

The Catoctin Banner

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The Season of Giving

By Deb Spalding, Jim Houck, and Joseph Kirchner

Merriam-Webster defines philanthropy as “the practice of giving money and time to make life better for other people.” It’s a big word, and with the holidays upon us, this is something that many will do without paying much mind to such a fancy label. Whether donating money or food to our local food banks, handing out candy canes at a community function, performing in church, or simply helping a neighbor through a door, our efforts of philanthropy do not go unnoticed. It is here that we will say thank you to each other for all of the wonderful gifts we give in this season and year-round. It is here that we will take notice of some individuals in need of philanthropy in our local community. By emphasizing these three people, we mean to inspire you to assist people in need, support missions of assistance, and perform random acts of kindness. Happy holidays!

Robert

Robert Maichle is a 13-year-old character from Blue Ridge Summit, Pennsylvania. He was born with developmental disabilities and autism that complicate his daily life. He also suffers from seizures and is very impulsive. His safety is always a concern. When he was recently approved for a service dog from 4 Paws for Ability out of Xenia, Ohio, Robert and his family became responsible for raising \$13,000 to purchase his service dog. An anonymous donor gave the money Robert needed.

Robert, along with his family, will travel to Ohio in October 2014 to meet his service dog. His dog, which will be named in honor of the donor’s husband, will be trained to comfort Robert and to help him remain calm. He will also perform search and rescue if Robert should wander off.

On November 16, 2013, a benefit 5K walk/run was sponsored by the Monterey Country Club in Blue Ridge Summit. The overall winner of the 5K walk/run was Robert’s



Courtesy Photos

Robert Maichle is shown with Eric Patters of the Blue Ridge Summit Fire Station, receiving a t-shirt.

brother, Christopher, with a time of 19:31. There was also a vendor sale with \$1,200 of the proceeds (after expenses) donated to help another child at 4 Paws for Ability. “T-shirts and bracelets are still being offered, and there are other fundraisers planned,” Robert’s mother, Stacie Massett, said. She added, “We have also decided to make this an annual event to help other children and to help with the annual cost of the service dog. We still have a trip to

Ohio for twelve days to pay for.” Donations can be made out to: Service Dog for Robert at 12012 Mentzer Gap Road, Waynesboro, PA 17268.

Mike

Mike Hartdagen has always been a kind and helpful person. He is known and loved by most people in the areas of Emmitsburg, Fairfield, Thurmont, and Rocky Ridge. Mike has had problems with his heart for quite a few years now. He was experiencing episodes of swelling up with fluids, and he received every test there was for his symptoms. He was continually told they could not diagnose the problems he was having. While getting out of bed one morning, he passed out. In the hospital after this incident, several new tests were performed. The doctors found that his heart was only functioning 15 to 25 percent of normal function, and he was passing out because of fluid covering his heart. They placed him on a heart transplant list to give him a healthy harvested heart.

Mike has been unable to work because of his heart. Mike and his wife, Carole, have a son, Bradley, and their bills are now solely Carole’s responsibility, because she is the only one employed.

The Sons of the American Legion Squadron 121 held a fundraiser for Mike and his family. The Fundraiser grossed very close to \$10,000. The net amount they received will help them for a while, and, if



Jim Houck, Jr. (shown left) of the SAL Squadron 121 presents fundraising proceeds to Mike Hartdagen (shown center), Carole Hartdagen, and Brad Hartdagen.

needed, more fundraisers will be held in the future. SAL Squadron 121 would like to thank everyone

who donated and participated in the fundraiser.

Tina

A victim of the hotel fire at the square in downtown Emmitsburg, Tina is a generous single mother in desperate need of your help. She works full-time in the kitchen at Mount St. Mary’s University and takes care of her daughter and son, who both attend Emmitsburg Elementary School. Her family is not in a position to help her financially; and, her car, which is twenty years old, is now beyond fixing. Though Tina does everything she can with her very limited resources, it is impossible for her to purchase even a used car, and she truly needs transportation at this time to continue her employment and to transport her children to and from school. Please open your heart and provide as you can for this most deserving woman and her children. Help Tina and local families in need by contacting the Seton Center Outreach at 301-447-6102 or make checks payable to Set on Center, with the person(s) name you are supporting indicated on the memo line, and mail to Seton Center, 16840 South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, MD 21727.

Season of Giving
— Continued on page 31



The Catoctin Banner Newspaper • 515B East Main Street • Emmitsburg

THE POSTAL CUSTOMER

From the Publisher

Dear Reader:

Happy Holidays! May your Thanksgiving be full of thanks and giving, and your Christmas be merry and bright! Get into the holiday spirit by nominating festive homes for *The Catoctin Banner* Newspaper's Holiday Home Decorating Contest. See details and more information on page 7. Winners will be announced in the January issue, which comes out around January 1, 2014.

The year 2013 has been a year of growth for *The Catoctin Banner* Newspaper. We published our biggest issue ever in October, with 48 pages, and our other issues for the year ran 36 or 40 pages consistently. We have always said, "Send in your good news!"... and you do. A bigger issue conveys that you are communicating about our community, and it also says that businesses are supporting this mission. Let's keep it up in 2014! As we go, remember that your comments and contributions are appreciated and encouraged. If you'd like to see something included in *The Catoctin Banner* that is not currently, please let us know. There is a "contact us" link on www.TheCatoctinBanner.com for input online or you can call 240-288-0108 to leave a message.

As always, I urge you to patronize the advertisers who reach out to you through *The Catoctin Banner*.

—Deb Spalding, Publisher

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That's SCIENCE!

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gnarly@gnarlyartly.com
www.gnarlyartly.com

Whatcha doin?

Ol' Wives Tale-
I'm going to
find out once
and for all
if a watched pot
ever-

-Boils, right. Are you sure you added
Common Sense to th' recipe?

SLAM!

You'll see..
when I get
my Nobel,
you'll see..

! Are you still here??

See, look? It hasn't
boiled yet!!
The saying is true!

Whoa- really?

HEY!

The dang stove ain't
even turned on!

FWAP!

-be everything artistic except an actual artist, such a creature being "unpleasantly eccentric, a person of dubious habits, no business sense, and a murky connection with the world of work".~ unattributed newspaper clipping taped to my studio wall

The Catoctin Banner

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AD/CONTENT DEADLINE: On or before the 15th of month prior to issue month. YEARLY SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$15.00

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Classified Ads in *The Catoctin Banner*

Classified advertising costs 40¢ per word with a minimum of \$10.00 for line listings. Photo classifieds are \$20 per ad limited to 1" in height. Send your written listing, photo and payment to: *The Catoctin Banner*, 515B East Main Street, Emmitsburg, MD 21727 or call 301-447-2804 with credit card payment and email wording to ads@thecatoctinbanner.com.

POLICY: The publisher of *The Catoctin Banner* reserves the right to revise, reclassify, or reject any advertisement or any article for any reason, at any time, and to omit all copy when not submitted in time to conform with deadline. The views expressed in advertisements may not be those supported by the staff of *The Catoctin Banner*. The deadline for submission is no later than the 20th of the month prior to the issue month. Information and advertising copy received after the deadline will be accepted at the discretion of the publisher. The publisher assumes no liability for misinformation, misprinting, or typographical errors. The publisher reserves the right to edit all submitted material.

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Wishing You and Yours the
Happiest of Holidays!

—From your friends at
The Catoctin Banner Newspaper

Rocky Ridge Holiday House Tours

The Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company will be hosting their Holiday House Tours on December 8, 2013, from 1:00-5:00 p.m. The houses on the tour are all shapes and sizes—big houses with lots of rooms and small country cottages. There will be houses that will be dressed in country style and one house with over 200 Santa Clauses on display.

While in Rocky Ridge, you can also do some last minute holiday gift shopping. There will be crafts and other items for sale at the activity building. The Ladies Auxiliary will be offering food at the Holiday Bazaar. They will begin selling food at 12:00 p.m., so you can get a bite to eat before starting the tour or after the tour, as they will stay open until 6:00 p.m.

Tickets will be on sale at the activities building for \$15.00 per person. For information, please contact Jerry Free at 301-428-5351.

2013 Thurmont Christmas House Tour

Celebrate Christmas in Thurmont with a visit to some of the town's beautifully decorated houses, including homes in the historic Catocin Furnace area. Tours will be held on Saturday, December 14, 2013, from 4:00-8:00 p.m., and on Sunday, December 15, 2013, from 2:00-6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$20.00 each and are available in advance at local businesses. Tickets will be sold at the Creeger House (11 North Church Street) during the tour. Tour sponsored by Thurmont Lions Club and Thurmont Historical Society. Visit www.thurmontlionsclub.com for more information and details about the homes on the tour.

Children's Christmas Party

The Emmitsburg Lions Club will host its annual Children's Christmas Party on December 7, 2013, at the Vigilant Hose Company building, starting at 10:00 a.m. This event is free and will feature children's crafts, face painting, Khan-Du the Magician, hot dogs, and hot chocolate. It is also anticipated that Santa and Mrs. Claus will make an appearance.

Emmitsburg Lions Club Christmas Food Drive

The Emmitsburg Lions Club is holding its annual Christmas Food collection drive until December 19, 2013. Food collection boxes will be located at the following: Jubilee in Emmitsburg, Vigilant Hose Company, and at the Carriage House Inn on Christmas Spirit Night. Please: no outdated food items.

Christmas in Thurmont

December 7, 2013, is the eleventh annual Christmas in Thurmont. As always, there will be free photos with Santa, from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and from 2:00-4:00 p.m., at Mechanicstown Park at the square. Santa will be at the Library for a story and pictures, from 1:00-2:00 p.m. Kids can register for prizes at Mechanicstown Square Park all day. Adults can register for prizes by getting their game map stamped by visiting the businesses listed. This year, you can get your map stamped from November 30 through December 7. Maps will be available in the town electric billing, at the Library, at the Town Office, and at downtown businesses. The Thurmont Lions Club will be lighting the Remembrance Tree at 4:00 p.m., followed with caroling. Christmas in Thurmont prize drawings will be held at Hobbs Hardware immediately following the Lions Club program.

EBPA Awards Event to be Held

The Emmitsburg Business and Professionals Association will host their annual awards banquet in Joann's Ballroom at The Carriage House on Friday, December 6, 2013, from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Tickets are \$20.00 each and include heavy Hors D'oeuvres. This year's "Extraordinary Community Service Award" will honor the contributions to the community by Dorothy "Dot" Davis. The holiday evening will feature a performance by Knightyme Impressions, from 7:00-7:30 p.m. For tickets, call Bob Rosensteel at 301-401-7287.

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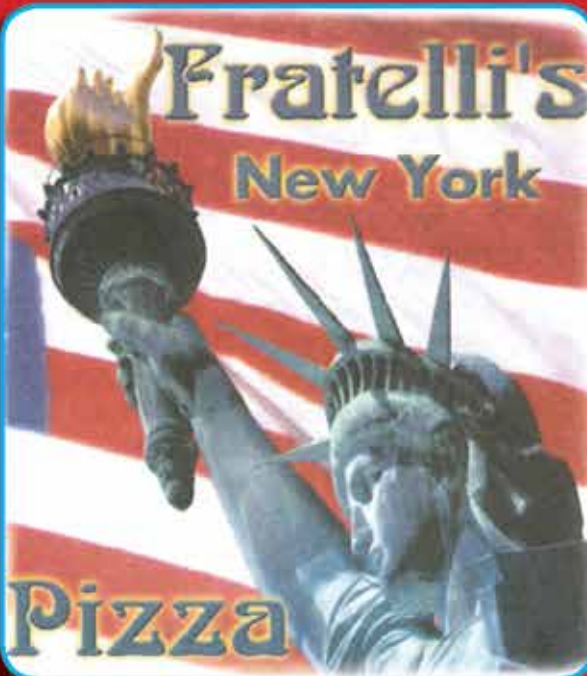
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TUESDAY:
\$5.00 Any Foot-Long Sub

WEDNESDAY:
\$4.99 Fish and french fries
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~WING WEDNESDAY~
50¢/Each - Plain, BBQ, Buffalo or Old Bay

THURSDAY:
\$2.00 OFF Any Pasta Dinner
Any Pretzel Melt and Fries - **\$4.49**
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Specials not valid with any other offers.

December Only Offers!

BUY ONE • GET ONE FREE 2 Liter Soda	BUY ONE • GET ONE FREE 2 Liter Soda	BUY ONE • GET ONE FREE 2 Liter Soda
<small>Not valid with any other offers. Equal or lesser value. Offer expires 12/31/13</small>	<small>Not valid with any other offers. Equal or lesser value. Offer expires 12/31/13</small>	<small>Not valid with any other offers. Equal or lesser value. Offer expires 12/31/13</small>

BUY ONE • GET ONE 50% OFF! Any Pasta Dinner <small>Not valid with any other offers. Equal or lesser value. Offer expires 12/31/13</small>	BUY ONE • GET ONE 50% OFF! Any 12" Sub <small>Not valid with any other offers. Equal or lesser value. Offer expires 12/31/13</small>	BUY ONE • GET ONE 50% OFF! Any Large Pizza <small>Not valid with any other offers. Equal or lesser value. Offer expires 12/31/13</small>
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Looking for the Perfect Christmas Gift?

No more trips up and down the road to find the perfect gift, because it can be found in Thurmont! A gift certificate program titled, "Thurmont Business Bucks," will be available for purchase at the Thurmont Town Office, Monday-Friday, from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., beginning December 2, 2013. The certificates are available in two denominations: \$25.00 and \$50.00. The gift certificate will include a brochure of all participating merchants, and the certificate will be valid at one of the merchants listed in the brochure. Thurmont Business Bucks Gift Certificates may be purchased with cash or credit cards only at the town office. Support your local businesses by localizing services and shopping while saving time and gas! Show your support all year long with Thurmont Business Bucks Gift Certificates for gift-giving!

Thurmont Business Bucks will be available year-round, and any business wanting to participate, contact Vickie Grindler at vgrindlerthurmontstaff.com

The following is a list of participating merchants accepting Thurmont Business Bucks Gift Certificates: Ace; Hobbs Hardware; Discount Fabrics; Heart and Hands; Here's Clyde's; Jen's Cutting Edge; Renovations Salon & Day Spa; Shear Magic; The Beauty Parlor; Cozy Restaurant; Mountain Gate; Silver Bakery; Simply Asia; Thurmont Bar & Grill; Thurmont Kountry Kitchen; Quiznos; Cozy Motel; Ole Mink Farm; Browns' Jewelers; Catocin Mountain Trains; Gateway Flowers & Gifts; Mountain Memories; Nancy Houston Pet Portraits; Slumber Party; Timeless Trends Boutique; Catocin Breeze Vineyard; Gateway Liquors & Candyland; Catocin Vet Clinic; Thurmont Child Care Center, Inc; Anytime Fitness.

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town hall reports

by Michele Cuseo

Emmitsburg November 2013

Snow Rules

With the winter months ahead of us, the town commissioners are asking that residents remember to park cars on the designated side of their streets during snowfalls (signs are posted) so that the snow plows can maneuver more easily. The snow removal ordinance also requires that snow is removed from sidewalks and walkways on your property within 24 hours of the end of snowfall.

Free Holiday Parking

Free Holiday Parking in the downtown area will be available again for shoppers. Signs will be posted on the parking meters on or around the week before Christmas and the week after Christmas.

Emmitsburg Park & Ride

Emmitsburg will be getting the Park and Ride site that they have desired for the past five years. The Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) has agreed to buy an 11-acre plot of land, located south of Route 140 and East of Route 15 for the site. It will consist of a paved area for parking and be lighted. The Park and Ride will alleviate the overflow parking that was occurring on Silo Hill. Estimated time of completion is the summer of 2015.

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

Jubilee and EBPA Team Up for the Emmitsburg Food Bank

Last year, almost \$2,000 was raised in the checkout lines at Jubilee Grocery Store in Emmitsburg to benefit the Emmitsburg Food Bank.

Bob Rosensteel of the Emmitsburg Business & Professionals Association (EBPA) came up with the idea to place change collections in the checkouts. With Christmas on the way, he suggested a Santa fundraiser, where you put your name on a Santa for a \$1.00 donation. Santas are displayed on the walls of the store, and it is hoped that the store will soon be covered in Santas.

Stop by to shop December 8 through 15, 2012. See your favorite clerk to help him or her win a prize for raising the most money for the benefit.

Thurmont November 2013

Special Election for Thurmont Commissioner

The Election of John Kinnaird as Mayor of Thurmont has left an open Commissioner's seat. The Nominating Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 10, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. at the town office. Thurmont residents interested in running for this seat will need to do one of the following: (1) Attend the Nominating Committee meeting with one resident nominating them and one resident seconding the nomination; or (2) Write a letter to the town stating their intent to run for this office, along with one resident signing to nominate them and one signing to second the nomination, mailed to arrive at the town office on or before December 10. The special election for this seat will be held on Tuesday, January 7, 2014, at the town office. Voting hours will be 7:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

Feeding 1,200 People a Month

The Thurmont Ministerium has reported helping 350 families (totalling 1,200 people) in the month of October this year with their Food Bank program. The Thurmont Ministerium—a group of 15 churches—pulls their resources to contribute to local families. The people who help with this program report that the cuts to the Federal Food Stamp Program have hurt these families. The Thurmont Ministerium is trying their best to do what they can to help. Many of the families in need have serious health issues, which prevent them from working or working on a full-time basis. For those who can help, there are boxes for canned goods located at both Food Lion and Weis Market, as well as the Town Hall. They are also accepting baby diapers, paper towels, and toilet paper. Food Bank dates for December are: Tuesdays—December 3, 10, and 17 (sign-up starts at 5:30 p.m. and pick-up is 6:00-7:30 p.m.); Fridays—December 6, 13, 20 (sign-up starts at 3:00 p.m. and pick-up is 3:30-5:00 p.m.); Food Bank is closed on December 24 and December 31.

The Ministerium is looking for a volunteer with a truck who would help pick up deer meat from Shuff's market. To contact the Food Bank/Thurmont Ministerium, call 301-271-4554 and leave a message and phone number.

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

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 on Smith Road in Thurmont. Last month's winner is Carol Long.



Photo by Irene Matthews

Hidden Object Game

Last month's Hidden Object was a pink piggy bank with \$100 bills coming out of the top. It was located on page 34 in the Decks Patios & Improvements advertisement. The winner of the Hidden Object Game is Edward Pryor. If the winner has not been contacted, please call us to claim your prize.

This month's Hidden Object is a Ladybug.

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.

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Tom's Creek

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Sat. Dec. 7th 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Drop off your children for a free day filled with fun while you go Christmas Shopping!

Christmas Eve

December 24th, 2013
7:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.
Candlelight Worship

We wish everyone a joyous Christmas Season!
May God Bless you and your family!

Live Nativity

December 2nd, 2013 - 6:30 p.m.
Live Nativity at the Carriage House Restaurant.

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301-271-3500 | 210 N. Church Street | Thurmont, MD

“Thurmont Rail History” Commemorative Gift Items



Christmas ornaments and wine glasses are only \$15 each (plus tax).
Four wine glasses may be purchased for \$50 (plus tax).

Proceeds from the sale will be used for the next phase of the project sponsored by the Thurmont Lions Club.

Each item is etched with the first mural design unveiled at the **Make a Difference (In Thurmont) Day**. They can be purchased at the following locations:

- Brown’s Jewelry Store
- Catoctin Breeze Vineyard
- Cozy Restaurant & Motel
- Creeger House during the Christmas House Tour
- Gateway Candyland
- Springfield Winery
- Timeless Trends

NEW YEAR'S EVE BINGO BASH

FOUR - \$1,000.00 Jackpots


All other Games Paying \$200.00 EACH! & a Meal

All tickets must be purchased by Dec. 13th as we will be closed for Christmas after this date. All tickets sold after this date will be \$60. No group reservations will be taken after Dec. 13th. All mailed checks must be received by the 13th.

Emmitsburg Vol. Ambulance Co.,
17701 Creamery Rd.,
Emmitsburg, MD

December 31, 2013
Doors open @ 6 p.m. • Games @ 8 p.m.
Cost: \$50.00 (includes 50 games)

For Tickets or Info:
Mary Lou - 240-285-3184
Pam - 717-642-9335
Diane - 301-748-6894



WELLER
United Methodist Church

mail.
101 N. Altamont Ave.
Thurmont, MD 21788

phone.
301.271.2802

web.
wellerumc.com

Join us for a brand new sermon series.

Everybody talks about Christmas but what does it really mean? Come and hear what some of the first voices said about the birth of Jesus and what it means for us today.

Voices OF CHRISTMAS

December 1 – January 5 | 8:30 and 11:00 am

<p>Christmas Cantata December 15, 2013</p> <p>10:00am Music by our choir, handbell choir, and guitar ensemble</p>	<p>Christmas Eve Services December 24, 2013</p> <p>7:00pm Contemporary candlelight service</p> <p>11:00pm Traditional candlelight service</p>
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At Weller United Methodist Church, Our family is your family.

Blue Christmas Worship at Trinity United Methodist Church

We often hear this song around Christmas time: “It’s the most wonderful time of the year!” Yet, it won’t be for many folks this holiday season. Whether you’re grieving a loved one, dealing with illness, worrying about finances, struggling with relationships, or just feeling lonely, this season of long, dark winter nights can be downright painful. Knowing this to be a reality in so many peoples’ lives, this year Trinity United Methodist Church in Emmitsburg, Maryland, will offer a different kind of holiday worship service.

On December 8, 2013, at 4:00 p.m., Trinity UMC will offer a “Blue Christmas” worship service, specifically designed for those going through a difficult time this holiday season. This simple worship service will acknowledge and honor the sadness, sorrow, pain, and grief in our lives, as well as provide a space to seek hope in the midst of our struggle. Most of all, it will be a place to gather together, comfort and care for one another, and remember that we never walk alone on life’s journey.

Leading this service at Trinity will be a special guest, Rev. Kim Capps, formerly the United Methodist Chaplain at the University of Maryland in College Park for twenty-one years. She now serves as the Minister of Pastoral Care at Emmanuel UMC in Laurel, Maryland. Reverend Capps is also a singer-songwriter, and she will be bringing her gift of music—particularly her love for blues and gospel—to the “Blue Christmas” worship service. In reflecting upon her ministry, Capps says, “Singing has always been like a prayer to me, and I love bringing a combination of blues and gospel to churches as a way of communicating the broadness of God’s love, through ups and downs of God’s life.” Performing with Rev. Capps will be the talented guitarist Kevin de Souza.

Trinity United Methodist Church is located at 313 West Main Street in Emmitsburg, Maryland. For more information, you may contact Pastor Tiffany Kromer at 301-288-1373 or at tiffprpk@gmail.com. View their advertisement on page 19 for more information.

Sunday & Monday Bingo at Beth Sholom Community Center

Play Bingo on Sundays and Mondays at the Beth Sholom Community Center, located at 1101 N. Market Street in Frederick, Maryland. Doors open at 5:00 p.m., with games beginning at 7:00 p.m. Bingo games feature \$1,000 and \$500 jackpots! Regular games pay \$100; refreshments available. Their Holiday Bonanza kicks off on December 9 and 15, 2013.

View their advertisement on page 18 for more information, and bring it in for a FREE Jackpot!

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.

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10% - 50% OFF

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Closed on Wednesdays & Sundays

AROUND town

New Year's Eve Bingo Bash

Save the Date! Emmitsburg Volunteer Ambulance Company will be holding a New Year's Eve Bingo Bash on December 31, 2013, at 17701 Creamery Road in Emmitsburg. Doors will open at 6:00 p.m., with games beginning at 8:00 p.m. The Bingo Bash will feature four \$1,000 Jackpots; all other games will pay out \$200 each, and a meal. The cost of tickets are \$50.00 each (includes 50 games). View their advertisement on page 6 for more information.

Come See Santa

Bring the children (ages up to 10 years old) out to visit Santa Claus at the Guardian Hose Company Fire House, located at 21 N. Church Street in Thurmont, on Saturday December 14, 2013, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. View their advertisement on page 10.

Christmas Show at Cozy Restaurant

Don't miss the Christmas Show at Cozy Restaurant on Friday, December 6, 2013, featuring a tribute to Conway Twitty and Elvis Presley. Dinner and the show will begin at 6:00 p.m. with the meal, followed by the show at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$28.00 per person, if purchased by December 1. After December 1, ticket prices will be \$30.00 per person. View their advertisement on page 10 for more information or call 301-271-4301.

Voices of Christmas at Weller UMC

Join Weller United Methodist Church (UMC) for their brand new sermon series, Voices of Christmas. Hear what some of the first voices said about the birth of Jesus and what it means for us today. Voices of Christmas will be held on December 1, 2013 through January 5, 2014, at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. View their advertisement on page 6 for more information and for their Christmas services.

Chirst's Community Church Hosts Christmas Bazaar

Join Chirst's Community Church for their 2nd Annual Christmas Bazaar on December 7, 2013, from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. The event will feature 19 vendors, great food, silent auction, a free photo with Santa, and much more! The church is located at 303 W. Lincoln Avenue in Emmitsburg. View their advertisement on page 10 for more information and visit their website at www.cccaog.org.

Germantown Church of God Presents Holiday Music Concert

On Saturday, December 14, 2013, the Germantown Church of God will be presenting a Holiday Music Concert, starting at 6:30 p.m., with live entertainment by Chiz Rider. Admission to the concert is free; an offering will be appreciated. In addition, the church will be holding a Talent Show on December 8, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. The church is located at 16924 Raven Rock Road in Cascade, Maryland. View their advertisement on page 11 for more information and for their Christmas Eve service.

A Wonderful Time of the Year at Cozy's

View their advertisement on page 37 to see their Christmas Calendar of Events, including Dinner with Santa every Monday and Tuesday, December 2-23, 2013, from 6:00-8:00 p.m.



Holiday Home Decorating Contest

Don't forget to nominate your own home or a home you think could win *The Catoctin Banner's* Holiday Home Decorating Contest by Sunday, December 15, 2013. *The Catoctin Banner* will judge only the homes you nominate on December 17 & 18, so please leave your lights on for us on those dates between the hours of 6:00 and 8:00 p.m.

Email the address of the home you are nominating to news@thecatoctinbanner.com. Homes must fall within zip codes 21780, 21719, 21787, 21788, and 21727.

Tom's Creek UMC's Drop & Shop Event

Don't miss the Drop & Shop Event at Tom's Creek United Methodist Church on December 7, 2013, from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Need to Christmas shop? Come and drop off your kids for a free fun day while you go shopping! The church is located at 10926 Simmons Road in Emmitsburg.

View their advertisement on page 5 for more information and to see their Christmas Eve worship services and the date of their Live Nativity at the Carriage House in Emmitsburg.

A Piece of "Thurmont Rail History"

Get your "Thurmont Rail History" commemorative gifts—wine glass and/or Christmas ornament—at several Thurmont businesses. Each item is beautifully etched with the first mural design unveiled at Thurmont Make A Difference Day. Proceeds from the sale will be used for the next phase of the project, sponsored by the Thurmont Lions Club. View their advertisement on page 6 for more information and to find out where you can purchase your commemorative gift today!

St. Joseph's Ministries Christmas Bazaar

On Saturday, December 7, 2013, from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., come enjoy the Christmas Bazaar at Saint Catherine's Nursing Center, located at 331 S. Seton Avenue in Emmitsburg. There will be free face painting and crafts for kids, along with a variety of vendors! Admission and parking is free. View their advertisement on page 10 for more information and for a list of vendors!

Catch the Grace at Elias Lutheran Church

Join Elias Lutheran Church for their Annual Ham, Turkey, and Roast Beef Supper with Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, December 7, 2013, beginning at noon. The cost is \$11.00 for adults; \$4.00 for children 6-12 years old; \$12.00 for carryouts. View their advertisement on page 12 for more information and for their Christmas Eve service.

Grand Opening of Gateway Liquors

Don't miss Gateway Liquors' Grand Opening on December 4-8, 2013, featuring great Specials every night! Gateway Liquors is located on Route 15 at the intersection of N. Franklinville Road in Thurmont. View their advertisement on page 15 for more information.

Holiday Pet Portraits Are Back

On December 7 and 14, 2013, from 10:00 a.m.-noon, bring your pet to Catoctin Veterinary Clinic for their Holiday photo. View their advertisement on page 34 for more information.

C&K Grooming
Doggie Salon
 Nails - \$5.00
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BUSINESS news

Gateway Orthodontist

by Deb Spalding

Dr. Jon A. Moles, of Gateway Orthodontics in Thurmont, has been practicing orthodontics since 1995. Prior to that, he was a dentist for 11 years in the Navy. He retired from the Navy in 2003 and has been running a private orthodontics practice ever since. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from the University of New Mexico and his Doctorate of Dental Surgery from the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Dentistry. He learned quickly that the field of dentistry is moving so fast that it is very difficult to keep up with all the advances. He chose to specialize in orthodontics which aligned nicely with his prior background and love of mechanical engineering. With only 15 orthodontists in the Navy, Dr. Moles feels very fortunate to be selected and trained while in the Navy. His Naval career was the perfect example of the Navy's tag line of "Join the Navy and see the world". He traveled often, spending time in Spain, Italy, France, Bermuda, Japan, and both coasts of the United States. He retired as Director of Orthodontics at the Naval Postgraduate Dental School in Bethesda, and felt that Frederick County was a nice place to raise his family.

Dr. Moles opened his first orthodontics office in Urbana in 2003. He started coaching youth basketball and lacrosse and that's when he had exposure to the Thurmont area. Parents on our local teams would see him and the logo on his truck and for several years commented that he should open an office in Thurmont. The Certified Orthodontic Assistants and Certified

Dental Radiological Technicians who work for him in the Urbana office all live in Thurmont, so that gave him a foundation upon which to take the gamble and he opened the Thurmont office at 4 East Main Street in June of this year. He said, "The people are amazingly welcoming in this town. I started one day a week when I opened Urbana and was lucky to have one potential patient per day. In Thurmont, we've consulted with over 60 potential patients since the end of June. That's pretty good and an encouraging sign that we made the right decision to come to Thurmont."

The Thurmont Gateway Orthodontics Office is decorated in a bright and open style. Dr. Moles' wife is an interior designer. She used interesting objects and flowing colors to accentuate the space. Ordinary objects have been adapted to make the space unique. Hidden among the colors are state-of-the-art instruments that are utilized to best achieve a beautiful smile for his patients. Dr. Moles said, "Some of the technology I've embraced has allowed me to cut up to 40% off of treatment time." He uses SureSmile® technology where 3D imaging shows a progression of the movement of the teeth. This equipment details the exact bend of each wire in order to derive the best results. He is the only orthodontist in Frederick County who uses this equipment. He added, "I combine all of my experience with these images to quantify every movement through the shortest path to the desired result. If I can't get there, I will tell you that up front, and explain why."

Meetings with potential

customers requires a basic consultation where Dr. Moles takes a look at a patient to determine where the patient is in their dental developmental cycle. He says a young patient is ready for a consultation when the permanent teeth start to come in – around age seven. He'll look for habits and other problems that may impact development and determines whether normal development is taking place. If he feels there is a need, he will ask for a dentist's x-rays for the patient. If they are not adequate to fully diagnose and plan your treatment need, Dr. Moles will ask you to drive to his Urbana office where he has a 3-D x-ray machine. "It is a bit of inconvenience for the patients until I get my new x-ray machine at this office, so to ease the burden a bit, I give gas cards to help cover the cost of traveling. It is the least I can do to help our patients get the treatment they deserve."

When the development shows it is necessary, Dr. Moles will recommend removal of baby teeth, but most of his time is spent monitoring, talking, and teaching. He said, "I feel it is best to assess, monitor, talk, teach, and coach, so I can learn and educate each patient about what is normal for them. There are many times that patients have been told they needed braces but it just may be too early to start, or little or no benefit at starting so early. I just monitor them and recommend treatment when, and if, necessary. It's me helping each patient by doing the right thing at the right time."

When a patient is considering moving from another orthodontist for a consultation with Dr. Moles, he will usually ask to consult with the former orthodontist in order to gather facts in an effort to provide the best service and treatment options and to save as much of the patient's investment as possible. There are many situations and circumstances and each one of them is different and requires individual consideration. He said, "All we can ask for is our best judgment in every situation. In my opinion, the patient



Dr. Jon A. Moles of Gateway Orthodontist in Thurmont.

always comes before money. I'll do my best for each patient."

For adults who have interest in orthodontics, Dr. Moles takes a different approach than other orthodontists might. First, he determines if they are okay functionally. If teeth are stable as an adult, he'll question why the patient wants to change that. He said, "When it becomes only about aesthetics, we need to determine if we should really change the functional aspect of their bite. If the answer is yes, we'll formulate some modulations that show a course of action. But, if the treatment plan is not fully customized for each condition, we take the risk of creating an unstable situation." Dr. Moles will work to meet each patient's goals without creating an unfavorable result. There are many alternatives. Of course, when starting with an unstable structure to begin with, even as an adult, he can formulate a plan for improvement.

In the short time that he has been in Thurmont, Dr. Moles said, "I really need to thank the community. They have accepted me as one of their own. I'm really happy I'm here and look forward to building the same great practice and reputation that I have in Urbana. The practice is starting to grow. It is very exciting."

Gateway Orthodontics offers interest free, in-house financing and multi-family discounts to help meet any budget. They also offer a 10% military courtesy discount for all active members of the military and their children. Schedule your free evaluation today. Gateway Orthodontics is located at 4 East Main Street in Thurmont. Call 240-575-2877 or visit www.gwsmiles.com for more information.

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12125 Old Frederick Rd., Thurmont, MD 21788

Don't Forget to Play Our Games!
Hidden Object & Where Am I? on page 5.

Old Field Woodworking

Solid craftsmanship is a Priority at Old Field Woodworking

Jack Cogan, John Dowling, and Theresa Keeney of Old Field Woodworking in Graceham recently held their Holiday Open House. Folks were able to tour their wood shop and peruse the many items they have made there. They specialize in

making durable furniture, cabinets, and other wooden items out of many types of solid wood. These items will last through the years. There's no laminated wood or compressed particle board in their shop.

Old Field constructed the sign that is located in front of the Thurmont Town Office. They made the sign in a week's time, and had it in place for the G8 Summit Talks at Camp



Courtesy Photo

Pictured from left are Jack Cogan, John Dowling, and Theresa Keeney of Old Field Woodworking, standing among an outdoor deck cooler, a coffee table constructed of solid Black Walnut, a tip-proof foot stool made of Worming Maple, and a quilt rack made of Red Oak.

David. It is constructed of Western Cedar. Old Field has constructed thousands of items over many years and they man two craft stands during Catoctin Colorfest. So, when you are considering purchasing something made of wood to stand the test of time, give them a call at 301-271-4439, before you buy the lower quality options that are available in today's retail stores.

New Gateway Liquors' Store Open for Business

Photo by Deb Spalding

John and Maggie Doll of Gateway Liquors on Route #15 at Franklinville Road in Thurmont said that customers are pleased with the "shopability" of the products in their new store space. The space, paired with the same great service, makes this move for the business a success. Just in time for the holidays, shoppers will enjoy ease while shopping the season's specialties, since shopping carts have been added, product displays are appealing, and the volume of product stock has increased to accommodate the larger space. John said, "We had 90 percent of the new store's stock stuffed into the old store. Now we can breathe."

With ongoing events, customers can find Gateway Liquors on Facebook for information about beer, wine, and liquor tastings. Gateway Liquors' official Grand Opening is the first Wednesday through Sunday in December. Also, various tastings will be held every Friday and Saturday throughout December. On December 6, Jack Daniels will be on



Nick Doll, and his dad, John Doll, are welcoming shoppers in the new Gateway Liquor Store in Thurmont.

hand with an engraver to personalize bottles for the holidays, and Adams County Wine will be represented as well. On December 7, they will feature Baccardi; on December 14, Detour Wine and Flying Dog Brewery will be at the store; and on December 21, Boody Wine.

Call 301-271-7078 for more information. Store hours are Monday-Thursday, from 8:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, from 8:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.; and Sunday, from 11:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. View their advertisement on page 15 for more information.

Business Networking Opportunity

The Emmitsburg Business and Professionals Association will join members of the Taneytown Chamber, Union Bridge Business Association, Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, and other local businesses in the surrounding area for a great evening of networking on Monday, December 16, from 5:00-7:00 p.m., at Gunner's Grille at Taneytown, Maryland. The cost is \$5.00 per person and covers lite fare/appetizers. All beverages available via cash bar. RSVP's are requested to the Taneytown Chamber at 410-756-4234 or biz@taneytownchamber.org. Bring lots of business cards and prepare to network and forge new business relationships!

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ESP Performing Company—Community Service, Fundraising, and Lots of Dance

ESP Performing Company's new season started with a bang and is now in full swing. The season officially started in August, as ESP welcomed Master Teachers from both the west coast and east coast. The students participated in various classes and started new choreography during these visits. In September, the dancers performed to a large enthusiastic crowd at Frederick's In the Street. Local performances continued into October, as the dancers shared their talents at the Catoctin Colorfest. Saturday's performance was held inside the studio due to the pending weather. On Sunday, the company decided to perform in the town park and ended up dancing in the rain—dancers were covered in mud by the end of the performance with smiles on their faces. Colorfest has been an ESP tradition for over 30 years. The dancers returned to the park on October 26 as zombies and ghouls for their rendition of "Thriller" at Halloween in the Park.

Beyond the local performances, they also attended their first dance convention of the season, ASH – Artists Simply Human, in Tysons Corner, Virginia. The dancers participated in three days of classes as well as a Saturday evening showcase in which the dancers were able to showcase their new choreography. The group won a choreography award for the dance One Love, choreographed by ESP alumnus Megan Adelsberger. Several of the dancers auditioned and were awarded scholarships to return to ASH workshop next year. These dancers included Olivia Ecker, Jack Estep, Lucy Estep, Cheyenne Favorite, Emily Mitchener and Rose Weedy. Lyla Zelenka was awarded the top scholarship, ASH apprentice.

On a beautiful day in September, the dancers held their 3rd Annual ESP Autumn 5K Run at Mount Saint Mary's University. This event is not only a fundraiser for the company, but is also held in honor of Pamela Gray Hobbs, a former student and teacher at ESP who lost her battle with breast cancer several years ago. A portion of the proceeds are donated to breast cancer research, and this year a check for \$900 was presented to the Hurwitz Breast Cancer Fund at Frederick Memorial Hospital. The event was a huge success with almost 100 runners and sponsorships from local businesses. Be sure to visit our website www.espdance.com for a full list of sponsors.

The fun will continue through the winter. Some of the dancers will be performing at Spectacular in Hyattsville, Maryland, on December 7, 2013. ESP will continue their charitable work by bringing joy to the residents of both Homewood and St. Catherine's Nursing Homes. ESP dancer Lucy Estep recently auditioned at FedEx Field and was chosen to perform at the halftime show when the Washington Redskins play the Dallas Cowboys on December 22. She will be performing with Maigan Torre, an ESP alumnus and current Washington Redskinette. After the first of the year, competition season kicks off with Dance Makers, Inc. in Richmond, Virginia.

It isn't too late to join the fun! Enroll now for dance classes or join the ESP Performing Company. ESP specializes in tap, ballet, pointe, jazz, lyrical, acro and hip hop. Also try Zumba with Nikki, Friday evenings, 6:30-7:30 p.m. For more information, visit the website www.espdance.com or call 301-271-7458. Check out their page on Frederick.com "ESP Dance 2013," also on Facebook. View their advertisement on page 11.

Photo by David Mitchener



Pictured are: (Row 1) Olivia Gamer, Carson Fry, Abby Lawrence; (Row 2) Maceo Zelenka, Kristen Felichko, Catherine Estelle, Rose Weedy, Makayla Eibert, Ashlyn Summerall, Michael Wilson, Lyla Zelenka, Olivia Ecker, Jack Estep; (Row 3) Emily Mitchener, Cheyenne Favorite, Robbie Doyle, Meredith Wilson, Lucy Estep, Toni Marceron, Kaitlyn McArthur. ESP Performing Company Members not pictured: Kaitlyn Solich, Sophia Daly, Sarah Thompson, Jenna Taylor, Emma Taylor, Keira Taylor.

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Come See Santa!!

At the Fire House
Saturday, December 14
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Ages 0-10

Guardian Hose Company
21 N. Church St., Thurmont, MD

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COMMUNITY news

Thurmont Rail Heritage Mural Unveiled

by James Rada, Jr.

Courtesy Photo



Though what was depicted on the mural on the side of the original trolley station on West Main Street in Thurmont was supposed to be a surprise, the blustery winds kept flipping up the edges of the tarp, giving people a sneak peek of what was underneath. Undeterred in their quest for a full view, a crowd gathered in front of it on October 26, 2013, as Yemi, the surprise's artist, gave the tarp a tug to pull it down. On part of the side of the building was an original painting depicting the Thurmont trolley station, Western Maryland Railroad Station, and Catocin Mountains. It was a celebration of Thurmont's rail heritage on a piece of Thurmont's rail heritage.

The side of the old trolley station has three recessed areas. Yemi's painting takes up one of those panels. The goal is to fill the other two areas with original paintings that highlight Thurmont. "My vision is to make this building a jewel in the middle of Thurmont," Yemi told the group. "They can come here and see our history."

Yemi lives in the Thurmont area, but he was born in Nigeria. His father

was a tailor and his mother made wedding dresses. When he emigrated to America, he attended the Pratt Institute and earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts and a Master of Science in Art and Communications Design.

He has done drawings for many Fortune 500 companies, including AT&T and American Express. He has illustrated several children's books, as well as more than 200 greeting cards.

He has also designed more than 300 postage stamps for countries like Russia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines. His "Girl Group" series of stamps are part of the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland, Ohio.

His work can be seen in other places in Frederick County, Maryland. He has painted murals and large paintings in the Courtyard by Marriott lobby in Frederick, The Common Market in Frederick, and the Creekside Plaza Building in Frederick. His "Pillars of Frederick" mural is 1,280 square feet and is one of the largest murals in Maryland.

25th Annual "An Evening of Christmas Spirit" in Emmitsburg

The 25th Annual "An Evening of Christmas Spirit" will be held Monday, December 2, 2013, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. in Emmitsburg. The Emmitsburg Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held on the square in Emmitsburg at 6:00 p.m. Santa arrives at The Carriage House Inn at 6:30 p.m., and, in Joann's Ballroom, local choirs and vocalists will entertain visitors in the spirit of Christmas until 9:00 p.m. Canned goods and donations will be accepted for the Emmitsburg Lions Club Christmas Food Drive. This event is sponsored by The Carriage House Inn, EBPA, and The Town of Emmitsburg.

Fire Museum to Host Santa and Toys for Tots

Santa Claus will visit the Frederick County Fire & Rescue Museum and the National Fire Heritage Center on Saturday, December 14, 2013, to help the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve collect Toys for Tots. The museum will be open from 12:00-6:00 p.m. on that day, and the Chief of the North Pole Fire Department will be there all afternoon to talk with children and to receive new, unwrapped toys. The Fire Museum is located at 300B South Seton Avenue in Emmitsburg.

Thurmont Lions Christmas Tree Sale

Find the perfect Christmas tree and help your community at the same time. The Thurmont Lions Club Christmas tree sale will again be held in the parking lot of the Ace Hardware store, located on N. Church Street in Thurmont. Choose a Blue Spruce, White Spruce, Douglas Fir, or Fraser Fir—any tree for only \$35.00. All proceeds from the sale will be used to support Thurmont Lions Club projects in the community. Trees will be available for purchase at the following times: Monday-Friday, 4:00-7:00 p.m.; Saturdays, 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.; Sundays, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Monarch Way-Station in Blue Ridge Summit

Courtesy Photo

In conjunction with their 100th Anniversary, the Blue Ridge Garden Club is installing a Monarch way-station in the wildlife habitat area near Happel's Meadow in Blue Ridge Summit, Pennsylvania,

to encourage butterflies and to provide the resources necessary to sustain their migration and produce successive generations.

The Monarch is perhaps the best known butterfly in the United States. Its wings feature an easily recognizable orange and black pattern. It's famous for its overwintering migration to Mexico and California. This migration is threatened by habitat loss in North America. Over the past few years in our area, we have noticed a sharp decline in Monarch butterflies. Milkweed is their primary source of food and the Monarch eggs are laid on milkweed leaves.

Milkweeds are declining due to development and the adoption of herbicide resistant corn and soybeans when growers spray fields.

The National Wildlife Federation (NWF) provides a backyard habitat certification program (www.nwf.org) for anyone who is interested in creating a habitat in their back yard to attract interesting wildlife.



Blue Ridge Garden Club members spread mulch donated by Mohn's Lumber Co. Pictured from left are Priscilla Harsh, Margie Hettich, Sue Bowders, Elaine Burhman, Rose Hebda, Karen Strimple, Faith Ulzheimer, and Diane Cruttenden.



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Thurmont Lions Announce Volunteer and Police Officer of the Year

by James Rada, Jr.

The Thurmont Lions Club announced Thurmont's Volunteer of the Year and Police Officer of the Year to a crowd of approximately one hundred people on October 26, 2013. The crowd included Delegate Kelly Shulz, County Sheriff Chuck Jenkins, County Commissioner Billy Shreve, and Thurmont town officials.

Kristen Long with the Lions Club announced that the two nominees for the 2013 Thurmont Police Officer of the Year were Officer Timothy Duhan and Officer Daniel Fitzgerald.

Duhan was nominated for his work in combating Thurmont's drug problem. He also helped the Thurmont Police Department get its police canine and is the canine handler. Duhan is also the department's firearms instructor.

Fitzgerald was nominated for his work ethic in always making himself available to work if needed. He also demonstrated bravery and resourcefulness on the job. During a 2012 domestic call, a man set himself on fire as Fitzgerald approached. Fitzgerald's quick thinking allowed him to extinguish the flames and get the man medical care.

"We don't know what it's like to be out and be in danger. Sometimes we take what they do for granted," Long said.

Fitzgerald received the award. Along with having his name added to a plaque of winners, Fitzgerald also received a \$40 gift certificate to the Shamrock Restaurant, and a \$400 donation made to the charity of his choice.

Sharon Ochoa with the Lions Club announced the seven individuals and one couple who had been nominated for 2013 Volunteer of the Year. "We really have eight winners and one recipient," Ochoa said.

The nominees were: Doris Roman for her work with the Thurmont Senior Center; Gene Doyon for his work with the Thurmont Food Bank; Donna Voellinger for her work with the Thurmont Historical Society; Amy Jo Poffenberger for her work with the Catoctin High School FFA; Mike and Myra Miller for the multitude of work they do in their community, such as lawn work, repairs, painting, vacation Bible school, and helping maintain the trolley trail; Janet Marsh for her work in the Lewistown Elementary School media center and Lewistown Fire Department; Beth Watson for her work with the Thurmont Thespians; and Joanie Freeze for her work with the Catoctin High alumni groups, Thurmont Library, and work fighting drug abuse in the community.

The Millers were named as the Volunteer of the Year. Their son accepted on their behalf. Their names will be added to a plaque of previous winners. They will also receive \$40 gift certificate to a local restaurant, and



Lion Kristen Long presents Officer Daniel Fitzgerald with the 2013 Police Officer of the Year Award.



Pictured are Lion Sharon Ochoa with Volunteer of the Year nominees: Mike Miller, who accepted the 2013 Volunteer of the Year award for his parents, Mike and Myra Miller; Janet Marsh; Joanie Freeze; Mary Jo Poffenberger; Donna Voellinger; and Gene Doyan.

a \$400 donation will be made to the charity of their choice.

The Lions Club also recognized the work of the Leo Clubs in the local schools that work on projects to benefit the community.

Thurmont Middle School's Leo Club collected more than 150 items and \$44.00 for the animals in the county animal shelter. Catoctin High

School's Leo Club ran an in-school competition called "Feed the Hunger Games" to collect donations for the Thurmont Food Bank.

"We are so privileged to live in a close-knit community that comes together for those in need," Lions President Don Keeney told the audience.

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Kinnaird, Hooper, and Burns Win Thurmont Election

by James Rada, Jr.

Thurmont recently completed its town election. However, they are still without a full board of commissioners.

John Kinnaird was sworn on as the new mayor on November 1, 2013. He won the October 29 town election with 716 votes. Rosie Bentz, the other candidate for mayor in the election, received 100 votes.

Martin Burns, who served as mayor for the previous twelve years, decided to step back and allow a new mayor to helm the commission. He, instead, ran for one of the open commissioner seats. He received 592 votes in the election, and will now serve, once again, as a town commissioner—a position he held before he became mayor.

"I thoroughly enjoy working and doing what I can for the citizens of Thurmont," Burns said during the November town meeting.

Wayne Hooper was the top vote-getter among the commissioner candidates. He received 613 votes, and will continue to serve Thurmont as a town commissioner, just as he has for the past twenty-four years.

"I feel humbled by the trust the citizens have in me," Hooper said a few days after his election.

Newcomer Ronald Terpkko, Jr. lost his first race for town commissioner. Though he received only 333 votes, he is credited with bringing some

new voters to the polls.

Kinnaird swore in Hooper and Burns for their commissioner seats on November 1.

With Kinnaird's election as mayor, his seat on the board of commissioners is now open. A special election will be held on January 7, 2014, to fill the seat. According to the town charter, the election must be advertised for 49 to 55 days. A nominating convention to put forth candidates for the open seat will be held December 10.

Any Thurmont resident who is not a registered voter, but is interested in voting in the town special election, has until December 10 to register at the Thurmont town office.

When the new board of commissioners sat down for their town meeting on November 5, 2013, Kinnaird told the commissioners, "We've had a good working relationship; we're going to continue that and move forward."

During the meeting, the board of commissioners voted Commissioner Bill Buehrer mayor pro tem. It will be his job to serve as mayor whenever Kinnaird is absent. Burns, who nominated Buehrer, said that it would give Buehrer an opportunity to do something he hadn't had a chance to do yet as a commissioner.

Voter turnout for the town election was 25.4 percent.

Thurmont's Halloween in the Park

by James Rada, Jr.

While ghosts, goblins, and ghouls certainly like to scare people on Halloween, once a year they also turn out for a good cause in Thurmont. For the twelfth year, the town of Thurmont sponsored Halloween in the Park. Hundreds of costumed visitors flooded into Community Park on October 26, 2013, for fun, food, and frights.

"We were happy with the turnout, since there were five other things going on in the area that night," said Thurmont Commissioner Wayne Hooper, who is the town liaison to the Special Activities Committee, which put together the event.

About 1,000 people attended the event, which was down a bit from last year, according to Hooper.

"Look at what you get for \$2.00 and a can of food, compared with other places that are charging \$15.00 to \$20.00, and you might just get a hayride," stated Hooper.

The most-popular feature of Halloween in the Park is the haunted hayride, which always has a long line. This year also saw the addition of the fortune teller and the band Silver Linings, who played live music for the crowd. One of the pavilions had also been converted into a haunted house.

Kids found activities and enjoyed the magic of Khan-Du the Magician.

"It is really nice that Thurmont does this. It's really nice," said Mike Marshall, who was attending the event for the first time with his family. His family had been to Halloween in the Park before, and they encouraged him to attend this year.

Hooper said that Halloween in the Park is for families. He even sees a lot of grandparents who feel comfortable bringing their grandchildren to the event.

"They think it's by far the best thing the town has done for families," Hooper said.

However, Halloween in the Park's main goal is to receive donations of canned food items that are then donated to the Thurmont Food Bank.

"We sent a loaded pick-up truck that had a high rounded pile full of cans to the food bank," Hooper said.

As the Special Activities Committee begins to evaluate how it might improve the event, committee members are also sending out "thank you" notes to the more than eighty volunteers who gave up their evening so that the rest of Thurmont can enjoy Halloween in the Park.

Thurmont Lions Honored for Service

Thurmont Lions Club members Nancy Dutterer and Joann Miller were recently presented with a Melvin Jones Fellowship in honor of their outstanding service to the community. Being named a Melvin Jones Fellow is one of the highest honors a Lion can receive. Lions Nancy and Joann can always be found helping out at Lions fundraisers and events. They were the driving force behind this year's Make A Difference Day event in Thurmont. They are also the Sunshine Committee. They deliver flowers, cards, a sympathetic ear, encouraging words, and lots of smiles. They really do deliver sunshine! They live the Lions motto: "We Serve."



Pictured from left are Lions Club District 22-W District Governor Kent Eitemiller, Nancy Dutterer, Joann Miller, and Thurmont Lions Club President Don Keeney.

Looking for Something Fun to Do?

Check the Community Calendar

Reference the **Community Calendar** on page 39 for events of interest, including bingos, breakfasts, dinners, programs, benefits, dances, library programs, and much more!

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The Cruzen 2-Q BBQ Team Generously Share Their Talents of BBQ with Wounded Warriors

Over the past few years, John and Peggy Van Der Cruyssen of Cascade, Maryland, have generously shared their love of "BBQing" with Wounded Warriors visiting this area from the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center.

This competitive BBQ Team—aka: "Cruzen 2-Q BBQ"—along with their good friend, Bob Bartosh, have provided the BBQ lunch for the Falling Spring Invitational Fly Fishing Outing for Wounded Warriors held each May at the Izaak Walton League, Waltonian Meadows in Chambersburg. This program is under the auspice of Trout Unlimited and Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing.

Their generosity extended beyond just the fishing outing. They also provided the BBQ dinner when the Mason-Dixon Chapter of the Safari Club International and the Hill Country Sporting Estate hosted the Inaugural Pheasant Hunt for Wounded Warriors in November 2011.

In grateful appreciation for their dedication to these healing programs for the Warriors, they were presented "The River Just Knows" framed plate by Darv Stutz, coordinator of the Falling Spring Invitational Fly Fishing Outing, at the Carriage House in Emmittsburg, Maryland, on October 23, 2013.

For more information, please contact Darv or Sandy Stutz at sstutz01@comcast.net. They can also be reached at 717-352-3838 or 717-377-0069.



Peggy and John Van Der Cruyssen are presented "The River Just Knows" framed plate by Darv Stutz, coordinator of Falling Spring Invitational Fly Fishing Outing for Wounded Warriors on October 23, 2013.

Obituary

In
Loving
Memory

Patricia "Pat" May
Morris

1945 - 2013

Patricia "Pat" May Morris, 68, of Berkeley Springs, went to be with the Lord on Saturday, November 16, 2013, at the Winchester Medical Center.

Born January 25, 1945 in Frederick County, MD, she was the daughter of the late Carl Miller and Emma (Shawver) Miller.

She was a member of the House of the Lord. She retired from Universal Forrest. Mrs. Morris was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother.

She is survived by her husband of 48 years, Robert A. Morris; one son, James Lee Morris, and one daughter, Christina, Betty Jo Novak and husband, James, all of Berkeley Springs; three grandchildren, Daniel Novak and wife, Tisha, David Novak and wife, Ashley, and Michael Morris; four great-grandchildren, Dean and Kara Novak, Cameron Morris and Miranda Novak to arrive November 29; two sisters, Barbara Black, of Baltimore, MD, and Virginia Kagley, of Thurmont, MD.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brother, Carl Miller, Jr., and stepbrother, Kenneth Sweeny; and her step-father, Albert Shawver.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, November 20, 2013, at Brown Funeral Home with Pastor David Caplinger officiating. Interment will be held at Rosedale Cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 19, at the funeral home.

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NEW PRICE!!
112 Maroon Ct.
Frederick, MD - \$434,900

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 Catoclin 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 PRICE!!
817 Company Farm Rd.
Aspers, PA - \$326,500

This stately country home offers 5 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, a spacious kitchen with ceramic tile, an office, family room, living room, mud room and wonderful sunroom that overlooks the private, 2 acre woodland setting and pool. Finished attic with 5th bedroom and storage, unfinished lower level and laundry hook up in Mud Room. New Roof to be installed in July/August. This is a must see!



UNDER CONTRACT!
8710 Hampton Valley Rd.
Emmitsburg, MD - \$349,900

Lovely Colonial on 5 acres of serenity! 4 bedrooms, 2.5 half baths with full bath rough-in in lower level. Spacious home with hardwoods, main level laundry, partially finished lower level with walk out and wood stove. Stone fireplace in Family Room! Eat in Kitchen, Mud Room and main level Laundry! Attached 2 car garage and a detached 2 car garage, shed and partially wooded lot!



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.



Gladhill Road
Blue Ridge Summit, PA

3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath two story. Fireplace in living room. Sun room with built in cupboard with display shelves off kitchen. Beautiful country kitchen. Laundry on first floor. Master bedroom with walk in closet, full bath with tub with jets. Wrap around porch. Great landscaping on 22 acres.



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.



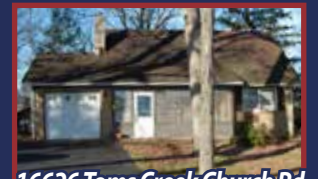
NEW LISTING!
12804 Quirauk School Rd.
Sabillasville - \$242,500

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!



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



16626 Toms Creek Church Rd.
Emmitsburg, MD - \$264,900

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!



NEW PRICE!!
54 E. Moser Rd.
Thurmont, MD - \$315,000

This spacious 4 level split is a rare find! 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths on upper level with super bath in master with sunken tub! Living, Dining and Kitchen on main level with hardwood floors and French doors to pool! 1st lower level offers family room, laundry, full bath and possible 4th bedroom and lower level 2 has a den, exercise room and office space! Lovely landscaped yard with pool and patio!

*Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas
and Wonderful New Year!*



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Wigville Rd., Thurmont, MD

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



Cliffon 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.

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

Ghosts and Ghouls on the Move in Emmitsburg

by James Rada, Jr.

A trick got played on Emmitsburg, when a light rain fell on the town's annual Halloween parade on October 31, 2013. However, a nice treat followed, as dozens of marchers and spectators alike congregated in the Vigilant Hose Company fire hall afterwards for a Halloween party.

Brenda Myers and her grandsons waited patiently in the drizzle for the parade to pass down Seton Avenue through town. The grandsons—Brody Wagerman, Jake Wagerman and Colby Wagerman—had gone trick or treating through town earlier, and had each collected two buckets full of candy.

"It feels safe to go trick or treating in town," said Rae Ann Wagerman, the boys' mother. "We know just about everybody in town."

After trick or treating, they always like to watch the parade to see the costumes.

"Some of them are themed. Some people go all out putting together their costumes," Myers said.

The parade kicked off at 7:00 p.m., as the time for trick or treating in town ended. Dozens of costumed marchers made their way down Seton Avenue, to the delight of the spectators along the sides of the street.

After the parade, the crowd migrated to

Vigilant Hose Company to enjoy refreshments, play some games, and find out who the costume winners were.

T.J. Burns and his family were dressed in Snow White-themed costumes. T.J. was Prince Charming. His wife, Alexis, was Maleficent the evil queen, and two-year-old Tierney was Snow White.

"She's [Tierney] been talking about this for weeks," T.J. said. "She's so excited about everything here."

The Burns are part of the Ott Family, which has turned celebrating Halloween into a family tradition.

"Her [Tierney] costume was mine when I was her age," Alexis said.

The parade and party is sponsored annually by the Emmitsburg Lions Club.

Photo by James Rada, Jr.



Pictured are T.J. Burns as Prince Charming; his wife, Alexis, as Maleficent the evil queen; and daughter, Tierney, as Snow White, at the Emmitsburg Halloween Party on October 31, 2013.

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Scouts Donate Toys for Tots

by Kathleen Knill

Pack 270 has been a part of Toys for Tots for the past four years, and this year is no different. With the help of local business and members of the Thurmont Community, Pack 270 is able to donate over 300 new toys each year from the drop box around the Thurmont Community. Help the scouts again this year by donating new unwrapped toys by placing them in one of the three drop boxes: Mountain Gate Family Restaurant, Food Lion, or Hobbs Hardware. Or you can bring it to the Thurmont American Legion Post 168, on Tuesday, December 10, 2013, or to the Thurmont Scout House, Elm Street, on the first Monday in December. Cub Scouts will also be accepting donations now through Sunday, December 9, 2013.

Scouts will be presenting the toys to the Marines at their December

Pack Meeting on Tuesday, December 10, 2013, at 6:30 p.m., at the American Legion Post.

If you would like to make a financial donation to the Marine Toys for Tots, please visit <http://www.toysfortots.org>. For more information on the Toys for Tots program, visit their website at <http://frederickmd.toysfortots.org> or contact Frederick County's Toys for Tots Coordinator: SSgt Andrew Langlois at 301-401-8654 or Cub Scout Pack T4T's Coordinator Jeanne Norwood by email: norwoodr827@gmail.com or by calling 301-802-4833.

To find out more about Cub Scouts, visit our website at <http://cubpack270.com/> or by contacting our Cubmaster, Brian Seiss, at kbtt96@yahoo.com or 240-626-0789.

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Local Playwright Premieres *The Adams-Jefferson Letters*

Spencer Watson, author of *Bessie Darling*, has written a new one-act play based on the personal correspondence between President John Adams and President Thomas Jefferson from 1812-1826. The Thurmont Thespians will hold its world premiere in Thurmont in the St. John's Lutheran Church Social Hall (next to the Guardian Hose Firehouse) on Friday and Saturday evening, January 10-11, 2014, starting at 8:00 p.m.

The play is under the direction of Beth Royer Watson, and features the author himself playing President Adams, along with J. Maxwell Beaver playing President Jefferson. Norman Gibat will play the role of Dr. Benjamin Rush, a mutual friend to both Presidents, who encouraged them to reconcile their long-held political differences and rekindle their earlier friendship toward one another when they both fought for American Independence in the Continental Congress of 1776.

The play takes place over fourteen years, as both ex-Presidents continue their lives at a surprising pace. Adams is seventy-six years old when the play begins, and Jefferson is seven years his junior. Their exchanges

cover many subjects, from the current happenings in Washington and news from around the world to more esoteric topics of religion, education, and philosophy. As both great men feel the gradual onset of old age, they share their mutual hopes and fears, both for their deaths and the future of the country. Both men were well educated and fluent in Greek, Latin, and French, each having spent years living overseas in either France or England as ambassadors. Talk of their mutual friends and acquaintances make for lively exchanges with sagacity as well as flashes of humor.

Prior to the presentation of Mr. Watson's new play, there will be several Tennessee Williams 20-minute one-act plays performed on the same bill. "This Property Is Condemned" is a drama featuring Emily Cofer of Thurmont and Nathan Kopit of Frederick, and "A Perfect Analysis As Given By A Parrot," is a comedy featuring Michele Driver of Thurmont and Jennifer Brown of Woodsboro. Spencer Watson will also direct the first Williams one-act, and Beth Royer



Courtesy Photo

Spencer Watson plays President John Adams in *The Adams-Jefferson Letters*, his newest one-act play to be presented by the Thurmont Thespians at the St. John's Lutheran Church Social Hall on January 10-11, 2014.

Watson will direct the second.

There will be limited seating for both evening performances of these one-act plays, so early reservations are strongly recommended by contacting Mrs. Becky Urian at 301-271-7613. Tickets are \$15.00 for adults and \$7.00 for students.

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YOUR HUNTING PHOTOS

We are inviting tastefully presented hunting photos. Please include subjects' name(s), location, and date.

Photos will be featured in our January issue: news@thecatocinbanner.com

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Harriet Chapel Begins Prayer Bead Ministry

On Saturday, November 9, 2013, parishioners of Harriet Chapel, Catoctin Episcopal Parish, gathered to assemble Anglican Prayer Beads to be distributed to those who have cancer and to their caregivers.

"We have so many parishioners whose lives have been touched by cancer," said Pastor Sally Joyner-Giffin, the rector of Harriet Chapel. "We felt that beginning the prayer bead ministry would remind those affected by cancer that they were not alone in their journey, and would offer them comfort as they completed treatment or cared for a loved one going through treatment."

Harriet Chapel's prayer beads are used during Morning Prayer every Wednesday morning beginning at 8:45 a.m. and can be taken home after the service. Beads and printed prayers are also available during regular Sunday services or by calling the church at 301-271-4554.

Harriet Chapel, Catoctin Episcopal Parish, is located at 12625 Catoctin Furnace Road in Thurmont.



Pictured from left are parishioners Pat Plum, Jessie Moser, Marilou Barratt, and Terry Miller, assembling the prayer beads.

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December 22nd:
Advent Worship Service, 9 AM

December 24th:
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 7 PM

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Seton Center Thrift Shop Prepares for December Bag Sale

The Thrift Shop of Seton Center, Inc., a nonprofit sponsored work of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, located at 16840 Seton Avenue in Emmitsburg, is holding a two-day Bag Sale on Friday, December 6, 2013, from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. and Saturday, December 7, 2013, from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Shoppers are permitted to fill a grocery-sized paper bag full of merchandise for just \$5.00. All paper bags are provided by Seton Center.

The Bag Sale has generated a lot of interest over the years and is a great opportunity for customers to purchase new and nearly new items for only \$5.00 a bag. A reminder for those attending the Bag Sale: Customers will not be allowed to bring in infant strollers or baby buggies due to limited space in the Thrift Shop.

The Thrift Shop is open during the week from Tuesday through Friday, from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., and on Saturdays, from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

All revenue from the Thrift Shop is used for Seton Center's Outreach programs, which provides services

for people in need, primarily in northern Frederick County. Services include emergency and temporary financial assistance with rent, heat, utilities and prescriptions, referral and information services, supportive counseling, advocating for the needs of the poor and other services. Seton Center's Outreach Services serve approximately 10,000 people a year.

For more information or to make donations, please call 301-447-6102, email setoncenterinc@doc.org, or visit www.setoncenterinc.org.

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New Years Day 12:00-7:00 * Pork and Sauerkraut*

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SCHOOL news

CHS Leo Club's Canned Food Competition

The "Feed the Hunger Games" was a competition between first block classes at Catoclin High School (CHS) in Thurmont between November 4-8, 2013. Over 1,000 food items were collected throughout the week. Food items were picked up after school by CHS Leos on Friday, November 8, 2013, and delivered to the Thurmont Food Bank.

The whole school was involved with this effort, lending a hand here and there to load the car with food, as they were waiting on school buses and end of day activities! Many thanks to the entire first block CHS faculty, Principal Quesada, and the custodial staff for loaning the big gray cart!

The CHS Leo Club is sponsored by the Thurmont Lions Club.

Bill of Rights Day is December 15, 2013

by Anna L. Peterson, Chairman Constitution Week Committee

On December 15, 1791, the United States of America adopted the Bill of Rights. These first ten amendments to the Constitution guarantee the protection of our inalienable freedoms, from freedom of speech, press, assembly and religion to the guarantee of equal justice under the law. This year marks the 222nd anniversary of the

Bill of Rights. To learn about the Bill of Rights, go to your public library or visit the Constitution Center online at <http://constitutioncenter.org>. Visit the original handwritten copy on display at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. with the U.S. Constitution and the Declaration of Independence.

"Kindness in words creates confidence. Kindness in thinking creates profoundness. Kindness in giving creates love."

~ Lao Tzu

Mother Seton School Students Inspired by Author

Courtesy Photo



Author Wendy Shang shares a humorous moment with fifth-grader Ryan LeFaivre, while autographing books during her visit to Mother Seton School on October 22, 2013. The author gave a presentation about the writing process and held a young writers workshop afterwards.

On Tuesday, October 22, 2013, Author Wendy Shang paid a visit to students at Mother Seton School in Emmitsburg, in grades 4 through 8, sharing with them how inspiration and hard work helped her become a published writer. Her debut novel, *The Great Wall of Lucy Lu*, draws on many of Shang's own experiences as the daughter of Chinese immigrants, caught between two cultures. In a lively and engaging presentation, she explained how she created and developed her main character. She also shared with them the hard work that goes into publishing a book, including the months she spent revising her manuscript based on feedback from her editor. Shang stressed that when they turn in papers and their teacher sends it back with corrections and suggestions, the students should look at that positively, because it will only help them to become better writers.

After the presentation, Shang was available to autograph the students' own copies of her book. She also held a small workshop for young writers that included representatives from each class. In the workshop, she focused on the importance of using description that touches on all of the senses, challenging the students to write about a special or favorite meal of theirs.

Shang is currently at work on her second novel, which is to be published in 2015. More about the author can be found on her website at www.wendyshang.com.

Catoclin FFA Attends National Convention

Twelve of Catoclin's elite FFA Member traveled to Louisville, Kentucky, to attend the 86th National FFA Convention. The National Convention set a record this year, with more than 58,000 members from all over the United States attending. Shelby Hahn, Hannah Barth, Dustin Hahn, and Ashley McAfee went with their coach, Carrie Wivell, to compete in the Milk Quality and Products CDE. The team placed silver overall, with Hannah and Shelby each placing gold individual, and Ashley and Dustin placing silver. Shelby had the top scoring written exam in the nation. Hannah had the third best California Mastitis Test grade in the nation. The following members: Rob Reaver, Brandon Marshall, Emily Kline, Mathew Lenhart, Ashley Ridenour, Ashley Grimes, Kayleigh Best, and Stephanie Kennedy, went out to experience the workshops, sessions, career expo, and vendors that are all promoting agriculture education. Ashley Smith also attended the convention. She was among the elite to earn her American FFA Degree. The American FFA degree is the highest degree that an FFA member can earn. This year's national theme was Ignite. The Catoclin FFA is excited to be home where they can ignite other members to achieve their dreams.

Courtesy Photo



Pictured from left are: (standing) Emily Kline, Kayleigh Best, Rob Reaver, Brandon Marshall, Dusty Hahn, Matt Lenhart, Ashley Ridenour, Stephanie Kennedy; (sitting) Ashley Grimes, Ashley McAfee, Shelby Hahn and Hannah Barth.

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CHS Student Wins International Award

Savannah Steinly was named an International LEO of the Year by Lions Clubs International for the 2012-2013 year. LEO Savannah received this award during a ceremony on October 23, 2013, at the Cozy Restaurant in Thurmont.

Savannah, a senior at Catoctin High School (CHS), has been an active member of the LEO club since seventh grade. She has worked on a variety of projects in the community, including a clothing drive and a project to provide a special birthday for a child with cancer.

According to George Boling of the Thurmont Lions Club, "An outstanding LEO, Savannah Steinly was a charter member of the Thurmont Middle School LEO Club when it was formed in 2008. She continued her LEO service into the Catoctin High School LEO Club, where she is serving her second year as President. She follows two great LEOs from our town—Hannah Barth and Labella Kreiner—in being recognized as an International LEO of the Year."

Lions Clubs sponsor more than 5,800 LEO clubs in 140 countries. While helping others in their community, LEOs develop leadership skills and experience teamwork in action. The Thurmont Lions Club sponsors LEO clubs at Thurmont Middle School and Catoctin High School. For more information, follow them on Facebook.



Savannah is pictured with her parents, Larry and Stephanie Steinly.

Courtesy Photo

CHS Student Selected to Perform at Weinberg Center

Congratulations to Catoctin High School (CHS) student, Ryan Talbot, who has been selected to perform on Friday, November 8, 2013, at the Weinberg Center with the Army Field Band Jazz Ambassadors. Admission is free and the show begins at 7:30 p.m.

2014 CHS Safe and Sane Activities

The 2014 Catoctin High School (CHS) Safe & Sane Graduation Committee's next meeting will be on December 11, 2013, at 7:00 p.m., in the media center at CHS. There are still volunteers 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. Visit their website at catoctinsafeandsane.com or visit their Facebook page: Catoctin High Safe & Sane Class of 2014.

Join the 2014 Safe and Sane Committee and the French Club for "Mr. Catoctin," on December 4, 2013, at 6:30 p.m., in the auditorium at the high school. Cost is \$8.00 for adults and \$5.00 for students. Light refreshments will be available for sale. Come out and cheer for your seniors.

A cash raffle will be held to benefit the Safe and Sane Committee. Tickets are \$5.00 each. Prizes are: 1st - \$500.00; 2nd - \$200.00; 3rd-5th - \$100.00. Please contact Lisa White for tickets at lmwhite88@msn.com and 240-367-6996, or Laura Imes at imesla@yahoo.com and 301-788-6458. Drawing will be held on December 11, 2013—just in time for the holiday season!

In addition, Shannon Burke, the memory room chairperson, has asked that each senior or their family provide her with their senior picture and three to four additional pictures of the student for the senior video (taken in the years 2013-2014). Please email the pictures to Shannon at sburke1974@msn.com and include the name of the student.

The committee is also selling garden stones (cougar paw) at a cost of \$5.00, \$10.00, \$15.00 (or \$25.00 for a set). They also will be holding 50-50 raffles at sporting events and other activities at the school.

There are approximately 240 seniors at Catoctin High School. Not every parent may want to participate in the Safe & Sane committee, but there is so much more that you can do to help out: Donations of soda, water, baked goods, items for doors prizes; sponsoring a game of bingo in honor of your senior; buying tickets for the bingos, gun raffle dinner, wing night, and even the cash raffle. It will make you proud to say that you helped your child's class attend and enjoy a wonderful and safe graduation celebration. Please just take a moment of your time and think about what you can do to make this a good time for ALL of the Catoctin High School Graduating Class of 2014. Without everyone's help, Safe & Sane cannot be possible. If you are interested in helping, please contact any of the persons listed above. Remember: nobody can do everything, but everyone can do something.

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Photo by Danielle Hoff

Emmitsburg Elementary School

Pictured from left are: (top row) Bob Wiles, Cliff Stewert, and Mrs. Krantz; (front row) Arleen Hernandez, Christopher Sanchez, Hannah Akers, Maddie Graco, Skylar Caballero, and Thomas Flohr.



Photo by Deb Spalding

Thurmont Elementary School

Pictured from left are Sharon Lewis, Helen Troxell, Desiree Enck (Third Grade Teacher), Ms. Myers (school counselor), Dalton Grimes, Payton Troxell, Bailee Rippeon, Morgan Baker, Jim Moser, Principal Crawford, and Rodman Myers.



Photo by Deb Spalding

Sabillasville Elementary School

Pictured from left are: (front row) Ryan Colley, Brooke Best, and Benjamin Mullenex; (back row) Jane Savage, Jim Moser, Jim Royer, Mrs. Krietz (principal), Helen Troxell, Rodman Myers.



Words for Thirds

The Grange is a national organization that has community service in mind. In November 2013, the Thurmont Grange went to Thurmont, Emmitsburg, and Sabillasville Elementary schools and gave each third grader a dictionary. This is an annual activity intended to give our areas' third graders their very own dictionary.

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SPORTS news

CYASC Jaguars Complete Amazing Season

The CYASC U8 Jaguars capped off an amazing season taking second place in the top division during the MAYAA U8 Fall Tournament, held on November 9, 2013. The team finished atop of group play with two wins and two ties. The finals match remained scoreless until the opposing team—undefeated in D2 regular season play—scored with just thirty seconds remaining in the hard-fought match.

During the regular season, the Jaguars finished undefeated with an 8-0-0 record to win the U8 D3 league. A powerful offense (57 goals scored) and a solid defense (3 goals allowed) earned them the top spot and promotion to the toughest division during the MAYAA tournament.

Courtesy Photo



Jaguars: Brody Buffington, Elias Irons, Nicholas Lowe, Emma Magers, Tim McCarthy, Austin Morris, Matthew Offutt, Abbey Shaffer, Taylor Smith, Caleb Staiger, Savannah Stambaugh, and Rebekah Zentz. Coaches: Barrett Irons, Bill Offutt, and Jack Cheston.

CHS Softball to Hold Crab Cake Dinner

The Catoctin High School (CHS) Softball Team will hold a Crab Cake Dinner Fundraiser on Wednesday, December 11, 2013, at the Fire Hall in Emmitsburg, from 4:00-7:00 p.m.

Dinner will include two crab cakes (a Vigilant Hose Co. specialty), baked potato, green beans, roll, drink, and your choice of a dessert. The cost is \$15.00 per dinner (eat in or carryout). Purchase tickets from any softball player, or call Coach Jess at 301-788-0976 to hold your tickets at the door. All remaining tickets will be sold at the door until dinners are sold out.

CHS Cross County Team Competes at State Championship Meet

On Saturday, November 9, 2013, the Catoctin High School (CHS) Cross Country team competed at the State Championship Meet! They had so many tremendous performances! The boys were repeat State Champions, scoring just 61 points (Poolesville finished second with 111 points). Boys: David Dorsey—3rd place; Zach Gascho—4th place; Kevin Dorsey—6th place; Patrick Van Der Cruyssen—17th place; Eric Myers—36th place; Paul Slotwinski—48th place; Garrett Buckley—61st place. The girls capped off a great season by finishing 6th place on Saturday and scoring only 168 points. Girls: Molly Janc—20th place; Lillie Perella—22nd place; Savannah Steinly—35th place; Julien Webster—52nd place; Bella Kreiner—53rd place; Megan Demarais—76th place; Anna Trapane—118th place.

Show Your Cougar Spirit

The Catoctin High School (CHS) Sports Boosters will be selling Cougar clothing (sweatpants, sweatshirts, and T-shirts), Blankets, Stadium Seats, Hats and other miscellaneous Cougar items at the following home sporting events: Wrestling—Wednesday, December 11, 5:00-7:00 p.m.; Boys Basketball—Thursday, December 12, 5:30-7:30 p.m.; Girls Basketball—Friday, December 13, 5:00-7:30 p.m.; Boys Basketball—Tuesday, December 17, 5:30-7:30 p.m.; Freshman Basketball—Thursday, December 19, 5:30-7:30 p.m.; Girls Basketball—Friday, December 20, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Items will be available on the above dates in the hallway between the gymnasiums at Catoctin High School. Come shop for Christmas!

CHS Sports Boosters to Hold Holiday Open House

The Catoctin High School (CHS) Sports Boosters will hold its 5th annual Holiday Open House on Saturday, December 7, 2013, from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., in the CHS Cafeteria.

Cougar apparel (youth sizes, from 2T – XL, also available), blankets, stadium seats, hats, and misc. novelty items will be available for your Christmas shopping. There will be a new style sweatshirt, T-shirt, and Under Armour available for pre-orders. Purchases will be delivered in time for Christmas. FREE GIFT WRAPPING service will be provided. There will also be light refreshments and door prizes.

CYASC Avalanche Repeat as FCYSL Champions

Catoctin Youth Soccer Association Club's (CYASC) U10 Avalanche won their second consecutive championship in the FCYSL U10 Co-Ed Division 3 Tournament, which was held at Eyler Park in Thurmont on November 2-3, 2013.

Avalanche went undefeated in Saturday's qualifying round to earn a place in Sunday's semifinals.

Incredible teamwork and unrelenting determination held the opponents scoreless during Avalanche's three bracket games on Saturday.

Keeping with the pace set by the team on Saturday, Ryan Horning scored the lone goal, while Kendall Abruzzese recorded the shutout at keeper, in the semifinal match against MAYAA. Horning, along with Nick Miller and Emily Williams, comprised a defensive line that allowed very few shots on goal.

Avalanche met BCRC in the finals in a challenging matchup of two extremely strong defensive teams. It was late in the first half that Horning was finally able to execute a maneuver around the BCRC keeper and put Avalanche up 1-0. After halftime, the team was unyielding in their drive to the goal and Horning, once again, was able to find the back of the net on a shot taken outside the penalty box. Abruzzese delivered another strong performance in goal. At the final whistle, the score was 2-1, and Avalanche celebrated a repeat as champions of their division.

The team gathered for a trophy presentation after a brief celebration. Coach Kevin Felichko only had two words for his team, "simply amazing," before they drenched him in a ceremonial water bath.

CYASC hosted thirty-eight teams in the U10, U12, and U14 age brackets as part of the Fall 2013 season-ending FCYSL tournament. The club thanks its many volunteers and vendors who allow them to host a successful event, which benefits youth soccer players in Frederick County and its surrounding areas.

Courtesy Photo



Pictured from left are: (kneeling) Ryan Felichko, Jason Stark, Joseph Larrivee; (standing) Nathaniel Monaghan, Head Coach Kevin Felichko, Kendall Abruzzese, Emily Williams, Jenna Zentz, Nick Miller, Ryan Horning, and Assistant Coach Melissa Carter.

Send your Sports news & Sports photos
to share in *The Catoctin Banner!*
news@thecatocinbanner.com

CYA Lacrosse Registration

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 thru 14, are eligible to participate; no experience is needed. Registration will be held at Thurmont Public Library on December 21, 2013, from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Fees are \$ 85.00 per player. However, no child will be turned away due to inability to pay. Want to sign up early? Or by mail? Check out their website at www.leaguelineup.com/catlax for forms. Send to Laurie Wilhelm, ATTN: CYA LAX, 5149 Wigville Road, Thurmont, MD 21788. Checks payable to CYA LAX. If you have any questions, contact Ryan at 301-418-2338 or Laurie at 301-748-7597 or email: CYALacrosse@gmail.com. Find them on Facebook: cya.lacrosse.

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happily ever after

by Valerie Nusbaum

Another Letter to Santa

Dear Santa Claus:

I know that it's not the first time you've received a letter from me, but this year I'm not writing to ask for anything for myself. I have everything I need, and I haven't been particularly good, so it all works out.

I thought I'd drop you a line and offer some suggestions that might make your life a little easier. I'm good at telling other people what to do, Santa, so why not you?

First of all, as a married woman, I feel great sympathy for Mrs. Claus. She has you home under her feet 364 days a year, and then she never, EVER gets to spend Christmas Eve with her husband. You can change all that this year. I think you should bundle her up in something warm and put her in the sleigh with you when you go out to make your deliveries on December 24. If you really want to make your wife's Christmas extra-special, drop her off in Las Vegas with a ticket to see "The Thunder from Down Under." I'm betting that Mrs. C. will enjoy looking at some men who don't have pointy ears. Come on, Santa. The Missus spends all of her time around tiny men in short pants. Give her a gift she'll really appreciate. You can pick her up on the way home. Trust me. You won't be sorry.

Next, you should buy the elves some power tools, and hire Mike Holmes to teach them how to "make it right." This would really streamline toy production, and would seriously cut down on the number of returns. The little guys could also use some singing lessons. You could fly Harry

Connick, Jr., to your ice castle for a few weeks to help out with that. I'll bet Mrs. Claus would enjoy that, too.

Here's something else you might want to consider. Stick with one shade of red for your suit. Now, I think most of us realize that the Santa's we see in the malls at holiday time are your "helpers." We all know that you're at the North Pole, working your elves' fingers to the bone, so you have to appoint helpers to visit with children all over the world, and these helpers report back to you. We get that. I just think you should decide once and for all whether Santa wears a red suit or a maroon one. I'm just saying.

The whole cookie thing could use an overhaul, too, Santa. Cookies are delicious. I'm not disputing that, but not everyone can bake, and there are a lot of people out there who aren't supposed to eat sugar or fat. Why tempt them? It's not fair of you to insinuate that the best gifts go to the kids whose parents put out the best cookies. Maybe you should start suggesting an alternative to the cookies and cocoa—something like a salad plate or fruit basket. Your reindeer could share in the bounty, and everyone would be happier—and lighter.

Speaking of the reindeer, I know Rudolph's nose is red and lights up, and I know he saved the day that one Christmas Eve, but, seriously, Santa, the other reindeer must feel left out. When the elves are doing all that singing, why don't you have them write some songs about the other reindeer?

Feel free to write or call me anytime, Santa. I've got lots of other good advice. Since I've all but done your job for you, I may as well ask you for some gifts for my family and friends. Here's the short list: My mom—A hard hat and a gardener. She loves hats and strong men who can work with their hands. My in-laws—A visit from their two-year-old great-granddaughter and some earplugs and Valium for the visit. My brother—A plane ticket to Maryland so that he can supervise Mom's gardening. My niece and nephews—New cell phones because, clearly, theirs aren't working. Brooke—A pony. Steve—A shovel. Randy—A twenty-five year-old wife. It's been a long time since I was 25, and I think we'll both enjoy that. You're probably thinking that Randy meant something else by his request, but we do it this way or we don't do it at all, Big Guy. Family, Friends and Neighbors—Fruit baskets for everyone, Santa. They put up with a lot from me, and I wouldn't want to poison them with cookies or anything that tastes good. Boardwalk Elvis (aka Norman Webb)—a shiny, new bicycle because his was recently destroyed in an accident. (True story!) Lastly, please bring something nice for Virginia Moser, because she's a nice lady.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays dear readers and friends. Randy and I will be at the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society's annual Holiday event on December 7, 2013. If you're out and about celebrating Christmas in Thurmont, stop by the log house on Catoctin Furnace Road and visit us. We always enjoy hearing you exclaim, "Oh! I was expecting someone older and bigger! You don't look like an Army drill sergeant!"

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IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Paying It Forward

My sister never thought that baking cakes would someday help someone. This year, I called her and asked if she was going to bake a cake for the Thurmont/Emmitsburg Community Show. She's only really made cakes for family members' birthdays, baby showers, and weddings. She said she hadn't thought of ever doing this to help someone. She agreed whole heartedly to put the work into baking and decorating a cake for a cause. She said we need to find a cause to donate the monies raised—something local.

So, I contacted the Thurmont Office of Woodsboro Bank and asked them what we could do to help the community and raise funds for a local cause. We all put our heads together and a few days later came up with the Coblentz Family. Michele Coblentz lost her husband Terry in a car accident in July. He was the bread winner of the family, owning his own company. They have three children between the two of them: Tiffany, Terry, and Trevor. Trevor got Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever at age 2 1/2 and then Meningitis and is now brain injured. He has special needs and is confined to a wheelchair. Unfortunately, to add to the loss of a husband and father, Terry's accident involved the handicapped accessible vehicle they used for Trevor.

My sister Rebecca Eaves baked a 3-layer decorated cake and entered it in the Community Show. I contacted lots of friends, family, and businesses in the immediate area and told them of our plans to raise money for this family. They were all willing to help; fourteen in all.

At the cake auction on September 6, 2013, I was ready with the donation promises, so I could buy this cake. Not surprisingly, Rebecca won a first place blue ribbon for her decorated cake.

Some others were bidding against me, but I was determined to win the cake. It went up fast: \$400.00. \$500.00, then \$600.00 all this for a cake and a good cause! You could hear the crowd getting louder and louder in amazement. At that point, I only had a little more than \$600, so I was nervous I'd lose. But the other bidders suddenly stopped! I told the auctioneer I had \$635, and I'd buy it for that. He said SOLD! That was close!

On Monday, I went up to Rebecca's house and picked up the cake from her refrigerator. I delivered a piece to everyone that helped purchase the cake, along with a thank you card for their donation. I then received a call from someone who said she was out of town during the auction, and her husband was at the auction, but hadn't purchased a cake that night. She heard what we were doing, asking if she could add \$200 to the donation. I'm now up to \$835.00 for the cake.

I gathered up all the checks for donation and mailed them to the Community Show. I enclosed a letter telling the story. Mr. Rodman Myers called me and said he was very touched with the letter and for wanting to help the family. He asked if the Community Show itself could add another \$200.00 to the cake. Of course I said yes and now we were up to \$1,035.00 for the cake.

Last Friday, we met the Coblentz family at the Woodsboro Bank location in Thurmont for the first time. Michele was very grateful and couldn't believe we would do something like this. It was a joint effort with so many. She wanted to have the names of all the donors so she could write Thank You notes to them, but we told her that since she had too much going on that we had already taken care of Thank You notes and the people that donated know she is very appreciative. It was so very nice to finally meet the family.

And last, but certainly not least, we want to thank all of the donors for the purchase of the cake. We are so grateful for your kindness and generosity. The

donors are: Woodsboro Bank; Mike's Auto Body; Affordable Storage; Pat Black; Southern States in Woodsboro; Shamrock Restaurant; Rocky's Pizza; Kathy Wortz; Barb Garst; Vera Demaduk; New Bill's Auto Body; Stambaugh Electric; Thurmont Emmitsburg Community Show; Consie Lucey-Meyers; Rebecca Lucey-Eaves; Brady Lucey; Angela Fitzgerald & Debbie Stambaugh.

— Catherine "Consie" Meyers



Pictured from left to right: Rodman Myers, Community Show Chair, Terry Coblentz, Michele Coblentz, Travis Coblentz (front), Rebecca Lucey-Eaves, and Consie Lucey-Meyers.

Thank You For Your Support

Courtesy Photo



The Guardian Hose Company, Inc. would like to thank all of the sponsors and Golfers that made the James H. Mackley Golf Day a success this year. The event was held on September 20, 2013, at the Maple Run Golf Course, located in Thurmont. The proceeds from the event will be used towards a scholarship for a graduating senior from Catoctin High School this year. The person receiving the scholarship must be taking a course of study in the first Responder Area (Fire, EMS, Police, Nursing, etc.) The Applications for the scholarship will be at the guidance office at the school in November and must be returned back to Guardian Hose Company, Inc. no later than February 15, 2014.

The following business and public sponsored this year event: Graceham Fire Department; Shriver Meats; Lewistown Fire Department; Jubilee Foods; Cozy Restaurant and Inn; Pondscapes, Inc.; C.I. Eakin Plumbing, Inc.; The Mackley Family; Space Crafters, Inc.; Woodsboro Bank; Bogley Chevrolet; Guardian Hose Company, Inc.; Stauffer's Funeral Homes, P.A.; Mountain View Lawn Services; and all the Golfers that showed up that day.

Again, thank you for your support. The Guardian Hose Company, Inc. will be looking forward to working with you next year on this event.

— Guardian Hose Company, Inc. Officers and Membership

Thanks from the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society

The Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc. would like to thank the participants of and visitors to the third annual Fallfest celebration, held on Saturday, October 12, 2013, at the Village of Catoctin Furnace. Visitors toured and shopped in the ca. 1810 Collier's Log House, the ca. 1774 stone house, and the Harriet Chapel parish hall.

Society member Priscilla Rall, along with Mary Kotrady, demonstrated open-hearth cooking, and Colleen Clapp painted en plein air while visitors shopped for handmade crafts. The goals of the event were two-fold: to share the history and culture of the pre-revolutionary village and industry with the public, and to raise funds to further interpretation and restoration efforts within the historic village.

Members of the society, who worked and contributed to this event's success, include: Chris Gardiner, David Gardiner, Alex Gardiner, Joel Anderson, Elizabeth Comer, Anne Comer, Harold Craig, Jerry and Nancy Anderson, Beth McGee, Adrien Tudor, Joann Miller, Priscilla Rall, Pat Schoonover, Nelda Burdette, and Kathleen O'Connor. We would like to thank the craftspeople who made the day a success: Marjan Benjamins, Beth McGee, and Jeremy Ritenour—pottery; Suzanne Kijowski—woven items, candles, and soaps; Matt Svehla—wooden furniture; Caroline Twigg—rug hooking; and Maria Henry—Treasures of the Americas.

A special thank you to the members and friends of the society who made and donated baked goods, to Donna Voellinger and the Thurmont Historical Society for assistance with publicity, and to the PATC for the use of the ca. 1774 stone house.

Join the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc. on Saturday, December 7, 2013, from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. for Traditional Village Christmas. The Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc. celebrates, studies, and preserves the architecture, landscape, and culture of this pre-Revolutionary village. For more information visit www.catoctinfurnace.org.

— The Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc.



Fort Ritchie: A Short History

I often walk the trail from Fort Ritchie around Lake Royer, the Upper Lake, and back. There is a peace and quiet that surrounds the place, and the autumn show of color is spectacular—like no other I've experienced. The history of the area is unique, too. So, I did some exploring, researched through books, and asked lots of questions.

The South Mountain has a rich history of service. Long before the colonists settled in the area, Native American Indian paths crisscrossed the land, connecting tribes in the area and providing routes for trading and socializing. Colonists quickly found the trails, laid claims, and began building homes. The land was rocky and difficult to farm. So many offered their barns and homes to travelers who repaid them with coins or goods. From the wealthy in their coaches and fine clothes to itinerant families, hunters, and rogues, the mountain people provided shelter, food, drink, and a good night's rest for those traveling from Philadelphia and New York to Baltimore and Virginia.

Around 1815, Samuel M. Royer realized it was only a matter of time before the railroads laid tracks in the area, and so he began buying up property. He also had a vision of building a lake on part of his property. His son-in-law, Thaddeus Wastler, built the lake after Royer's death. In 1889, the Buena Vista Ice Company of Philadelphia purchased 400 acres of land where Fort Ritchie now stands, and the purchase included Lake Royer.

During the winter months, the company used Lake Royer to harvest natural ice and ship it to southern markets—including Baltimore and Washington—through the Western Maryland Railroad's Baltimore-Hagerstown line. Consumers wanted fresh produce and milk products, and, before electricity, the ice harvest met this need. Again, the people who lived in the mountain were the workers who harvested the ice, stacked the blocks, and covered them with straw. In 1903, a spur of the railroad was built near the icehouses, helping to get the ice to cities more efficiently. However, the soot from the trains became a problem, so Wastler built a second "upper lake," where the ice

stayed clean.

From the late 1890s and up until World War II, the area around Lake Royer served as a recreational destination for city dwellers from Baltimore, Washington, New York, and Philadelphia. Escaping the summer heat, the wealthy from these cities enjoyed the cool breezes on the mountain. A sandy beach was formed from tons of imported fine sand, bathhouses were constructed, and water-racing activities took place on the lake. Elegant hotels and homes were built to accompany all the wealthy visitors. The Pen Mar amusement park and High Rock were favorites. The resorts provided jobs and employment for the local residents, and the farmers delivered fresh produce, eggs, and meats for the hotels and dining areas.

In 1926, the Maryland National Guard purchased 400 acres for a new summer training camp and named it Camp Albert C. Ritchie, after the then governor of Maryland. The two lakes were included in the purchase. In June 1942, during World War II, it became a Military Intelligence and Psychological Training Center and home of the Ritchie Boys. From 1947 until June of 1951, Fort Ritchie returned to Maryland and became a hospital to treat chronic diseases. It was a natural fit, as the State Sanatorium for Tuberculosis had been located in Sabillasville since the early 1900s. Many homes in the area became treatment facilities for those with contagious illnesses, later turning into group homes for children. From 1960 to 1980, Fort Ritchie once again became part of the Army, serving as a communication center for the military. The base was closed in 1998, and was sold to the PenMar Development Corporation in 2006. It was resold to Corporate Office Properties Trust for mixed-use development, and then began the building of the present day Community Center, serving the residents in the area. In 2012, the 591 acres—including Fort Ritchie—returned to PenMar Development Corporation; it oversees the property today.

People often ask, "What's the future for Fort Ritchie?" No one can predict for sure; but, for now, it serves the Mountain communities—



Fort Ritchie

communities that have served others for decades. It's nice to be able to

enjoy its facilities, walk its paths, and be a part of its rich history.

Senior Lunch on the Mountain

The members of St. John's and St. Mark's churches of Sabillasville are hosting their monthly seniors potluck lunch on December 15, 2013, at St. Mark's, at 11:30 a.m. All are welcome. For more information, call 301-241-3488. The next get-together will be in March. No potlucks in January or February.

Adopt a Child Program

The Help Hotline, serving the Mountain area, is sponsoring the Adopt a Child Program. Donations for individual children and/or families are being collected and will be distributed for Christmas. Contact Jo Willard at 717-762-9050 for more information.

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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.

Children's Book, *Big Chief Hungry Belly*, Comes to Life

During his retirement years, the late Gilbert V. Eiker, Sr. of Emmitsburg, shared stories of his life with others, as he went about his daily chores. Deb Spalding, publisher of this newspaper and owner of E Plus Copy Center & Promotions, came to know Mr. Eiker, as he frequently visited her store on his way to buy groceries. He would tell stories about freezing in France during the Battle of the Bulge as an Army soldier in World War II; he spoke about watching for enemy airplanes from the rooftops in Emmitsburg as a volunteer "spotter" during World War II; he shared that he believed he was the last surviving grandson of a soldier in the Battle of Gettysburg; and he spoke fondly about working hard as a youngster on local farms, clearing rocks from fields and watching over horses on the land that is now Liberty Mountain Resort. He was a very proud and friendly man.

In 2006, Deb Spalding latched on to one of his stories, where Mr. Eiker's brothers dubbed him "Big Chief Hungry Belly." Mr. Eiker's



Photo by Carie Stafford
Deb Spalding, pictured left, is shown reviewing sketches for the children's book, *Big Chief Hungry Belly*, with illustrator and Catoctin High School student, Kelsey Stafford.

stories of his youth became the foundation of her children's book called, *Big Chief Hungry Belly*. Mr. Eiker knew of the project and read the draft of the book before his passing on December 21, 2012. The draft changed hands through several artists over the course of seven years, before landing with Kelsey Stafford as her school art project for completion.

In *Big Chief Hungry Belly*, you'll learn about the value of work to a young ten-year-old boy living during The Great Depression; you'll meet characters like Chicken Ren, an egg examiner on the Square in Emmitsburg; you'll understand that through observation, we can

Joan Fry Publishes Third Book Containing Local History

Sabillasville author, Joan Fry, recently published her third book, *Do You Know?*, that features some local history surrounding postcards she has collected over the years. She wrote about the history of various areas in Blue Ridge Summit and Rouzerville, Pennsylvania, Emmitsburg, Frederick and Thurmont, Maryland, as well as the Western Maryland Railroad, First National Bank in Blue Ridge Summit, the Mason Dixon Line, and more.

Did You Know? is dedicated to the late William "Bill" Messner. He was a well-liked, and a very special resident of Sabillasville, who shared the beauty of life with others as he lived with Down's syndrome. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of this book will be donated to the Frederick County ARC in his memory.

You can also purchase either or both of Ms. Fry's first two books, *The State Sanatorium at Sabillasville from 1908 Part 1* and *The State Sanatorium at Sabillasville Part 2*.

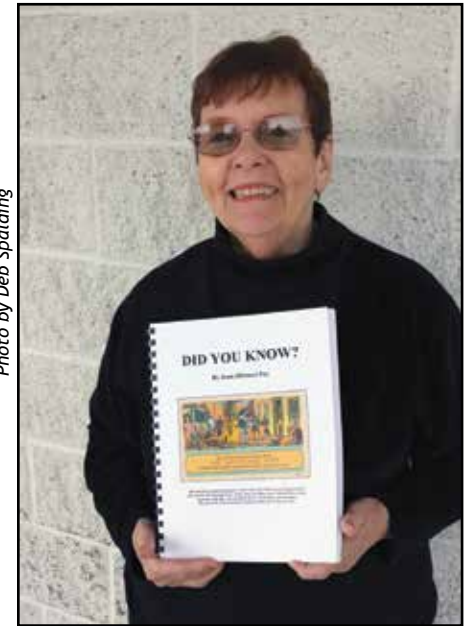


Photo by Deb Spalding

Books are \$20.00 each and are available from the author, or at Chapin Gray's Grill at the Blue Ridge Summit Plaza, Fort Ritchie Community Center in Cascade, Dru's Books & Things, Blue Ridge Summit Library, and E Plus Copy Center & Promotions in Emmitsburg. Please email jofry241@yahoo.com for direct contact with the author.

appreciate the history that leaves clues from which we can learn and grow.

Big Chief Hungry Belly is most appropriate for children ages 7 to 10 years. It will be available for purchase for \$9.50 in mid-December. The amount of \$1.00 from every book will be donated to the Indian

Lookout Conservation Club in Emmitsburg, as arranged by Mr. Eiker, and \$1.00 will be utilized by Kelsey Stafford for her college education. To purchase a book, visit E Plus Copy Center & Promotions in the lobby of Jubilee Foods in Emmitsburg. Please call 301-447-2804 for more information.

I Would Like

by Unknown Poet

I would like to have that one wish in life where I could have or bring anything back or anyone back.
I would like to get back all the time that I did not get to spend with my mom when you were in the hospital because of your sickness.
I would like to have seen you make it through your sickness and be here for me today.
I would like to give you one more hug one more "mommy".
I would like to see what you think of me today with me watching and changing my baby cousin's diapers.
I would like for you to have seen me one day have a family of my own.
I would like for you to see me walk through them college doors on my first day I went.
I would like to share everything with you and hear what you have to say.
I would like to know why it had to be you that had to go and for me to go through something like this at such a young age.
I would like... I would like if god would send you down here just for a few minutes for us to talk and tell each other the adventures that we have been on.
I would like to say I LOVE YOU MOMMY AND MISS YOU LIKE CRAZY. It's not the same without you.

In Memory of Shirley Good Wilson

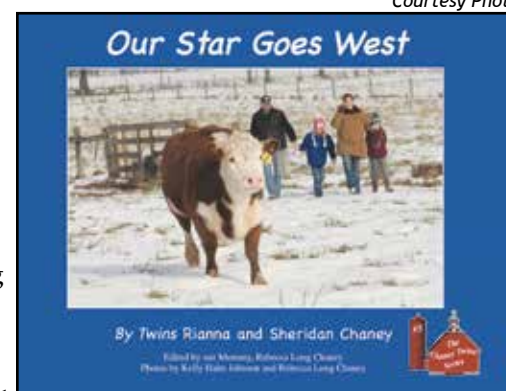
by Jane "Bassler" Russom

Today the news came that I didn't want to hear,
All the pain and suffering, the end is finally near,
My heart is breaking, tears that seem never-ending,
Feeling helpless, angry, all emotions blending,
The special times as friends we shared,
Laughing at the crazy things we dared,
A dear and true friend is so hard to find,
Like a rare and beautiful flower, one of a kind,
But now the time has come to say Good-bye,
So hard to let go, so many questions why?
Cherished memories in my heart will live,
For all the good times and laughter you did give,
I was ever so blessed to have you in my life,
To me a good friend, her kids a mom, her husband a good wife,
In a better place to finally be free,
Now you'll be my angel, watching over me.



Children's Ag Book Now Available

Rebecca, Sheridan and Rianna Chaney are proud to announce the fifth book in the "The Chaney Twins' Ag Series." This book, *Our Star Goes West* follows the girls' beloved Star cow from their farm in Maryland to their new home on a 3,500-acre ranch in south central Nebraska. The book introduces new experiences for the girls like branding day, roping, watering cattle being fed on cornstalks, swimming in the huge cattle watering tanks, showing, livestock judging, gathering cattle and how ranchers and cattle help the environment and wildlife.



Courtesy Photo

All five books in the series are 32 pages, and are full of captivating and fun color photographs by professional photographer and the books' co-creator Kelly Hahn Johnson of Sharpsburg, Maryland. The easy-to-read text geared toward preschool and elementary-aged children has been selected by numerous Farm Bureau groups, Ag in the Classroom programs, and county and state cattle women's organizations across the country as their "Accurate Ag Book." The first four books and lesson plans are on the USDA National Resource Directory for Agriculture in the Classroom, in addition to the American Farm Bureau Literacy list. Lesson plans are available in free downloadable form at www.pabeef.org. Books are \$12.00 each, or discounted to \$50.00 for the five-book "Bundle" special, plus shipping. Special discounts are available for larger box orders for Ag groups.

For more information or to place an order, go to www.rebeccalongchaney.com or call 308-785-8064. You can also contact Rebecca at chaneyswalkabout@aol.com. Books for Christmas should be ordered by December 9, 2013.

Share Your Creative Side

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Mail to: 515B East Main Street, Emmitsburg, MD 21727

Thespians Hold Auditions for "Smoke On The Mountain" January 5-6

The Thurmont Thespians will hold open auditions for their spring musical, "Smoke On The Mountain" on Sunday and Monday evening, at 7:00 p.m., at the St. John's Lutheran Church Social Hall, located at 15 North Church Street in Thurmont. Director Beth Royer Watson is looking for actors, singers, and preferably musicians who can do both for this seven-member cast, who will perform this southern gospel musical for two weekends at the Thurmont American Legion Auditorium on April 4-6 & 11-13. Scripts and song-lists are available in advance by contacting the director at 301-416-0864 or emailing her at beth.watson@myactv.net for more information.

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-Karen Shoemaker

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fitness matters

Expert Answers to your Health and Wellness Questions
by George Puvel, Anytime Fitness Owner

Question: Do you have any thoughts on some of the new functional training equipment on the market—things like TRX bands for example?

Answer: Generally speaking, I'm a fan of TRX bands and other pieces of functional training equipment. Things like TRX, the ViPR, and the Rip-Core FX are taking the fitness industry by storm, and for good reason. They're new, innovative, and fun to use. But best of all, they're functional, which means that using them allows you to mimic traditional daily activities, thereby improving movement, balance, coordination, and strength all at the same time. That's pretty cool! The only real concern here is that people may not know how to use these pieces of equipment properly, which could potentially result in injury. There's definitely a learning curve with these products, so it's best to watch the experts first. I also strongly recommend working with a trainer until you're completely comfortable with the training methodology. As always, the goal is to educate yourself so you can get the most out of whatever training you decide to do!

Question: How do I manage my food intake during the holidays, especially with all the cakes, cookies, and other goodies seemingly everywhere? Help!

Answer: I thought we were going to skirt by without addressing this, but I'm glad you asked. Interestingly enough, the answer depends almost entirely on you. Assuming you're susceptible to sweets and other treats, you really only have three options: go all-out and worry about the ramifications later, avoid them

at all costs, or take a reasoned approach and indulge to a modest degree. I think most people would argue that the third idea is the best one. After all, why not treat yourself to a few holiday goodies, especially if you can limit yourself to one or two here and there. And don't forget to continue with your workouts during this time as well. Restricting foods that you truly enjoy will only increase your cravings for them, and make for an unhappy holiday season. Bottom line: it comes down to choice, and you can choose to make healthy decisions or not, but you have to be realistic. Keep variety, moderation, and balance in mind, and reward yourself for being active all year long!

Question: Several friends are using websites to track their nutrition and fitness, and they're trying to get me to do the same. Do you think these health and wellness websites are worth the time, money, and effort?

Answer: Ultimately, it depends on the individual. However, research has proven that consistent monitoring and added accountability can pay off in the long run when you're looking to make lifestyle changes. This can come in many forms, but one of the most popular these days is certainly through the use of websites. They can be a great tool as you try to change your behaviors, and may be just what you need to maintain your motivation. There are a number of options out there, from basic nutrition or fitness tracking sites to others that offer a wide variety of capabilities in all areas of health and wellness. I have to admit that I'm biased when it comes to this discussion. Anytime Fitness has created one of the most

progressive, comprehensive, and fun websites to use if you're looking to facilitate your own health and wellness. It's called Anytime Health (anytimehealth.com)! The site has a diet tracker, an activity tracker, a workout planner that uses over 300 high-definition videos, as well as a robust community with a Q&A section, support groups, a contest page, and a site blog. And these features are just the tip of the iceberg. If you get a chance, check it out. You can sign-up for a free account that gives you somewhat limited access, and if you like what you see, you can join for a nominal yearly fee.

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

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Season of Giving — *Continued from cover page***Caleb**

Rebecca Mulhern's pregnancy was very difficult. She was high risk and ended up being hospitalized, needing a feeding tube. She was unable to work due to this unforeseen complication. When her son, Caleb Roberts (pictured right) was born, he wasn't breathing and was without oxygen for a period of time, resulting in spots on his brain that are damaged. Caleb was diagnosed with torticollis of the neck. They thought he had a stroke at birth due to his not moving the right side of his body.

Caleb has been in therapy since two weeks of age. He will have developmental delays and learning delays as he grows. He is now in need of braces on both legs, costing \$1,800 each, in addition to a compression garment for his body, costing \$2,500. These are to help stabilize his body as



he grows. He has also been fighting salmonella poisoning on top of all his other health issues.

The Mulhern family got behind on everything, due to Rebecca being out of work. Caleb is a full-time job right now, with three different therapists and lots of different doctors. Rebecca's husband also got laid off in June and that didn't help matters. To respond with help for this family, please email mulhern.rebecca@yahoo.com.

"People are like stained-glass windows. They sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in, their true beauty is revealed only if there is a light from within."

~ Elisabeth Kubler-Ross

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our neighborhood veterans



by Jim Houck, Jr.

My Veterans Day Bus Trip to Visit Our "Heroes Memorials" in Washington D.C.

I had my alarm clock (my wife Joan) set for 5:00 a.m., and, sure enough, she woke me on time. I slowly got out of bed, so I could take my morning medication and shave and shower and get ready for the bus trip I have been trying to make for the past four or five years. I was so excited about the bus trip to the memorials, not because I had never seen them before, but because this time I would not be pushing someone in a wheelchair and taking group pictures. I would actually be able to visit the memorials as long as I wanted, and walk places I hadn't been able to before. I hope I am not sounding selfish, but all I wanted was a day among our heroes all for me.

I left my house without eating breakfast. I need food shortly after taking my medicine; being so excited, I forgot to eat. I stopped at a McDonald's on the way and got an Egg McMuffin and ate that while on the way. I arrived at The American Legion parking lot in Thurmont at 7:15 a.m., and the bus was scheduled to leave at 7:30 a.m. The American Legion and AMVETS of Thurmont take turns co-sponsoring this Veterans Day trip every year; this year, it was the American Legion's turn. I arrived at the same time as my buddy Dick Fleagle, and we exchanged good mornings and boarded the bus. We actually got the first set of seats behind the bus driver, "Tammi," who was a very nice person and a very experienced driver. She maneuvered that bus in places most people would have had a hard time putting a car. We had to wait past 7:30 a.m., because you always have a few that simply can not be on time. Finally,

all had arrived and Tammi, our driver, gave instructions that were necessary for a safe arrival at our destination. She drove through the obstacle course of the Legion parking lot that passengers had left for her. I know it was early, and people thought she could just fly that big old bus right over their vehicles. Tammi maneuvered the bus out of there, and we were finally on our way.

Dick and I conversed with each other and the bus driver, and enjoyed the scenery and the light amount of traffic all the way to our destination, Arlington National Cemetery. We received instructions on what time to be back at the bus to eat our lunch so we could depart Arlington and proceed to the Lincoln Memorial. We departed the bus, then Dick, Tom and Ruth Joy, Ed and Mary McKinnon, Donnie McKinnon, Ed and Donnie's sister Sue and brother-in-law Jerry and I decided to see the "Women Heroes War Memorial." We went through the entrance at the Arlington National Cemetery, waited for everyone to answer nature's call and then proceeded through the displays where I took some pictures. Then we went out to where the Bell of Freedom was. The person holding the rope presented the rope attached to the Bell to me and I was allowed to ring it for freedom. We then proceeded to Women Heroes War Memorial. I was very impressed at what I saw in the displays and heard from the greeters. I took numerous pictures of the displays and individuals from our little group were in some of them. The women from the USA Armed Services played a vital role in all American

(right)

Women Heroes War Memorial.

Look for more of Jim's photos on Facebook.

Wars and Conflicts. I had never been to this memorial before and what a valuable lesson I was taught.

Dick, Donnie, and I went next to see the grave sites of John F. Kennedy, Jackie Kennedy Onassis, and the Eternal light that shines over them. I observed the Washington Monument in all its stature with the scaffolding surrounding it for its renovation. We then went to the grave sites of Robert Kennedy, Ted Kennedy and Joseph Kennedy. I was shown a huge statue of a soldier on a horse on the way to JFK's grave site. On the way back we stopped by the statue so that I could take some pictures. We then were walking back with graves on either side of us and it gave me a sense of the meaning of "they gave their all so we could remain free." There are so many heroes buried in the cemeteries across this great land called The United States of America, who sacrificed everything they possessed to uphold the oath they took to protect our Constitution and the American way of life.

We then returned to the bus while Mike Mahoney and most of the other passengers were at the Laying of the Wreath Ceremony. There was such a long line waiting to ride the shuttle buses that several hundred people were unable to attend the ceremony. The President arrives and no one is allowed in or out of the ceremony until he leaves. Our little group received our bagged lunch that was prepared for us as part of the trip and boarded the bus and commenced to eat lunch. My bag lunch consisted of one ham sandwich, one turkey sandwich, two cookies, an oat and chocolate bar, and a bag of chips. I spent enough energy walking that I enjoyed every bite and finished it all. When all else returned and finished eating we proceeded to our next leg of the trip.

Tammi stopped across from the Lincoln Memorial so we could depart the bus. She gave us the time to be back and said she was going to find a place to park while we were touring. Dick and I went to visit the Vietnam Memorial, but couldn't get very close to it as they were holding a ceremony there. The Wall was packed with people trying to find friends, loved ones and family etched on the wall. I got some great pictures from a distance thanks to a telescopic lens. We then walked over to the

Photo by Jim Houck, Jr.



World War II Memorial. I got some good pictures there and talked to some veterans and family members of veterans who have passed on. I was asked by a young couple to take a picture of them with their phone camera. I did and they were happy with it which in turn made me happy because I am not familiar with those gadgets. We then walked over and sat down on a bench and watched the ducks and seagulls floating around in the water. The Lincoln Memorial was next on my agenda. Dick and I went to it and I took the elevator up and spent some time in awe of the wonder of the extremely large statue of Abe Lincoln seated far above me in a chair. I got a few pictures of Abe and some other things associated with him. I went back down in the elevator and Dick and I went over and sat down. Some people came over who had never been to the Korean War Memorial, so Dick and I pointed it out to them. The lady's name was Candi (I think she is a retired votech teacher) and her husband and son were with her. We were sitting there a little while longer when Ed and Donnie McKinnon came along, stopped and we shot the breeze for while. Then we went to the snack bar where we were meeting the bus. We sat at a table watching planes come in for a landing every couple of minutes at Reagan Airport. As we sat there, a sudden drop in temperature came and it was cold. Finally the bus arrived and we loaded on for the trip home. The trip home was as pleasant as the trip to. Everyone enjoyed our bus driver and could easily see why she was driver of the year 2012 and, as far as we are concerned, should be driver of the year 2013. A tip collection was taken for Tammi and everyone gave. "Thank You, Tammi."

I am very pleased with the trip and hope to do it again next year. Maybe I will be able to see the laying of the wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

I hope some of the pictures I took will make it in my column, but I tend to get carried away sometimes and don't leave space for pictures. If they don't make it, look for them on Facebook.

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community veteran event board

AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary Thurmont

On November 30, 2013, Post 7 Auxiliary & Son's will be holding a Hunters Breakfast at Post 7, starting at 4:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Menu includes eggs, bacon, sausage, chip beef gravy, pancakes, fried potatoes, biscuits, coffee, orange juice, and milk. The cost is \$7.50 per person.

On December 7, 2013, Post 7 Auxiliary will be holding a Miss Amvets Pageant at 7:00 p.m. At 8:00 p.m., the band Population 3 will be playing until 12:00 a.m.; no cost to attend.

On December 14, 2013, come and enjoy Breakfast with Santa, from 7:00-11:00 a.m. The costs is \$6.50 for adults; \$4.50 for children 6-12 years old; free for children 5 years old and under. Call Sandi at 240-674-9017.

We are planning a Dinner/Dance for March, so watch for more information coming. All Events are open to the Public

VFW 6658 Emmitsburg December Events

Meetings are held the first Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. Upcoming events: Saturday, December 7—DJ Southpaw, 9:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m. Non-members must sign guest book. House rules apply to all. Over 18 after 9:00 p.m.: We ID; Saturday, December 14—Turkey/Ham Giveaway, 6:00-10:00 p.m. Non-members must sign guest book. House rules apply to all. Over 18 after 9:00 p.m.: We ID; Saturday, December 28—DJ Southpaw, 9:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m. Non-members must sign guest book. House rules apply to all. Over 18 after 9:00 p.m.: We ID. Thursday evening, shuffleboard league now forming. Stop by the Post, at 12 W. Main St., Emmitsburg, to sign up or call 301-447-6141 for more information.

AMVETS Post 7 Thurmont Events

On Sunday November 10, 2013, AMVETS Post 7 helped sponsor a fundraiser for Jeremy Hahn, by holding a Basket Bingo at Post 7. Post 7 donated the room for free and had the tickets and flyers printed for them. Jim and Sandy Burns, Tom Joy, and Mary Forrest volunteered for the event, along with family and friends. Baskets and items to fill the baskets were all donated, along with four super nice tool kits donated by Ace Hardware. The Auxiliary donated the Turkey Dinner and a Basket. It was amazing to see such a turnout (around 150 people) supporting a local veteran and resident.

The AMVETS Post 7 also donated the room to them on Saturday, November 23, 2013, to hold a dance and sponsor the band Population 3 for the evening. Population 3 is a very good band, and their normal charge is \$300.00, but for this event, they are only charging the Post \$120.00 for their time and talent. Thank you Population 3!

On November 27, 2013, the Post has the Ham and Turkey give-away. On December 4 and 18, 2013, Auxiliary Bingo will be held at the Post; doors open at 5:00 p.m. On December 19, 2013, there will be a Ham and Shrimp give-away at the Post, from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Don't forget about the New Year's Eve party on December 31, 2013.

F.X.E. Elder American Legion Auxiliary Unit 121

Dates to save: December 22—Santa Claus, 2:00-4:00 p.m. Open to all members of Post 121. Bring your children, grandchildren, step-children, step-grandchildren—come out and celebrate with the F.X.E. American Legion Family.

Thurmont American Legion

It's time for the holidays. Ham and Turkey night at the Legion is on December 20, 2013, along with Ralph Gann doing Karaoke.

Everyone is invited to come on out to enjoy Big Al on December 6, 2013, playing all your favorites, and the following week, on December 13, will be The Crossing, a five-piece band who rocked our house in November.

Every Wednesday, we have a crowd upstairs playing Corn Hole; anyone and everyone is welcome.

Our Post will be closed on Christmas Eve and on Christmas Day, so our staff may celebrate the Holidays.

We would like to wish everyone a Very Happy Holiday and a Safe and Healthy New Year.

Always Missing You



Anthony "Tony" Martin



1983 - 2013

Forever in our Hearts

Tony was a member of the Emmitsburg VFW, Post 6658. He also served in the United States Navy for 5 years. He was son of Gloria and William Martin. His brothers are Denny, Gene and Bruce Martin.



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Tickling Our Tastebuds

by Denise Valentine

Hello, everyone. I just can't believe that by the time you are reading this edition of *The Catoctin Banner*, Christmas will be less than a month away. This is a perfect time of year to celebrate with family and friends. I find that people take more time to visit during the holiday season. It seems that everything is organized chaos leading up to Christmas, but then a sense of calm takes over, and we realize that we should take time to visit and just enjoy the season.

The appetizer recipe that I am going to share this month is quick and easy. These Cheesy Spinach Pinwheels can be baked individually or placed on your baking sheet in the shape of a Christmas tree or a wreath. A few staples to keep in the refrigerator during the holidays for a quick recipe is crescent rolls or biscuits and some type of cheese. I hope you and your family have a wonderful Holiday Season.



Cheesy Spinach Pinwheels

<ul style="list-style-type: none">1 can (8 ounces) of refrigerated crescent rolls1/3 cup of spreadable cheese with garlic and herbs4 slices of thinly sliced deli ham1/2 cup packed spinach leaves <p>Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Separate dough into four rectangles.</p> <p>Press seams to seal. Spread each rectangle with 1 1/2 tablespoons of cheese to within 1/4 inch of the edges. Top with 1 slice of ham and then the spinach leaves.</p> <p>Starting at the short side, roll up each rectangle; pinch edges to seal.</p>	<p>Cut each roll crosswise into six slices using a serrated knife for a total of 24 slices. Place slices, cut side down, on baking pan/stone.</p> <p>Bake 12-15 minutes or until golden brown. Serve warm.</p> <p>*Cook's tips: (1) Use spreadable cream cheese and add your favorite seasonings to create your own cheese; (2) shape slices into a wreath or Christmas tree.</p>
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by Labella A. Kreiner

Catoctin Chronicles

This past month has been amazing up at Catoctin High School. Everyone has been buzzing about the end of the fall season and the beginning of the winter one. All of the hard work our students have put out this past season strongly impacted how the season ended. Especially with our cross country program! We had some awesome athletes join the team this year, and each one busted it out throughout the season!

On October 31, 2013, the girls and boys varsity teams competed for Regionals at Liberty High School in Eldersburg, Maryland. The course was vigorous and had such steep hills that some of the athletes almost had to crawl up them while running. However, this didn't slow down our students! The boys and girls both crushed multiple teams, with the guys winning over all and the girls placing fourth. This enabled all of them to go to McDaniel College in Westminster, Maryland, to compete at the State Championship.

"I can hardly add anything to the brilliant advice and comments above other than you all know that tomorrow is YOUR day. It belongs to you. Be the best." Mr. Kimbrell of our social studies department told the athletes.

So, the morning of states came upon the athletes, and it was finally time to put all of their hard work into one race—and they did just that. On

the very hilly golf course at McDaniel College, the boys and girls ran their hearts out, pushing their bodies past the point of fatigue. Their results only further proved that they had trained hard all season. The boys won first place, claiming their second straight state title. The girls won sixth place, going to states for the first time in three years.

Coach Gibbons was very proud of her pupils and told them so. "It's a great day to be a Cougar!" she yelled on the bus ride home, talking to each athlete and congratulating them. Later, they all ended up singing (more like screaming, actually) the lyrics to Katy Perry's song "Roar," which had been their theme song for the season. Everyone was ecstatic with their titles and enjoyed discussing the course with each other.

"This has been the best team I have ever been on. I love you all!" senior Anna Trapani told the girl's team, almost in tears of joy. "You guys made us into a team like no other!"

Although the course was harder than any other they had to run this past season, no obstacle could stop this group of strong-minded athletes.

Thank you for reading this month's article. Catch you again next month with more updates of our awesome students. God bless. If you wish to contact me, please email me at labellakreiner@yahoo.com.

Bus Driver for Fort Detrick Finally Found Her Dream Home

by Carol Riggles

Through IHA's Purchase-Repair Homeownership Program, Judith was able to find the home of her dreams with a monthly mortgage payment that is lower than what she was paying in rent.

Judith's cottage-style home has four bedrooms, one of which will become her painting studio. The home, located just north of Thurmont in Frederick County has a large yard filled with mature trees and foundation plantings. Despite its rural location (a requirement to obtain the USDA Rural Development low interest, no down payment mortgage) the home is just a mile or two from Route 15, providing an easy commute to her job as a bus driver for Fort Detrick in Frederick.

IHA's Vice President of Construction and Development, Ron Morris, supervised the repair process. The home needed new siding, hardwood floors refinished, bathroom tile work and a complete interior paint job. The cost of the repairs, about \$10,000, was included in the mortgage loan from USDA, and Judith didn't have to wait until everything was completed before moving in.

In Maryland, this is a brand new type of Self-Help program. IHA is the only nonprofit that has received a technical assistance grant from USDA Rural Development to provide this program in Frederick County, as well as Carroll and Washington counties.

Carol Riggles, IHA's Homeownership Coordinator, photographed and followed the transformation of Judith's home from start to finish. She said, "It's easy to see that this home was a diamond in the rough, and once the walls got painted, the floors were refinished, and the exterior siding was replaced, it became a home that Judith will cherish for years to come."

Interfaith Housing Alliance (IHA) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization based in Frederick, Maryland. For more information on IHA's programs and services, please visit www.interfaithhousing.org.

Photo Courtesy of Interfaith Housing Alliance



Judith showing where her dishwasher will be installed.

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looking back — 1905

On the Road to Disaster

by James Rada, Jr.

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

Perhaps the railroaders' minds were on a tomorrow they would never see. Such thinking might, in part, explain some of their actions on June 17, 1905. The Western Maryland Rail Road train schedule would change on Sunday, June 18, 1905, but that was the next day. On Saturday, June 17, Flagman George Lynch and other members of the freight train crew were waiting with their train on a siding at Gorsuch, Maryland.

Lynch's eastbound train had pulled onto the siding at 4:25 p.m., to wait for three westbound trains to pass.

"While we were waiting, we all got down from the train and sat on a pile of ties near the track. The two engineers and the conductors had their time cards and schedules and we talked for awhile about the time we were making, how long we had to wait for No. 5, and where we would run to after she passed," Lynch recalled for the *Catoctin Clarion*.

Drawn by engines 41 and 43, Lynch's freight train was eighteen cars long and heavily laden with coal. Once the three westbound trains had passed, the line would be open for Lynch's train to continue its eastbound journey to Baltimore; but with only one set of tracks to travel, the other trains had priority.

The crew waited for "considerably" more than an hour. The Union Bridge Accommodation, No. 17, passed on time. Then came the No. 11 Blue Mountain Express, also on time for its first trip of the season.

Lynch retold the events that followed to a newspaper reporter for the *Catoctin Clarion*.

With a few minutes left before the third westbound train, the No. 5 Thurmont Express, was scheduled to pass, Lynch walked away from the group to get some water at a nearby spring. When he returned, the engineers were in their respective engines. The firemen were shoveling coal into the fires to build up a head of steam.

"Jump on board if you're going," one of the engineers called.

Lynch looked at his watch once again. By his reckoning, they still had a few minutes before the train could leave, but he wasn't going to be left behind. He grabbed a handrail and pulled himself aboard the moving train.

"Where are you fellows going to pass the No. 5?" Lynch called to the fireman.

"At Lawndale," was the answer he thought he heard over the noise of the steam engine gathering speed.

Lynch couldn't believe the answer. There wasn't enough time to



Western Maryland equipment clearing a train wreck. Third of four images.

get to Lawndale if the No. 5 hadn't already passed.

"For God's sake, look at your watch!" Lynch shouted.

The fireman waved his hand at Lynch as if nothing was wrong. Lynch wondered if his watch was simply wrong.

"There were two engineers, the two conductors, and the fireman—five in all—who had the time and knew the schedules as well as I did," Lynch said.

"Evidently, the engineers or conductors had gotten confused as to how many trains went by," said local Thurmont historian and train enthusiast George Wireman in a 2005 interview. "But how they could get so mixed up about ordinary work has been a question mark for years."

One suggestion raised by *The Washington Post* was, "The fact that a new schedule goes into effect tomorrow may have caused some confusion." The new schedule had the westbound No. 5 nine minutes slower in reaching Westminster, Maryland, because a stop in Glyndon, Maryland, was added. If the crew was thinking that day that the No. 5 was on the new schedule,

then they would have thought the train was further east, possibly about four-and-a-half miles further east than it was. Had this been the case, the freight train would have had time to reach the Lawndale siding.

Another possibility is that since the Blue Mountain Express was making its first run of the season that day, the crew might have been expecting only two trains and not three. However, according to Lynch's version of events, the crew knew a third train was coming and thought they would have time to pull over.

Lynch said in the *Frederick Daily News* that he considered pulling down the air brakes, but he deferred to the greater experience of the other crewmen.

The No. 5 had left Hillen Station in Baltimore City, Maryland, on time at 5:00 p.m. About one-hundred passengers were aboard. The train had three passenger coaches and a baggage combination car. Most of the passengers sat in the coaches. It was eating up the route at thirty miles per hour.

The baggage car was filled with railroad workers, many of whom lived in Thurmont, Maryland, and Catoctin Furnace, Maryland—two towns next to each other in northern Frederick County. The workers—they were called "floaters," because they traveled to where they were needed to work—had boarded the train at Mount Hope, Maryland, where they had been working to repair the damage from a small freight wreck there during the week prior. The train was so crowded that some of the men had to sit on the bumpers between the baggage car and the engine tender, and between the baggage car and the first passenger car.

It was a choice most of them would not live to regret.

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senior moments

by Helen Deluca

Hello to All! Every once in a while, things work out better than you could have hoped. Such was our pot luck lunch and Halloween party (pictured right). What a day! The dinner was delicious, and the costumes were absolutely outstanding! Can you picture 93-year-old Emory Motter as Elvis Presley? Complete with hairdo and guitar! We had clowns, vamps, cowgirls, and even Dracula, to name a few. But, best of all, it was a day of laughs and good fun.

The jewelry-making class was another event that was enjoyed by many. So much so, we are going to do it again on December 5, 2013.

All in all, the Thurmont Center has been a pretty busy place. The sweatshirts that we featured in last month's issue of The Catoctin Banner have been quite a hit. If you have your order in by November 27, 2013, you can expect delivery on December 12. The shirts are of good quality, worth the reasonable price, and make excellent Christmas gifts. Since sweatshirts are a favorite casual wear, there will be another order date in early January 2014.

As busy as November was at the Center, look what is coming up in December! Get out your calendars and start marking these dates: December 5—Jewelry-making class with Kathy, at 1:00 p.m., cost is \$10.00 (covers all of your supplies; design a beautiful piece of jewelry for yourself). December 7—the Thurmont Senior Center's annual Christmas Party, 12:00 p.m., at the Graceham Moravian Church, cost is \$15.00 and reservations and payment can be made at the Center, from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. If you have never had dinner at the Moravian Church, make a special effort to join us on December 7 for a family-style dinner of turkey, oysters, stuffing, and all of the trimmings. The food is delicious and plentiful. There are door prizes and entertainment, and it's a wonderful

way to get in the holiday spirit.

December 12—December Birthday Party for all December birthdays, following lunch at the Center. December 18—50/50 Bingo, 1:00 p.m. It's open to all; bring a friend. Proceeds support the lunch program. December 20—Come and have a good laugh Anne Jeffas and her original comedy readings, 1:00 p.m. December 23—Christmas Party at the Center, 12:00 p.m. Make a reservation for lunch a day ahead or just come in at 1:00 p.m. for the party and performance by the Catoctin Canaries. December 24 and 25—Center will be closed for the holiday. Our thoughts will be with you as we wish you and yours a Blessed and Merry Christmas. December 31—Pot luck lunch and New Year's Eve party, 12:00 p.m. Notice I said 12:00 p.m.—not 12:00 a.m. —after all, we are SENIORS! We gave up being out after dark a long time ago. But, we can still have fun and reminisce about the "good old days." Come and join us; bring a dish or pay \$5.00. Where else can you go for that price on New Year's Eve?

Speaking of the upcoming Holiday season: Are you planning a party and need more space? How about renting the Senior Center—it's clean, attractive, handicap accessible, has plenty of parking, and reasonable. Cost is \$150.00, plus a \$50 refundable deposit. Call the Center at 301-271-7911 for more information and dates available.

With all of the future events and regular activities at the Center, we can always use more volunteers. We need kitchen servers, drivers, and two volunteers for the Board of Directors to replace two who have moved out of the area. A few hours out of your day may be just what you need to fill some of that spare time you have on your hands. It's not all work; it's joining others your age and feeling like you're helping out. Give it some

(right)

November Birthdays

Pictured from left are Joan Follin, Sylvia Goodnough, and Norma Jean Buice.

(below)

Halloween Party

Courtesy Photo



Photo by Irene Matthews



thought. Call or just come on in.

Don't forget to pick up your monthly menu and activity calendars. The special \$5.00 lunches are listed, along with all of the goodies prepared by Mountain Gate Restaurant. Reserve lunches one day in advance at 301-271-7911.

I'm sure we all have had an experience at times when we have

thought: What else can go wrong?

Why me? It can be devastating, but if we take time to listen to others or just look around, we can all find something to be thankful for. So smile, be happy, and especially be thankful on this Thanksgiving Day and every day. Have a great holiday and don't forget the Christmas Party on December 7! See you there!

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Christmas Calendar of Events

FREE Meal - Kids! Bring in your homemade decorations to hang on Santa's "Cozy" Christmas tree and receive a token for a free meal! December 1st - December 23rd.

Cozy's Christmas Card - Dine with us in December and receive a half price meal coupon to use in January, February, and March. Whole month of December.

Breakfast with Santa - Every Saturday & Sunday in December, 8:30-11:00 am. Thru Dec. 22nd.

Dinner with Santa - Every Monday & Tuesday evening Dec. 2nd-23rd, 6:00-8:00 pm.

New Year's Buffet Extraordinaire - Dec. 31st, 4:00-9:00 pm - Seafood buffet featuring fried oysters, steamed & fried shrimp, crab dip, carved beef and turkey, just to name a few.

New Year's Day Brunch - Served 9 am-3 pm

Cozy Holiday Foods To-Go! • Open Christmas Eve 11 am - 6 pm

classifieds

For Rent

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

FOR RENT: Covered wagon for use by groups for Christmas carolling. Call 301-271-2023.

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT: 900 sq. foot office space, on 3rd floor in Emmitsburg Town Square. Wired for computer and work stations. \$500.00/ month, plus electric. 410-245-7857 or hargadon4ltg@gmail.com.

Wanted

SEEKING CONTRACTOR: The Town of Emmitsburg is seeking a contractor for snow removal for some sidewalks. Please contact Jimmy Click at 301-447-6495 for list of sidewalks. Contractor must be fully insured. Submit a bid or proposal to the Town Office at 300A South Seton Ave. Emmitsburg, MD 21727 by December 13 at 3:00 p.m.

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

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Downsizing Sale: 3 bedroom sets all different styles and sizes. Dining room hutch with glass doors, oil painting 24x36 large mallard ducks in flight. 301-271-2376

Playstation 3 (like-new; only used a couple of times). Included: *The Taking of Pelham 123* and *I, Robot* (Blu-ray) and Resistance 2 (game). \$185/OBO. 240-285-6197.

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

Garage/Yard Sale

Gigantic Garage Sale, December 6-8—8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Take a ride up the mountain to 13007 Tower Rd., Thurmont. Huge Multifamily GARAGE sale—Tons of used & new items, bargains galore! New things every day!

your public library

Where Community & Ideas Connect

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

The entire staff at the Thurmont Regional Library and Emmitsburg Branch Library would like to convey the very best wishes for this holiday season. Throughout the year, it is our pleasure to offer every visitor to our libraries a comfortable, welcoming place to work, learn, and play. Beyond the programs we offer and the materials we provide for you to check out, the public library is at the heart of both communities. It is free and open to all, and it's always our personal mission to make sure everyone who walks through our doors receives the very best customer experience. Please note that the library will be closed December 24, 25, and January 1. All branches close early at 5:00 p.m. on New Year's Eve.

Literacy Night a Big Success

For the past six years or so, the library has opened up its doors for special Literacy Nights to encourage families to visit the library, along with teachers and principals. In November, over 200 people attended this special program to enjoy an original glow-in-the-dark puppet theater showing of Swimmy, unique fingerprint crafts, and Buddy Reading, which matched up close to thirty Thurmont Middle School and Catoctin High School students with younger readers.

Tara Lebherz, Children's Service Supervisor at the library was very pleased with the turnout and success of this community event. "It's great to have the opportunity to partner with local schools to share with families exactly how important literacy is and to showcase what the public library has to offer." Tara and her team of teachers and library staff will host a spring literacy event, too. "Bridging older kids to help younger students is so important and it was good to see those middle and high school students demonstrating literacy techniques to the younger kids," she added.

This holiday season, the Thurmont Branch will be hosting a variety of free events to brighten the season: December 7—Kicking off the fun is our annual Holly Jolly Celebration that we hold in conjunction with Christmas in Thurmont. Ronald McDonald brings his magic at 11:00 a.m. and Santa comes at 1:00 p.m. There will be make & take holiday crafts for all ages; December 14-15—Stop anytime to write your Letter to Santa. Use special paper and pens and drop your letter right into the library Mailbox to the North Pole; December



Buddy Readers helped out at the Thurmont Regional Library's Literacy Night in November. Students from Thurmont Middle School and Catoctin High School teamed up as Buddy Readers to read stories to the younger kids.

15—Make a Gingerbread House, begins at 10:30 a.m. (participants must be registered); December 18—Elsie the Elf visits at 4:15 p.m. Bring a camera to have your photo taken. Mr. Willoughby's Christmas Tree Puppet Show starts at 4:30 p.m. All ages welcomed; December 20—Make-A-Gift & Give-A-Gift, 11:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Event is for all ages; December 26, 27, 28, 30—We're hosting Lunch & A Movie every day. Bring a lunch, blankets, and pillow to enjoy a family-friendly movie with your friends on our big screen in the Community Room.

Be sure to look for the special collection of vintage toys that will be on exhibit in the library lobby in our display case. The toys are courtesy of longtime collector Larry Freshman.

Delaplaine Satellite Gallery

The featured art exhibit for December and January is 'Nature Redux'. Located in Satellite Gallery of the Delaplaine Visual Arts Education Center at the library, enjoy the landscape paintings of Sandra Edmonson. Sandra's pursuit of painting began with a drawing course while attending college in California, then continued with painting classes with Tracy Cain in Huntington Beach. After moving to Maryland she took classes for several years with different teachers - plus advanced and intermediate courses with the Maryland School of Art and Design and then several years painting with noted artist Denny Arant. During this time she exhibited in many art shows.

The Thurmont Regional Library is ready, welcome you and your family to take advantage of our collection, resources and programs seven days a week. Please contact me at edingle@frederickcountymd.gov if you have questions about your public library.

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november

- 29Thurmont Lions Club Christmas Tree Sale, Ace Hardware Store, N. Church Street, Thurmont. All proceeds support Lions Club projects in the community.
- 30....Hunters Breakfast, Post 7 Auxiliary & Son's, at Post 7, Thurmont. 4:00-10:30 a.m. \$7.50/person.

december

- 1Voices of Christmas, Weller United Methodist Church, 101 N. Altamont Ave., Thurmont. (Through Jan. 5, 2014.) 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. 301-271-2802.
- 1Emmitsburg Community Chorus presents annual Christmas Concert "His Shining Light," the Basilica of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Emmitsburg. 4:00 p.m.
- 1First-Ever Christmas Concert Series, the Basilica at the National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Emmitsburg. Free event. Donation of \$3/person encouraged. First in series: Emmitsburg Comm. Choir & Frederick Spires Brass Quintet. 4:00 p.m.
- 1Cash Bingo, Blue Ridge Sportsmans, Route #16 Fairfield, PA. Doors open 11:00 a.m., Early Birds begin 12:45 p.m. Pay at the door for the cards that you play. Open to the public. 717-794-5443 or 717-794-2695.
- 2Live Nativity Tom's Creek United Methodist Church, at Carriage House Inn, Emmitsburg. 6:30 p.m. 301-447-3171.
- 2Free Community Meal Served with Grace, Graceham Moravian Church, 8231-A Rocky Ridge Rd., Thurmont. 5:30-7:00 p.m. All Welcome.
- 2An Evening of Christmas Spirit, Carriage House Inn/Town of Emmitsburg, Emmitsburg Town Square and Carriage House Inn, South Seton Ave., Emmitsburg. Tree Lighting 6:00 p.m., Santa Arrives at Carriage House Inn 6:30 p.m., Local choirs & vocalists at Carriage House 7:00-9:00 p.m. Free, Canned goods and donations accepted for Emmitsburg Lions Club Christmas Food Drive.
- 2Christmas Party for Families, Thurmont Clothes Closet, Thurmont United Methodist Church, Long Rd., Thurmont. 6:00 p.m. (This will be the only date open in December). 301-271-4511.
- 3Take-a-Tour Tuesday, Mother Seton School, 100 Creamery Rd., Emmitsburg. 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. 301-447-3161 to set up private tour. www.mothersetonschool.org.
- 4-8....Gateway Liquors Grand Opening, Rt. 15 & N. Franklinville Rd., Thurmont. Specials every night.
- 5,6,7.Elias Lutheran Church Indoor Yard Sale, 100 North Ave., Emmitsburg. 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
- 6,7Karma Sharkz at Ott House Pub, 5 W. Main St., Emmitsburg. 301-447-2625.
- 6First Friday Fun, Children's Museum of Rose Hill Manor Park, 1611 N. Market St., Frederick, MD. 9:30-10:30 a.m. Ages 2-6. \$4/Child. Pre-registration recommended. www.rosehillmuseum.com.
- 6Emmitsburg Business and Professionals Association's Awards Banquet, Joann's Ballroom, The Carriage House. 6:00-9:00 p.m. \$20/person. Performance by Knightyme Impressions 7:00-7:30 p.m. Bob Rosensteel 301-401-7287.
- 6Christmas Show, Cozy Restaurant, Thurmont. 6:00 p.m., meal follows. Tribute to Conway Twitty & Elvis Presley. \$28/person (if purchased by Dec. 1).
- 6,7Christmas Craft Fair, St. Joseph's Parish Hall, corner of DePaul St. & North Seton Ave., Emmitsburg. Dec. 6: 11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.; Dec. 7: 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Crafts, Food & Baked Goods. Sponsored by St. Joseph's Sodality. Jane 717-642-1247 or jgjerde@emarqmail.com. Free parking/ handicapped accessible.

community calendar

- 6,7Seton Center Thrift Shop December \$5 Bag Sale, 16840 Seton Ave., Emmitsburg. Dec. 6 – 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.; Dec. 7 – 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Paper bags provided by Seton Center. No strollers allowed in store due to limited space. 301-447-6102.
- 7St. Joseph's Ministries Christmas Bazaar, Saint Catherine's Nursing Center, 331 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg. 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
- 7Children's Chirstmas Party, hosted by Emmitsburg Lions Club, Vigilant Hose Company building, Emmitsburg. 10:00 a.m. Free event. Crafts, face painting, Khan-Du the Magician, hot dogs/hot chocolate, & more.
- 7Holiday Craft Bazaar, Fort Ritchie Community Center. 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Santa available for pictures 10:00 a.m.-noon. Free Admission. 301-241-5085.
- 7Christmas in Thurmont. Photos w/Santa 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m./2:00-4:00 p.m., Mechanicstown Square Park. Lighting of Remembrance Tree 4:00 p.m. Visit www.thurmontlionsclub.com.
- 7Holiday Tea, hosted by the Friends of the Emmitsburg Library. 1:30 p.m. For children; seating fills early. Register in advance www.fcpl.org.
- 7St. Rita's Annual Christmas Mart, St Rita's Catholic Church, 13219 Monterey Ln., Blue Ridge Summit, PA. 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Features wreaths, swags, kissing balls, bake table, crafts, raffle, & lunch. Religious items available.
- 7Another Chance Thrift Store Grand Opening, 3560 Fairfield Rd., Gettysburg, PA. 9:45 a.m. 717-860-5038.
- 7CHS Sports Boosters' 5th Annual Holiday Open House, CHS Cafeteria. 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Cougar apparel (youth sizes also available), blankets, stadium seats & more. Purchases delivered in time for Christmas. FREE GIFT WRAPPING. Light refreshments & door prizes.
- 7Traditional Village Christmas, Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc. 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. www.catoctinfurnace.org.
- 7Holiday Magic, The Children's Museum of Rose Hill Manor Park, 1611 N. Market St., Frederick, MD. 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Joe Allen's Magic shows 10:30; 11:30; 12:30; and 1:30. Santa; crafts. \$5. Pre-registration recommended. www.rosehillmuseum.com.
- 72nd Annual Christmas Bazaar, Christ's Community Church, 303 W. Lincoln Ave., Emmitsburg. 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Vendors/ Silent Auction/Free scavenger hunt, cookie decorating, photo w/Santa! Food for sale! www.cccaog.org; Heather Crum 717-321-5522.
- 7Annual Ham, Turkey and Roast Beef Supper w/ Christmas Yard Sale & Bazaar, Elias Lutheran Church, Emmitsburg. 12:00 p.m. Also Crafts, Home Baked Goods. \$11/ Adults; \$4/Children 6-12. \$12/Carryout. Huge Yard Sale: Thurs., Fri., Sat. 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
- 7Weekly Money Bingo, Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Co. Activity Bldg, Rocky Ridge, MD. (Every Saturday evening, November-April). Doors open 4:30 p.m.; Games begin 7:00 p.m. Guaranteed Jackpot. Pay-out determined by # of players present. rrvfc@rockyridgevfc.com; follow us on Facebook.
- 7 Christmas Bazaar and Large Indoor Yard Sale, St. John's Lutheran Church, Parish House, 8619 Blacks Mill Rd., Creagerstown. 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Delicious Soups and Sandwiches from our kitchen. Eat In/Carry Out. No Early Birds/No Friday Sales. 301-898-5167.
- 7Breakfast with Santa and Christmas Bazaar, Mother Seton School, 100 Creamery Rd., Emmitsburg. 8:00 a.m. \$6/Adults; \$4/ Children 3-6 (in advance—add \$1 to tickets purchased at door). Raffle for ski/snowboard vouchers at Ski Liberty. Vendor space is also available for event. Lee Royer weefarm@hiwaay.net.
- 7Drop & Shop Event, Tom's Creek United Methodist Church, 10926 Simmons Rd., Emmitsburg. 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. 301-447-3171.
- 7Hoiday Pet Portraits, Catoctin Veterinary Clinic, Thurmont. 10:00 a.m.-noon.
- 714th Annual Holiday Open House, ThorpeWood's Lodge, 12805-A Mink Farm Rd., Thurmont. 3:00-8:00 p.m. www.thorpewood.org.
- 8Talent Show, Germantown Church of God, 16924 Raven Rock Rd., Cascade, MD. 6:00 p.m. 301-241-3050.
- 8Advent Party, St. Joseph's Church, Parish Hall, Depaul Street, Emmitsburg. 4:00-7:00 p.m. Free dinner and family fun. RSVP to Elaine by December 2. 301-447-2326 or stjosephemmitsburg@comcast.net.
- 8First-Ever Christmas Concert Series, the Basilica at the National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Emmitsburg. Free event. Donation of \$3/person encouraged. Second in series: Williamsport Maryland Community Band. 4:00 p.m.
- 8Holiday House Tours, hosted by Rocky Ridge Vol. Fire Co. 1:00-5:00 p.m. \$15/person (tickets on sale at activities building). Jerry Free 301-428-5351.
- 8Blue Christmas Worship Service, Trinity United Methodist Church, 313 W. Main St., Emmitsburg. 4:00 p.m. For those going through a difficult time this holiday season. Special guest: Rev. Kim Capps. 301-288-1373 or tiffprk@gmail.com.
- 9All You Can Eat Hahn Fundraiser, Rocky's Pizza, Thurmont. Pizza, Salad & fountain drink. 5:00-8:00 p.m. \$10/Adult; \$5/ Children 12 & under. All proceeds go to the Hahn Family. Tickets sold at the door.
- 9Mass of the Immaculate Conception, Mother Seton School, 100 Creamery Rd., Emmitsburg. 10:15 a.m. Father John Dietrich, Director of Spiritual Formation at Mount Saint Mary's. 301-447-3161; www.mothersetonschool.org.
- 11Catoctin High School Softball Team's Crab Cake Dinner Fundraiser, Fire Hall, Emmitsburg. 4:00-7:00 p.m. \$15/dinner (eat in or carryout). Purchase tickets from any softball player or Coach Jess 301-788-0976.
- 13,14.Red Line at Ott House Pub, 5 W. Main St., Emmitsburg. 301-447-2625.
- 13Celebrate Christmas early at Elias Lutheran Church Christmas Coffee House. Children's Praise Choir, Silver Lining Band, & visit from Santa! Free event; bring friend. 7:00 p.m. 301-447-6239; eliasluth@gmail.com.
- 14Chiz Rider presents Concert of Holiday Music, Germantown Church of God, 16924 Raven Rock Rd., Cascade, MD. 6:30 p.m. Free admission. 301-241-3050. An offering will be taken.
- 14Search for the Christ Child, 30-minute guided tour w/your friends & family through Bethlehem, Frederick Church of the Brethren, 201 Fairview Ave., Frederick, MD. 12:00-3:00 p.m./5:00-9:00 p.m. Free & open to public. Canned food item for food bank welcomed. Interpreters for deaf participants. Email search@fcob.net or 301-662-1819.
- 14Visit Santa, Guardian Hose Co., 21 No. Church St., Thurmont. 1:00-3:00 p.m.
- 14Christmas House Tour. 4:00-8:00 p.m. Tour includes homes in historic Catoctin Furnace area. \$20/person (available at Creeger House, 11 North Church St., Thurmont, during tour). Sponsored by Thurmont Lions Club & Thurmont Historical Society. www.thurmontlionsclub.com.

- 14Hoiday Pet Portraits, Catoctin Veterinary Clinic, Thurmont. 10:00 a.m.-noon.
- 15Christmas House Tour. 2:00-6:00 p.m. Tour includes homes in historic Catoctin Furnace area. \$20/person (available at Creeger House, 11 North Church St., Thurmont, during tour). Sponsored by Thurmont Lions Club & Thurmont Historical Society. www.thurmontlionsclub.com.
- 15First-Ever Christmas Concert Series, the Basilica at the National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Emmitsburg. Free event. Donation of \$3/person encouraged. Third in series: The Westminster Ringers. 4:30 p.m. Benefit Thurmont Ministerium and the Emmitsburg Council of Churches.
- 15Christmas Cantata, Weller United Methodist Church, 101 N. Altamont Ave., Thurmont. 10:00 a.m. 301-271-2802.
- 16Christmas Program, Mother Seton School, 100 Creamery Rd., Emmitsburg. 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. Chorus, individual classes, award-winning band, & student-produced Christmas play. 301-447-3161; www.mothersetonschool.org.
- 18Annual Christmas Concert, Graceham Moravian Church, 8231-A Rocky Ridge Rd., Thurmont. 7:00 p.m. "The Bells of Grace," handbell choir directed by Dr. Linda Franklin. 301-271-2379.
- 20Advent/Christmas Prayer Service, Mother Seton School, 100 Creamery Rd., Emmitsburg. 10:00 a.m. 301-447-3161; www.mothersetonschool.org.
- 20,21.Wylde Fir at Ott House Pub, 5 W. Main St., Emmitsburg. 301-447-2625.
- 21Annual Blue Ridge Mountain Christmas Celebration, Blue Ridge Summit Plaza, intersection of Monterey Ln. & Sabillasville Rd. FREE. 4:00-8:00 p.m. Sponsored by Blue Ridge Summit Free Library & Episcopal Church of Transfiguration. 717-642-5645.
- 22First-Ever Christmas Concert Series, the Basilica at the National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Emmitsburg. Free event. Donation of \$3/person encouraged. Fourth in series: Shrine Vocalist Tony Dilulio. 4:00 p.m.
- 24 ...Christmas Eve Service, Germantown Church of God, 16924 Raven Rock Rd., Cascade, MD. 7:00 p.m. 301-241-3050.
- 24Lovefeast and Candlelight Services, Graceham Moravian Church, 8231-A Rocky Ridge Rd., Thurmont. 5:00, 7:00 & 9:00 p.m. Special Children's Message at 5:00 p.m. service. Bells of Grace 7:00/9:00 p.m. Hosanna Choir sing 5:00/7:00 p.m. 301-271-2379.
- 24Chirstmas Eve Services, Tom's Creek United Methodist Church, 10926 Simmons Rd., Emmitsburg. 7:00 p.m. & 11:00 p.m. Candlelight Worship. 301-447-3171.
- 24Christmas Eve Services, Weller United Methodist Church, 101 N. Altamont Ave., Thurmont. 7:00 p.m. & 11:00 p.m. 301-271-2802.
- 24Christmas Eve Service, Germantown Church of God, 16924 Raven Rock Rd., Cascade, MD. 7:00 p.m. 301-241-3050.
- 24Christmas Eve Service, Elias Lutheran Church, 100 North Ave., Emmitsburg. 7:30 p.m. Candlelight Service. 301-447-6239.
- 24Christmas Eve Service, Trinity United Methodist Church, 313 W. Main St., Emmitsburg. 7:00 p.m. Candlelight Service. 301-447-3740.
- 28Christmas Tree Extravaganza: 75 beautifully decorated Christmas trees in all sizes on display at a home on Roddy Rd., Thurmont. 4:00-8:00 p.m. during the open house. \$20/person. All proceeds benefit Lions Vision Research Foundation. www.thurmontlionsclub.com or 301-271-4020.
- 31New Year's Eve Bingo, Emmitsburg Amubulance Co., 17701 Creamery Rd., Emmitsburg. Doors open 6:00 p.m.; Games 8:00 p.m. Jackpots & meal. Tickets must be purchased by Dec. 13. Diane 301-748-6894.

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