only Offers!

<p>BUY ONE • GET ONE</p> <p>FREE</p> <p>2 Liter Soda</p> <p><small>Not valid with any other offers. Equal or lesser value. Offer expires 1/31/14</small></p>	<p>BUY ONE • GET ONE</p> <p>FREE</p> <p>2 Liter Soda</p> <p><small>Not valid with any other offers. Equal or lesser value. Offer expires 1/31/14</small></p>	<p>BUY ONE • GET ONE</p> <p>FREE</p> <p>2 Liter Soda</p> <p><small>Not valid with any other offers. Equal or lesser value. Offer expires 1/31/14</small></p>
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<p>BUY ONE • GET ONE</p> <p>50% OFF!</p> <p>Any Pasta Dinner</p> <p><small>Not valid with any other offers. Equal or lesser value. Offer expires 1/31/14</small></p>	<p>BUY ONE • GET ONE</p> <p>50% OFF!</p> <p>Any 12" Sub</p> <p><small>Not valid with any other offers. Equal or lesser value. Offer expires 1/31/14</small></p>	<p>BUY ONE • GET ONE</p> <p>50% OFF!</p> <p>Any Large Pizza</p> <p><small>Not valid with any other offers. Equal or lesser value. Offer expires 1/31/14</small></p>
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Emmitsburg December 2013

Recycle Christmas Trees

Emmitsburg has a place to recycle your live post-Christmas trees. You can drop off your used trees to the Waste Water Treatment plant on Creamery Road on the first and third Saturday in January, from 9:00 a.m.-noon. You need to bring proof of Emmitsburg Residency in order to use the Creamery Road site. All tinsel and ornaments must be removed from the tree. This site is also open the rest of the year on every first and third Saturday at the same time for disposal of leaves, garden debris, etc.

Commissioners to Discuss Improvements to Town Website

The town commissioners plan to discuss making improvements to the town website at the next town hall meeting in January 2014. The commissioners think that adding features to the site, where citizens can pay bills, fill out forms, and find important information, would better serve the public and the town staff. To view the current website go to <http://www.townofemmitsburg.com>.

town hall reports

by Michele Cuseo

For more information about the Town of Emmitsburg, log onto www.emmitsburgmd.gov or call 301-600-6300.

Thurmont December 2013

County Recycling

Frederick county is looking to re-establish local recycling centers. Thurmont commissioners reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding from the county (MOU) in December 2013. In the agreement, each municipality would be responsible for monitoring their centers to avoid illegal dumping. Dumping was a problem for the town of Thurmont, with the previous recycling center located at Eyler Park. The town of Thurmont would receive \$10,000 from the county to help pay for operating the center. The county would pay for tipping fees.

Commissioners would need to decide on a location for the recycling center if they agree to

accept the county's MOU. Further discussion is planned.

Special Election for One More Commissioner on January 7

Citizens will vote on January 7, 2014, for one new commissioner. John Kinnard was elected Mayor in October 2013, while serving as a commissioner. His Commissioner's seat is now empty. Three candidates have been nominated to run: Wesley Hamrick, Randy Cubbage, and William Blakeslee. The election will be held at the Carnival Grounds on East Main Street in Thurmont, from 7:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. The elected commissioner will serve for two years.

Sewer Line Work in Thurmont Affecting Road Access

During January, occasional road closures will occur on Moser Road and Water Street due to sewer line work.

View the Town of Thurmont's website at www.thurmont.com or call the town office at 301-271-7313 for more information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The Catoctin
Banner**

**Birthday • Engagement
Graduation • Anniversary
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**\$20.00 (no photo)
\$25.00 (w/photo)**

**Email: news@thecatocinbanner.com;
Mail: 515B E. Main St.,
Emmitsburg, MD 21727;
Call: 301-447-2804**

Ornament Pick-Up

Ornaments created for the Community Remembrance Tree can be picked up on Wednesday, January 8, 2014, from 5:00-6:00 p.m., at the Cozy Restaurant in Thurmont (right inside the entrance). Ornaments not claimed will become the property of Thurmont Lions Club. Call Shirley at 301-898-7004 with any questions.

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Janice Fisher
janice@powell-insurance.com

Virginia Harne
virginia@powell-insurance.com

Play Our Games

Each month, you're invited to participate in our Where Am I? Photo Contest and Hidden Object Game. The winners of each game are announced in the next issue of *The Catoctin Banner* Newspaper. Winners are given a gift certificate to the advertiser of their choice. To participate, call 240-288-0108 or email news@thecatoctinbanner.com to record your guesses by the 18th of each month. Please don't forget to spell your name and leave your phone number.

Where Am I? Photo Contest

For the "Where Am I?" Photo Contest, take a look at the photo to the right and tell us where it was taken. It is somewhere in or around our Northern Frederick County Area, which is defined as Rocky Ridge to Cascade and Lewistown to Emmitsburg, Foxville to Creagerstown, and everywhere around and in-between.

Last month's "Where Am I?" photo was Dr. Carroll's Family Practice in Emmitsburg. Last month's winner is Amy Blickenstaff.

Photo by Irene Matthews



Hidden Object Game

Last month's Hidden Object was a Ladybug. It was located on page 7 in the C & K Grooming advertisement. The winner of the Hidden Object Game is Annette Barber. If the winner has not been contacted, please call us to claim your prize.

This month's Hidden Object is a porcupine.

If you see your name listed as a winner, please email us at news@thecatoctinbanner.com with your name, address, and the name of the advertiser from which you would like your gift certificate, and we will send you your prize! If you do not have access to email, please call us at 240-288-0108 and leave us a message with the above information. Thank you.

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS!

The Catoctin Banner

The Catoctin Banner exists due to the advertising support of those featured in each issue.



Test Your Word Power

*Recap of 2013
(Answers on page 38)*

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1. Diligent (adj.)
a) Loud; lacking in restraint
b) Persistent; attentive
c) Unfeeling; hardened</p> | <p>3. Resolute (adj.)
a) Narrow-minded
b) Alleged; claimed
c) Firm in purpose; determined</p> |
| <p>2. Adorn (v.)
a) Embellish; beautify
b) Dismantle; break down
c) Agree; consent</p> | <p>4. Allude (v.)
a) Pretend; simulate
b) Reproduce; repeat
c) Refer casually or indirectly; hint</p> |

5. Which word above would work best in this sentence?

She was far too polite to _____ to the stain on his shirt.

EMMITSBURG, MARYLAND

We wish you all a Happy New Year!
From your friends at The Ott House

Monday is Wing Night!
1/2 Priced Wings with a variety of flavors for everyone!

Wednesday is Trivia Night!
Starting at 8 p.m.

Friday & Saturday Nights
We're serving the best Prime Rib in Town!

Visit us at the Square of Emmitsburg! **301-447-2625** 5 West Main St. Emmitsburg Maryland

Mike's AUTO BODY Collision & Restoration

YOU BEND 'EM & WE'LL MEND 'EM!
Call Mike's Auto Today!!
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Your friendly neighbors at Mike's Auto Body will help make your auto body repairs and restoration work a breeze!!

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- Garages
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Fax **301.447.2704**

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Emmitsburg, MD 21727

SAVE THE DATE!

Sat., Jan. 25, 2014

8:00 pm - 12:00 am

5th Annual Dance Fundraiser

The Rock N' Roll Relics

Enjoy Original Rock & Roll Sounds from the 50's & 60's!

BYOB Event



For Tickets Call...
Bob Rosensteel • 301-401-7287
\$15 in advance, \$20 at the door.

Emmitsburg Vol. Ambulance Co. Bldg • 17701 Creamery Road, Emmitsburg, MD 21727



Think of your Feathered Friends Food for the Winter!!

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36 Walnut Street, Thurmont, MD 21788

99¢

per cake.



Available Flavors
 Nutty • Berry • Orange

- Striped Sunflower Seeds
- Cracked Corn 50 lbs. or per lb.
- 5 Grain Scratch Food 50 lbs. or per lb.
- Finch's Favorite; Nyjer Seed 25 lb., 50 lb. or per lb.
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- Best Blend Brand
- Black Oil Sunflower Seed



We also have
SUET CAKE HOLDERS!



www.vigilanthose.org

Vigilant Hose Company's Annual Spring Fling



Don't Be a Loser.
 Be a Winner at
SPRING FLING

Saturday, May 17th, 2014
Mt. St. Mary's University Echo Field
Spring Fling benefits Vigilant Hose Company & VHC Explorers Post

Get Your Tickets NOW!

For Tickets & Info:

Chris Stahley • 301-447-3081 Gabe Baker • 301-447-2212
John Glass • 301-447-3648 Bill Boyd • 717-642-9717

\$60.00 per Ticket • Good for two people!

Horseshoes • Food • 50/50 Tip Jars
Live Music • Beverages
& TONS OF FUN!!

\$30,000
given in prizes!



Santa Schmersal's Treezilla

by Deb Spalding

This past Christmas at “Santa Frank” Schmersal’s house in Emmitsburg, there was a Christmas village in the hall, an antique Santa in the Polar Express display on the mantle, a gingerbread village in the dining room, a toy fire truck collection in the living room, jingle bells on the handrails (up three flights of stairs), and Christmas trees throughout the house. “It’s kinda neat,” Santa Frank said as he talked about the extensive decorations that have been a family tradition for many years.

Daughters, Johanna Schmersal and Renata Provance, along with Renata’s husband, Matt, plot and scheme about what the decorations will be for the trees, and the interior and the exterior of their father’s house. With a grin, Santa Frank declared, “We all [his daughters and family] go tree hunting, because it is implied that I’m not qualified to pick a tree by myself.” They’ve traveled from Hunterstown, Pennsylvania, to Boonsboro, Maryland—and here and there in between—to find their coveted Christmas trees each year. “One terrible year, Hunterstown was closed and we ended up outside of Orrtanna, Pennsylvania. In response to our plight, even though the tree farmer was out of trees, the owner gave us a tree out of his front yard,” said Santa Frank.

The Schmersal’s annual adventures of hunting, picking, and transporting Christmas trees bring a smile to his face, when his thoughts

“Treezilla,” a whopping 9 1/2 foot-wide tree, is one for the memory books in the Schmersal’s home for Christmas 2006.

roam to the Christmas of 2006. For that Christmas, a whopping 9 ½ foot-wide tree was selected as the big tree in their living room. The tree snapped cables and served as an imposing beacon from which to seek protection, despite being anchored in five different directions. It was this tree that was dubbed “Treezilla” in the memory books. It left severe scars as it gouged the door trim while being heaved into their home. It caused havoc when it landed on Santa Schmersal—immersing him completely, but safely, under its girth.

Frank Schmersal is Emmitsburg’s most notorious of Santa’s “brotherhood of helpers.” For twenty-five years, he has served as Santa at Emmitsburg’s annual Evening of Christmas Spirit, which is held at the Carriage House in Emmitsburg. His daughter, Jahanna, a fashion designer, created his custom-made Santa suit. Santa Schmersal explained that he does five or six Santa gigs per year. These days, Frank encounters children of the people who once sat on his lap as children themselves. He enjoys telling of his Santa adventures, the history of the ever-changing Christmas-themed decorations at his house each year, and the adventures he’s had obtaining the various Christmas trees that ultimately make each year unique. The decorations for Christmas at the Schmersal’s house are catalogued in a Christmas album, so they can keep track of the decorations they use for each celebration. Every year is different. As one may wonder when pondering where one would keep all these unique and festive decorations, Santa Schmersal affirmed, “Our attic looks like Santa’s workshop.”

AROUND town

5th Annual Dance Fundraiser

Save the date for the 5th Annual Dance Fundraiser on Saturday, January 25, 2014, from 8:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m., at the Emmitsburg Volunteer Ambulance Company building, located at 17701 Creamery Road in Emmitsburg. The event will feature the Rock N Roll Relics. This event is BYOB. The cost of tickets are \$15.00 in advance and \$20.00 at the door. View their advertisement on page 6 for more information and for how to get your tickets to this fun event.

Super Sunday Bingo

You won't want to miss Super Sunday Bingo on February 2, 2014, at the Emmitsburg Volunteer Ambulance Company, located at 17701 Creamery Road in Emmitsburg. Doors will open at 12:00 p.m. Games will begin at 1:30 p.m. You only need to pay for what you want to play! View their advertisement on page 28 for more information.

Mark Your Calendars Now for the Annual Spring Fling

The Vigilant Hose Company's Annual Spring Fling will be held on Saturday, May 17, 2014, at Mt. Saint Mary's University Echo Field in Emmitsburg. This annual event features horseshoes, great food, live music, 50/50 tip jars, and much more! Tickets are \$60.00 each, which are good for two people.

View their advertisement on page 6 for more information and to find out where you can get your tickets now!

EVAC Bingo Notice

The Emmitsburg Volunteer Ambulance Company is hosting an all new Monday Afternoon Bingo. Games begin at 2:00 p.m. For more information, visit www.emmitsburgems.org or call 301-447-6626.

Take-A-Tour Tuesday at Mother Seton School

Find out all about Mother Seton School, located at 100 Creamery Road in Emmitsburg, during Take-A-Tour Tuesday on January 14 and 26, 2014, from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and 7:00-8:00 p.m. There will be an Open House on January 26, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. and a Spaghetti Dinner at 12:00-5:00 p.m. View their advertisement on page 20 for more information.

Stultz Fitness Open House

Stultz Fitness is holding an Open House on Saturday, January 4, 2014, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. If you are unable to attend the Open House, call for a free consultation at 717-334-6009. Stultz Fitness is located at 285 Boyle Road in Fairfield, Pennsylvania. View their advertisement on page 35 for more information.

Cozy Restaurant's New Year's Eve Land & Sea Spectacular Buffet

Don't miss Cozy Restaurant's New Year's Eve Land & Sea Spectacular Buffet on December 31, 2013, from 4:00 p.m.-close. The buffet will feature many delicious items, including Atlantic Salmon, Baked Flounder, Prime Rib, Steamed Shrimp, salad bar, dessert bar, and so much more! The cost is \$19.00 per adult. Cozy Restaurant is located at 103 Frederick Road in Thurmont. View their advertisement on page 3 for more information.

Cozy Restaurant's New Year's Day Brunch

You won't want to miss celebrating New Year's Day with Cozy Restaurant's New Year's Day Brunch, from 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. The menu will feature an Omelet Station (made to order), French toast, bacon, corn fritters, salad bar, soups, dessert bar, and much more! The cost is \$14.99 per adult. Cozy Restaurant is located at 103 Frederick Road in Thurmont. View their advertisement on page 3 for more information.

Sunday & Monday Bingo at Beth Sholom Community Center

Don't miss Sunday & Monday Bingo at Beth Sholom Community Center, located at 1011 N. Market Street in Frederick, Maryland. Bingo features \$1,000 Jackpot and \$500 Jr. Jackpot, 50/50's, and more! Regular games pay \$100. Don't forget to bring in their advertisement on page 10 for a FREE Jackpot!

Their Holiday Bonanza will be held on January 19 and 27, 2014. Go and check it out!



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AUTO SERVICE & SALES
STORAGE UNITS • UHAUL RENTALS

- Highly experienced, ASE Certified Mechanics
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- Authorized Uhaul Dealer

January Deal
30% OFF
WIPER BLADES
 with purchase of regular
OIL CHANGE
FREE

Tire Check
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Expires: 1.31.14

WE SERVICE BOTH FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC VEHICLES!




Have a Happy New Year!! 2014

WALK-INS WELCOME!
240-288-8320

WE ARE LOCATED ACROSS FROM GATEWAY CANDYLAND ON RTE. 15 (FORMALLY SPEAKS AUTO SALES)

www.RoddyCreekAuto.com

Catoctin Veterinary Clinic

Jonathan Bramson, VMD • Susan P. Keane, DVM • Brooke Hoffman Ridinger, DVM
 4 Paws Place, Thurmont, MD

Have a Happy & Safe New Year!



Don't forget: February is Dental Month! Call for special discount details!!

Will be closing early Dec. 31st and will be closed on Jan. 1st.

Fleas and Ticks are on the move! Make sure your pet is protected!

301-271-0156
 Office Hours by Appt:
 Mon/Thur 8-7
 Tues/Wed/Fri 8-5
 Sat 8-12



Nails by Anne

Excellence in Nail & Foot Care
Anne Scott

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Evening and Weekends Available

January Special
Pedicure — \$25

13 Water Street in Thurmont

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OUR
ADVERTISERS!**



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**Don't miss the 5th Annual Bobbi Jo Memorial 5K on July 19th! We're planning an exciting event to mark the 5th year! Hope to see you there!

BUSINESS news

Miller Named Director of Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond

C. Richard Miller, Jr., president and CEO of Woodsboro Bank was elected to serve as a director of the Federal Bank Reserve of Richmond, one of 12 regional Reserve banks comprising the Federal Reserve System.

The Federal Reserve System is the central bank of the United States and was created by Congress in 1913 to provide the nation with a safer, more flexible, and more stable monetary and financial system. It is responsible for conducting the nation’s monetary policy by influencing money and credit conditions to foster employment and stable prices – in part by determining national interest rates. The Reserve is also responsible for supervising and regulating member banks and other important financial institutions to ensure the safety and soundness of the nation’s banking system and to protect the credit rights of consumers.

Mr. Miller was appointed to a three-year term as a director of the Reserve. He will serve on the Audit Committee and the Committee on Planning and Operations. Mr. Miller, who has 40 years of banking experience, joined Woodsboro Bank in 1996 and has been president and chief executive officer since May 1997. The locally-owned financial institution was founded in 1899 and currently has assets of \$235 million.

Mr. Miller’s other professional appointments include membership on the American Bankers Association’s Government Relations Council. He also serves on the Maryland Bankers Association’s Government Relations Council and is a past chairman of the Association.

“Rick’s appointment to the Reserve is a testament to his service to the banking industry on both a state and national level,” said Robert Waltz, president of the board of directors of Woodsboro Bank. “It’s really quite a professional honor. Our board is thrilled for him.”

Mr. Miller holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in business and public administration from the University of Maryland, and a Master of Arts degree in public affairs from Hood College. He is also a graduate of the American Bankers Association’s National Commercial Lending School.

Mr. Miller’s current community involvements include serving as president of the board of directors of the Weinberg Center for the Arts, Inc.; a committee chairmanship for the Rotary Club of Carroll Creek; treasurer and trustee of The Loats Foundation, Inc.; member of the Council on Finance and Administration for the Baltimore-Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church, and a member of Calvary United Methodist Church where he also serves as a member of the finance committee and as an usher.

Miller and his wife, the former Susan J. Piepoli, reside in Frederick and have two adult married sons.

Woodsboro Bank Promotions

Courtesy Photos



Gary Delauter, Jr. (pictured left) was recently promoted to AVP/deposit services manager at Woodsboro Bank. In this newly created position, he will manage the bank’s daily deposit operation functions. Delauter joined the financial institution in 1999 and most recently served as its information systems generalist.

Bonny Hurley (pictured right) was recently named AVP/electronic services manager at Woodsboro



Bank. In this new position, she will manage the bank’s growing electronic services. Hurley, who has been an employee of the bank for twenty-six years, previously served as AVP/ATM and online banking coordinator.

View Woodsboro Bank’s advertisement on page 19.

Check the Community Calendar on Page 39

Catoctin Colorfest Donates for the Holidays

Each year, it is hoped that Catoctin Colorfest weekend will be one with beautiful, sunny weather and slightly crisp fall-like temperatures in order to draw large numbers of craft shoppers from near and far. The 50th Colorfest was held in October 2013, during which periods of heavy rain resulted in mud, mud, and more mud. However, a lot of people still turned out for the event, despite the challenges of the weather.

All proceeds from Colorfest are donated back into the community. This simple sentence sums up the organization's purpose. Donations from the 2013 Colorfest were made to the Guardian Hose Company, Thurmont Ambulance Company, Thurmont Police Department, Catoctin High FFA, Catoctin High School Colorfest Scholarships, Boy Scouts, Thurmont Lions Club, Community Movie Night, Memorial Day Observance, Town Gardens, Commissioners of Thurmont, the Thurmont Food Bank, Thurmont Regional Library, ESP Productions, Town Christmas Decorations, and the Jeremy Hahn Cancer Fund. Colorfest proceeds allowed for the donation of 350 hams for families at Christmas.

Photo by Gracie Eyler



Members of the Colorfest Committee are shown with a Proclamation awarded by the Town of Thurmont during their annual banquet in November 2013.

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Cranberry Merlot Reduction Served
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The Late Vernon Myers to be Inducted into Sports Hall of Fame

by Joseph Kirchner

Vernon Myers (Thurmont's "Mr. Baseball") will be inducted into the Alvin G. Quinn Memorial Sports Hall of Fame in February 2014. Honorees to this august body are those remarkable individuals whose accomplishments and contributions in the field of athletics have brought honor to themselves and to Frederick County. No one is more deserving than Vernon, whose work and great dedication to the Thurmont Little League created the foundation for the successful organization it is today.

Way back in 1953, when Vernon was in his early thirties, he decided to get involved in the Thurmont Little League, because his children were at that age when they started playing ball. A humble man, Vernon started his long tenure of service doing the most menial of tasks: mowing grass for the ball fields. He served as a field maintenance worker in 1954, as Treasurer for two years, and then was named President, a position he held for twenty-six of the following twenty-eight years. When the Thurmont Little League began, they played on one field located near the old shoe factory on Apples Church Road. The league paid the handsome sum of one dollar for this privilege, and had just four teams with boys 8-12 years old.

In 1975, Little League softball for girls began, and has enjoyed great success, winning numerous state championships. Under Vernon's enthusiastic leadership, the baseball and softball programs grew tremendously. When he retired in 1985, there were thirty-one teams and five fields. Today, in large part

due to the foundation established by Vernon, Thurmont Baseball and Softball programs play on eight fields; there are approximately twenty-five to thirty baseball teams for ages 4-18, and approximately fifteen softball teams for ages 6-14. Baseball has added a Fall season, and approximately 125 dedicated men and women volunteer each season to make the leagues a vibrant part of the Thurmont community. Vernon's legacy is alive and well!

Mr. Baseball's legacy lies less in impressive numbers than in his singular commitment to the community and Vernon's sterling character. According to his daughter Olivia (who has countless fond memories of her dad in those early days), Vernon was primarily motivated less by any affection for baseball than his love of the Thurmont community. When asked if he loved baseball, Vernon supposedly replied, "I like sports but it's really all about the people." Vernon simply loved the community and reveled in serving in any way he could. He especially loved gathering people for fundraisers, and taking kids to Memorial Stadium to see the Orioles play.

Vernon placed a great value on participation, and was far less concerned with winning a ball game than with each child being given the opportunity to play. In the early days, when there were a limited number of teams, some kids were actually turned away. This was completely unacceptable to Vernon. He insisted that each child would have at least one at-bat and play at least



Vernon Myers (second from right) oversees the raising of the American flag circa 1960.

one inning in every game. He was prophetic. Later, all of Little League baseball adopted what is referred to as the Myers Rule: the principle that everything possible should be done to ensure that every child participate in every game. We can only wonder today how many little boys and girls benefitted by Vernon's compassion and foresight.

Vernon was truly humble, a great listener, related beautifully to all of the children, and "always had a twinkle in his eye!" He had a wonderful sense of humor, which endeared him to one and all. When parents acted foolishly at the games (a not too uncommon scene) Vernon quipped, "Well, we can't hold the child responsible for his parent's behavior!" He was a wonderful story-teller and a man of great generosity—one who performed countless charitable acts anonymously. Sometimes, however, his generosity was open for all to see. After a game one day, Vernon spotted about ten boys and told them he had a brief errand to do, but he would buy them ice cream if they would stay

there for just five minutes. After just a few minutes, Vernon returned to find fifty kids waiting for him! Undaunted, he called a friend who owned a truck and after arranging for transportation, bought all fifty delighted youngsters their favorite ice cream!

Vernon Myers died quietly in his home on September 9, 2003, at the age of eighty-two, leaving behind a remarkable legacy. Fittingly, just a year before his passing, at the 50-year anniversary celebration of the establishment of the Thurmont Little League, officials named the Little League field in Vernon's honor. A simple, humble, extremely generous soul, Vernon's memory now lives forever not merely in a field named for him, but most especially in our minds and in our hearts.

The Alvin G. Quinn Memorial Sports Hall of Fame Induction will take place on February 1, 2014, at 6:00 p.m., at the Walkersville Fire Hall. For ticket information, please call Kim Hart after January 2 at 301-663-5131.

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COMMUNITY news

Santa Arrives for 11th Annual Christmas in Thurmont

by James Rada, Jr.

Thurmont welcomed Christmas on December 7, 2013, with the 11th Annual Christmas in Thurmont. Events kicked-off on a cold Saturday morning with a ribbon-cutting at Mechanicstown Square Park.

Parents and children soon began lining up for the arrival of Santa Claus. Santa arrived at 10:00 a.m. and took a seat in the gazebo next to the town Christmas tree. Children sat on his lap for a free picture and to tell him their Christmas list.

Each child also received a stocking full of treats and presents. Five-year-old Hunter Sanbower enjoyed chomping on his apple from Santa, after having told the jolly old elf that he wanted a monster truck and Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle toys for Christmas.

Hunter's mom, Rachel, said that she liked the activity of collecting stamps from different local businesses to qualify for prizes at the end of the day. She had been visiting businesses, including making her first visit to the Thurmont Library, getting Hunter his very own library card.

Hilary Blake said, "I like how the community turns out for this event."

Her four-year-old daughter, Leigha, enjoyed talking with Santa and found him really friendly.

Photos by James Rada, Jr.



Santa Claus poses with his special elf helper at Christmas in Thurmont on December 7, 2013.

Following their visit with Santa, children and their parents could get a cup of hot apple cider and cookies before heading off around town to collect stamps from local businesses and see what they each had to offer.

Jayden Morgan and her friend,

Kylie Reed, were two of the many people wandering through town with maps in their hands looking for the businesses. Morgan had recently moved to Thurmont from Taneytown and saw the event as an opportunity to see what businesses Thurmont had to offer.

"It's fun," Reed added. "It's especially good for the little kids who can see Santa."

Brown's Jewelry owner, John Brown, was one of the many sponsors of the event. He said that he was happy to participate, because it was good public relations for the town.

Besides having the stamp collecting activity to encourage local shopping and qualifying for prizes at the end of the day, collections were made at the park and Hobbs Hardware for coats and non-perishable food items that would be donated to those in need.

Later in the day, Santa also visited the Thurmont Regional Library to read a story to the children.

The afternoon ended with the Lions Club Remembrance Tree lighting and caroling. A crowd then gathered at Hobbs Hardware for the prize drawing of the many gifts donated by local businesses for the event.

Children sit on Santa's lap to tell him their Christmas list and to have their picture taken at the 11th Annual Christmas in Thurmont.



Emmitsburg Welcomes In the Christmas Season

by James Rada, Jr.

For twenty-five years, Emmitsburg has celebrated the beginning of the holiday season with an "Evening of Christmas Spirit."

"Twenty-five years ago, my mom, JoAnn came to me and said this thing would be good to do," said Bob Hance, co-owner of the Carriage House Inn with his father. "As she always was, she was way correct."

Over the years, an Evening of Christmas Spirit has grown to be a staple of the holiday celebrations in Emmitsburg.

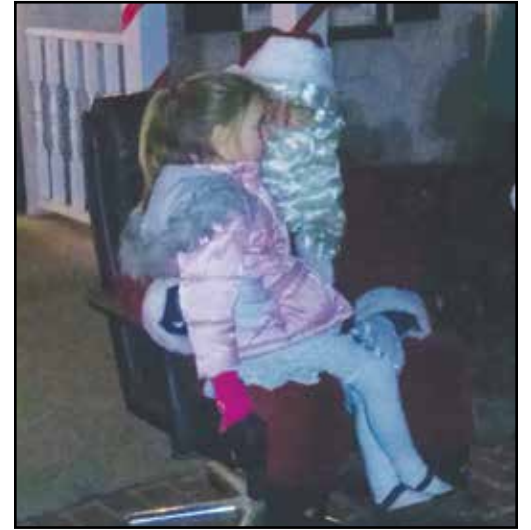
The holiday celebration began on December 2, 2013, with the lighting of the town Christmas tree on the square next to the PNC Bank. Although sound system problems kept some spectators from hearing the remarks from Hance and Mayor Don Briggs, it didn't prevent people from hearing the music sung by local children.

Santa arrived after the musical performance and assisted with the lighting of the tree, which was met with cheers and applause.

Afterwards, the spectators moved to the Carriage House Inn, where a crowd was already forming. Outside, children could visit with Santa Claus; view a live Nativity scene; take a hay ride; or enjoy hot dogs, hot chocolate, and cookies.

Inside, children made Christmas decorations in one dining room, while upstairs in JoAnn's Ballroom, the Emmitsburg Community

Photos by James Rada, Jr.



Children get to visit with Santa during the annual celebration of an Evening of Christmas Spirit in Emmitsburg.

Chorus and Fairfield Show Choir performed.

Though the event features Christmas spirit, it is also about community spirit. Missy Scherr-Phillips attends each year with her daughters, and her family is Jewish.

"It's great for the community and a nice way to kick-off the holiday season," Scherr-Phillips said.

Michelle Smith's son performed with the children's choir, but the Smiths also enjoy all of the other activities and come each year to participate. "We come because it's festive and gets us in the mood for Christmas," Smith said.

Though Hance closes his restaurant for the event, he doesn't feel like he's losing out on anything.

"This is our favorite night of the year," Hance said of him and his father.



The Emmitsburg Community Chorus performs at the Carriage House Inn during the annual celebration of an Evening of Christmas Spirit in Emmitsburg.

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Emmitsburg Lions Club Holds Annual Christmas Party

The Emmitsburg Lions Club hosted its annual Christmas Party on December 7, 2013, at the Vigilant Hose Company facility in Emmitsburg. Over seventy-five guests, comprised of children and their parents, attended and enjoyed the crafts, magic show, food, and drinks. Santa also dropped in to hear the Christmas wishes of each child and some parents, and children were able to have their picture taken with Santa and Mrs. Claus. A good time was enjoyed by all.



Courtesy Photo

Children and adults enjoying the crafts—and much more—at the Emmitsburg Lions Club annual Christmas Party.

Mission Trip to Aid in Hurricane Sandy Aftermath

Tom's Creek United Methodist Church in Emmitsburg, along with Pastor Timothy Kromer, sent a Missions Team to New Jersey to help with the hurricane Sandy aftermath. Seaville United Methodist Church in New Jersey hosted the team while they were there helping reconstruct one of the homes in the area.



Courtesy Photo

Pictured from left are: (Back row) Pastor Kromer, Shannon Doyle, Bill Balslay, and Caroline Trevorow; (Front row) Kathy Imirie, Phyllis Kelly, Mary Harner, Olivia Imirie, and Donna Ohler.

Well-Fit Aerobic and Fitness Center Takes on the Mud Dog Zombie Run

Courtesy Photo



Well-Fit Aerobic and Fitness Center, located in Thurmont, represents at the Mud Dog Zombie Run, held at Crumland Farms in November 2013.

Well-Fit also held a 3-day pre-Thanksgiving challenge. Members burned 1,200 calories each day, totaling 3,600 by the end of the challenge—3,600 calories represents the average amount of food a person eats on Thanksgiving Day.

Pictured from left are Mackenzie Smith, Gretchen Smith, Heidi Horine, and Scott McCaskill.

Jeremy Hahn Benefit Breakfast

On Saturday, January 11, 2014, from 6:00-11:00 a.m., there will be an "All You Can Eat" Breakfast to benefit the Jeremy Hahn Fund, at the Trinity United Church of Christ, located at 101 E. Main Street in Thurmont. Breakfast includes pancakes, sausage, pudding, hominy, eggs, chipped gravy, biscuits, juice, fruit, and coffee. The cost is \$8.00 for adults; \$5.00 for children ages 5-10; and free for children under age 5. Tickets are available in advance at Brown's Jewelry Store and at the Trinity Church or by calling 301-271-6965. Proceeds from the fundraiser will be added to the Thurmont Lions Club "Jeremy Hahn Fund" and will be used for outstanding expenses for Jeremy. Jeremy, owner of the Intowne Barber Shop, has been diagnosed with cancer of the tongue. Surgery and radiation treatments have disrupted his life and caused financial difficulty for Jeremy, his wife Angie, and their four children. Please join the Thurmont Lions Club and the Trinity United Church of Christ in helping this family.

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Local Girl Demonstrates the Art of Giving

Cailey Williams turned 13 years old on October 26, 2013. Cailey decided that this birthday she had everything she needed, and she wanted to do something for others with her birthday party.

In lieu of presents for herself, Cailey collected money and did a shopping trip to donate food to the Thurmont Food Bank. Cailey took coupons and her sale circulars and was able to purchase a bunch of goods on the much-needed-items list from the Thurmont Food Bank. Cailey delivered her food to Pastor Sally at the Thurmont Food Bank on November 1, 2013, when it was much needed.

Pastor Sally stated that she was impressed at the generosity of such a young lady. Cailey's parents, Robert and Donna Soroka, couldn't be prouder of their daughter for her show of kindness and selflessness.



Cailey Williams is shown with her purchases she donated to the Thurmont Food Bank.

Davis Receives EBPA Award — Continued from cover page

on behalf of the Emmitsburg Lions Club and its service to the community; Libby Briggs for her efforts to beautify the downtown square.

Knott said to the award recipients, "Thanks for what you do for our town. Without them, Emmitsburg would not be what it is now."

Knott informed the audience that the EPBA Scholarship Fund, which supports an annual scholarship to a senior living in the Emmitsburg zip code, has grown to be more than \$20,000.

The EBPA also runs fundraisers for the Emmitsburg Food Bank that feature change boxes at local businesses. Customers drop their loose change into the boxes, which are collected monthly and donated to the food bank.

"Five years ago, we did not know how much of an impact the program

could have done," Knott said. "In five years, we have raised over \$31,000 for the food bank."

The food bank also receives the proceeds from a monthly bingo donated by the Emmitsburg Ambulance Company and the coloring Santas sold at the Jubilee Market.

"I keep giving it (the money) away and it just keeps coming," said Phyllis Kelly with the food bank.

EBPA President Bob Hance also noted that the EBPA has started funding the fireworks show at Emmitsburg's annual community day to help out the Lions Club.

Besides the awards, attendees also had appetizers and enjoyed a show performed by the Fairfield High Knight Time Impressions under the direction of Katie Myers.

Photo by Bob Rosensteel



The Fairfield High Knight Time Impressions, under the direction of Katie Myers, are shown performing at the Emmitsburg Business and Professional Association (EBPA) Annual Awards Banquet, held in December 2013.

Share Your Good News With The Catoctin Community!

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Looking for Something Fun to Do? Check the Community Calendar on page 39.

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Street Cul-de-sac! Church Road.

Gorgeous. Lot with mountain view Apples

\$170,000

Emmitsburg Masons Donate Bicycles

Tyrian Masonic Lodge #205 recently donated two bicycles to Emmitsburg Elementary School as part of its community Outreach Program.

The bikes were presented to Principal Kathryn Golightly by Ernie Gelwicks, Worshipful Master of Tyrian Lodge. The bikes will be awarded by Ms. Golightly and her staff. Tyrian Lodge plans on another donation to the school prior to summer break.

Anyone wanting information on the Emmitsburg Masonic Lodge and how to get involved in this organization and its charities should contact WM Gelwicks at 301-447-2923.

Photo by Jim Houck Jr



Ernie Gelwicks (shown left), Worshipful Master of Tyrian Lodge, presents two bicycles to Emmitsburg Elementary School Principal Kathryn Golightly, donated by Tyrian Masonic Lodge #205.

The Catocin Banner's Holiday Home Decorating Contest Winners Announced



Photo by Mike Tester

The 2013 winner of *The Catocin Banner's* Holiday Home Decorating Contest:

1414 Ramblewood Drive in Emmitsburg

Congratulations to this year's winner of *The Catocin Banner* newspaper's 3rd Annual Holiday Home Decorating Contest! This year's winner receives \$50.00 (please call 301-447-2804 to claim your prize). This beautifully decorated home in Emmitsburg was nominated by a neighbor and offers an added special Christmas "touch" for those driving by viewing their Christmas lights that features a sign that prompts you to tune your radio to 98.1. After tuning to this station, you magically hear Christmas music emanating from your car radio, as you watch the Christmas lights shine and flicker along to the beat of the music.

Thanks to all who sent in their nominations. We had a difficult time choosing, as all of the homes we looked at were decorated so festively and brightly. Have a Happy New Year...let your lights shine!



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Toys for Tots Collected by Rocky Ridge 4-H Club

The Rocky Ridge Progressive 4-H Club collected toys for Toys for Tots for their December Community Service Project. Each month, the club members do a community service project, helping their neighbors in northern Frederick county. The club also did some Christmas caroling in Thurmont on December 15, 2013.

Courtesy Photo



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Children Write to Santa for Christmas

by James Rada, Jr.

Five-year-old Anthony Brooks hovered over the stationary, concentrating on writing his letters. He needed Santa Claus to know that his priorities had changed.

"At one point, Anthony asked for a little sister," said his mother Adriane Brooks.

Now he wanted a remote-controlled plane, which he considered better than a baby sister. Then, once he had written out remote-controlled plane—or rather, something close to it on the paper—he began listing other items on the paper, including a rake, pants, and a shirt.

Once he was finished, he folded the stationary into an envelope, sealed it with a sticker, and dropped it in the mailbox at the Thurmont Regional Library.

His brothers—Angelo (age 4) and Alessio (age 3)—also worked hard on their own letters to Santa. Adriane said that the boys would each get one major gift for Christmas. This was one of their opportunities to let Santa know what it should be.

Angelo wanted a remote-control helicopter, and Alessio wanted a remote-control train.

The boys had had breakfast with Santa earlier in the month



Anthony, Angelo, and Alessio Brooks are shown with their mother, Adriane, writing letters to Santa at the Thurmont Regional Library.

at a restaurant in Walkersville, Maryland.

The Thurmont Regional Library held a "special post office" one weekend in December, allowing youngsters to get the word to Santa. There was a table with stationary, pencils, envelopes, and stickers that was set up in the children's library, complete with a two-foot high cardboard replica of a mailbox you would see on the street.

The library gets dozens of letters that they promise to pass on to Santa Claus in time for Christmas.

Photo by James Rada, Jr.

One Big Snowman, No Small Feat

While working on an Eagle project at the Walkersville Watershed, Kyle Cover, Devin Stafford, Cooper Dixon, Peter Wright, Doug Isanogle, Trevor Bostian, and Taylor Ellenberg of Boy Scout Troop 270 & Venturing Crew 270 took time out to enjoy the snow on Saturday, December 14, 2013. An impressive 10-foot high snowman was the result of their efforts.



Courtesy Photo

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Emmitsburg Scouts "Scouting for Food" Collect the Most Items Ever

Members from Troop and Pack 727 Emmitsburg spent two Saturday mornings in November 2013 on the streets of Emmitsburg "Scouting for Food" for the Emmitsburg Food Bank. "We depend on the scouts every year to help fill our shelves for the winter," said Emmitsburg Food Bank Director, Phyllis Kelly. "This year has been the best year yet! We are so grateful to the scouts and the residents of Emmitsburg," continued Kelly. Pack 727 Scouts collected over 1,500 items that will directly benefit those needing assistance from the Emmitsburg Food Bank.

"Scouting for Food" is an annual, nationwide program of the Boy Scouts of America that began in 1985 and is just one way the Boy Scouts of America works to improve communities across the nation.

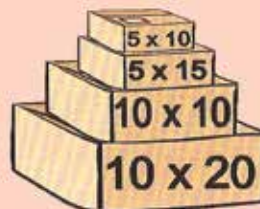


Courtesy Photo

Pack 727 Scouts at the Emmitsburg Food Bank: (First row) Brendan Guinan, Finnian Ridenour, Hayden McKenney, Luke Buchheister; (Second row) Matthias Buchheister, Gavin Marshall, Jack Guinan, Dominic McKenney, Blaise Ridenour; (Third row) Brian McKenney, 727 Assistant Cub Master, Thomas Lowe, Declan Phelan; (Fourth row) Eric Issacson, 727 Assistant Troop Leader, Gunnar Marshall, Andrew Neibecker; (Fifth row) Stephen Lowe, Phyllis Kelly, Emmitsburg Food Bank Director, and Brendan Issacson.

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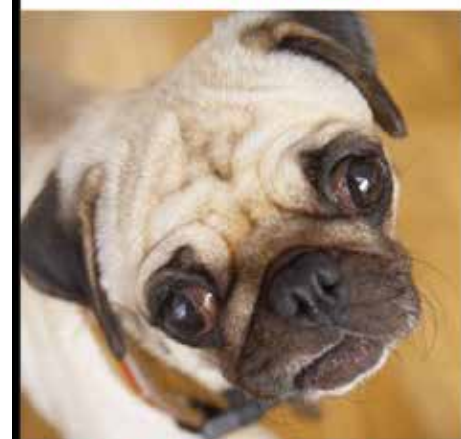
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A Dedicated Member of the Emmitsburg Community Passes Away

by James Rada, Jr.

Emmitsburg lost an active member of the community on December 1, 2013. William Larry Little passed away at age 66 at home, surrounded by his family.

Little was a life-long member and past president of Vigilant Hose Company, and a life member of the Emmitsburg Ambulance Company. He was a communicant of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Emmitsburg, and served on various committees and commissions for the town.

"He was just that kind of man," his wife, Shirley said. "He had an interest in the town and town affairs."

His interest in town activities and affairs first began with his involvement as a firefighter with Vigilant Hose Company. However, that interest only came about because Larry didn't like school. He attended St. Joseph High School and graduated in 1965.

"He joined the fire company when he was 18 because a classmate told him if the fire siren goes off and you're in class, they have to let us go," Shirley said.

He continued responding to calls, but he also started taking classes so that he could become an emergency medical technician with the Emmitsburg Ambulance Company.

"He only quit once our kids started driving, because he said he didn't want to have to respond to a call and have it be one of them," Shirley said.

Though married for forty-seven years, it wasn't love at first sight when Larry and Shirley first met in the second grade. "I didn't even like him when we were in grade school," Shirley said.

The Littles were married on April 16, 1966. They were blessed with a large family of

Photo Courtesy of Rosensteel Studios



William Larry Little, an active member of the Emmitsburg Community, passed away on December 1, 2013.

children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren—many of whom still live in the area.

Larry worked for the State Farm Insurance office in Frederick for thirty-seven years, handling a variety of jobs. He is better known locally, though, for his work as a former owner of One More Tavern. He and Shirley were partners with another couple in running the business. Though Larry mainly worked behind the scenes, according to Shirley, he did like to experiment and come up with new items to try out on the menu. He only got out of the business when it got to be more work than fun.

Larry did enjoy himself. He had a number of hobbies, including hunting, traveling, and coin collecting. He also found a lot of joy in spending time with his family.

St. Joseph's Catholic Church held a Memorial Mass for Larry on December 5, 2013, and he was interred at the New St. Joseph Cemetery in Emmitsburg.

Spence Watson, Co-founder of Thurmont Thespians, Dies Suddenly

by James Rada, Jr.

Spence Watson played many roles, both in life and on the stage. Perhaps the way that most people in the area see him is as an actor and one of the founders of the Thurmont Thespians. That is how they will always remember him. Watson died suddenly on December 1, 2013, at his home in Sabillasville.

Watson and his wife, Beth, came to the Thurmont area in 1993, and formed the Thurmont Thespians a few years later. It originally began as an organization to train and inspire young actors, allowing them to perform. It eventually expanded into an organization for adults as well, performing multiple shows each year at the Thurmont American Legion.

"We both founded it, but it was his genius that got it going, not mine," Beth said.

Their affinity for the stage is not surprising. Beth and Spence met onstage playing opposite each other in a dinner theater in Wilmington, Delaware, in 1980. They were married thirty years.

Beth remembered how Spence's passion for the theater and getting just the right look led to trouble during their opening night performance at the Thurmont American Legion. The play was *The Wizard of Oz*, and Spence was trying to get the right effect for when the ruby slippers magically move from the Wicked Witch's feet to Dorothy's.

"He kept saying, 'More smoke! More smoke!'" Beth recalled.

He got more smoke, but it set off the smoke alarms. The legion hall had to be evacuated, and the fire department showed up.

"We told them what had happened, but they said they still had to go in and check it out. When they finally let us back in, the actors picked up right where they had left off," Beth said.

Eileen Dwyers Collins with the Thurmont Thespians remembered a funny scene she performed with Spence in *The Secret Affairs of Mildred Wild*. She was supposed to "attack" him with a can of Ready Whip.

"At one point, I stopped running after him, stood still, put my hand

Courtesy Photo



Spence Watson, co-founder of the Thurmont Thespians, passed away suddenly on December 1, 2013.

over the tip and shook the can like crazy, all the while looking oh so devilishly at his precious toupee. When he realized what I had in mind, the most terrified look came over him, and, without missing a beat, he immediately covered his precious toupee with both hands. The audience roared with laughter. It was the most fun I have had in any scene in my entire life," Collins wrote.

Besides being an actor and director with the Thurmont Thespians, Spence also expressed his creativity as a playwright and poet.

"Spence was a tremendously talented man and very dedicated to his craft. The loss of Spence will definitely be felt in the Thurmont Thespians, and by those of us who had the honor to work with Spence," wrote Jennifer Buchheister, one of the many people who had worked with Spence and the Thurmont Thespians over the years.

In his professional life, Spence was a chemist with the Maryland Department of Transportation from 1993 until his death.

He and Beth enjoyed making their own wine, and they also owned a small gunpowder business at one time.

A funeral was held at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church on December 6, 2013. Spence was interred in Brown's Cemetery. He was 70 years old.

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~ Author Unknown

Rodman Myers Honored — *Continued from cover page*

hay, and soybeans are produced. On the farm, they milked dairy cattle until 2006, and currently raise beef cattle.

The Myers' have children and grandchildren who are also involved with volunteerism and agricultural support in the area. The Myers' son, Robert Myers, and daughters, Cheryl Lenhart, Patty Johnston, and Andrea Mannix, help their family in many ways throughout the year in various organizations, and can be seen

working tirelessly with their parents and other dedicated volunteers during the annual Thurmont and Emmitsburg Community Show. It should be noted that these family members contribute to various endeavors on their own. They've had good role models as parents.

Congratulations, Mr. C. Rodman Myers, for being recognized with this honorable designation. It is well deserved!

Bronze Award Presented to Two Scouts from Venturing Crew 270

Jared Snyder (left) and Kelsey Stafford of Venturing Crew 270 receive their bronze award.

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SCHOOL news

Mother Seton School Students Recognized for Citizenship

Be a good neighbor, cooperate, protect the environment, obey rules, and respect authority—these are just some of the virtues that made up November 2013 Christian Character Trait of Citizenship at Mother Seton School in Emmitsburg. Teachers recognized the following students from their classes that they felt exemplified this trait: Torrance Bassler, George Brevard, Lane Koenig, and Jacob Marron (Pre-K); Gianna Kinnamont, Brady Klingler, Maggie Rabaioiti, and Finnian Tayler (Kindergarten); Annabelle James (Grade 1); Gray Grube and Caleb Staiger (Grade 2); Brendan Guinan (Grade 3); Hannah Cavey and Jacob Hartness (Grade 4); Hunter Collins and Jack Guinan (Grade 5); Daniel McCarthy and Lea Roberts (Grade 6); Elizabeth Buchheister and Hannah Hartness (Grade 7); Max Kirby and Nicholas Reaver (Grade 8).

Courtesy Photo



Mother Seton School students recognized for exemplifying the Christian Character Trait of Citizenship for the month of November.

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TMS LEO Club Members Support Many Local Causes

The Thurmont Middle School (TMS) LEO's recently made several trips to the Thurmont Food Bank with donations from two food drives held at the school. These very caring students also made donations to Leader Dogs for the Blind and to the Jeremy Hahn Fund to benefit a local resident in need. Their fundraiser "Hands Helping Paws" resulted in a donation of 150 items to local animal shelters. The TMS LEO club is sponsored by the Thurmont Lions Club.

Courtesy Photo



Pictured are members of the TMS LEO club, along with Thurmont Lions member Joyce Anthony.

Mother Seton School Announces Winners of Knights of Columbus Soccer Shoot-Out

Courtesy Photo



Pictured from left are Nora Stocksdale, Chase Stull, Eric Himes, Kimberlee Ahlers, Hannah Beckett, and Jeremy Hochschild, with Council members Ralph Irelan, Joe Onofrey, and Raymond Sanders. Not pictured is Annabelle Perry.

Students at Mother Seton School received awards from the Knights of Columbus – Brute Council 1860 for their participation in the KoC Annual Soccer Shoot-Out. Participants were rated based on their performance in three activities: kicking the ball, shooting goals, and throwing.

Winners in the Girls Division included Kimberlee Ahlers (grade 8), Hannah Beckett (grade 5), Annabelle Perry (grade 7), and Nora Stocksdale (grade 8). In the Boys Division, winners included Eric Himes (grade 8), Jeremy Hochschild (grade 6), and Chase Stull (grade 5). Natalie Bosche (grade 5) and Hunter Brown (grade 7) also competed at the district level with another council.

Toms Creek United Methodist Church Presents Three Scholarships to Youth Members

The Scholarship Committee of Toms Creek United Methodist Church in Emmitsburg, pastured by Timothy Kromer, presented scholarships to three deserving youth members. Scholarships were awarded to Breanna Hann, Jessica Boller, and Brian Boller.

Local FFA Member Receives Grant from National FFA Foundation

A \$1,000 grant has been awarded to FFA member Justin McAfee of Thurmont (pictured right) by the National FFA Foundation.

The SAE Grant is designed to help FFA members create and enhance their supervised agricultural experience (SAE), a requirement that all FFA members must complete. An SAE requires FFA members to create and operate an agriculture-related business, work at an agriculture-related business, or conduct an agricultural research experience.

Upon completion, FFA members must submit a comprehensive report regarding their career development experience.

McAfee is a member of the Catoctin FFA Chapter and was selected from hundreds of applicants nationwide.

The National FFA Organization provides leadership, personal growth and career success training through agricultural education to 579,678 student members in grades seven through 12 who belong to one of 7,570 local FFA chapters throughout the U.S., Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

For more, visit the National FFA Organization online at www.FFA.org.



Courtesy Photo

MSS Students Demonstrate Creativity with “Keep Christ in Christmas” Poster Contest

Nine students from Mother Seton School (MSS) were given awards by the Knights of Columbus (KoC) – Brute Council 1860 for their entries in the Knights of Columbus’ annual “Keep Christ in Christmas” Poster Contest. The KoC introduced the “Keep Christ in Christmas” Poster Contest as a way to encourage young people to use their creative talents in expressing the true, spiritual meaning of Christmas.

In Category 1 (grades 1-3), the following students placed 1st, 2nd, and 3rd respectively: Nathaniel Hand, Faith Collins, and Gray Grube. In Category 2 (grades 4-6), the following students placed 1st, 2nd, and 3rd respectively: Ana Hand, Bridget Collins, and Caitlin Marron. In Category 3 (grades 7-8), the following students placed 1st, 2nd, and 3rd respectively: Julia Laug, Maya Hand, and Kimberlee Ahlers. Julia Laug (grade 8) and Ana Hand (grade 6) also moved on to the state-level contest. Julia was a 2nd place State winner, while Ana placed 3rd with her entry.



Courtesy Photo

Mother Seton School 8th-grader Julia Laug (left) and 6th-grader Ana Hand (right) received 2nd and 3rd place respectively at the State-Level Knights of Columbus “Keep Christ in Christmas” Poster Contest. They are shown here with Knights of Columbus-Brute Council 1860 members Joe Onofrey, Ralph Ireland, and Raymond Sanders.

Send your School news & School photos to share with the Community:
news@thecatocinbanner.com

2014 Catoctin High School Safe and Sane Activities

The 2014 Catoctin Safe and Sane Graduation Committee will hold a meeting of interested parents of the graduating class of 2014 on January 8, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the media center at Catoctin High School. There are still committee chairmen needed for various committees and any and all help is needed to make this a very successful event for the seniors. For more information contact Denise Shriver at 301-639-4188 or Cathy Delauter at 301-271-4917. Event announcements and meeting minutes can be seen on the website at <http://catocinsafeandsane.com> or visit our Facebook page – Catoctin High Safe & Sane Class of 2014.

Several events are being planned for 2014 including: a Sportsman’s/Cash Bingo at Lewistown Fire Hall on January 18. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. and games begin at 7:00 p.m. The cost is \$35.00 per person and includes dinner and beverages. Must be 16 years old to attend. Donations of desserts, sodas and water are welcome. A Ladies/Girls Night Out on February 8, 2014 at Emmitsburg Ambulance Company. Jewelry will be from Brown’s Jewelry & Gift Store. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. and games begin at 7:00 p.m. Cost is \$30.00 per person and includes finger foods and beverages. There also will be a silent auction and raffles. Must be 16 years old to attend.

Also, plans are being made for a Crab Cake Dinner and a Sportsman’s Dinner in March followed by a Wing Night in April.

Please contact Lisa White for tickets (lmwhite88@msn.com) or 240-367-6996 or Laura Imes at imesla@yahoo.com or 301-788-6458.

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SPORTS news

Welcome to Emmitsburg Baseball & Softball 2014

by Joseph Kirchner

It's January and all of us are freezing in the ice and snow. So, this is the perfect time to think about... baseball! And softball, too! Actually, since the season starts in April—which will roll around faster than we think—now is a great time to look at what's in store for Emmitsburg Baseball and Softball in the upcoming season. Perhaps this will make winter a bit more bearable.

This is also a good time to reflect on the great success of this past year. The Emmitsburg Baseball & Softball League (EBSL) was honored to host the Cal Ripken 12U 46/60 Maryland State Championship in July 2013, and win the tournament, defeating Prince Georges County handily in the final by a score of 16-3. Very impressive. This marked Emmitsburg's first state championship in its 58-year existence. Not content to rest on its laurels, EBSL seeks an even greater year in 2014. Let's meet the new officers and take a look at some of the improvements for the upcoming season.

With eighteen years of service, Jeff Topper (formerly the vice-president) takes the helm as this year's new President. He will lead with new Vice-President Tom Kelly (the secretary for the past two years), who also brings a wealth of experience to his new role, as he has contributed for the past eight years as manager and assistant coach. The Player Agent for 2014 is Theresa Topper and Sandy Umbel is the treasurer. The secretary position is currently vacant.

Jeff and Tom are deeply committed to providing great leadership and emphasize teaching the baseball and softball players character lessons that will last a lifetime: being a quality person, performing as a true team player, dedicating to the process of practice and individual improvement, and learning to both win and lose with graciousness. These values are the solid foundation underpinning every aspect of EBSL, but Tom and Jeff



EBSL Vice President Tom Kelly (left) and new President Jeff Topper are shown standing beside the Championship banner.

also have exciting new developments planned for 2014.

For the first time in 2014, EBSL will employ a skills formation program for every level of both baseball and softball. Based on the Cal and Billy Ripken coaching clinics, this program will assign skills at each level to be mastered before going on to the next higher level. This will enable all players to build a very solid foundation for future success and will ultimately make Emmitsburg teams even more competitive.

Secondly, Tom and Jeff have agreed to change the draft process. In the past, when there have been multiple teams at a given age level, sometimes the teams have been unevenly balanced. The goal will be to balance teams to make them of roughly equal strength, making the game more enjoyable and competitive for all involved.

With the wonderful leadership provided by the EBSL officers, 2014 looks to be a banner season! Once again, Emmitsburg has been invited to host the Cal Ripken 12U 46-60 Maryland State Championship. Mark your calendars for July 5-7, 2014. Also note that you may register online now and that early registrants will receive a discount. Please view their advertisement on page 24 for more information.

As always, Jeff and Tom seek more participation from area adults. Please consider being a coach or volunteering for the upcoming year.

Visit the very informative website at EBBSB.com and contact EBSL at the following e-mail: emmitsburgbaseball@outlook.com.

CYA Lacrosse Registration Open

Want to play the fastest game on two feet? Catoctin Youth Association (CYA) Lacrosse is registering players for the 2014 spring season. All boys and girls, ages 5 through 14, are eligible to participate. No experience is needed. Registration will be held on the following dates: Thurmont Middle School—January 4, 2014, and February 1, 2014, from 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.; Emmitsburg Rec Center—January 18, 2014, and February 15, 2014, from 10:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Fees are \$85.00 per player. However, no child will be turned away due to inability to pay.

Visit their website at www.leaguelineup.com/catlax for forms. Send to Laurie Wilhelm, ATTN: CYA LAX, 5149 Wigville Road, Thurmont, MD 21788. Checks made out to CYA LAX.

If you have any questions, please call Ryan at 301-418-2338 or Laurie at 301-748-7597; email at CYALacrosse@gmail.com; or Facebook: www.facebook.com/cya.lacrosse.

Thurmont Little League's Orioles Team Exhibit Character, Courage, and Loyalty

Character, Courage, Loyalty—these are the words that are emblazoned on the Little League logo. While Thurmont Little League is preparing to celebrate Little League International's 75-year Anniversary this coming year, one of its baseball teams put these three words into action this season.

By any baseball measure, the Thurmont Instructional Orioles team had a great run. Coached by Eric Lewis, this group of 6-8 year olds won many games, in addition to learning valuable baseball skills and having fun on the field with their teammates. While most teams concluded the season by passing out trophies at pizza parties or picnics, the Instructional Orioles had a slightly different plan. During the season, the sister of Oriole player RJ Etzler passed away. Fifteen-year-old Kierra Williamson passed away on May 23, 2013. Denise, Kierra's mom, served as the Orioles Team Mom during the season, and was pleasantly surprised and honored when the players and their parents organized an end-of-year celebration, that not only included trophies and fellowship but also the planting of a tree in Kierra's honor. Each player took a turn digging the hole and ultimately planting the tree in memory of their teammate's sister. RJ's other sister, Morgan, who plays for Thurmont Thunder softball, was also in attendance to lend a hand.

Success in baseball is often measured in terms of batting averages or wins and losses. More often than not though, its most valuable lessons are found in what the players do off the field rather than on it. These kids showed support for others far beyond their years.



Courtesy Photos

(above)

Kierra Williamson, sister of Oriole player RJ Etzler, passed away in May 2013.

(left)

Thurmont Little League's Instructional Orioles and their parents plant a tree in Kierra's honor.



"Never let the fear of striking out get in your way."

~ Babe Ruth

The Catoctin
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2013 Catoctin Youth Association (CYA) Football and Cheerleading



CYA Junior Varsity & Varsity Cheerleading



CYA Pony Cheerleading



CYA Flag Mini Pony Cheerleading



CYA Varsity Football



CYA Junior Varsity Football



CYA Pony Football

CYA Football Photos — Continued on page 24

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2013 CYA Football Photos — Continued from page 23



CYA Flag Football



CYA Mini Pony Football

Thurmont Little League Spring 2014 Registration

Registration for the Thurmont 2014 Spring Little League and Babe Ruth baseball season is now open. Online Registration is available at our websites at <http://www.eteamz.com/thurmont/> (for Little League) or www.eteamz.com/thurmontbaberuthleague (for Babe Ruth).

This year, we are offering a \$10.00 discount for early online sign-ups through the month of January. Players for Thurmont, Sabillasville, Rocky Ridge, Woodsboro, and all of Northern Frederick County are welcome to register.

2014 FEES (January only): TBall (Boys and Girls)—\$65; Instructional League—\$95; Minor League—\$95; Little League Major—\$95; 13-15 Babe Ruth—\$155; 16-18 Babe Ruth—\$155. For our Babe Ruth players, this \$10.00 discount will continue through the month of February but will increase in March, as their season starts later than our younger players.

They will be offering an in-person sign-up, as well, on Saturday, January 18, 2014, from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., at the Thurmont American Legion. If you cannot sign up online and wish to take advantage of their "Early Bird" savings, please contact any Thurmont Board Member or contact Mike Randall directly at 301-271-3958 or email Michael.randall@bea.gov. They look forward to seeing everyone this spring.

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fitness matters

Expert Answers to your Health and Wellness Questions

by George Puvel, Anytime Fitness Owner

Question: Is it wise to include supersets in my workouts and, if so, what are the advantages?

Answer: Supersets involve performing two exercises back to back with little or no rest in between. And if you're looking to change up your workouts a bit, they're definitely worth a try. There are numerous superset variations, but the most common types would be same muscle supersetting or antagonistic supersetting. As the name implies, same muscle supersetting incorporates two different exercises for the same muscle group. For example, one set of dumbbell chest presses could be followed by barbell incline press. Antagonistic supersetting involves opposing muscle groups, so you might combine biceps curls with triceps extensions, again with no

rest in between sets. No matter what type of supersetting you engage in, there are three obvious advantages to utilizing this method of training. First of all, doing supersets saves time, which is clearly advantageous when people want to get in and get out. It also allows an individual to train at a higher intensity, which can produce better results in the long run. And lastly, because supersetting allows for increased workout intensity without using very heavy weights, the likelihood of injury decreases significantly. Give 'em a try and see what you think!

About the author: George Puvel is the Club Owner. To submit a question for future articles, please contact the author at ThurmontMD@anytimefitness.com.

3 on 3 Varsity Turkey Tip-Off Tournament Champions

On November 30, 2013, the Varsity Mid-Maryland 8th Grade Catoctin Boys Basketball Team played in a St. Michaels Turkey Tip-Off Tournament in Ellicott City, Maryland. Dylan Reid, Nathan Rednowers, Conner Orndorff, and Brandon Morgan finished the tournament as the 3 on 3 Varsity Team Champions, winning a gold medal, after playing five games and winning the last game against a boys varsity team from Fairfax, Virginia, called "Force," 7 to 5. The entire team, consisting of Dylan Reid, Nathan Rednowers, Conner Orndorff, Brandon Morgan, J.C. McMannis, Connor Cramer, Ryan Fisher, Bradley Tyner, Noah Wivell, Gavin Palmer, Noah Shriner, and Joey Fogle finished 5th in the tournament out of twelve varsity teams. The coaches are Brian Burdette and Jim Weddle.

Courtesy Photo



The 3 on 3 Varsity Team Gold Medal Champions at St. Michaels Turkey Tip-Off Tournament in Ellicott City, Maryland, are pictured (left to right): Nathan Rednowers, Brandon Morgan, Dylan Reid, and Connor Orndorff.

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IN THEIR OWN WORDS

A Heartfelt Thank You

Thank you does not begin to express our feelings for those of you who have been there for Dave and our family during his illness and his passing. The prayers, visits, and calls were appreciated. Thank you also to those who attended or contributed to the Wing Feed for the Grimmace Medical Fund. We cannot begin to express our thanks and love we feel.

— Thank You, Dave Vaughn Family

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~ Unknown

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the health jeanne

by Jeanne Angleberger, Shaklee Associate for a Healthier Life

Here is a recap of healthy tips that you read about in *The Catoctin Banner* during 2013, written to encourage health awareness.

- Dr. David Lipschitz, author of *Dr. David's First Health Book of More*, talks about 10 steps to a long, independent and healthier life. It is a powerful guide for those who desire healthiness.
- Health seminars are an opportunity to learn about taking care of your health. Dr. Susan Silberstein asks, “Are we overfed and undernourished?”
- Think about including a protein source when preparing dinner. Protein helps build and repair body tissue.
- Summer is the best time to enjoy fresh vegetables and fruits. They

contain the most nutrients when ripe and freshly consumed.

- Coconut water is refreshing and has a number of amazing health benefits.
- Maintaining an active lifestyle can be attained at any age! The National Senior Games in Ohio was represented by seniors ages 50-100.
- Fruits provide nutrients such as potassium, dietary fiber, vitamin C, and folate. They are naturally low in fat, sodium, and calories.
- Helping your child build self-esteem may be non-nutritional but has a wellness of its own. A “Parents’ Report Card” offers ideas to evaluate our parenting to our children.

Healthiness is attainable! Make it a priority in 2014!

Centerpieces Handmade for Annual Christmas Mart

St. Rita's Annual Christmas Mart: Rose Hebda, Paulette Nidel, Anna Vitale, Faith Ulzheimer, and Diane Cruttenden worked on centerpieces for the annual Christmas Mart and religious article sale, held on Saturday, December 7, 2013, at St Rita's Catholic Church, located at 13219 Monterey Lane in Blue Ridge Summit, Pennsylvania.



Courtesy Photo

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Take the Plunge

A few weeks back, I overheard a conversation about bears in the area. My first thoughts were of black bears, but they were actually talking about polar bears. Well, I am new to the area, but I do know that polar bears aren't indigenous to this part of the world. Intrigued, I interrupted the conversation and learned that indeed there are polar bears roaming around the South Mountain. The only difference is that they are in human form. Each January 1, these humans—turned polar bears—take a plunge into the icy cold Royer Lake. Unlike polar bears, the human participants last only a few seconds. Most manage to get their toes wet and then return to the shore in record time, but some do last a bit longer. Yes, they do wear swimsuits and all kinds of layered clothing in between. For those interested, this year promises a few bikinis, too. There's a prize for the best outfit and body paint. Interesting categories!

After the swimming event, participants and spectators can warm themselves around a roaring bonfire, and enjoy some music. Food and drinks will be available for purchase or you can bring your own. This is the third year for this event, and everyone I talked to

tells me it's great fun. Fortunately for those who like to sleep in on New Year's Day, the actual plunge doesn't begin until 1:00 p.m. For more information, contact Fort Richie Community Center at 301-241-5085 or at www.TheFRCC.org. Proceeds benefit the Fort Richie Community Center. Hope to see you there. Another great adventure on the Mountain.

Connected to the Community Center is another group serving the Mountain area. The One Mountain Foundation, founded in 2002, supports the community with educational scholarships, cultural activities, and historic preservation. They also coordinate efforts with the Mountain Heritage Historical Society. Their goal is to develop a museum showcasing our South Mountain's unique and rich history. It's also a non-profit organization. For more information and membership opportunities, contact them at info@onemountainfoundation.org or find them on the web at www.onemountainfoundation.org

Merry Christmas to all of you. Enjoy the beauty and blessings of the season.

Mountain Top Seniors

Reminder: No Mountain Top Senior's luncheon and bingo game during January or February. See you in March.

Quilting on the Mountain

If you're interested in cutting, sewing, or knotting quilts for refugees, please call 301-241-3287 at St. Mark's Lutheran Church or call 301-241-3488 at St. John's United Church of Christ for dates and times. No experience necessary. Donations of new or gently used blankets and sheets are appreciated.

Blue Summit Library

The library has a new look! Funds generated from this year's Ice Cream Social and Book Sale went towards painting and adding new shelving inside the Blue Ridge Summit Library in Blue Ridge Summit, Pennsylvania. It was quite a process, having to take down books and shelves, paint the walls, and then replace all the books in the correct order. The project was well worth all of the effort, time commitment, and physical labor. Nice work and a thank you to the volunteers who made it happen.

Father John Crossin to Preach at Inter-Faith Service

The Thurmont Ministerium is sponsoring an ecumenical worship service in celebration of the 2014 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, observed annually from January 18–25. The theme chosen for 2014 is "Has Christ Been Divided?" (1 Corinthians 1:13). The service will be held on Saturday, January 18, 2014, at 11:00 a.m. at the Graceham Moravian Church, located at 8231, Rocky Ridge Road in Thurmont.

Fr. John Crossin, US Conference of Catholic Bishops, will be the guest preacher. Those who would like to sing in an ecumenical "pick-up" choir are asked to meet at Graceham Moravian Church at 9:30 a.m. A soup and bread lunch, with an opportunity for conversation, will follow the service. Congregations active in the Ministerium are providing food for the lunch. If you would like to provide soup or cookies, please call 301-271-2379. Everyone is invited.

Father Crossin has extensive knowledge in the world of ecumenism and interfaith relations. He has published in theological journals and authored the following books: *Everyday Virtues*, *Walking in Virtue: Moral Decisions and Spiritual Growth in Daily Life*, *Friendship: The Key to Spiritual Growth and What Are They Saying About Virtue*. He holds a Ph.D. in moral theology and a master's degrees in psychology and theology from The Catholic University of America. He is past president of the North American Academy of Ecumenists and the Thomas More Society of Washington. He has taught at several theological schools, including Catholic University, Wesley Theological Seminary, Virginia Theological Seminary, Gettysburg Lutheran Theological Seminary, and De Sales School of Theology.

The Thurmont Ministerium, Inc. is an inter-faith group, composed of congregations, pastors, those who serve houses of worship, along with religious and community organizations. Their mission is to assist residents who require emergency, spiritual, and physical needs in the Thurmont area.

For more information concerning this event or the Ministerium, contact Pastor Susan Beck at 301-271-7877 or Pastor Sue Koenig at 301-271-2379. Graceham Moravian church is handicap accessible.

Arts & Entertainment



Arts & Entertainment is a place where you can express and share your creative side with the community, whether it be poetry, story excerpt, art, photography, and the like, we welcome you to send us your entries at news@thecatoctinbanner.com. Let your creativity shine.

Local Father-Son Photographers' Work Featured in New Web-Based Magazine

Father-son professional photographers Raymond and Andrew Gehman's work has been featured in an international online photography magazine.

Longtime *National Geographic* magazine photographer, Raymond Gehman, and his 28-year-old videographer/photographer son Andrew, shared billing on the October online edition of *Life Force* magazine, a free monthly photo-led web-based magazine that celebrates the art form of photography. A second photo-essay by Raymond Gehman appears in the November issue.

Founded by highly regarded British photo-journalist Damian Bird and his wife Alice Rae, the magazine highlights the photo-essay, featuring a variety of topics from artists around the world. "Our photo-essays are about great photography and pushing the boundaries of the medium to explore consciousness and human perception, by harnessing the unique power that photography holds to capture a moment for analysis."

"Our vision for *Life Force* magazine," according to the Bird's introduction on the website, "is that it should use photo-essays to entertain and enlighten whilst at the same time never missing an opportunity to speak out for those in need or without a voice."

Raymond Gehman's October photo essay Twenty One Days in China is a rich rendering of 35mm

images from an assignment in China in 1999, in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. He was one of only two photographers chosen from the United States to be invited by the China International Cultural Association to photograph locations of his choosing throughout China. His November *Life Force* photo-essay, entitled Postcards from the Southern Edge, is a collection of spontaneous photographs taken in Palm Beach County, Florida.

His son Andrew's work in the October issue is a little closer to home with imagery no less beautiful, featuring an evocative look at the Mason-Dixon Line. While the senior Gehman's images depict exotic locations halfway around the world and from the southern edges of the continental United States, Andrew turned his iPhone's camera on local landmarks and sites straddling Franklin County, Pennsylvania, and Washington County, Maryland, to create a moody, almost mystical rendering of familiar locations.

Raymond Gehman, 62, who has worked for the National Geographic Society since 1986, has had three cover photos on that iconic magazine and his work included in numerous books and articles. He has been on assignment in Yellowstone, Wyoming's Big Horn Country, Florida's Sanibel Island Gulf Coast, the Canadian Rockies, and the rain forests of Belize. He's photographed Icelandic glaciers and

icebergs, dark Polish forests, and documented grizzly bears and the vanishing prairie dog. His camera has chronicled everything from the ecology of fire, the aftermath of hurricanes and nocturnal Apache ceremonial dancers.

The elder Gehman studied fine arts photography at Northern Virginia Community College, and earned a degree in photojournalism from the renowned School of Journalism at the University of Missouri. His photographs have been exhibited across the country with recent shows in Houston, Texas; West Palm Beach, Florida; and Portsmouth, Virginia.

Andrew Gehman received a degree in Film/Video from The Pennsylvania State University, studying cinematography, documentary filmmaking, and English literature.

Since 2007, he has worked as a videographer/editor and producer in television and photographed news, sports, art and antiques, and portraits. He spent much of his childhood on *National Geographic* assignments with his father.

The Gehmans' photo-essays are readily available at www.lifeforcemagazine.com.

In addition, Raymond Gehman will be conducting international photography workshops in Italy, Iceland, Bolivia, Banff, and other locations in the coming year.

The Gehman family moved to Waynesboro, Pennsylvania from Virginia Beach, Virginia, in 1992.

For more information, contact raymondgehman@comcast.net, or the Palm Beach Photographic Centre at 561-253-2600 or www.workshop.org.

Photo taken by Andrew Gehman along the Mason-Dixon Line, near Franklin County and Washington County, Maryland.



Courtesy Photos



Photo taken by Raymond Gehman.

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'Twas' the Night Before Christmas, Part II

by John Knott

'Twas the night before Christmas and out in the barn
The kittens were playing with a big ball of yarn
The cows were all milked and fed lots of hay
They were all so excited about Christmas Day
The chickens were quiet, not a peep did you hear
They were all poised and listening for Rudolph the deer
Now a deer without wings is not strange so you say
But this one can fly and pull a big sleigh!
A little fat man sat in the sleigh seat
He wore a red suit with black boots on his feet
He laughed and he laughed and he yelled ho-ho
We'll never get stopped, the roof's covered with snow
We may have to go home and wait till next year
But Rudolph said oh no cause we're all magic deer
We'll land in a field where we have lots of space
Then Santa can pop in any old place
He can go through a key hole with a twitch of his nose
Just like in the chimney up through it he rose
He'll stop in the big barn when all eyes are shut
Then back to his sleigh with a big bouncing strut.

Beneath the Evergreen

by Denny Black

Although He called you home so soon,
Your gentle spirit seen,
Whene'er I walk in solitude,
Beneath the evergreen.

Take comfort here to know that you
Now tend His grove of pine.
Where breezes warmly soothe the soul,
And sun forever shines.

When passing verdant rows of yew,
I'll gaze the azure sky,
And feel your quiet presence here,
To lift my spirit high.

When near the spruce and juniper,
I'll amble there a while,
And think of cherished mem'ries shared,
And see your caring smile.

When 'neath the hemlock canopy,
He'll call to comfort me,
And whisper softly you're at peace
For sweet eternity.

So meet me when He calls me home –
Eternal rest serene.
Our spirits walk together then,
Beneath the evergreen.

(Denny wrote this poem in memory of his cousin Richard Daniel Pryor, who was born on August 11, 1971, and was lost at sea on August 27, 2005. Denny's poem was recently selected by Eber & Wein Publishing's National Amateur Poetry Competition for inclusion in the anthology *This Time Around*.)

As the Weeks Come and Go

by Dorothy Coyle of Cascade, Maryland

November, December, and another year
will be gone - the year of 2013.
The weeks go by so fast -
or so it seems.
Maybe because I've gotten older
the weeks seem to go so fast.
January will bring the New Year of 2014.
What's in store for us?
We'll know as the weeks come and go.
Will it be blizzards, floods, droughts and fires
as it has been this year?
Time will tell!
I believe its time for the people to put more
faith in our God and praise him,
As He means for us to do.

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A Marine's Prayer

by John Knott

Dear God way up in heaven
So far above the clouds
Please guide me on this lonely road
And help me stand so proud

Protect me and my fellow men
From the worst that there may be
And help us win this cold hard war
To keep our country free

Please give us strength and wisdom
To do the things that we must do
Protect us and our country
The red, white, and the blue



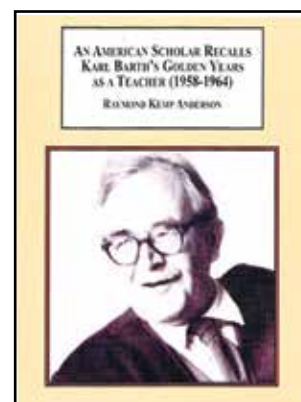
Wilson Professor Shares Reflections on Iconic Christian Thinker Karl Barth

Former Wilson College religion studies professor Dr. Raymond Kemp Anderson's collection of reflections and essays about one of the greatest Christian thinkers of modern times has recently been published by The Edwin Mellen Press, Ltd. Dr. Anderson is well-known throughout the area and has preached often at Hawley Memorial Presbyterian Church in Blue Ridge Summit, Pennsylvania.

An American Scholar Recalls Karl Barth's Golden Years As a Teacher (1958-1964): The Mature Theologian is a collection of essays from Anderson's time as one of Karl Barth's last doctoral students at the University of Basel where Barth, one of the greatest modern Christian theorists taught from 1935 until 1962. Regarded as one of the most dynamic of Christian thinkers of the 20th century, the Swiss theologian, known for his resistance to Nazis as they came to power in the 1930s and his rejection of natural theology, supervised Anderson's doctoral studies.

The book is available from The Edwin Mellen Press [sales@mellenpress.com] in both hardcover and soft cover editions and on Amazon.com.

Anderson is the Emeritus Professor of Philosophy & Religion at Wilson College, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. Highly regarded as a John Calvin scholar and author, Anderson is now completing a companion book tentatively titled *God Talk—Thirty Evenings with Karl Barth*.



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happily ever after

by Valerie Nusbaum

Starting Over

Happy New Year to everyone! I am hoping that 2014 is the year in which we all get all of the things that we want, and that we are each blessed with happiness, health, and prosperity.

In our household, the New Year is a time to make changes. That means that this year—finally—we are going to remodel our kitchen. This was a project conceived and initiated four years ago. But things happened, people got sick, and we just never got around to doing the job.

Now, if you're like me, most of January is spent cleaning up glitter and picking pine needles out of the carpet. I was smart this past Christmas. Instead of my usual themed-tree in every room, I put up one scraggly little tree with minimal decorations. The tree had a snowman/snowflake theme, because I just can't let go of my compulsions, but it was easy up and down. None of the collections came out to play at Christmastime—not the Snowbabies, not the Dickens Village, and not the Santas. There were no rocking horses, no dolls or angels, and certainly not any gingerbread men. I did miss my celebrity tree, but those are the breaks. I simply did not want to spend the two months after Christmas packing up decorations and cleaning up the house. Randy and I decorated our house with winter-themed decorations that could stay out through February. Yes, I miss all the glitz and glitter, but I'm not missing all of the work.

It turned out that it was a good thing that we skipped all of the decorating frenzy, because we all got the flu. Mom had it at Thanksgiving, and then she graciously gave it to Randy, who, in turn, shared it with me. Randy's "sickness" lasted for six hours. Mine dragged on for three weeks and involved a trip to the doctor, who held me down and gave me the flu shot—and two other shots while he was at it. There were two prescriptions and two more sample medicines before it was all said and done. Merry Christmas to me!

Once again, dear readers, I have digressed. I was telling you about the kitchen project. As you may remember, we remodeled part of our downstairs four years ago. We also intended to paint the kitchen, add more cabinets and new countertops, and do a general spruce-up at that time. The remodel took five months, and then the holidays were upon us, so Randy and I shelved the kitchen job until after the holidays. Four years later, we've begun painting.

It started on a Saturday morning last November. In preparation, we had bought the paint and supplies, and Randy had patched the drywall and moved out all the furniture. I got up extra-early and cooked my man a big breakfast, so he would have plenty of fuel to do the job. He headed into the kitchen around 8:00 a.m. to begin putting up plastic and covering the floor, which we did have tiled four years ago. At 11:30 a.m., Hubby was still taping. He

complained loudly that he'd been taping all day and wouldn't be able to start painting until late evening. I nearly fainted. I had envisioned a one-day paint job, with touch-up the following day. There's not a lot of wall space in our kitchen. How hard could it be?

I had agreed to stay out of Randy's way while he worked, so I was upstairs cleaning his bathroom and alternately doing the laundry. I heard another bout of whining—I mean, manly complaining—coming from the kitchen, so I took a deep breath and entered the work zone.

"Give me the tape," I said. He argued with me a little, but I must have looked serious, because he handed me the tape and went to the other side of the room to do something else. At noon we started painting. Randy did the ceiling first, and then we both worked on the walls. It was all finished by evening,

including the second coat. We did the touch-up the next day just like I had planned.

We painted the kitchen the same crème brulee shade as the hallway and foyer, and it looks great! I couldn't be happier. There's still a lot to do, though. We've been looking at countertops, and we are amazed at the cost now as compared with twenty years ago when we put in our existing stuff. Evidently, our kitchen cabinets are obsolete. We don't want to replace them; we just want to add a few more, but that's going to be a problem. We'll figure something out, I'm sure, and we won't break the bank to do it. Then there's the back splash, and we need new knobs and drawer pulls, because the finish has worn off our old ones. Oh, and Randy hasn't finished painting all the trim and doors yet, either. What's another four years, right?



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Your Hunting Photos

Featured are the hunting photos sent in to us by our dedicated readers. We would like to thank everyone who participated.



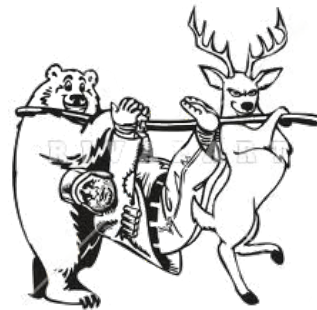
Rich Doney of Foxville with his moose, while hunting in Quebec, Canada, in October 2013.



Josh Weant, 8 point, Sabillasville, Maryland.



Rebecca Pryor hunting in Montana.



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The one that got away!



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our neighborhood veterans



by Jim Houck, Jr.

Francis X. Elder American Legion Post 121 2013 Christmas Party and Program

Francis X. Elder American Legion Post 121 held their annual Christmas Party and Program on Saturday, December 14, 2013, at the Post Home. The sponsors of the celebration, Auxiliary Unit 121, had the post lounge beautifully decorated and even provided musical entertainment to the delight of members and their guests. The hostess for the event was Auxiliary Unit 121's President Penny Adams. Due to the third snow storm within a week, a few of the guests were unable to attend, but there still was a majority of invited guests in attendance.

The Sons of the American Legion's Chaplain, Richard Fleagle, was to give the dinner prayer but was not able to attend. The prayer was given by Sons of the American Legion Commander James A. Houck Jr.

Following the wonderful buffet dinner, Post Commander Dale Valentine took the podium to welcome everyone, and, with colors in place, called for a right-hand salute to our National Flag, and then the two command was given (meaning salute is over bring your arm down).

The Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag was recited by all, and Commander Valentine then turned the program over to Auxiliary President Penny Adams. President Adams announced that the opening prayer (written by Chaplain Connie Kapriva) would be read by Judy Kemper. Judy read the prayer and after she was finished everyone was seated. President Adams gave a thank you to all Auxiliary members who helped to prepare the delicious meal. A thank you was also given to the members that helped prepare the event. President Adams introduced Unit 121 Auxiliary Officers: Jeanie Cool, 1st Vice President; Wanda Valentine, 2nd Vice President; Dottie Smith, Historian; Judy Kemper, Secretary; and Deb Cool, Membership Chair; and while all were standing, a round of applause was given. President Adams welcomed the VFW Ladies Auxiliary attending from VFW Post 6658: Sharon Williams, President; Patty Troxell, Senior Vice President; Jane Sprague, Jr. Vice President and her husband Bruce; Gloria Bouerline, Chaplain and guest Dorothy Joy; and then they were given a resounding applause. I think it's great that our Veterans Organizations can share moments like this together. The next guest introduced by President

Adams was Western Maryland District Auxiliary President, Andrea Anderson. President Anderson was a woman of few words, but got tremendous applause.

President Adams then gave out awards to some well-deserving Auxiliary Members, including Annie Bland and Wanda Valentine. I think the most surprised Auxiliary Member was my wife, Joan, when she received Lifetime Membership. She was both surprised and grateful of the award. President Adams then welcomed Commander Valentine to the podium.

Commander Valentine introduced special guests from Woodsboro American Legion: Steve Blank and Lew Trott. They told everyone how much they enjoy each time they are invited to Post 121. They have visited several times and always have a great time, because everyone is so friendly and welcoming. Commander Valentine then introduced Commander Marty Williams from VFW Post 6658, and he introduced his officers. He then gave out an award to Doug Adams, Bar Manager. Doug was very appreciative of the award. Ernie Gelwicks, our Post 121 main spring, was not in attendance, but Commander Valentine explained why Ernie was very deserving of the award. Commander Valentine was then telling why the next person was receiving an award, when he said the next one goes to someone from New Oxford, Pennsylvania, and it hit me—that it was me! And I lost it, especially when he started reading it after the words he had said leading up to the presentation. He read, "The American Legion Commander's Most Valuable Player is awarded to James Aubrey Houck, Jr. for the year 2013 in recognition of outstanding leadership and service as leader of the Sons of American Legion, benefiting our community, state, and nation. You do us proud, presented by Francis X. Elder Post 121 American Legion this 14th Day of December 2013, signed Dale A. Valentine Commander." Well, I choked up. I didn't want to blubber like a baby, because I knew he would be calling me to the podium shortly, to do my part in the program, and I didn't think I could speak. I was trying to calm down, when he said that he would like to introduce "our Sons Commander to you and he will now take over." I looked at him and said,

Francis X. Elder American Legion Post 121 Annual Christmas Party and Program, held on December 14, 2013.

Pictured are Tom Hoke, Marty Williams, Sharon Williams, Paul (Buzz) Sutton, Bob Troxell, Patty Troxell, Dottie Smith, Jane and Bruce Sprague.



Photo by Jim Houck, Jr.

"Now look what you've done. How am I going to speak?" Well, it took me a little while to compose myself, but I managed to get out a "Thank You" to the Commander, Madam President, members, and honored guest of our family at Post 121, "Thank you for coming out in this snow storm and helping us celebrate Christmas. I hope you enjoyed the bountiful meal as much as I did and the program so far." I had planned for Jeff Seiler and Deb Spalding being here but neither was able to attend. I asked for all my Officers to stand and come to the podium as I called their names. I had awards for all my Officers and presented them as they came forward: Mark Zurgable, 1st Vice Commander; Mike Hartdagen, 2nd Vice Commander; Gary Stouter, Finance Officer; Fred Hoff, Adjutant; Richard Fleagle, Chaplain; Tim Hane, Sgt. at Arms; and they all received and deserved a generous round of applause.

Then I asked the Sons members, who I called next, to stand and come to the podium as they deserved recognition long overdue. Alan Cool was presented a certificate of appreciation for outstanding service when he was called to paint our building inside and out; Dave Hartdagen was presented a certificate for outstanding electrical work inside and outside our Post Home; Steve Adams (he's about the

most professional wall and ceiling remodeler I have ever seen) also received a certificate.

I am so fortunate to have these Officers and Members to be Commander for; they help me look good, and I could not do the job without them. I would also like to mention that we had three members of VFW Men's Auxiliary attending: Mark Zurgable, Chaplain; Lewis Smith, Member; and me, James A. Houck Jr., Senior Vice President. I feel so privileged to be a part of so many Veteran Families. I then turned the program back over to President Penny Adams.

President Adams shared a Christmas Poem with everyone about a tribute to the American Soldiers and Veterans, and the sacrifice they make for all of us. Then, the closing prayer (written by Rich Kapriva) was shared by Commander Valentine. After the prayer with colors in place, he called for a right-hand salute and two. Commander Valentine thanked everyone again for coming, and asked them to drive safely and have a Merry Christmas.

Thank you, Francis X. Elder American Legion Post 121, for the Award you have presented me! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2014 to everyone in our Community, our Veterans, and the United States of America—and may God Bless All.



Wanda Valentine, 2nd Vice President Unit 121, presents a check to Andrea Anderson, Western Maryland District President.

Photo by Dottie Smith
Historian Auxiliary Unit 121

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Hidden Object & Where Am I? on page 5.

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Tickling Our Tastebuds

by Denise Valentine



Hello, everyone! As you are reading this, Christmas has passed for another year, and most of you have made New Year's Resolutions. If you are one of those people, I wish you the best of luck in the pursuit of your goals and ambitions. If you are hosting or attending a New Year's Party and haven't decided what to make yet, you may want to consider the Crab Dip that I'm sharing this month. A few years ago, I shared crab soup recipes, both Cream of Crab and Maryland Crab. I think that was one of my most popular columns; I still get compliments about those soups.

The following recipe is for Crab Dip, and it's just as delicious as the soups. I hope you have time to get the ingredients together. You won't regret any last minute shopping you may have to do. I hope everyone has a wonderful New Year.



Crab Dip

16 ounces of sour cream	Mix together the sour cream, mayonnaise, and cream cheese until smooth. Add the crab meat, 1 1/2 bags of the cheddar cheese and 1 teaspoon of Old Bay and mix well. Place in a casserole dish and cover with the remaining cheddar cheese and sprinkle with some additional Old Bay. Bake uncovered at 350 degrees for 30 minutes or until slightly bubbling.
1 cup of mayonnaise	
2 - 8 ounce blocks of cream cheese	
1 pound of lump crab meat	
2 - 8 ounce bags of shredded cheddar cheese	
1 teaspoon of Old Bay seasoning	

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Catoctin Chronicles

by Labella A. Kreiner

Ending the Year with a Bang!

The past year has flown by so quickly and many wonderful and exciting things have occurred up at Catoctin! It was amazing to see how numerous students achieved new goals and helped others in our area. Many athletes have accomplished great things, and local leaders have proved that we are all connected and form a strong community. It's exciting to think of the activities our students have in store for the coming year and the opportunities those activities will bring. But, before we think of all of this, let's do a sports recap from December.

Winter sports started on the 15th of November and already we have had some outstanding performances and amazing teamwork. Student athletes have been practicing hard to eliminate the competition from other high schools in our county. The girls varsity basketball team is a prime example of this. They have been training very hard for the past month and although they haven't won a game yet (their score 0 wins - 2 losses as of right now) they have shown they can work together and come out stronger with each passing game. You go ladies! The boys varsity basketball team also has a record of 0 wins - 2 losses, but we all expect great things from them. They've been working themselves to the bone under Coach Meekins' outstanding direction and leadership. These boys are sure to come out of the season with great standings and bonds. Keep it up guys!

Our Catoctin wrestling team has never been something to laugh at, and it isn't now. The boys have had 2 meets thus far this season and have been proving to everyone that they are mighty cougars. The team beat Century High School's wrestling team 45-33 on December 11th, pulling out their first win of the season. With the second meet's scores yet to be announced

we all know that the boys pushed themselves to new limits, win or loss.

Athletes on our indoor track and field team have really kicked things into gear after their scrimmage on December 7th and a JV meet on the 11th. All athletes have participated in at least one event, and we were shocked by how some team members finished with high standings. Many of our individual boys ranked in high positions in the county starting with Devin Cash who was ranked 7th in the county after running a 300 meter dash in 40.07 seconds, RJ Tucker ranked 12th after running the 300 meter dash in 40.68 seconds, John Thomas ranked 11th in the 500 meter dash when he ran a great starting time of 78.65 seconds, Devin Stafford ranked 7th by running 800 meters in 2 minutes 17 seconds, Brandon Snyder ran the same race and ranked 8th after running the 800 meters in 2 minutes and 19 seconds, Patrick Van Der Cruyssen ranked 7th after he ran the 3200 meter run in 10.52 seconds. There were many other great rankings from the boys' team in other events as well. To find out more please visit <http://www.athletic.net/TrackAndField/Division/Top.aspx?DivID=57107>. The girls' team also had many high rankings in the county after they competed. Jasmine Herman ranked 2nd after she ran the 300 meter dash in 45.29 seconds, Megan Demarais ranked 10th after running the 500 meter dash in 88.11 seconds, Camryn Skowronski ranked 10th after she ran the 800 meter run in 2 minutes 49 seconds, Julien Webster ranked 5th after running the 3200 meter run in 13 minutes 13 seconds, Courtney Orndorff ranked 12th running the 3200 meter run in 14 minutes 38 seconds, and Courtney Kirby ranked 12th after running the 55 meter hurdles in 10.81 seconds. Other event groups

did you
know?

Fun Facts Related to New Year's

About 40 to 45% of adults make one or more New Year's resolutions each year. Most popular resolutions include promises of weight loss, exercise, and quitting smoking, as well as better money management, saving money, and debt reduction.

How many of these resolutions are maintained as time goes on? Past the first week: 75%; Past 2 weeks: 71%; After one month: 64%; After 6 months: 46%. About 67% of people make three or more resolutions.

Some of the most common New Year's resolutions made are losing weight, exercising, getting organized, spending less/saving more, enjoying life to the fullest, learning something new, spending more time with family, eating more healthy, mending relationships, and quitting smoking.

Host Families Sought for Foreign Exchange Program

Horizons du Monde is sending 21 French Students along with their English Teacher and Headmaster to visit the Frederick area. They will arrive the evening of February 27 and depart the morning of March 5, 2014. The students are teenagers who are fully insured, background checked and bring their own spending money. They need host families who will provide a place to stay, food and local transportation for group activities. You do not need to speak French as they do speak English. Students will explore Frederick, Gettysburg, D.C. and Lake Linganore High School. Hosts will get a picture and profile of their student in order to communicate with them prior to their arrival. Host families with children can also travel abroad at a reduced rate through the host organization www.openworldtours.org. There will also be a Farewell Party for students and host families. For more information or to be a host family, please feel free to contact Page Klosowski, Local Coordinator at ms.ski2b@gmail.com or call 304-667-6831.

from the girls' team also had great performances. If you want to know more, the link previously mentioned will direct you to the standings sheet.

As well as topnotch athletes, we have a great group of leaders up at Catoctin. The Leo Club fund raised this past month by selling dance tickets for Project Hope's Winter Formal on December 21. Each ticket was sold at five dollars before the dance and seven dollars at the door. The money went directly to Project Hope, a non-profit, anti-drug organization founded in Thurmont. In order to spread the awareness of drug abuse in teens, Project Hope has held many activities to try and turn fellow students away from drugs and teach them to say

no when offered to try these deadly substances. The project received positive reviews and we look forward to helping out again.

Thank you everyone for keeping up with our school's events and performances this past year! Knowing that neighbors in the community are interested in the achievements of our students brings pride to our school. Thank you all so much for your support and help during the year 2013; we appreciate it more than you would ever believe. See you all next year and God bless! For updates and/or suggestions, please email me at labellakreiner@hotmail.com. Your ideas could end up being the main feature in next month's article!

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looking back — 1905

Two Trains Collide in Ransom

by James Rada, Jr.

Editor's Note: This is the second in a series of three articles about the great Ransom train wreck in 1905.

On June 17, 1905, around 5:55 p.m., near Ransom—a little village southeast of Patapsco, Maryland, in Carroll County—the Blue Mountain Express and a freight train collided head-on.

“Just west of the bridge, they came together with terrific force, the three engines being piled one upon another, fortunately in such a manner that sufficient steam connections were broken to relieve the boilers, and thus prevent the further horror of one or more explosions,” reported *The Washington Post*.

“After the freight train whizzed past Patapsco, it was only a couple of minutes and it sounded like the whole train rolled down the track. The noise was terrific! I never heard such an awful noise like that!” said 13-year-old Emil A. Caple, who was walking near the tracks on his way to the Patapsco Post Office and General Store.

George C. Buckingham was a conductor on the freight train. He had just looked at his pocket watch and thought the train would be able to make up the five minutes it was running behind. As he put his watch back in his pocket, he felt “the awful plunging jar, crash and grind of wood and steel.”

“There was no time to move. The man ahead of me, a Washington doctor, dived out of his window; we were two seats from the front of the first coach, and I sprang to my feet and amid the groans and shrieks of the injured, I

made my way out,” Cunningham told the *Hagerstown Daily Mail*.

The *Frederick Daily News* reported that the men who were sitting on the bumper suffered the greatest casualties.

“When the crash came, the more fortunate, who were on the engine, jumped or were thrown from the train and were only injured. Those in the baggage car were terribly mangled, and the crews of all three engines were killed. Their bodies all believed to be under the wreckage of the engines,” reported *The New York Times*.

Flagman George Lynch was at the back of the freight train at the time of the collision. He was the only one of the nine crew members on the three engines to survive. “There was a jar and then a succession of bumps, but I was not thrown down,” Lynch said.

Despite the impact of the engines in which “the three steam monsters were reduced to scrap iron,” none of the passenger coaches derailed. They all survived because of this, and “none of the passengers were injured aside from slight cuts, bruises and shocks,” according to one newspaper report.

Thirteen-year-old Emil A. Caple said that everyone who had heard the wreck came running. “I ran right along with them as fast as my legs could carry me. On the way down, we passed a man with a railroad flag in his hand running towards the Patapsco store. Somebody asked him, ‘What happened?’ He said,



Western Maryland equipment clearing a train wreck.

‘My god, I don’t know.’ He ran up the track to telephone Westminster,” Caple said.

When Caple arrived at Ransom, it was hard for him to see the actual wreck because of all the steam escaping from busted engines, and, what he did see, he wished he hadn’t.

“People were crawling from the wreck scalded. Some were lying with arms and legs chopped off, and the screaming and crying were terrible. Carloads of lard in wooden barrels had burst open and many passengers were covered with it, and rescue crews had to work in it up to the knees to pull people out. They told all of us to either help or we would have to leave. So no matter what age, every one of us pitched in to help,” stated Caple, adding, “I helped pick up arms and legs. No one knew for sure who they belonged to, so they told us to give them to anybody who didn’t have one that it looked like they belonged to. I helped another man who was scalded. He kept crying that he was so cold, so I got a coat and put over him. They said he had been scalded inside and I believe he died. The whole bottom just west of the Patapsco River was strewn with wreckage and bodies and people calling for help.”

Westminster knew of the crash minutes after it happened. Captain H. Clay Eby, a former conductor on one of the trains involved in the crash, lived near the crash site. Though he couldn’t see the collision, he had recognized the sound and what it meant. He had a telephone in his house, so he called E.O. Grimes, the railroad agent in

Westminster, and alerted him to the collision.

Once news of the wreck got out, a relief train was put together at Westminster and sent out to help. The injured were taken by train to a hospital in Baltimore, Maryland. “Just before the first relief train taking the injured to the hospitals of Baltimore left, the wreckage began to burn.” Ambulances were also ordered to the scene. An express train following the freight train acted as a relief train for the other side, and the passengers on both trains gave all possible aid to the victims.

George Stimmel, a laborer from Thurmont, was one of the passengers taken out of the wreck alive. He was taken to the Hotel Albion in Westminster, Maryland, but he died the next morning. While on the relief train to Westminster, he “offered a touching and pathetic prayer for his wife and children, pleading earnestly that they might be supported by Almighty God and that the wife might be enabled to train up the children in the paths of Christianity and righteousness.”

About seventy-five men from the Western Maryland and Northern Central railroads used two steam cranes to clear away the wreckage. “With two great steam cranes, the three engines were righted and placed upon the tracks, then slowly towed down to the siding near Lawndale. The overturned cars, the broken and twisted axles and machinery were hauled out of the way, and watches, pocketbooks, blank books and other effects belonging to the victims of the wreck were collected,” reported *The Catoctin Clarion*.

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senior moments

by Helen Deluca

Happy Holidays, everyone! There is so much to tell you, so I will just get to it. If you were at the Thurmont Senior Center Christmas Party, you already know what a great afternoon we shared. The dinner was delicious. John and Peggy Offutt provided great entertainment, and we all heard the good news about a grant that the Center received from St. Paul's United Church of Christ of Westminster. The grant will be used to subsidize the lunch program. Beginning in January, the cost of lunch will be \$5.00. We will continue the honor system for paying for lunch, but we ask that you please honor the honor system. Your cooperation will help us to keep the \$5.00 lunch price possible.

Commissioners Marty Burns and Bill Buehrer were among those enjoying the party. Commissioner Buehrer, on behalf of the Mayor and Town Office, presented a check to Roy Clever, Vice President of the Center's Board of Directors.

The Thurmont Center Board of Directors have an estimated annual budget of \$60,000 to operate the Center. This includes the cost of utilities, office equipment, supplies, building and auto insurances, maintenance of van, legal fees, custodial services, maintenance of the interior of the Center, permits, coordinator's salary, subsidizing the lunch program, and social activities. The monies received from the Town will offset some of these expenses.

We are grateful and offer our heartfelt thanks to the Town Office and to St. Paul's U.C.C. for their

support. Our thanks to all of those individuals who generously supported our Center this past year, and to our local merchants who are always there to support us. We are a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, so any donation you can make is tax deductible. We look forward to your continued support.

We were pleased to host a Brown Bag Bingo party, which was sponsored by St. Joseph Ministries of Emmitsburg. Several of the residents were able to join us for a pleasant afternoon of bingo, refreshments, and companionship.

Did you read the interesting article in the *Senior Living Magazine* about the Memory Café? It's new to the Frederick area. It's an informal concept of bringing loved ones who may have been diagnosed with Alzheimer's or dementia into an area where they can socialize and visit with others. Call Frederick County Department of Aging for more information. In the *AARP Magazine*, an article debunks the rumor that Medicare Premiums will go as high as \$247 a month. Medicare premiums will remain the same as last year: \$104.90 per month. That's a little bit of good news!

Time to get out your calendars and mark some dates you won't want to miss! On December 31, 2013, at 12:00 p.m.—Pot Luck Lunch and New Year's Eve Celebration. Bring a dish or pay \$5.00. Be there for the fun. On January 9, 2014, at 12:30 p.m.—January Birthday Party. On January 15, 2014, at 1:00 p.m.—50/50 Bingo Party. This is a monthly

Brown Bag Bingo at the Thurmont Senior Center, sponsored by St. Joseph Ministries of Emmitsburg.



Courtesy Photo



John and Peggy Offutt entertaining at the Thurmont Senior Christmas party.

Photo by Irene Matthews

Bingo Party that is open to all. Bring a friend—young or old—all are welcome. The one who brings in the most friends or "new faces" will receive a prize. Just come on in for an afternoon of fun. On January 28, 2014, at 11:00 a.m.—one of your favorites: Nurse Steve will give another interesting presentation.

As always, stop in at the Center to pick up an updated monthly calendar of activities and a menu for the month. Mountain Gate continues to come up with delicious and plentiful meals. Call one day in advance to reserve.

A reminder: If the schools are closed because of inclement weather, the Center will be closed. If school is delayed two hours, the Center will be open 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

The Center is available for rent for your special events. Call 301-271-7911.

The Thurmont Senior Center may not always be included in newspaper articles about various Senior Centers of Frederick County, but we are an independent organization, and, rest assured, we are here for you! We are one of the most active Centers in Frederick County, and we always have the welcome mat out.

Now, on behalf of the Board of Directors and Officers, all of our volunteers, and all of the happy faces who join us at the Thurmont Senior Center, we wish you and yours a Merry Christmas and a Healthy, Happy and Prosperous New Year. May all of God's blessings be yours.

Emmitsburg Senior News

Happy New Year 2014! We have some special activities scheduled for this first month of the year, so get out your calendars: Jan. 8th, a program on Nutritious Snacks, with samples to share, 11:45 a.m.; Jan. 9th, Deputy Amanda Hatcher will speak about being wary of Scams, at noon; Jan. 14th, popcorn & movie, 11:00 a.m.; Jan. 15th, Bingo at 12:30 p.m. Bring something white for a prize; Jan. 16th, Special meal & birthday party, 11:30 a.m.; and Jan. 31st, Ice Fest in Chambersburg-Leave at 9:30 a.m., \$5.00 transportation fee. The center will be closed on Monday, Jan. 20th for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Regular Activities include: Breakfast every Monday and Tuesday from 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.; reservations required; Bowling on Mondays at 12:15 p.m.; Art Class on Mondays at 1:30 p.m.; Bridge and 500 will be held January 8 and 22 at 12:30 p.m.; Strength Training on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.; Pinochle on Thursdays at 12:30 p.m.; Canasta on Fridays at 12:30 p.m.; Cards, Games and Puzzles on Friday afternoons.

Our Pool group is re-forming for the New Year. Call Linda if you are interested in joining. We have a pool room in the center, and the activity is free.

The senior citizens encourage everyone 50 years of age and older to join their activities at the Emmitsburg Community Center. Persons 60 and over are eligible for the hot lunch program. For information on the lunch program and all other activities, contact the coordinator, Linda Umbel, at 301-600-6350, or email Lumbel@FrederickCountyMD.gov.



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classifieds

For Rent

APARTMENTS FOR RENT: One and Two bedrooms in the Cascade, Blue Ridge Summit area. Call Kelly Ash at 301-241-4726.

FOR RENT IN THURMONT: 2 Bedroom Condo with garage, 1st Floor, Washer/Dryer, Secure Entrance. \$1,300.00/month. 301-271-4811.

MOON BOUNCE for rent, \$150.00 per day. 240-674-3856.

Wanted

WANTED: Any unwanted lawn mowers, tillers, snow blowers or yard items. Will pick up FREE. Call 301-271-4266.

WANTED: Antiques & Collectibles like crocks, jugs, postcards, photographs, advertising items, old signs, toys, trains (pre-1965), vintage jewelry (sterling & gold), antique furniture, guns, pottery, old holiday decorations, political items, hunting/fishing items, artwork, old dolls, etc. Will buy one item, collection, or entire estate. 301-514-2631.

DONATE YOUR CAR: All proceeds benefit the Catoctin Pregnancy Center. 301-447-3391.

Notices

The season of Christ isn't over just because Christmas is. Call the missionaries to learn more about Jesus Christ's restored gospel. 410-370-9807. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

YOU WILL FLIP over our new catalog!! Home Interiors is BACK! Call 301-447-2073 or email hgpartygirl62@aol.com.

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Services

Child Care Openings for ages 2+ available. Rural setting, but only minutes from Emmitsburg or Taneytown off Route 140. Loving environment with lots of space for indoor and outdoor play, pre-school program, field trips, and nutritious meals/snacks. Wait list started for infants (ages 0-2), spots available March 2014 and June 2014. License #137984. Contact Cindy at krausscindym@gmail.com or 301-748-0011.

DRUM LESSONS. Rock/jazz drum set and hand drums. All ages, levels, styles. Professional educator and performer with over 40 years experience. Mr. Paul 301-271-7390. paulsdrumstudio@comcast.net.

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FREE PICK UP: Appliances working or not working. Also, old mowers, tillers, etc. Anything metal. 240-674-7788.

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PIANO LESSONS: Experienced professional musician and certified public school teacher. All ages. Adults Welcome. Located in Thurmont. Call or text Beth at 240-529-8108 or email beth@gnarlyartly.com.

Quality wedding invitations/accessories at a discounted price! Joyce at 301-271-1107.

Guided rock climbing, caving, rappelling, kayaking, and other outdoor adventures and parties. Daybreak Excursions 240-731-9936.

For Sale

Full Multi Gym by IMPEX Powerhouse Club 9. A full multi gym workout bench with leg lift, cable pull and weight bar along with 300 lbs of weights. Bench is adjustable, offers numerous exercises. Plenty of extra attachments to make your workout complete! \$375/OBO. Call 301-271-4280 or 301-788-6417.

2008 Honda Civic Si. 2 door. 62,000 miles. 6-speed, 2.0 liter 4 cyl VTEC engine. Asking \$14,000. Call or text 301-473-0751 for more info or email dhoff921@hotmail.com.



Two pet carriers for cats for sale. Like new—\$25.00 each. Please call 301-271-4372, leave message.

Sony Cyber-Shot DSC-P73 digital camera with case and two memory cards. \$20.00. 240-285-6197.

27" Sony standard TV. \$15.00. Call 240-626-3937.

Playstation 3 (like new; includes 2 movies/1 game). \$180.00. 240-285-6197.

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by Erin Dingle, Administrator, Thurmont Regional Library/Emmitsburg Branch Library, edingle@frederickcountymd.gov

Seeking Temporary Storage

It's a fact that many of you enjoy visiting the annual Friends Book Sale, held annually during the Thurmont/Emmitsburg Community Show. A lot of hours of work go into making it a successful fundraiser that supports many activities that local families enjoy throughout the year. At the old location on Water Street, the Friends were able to store books in the attic. When the library moved, onsite storage for sale books was lost. The Friends have been grateful to business owners at various locations around town who have allowed us to store books temporarily—it has been a great help. At this time, the Friends have no place to store boxes. Can you help? They are in the planning stages of having a permanent storage unit located close to the library, but, until this happens, they are in desperate need for temporary storage in the area. Ideally, the storage area would be on the ground floor. If you are willing to share space to store boxes of books, the library and the Friends would be grateful. Give Erin Dingle a call at 301-699-7212.

Holly Jolly Thank You

We were so happy to participate during the "Christmas in Thurmont" event in December, an annual event that brings the community together for holiday fun and in support of local businesses. Library staff prepared a variety of holiday crafts as make & takes; Ronald McDonald shared reading tips and fun; and Santa Claus, Mrs. Claus, and Elsie the elf welcomed young visitors. We'd like to thank everyone who helped, especially members of the Teen Advisory Group and the Kinnaird family.

"Family Activity" Share Fair

The library is planning a Community Share Fair this spring, and we'd like your input. This fall, we hosted a Volunteer Fair that was a great success. A Community Share Fair is about bringing people together with a shared purpose. This time, it's all about summer activities for children, teens, and families. When my kids were still in school, I'd scour local publications to find fun summer activities. Not only is participating in something new during summer vacation great fun, but it also is a golden opportunity for kids to learn a new skill or experience a new interest. This share fair will bring all types of events together so active families can stop by and discover what is happening this summer locally.

If your organization hosts camps, programs, or events for children and families in the summer, you will want to participate. If you would like to host a table at this community share session or know of an organization we should contact, send an email to me at edingle@frederickcountymd.gov, and I will get in touch with specifics. The Family Activity Fair is being planned for late April 2014. Check this column in *The Catoctin Banner* for updates.

Winter Weekends Coming Up

Every single Saturday and Sunday through January and February 2014, bring the kids in to play, explore, and make new friends at the Lego table. There are big giant bins of Lego's just waiting to be built into wacky, fun creations. Parents and grandparents can sit and relax. Special weekend programs through February 2014 include: January 4—Read to a dog with Wags for Hope, plus Lunch & A Movie; January 11—Zumbatonic for Kids; January 18—Penguins and Polar Bears; February 1—Read to a dog with Wags for Hope; February 2—Celebrate Groundhog's Day; February 8—Sweetheart Dance.

A Winter Literacy Booster

And, finally, think about your children and giving them that extra literacy boost they'll need when they start school. We host a variety of regular storytime programs for every age, every week.

Kick-off the New Year by engaging your little one in our programs. We offer specialized morning programming for every age group. Visit a program to try it out and then register to attend on a regular basis. Your child's literacy level and interest in books will grow, and you'll meet new friends from the community. A recent Pew Internet survey states that 95 percent of Americans agree that using a public library with your child will instill in them a love of reading. All learning starts with solid reading skills. The following is our regular storytime schedule for the Thurmont Regional Library: Babies with Books—Every Tuesday and Thursday at 10:15 a.m.; Time for Two's—Every Tuesday and Thursday at 11:00 a.m.; Preschool Storytime—Every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m.; Family Storytime—Every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

More details are available at our website at www.fcpl.org or you can call 301-600-7212. The library partners with individuals, organizations, and businesses to promote positive community interactions. Let us know your ideas for community shares!

december

- 31....Charity New Year's Eve Dinner & Dance, FSK Holiday Inn Ballroom, 5400 Holiday Dr., Frederick, MD. Live music w/ The Shades, 8:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m. All-you-can-eat buffet, 6:30 p.m. Tickets Sylvia Lucas 301-371-8641. Proceeds go to PPF, Inc., benefiting local cancer recipients. www.ppfing.org.

Happy New Year!

january

- 1-4 ..Christmas Novena Masses, National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Emmitsburg. 1:30 p.m.
- 2.....Teen Advisory Group, Teen Program (middle school, high school), Thurmont Regional Library, Moser Rd., Thurmont. 3:00-4:00 p.m. Help the library with teen events, displays and children's programs. Earn school service hours. No registration necessary.
- 2,16.Dungeons & Dragons, Thurmont Regional Library, Moser Rd., Thurmont. 4:00-7:00 p.m. Teen Program. Fantasy role-playing game; players work together to battle enemies, find treasure, and solve puzzles. No registration necessary.
- 4.....Stultz Fitness Open House, 285 Boyle Road in Fairfield, Pennsylvania. 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. 717-334-6009.
- 4.....Archbishop William E. Lori will celebrate Mother Seton's Feast Day Mass at The National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Emmitsburg. 9:00 a.m.
- 4.....Read to a Dog - Wags for Hope! Thurmont Regional Library, Moser Rd., Thurmont. Elementary aged children w/adult. 11:00-11:45 a.m. Make a new friend by reading aloud to a therapy dog and its owner/trainer! All reading levels welcome. *Allergy Alert! The dogs are live animals.* Register online fcpl.org or 301-600-7212.
- 6.....Graceham Moravian Church Free Community Meal, "Served with Grace," (first Monday of every month), 8231-A Rocky Ridge Rd. (Rt. 77), Thurmont. All welcome. 5:30-7:00 p.m. 301-271-2379.
- 8.....Northwestern Frederick County Civic Association Meeting, Keystone Kitchen, Waynesboro, PA. 6:00 p.m. All are welcome. George Kuhn 301-241-3997.
- 8.....Ornaments created for Community Remembrance Tree can be picked up at Cozy Restaurant in Thurmont. 5:00-6:00 p.m. Ornaments not claimed will become property of Thurmont Lions Club. Shirley 301-898-7004.
- 8.....2014 Catocin Safe and Sane Graduation Committee, media center at Catocin High School. 7:00 p.m. All interested parents of the graduating class of 2014 are invited.
- 8.....Computer Basics for Beginners, Computer Class for adults, Thurmont Regional Library, Moser Rd., Thurmont. 6:00-7:30 p.m. Introductory three-part computer class. Sessions run January-March. Register at Library Information Desk or 301-600-7212.
- 9.....Anime Club, Thurmont Regional Library, Thurmont. Middle school/high school. 6:00-7:30 p.m. Read graphic novels (manga) and watch

community calendar

- Japanese animation (anime). Watch movie; have popcorn! No registration necessary.
- 10....Feast of Elizabeth Ann Seton Mass, National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Basilica. 10:30 a.m. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton was instrumental in creating the legacy of Catholic education in the Americas as we know it today. Come join us as we celebrate the Feast Day of our patron saint and foundress during a special Mass in her honor. 301-447-3161 or www.mothersetonschool.org.
- 11....Got Snow? Emmitsburg Branch Library, Emmitsburg. Children of all ages w/adult. 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Learn facts about snowflakes, experiment with snow, play winter games, & create frosty friend. Register fcpl.org or 301-600-6329.
- 11....Oyster, Turkey and Country Ham Dinner (buffet style), Lewistown Fire Hall, 11101 Hessong Bridge Rd., Thurmont. 12:00-5:00 p.m. \$16/Adults; \$7/Children 6-12. \$17/Carryout. 301-898-9988.
- 11...."All You Can Eat" Breakfast to benefit the Jeremy Hahn Fund, Trinity United Church of Christ, 101 E. Main St., Thurmont. 6:00-11:00 a.m. \$8/Adults; \$5/Children ages 5-10; Free/children under age 5. Tickets: Brown's Jewelry Store, Trinity Church, or 301-271-6965. Proceeds from the fundraiser added to Thurmont Lions Club "Jeremy Hahn Fund" and used for outstanding expenses for Jeremy.
- 13....LEGO Ninjago Party, Thurmont Regional Library, Moser Rd., Thurmont. Attendees must be between 5-11 yrs. old. 2:00-3:00 p.m. Community Room for ninja crafts, games, & activities. Registration limited: fcpl.org or 301-600-7212.
- 14 ... Take-a-Tour Tuesday, Mother Seton School, Creamery Road, Emmitsburg. 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Come see why children thrive academically and spiritually at Mother Seton School, one of Frederick County's hidden treasures. 301-447-3161 or www.mothersetonschool.org.
- 14 ... Teens Make Art! Aboriginal Rock Painting, Emmitsburg Branch Library, Emmitsburg. Attendees must be between 10-17 yrs. old. 4:00-5:00 p.m. Explore ancient Australian art of Aboriginal rock painting and paint your own design on your own rock. All materials provided. Register online fcpl.org or 301-600-6329.
- 16 ... Business Seminar presented by Casey Willson, SBA Business Specialist at the Thurmont Country Kitchen Restaurant, Thurmont. 6:00 p.m. Operational Basics to Build your brand: The customer's experience in dealing with your business is the basis for your brand and for profitability and future growth. How do you ensure the perfect experience for your customer in an atmosphere that reflects your concept, whether virtual or brick and mortar. Visual merchandising, customer service, human resources, marketing overview and customer retention. vgrinder@thurmontstaff.com.
- 18....Ham, Turkey, or Beef Slippery Pot Pie Carryout, Woodsboro Lutheran Church, 101 S. Main St., Woodsboro, MD. Pick-up between 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. For orders call 301-271-3309 by Jan. 16. Quarts \$5.00; bake table available.
- 18....Soup and Sandwich Sale, St John's Lutheran Church Parrish House, 8619 Blacks Mill Rd., Creagerstown, MD.
- Soups: \$5 per quart; Sandwiches: \$3/ sandwich, \$23/dozen. Please order by Saturday, January 18, 2014. Pick-up: Jan. 24, 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. To order: 301-271-7851.
- 18 ... An Ecumenical Service of Christian Unity, Graceham Moravian Church. 11:00 a.m. Guest Preacher, Father John Crossin. Sponsored by Thurmont Ministerium. Soup lunch provided. Pastor Susan Beck at 301-271-7877 or Pastor Sue Koenig at 301-271-2379.
- 18 ... Safe and Sane 2014 Sportsman's/Cash Bingo, Lewistown Fire Hall, Lewistown. Doors open 5:00 p.m.; Games 7:00 p.m. \$35/person (includes dinner & beverages). Must be 16 years old to attend. Donations of desserts, sodas and water are welcome.
- 18....Invention Convention, Emmitsburg Branch Library, Emmitsburg. Elementary, tweens, children w/adult. 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Celebrate Kid Inventor's Day by creating your own special project using household items. Materials supplied. Registration required: fcpl.org or 301-600-6329.
- 21 ... Take-a-Tour Tuesday, Mother Seton School, Creamery Road, Emmitsburg. 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Come see why children thrive academically and spiritually at Mother Seton School, one of Frederick County's hidden treasures. 301-447-3161 or www.mothersetonschool.org.
- 25 ... 5th Annual EBPA Fundraiser Dance, Emmitsburg Volunteer Ambulance Co. Bldg., 17701 Creamery Rd., Emmitsburg. Featuring the Rock N Roll Relics. 8:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m. \$15/in Advance; \$20/at Door. BYOB. Tickets: Bob Rosensteel 301-401-7287.
- 25....Annual Oyster Feed, VFW Men's Auxiliary Post 6658, Emmitsburg. 4:00-8:00 p.m. \$25/person. Fried, raw, steamed and stewed oysters, hot dogs, etc.
- 26 ... Spaghetti Dinner, Mother Seton School, Creamery Road, Emmitsburg. 12:00 - 5 p.m. \$7/Ages 11+, \$4/Ages 3-10, Ages 2 and under free. Benefit Mother Seton School Home and School Association. 301-447-3161 or www.mothersetonschool.org.
- 26 ... Open House, Mother Seton School, Creamery Road, Emmitsburg. 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. If you've been considering an alternative to public or home schooling, this is the perfect chance for you to tour our campus, speak with our principal, and receive more information. 301-447-3161 or visit our website at www.mothersetonschool.org.

- 27 ... Red Cross Blood Drive, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, 103 N. Church Street, Thurmont. 2:00 - 8:00 p.m. Please call Terry at 301-271-7872 to schedule an appointment or for more information. Walk-ins welcome.
- 28 ... Catholic Schools Week Mass, Mother Seton School, Creamery Road, Emmitsburg. 10:15 a.m. Join us as we celebrate the blessing of Catholic Schools in our lives during a special Mass at Mother Seton School. 301-447-3161 or www.mothersetonschool.org.
- 28 ... Support the Library - Friends of the Library Meeting, Emmitsburg Branch Library, Emmitsburg. 6:30-7:45 p.m. 301-600-7212.
- 29 ... Pastor Appreciation Day, Mother Seton School, Creamery Road, Emmitsburg. 11:00 a.m. We are so grateful for the support we receive from our community, especially from our fellow churches, and would like to show our appreciation with a special Prayer Service at Mother Seton School, followed by a light luncheon. 301-447-3161 or www.mothersetonschool.org.

february

- 2.....Super Sunday Bingo, Emmitsburg Volunteer Ambulance Co., 17701 Creamery Rd., Emmitsburg. Doors open 12:00 p.m.; Games 1:30 p.m. Pay for what you want to play. Tickets: Mary Lou 240-285-3184; Diane 301-748-6894.
- 8.....Cash Bash Bingo, Our Lady of Mount Carmel's Parish Center, 103 Church St., Thurmont. 3:00-8:00 p.m. Doors open 2:00 p.m. Four Cash prize drawings per hour. Grand Prize awarded 8:00 p.m. \$25/person (not sold at door), includes food, drink & music by Back Roads. Tickets 301-447-2367.
- 8 Safe and Sane 2014 Benefit Ladies/Girls Night Out, Emmitsburg Ambulance Co., Creamery Rd., Emmitsburg. Jewelry will be from Browns' Jewelry & Gift Store. Doors open 5:00 p.m.; Games begin 7:00 p.m. \$30/person (includes finger foods & beverages). Silent auction & raffles. Must be 16 years old to attend. Lisa White 301-788-6458 or lmwhite88@msn.com, Laura Imes imesla@yahoo.com or 301-788-6458.

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This fabulous Clover Ridge Colonial offers 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, beautiful Kitchen with stainless, granite, hardwood floors, pantry and a Morning Room that opens to the lovely new paver patio and lush rear yard! Family Room with Gas fireplace! Both a Living and Dining Room for entertaining! Gorgeous master suite with 2 walk in closets! Full basement, 2 car garage, main level laundry, etc!



**13626 Catocin Furnace Rd.
Thurmont, MD - \$189,900**

Spacious home on over 3/4 of an acre, currently 3 separate units. Could easily be returned to a single family. Roof, baseboard heat, electric, updated in the last 10 years. Unit A offers 2 bedrooms, Kitchen, Living and Dining (or could be 3rd bedroom), Unit B offers 2 bedrooms, Kitchen and Living Room and Unit C offers Kitchen, Living Room and Bedrooms/Loft. Great rental history! AS-IS.

**NEW
LISTING!**



**7 Emmitsburg Rd.
Thurmont, MD - \$249,900**

This 3 Bedroom, 2 full bath colonial has been completely renovated! Laminate floors throughout, main level laundry, updated HVAC with an oil furnace back up, lovely sunny kitchen that opens to large dining room, spacious living and an office/den! Attached apt/in law with Kitchen, full bath, bedroom and living room that has been renovated. Fenced yard, plenty of parking and a deck for entertaining! This is a must see!



**9676 Longs Mill Rd.
Rocky Ridge, MD - \$759,900**

Fabulous 4 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath colonial on 32 beautiful acres! Spacious, sun filled home with 2 story foyer, maple cabinets in kitchen and butlers pantry, hardwoods throughout main level and fully finished lower level. 4 walk in bay windows! Huge master bath and walk in closet! 2 Car Garage, lovely 2 tier deck and gated in-ground pool! Barn, waterers, fenced pastures, etc.

**SHORT TERM
RENTAL POSSIBLE!**



Deep Powder Trail
Carroll Valley, PA - \$209,900
3 bedroom 2 bath home on 1/2 acre. You must see this like new home. Just painted inside thru out, new carpet in master bedroom, new front porch, New landscaping, Deck off dining area and deck off family room on lower level. 2 car garage. This is a move in condition home. Call Bonita Smith

**NEW
LISTING!**



**14330 Pleasant Valley Rd
Smithsburg, MD - \$294,900**

A MUST SEE! This gorgeous 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath colonial features hardwood floors, tile floor in kitchen, granite counter tops, washer and dryer and new windows in 2008 except bay window was re-glazed. Water heater 5 years old, A/C installed in 2013, and furnace 4 years old. Perfect for the nature lover/hunter. Move-in ready! Closet door in bedroom will be installed.

**NEW
LISTING!**



**Main Street
Thurmont, MD - \$259,900**

4 Unit apartment plus Store front. Property was renovated in 2007. Lead free certificate. Coin operated laundry on first floor. Property consists of 2- 2 bedroom apartments, and 2 -1 bedroom apartments.

**NEW
LISTING!**



**12804 Quirauk School Rd.
Sabillasville - \$242,500**

Log home with 3 bedrooms, 3 full baths, an attached garage and detached 2 car garage! Open kitchen with an island, maple cabinets, and granite countertops! Spacious living room and dining area! Lower level has 3rd full bath and family room! 1+ Acre lot just minutes over the Frederick County line!



**Clifton Dr. - \$159,900
Williamsport, MD**

Call to see this cute 3 bedroom brick rancher with one car garage, Great back yard, full unfinished basement with washer and dryer. Convenient to Rt 81 and 70.



**16626 Toms Creek Church Rd.
Emmitsburg, MD - \$255,000**

Well Cared for Cape Cod offers living room w/ hardwood floors and woodstove, eat in kitchen with custom oak cabinetry and door to deck! Main level master bedroom, full bath and den (possible 4th bedroom)! Upper level offers 2 bedrooms and a full bath! Hardwood floors throughout! 1 car attached garage and detached garage/workshop/greenhouse! Metal Roof has lifetime warranty! Gorgeous Views!



**10108 Mumma Ford Rd.
Rocky Ridge, MD - \$249,900**

Spacious A-frame home offers 4 bedrooms, 1 and 1/2 baths, main level laundry, sun porch, decking and out building with bath and kitchenette. Partially fenced pastures, above ground pool, barn/machine building, kennels, shed, all on 6.1 acres! Bedroom addition not included in tax record sq ft. As-Is. Will not qualify for government financing! Seller to repair septic prior to closing.



**LOTS-13430 & 13312
Jintown Rd., Thurmont, MD**

Two Gorgeous perced lots (sand mound) 3.88 Acres (\$165,000) and 2.11 Acres (\$155,000) both with 15 GPM wells! Beautiful views all around and just seconds from town with no town taxes! Call for plat today!



**3 Gorgeous Building Lots
Wigville Rd., Thurmont, MD**

3 gorgeous building lots.
• (\$199,900 - 13.35 Acres, 6 BR, perc, well)
• (\$149,900 - 5 Acres, 5 BR, perc, well)
• (\$159,900 - 5.57 Acres, 6 BR, perc, 2 wells)

Have a Prosperous New Year!

