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APRIL 2026

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The Bible is a nuanced book and requires you to actually think while reading it. Critics of the Bible may claim certain passages are in contradiction when in reality they are merely using the same word to mean different things. Take the teachings of the word "world". Some may look at the Bible's attitude towards the world and its seeming contradiction as proof that the whole book is false. For example 1 **John 2:15-17: Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world- the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life- is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.**

Now, an un-nuanced person may read that and proclaim that it's in direct contradiction to the most famous verse in the Bible **John 3:16: For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.** This ignores that the term "world" is being used in two different ways. The first epistle of John uses the term to refer to the planet and its aspects which are in rebellion to God. The Gospel of John, on the other hand, is using the term to refer to humanity.

When both of these concepts are understood, that we should not love the world or the things in it but God so loved the world that he gave his only son for it, we begin to understand the wonderful, heavenly truth: God considers the world lost, but loves us so much he thought us worth saving despite the stains of the world on us.

An honest person will understand this. We live in a sad world, filled with pain and disappointment. God desires to save us from the sinful world and to enter eternal bliss. Don't miss your opportunity to let him.

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ADVERTISER INDEX

Affordable Self Storage	8	KLS Home Improvement	8
Ambassador Baptist Camp Meeting	18	Lewistown Fire Dept. Yard Sale	6
AMVETS Kitchen	39	Los Amigos Restaurant	27
AMVETS Monthly Bingo	39	Main Street Groomers	42
AMVETS Bar Bingo	19	Main Street Upholstery	11
Apples UCC	13	McLaughlin's Energy Services	27
Baker Tree Services	34	Melissa M. Wetzel Accounting Svc.....	12
C&K Stables	38	Mick's Plumbing and HVAC	29
Camp Airy & Camp Louise	25	Mike's Auto Body & Towing	53
Carriage House Inn	23	Mountain View Lawn Care.....	25
Catoctin Church of Christ	2	Mother Seton Carnival.....	5
Catoctin Dental	7	Mother Seton Night at the Race	11
Catoctin Mountain Orchard.....	27	Mt. Moriah/St. Paul's Church.....	23
Catoctin Veterinary Clinic	51	Nails by Anne.....	11
Catoctin Wildlife Preserve	20	Nusbaum & Ott, Inc. Painting	9
Chance 2 Mowing.....	29	Nutritional Healing Center	57
Charis Realty, Kelsey Norris.....	18	Office of Home & Energy.....	17
D & J Auto Enterprises	7	Ott House Pub.....	41
Delphey Construction	30	Pondscapes.....	7
Dirty Dawg Dog Wash & Pet Supplies...51		Quality Tire and Auto	39
Doug's Auto Body	9	Re/Max Results, Kim Clever.....	34
Dynamic Auto	2	Roy Rogers.....	17
Dynamark Security Centers.....	56	Rocky Top Music	13
Elite 4 Roofing & Remodeling.....	37	Rocky Ridge Vol. Fire Co. Bingo	13
Emmanuel Baust UCC	8	Rocky Ridge Vol. Fire Co. Easter Bingo..5	
Emmitsburg Community Baptist Church .53		Rocky Ridge Vol. Fire Co. Pit Sandwich	
Evergreen Family Medicine	34	Sale	48
Emmitsburg Lions Club	24	Senior Benefit Services	59
Frederick County Animal Control.....	60	St. Anthony's Bingo	8
Frederick County Parks & Rec	5	St. John's Spring Events	12
Frederick County Paving	12	Squeaky Clean	45
Friends of the Library Book Sale	26	The Thoughtful Panda	11
Furs by Susan	25	Thurmont Amb. Co. Weekly Bingo	48
Getz Computers & Communications	34	Thurmont Amb. Co. Carnival	2
Guardian Hose Vendors Wanted.....	52	Thurmont Amb. Co Cash Bash.....	21
Graceham Moravian Church	58	Thurmont Amb. Co. Easter Egg Hunt.....	6
Harbaugh's Memorials.....	19	Thurmont Business Expo	27
Harriet Chapel	47	Thurmont Lions Sandwich Sale.....	5
Here's Clyde's Family Hair Care.....	58	Thurmont Lions Egg Hunt.....	3
Holtzople.....	30	Tom's Creek UMC	18
Indian Lookout Shoots.....	23	Tracy's Auto Repair	51
J&B Real Estate, Inc.....	14,15	Woodsboro Bank	39
J&K Mowing.....	34	Vigilant Hose Co. Big Cash Bingo	41
J.L. Green Electric.....	49	Vigilant Hose Co. Spring Fling.....	5
Jubilee Foods	64	Village Hearing	20
Karen's Cleaning Service	9	Weller UMC	39
Keymar Outdoors	23	Zigbone Farm Retreat	7

CONTENTS

A Change of Scenery	58
Advertiser Index	3
Around Town	16
Arts & Entertainment	44
Book Club	18
Business News	20
Business Past	22
Cartoon	46
Catoctin Cookin'	55
Classified Ads	61
Community Calendar	62
Community News	24
Emmitsburg Town Section	11
From Calf to Show Ring	43
Financial Planning	49
Games	46
Health Matters	56
Look Up	48
Look Who Took Us Along	47
Looking Back	50
My Two Cents	51
Obituaries	29
Once Upon A Time	54
Out & About	32
Pet of the Month	60
School News	39
Senior Section	59
Sports News	34
Sports Talk	38
Students Corner	41
Thurmont Town Section	10
Veteran Spotlight	52
Veteran Community Board	53
Woodsboro Town Section	12

THE RETURN OF THE THURMONT LIONS CLUB EASTER EGG HUNT



Easter Sunday – April 5
2:00 PM Sharp at the
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*Returning a 95-year Thurmont
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- Ages 0-12 (3 Age Category Hunting Sites)
- Top Egg \$20 – One in Each Age Category
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LETTER FROM THE PUBLISHER

CATOCTIN BANNER FANS:

Spring has sprung, and I can't wait until the flowers are in full bloom, the trees are covered in leaves again, and coats are no longer needed.

It was an honor to spotlight the Carriage House Inn as they celebrate 40 years in business. The building has such a rich history and is truly a landmark in Frederick County. If you haven't had a chance to dine there, be sure to stop in and enjoy some delicious food and a warm, welcoming atmosphere.

We are bringing you lots of history again this month. Richard Fulton takes us through the highlights of Maryland aviation on page 8, where he highlights some of Maryland's most impactful aviators. In this month's Businesses of the Past, we feature Claire Frock. You might be hard-pressed to find a local resident who didn't have a family member who worked at the factory during its prime. Read more about the history and impact of the business on page 22.

This issue is full of some impressive accomplishments by young athletes and students in our community. From basketball to archery to budding artists. It is great to see talent of all kinds being exhibited and representing our community in such a positive way.

With the warm weather arriving, please make sure to patronize the many businesses advertising in our newspaper. Without them, we wouldn't be able to continue bringing you the good news each month. Whether you're planning a home project, need lawn care, or are looking for auto repairs, consider supporting our advertisers—and be sure to tell them you saw their ad in the paper.

Wishing you all a very Happy Easter!

— Alisha Yocum,
Publisher



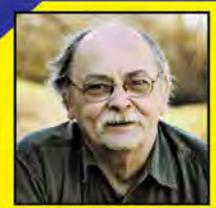
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prior to issue month.

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Joan Fry, Dr. Thomas Lo, John Nickerson, Buck Reed, Michael Betteridge, Mitchell Tester, Tricia Bush, Jeff Yocum, Aditi Dhananjaya, Makayla Comer, and Jack Davis.

YEARLY SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$37.00

Factoid

EMMITSBURG

In February 1951, Martha Springer poured kerosene on wet wood to help it burn.

The can exploded, throwing flaming kerosene onto four of nine Springer children and setting the home on fire.

On December 3, 1951, a similar accident a half-mile away had killed the four members of the George B. Wills family.

Factoid

THURMONT

In February 1926, the Maryland Legislature passed a law that the Mayor and Commissioners of Thurmont requested. The law extended the taxation laws of the town throughout its corporate bounds. Once passed, it created a controversy in town about the worry of over-taxation.

Factoid

FOUNTAINDALE

In February 1951, the U.S. Department of Defense started contacting homeowners and property owners in the Fountaindale area, informing them that they were going to have to leave their properties and that the government would be taking them over. Although they weren't told at the time, this action was part of the construction of Site R under Raven Rock Mountain.

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Vigilant Hose Company's
Spring Fling

Sat., May 9, 2026
Gates Open @ 10:30 AM
Drawing begins @ Noon
EVENT HELD IN RAIN OR SHINE!



Join us at the The Activities Building
 17701 Creamery Road, Emmitsburg, MD

DON'T MISS THE EARLY BIRD DRAWING!
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8 - \$500	40 - \$1000
9 - \$500	41 - \$2000
10 - \$500	42 - \$500
11 - \$2000	43 - \$500
12 - \$500	44 - \$500
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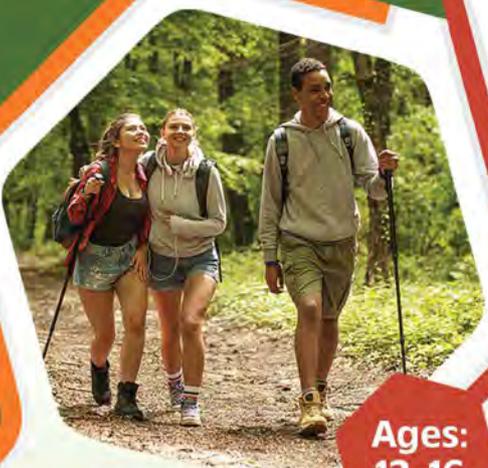
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Cover Photo | Carriage House Inn celebrates its 40th Anniversary (from left, front row) Theresa Karsteter, Kaylee Bisvnieks, Owner Sharon Hance, Manager Kristy Shriner; (back row) Chef Anthony Collins, Teresa Vaughn, and Tina Kuhn.

Photo Courtesy of Carriage House Inn



40 Years of Family, Food, and Tradition at Carriage House Inn

BY ALISHA YOCUM

In today's world, running a restaurant is no easy task, but the Carriage House Inn in Emmitsburg is celebrating 40 years in business this year. While there are many reasons for their success, one thing stands out: They feel like family.

The original owners, the late James "Pop" and JoAnn Hance, first opened a restaurant called Gentleman Jim's, an expansion of a pizza shop they owned and operated in Rockville, which is now run by their grandson. The restaurant featured pool tables and dart boards, but it soon became clear that Emmitsburg wasn't

the right fit for that concept. The family shifted direction, and the restaurant began to take shape into what is now known as the Carriage House Inn, officially opening in 1986.

It's said that the name came after the Hances purchased a horse-drawn carriage that sold at a local auction, which still sits prominently in front of the building today.

Of course, the charm and history of the building and the community are what originally attracted the Hance family. The building, circa 1857, served as the

Zimmerman and Maxwell Feed & Grain Warehouse, then would serve as a broom factory, a tomato canning company, and bus depot before becoming a restaurant, The White House in 1953, with the Hances buying the building in 1980.

Over the years, additions have been added, including the Tack Room and JoAnn's Ballroom, which added additional dining and the ability to serve larger groups. Manager Kristy Shriner said they are adding a covered patio out front, which will offer outdoor dining as the weather warms.

"Each year, we look at what we can do better than the year before," current owner, Sharon Hance, said. "The addition of the covered patio is one of those projects that we think will enhance the dining experience for our customers."

Shriner added that even when new ideas are introduced, the team stays grounded in tradition.

"We always say, make sure it is the 'Carriage House Way,' stressing the importance of the high quality and standards that their customers have come to

—continue reading story on page 7

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Visit from the Easter Bunny

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Weddings & Retreats

Photo by Alisha Yocum



(above) The Tack Room was an addition added to the restaurant to allow more dining and options for private parties.

(right) Crab Cakes is just one of the entrees Carriage House Inn is known for, in addition to their Prime Rib and Cream of Crab Soup.



know—whether dining in or using their catering services. She went on to say that they are committed to honoring the vision and legacy of Pop and Robert “Red,” the Hances’ son, who served as co-owner until his passing in 2016.

While chefs have rotated over the years, Shriner said the same standard has applied to many of their staple dishes like their crab cakes and prime rib. “While slow roasting the prime rib may not be the easiest way to prepare it, we know it is the best way.”

The dining experience extends beyond the restaurant’s historic

charm. On Friday and Saturday evenings and Sunday afternoons, live piano music creates a warm, relaxing atmosphere, as guests enjoy a variety of menu selections.

Circling back to tradition and the family atmosphere, many of the restaurant’s employees have been with the Hance family for decades.

Theresa Karsteter has worked at the Carriage House for 35 years, with Shriner following



Photo Courtesy of Carriage House Inn

(above) Original owner, James “Pop” Hance stands outside of the Carriage House Inn.

closely behind in years of service. A common theme among employees is clear: It feels like family. Teresa Vaughn was a customer for many years before joining “the family” and has loved working at the Inn ever since.

As the Carriage House Inn celebrates this milestone, it is clear that its success is rooted in

more than just good food and a historic setting. It is built on decades of tradition, dedication, and a commitment to treating both employees and customers like family.

For more information, visit chouseinn.com or follow them on Facebook for the daily specials and upcoming events.

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Maryland has been the scene of numerous "firsts" in the annals of aviation, beginning with the first "manned" hot air balloon in America (see "Balloons Over Maryland," by Richard D. L. Fulton, in the February 2026 issue of *The Catocin Banner*) to the first airplane built in the state and flown by a Maryland doctor.

The few notable aviators noted below are those dating back to the pre-1920s, when the risks were great but the rewards even greater. The first successful flight of Orville and Wilbur Wright in 1903 touched off a global deluge of wannabe aviators, and Marylanders were quick in their attempt to make their mark on the world of aviation.

From Charles F. Elvers' first failed flight, resulting in his dubbing his repeatedly crashing first aircraft, the "Undertaker's Pet," to one woman's daring venture to become the first female airplane passenger in America, to attempting to launch an airplane from a catapult, all of these early aviators had one thing in common: they were not faint of heart.

Charles F. Elvers
 Baltimore resident Doctor Charles F. Elvers has the honor of

being remembered as Maryland's first aviator.

At age 21, while residing at 1618 Westwood Avenue in Baltimore, Elvers designed and completed the construction of his bi-wing airplane, which bore a likeness to the first successful airplane developed by Orville and Wilbur Wright in 1903, and which was first flown in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.

Elvers' first attempt at developing a winged aircraft was rather humorous, though. According to Up, up and away: Maryland's First Birdmen, published on the Maryland Center for History and Culture's website (mdhistory.org), Elvers first converted a glider into a plane by adding a motorcycle engine, skids, and a small propeller. It was probably one of those "it seemed like a good idea at the time" moments. The airplane repeatedly crashed, resulting in Elvers nicknaming it the "Undertaker's Pet."

However, his next effort paid off. *The (Baltimore) Sun* newspaper described Elvers' new airplane in the newspaper's February 25, 1910, edition as

having been "steered by an automobile steering wheel" and controlled by "elevating and lowering plane... the latter is in front of the machine and looks a little like a chicken coup."

On October 22, 1909, Elvers' improved airplane took off for its inaugural flight from a pasture on his father's farm in Owings Mills, thereby deeming him the first Maryland aviator flying the first airplane constructed in Maryland.

Sarah Van Deman

Sarah Van Deman (sometimes misidentified as Irene Van Deman, which was the name of her husband's second wife) is considered to have made not only a mark in aviation history in Maryland, but also in national aviation history, when she became the first female passenger on October 27, 1909, to fly in an airplane. Her pilot... Wilbur Wright.

According to an article published in the October 28, 1909, edition of *The New York Times*, "For the first time in the country, a woman went up as a passenger in the Wright aero-plane... and

— continue reading on page 9

Good Food and Fun at Old Fashioned BINGO

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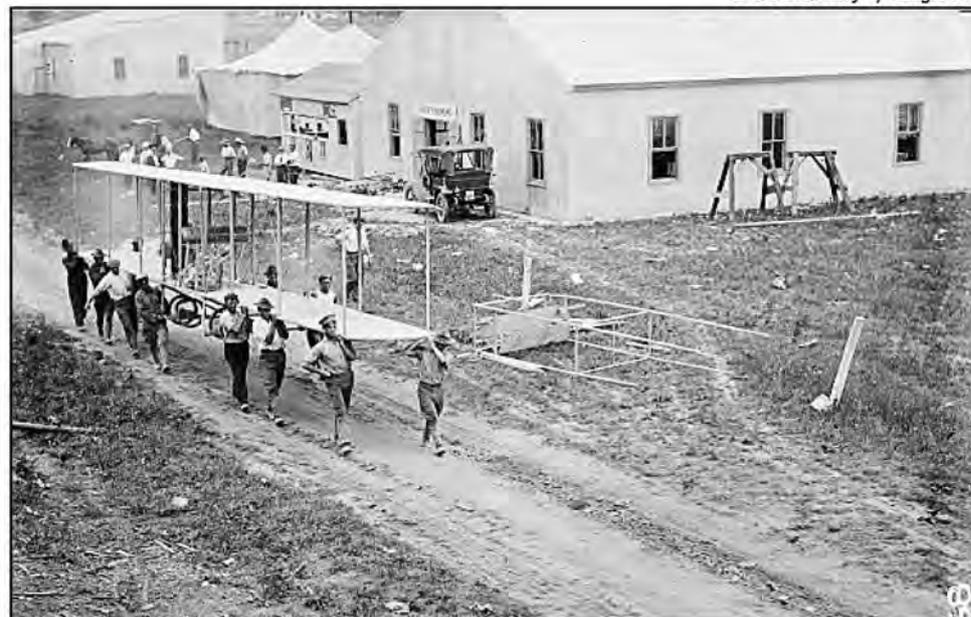
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Source: Acadia Postcards of America Maryland Aviation, Collection of Richard D. L. Fulton



Wright Model B airplane over Halethorpe, Baltimore County.

Source: Library of Congress



Crews remove wreckage of a Wright airplane in 1911 at College Park.

with Wilbur Wright at the tiller (controls), and her husband (then Captain, later Major General, Ralph Henry Van Deman) looking calmly on from below, she circled the field at College Park, Md., for four minutes.”

Van Deman reportedly had said, “Now I know why birds sing. It was wonderful. There is no earthly sensation I can compare with it.” Her husband (subsequently ex-husband) later became known as the “Father of Military Intelligence,” after having established the first professional intelligence organization—The U.S. Army Military Intelligence Section—in 1917.

It’s not certain as to whether or not the flight was approved by 1st Lieutenant Frank P. Lahm, who was in charge of the College Park Aviation Station where Van Deman’s flight took place, but what is certain, is that after reports of Van Deman’s flight made the front pages of a number of newspapers on the following day, Lahm had then ordered that no one but military personnel were allowed to participate in any of the flights from that point on, according to the National Archives.

John Henry Towers

John Henry Towers, of Rome, Georgia, had studied civil engineering at the Georgia School of Technology, and was subsequently appointed to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis in June 1902. While at the academy, he had achieved the rank of cadet petty officer 1st class.

In 1911, Towers co-founded the first official Naval Air Station

and flying aviation unit at Greenbury Point, Maryland. During that same year, he had set a long-distance flight record by flying 112 miles in 122 minutes from Annapolis to Old Point Comfort, Virginia, and additionally, he had established several more speed and altitude records.

Throughout 1913, according to the Naval History and Heritage Command’s website, Towers was flying in a two-seater, open-cockpit aircraft being piloted by Ensign W.D. Billingsley, when, at about one thousand, seven-hundred feet, the plane was caught up in a severe downdraft, and plummeted downward into the Chesapeake Bay.

Both aviators were thrown from the cockpit, but Towers managed to grab and hold onto a strut and plummeted into the waters with the plane.

Billingsley fell into the Chesapeake and was killed, thereby becoming the first naval aviation fatality, after his plane had crashed into the Chesapeake.

Towers continued to have a long and illustrious military career, but soon after the near-death incident, he never again served in Maryland.

Source: Official photograph, United States Navy



John Henry Towers

John Rogers & Theodore Ellison

Rogers received his aviation training from the Wright brothers in Dayton, Ohio, in 1911, becoming qualified as a pilot.

On September 7, 1911, Rogers was assigned to the Naval Academy, and according to Hawaiian Aviation (hawaii.gov), piloted a Wright brothers biplane, taking off from Farragut Field at the academy, his flight thereby constituting the first naval aviation flight.

Ellison made Maryland history in July 1911, when he became involved in an effort by the Navy to develop a means of launching airplanes by employing the use of catapults—no doubt with it in mind, to then find a means of launching airplanes from naval ships.

However, his effort to pilot a land-based, catapult-launched aircraft in July was not exactly a success. Once launched, the plane stalled and fell into the water, but the experiment represented the first attempt by the Navy to launch an airplane by employing the use of a catapult.

However, a second attempt was made on November 12, 1912, in which the redesigned catapult was mounted on a barge at the Washington D.C. Navy Yard, and it worked quite well, according to *Images of Aviation, Maryland Aviation* by John R. Breihan, and the Naval History and Heritage Command website (history.navy.mil).

Conclusion

Maryland aviation and aviators have been on the cutting edge of aviation technology from the early 1900s, up to NASA rocket launches from Wallops Flight Facility, often visible from Assateague Island and Chincoteague, Virginia.

For more information on Maryland aviation, *Images of Aviation, Maryland Aviation* by John R. Breihan is recommended, as well as the Maryland Aviation Administration website at marylandaviation.com.

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TOWN HALL REPORT

BY JAMES RADA, JR.



THURMONT

For more information on the Town of Thurmont, visit www.thurmont.com or call 301-271-7313.

Emmitsburg Road Flood Mitigation Project On Hold

Unless a significant grant can be found to help pay for the Emmitsburg Road Flood Mitigation Project, it has been tabled. The Thurmont Mayor and Commissioners discussed the project during a recent town meeting. The project has been planned, and the needed property has been purchased for the project. However, \$1.7 million is needed to complete the project to alleviate the long-term problem of flooding in Thurmont from the Sheetz to Hunting Creek.

Chief Administrative Officer Jim Humerick told the commissioners that the town can get a 30-year loan from the Maryland Department of the Environment for an amount at an interest rate of 1.362 percent. The problem is that the debt service on the loan would be \$70,545, which the budget cannot absorb. It would require at least a 1-cent increase in the tax, and that would only generate \$50,000.

The town did apply for a hazard mitigation grant from FEMA, but was told that the flooding damage in town is not large enough to qualify for the grant.

Humerick told the commissioners that he is not optimistic about finding a grant for the project because infrastructure projects like this one tend to be funded with low-interest loans and not grants.

Connection And Impact Fees Increased

With a 4-1 vote (Commissioner Marty Burns opposed), the Thurmont Mayor and Commissioners approved new connection and impact fees and created a new public safety impact fee that will be split among the Thurmont Police, Guardian Hose Company, and Thurmont Ambulance Company. The increase means that each new home built in town will be charged \$25,700 in impact and connection fees.

Town Will Do Wastewater Treatment Plant Study

The Town of Thurmont will conduct a state-mandated study for ammonia and stream temperatures at the wastewater treatment plant. GHD will perform the study for \$89,340. Funds from another budgeted project will cover the cost. GHD has done a lot of work at the plant and is already familiar with the plant and its upgrades.

Bids Approved

The Thurmont Mayor and Commissioners recently approved various bids for needed services and equipment.

- \$175,536.90 to Mountain View Lawn Services in Walkersville for two years of mowing and edging of 75 acres of town property throughout Thurmont.
- \$138,594 to Delta Utility Services in Sparks for switches and bus work as part of the refurbishment of the Moser Road Substation.
- \$235,700 to MJ Double K Farms to replace the sidewalks along Carroll, Lombard, and Walnut streets. A Community Development Block Grant will pay for \$191,659. The mayor and commissioners voted to pay for the remaining \$44,041 using highway user revenues.

Transit Services Want Public Input

Transit Services of Frederick County (Transit) is looking for public feedback from users and potential users of the Emmitsburg Thurmont Shuttle. Transit is investigating potential timing and route modifications to the Shuttle to improve service and access to locations along the route, including downtown Frederick, downtown Thurmont, downtown Emmitsburg, and Mount St. Mary's University.

In order to better serve the needs of the community, Frederick County seeks public input as part of the evaluation process. Please share your thoughts by taking the survey so that the project team can make informed decisions with your input in mind.

To fill out the survey online, please visit <https://publicinput.com/k01320>. If you would prefer a paper version to fill out, contact the Town Office, and you will be emailed one.

DID YOU KNOW?



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From the **MAYOR**

THURMONT
Mayor John Kinnaird

After record-breaking cold temperatures, snow that wouldn't melt, and crazy storms, we are hopefully in store for some nice spring weather. Currently, the Maryland State Highway Administration is working to repave Emmitsburg Road from North Church Street to just past Eyler Road. Be careful when driving in the area, and watch for directions from flaggers. The Town of Thurmont will be replacing sidewalks on Carroll Street, Lombard Street, and Walnut Street. This work should begin in mid-April. The town is preparing to do some street work in the next couple of months, so be on the lookout for upcoming information. The water connection project on Radio Lane is nearing completion and will soon be brought online. This pumping station will bring increased dependability to water service on the North side of town.

We have had two town employees retire in the past month. Longtime Waste Water Superintendent Randy Eyler retired after serving our community for 43 years. Randy steered the Waste Water Plant through several major upgrades and was instrumental in implementing the massive Infiltration and Inflow Repair project that has returned over 25 percent of our waste water capacity by repairing damaged waste water lines and replacing failing manholes. He has been a true "lead by example" leader, getting involved in the work and training his workers by example. Randy has done an amazing job at our Waste Water Plant and will be handing over a top-notch facility to his successor. We have promoted Troy Wastler to the Waste Water superintendent position. Troy has been with the Waste Water Department for many years and has a clear understanding of our entire waste system, including the treatment plant and the collection system. He has been instrumental in establishing our GPS system. This allows us to identify and map the location of all of our infrastructure components and track their age and condition. Troy started this program by mapping the waste water system and has now expanded the capability to our other departments, so they can track their assets. Troy will bring a solid knowledge of our system as he steps into the position of Waste Water superintendent. Congratulations to Randy Eyler on his retirement and to Troy Wastler on his promotion!

The other retiree is Tim Eyler of our Streets and Parks Department. Tim has an unbelievable 48 years of service to our community! He has been the Street and Parks superintendent for many years. Tim started his career with the Town of Thurmont on March 10, 1978, and has worked tirelessly ever since. He is a talented equipment operator, snow plow operator, leader, and an all-around outstanding employee. Tim has brought many improvements during his tenure as head of the department, including many tools and pieces of equipment that allow his crew to get their jobs done professionally. Steve Nicholson has been promoted to serve as our new Streets and Parks superintendent. Steve is a talented equipment operator and has a good grasp of the many services his department provides our community. From maintaining the streets, street sweeping, park maintenance, grass cutting, playing field and playground maintenance, snow removal, assisting other departments when additional hands are needed, working to keep Thurmont clean during Colorfest, and literally hundreds of other tasks residents never think of. Steve will continue the outstanding level of workmanship we are all used to from the Streets and Parks Department. Congratulations to Tim Eyler on his retirement and to Steve Nicholson on his promotion!

The 22nd Annual Thurmont Business Expo is coming on April 22, and the Award Winning Thurmont Farmers Market will be opening on May 24. Keep your eyes open for other local events by following the Thurmont Main Street and Town of Thurmont Facebook pages.

Karen and I hope that everyone has a wonderful spring. Question, comments, or issues? I can be contacted at jkinnaird@thurmont.com or by phone at 301-606-9458.

Correction: Contrary to what was stated in the March issue of *The Catoctin Banner*, the Thurmont Mayor and Commissioners voted to include all 10 volunteers on the Thurmont Charter Review Committee to serve as regular members. The charter governs how the town operates and the duties and powers of various officials. The committee of 10 will review the charter and make recommendations to the mayor and commissioners about any changes and additions they feel need to be made.

TOWN HALL REPORT

BY JAMES RADA, JR.



EMMITSBURG

For more information on the Town of Emmitsburg, visit www.emmitsburgmd.gov or call 301-600-6300.

Emmitsburg in Danger of Losing Fireworks

Emmitsburg Commissioner Cliff Sweeney announced during the March town meeting that this year would be the last year for a fireworks show during Emmitsburg Community Day unless the Lions Club could get some help. The Lions Club, which currently raises funds and coordinates the display, has been finding it increasingly difficult to raise enough money for the show. This year's show cost is \$15,000, which is up from \$10,000. People interested in helping raise funds or make a donation should contact the Emmitsburg Lions Club.

New Water Rates Approved

The Emmitsburg Board of Commissioners approved a 3.3 percent increase to the town's water rates beginning July 1. By ordinance, the water rate will increase each year by 3 percent or by the amount of the previous year's Consumer Price Index.

Swimming Pool Fees Approved for This Year

The Emmitsburg Board of Commissioners approved the rates for the use of the community pool this year. The annual passes for both residents and non-residents remain the same cost. However, most of the daily pass rates have increased by \$1.00.

Cedar Avenue Community Garden Guidelines Approved

The Emmitsburg Board of Commissioners approved the guidelines for residents wishing to plant gardens of herbs, vegetables, fruits, flowers, or shrubs. Applications for the available planting beds are due by May 15. Anyone wishing to cultivate a garden will also need to maintain it.

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From the **MAYOR**

EMMITSBURG
Mayor Frank Davis

I don't know about you, but I am really looking forward to warm weather. I have had several people tell me this was what winter was like when we were kids. I totally agree, and while it was pretty with all the snow, I'm ready to mow the grass.

Staff is busy preparing our parks and ballfields for another busy season. In addition to the regular Little League season, we have both baseball and frisbee golf tournaments scheduled for most weekends this summer. This will not only bring life to parks but will be a bonus for our businesses and tourist attractions around the area. In addition, several events are scheduled for our biking trails.

You should soon see activity on North Seton Avenue. The contract has been awarded for the upgrade of waterlines, streetscape, and the storm water management projects. The tentative start date is April 1, and is scheduled to last 18 months. We are planning on having North Seton Avenue closed to traffic during working hours in hopes that this will speed up the completion date. We will have detours set up for "local traffic" during the construction period.

It is with mixed emotions that we will be losing a staff member. Najila Ahsan, our Town Planner, has been accepted into the Harvard Graduate School of Design for a Master's in Urban Planning. Najila has been with the town for over three years and has been instrumental in the completion of several major projects. The task that stands out the most was the completion of our Comprehensive Plan. Najila has laid out the plan for the future of Emmitsburg and received praise from the State of Maryland for her accomplishment. Najila will be with us until July to ensure a smooth transition with our new planner. We wish her well in the next chapter of her career, but her departure will leave a void that will be hard to replace.

The Community Garden has beds available for the upcoming planting season. If you are interested, you can email communitygarden@emmitsburgmd.gov for more information.

Again this year, we will be hosting "Emmitsburg Clean-Up Day." This is a community-wide event, being held on April 25, starting at 10:00 a.m. Visit the town website for more information.

It's hard to believe that I am in the last six months of my term as Mayor. It has been a great experience and, for most days, rewarding. I have had the opportunity to work with a great team and met many great people along the way. After talking with my family and looking back at the last three years, I have decided to run for a second term as mayor. I feel we have made progress on many projects and have several more in the pipeline. I hope you will continue to support the path I am leading us down, and I promise to continue to work for you for another three years.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns or just want to chat, please give me a call.

Mother Seton Home School Association Invite You to
A Night at the Races



Saturday, April 25
5:30-10:00 pm
JOIN US FOR A
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From the **BURGESS**



WOODSBORO
Burgess Heath Barnes

Greetings! The old saying, "March winds and April showers bring May flowers," has surely lived up to it so far with these winds throughout March. Hopefully, the April showers are not as extreme as the March winds.

The storms that came through did some damage to the skatepark, as a couple of trees fell on it. Thankfully, other than that, the town did not sustain any more damage than that, and the damage to the skatepark was minimal.

I would like to thank everyone who came out to the fire hall and helped us stuff almost 5,000 Easter eggs in less than two hours for the Easter Egg Hunt. The Easter Egg Hunt was another successful event that saw several families and kids in the community come out and have a good time gathering eggs and taking pictures with the Easter bunnies.

I would like to remind everyone that ATVs and motorized vehicles are not permitted in the park at any time. If you do have a reason for one to be there, such as working on the fields or any town-approved project, please reach out to the town office to get an exception so that town officials will know why the ATVs are in the park, etc. Otherwise, for safety reasons, please refrain from using them in the park.

This year's budget hearing meeting will be held at the May meeting on May 12 at 7:00 p.m., and, like all meetings, is open to the public.

As always, I encourage everyone to support Glade Valley Community Services (GVCS) if you have clothes or food donations, as they are always in need of items for members of the community. For more information, please contact GVCS by email at gvcs.inc@verizon.net or by calling 301-845-0213.

If you have any questions, concerns, complaints, or compliments, please feel free to reach out to me at hbarnes@woodsboro.org or by phone at 301-401-7164.

Woodsboro town meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. In addition, planning and zoning meetings are at 6:00 p.m. on the first Monday of the month, as needed. If you have an item for the agenda, it needs to be submitted 14 days before the P&Z meeting. The current meeting location is the St. John's United Church of Christ, located at 8 N. 2nd Street, Woodsboro, MD 21798. The public is always invited to attend.

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April 25, 11 AM - 3 PM	All Concerts are at 3 PM
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Buckets of Chicken: 8pc: \$12, 12pc: \$17, 16pc \$22 Vegetables: Pint: \$5; Quart: \$8	May 31st: Spires Brass Band Concert
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Maryland on Stamps & Covers

Baltimore-Washington HPO

RICHARD D. L. FULTON

The United States Postal Service (USPS) inaugurated its first Highway Post Office (HPO) on February 10, 1941, and added a Baltimore-Washington route to the HPO system on November 16, 1943.

Each time a new route was added to the service routes of the HPO, a commemorative "first-trip cover" was issued in order to commemorate the event.

The Baltimore-Washington first-trip cover featured a Baltimore, MD and Washington, D.C. Highway Post Office cancellation on the face of the envelope, with the addition of "TRIP 1" and "FIRST TRIP," and canceled at the Washington, D.C. Post Office on the back.

The illustration (called a cachet) located at the left side varied from cover to cover, depending on the route being commemorated. In this case (cover shown right), the cachet features a depiction of one of the HPO buses, along with the appropriate wording. Various postage stamps were used since the stamps were not pertinent to the commemorated subject.

The United States Postal Service (USPS) inaugurated the HPOs in 1941 as a response to declining railroad traffic in the early 1940s, according to the Smithsonian National Postal Museum's website (postalmuseum.si.edu). The decline of railroad passenger traffic was attributed to the outbreak of World War II, in combination with the growth of America's roadways

and vehicle use (resulting in less passenger traffic for the railroads).

According to the Postaltimes website (Postaltimes.com), the railroads, which had been the primary movers of mail in the United States via their Railroad Post Offices (RPOs), began to discontinue unprofitable passenger routes, resulting in mail service to communities across the country being drastically affected.

On paper, the Highway Post Office was officially established on July 11, 1940, when President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the bill into law, creating the news mail delivery system.

Most of the custom-built HPO buses employed by the USPS were manufactured by the White Motor Company, with interiors, when the mail was sorted, reflecting the design that had been utilized in the RPOs. The red, white, and blue buses were initially 33 feet in length, later expanding to 35 feet, according to multiple sources. Individual routes were limited in distance to no more than 170 miles, which generally involved numerous post office stops along the way.

Postaltimes noted that the postal staff that worked on each of the buses typically included two clerks and one clerk in-charge, and that the HPO workers were armed, as were those who had worked in the RPOs. In some cases, contractors were also utilized, especially as drivers.



Baltimore-Washington HPO cover.

From 1941 to 1974, the USPS established more than 400 routes, apparently owning some 170 buses, each costing approximately \$31,000 (\$350,000 in today's dollar equivalency).

The USPS ended the HPOs on June 30, 1974, resulting from increased automation and use of local mail delivery, and the establishment of centralized mail-sorting operations. The date also represented the date the last still-in-operation HPO route in Cleveland parked their buses for the last time.

The USPS experimented with a variety of somewhat novel means of delivering mail in the United States and elsewhere over the decades, including the usage of lighter-than-

air ships (Navy-owned blimps), glider mail, rocket mail (a short-lived effort to deliver mail from military ships offshore to onshore bases), and helicopter mail.

And, last but not least, mail delivery via a modified cruise missile was attempted in 1959. The missile was launched from a submarine, the *U.S.S. Barbero*, which delivered 3,000 pieces of mail 100 miles from the location of the submarine to Florida in 22 minutes, traveling at 600 miles an hour. At a cost of \$1 million, it was deemed too expensive to become practical, according to smithsonianmag.com (*Mail Delivery By Rocket Never Took Off* by Kat Eschner, June 8, 2017).

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Call **Cindy Crimes**
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MD, PA & WV

NEW PRICE



**11997 CREGGER RD,
KEYMAR, MD**

\$695,000

4 Bdrms/3 Baths/Custom-built Home (1991) 2 Scenic Acres/Breathtaking Views/ 50 Yr Arch Shingle Roof (2015)/ New windows (2019)/ New Appliances (2018)/ Oversized Garage w/ Central Vac, HVAC, 230V Elec/ Lg Unfinished LL



Call **Elle Smith**
301-401-8620
MD & PA

NEW LISTING



**102 JASONS RIDGE,
SMITHSBURG, MD**

\$295,000

Whispering Ridge Comm/ Traditional Flr Pln/ Vinyl Plank Flrs/ Deck w/ Pergola or Porch/ 2 Dedicated Parking Spaces



Call **Cinnamon Smith**
301-748-7811
MD & PA

NEW LISTING



**9429 HIGHLANDER CT,
WALKERSVILLE, MD**

\$524,900

3 Bdrms/2.5 Baths/ Remodeled Four-Level Split w/ Modern Vibes/ Liv Rm w/ LVP Flrg/ Renovated Kit w/ Custom Upgrades/ Deck/ Shed/ Garage



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MD

NEW PRICE



**FLOHRS CHURCH RD,
BIGLERVILLE PA**

\$92,500

1 Acre Lot w/ Public Sewer Hook Up/ Flat and All Open



Call **Beth Ohler**
240-315-5376
MD & PA

NEW LISTING



**1603 RICHARDSON RD,
WESTMINSTER, MD**

\$549,000

3 Bdrms/2 Baths/ Custom Cape Cod/ 3+ Acres acres/ Brick Fireplace/ 2-Car Garage/ LL Unfinished w/workshop & Walkout/ Recent Improvem'ts-New Roof, WH, HVAC, Gutters/Guards, W/D, Paint, Reno Baths/Paved Cir Driveway



Call **Beth Ohler**
240-315-5376
MD & PA

NEW LISTING



**1101 SPRING RUN CT,
FREDERICK, MD**

\$399,900

4 Bdrms/ 2F Baths/ 2HBaths/ Tuscarora Crk Comm/ Brick-Front End-Unit/ Former Model Home w/ Premium Finishes/ Hdwd Flrs/ Kit w/ Raised-Panel Cabinetry/ Primary Suite w/ Private Bath/ FF LL w/ Fam Rm w/ Gas Frpl/ Laundry & Utility Rms/ Walk Out LL



Call **Nicole Lapera-Holler**
301-748-6393
MD

UNDER CONTRACT



**429 RAMBLEWOOD CT,
EMMITSBURG, MD**

\$525,000

4 Bdrms/2.5 Baths One Owner/ Cul-de-sac/ ML Traditional Layout/ Frpl/ Fenced Backyard/ Concrete Patio w/ Pegoda



Call **Beth Ohler**
240-315-5376
MD & PA

UNDER CONTRACT



**811 ANTIETAM DR,
HAGERSTOWN, MD**

\$149,900

3 Bdrms/1.5 Baths Quarter Acre Lot/ 3 Lg Bdrms/ Hardwood Floors/ New Windows/ Newer Roof, W Heater & Furnace/ Many Outbuildings/ Detached Garage w/ Loft space/ Driveway Parking



Call **Kelly Weddle**
301-693-7232
MD & PA

UNDER CONTRACT



**9507 HIGHLANDER CIR,
WALKERSVILLE, MD**

\$549,900

Formal LR & DR/ Kit w/ SS Appl & Cherry Cabinets/ Partial Finished LL/ Kit Reno (2003); Ext Siding & Vinyl Windows (2006); HVAC (2006)



Call **Nicole Lapera-Holler**
301-748-6393
MD

UNDER CONTRACT



**103 E HAMMAKER ST,
THURMONT, MD**

\$305,900

3 Bdrms/2.5 Baths/ ML Liv/ Din Rm Combo w/ LVP Flrs/ Kit w/ Extra Rm for Din Nook/ Fenced Yd/ Deck/ LL w/ Walk-up basement/ ML Powder Rm/ Roof < 10 Yrs Old/ WH New/ No HOA



Call **Elle Smith**
301-401-8620
MD & PA

COMMERCIAL



**5529 ADAMSTOWN RD,
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\$995,000

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Call **Erin Kelly**
301-401-0048
MD, PA & WV

Thurmont Ambulance Company Egg Hunt

Children (ages birth-12) should bring their baskets for the Thurmont Ambulance Company's Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 4, at the Thurmont Event Complex. The hunt will start promptly at 1:00 p.m. Enjoy a visit from the Easter Bunny! This event is free. View the advertisement on page 6.

Lions Club Easter Sunday Egg Hunt

The Thurmont Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt is back! Bring the kids on Easter Sunday, April 5, at promptly 2:00 p.m. to the Thurmont Town Park. The event is open to ages birth to 12. The top eggs have \$20.00 (one for each age group). Eggs are filled with candy, money, and surprises. View the advertisement on page 2.

Mt. Moriah and St. Paul's Holy Week and Easter Services

Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church in Sabillasville and St. Paul Lutheran Church in Smithsburg will hold Holy Week services with Maundy Thursday on April 2 at 6:00 p.m., with dinner at Mt. Moriah. Good Friday Service will be held at St. Paul's on April 3 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Paul's, and the churches will hold a joint Easter Sunrise Service on April 5 at 6:30 a.m. at Mt. Moriah, and then each will hold its own Easter Sunday Services at 9:00 a.m. at Mt. Moriah and 11:00 a.m. at St. Paul's. View the advertisement on page 23 for complete details.

Lewistown Indoor & Outdoor Yard Sale

Come browse for treasures at the Lewistown Vol Fire Dept. Indoor & Outdoor Yard Sale on April 4 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Lewistown Fire Hall. Lots of vendors. Food available for purchase. View the advertisement on page 6.

Thurmont Business Expo

Stop by the Thurmont Business Expo and chat with local businesses about their products and services. The event will be held on April 25, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at the Thurmont Event Complex with a Hollywood theme. The Thurmont Ambulance Company will be selling its delicious food during the event. For more information, view the advertisement on page 26.

Bingo — Every Friday Night

The Thurmont Community Ambulance hosts its Friday Night Bingo every Friday! Come out to the Thurmont Event Complex every Friday night to play bingo! Doors

open at 5:00 p.m. Bingo starts at 7:00 p.m. Bingo also features tip jars, food, and a jackpot of up to \$1,500! Proceeds benefit Thurmont Community Ambulance. View the advertisement on page 48.

Served with Grace Dinner & Easter Services

Graceham Moravian Church will hold its monthly Served with Grace Free Dinner on Monday, April 6, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. All are welcome to join. You can also join them for their Easter services: Holy Week Readings April 1-3; Children's activities, April 4, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.; Easter Sunrise Service on April 5 at 6:15 a.m. and the Lovefest Worship service at 8:00 a.m. View the advertisement on page 58.

Rocky Ridge Pit Sandwich Sale Drive-Thru

Grab yourself some delicious pit beef, ham, or turkey sandwiches at the Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company Pit Sandwich Sale Drive-Thru on May 23 at 13527 Motter's Station Road in Rocky Ridge. Pickup will be from 11:00 a.m. until sold out. Sandwiches at \$8.00 each, or make it a platter for \$13.00 and get a sandwich, fries, coleslaw, and applesauce. Pre-order to ensure you don't miss out by placing your order by calling the numbers listed in the advertisement on page 48.

VHC Aux Big Cash Bingo

Join the Vigilant Hose Company Auxiliary for the Big Cash Bingo on April 26 at the VHC Activities Building. Doors open at 11:00 a.m. Bingo begins at 1:00 p.m. The cost is \$50.00 per ticket and includes 18 games at \$500 each and 2 Jackpots at \$1,000 each. For information on purchasing tickets and more details, view the advertisement on page 41.

Weller UMC Events

Join Weller United Methodist Church on April 2 for their Holy Thursday Service at 7:00 p.m. Celebrate Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday, April 5, with services at 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 p.m. On April 18, attend the Talent Show and Cake & Pie Auction at 6:00 p.m. For more information, visit the advertisement on page 39.

Thurmont AMVETS Ladies Aux Bingo

Stop by the Thurmont AMVETS on April 15 for its monthly bingo. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Bingo is open to the public and child-friendly! Food, games of chance, and raffles will be available for purchase. View the advertisement on page 39.

Emmitsburg Lions Club Events

Support the Emmitsburg Lions Club by becoming a member or attending an upcoming event: Lions Chicken BBQ, May 2; Community Heritage Day, June 27; Neighborhood Meals, August 12; Lion Chicken BBQ, September 19; Halloween Parade & party, October 31; Annual Christmas Party, December 12. View the advertisement on page 24.

Mother's Day Buffet at The Carriage House

Take Mom out for a delicious meal on May 10 from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The cost is \$49.00 for adults, \$19.00 for kids (4-12), and free for kids three and under. Reservations are required; call 301-447-2366. View the advertisement on page 23.

Indian Lookout Conservation Club Shotgun Shoots

Join the Indian Conservation Club for three upcoming Shotgun Shoots on April 12 and April 26. Registration begins at noon. Shoots start at 1:00 p.m. Tip jars will be available. 3-D Archery Shoots are every Thursday, beginning at 5:00 p.m. View the advertisement on page 23 for more information.

AMVETS Bar Bingo

Every Thursday, join the AMVETS Post 7 in Thurmont for Bar Bingo at 7:00 p.m. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Open to the Public. Last week's Jackpot was \$700. View the advertisement on page 19 for details.

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Delicious
Eat at Roy Rogers and raise funds for your community!
25%
of the event's proceeds will be donated to organizations hosting a qualifying fundraiser

Roy Rogers

Scan the code to apply in minutes!

SCAN HERE

Banner Egg Hunt!

St. Anthony's Old Fashioned Bingo

Join St. Anthony's Parish for Old Fashioned Bingo on April 18. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Games begin at 6:30 p.m. Food and baked goods will be available for sale. Bingo also features 50/50, tip jars, and raffles. View the advertisement on page 8 for more information.

Used Book & Clothes Rummage Sale

Come shop the rummage sale and support local schools at Emmanuel Baust United Church of Christ at 2940 Old Taneytown Road in Westminster. Used Book Sale will be on April 17, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and on April 18, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The Used Clothing Sale will be on April 24, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and April 25, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. All proceeds donated to local schools. View the advertisement on page 8.

Mother Seton Carnival

It is time for Mother Seton's 41st Annual Carnival! Come out and enjoy rides, games, live music, and raffles while supporting the school on May 27 through May 30, from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. The event is located at 100 Creamery Road in Emmitsburg. View the advertisement on page 5 for more information and the complete lineup of live music.

Lions Club Sandwich Sale

It's back! The Thurmont Lions Club will once again be selling its pit beef, pork, ham, and turkey sandwiches on April 25, May 23, July 4, August 1, and September 5, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (or until sold out) at the Bell Hill Farm on Rt. 15 in Thurmont. New this year is a gigantic yard sale in addition to the sandwich sale in April. View the advertisement on page 5.

Book Sale

Support the Friends of the Thurmont Regional Library Book Sale on Saturday, May 2, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at the Thurmont Library. Gain early access by paying \$10.00 and enter from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. Fill-A-Friend's Tote from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. View the advertisement on page 26.

Big Money Cash Bash

Win some money at the Big Money Cash Bash on Saturday, May 17, at the Thurmont Events Complex. Gates open at 10:00 a.m. Tickets include food, beer, wine coolers, and soda. Cost is \$20.00 per person. For information on purchasing tickets, view the advertisement on page 14.

Thurmont Ambulance Carnival

Come out to the Thurmont Event Complex for the annual Carnival, benefiting the Thurmont Ambulance Company, on May 26-30. Pre-Sale ride tickets are currently on sale for \$25.00 and include unlimited rides from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at the Thurmont Event Complex, Woodsboro Bank (Thurmont), Kountry Kitchen, Weis Markets, and Direct to You Gas Station. The carnival features live music each night and fireworks on May 29. For more information, view the advertisement on page 2.

Need Help Paying Heating or Energy Bills?

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Call

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to see if you qualify and to apply.



The Office of Home Energy Programs helps qualified Maryland families pay their utility bills year-round.



You do not need a Turn-Off Notice or to be off-service to apply.



An Ole Time Baptist Camp Meeting

The Ambassador Baptist Church will hold its 2026 Camp Meeting on May 4-8 at 7:00 p.m. at 15231 Foxville Church Road in Sabillasville. This year's event includes speakers, Pastor Tom Fry, Evangelist Larry Gibbs, and more, as well as a singing group. For more information, view the advertisement on page 18.

Tom's Creek Easter Services, Concert & Bike Ride

He is Risen! Join Tom's Creek UMC for its Easter services, including Maundy Thursday on April 2 at 7:00 p.m.; Good Friday Tenebrae on April 3 at 7:00 p.m. at the Taneytown UMC; Easter Sunrise Service on April 5 at 6:30 a.m. at the Grotto Chapel; and Easter Worship on April 5 at 9:00 a.m. On May 14, the Westminster Ringers, A Maryland Community Handbell Ensemble, will be in concert at 7:00 p.m. at Tom's Creek UMC. Then join them for Face of America's Annual Bike Ride at The Promised Land on May 17, 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. This is a Tom's Creek tradition to host a rest stop for our wounded warriors. The bikers are greeted with applause, waving banners and flags, snacks, and beverages. View the advertisement on page 18.

Apples UCC 200th Anniversary Celebration

Join Apples United Church of Christ as they celebrate their 200th Anniversary on Saturday, April 25. The ceremony begins at 1:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend. View the advertisement on page 13.

Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company Bingo

Mark your calendars for the next Bingo at the Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company in Rocky Ridge on Saturday, April 11. Doors open at 5:00 p.m., with games starting at 7:00 p.m. Come hungry! Food is available for purchase. View the advertisement on page 13.

Easter Cash Bingo

Need some extra cash for Easter? Join the Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company on April 4 for the Easter Cash Bingo. Doors open at 11:00 a.m. Bingo begins at 12:30 p.m. Bingo includes a \$1,000 jackpot. Pre-order tickets for \$25.00. View the advertisement on page 5.

St. John's Drive Thru Dinner & May Concert Series

St. John's Lutheran Church of Creagerstown is hosting two spring events. First, is the Drive-Thru Dinner & Bake Sale on April 25, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., featuring St. John's Fried Chicken, green beans, pepper slaw, and a biscuit for \$17.00. Buckets of chicken and pints or quarts of vegetables also available. Place orders by April 19 by calling Cami at 301-401-0633 or texting 240-529-7471. Join them in May for their free concert series: May 3 is Emmitsburg Community Chorus and May 31 is the Spires Brass band, with both concerts beginning at 3:00 p.m. View the advertisement on page 12 for more information.

Into the Woods Teen Hiking Experience

Get ready to hit the trails. Teens are invited to explore local mountain parks. Meet Tuesday, April 7, at the Thurmont Rec. Center (attached to Thurmont Middle), and the group will head to Catoctin Mountain Park from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, April 9, meet at the Thurmont Rec. Center, and the group will head to Gambrill State Park from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. View the advertisement on page 5 for more information.

A Night at the Races

Place your "bet" for a chance to win cash at the Mother Seton Home School Association's A Night at the Races on Saturday, April 25, from 5:30 to 10:00 p.m. The evening will include games of chance, live and silent auctions, and a catered dinner by The Carriage House. View the advertisement on page 11 for more information.

Vigilant Hose Company's Spring Fling

Get your tickets now for Vigilant Hose Company's Annual Spring Fling on Saturday, May 9. Gates open at 10:30 a.m., with the first drawing at noon. Tickets are \$100 and are good for two people (includes food and drinks). Purchase your ticket by April 1 for a chance to enter the Early Bird Drawing for two \$1,000 prizes. View the advertisement on page 5 for ticket information.

Tom's Creek United Methodist Church
Come journey with us...

Sunday Worship Service - 9 am
Sunday School • 10:30 AM
Services are livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube

**He is Risen!
Holy Week Schedule**

April 2 - Maundy Thursday
7 pm at Tom's Creek UMC

April 3 - Good Friday Tenebrae
7 pm at Messiah UMC in Taneytown

April 5 - Easter Sunrise
Ecumenical Service - 6:30 am
at Grotto Chapel

April 5 - Easter Worship
9 am at Tom's Creek UMC

**Westminster Ringers,
In Concert, A Maryland
Community Handbell Ensemble**

May 14
7 pm at Tom's Creek UMC

**Face of America's Annual
Bike Ride**

May 17
8:30 – 11:00 am, The Promised Land

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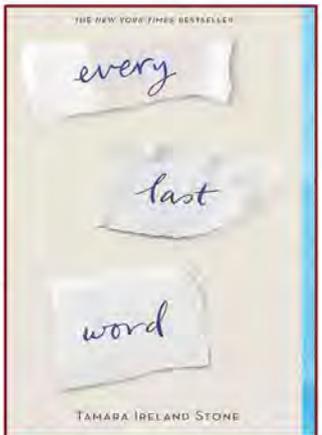
Book of the Month
Chele's Pick



BY MICHELE TESTER

Every Last Word | by Tamara Ireland Stone | published in 2015 | Young Adult Fiction

The book for this month was not a recent pick for my Book Club, although I may pick it for our next read! The book I chose for this month, *Every Last Word*, was first read by my daughter, who then gave it to my youngest son to read, who then gave it to me. This young-adult novel tackles an important and vital topic, especially with young adults in today's society: mental health.



The main character, Samantha "Sam" McAllister, is a popular high school junior who secretly struggles with Purely-Obsessional OCD, which fills her mind with intrusive, dark thoughts, along with worries she can't turn off. She feels she is not "normal" and doesn't believe her popular friends would understand. So, she hides her true self from everybody, putting on a mask to "fit in."

When Sam meets the quirky Caroline, she has to keep her new friend a secret from her popular friends, along with her weekly visits to her psychiatrist. Caroline introduces Sam to the Poet's Corner, a hidden room in the high school, and a tight-knit group of misfits who carry their own secrets. Sam is drawn to them immediately, especially a quiet guitar-playing guy. Sam starts to discover a whole new side of herself. Slowly, she begins to feel more "normal" than she ever has with her popular friends.

The characters are well-defined and realistic, especially the main character, Sam. Although some reviews found that some of the characters were two-dimensional. Remembering that the book is aimed at younger readers, I thought the author did a good job in the way he wrote it to effectively reach and touch young adults. The book explores themes of mental health, specifically OCD, anxiety, and depression, on Sam's journey to discover how to deal with and accept her illness and not let it command and define her life. The author portrays Sam's treatment for her mental illness in realistic ways, with therapy, medication, and Sam's love of swimming helping to manage her OCD. I thought the author did well at painting medication and therapy as positive things, not shameful things. For young readers, the message conveyed is that reaching out for help is actually a strength, not a weakness. The pages bring you on Sam's journey of self-discovery, identity, hope, and resilience. The book illustrates the power of poetry and words, of finding true versus toxic friends, and of redefining what normal actually is. When Sam begins to write out her feelings, she begins to find her own voice.

You see Sam's determination and resilience throughout the story. The author also puts a positive spin on the fact that some people's brains are "special," not "broken," and they just work differently than other people's. The relationship Sam has with her family is very strong, and the book establishes well how important family support is to someone who is struggling.

This book contains a twist at the end that might surprise you. I've seen multiple mixed reviews—some liking it, some not so much.

For me, I felt the book was real, in the sense that it accurately portrayed the agonizing mental rollercoaster, anxiety, and social challenges a teen girl would face while trying to hide her mental illness, ultimately discovering her inner strength and her authenticity. I found the representation of Sam's intrusive thoughts and how they present themselves in the beginning of the story to be powerful. It highlights that there is no one-and-done treatment solution to recovery and healing. You never really know what's going on with someone, and outward "perfect" appearances don't always equal a perfect life. Although it's aimed at young adults, I believe adults would get something out of it as well. I know I did.

2026 Camp Meeting

An Ole Time Baptist Camp Meeting

Gospel Singing and Preaching
MAY 4-8
7:00 P.M.

15231 Foxville Church Road
Sabillasville, MD 21780

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"Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, Verily I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

BY JOAN BITTNER FRY

Recollections of Jim Bittner

I was born in 1940, the youngest of five children, and lived my childhood during WWII near Fort Ritchie Military Base and the Maryland State Sanatorium for tuberculosis. I idolized my Daddy and would jump with glee when I heard him rumble across the wooden bridge in his old Ford sedan. That bridge was about a half mile away, and when Daddy drove across the planks, the alarm was sounded. The dogs, knowing his particular car sound, barked in anticipation of a good meal. The cats circled with tails in the air, and even the chickens would cackle.

Daddy, as we called him, was a good provider. He worked at the State Sanatorium's powerhouse, shoveling coal into the mouths of the large furnaces that provided power and heat to the hospital and its operations. At least once, Daddy took me into his workplace. The heat and noise from the powerhouse generators and steam heating system were scary for a small boy. After work, he would come home and take the baskets of food that Mother had prepared that day back to the hospital wards and sell sandwiches, baked goods, and bed backs to the patients. I can still smell the baked goods and see the oyster patties that tempted me just at eye level to a four-year-old. On occasion, I would be offered an oyster patty. Fried or raw, they were delicious. Sometimes, Mother would let my sister Joan and me make cinnamon buns from leftover pie dough. That was a real treat.

Many items were custom-ordered, especially the bed backs. During the war, everything was used, so the feed companies would supply feed in designed bags that could be sewn into clothing and other items. Bed backs were made from these bags. Those feedbags

were also used by Mother to make dresses for my sisters and shirts for us boys.

Even though I had little talent for it, I wanted to be an artist. Somehow, I sent some pictures to a patient named Lew Phelps, and he sent me some of his drawings back. This practice continued for a while, and somewhere in the family stuff, there are probably some drawings by this Mr. Phelps. His drawings were rather well done to a small boy compared to my stick people and one-dimensional dogs and trees.

If I begged for a long time, Daddy would take me along with him on his route. I had to wait in the car because children were not allowed in the hospital. I remember waiting and watching in vain for him to appear in one of the windows in the covered hall that crossed above the street from one building to the other.

Daddy would also take me along to buy chickens from Junior Pryor, produce and meat from Harry Harbaugh, and groceries from Earl Eby, Charlie Shields, Francis Manahan, and many other stores in the area. He liked to deal local and help out all of his friends and neighbors.

When I was about eight years old, I was put in charge of the pigs, ducks, and chickens. Being rather slight in stature, I was not able to carry a full pail of water, so to balance the load, I would carry two half-buckets and make twice as many trips. At 68, I am again resorting to this tactic.

Before school, my job was to feed and water 3 pigs, 20 chickens, all of the dogs and cats, and a dozen or so mallard ducks, while my older brother, Dick, walked down the road a quarter mile, fed the horse, and milked the two cows. He would bring the milk back to

the house before we walked to school. Each week, we had enough milk for the family and cream to make butter. We also had a large garden that provided vegetables and strawberries, raspberries, and some apple and pear trees. The good produce was sold, and the seconds were eaten by the family or canned for the winter.

Sometimes in the winter, my brother Dick and I set traps to catch muskrats and skunks. At that time, a good muskrat pelt brought about \$3.50, and a good number one skunk pelt was about \$3.00. Considering Coca-Cola was a nickel a bottle with a 2-cent return for the bottle, those were good wages. Very few bottles were found along the highways in those days. I remember a cutback in the small stream where muskrats lived. My brother held my feet, and I placed the trap just at the entrance to the muskrat quarters. He would jiggle my feet and tease me about dropping me into the water.

It sometimes took quite a bit of begging to get me to do that again, but the price was right when we scored a muskrat, so with his solemn oath, I would go at it again. It was not customary to send children home from school for any reason, and twice I had to sit in the washroom because I had skunk odor on me. The second time, I was in luck because a classmate also had the same problem. We got to know each other quite well that day.

In those days, it was customary for boys to carry their own pocket knives, and I also carried a gun to school to check my traps. I would put it in the fence row, just off the playground. After school, I would get my gun and walk to Uncle Lester Bittner's farm and check my mouse and rat traps. I think he paid me a penny for a mouse and a dime for a rat. With my uncle being a butcher, and having a feast of grain about

for the dairy cattle, I did rather well with my little exterminating business.

When butchering time came, I would hide behind the pine tree until the pigs were slaughtered. Although I knew that we had to do it for food, I didn't like the killing part of the butchering. After that, I was in there with gusto. With help from neighbors and friends, we cut up the hogs on makeshift tables and cooked the pon haus, puddin', and lard outside. The next day, Mother would make lye soap with some of the lard and can the loins and spare ribs. Daddy cured the hams and bacon. My mouth still waters when I picture Mother taking that loin out of a jar and cooking it up for a meal of homemade sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, and lima beans.

This is how it was for me at the time Daddy worked and Mother worked from home at the State Sanatorium.

This was part of the first book I self-published in 2009, The State Sanatorium at Sabillasville from 1908. At that time, I asked Jim to write something relative to the sanatorium for this book.

My late brother, Jim (1940-2025), and I were very close. Each Sunday morning for a long time, he'd call me at 7:00 and ask if I'd like to go to breakfast. He'd pick me up at 8:00, and we would unlock St. John's Reformed Church, turn on the heat and lights, deliver the Sunday bulletins, and head for Mountain Shadows in Blue Ridge Summit, Pennsylvania. After breakfast, he would bring me home, and we'd return to church service at 11:00 a.m. I wish everyone had such wonderful memories of their childhood and siblings. I miss you, Jim.

~Joan Bittner Fry



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Jackpot
\$700

 **Thurmont AMVETS POST 7**
26 Apples Church Rd. Thurmont

Photo Courtesy of Main Street Thurmont

Thurmont Welcomes Domino's Pizza

ALISHA YOCUM

It seems like Domino's was always in the works for Marco Paci and his wife, Megan. Born and raised in Montgomery County, Marco started his first job at the age of 14 with Domino's before he moved to Brazil to complete high school.

At age 17, Marco found his way back to the United States and, eventually, went back to working at Domino's, where he served as general manager until his career was put on hold, following a devastating family tragedy when his brother was killed while serving in Afghanistan. Marco took time away to support his family, but his passion for the restaurant industry ultimately brought him back to Maryland.

Megan, a self-described "Navy brat," was born in Germany. She lived around the world, including Iceland and Italy, before living in Florida, where she worked as a delivery driver for Domino's, eventually making her way to Frederick.

It was at a local restaurant establishment in Frederick where they were both employed that he met his now wife, Megan.



The Town of Thurmont welcomes owners Marco and Megan Paci of Domino's with a Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony.

Following the COVID-19 pandemic, Marco and Megan returned to Domino's with a clear goal: They wanted to become franchise owners.

Over the past several years, they managed the Smithsburg location, balancing the demands of business with family life, while Megan continued to learn and grow within the company.

Marco had long believed Thurmont would be an ideal location for a new store.

Together, the couple made that vision a reality, building their new restaurant from the ground up.

The Thurmont Domino's officially opened its doors on February 7, and currently employs 15 staff members. In just a short time, the store has already expanded its delivery radius from seven to nine minutes, allowing it to serve more members of the community.

Customers can visit the new location at 224 North Church

Street, Unit D, beside Dirty Dawg. The store is currently offering a special promotion: any pizza, any size, with any toppings for \$9.99, with the option to add stuffed crust for an additional \$3.00.

For updates on specials and promotions, follow Thurmont Domino's Pizza on Facebook.

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The Discovery Station Moves to Fort Ritchie

JAMES RADA, JR.



(above) The Discovery Station's new location at 14326 Barrick Avenue at Fort Ritchie in Cascade.



(above) The history exhibit features a scale model of the Titanic, a small airplane, WW2 history, and much more.



The Discovery Station features the Brittany Wedd Dinosaur Gallery exhibit, where you can discover life-size models and explore paleontology with their sand dig and dinosaur bones.

When the Discovery Station in Hagerstown decided to move to Fort Ritchie last fall, they were only closed two weeks between the time they closed in Hagerstown and when they opened their new larger location at 14326 Barrick Avenue in Cascade.

"In this location, we've grouped the exhibits to be more logically connected and cohesive," Discovery Station Operations Manager Gershom James explained.

The Discovery Station museum uses interactive exhibits and STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) programs to create a dynamic learning experience for visitors, especially children.

The museum first opened in 2005 in a historic bank building in Hagerstown. However, staff found that parking was hard to find, and there were growing safety issues. Also, the rent kept increasing.

"We also found that most of our visitors were coming from outside Hagerstown, even from West Virginia and Pennsylvania," James said.

The new location is in a building that was an SCIF (Sensitive Compartmentalized Information Facility). The center is currently using less space than it did in Hagerstown, but it has the space to expand to be much larger than it was.

"With where we are now, we have the place and permission to do experiments with groups in the summer," James said. "We couldn't do that in the city."

Inside, there is a room with a large scale model of the Titanic, small airplane, Tuskegee Airman display, and other artifacts. The next room features the natural world with models and mounted animals. Another area is set up like

a miniature town, with small shops and businesses children can visit. One room is dedicated to space and another room explores the rainforest.

All along the journey are things that can be handled, tested, and played with. These are the things that engage visitors in other ways than simply sight. It also makes the center a place where children want to visit again and again.

And with the space to grow inside and an area to perform outdoor experiments, chances are the center will be a different experience with every visit.

The Discovery Station is part of the redevelopment and revival of the old Army fort. The "Ritchie Revival" has been ongoing since 2021, bringing in shops, cafes, museums, artisans, and housing.

For more information, visit the Discovery Station website at discoverystation.org.

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Businesses Past...

Closed

BY RICHARD D. L. FULTON

Claire Frock Company

Source: thurmontimages.com

The Thurmont Claire Frock Company was established in 1936, and incorporated on December 23, 1947, by Abraham Jules Bernstein of York, Pennsylvania, in a vacant high school on East Main Street, according to an article published on July 30, 1977, in *The (Frederick) News*.

The News further noted that, upon commencing operations, the Claire Frock Company had employed 30 individuals for producing inexpensive house dresses.

The News also included an interview with then-company president Calvin E. Saylor (who grew up on a Rocky Ridge dairy farm, graduating from Thurmont High School) as part of a feature spread on the company, in which Bernstein told the newspaper, "Visions of turn-off-the-century sweat shop in my head contrasting with this factory's reputation as one of the most modern and efficiently managed sewing factories around."

The News stated further in their July 30, 1977, article, that by 1950, the company had employed 125 individuals, producing 1,000 dresses per week, with some employees earning as much as \$100 a day.

In addition, the company enhanced its facility by adding sewing, packaging, and shipping sections, according to Heritage Frederick's website. (frederickhistory.org).

In 1950, the company was the subject of an employee strike, according to Heritage Frederick's website, which stated, "A picket



Claire Frock Company, East Main Street Factory.

line formed along East Main Street in front of the original Claire Frock factory building. After a week of picketing, attorneys for the Claire Frock Company and the ILGWU reached an agreement and work resumed."

In the early 1950s, the company expanded its operations to include facilities in York, Littlestown, Gettysburg, York Springs, Dillsburg, Duncannon, Mt. Wolf, Stroudsburg, and Reading, according to an article in the July 1, 1975, edition of *The News*. The Claire Frock Company also became exclusive contractors for Loralyn Cottons, which resulted in the company attaining buyers with W.T. Grant; J. C. Penney; Wards; Sears, Roebuck & Co.; among others.

However, in spite of that, around the same time, it appeared the company was on the brink of bankruptcy, with Saylor telling *The News* that, when the owner, Bernstein, became ill, Bernstein's

brother asked Saylor to take over the operation, and Saylor stated, "I threw myself into it and found the business was up to its ears in unpaid bills. Virtually bankrupt... All I could think was, 'Christ, I'm out of a job.'"

However, by 1958, business turned around for the company, he told *The News*, and was showing a profit.

During the 1960s, the Claire Frock Company added an additional manufacturing facility on the northeast side of Thurmont (Poplar Street), according to Heritage Frederick's website (frederickhistory.org). The company purchased an eight-and-a-half-acre tract of land on Poplar Street, upon which to build the second facility, which opened in 1961, according to the July 1, 1975, issue of *The News*.

Also, on January 1, 1965, all the Thurmont employees were moved into the Poplar Street site

(which became fully air-conditioned in 1968), and the East Main Street building was then used solely for storage until 1971, at which time it was then re-used for "cut work," according to *The News*.

Also, as per *The News*, by the mid-1970s, the Claire Frock Company had expanded its operations on Poplar Street in Thurmont to 115,000 square feet and employed 550 individuals (including 92 employees who had been with the company for over 20 years), thereby generating a \$4 million annual payroll payout.

In 1974, Bernstein resigned as president of the company, at which point Saylor then ascended to the presidency of the Claire Frock Company.

The Claire Frock Company became instrumental in supporting the activities of the Thurmont community; for example, providing the Thurmont senior citizens' group with their first "home" on East Main Street, and sponsoring girls and boys little league baseball teams and midget football teams, according to the July 1, 1975, edition of *The News*, as well as supporting the local scholar-athlete football award, Lions Club projects, and the Guardian Hose and Thurmont Ambulance companies.

The Claire Frock Company's history came to a conclusion in December 1986, when Saylor sold the company to the I.A. Appel Company of New York, according to Heritage Frederick's website.

Emmitsburg New Business and Development Briefs

The following are the statuses of new businesses and development coming to Emmitsburg from the town planner's report:

- **Christ Community Church** (Creamery Road) — Awaiting the submission of updated improvement plans.
- **Emmit Ridge** — Road closure and street cut plans have been received and reviewed. Improvement Plan is currently being reviewed by the Catoctin Soil Conservation District.
- **Brookfield Phase 5** — The deeds of easement have been prepared. Final subdivision plan is ready to be recorded after the deeds are approved.
- **519 W. Main Street** — Renovation: Site visit has been made, and the zoning permit application information has been provided.



CALL FOR YOUR NOMINATIONS!

Do you know someone who is making a true difference in our community? Perhaps they dedicate a lot of volunteer hours, provide financial support for a good cause, or just do things that make our community a better place.

Send your nominations to news@thecatocinbanner.com. Please include their name, along with a brief explanation of why you are nominating them and how they are making a difference in our community.

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with dinner with Holy Communion
and the stripping of the altar at
Mount Moriah Lutheran Church
15116 Foxville Church Rd., Sabillasville, MD

A GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Friday, April 3, at 7 p.m.
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WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION

Easter Sunday • April 5, at 9:00 a.m.
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WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION

Easter Sunday • April 5, at 11:00 a.m.
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Fire Museum Opens for Season

The Frederick County Fire & Rescue Museum, located at 300B South Seton Avenue in Emmitsburg, will open for the 2026 season on Saturday, April 11.

The collection on display includes several pieces of apparatus and equipment from the early days of firefighting in Frederick County. The collection also includes some motorized apparatus, such as the 1919 Ahrens-Fox, originally owned by the United Steam Engine Co. No. 3 of Frederick, now owned by the Gladhill family. An antique brush fire fighting jeep, previously owned by the Lewistown District Volunteer Fire Department, now owned by Doug Riddle, a Lewistown member, provides some insight into wildland firefighting.

Several pieces of hand-drawn apparatus on display are over 125 years old. A hose reel built by the Silsby Company of Seneca Falls, New York, was believed to have been purchased by the Junior Fire Company when the 1876 Silsby Company steam fire engine was purchased. The 175-year-old "Old Lady" hand pumper, used by both the United Fire Company and an early fire company in Libertytown, was received in Frederick in 1860 from the Mechanical Fire Company of Baltimore. A metal water tank, believed to be originally owned by the Washington Hose Company in Frederick, dates to approximately 1837.

This year, the museum will also be displaying the homemade hose cart of the Vigilant Hose Company. This unique piece of equipment was built in Emmitsburg and used as early fire protection prior to the organization of the Vigilant Hose Company. The cart carries a leather riveted hose, a very early means of firefighting. See many pictures and artifacts from Frederick County fire and rescue companies, including a tribute wall to all the fire and rescue personnel in Frederick who have died in the line of duty since 1839.

Community Partners Provide Food, Clothing, and Support to Local Families

BY ALISHA YOCUM

Photo by Alisha Yocum



Emmitsburg Elementary School Principal Mary Beth Smith, along with Mary Geouge and Jenifer Zimmer from Helping Hands and Caring Hearts, pose in front of the mobile outreach van to bring much needed resources to the community.

Emmitsburg Elementary School (EES), in partnership with Helping Hands and Caring Hearts (HHCH), recently hosted a community event aimed at connecting local families with essential resources. From food, hygiene items, clothes, and toys, the volunteers were ready to help meet the needs of Emmitsburg families.

Mary Beth Smith, the new principal at EES, said she feels so fortunate to be at EES and has enjoyed getting to know her students and families, and wants to be of service to the community.

"The more we can do to provide resources—the more love and care we show—the better our students will do in the classroom," Smith said.

Smith originally reached out to the founder of HHCH, Jenifer Zimmer, to set up an event that would allow easy access for not only EES families, but anyone in Northern Frederick County, to gain access to much-needed resources.

The need is significant. Approximately 53 percent of EES students participate in the Free and Reduced-Price Meals program, a federally funded initiative that provides low- or no-cost meals to students based on family income. Organizers recognized that many of those same families could benefit from additional support beyond the classroom.

Zimmer was extremely happy with the success of the first event, with nearly 100 families taking advantage of the resources during the two-hour event, and she hopes to offer future events.

Zimmer and her team spent days preparing and packing up their mobile outreach van for the event. Any remaining food, clothing, and hygiene items were left at the school to continue supporting families in need.

Local nonprofits, Autumn's Table, dedicated to feeding and supporting the community, was on site, offering meal bags, as well as Sleep in Heavenly Peace, which offers free beds.

Overall, it was a great day of community connection in Emmitsburg.

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CASCADE UPDATE

BY GERALDINE OTREMBA, Cascade Resident, on Behalf of the Committee to Protect Our Mountain

Cascade resident Danielle Durning—only after making inquiries—was advised by Planning Department staff that her Zoning Text Amendment (ZTA) application related to the proposed Dollar General Mart at 14413 McAfee Hill Road is scheduled for a public hearing before the Washington County Planning Commission on Monday, April 6, at 6:00 p.m. The meeting is an opportunity for public input, and all interested residents are welcome to sign up. Full details are available on the Facebook page (Stop Dollar General).

The requested ZTA, which will prohibit a “small box variety store” within 1,000 feet of historic resources, is intended to clarify the purpose of the Rural Village zone, which is to protect the unique rural and historic character of a rural village. The proposed Dollar General threatens the value of nearby residential homes, which an expert appraiser projected would lose approximately \$30,000 in value if the proposed Dollar General is built, and the aesthetic and financial interests of Fort Ritchie, which is revitalizing with substantial private, county, and state financial investments.

On May 4, the Planning Commission will deliberate in open session regarding its recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) about the ZTA, followed by a written transmittal of that recommendation. It is unclear when the BOCC will schedule its own public hearing on the ZTA.

On the litigation front, attorney Michele Rosenfeld argued before the Appellate Court of Maryland on Monday, March 9, that the Board of Appeals failed to properly apply Washington County zoning law in approving the contested Dollar General. The attorney for the special exception applicant argued that the Circuit Court improperly ordered that the case be remanded to the Board of Appeals. All legal arguments related to whether the Board of Appeals properly decided that the Dollar General is “functionally similar” to a grocery store. A written court decision is not expected for at least several weeks, and it could be several months.

Residents are encouraged to follow updates on the Stop Dollar General Facebook page.

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NWTF Holds Jake's Day

BY ALISHA YOCUM

The Monocacy Valley National Wild Turkey Federation Jake's day was a success and welcomed youth ages 6-17.

It was a beautiful day at the Catoctin Fish and Game Protective Association grounds on March 21, where everything centered around turkey hunting.

Hosted by the Monocacy Valley Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF), the annual Jake's Day event brings together youth, ages 6-17, interested in or wanting to learn more about turkey hunting. The event is free and open to the public.

Volunteers staffed a variety of hands-on stations throughout the day, teaching young participants about wild turkeys, hunting techniques, and safety. Attendees also had the opportunity to test their skills by shooting at turkey targets on the range.

The day concluded with lunch, the presentation of an NWTF scholarship, and one of the most anticipated activities: fishing at the stocked pond.

This year's Monocacy Valley NWTF scholarship recipient was Wyatt Zylka, who was awarded \$1,750 toward his college education.

The NWTF is dedicated to the conservation of the wild turkey and the preservation of our hunting heritage. To learn more about the Monocacy Valley Chapter and upcoming events, visit www.nwtf.org or follow NWTF Monocacy on Facebook.

Photos by Alisha Yocum



Monocacy Valley NWTF President Lee Jernigan and member Russ Smith present Wyatt Zylka and his family with a scholarship check.

BOOK SALE

@ Thurmont Regional Library

\$10 Early Access 9am-10am

Fill-A-Friend's Tote Bag 3pm-4pm

5/2/2026
Saturday
10am - 4pm



Mother Seton Student Raises Fund for the Thurmont Food Bank



Emma Barber, a student at Mother Seton School in Emmitsburg, created a lemonade stand to raise funds for the Thurmont Food Bank.

Her grandmother lives near the food bank, and they noticed the long lines of people seeking food.

Emma decided to help, and her hard work brought in \$50.00 to be used to purchase food for those in need.

Pastor Sally Joyner Giffin, director of the Thurmont Food Bank, receives a donation from Emma Barber, a student at Mother Seton School.

Courtesy Photo



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Thurmont Lions Club's Sandwich Sales

The Thurmont Lions Club's sandwich sales are back! The Thurmont Lions Club began its sandwich sales 24 years ago. The first two years were conducted out of the Lions Club trailer, next to Bell Hill Farm fruit stand. Beginning with the third year, the owner of Bell Hill retired, and the club was allowed to use the building for the sandwich sales.

Sales have grown continually through the years due to the generous portions and low prices. The club now typically sells 500-600 sandwiches at each sale. New Midway Volunteer Fire Department provides the cole slaw, and the club works hand-in-hand with Boy Scout Troop 270 to run the sales. Returning customers come from far and wide, including all the way from central Virginia to central Pennsylvania. All profits from sandwich sales support the Thurmont community in multiple ways for those in need.

The Lions meet at St. John's Lutheran Church in the lower level every second and fourth Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. Come join them for this season's first sandwich sale at Bell Hill Farm on April 25, 1.5 miles north of Thurmont (on the west side of Rt. 15), from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., or until they sell out, whichever comes first.

For more information, visit www.thurmontlionsclub.com. Better yet, attend a meeting, feel the camaraderie, and become a part of the Thurmont Lions pride! View their advertisement on page 5.

Piper Seiss is New Member of American Angus Association

Photo by Amber Seiss



Piper Seiss with her Grand Champion Steer at the Mid-Atlantic Junior Angus Classic (MAJAC).

Piper Seiss of Thurmont is a new junior member of the American Angus Association®, reports Mark McCully, CEO of the national organization with headquarters in Saint Joseph, Missouri.

Junior members of the Association are eligible to register cattle in the American Angus Association, participate in programs conducted by the National Junior Angus Association, and take part in Association-sponsored shows and other national and regional events.

The American Angus Association is the largest beef breed association in the world, with more than 21,000 active adult and junior members.

Visit NJAA.info for more information about the National Junior Angus Association.

For more information about Angus cattle and the American Angus Association, visit www.angus.org.



Pre AI Retouching



Photo Courtesy of Thurmontimages.com

Post AI Retouching



This is an undated image of Main Street in Graceham looking east. You can see the steeple of the Moravian Church in the distance slightly off to the left.

Moravians settled in the Graceham area in the 1740s. Their first building was constructed in 1749, but the church in this picture was constructed in 1822 when the congregation needed more space. According to the Graceham Moravian Church website, the church has the 10th oldest Moravian congregation.

Graceham itself was "founded" in 1746 with the settlement of the Moravians in the area. The population is currently less than 250 people.

Using HitPaw FotorPea, the image gets colorized, sharpened, and repaired to let you see history more clearly.

In
Loving Memory

Obituaries

In Loving Memory

Catherine Atkins

September 8, 1929 ✠ March 5, 2026



Catherine Atkins, 96, of Thurmont, passed away peacefully in her sleep on March 5, 2026, at Autumn Lake of Glade Valley in Walkersville. Born on September 8, 1929, in her family home in Catoctin Furnace, she was the daughter of the late Clyde N. and Harriett Ruth Spalding Stitely.

She was part of a loving family of NINE.

In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her son Steven Atkins; brothers Norman (Marge), (Agnes), James (Minna), Robert (Irene), and Bill Stitely; sisters Mary Louise Fraley (Harold), Lois Riffle (Joe), Beatrice Bentz (Charles); brother-in-laws Robert Pee Wee Unger, and Pat Miller.

Catherine was a member of Thurmont United Methodist Church. She worked for Clare Frock in Thurmont and later for Roy Rogers for 30 years. Catherine loved gospel music, playing cards, watching the Orioles, and cooking, but most of all, she cherished spending time with her family.

She is survived by her grandchildren Chad Atkins (Ashley), Danielle Barber (Jeff); great-grandchildren Chase Atkins, Norah Atkins, and sister Ruth Ann Miller, as well as many nieces and nephews.

Our family is deeply grateful to the staff at Autumn Lake for the wonderful care they provided.

A celebration of Catherine's life was held on Thursday, March 19, at Thurmont United Methodist Church. Family received guests at 12:00 p.m., with a service following at 1:00 p.m. Pastor Kenneth Fizer Jr. officiated.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Thurmont United Methodist Church, 13880 Long Road, Thurmont, MD 21788.

Catherine's care has been entrusted to Black's Funeral Home of Sabillasville, MD.

Online condolences may be shared with family at www.blackfuneralhomes.com.

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The Age of Multitasking

BY ADITI DHANANJAYA,
High School Student

There was a time when watching a television show meant just that. One would sit down, turn on the TV, and watch. It was as simple as that. Today, that same moment looks extremely different. The show plays in the background while a cellular device lights up with messages, while social media feeds scroll past, while another tab sits open on a computer nearby. The show itself turns out to be just background noise.

This is how many people now move through their days, juggling several tasks at once. Multitasking has become so normalized that doing only one thing at a time can feel strangely uncomfortable.

A cultural shift toward constant productivity: Being busy has slowly transformed into a status symbol.

Students compare schedules packed with classes, clubs, sports, jobs, and volunteering. Adults do something very similar, measuring their weeks through meetings, deadlines, and endless notifications. When someone says, "I'm busy," it often means proof that their time is valuable rather than a complaint.

Social media reinforces this mindset. One quick scroll can reveal aesthetic planners and early morning routines. A full schedule resembles discipline. Simultaneously, this content can be motivating for many. Seeing others work toward goals and maintain consistent routines can inspire viewers to build better habits in their own lives. For instance, these posts offer potential ideas for

managing time more effectively or encouragement to stay focused on long-term goals. However, when the highlights of productivity become constant, the pressure to always appear busy can quietly grow.

Multitasking feels efficient on the surface. Answering messages while finishing homework or watching television while scrolling through social media can seem like a clever way to make better use of time. The idea of completing multiple tasks at once looks productive and even impressive. However, psychological research suggests that multitasking is a myth! The human brain cannot function as efficiently in these situations as people believe. According to the American Psychological Association, the mind and brain were not designed for heavy-duty multitasking. The mind switches rapidly between multiple complex tasks rather than performing them at the same time. Each shift requires the brain to refocus, which drains mental energy while leading to more errors. Psychologists refer to this as a "switching cost."

In the mid-1990s, researchers Robert Rogers and Stephen Monsell studied how people switched between two simple tasks. Even when participants knew exactly when the switch was going to happen, they still performed slower.

Later research led to similar results. In 2001, psychologists Joshua Rubinstein, Jeffrey Evans, and David Meyer conducted task-switching experiments. Each time the participants moved from one task to another, it cost them more time. Additionally, as the tasks became more complicated, the time increased.

Outside the labs, switching costs appear in everyday life. A student

who pauses homework every few minutes to check notifications is likely to take significantly longer to finish an assignment. A worker who responds to messages during meetings may miss important information. Even something as simple as reading can become more difficult when a phone interrupts the flow of attention.

The effects extend far beyond productivity.

When people divide their attention on a daily basis, everything becomes fragmented. For many people, silence now feels unfamiliar, as our brains have grown used to constant stimulation. Digital media are designed around quick bursts of engagement. Sometimes, that is all our brain needs to unfocus. Notifications, messages, and content provide small rewards that encourage people to keep checking their devices. Over time, this pattern trains the mind to expect constant stimulation. And when that stimulation disappears, the mind goes looking for something else to fill the gap.

In a society that celebrates being busy, multitasking can often feel like a necessary survival skill. However, as research has shown, constant task-switching may lead to less productivity and more mistakes. Sometimes slowing down might be the answer.

Giving a single task your full attention, whether it is reading a book, finishing an assignment, or even just listening during a conversation, allows the mind to be more focused and active.

Modern days will only get busier. Notifications will not stop, schedules will not get less full, and new technologies will not stop changing life. So, the ability to focus on one thing at a time can be increasingly valuable in this world.

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Memories of Bygone Days

As Told By William "Bill" Rice, In His Own Words



Courtesy Photo of William "Bill" Rice

In 1946, I had been home from the Navy and World War II for only a short while. Mayor Duble asked me to come to work for the Town of Thurmont as an electrician. After a little coaxing, I said yes. I was paid 50 cents an hour. I had learned a lot about electricity in the Navy.

I worked for the Town and went to night school, under the GI Bill, studying electrical engineering. My main job was an electrician, but I did anything that needed to get done. The Town Office was in the basement of The Thurmont Bank, next to the barber shop.

At that time, the electric department consisted of a 1932 Chevrolet pickup truck, a shovel and a spade, one old set of pole climbing equipment, and one pair of worn rubber gloves.

I read electric meters along with Paul Shaffer. Paul read the East end of town, and I read the West end. The Town Clerk, Charlie Stocksdale, would give each of us \$20.00 in ones and \$5.00 in change. We would read the meter, write up the bill, and hand it to the resident. Residents would usually pay us right then. Our money was expected to come out to the penny, or we'd have to pay the difference. I would always be a cent or two off. However, Paul would always come out to the penny. At some of the homes, I would try to get the bill made out, stick it under the door, and tiptoe off the porch before they saw me. Some were grumpy and would always complain about their bill.

Residents who had only one light bulb in their kitchen would get a flat rate bill of 60 cents. I believe there were only two residents who would not pay the flat rate fee and, therefore, had no electricity. A lot of the meters were in the attic, so I'd have to go upstairs and climb up into the attic with a flashlight, being careful not to fall through the attic floor. At that time, there were approximately 550 customers.

Electric poles were rotting, and the wires were in poor condition. The street lights were falling apart. At that time, there were only five or six lights going in each direction from the square.

The Public Service Commission met with the Town Board and told them to improve the electrical system or sell it. The Town Board agreed to make improvements. PEPCO sold us the materials needed, and I updated the electric system.

In 1947, the Taylors on Altamont Avenue were the only town residents who had an electric cooking range, and there were no electric water heaters yet.

Mayor Duble died in September 1947, and Mr. Saylor Weybright became Mayor. That year, Paul Shaffer and I installed the first parking meters. Paul and I would help out the street maintenance crew whenever needed, especially after big snows. We would shovel, by hand, all the parking meter areas. The streets were in bad condition; many were just stoned.

In 1947, the corporate limits were expanded as follows:

- East to Apples Church Road
- West to the Frank Bentz Pond
- North to Elmer Bollinger's farm
- South to Potomac Edison Substation on Moser Road

Now, we had more streets to improve! Mayor Weybright ordered 25 train cars of cinders. We unloaded them at John Creeger's coal bins. The cinders would be so frozen, we'd have to build a fire under the trap door to get them out of the cars. We loaded up the Town's dump truck and spread the cinders on the streets.

In 1952, C. Ray Weddle became Mayor. Streets were again improved; this time by tar and chipping. Additional men were hired, and the Town purchased a used roller, tar box, and stone spreader, and did the work.

In 1956, the Town purchased the Mechanicstown Water Company, and I was put in charge of the water system also. With the help of Bernard Fink and Edgar Palmer, I soon had a working knowledge of the system and how to

maintain it. As Thurmont continued to grow, I had to budget for improvements and enlarge the system as needed.

I'm sure some of you have heard about the Annie Laurie Well at the corner of West Main Street and Shipley Avenue. It was drilled by private individuals, supposedly looking for oil. There was oil in the water, but to the disappointment of many, it was just oil from the pump. That well once served the Canning Factory. The Canning Factory was pumping water from Hunting Creek to use in their operations. The State outlawed that source of water supply. The Mechanicstown Water Company then piped water from the Annie Laurie to their factory. When the Town purchased the Water Company, this well became the Town's, but it was not an efficient well and was abandoned.

In the late 1950s, I hired a young man by the name of Joe Fraley to be an electrician. He was drafted into the Army and worried that he would not have a job when he came back home. I promised him I would hold his job for him, and I did. In later years, I trained him in the other departments, and he became my assistant.

Around 1957, a new and modern Town Office building was constructed on Frederick Road.

In the early 1960s, Mayor Donald Lewis appointed me Public Works Supt. I was now responsible for all departments except the Police and the office.

I was required to take the necessary classes to become a State-Certified Water and Sewer Plant Operator. This job was a 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week job. I was always on call for emergencies and complaints.

During my employment, there were three major expansions to the sewage treatment plant.

In 1982, I was selected the water plant "Operator of the Year" by the American Water Works Association. I went to Ocean City for what I thought was to give a talk about our water system, and was surprised to be given this award.

I am proud of the Town parks I built: Thurmont Community Park, Eyler Road Park, and East End Park. When we were creating the Thurmont Community Park, I advertised in the local paper for shrubbery donations. I got so many offers, we weren't able to accept them all. All of the evergreen trees and shrubbery came from the citizens of Thurmont and the surrounding areas.

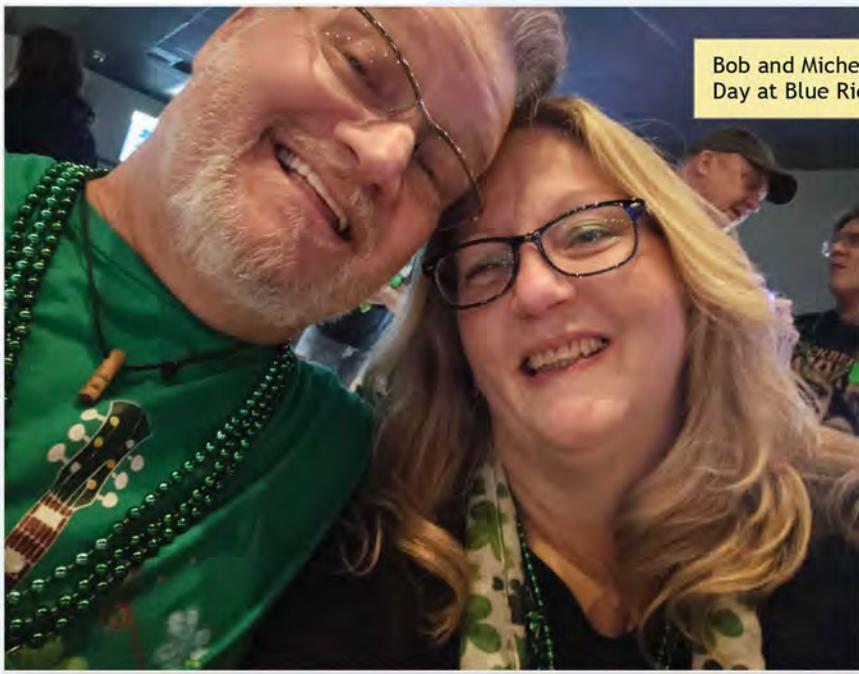
I drew all the engineering plans and construction drawings for the electrical expansions, water and sewer systems, and streets. I also did all the bidding for new construction and was the on-site inspector.

Some of the former longtime Town employees I had the pleasure of working with were Paul Shaffer, Paul Seeney, Charles Yingling, Manuel Willard, Whitey Eigenbrode, and Charles Wilhide. When I retired this past December, Joe Fraley became my replacement.

I had a very good relationship with all the Mayors. Nearly every Sunday, the Mayor and one of the Commissioners would stop by my home to be brought up to date on what was happening.

My 41 years with the Town gave me lots of good memories and no regrets. I still get calls from the Board members about things from the past, and I'm glad I can still help them out.

*By William "Bill" Rice, January 1988
(Submitted by Bill's wife, Nancy Rice)*



Bob and Michele Leveille celebrating St. Patrick's Day at Blue Ridge Sportsmen's Association, Inc.!

Together



Destiny at her first cattle show of the year!

Out & About



Kenna Lilly finally came HOME in March after 102 days in the NICU and 122 total days at JHH.



The Young's Trout fishing!



Presley Brantner enjoys a non-alcoholic strawberry daiquiri with her dinner at Los Amigos!

Good Times, Good Vibes



Caleb Lynn's first baseball game of the season!

Making Memories



Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company March Bingo Fun: Dave Stonesifer, Devin Youngerman, and Alan Hurley!



Denny Black and Folton Beard beside a Plymouth Barracuda.

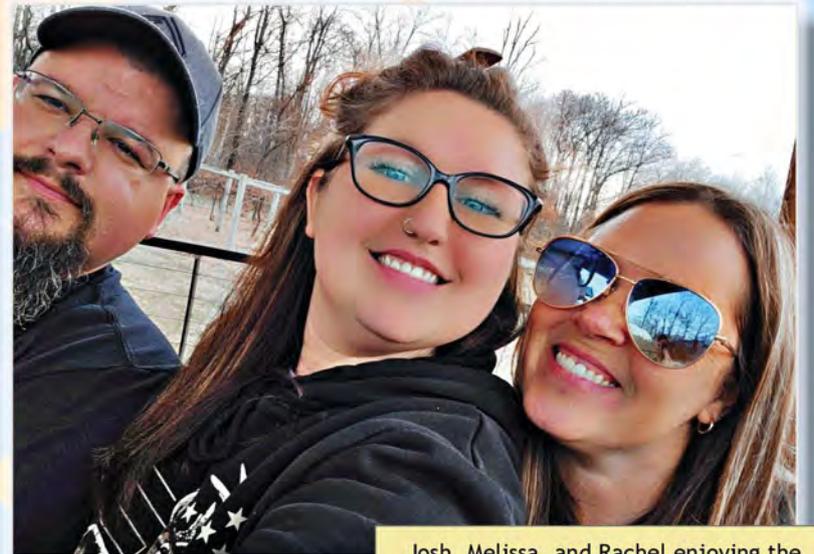


Savannah Abrecht gets an Easter basket from the Woodsboro Volunteer Fire Co.!

Making Memories!



Beverly Hoke celebrates her 82nd birthday at her surprise party!



Josh, Melissa, and Rachel enjoying the beautiful weather!

Out & About



Owen and Aiden on Youth Trout Day!



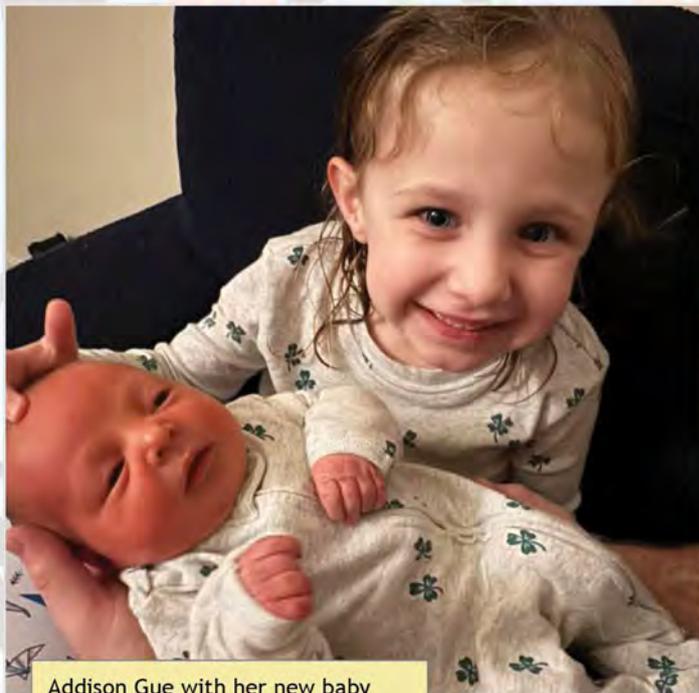
Night to Shine – Steven and Sammie hit the red carpet!



Cousins enjoying time together down by the creek!

We didn't realize we were making memories, we just knew we were having fun

Making Memories



Addison Gue with her new baby sister, Bristol Davis!



Abbi and Nana (Barb) enjoying the Trolley Trail!

Good Times



Delaney Cregger and Beau Turfle at the Thurmont Library!

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SPORTS News



Abby Moreland of Sabillasville has been recognized for her success both in the classroom and on the court at Wilson College.

Moreland, a member of the Wilson College women's volleyball team, was recently named a United East Scholar Athlete by the United East Conference for the Fall 2025 season. She is among 57 student-athletes from Wilson College to receive the academic honor.

The United East Scholar Athlete recognition highlights student-athletes who excel academically while competing in collegiate athletics. To earn the distinction, athletes must maintain a grade point average of at least 3.2 during the fall semester while remaining in good standing with their team.

Moreland was one of the honorees representing six fall sports across the 15 institutions in the Division III United East Conference. The sports represented include women's and men's soccer, field hockey, women's volleyball, and women's and men's cross country.

Sabillasville Student Named United East Scholar Athlete

Photos Courtesy of Wilson College



Abby Moreland of Sabillasville was named a United East Scholar Athlete by the United East Conference for the Fall 2025 Season. Moreland plays volleyball for Wilson College.

Wilson College ranked fifth among the conference's 15 schools in the number of scholar-athletes recognized this fall, despite sponsoring only four fall sports. The top three institutions each had six fall sports represented, while another had five.

The 57 honorees also mark the fourth time in the past five years that Wilson College has had at least 57 student-athletes earn the conference's scholar-athlete

distinction. The number first set a school record in 2022.

Wilson College officials congratulated Moreland on the accomplishment, recognizing her commitment to balancing academic success with athletic competition.

Founded in 1869 and located in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, Wilson College is a private coeducational liberal arts college offering undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral programs.

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Seventeen CYA Wrestlers Compete in MMWL End-of-Season Championship

Courtesy Photos



Photos show the wrestlers from the CYA wrestling program who qualified to compete in the MMWL End-of-Season Championship in March.

Seventeen wrestlers from the Catoctin Youth Association (CYA) Wrestling program competed in the MMWL End-of-Season Championship the first weekend in March, showcasing their hard work and dedication throughout the season.

The tournament brought together some of the league's top competitors, and all 17 wrestlers represented CYA with determination and sportsmanship on the mat.

Six wrestlers earned top-three finishes in their weight classes, bringing home podium placements. Aaron Oden captured first place, while Jackson Wivell earned second place. Kashton Baer, Beaux Grimes, Isaiah Justman, and Logan Stephens each placed third.

Congratulations also go out to the other wrestlers who competed and represented the team: Carson Unger, Emmett Kline, Connor Soule, Wyatt Breeden, Amos Loughry, Jacob Mills, Knox Axline, Liam Jenkins, Max Reaver, Maddox Miller, and Elijah Justman. The team is proud of all 17 wrestlers for their effort and sportsmanship.

CYA Wrestling would also like to recognize all of its wrestlers from this season. They have seen so much improvement from each wrestler through their hard work. With the 2026 season now coming to an end, they are proud of everything this team has accomplished and are already looking forward to next year.



Catoctin Varsity Cougars Softball Starts Off Strong

The Catoctin Varsity Cougars softball team started off their season on Saturday, March 21, with a strong team win over South Carroll!



Courtesy Photo

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CYA Shoot-A-Thon Scores Big for Youth Basketball

BY ALISHA YOCUM

The Catoctin Youth Association (CYA) Basketball once again had a fun-filled day raising money on February 23 to help cover costs like gym rentals, uniforms, equipment, paid officials, and league fees.

The goal was for each player to raise at least \$50 to help support the league. The number of shots attempted varies based on the age group of the player, with anywhere from 20 to 100 shots being attempted. In most cases, shots are attempted from the free throw line; however, the younger ages are moved several feet closer and shoot on lowered rims. The Catoctin High School Basketball Teams were on hand to help throughout the day.

This year, thanks to our generous community, players raised a little over \$9,000! As a way to give back, the league also collected several hundred non-perishable items for the Thurmont Food Bank.

The following is a list of the top fundraisers and shooters for the event.

Highest Percentage Foul Shooter Overall—Brayden Rickerd; Highest Percentage Foul Shooter in Each Program—K-2nd Grade Clinic: Kinley Rusch, GYBL/BCWB Boys: Harvey Schildt, Girls GYBL: Lainey Jernigan, Mid-Maryland: Luke Wiles, High School: Ethan Tokar; Highest Fundraiser Overall—Prize—Eli Yocum; Highest Fundraiser in Each Program—K-2nd Grade Clinic: Oliver Snyder, GYBL/BCWB Boys: Clayton Gray, Girls GYBL: Samara Dixon, Mid-Maryland: Deegan Beard, High School: Derek Nicholson.

Courtesy Photo



Catoctin High School Basketball players served as volunteers throughout the day at the CYA Basketball Shoot-A-Thon. The league collected several hundred non-perishable items for the Thurmont Food bank.

CYA Celebrates Mid-Maryland 8th Grade Players



Girls 8th Grade Mid-Maryland Players

(from left) Coach Peyton Davis, Noelle James, Nola Schildt, Emma Sparkman, Auston Droneburg, Ellaina Case, Abby Morlan, Scarlett Riffle, and Coach Emily Austill.



Boys 8th Grade Varsity Players

(from left, back row) Coach Justus Yocum, Kaiden Dewees, Jeremy Veronie, Nathanael Fountain, James Clements, Daniel Genemans, Coach Landon Routzahn; (front row) Ben Lake, Weston Tyler, Chris Smallwood, Gavin Vaughan, and Eli Yocum.

Each year, Catoctin Youth Association (CYA) Basketball takes time to recognize a special group of players: those finishing their final season of middle school basketball.

This year was no different, as the organization honored both the Girls and Boys Varsity Mid-Maryland 8th grade players at the conclusion of their seasons. The recognition celebrates not only their accomplishments on the court, but also their dedication, teamwork, and growth throughout their years in the program.

For many of these athletes, this marks the end of their CYA basketball journey, and the beginning of an exciting new chapter as they prepare to compete at the high school level.

CYA Basketball extends its congratulations to all of the players and wishes them continued success both on and off the court in the years ahead.

The Catoctin Youth Association (CYA) Basketball program in offers recreational and competitive basketball for local youth. Programs include Mid-Maryland travel teams for grades 6-8 and GYBL (Gettysburg Youth Basketball League) for grades 3-6, and clinics for grades K-2 focusing on skill development and teamwork. Registration typically opens in September for winter seasons. The CYA Basketball program's mission is to provide the Catoctin area youth the opportunity to play the game of basketball in a fun, educational, competitive, and positive atmosphere.

Two Local Youths Take First Place in the Maryland State NASP Tournament

BY MARYLOU BAKER

The 2026 Maryland State NASP (National Archery in Schools Program) tournament was held in Westminster, Maryland, on March 13 and March 14. Several local schools participated in the tournament, including Emmitsburg Elementary, Thurmont Middle, Thurmont Elementary, Sabillasville Environmental, and Wolfsville Elementary. The tournament is divided into six different divisions: elementary, middle, and high school, which are then divided into boys and girls sections. Archers can compete in traditional bullseye targets and/or 3-D targets.

Our local area now has two state champions in the 3-D archery division! Thurmont Middle School student Levi Baker placed first in the 3-D shoot for middle school boys, scoring 271. Emmitsburg Elementary School student Bristol Cope placed first in the 3-D shoot for elementary school girls, scoring 231. The maximum score is 300. By placing in the top ten in the state, both of these archers have qualified for the Eastern Nationals NASP Archery Tournament, which is held in Louisville, Kentucky, in May.

Levi Baker also placed third in the bullseye competition for middle school boys.

Emmitsburg Elementary had a very strong showing at the state tournament by placing third as a team in the 3-D competition. Multiple students qualified for nationals by placing in the top ten.

- Bristol Cope — 3-D (1st) and bullseye (4th)
- Jack Wivell — 3-D (6th) and bullseye (5th)
- John Clements — bullseye (8th)
- Shelby Baker — bullseye (8th)
- Addi Lingg — 3-D (10th)

Aiden Koontz, who attends Sabillasville Environmental School, placed sixth in the elementary bullseye division for boys. While this article listed the top ten finishers in the local area, all of the archery teams performed well, and many personal bests were set during the tournament. Good luck to all the archers as they prepare for the national competition!

Thank you to Gary Burgess, PE teacher at Emmitsburg Elementary School, who started the NASP Program at Emmitsburg and continues to help the program grow at Thurmont Middle and Catoclin High. Archery doesn't discriminate based on popularity, athletic skill, gender, size, or academic ability. The National Archery in the Schools Program is an in-school program aimed at improving educational performance among students in grades four through twelve. Students are learning focus, self-control, discipline, patience, and the life lessons required to be successful in the classroom and in life.

Courtesy Photos



A couple members of the Emmitsburg Elementary archery team, along with Coach Burgess, with their team trophy.



Levi Baker and Bristol Cope with their trophies.



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Where's Your Glove?

April brings an end to the winter high school sports season and the beginning of the spring season. We transition from basketball to baseball and softball.

We move from indoors in stuffy gyms, weighed down by our winter gear protecting us from record cold, to outdoors and the beautiful fragrance of fresh mowed grass, shorts and t-shirts, children laughing, and the crack of bats.

Our Catoctin boys basketball team finished the season in the regional quarterfinals against Boonsboro. Senior Cooper Wiles and senior Zach Williams were the anchors for Coach Wagner's team, with Wiles leading the team in scoring, averaging 10 points per game, and Williams leading the team in steals with 19 on the season. The departing seniors leave behind a team with loads of potential for next season, with 6'2" junior Gabe Contreras, who averaged 8 points per game and was their No. 1 rebounder, teamed up with 6'5" sophomore Nate Morlan, racking up just over 160 rebounds on the season between them. One honorable mention to look out for next season is freshman Brayden Rickerd, who knocked down 81 percent from the free-throw line this year. Cougars

boys 2026-27 basketball will be exciting!

Our Lady Cougars basketball team had another incredible year. For the second year in a row, they were at the top of the 1A division with some really stunning wins against Linganore, Middletown, and South Carroll. They traveled to Smithsburg to face the Leopards in the regionals again this year. Unlike last year, they put the "fear of God" into the Smithsburg faithful, taking the undefeated Leopards team right down to the wire in a nail-biter that collapsed for our Lady Cougars when two Smithsburg girls hit back-to-back impossible three pointers in the final minutes to end the Cougars season. Seniors Kelsey Troxell and Brooke Williams led the team in scoring and grit. Both were completely exhausted in the final minutes of the game, yet they powered through the fatigue and gathered their teammates together for a final push. It was another example of the team's "never give up" attitude. The Lady Cougars finished the season 19-5, with three of those losses to Smithsburg. Scrappy freshman Leah French led all scorers in that game with 15 points. Leah and Olivia Hoyt could be Leopard killers next year.

Lord knows, we're tired of losing to Smithsburg. Kelsey Troxell will play for the Hagerstown Hawks next season in her freshman year at HCC, and Brooke Williams will play D1 ball in the Big South Conference at Gardner-Webb in North Carolina. We wish them much success in their college careers!

Spring is a battle between winter and summer, where we get caught in the middle. In March, I was driving north on 270, and my dashboard temperature read 88 degrees. The next morning, it snowed one inch, and when I woke up the following morning, it read 28 degrees outside. That's summer sun to winter snow with a 60-degree difference in 24 hours! I am so glad April is finally here. What a tough winter.

April always brings hope for sunshine and outdoor fun. When I was in fifth and sixth grades, I delivered newspapers for the Washington Post. That meant getting up at four in the morning to fold my papers, load my rear wheel tandem bicycle baskets, and ride the seven miles every morning to deliver over one hundred newspapers. It was precision riding at its finest. You'd steer with one arm, grab a folded paper with the other, and with just the right timing and bicycle skill, you could stuff the newspaper into the homeowner's roadside newspaper tube at full pedal. It was a game. It was a contest to see how many papers you could stuff without wrecking your bike or having to slam on the brakes, back up, and pick up a missed stuff attempt. But the thing I remember most about those early mornings is the smell of the spring morning and the sound of the birds just before dawn when the sun showed the vaguest hints of light.

While I rode through my morning routine, tires whirring across paved roads, I drifted off into dreams of hitting the game-winning home run in Little League. In the back of my mind, I could hear faint sounds of the birds beginning to stir. Moment by moment, the sound would grow until, without realizing it, the birds were blaring out a cheerful welcome to the growing light of a new day. Decades later, at daybreak, the sounds of spring instantly catapult me back in time to my paper route. I used the money from that paper route to buy

my very own "Harmon Killebrew" baseball bat. Harmon Killebrew played for the Washington Senators when I was young. They called him the "Killer." I named my bat "Killer." My younger self was convinced that there was a magical power imbued in that bat from the man who averaged 39 homers a year. That bat finally made it to the major leagues in 1966. Killebrew left with the Senators in 1960, when the team moved to Milwaukee. In July 1966, at age 14, I went to RFK Stadium to see Milwaukee play the Senators. Many of the "old" Senators were playing for Milwaukee. I brought "Killer" to that Senators game and had Killebrew sign it for me.

That's the thing about spring. It makes us feel young again. We look in the back of the closet for that glove and bat to play catch with our grandchildren and the neighborhood kids. We forget that we lost a step over the winter, and they gained one. We play the game we love and remember our "feats of old." And, if we're really lucky, we get to broadcast a Cougars baseball or softball game or two, and perhaps watch future stars in the making.

I have an idea. Come on down to Catoctin High School baseball or softball diamonds this spring, and we'll enjoy the sights and sounds of spring together. It's a great afternoon of local high school fun. You'll see friends you haven't seen in ages. You'll cheer on the Cougars. And, who knows, maybe we'll relive a memory or two as we watch our Cougars play ball?

Go find that glove in the back of the closet and bring it with you! And don't forget to say Hi. I'll be on top of the home team dugout.

APRIL BROADCAST SCHEDULE

- Wed. Apr 1 Smithsburg at Catoctin baseball
- Tues. Apr 7 Catoctin baseball tournament
- Mon. Apr 13 Boonsboro at Catoctin baseball
- Mon. Apr 20 Boonsboro at Walkersville softball
- Fri. Apr 24 Brunswick at Catoctin baseball

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SCHOOL News

The Thurmont Lions Club's Essay Contest Winners



Courtesy Photo

Pictured from left are Julia Marl, Lion Maxine Troxell, and Silas Wahl.

The Thurmont Lions Club recently held its annual essay contest. There were a total of 35 essay entries. The winning essays were as follows:

Elementary School (Grades 1-5): What if the Declaration of Independence had a secret code leading to hidden treasure? Where do you think it would be hidden and why?

The winner was Silas Wahl. Silas is in the fifth grade at Sabillasville Environmental School.

Middle School (Grades 6-8): Imagine you are a colonist. Write what you think about the Declaration of Independence.

The winner was Julia Marl. Julia is in the eighth grade at Sabillasville Environmental School. Julia's essay came in first place at the Lions Club District 22W. She received her special award at the District Meeting on March 28.

Congratulations to Silas and Julia.

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Young Artists Shine at FCPS Art Exhibit



BY ALISHA YOCUM

Upon entering the gallery at the Delaplaine Visual Arts Center in Frederick, visitors are greeted by walls filled with artwork in a wide range of styles, all created by talented young artists from Frederick County Public Schools.

The exhibition, which was on display for the month of March, was curated through art teachers at each school who selected three pieces to highlight from their student body. The budding young artists below are those from the Catoclin feeder pattern. Great job showing your artistic talents!



Kelsey Roberts, Catoclin High School, *Symphony*; Medium: Acrylic; Art Teacher Laura Day.

Catoclin High: Alaina Furry (10th), Charles McGinnis (11th), Eliana Nichols (9th), Yejin Oh (11th), Kelly Pena (9th), Chelsea Reifsnider (11th), Kelsey Roberts (10th), Grayson Strobel (9th), and Zachary Williams (12th).

Emmitsburg Elementary: John Clements (5th), Kaia Shearer (1st), and Jack Wivell (5th).

Thurmont Elementary: Addison Burdette (4th), AliAnna Matthews (3rd), and Arya Radford (5th).

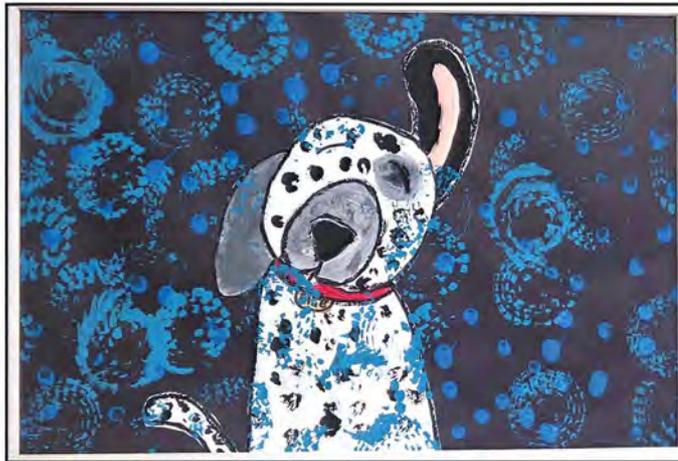
Thurmont Primary: Leah Grimes (1st), Eliana Radhi (K), and Juliette Smith (2nd).

Thurmont Middle: Ava Burdette (6th), Hayden Burdette (8th), and Olive Rinker (7th).

Lewistown Elementary:

Ethan Besemer (K), Archer Lee (3rd), and Lucas Pimienta (5th).

Sabillasville Environmental: Elaina Hardman (8th), Skyler Mohler (7th), and Catherine Riggs (6th).



AliAnna Matthews, Thurmont Elementary School, *Wet Dog*; Medium: Mixed Media; Art Teacher Jill Dutrow.



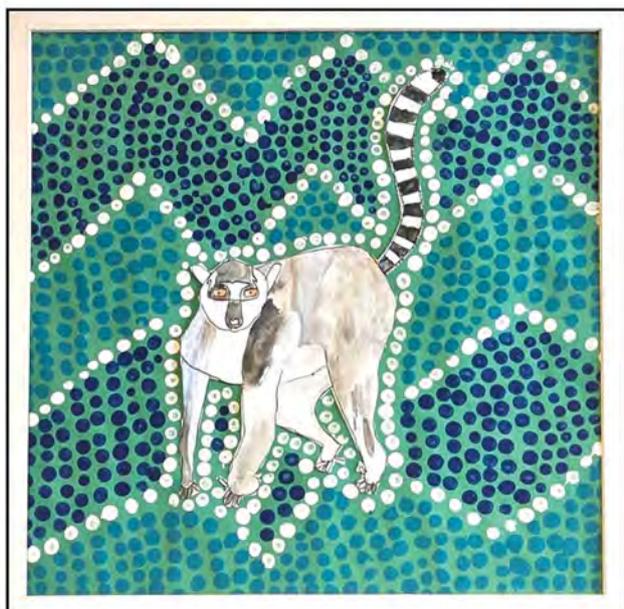
Leah Grimes, Thurmont Primary School, *Rainy Day*; Medium: Collage; Art Teacher Jennifer Riggs.



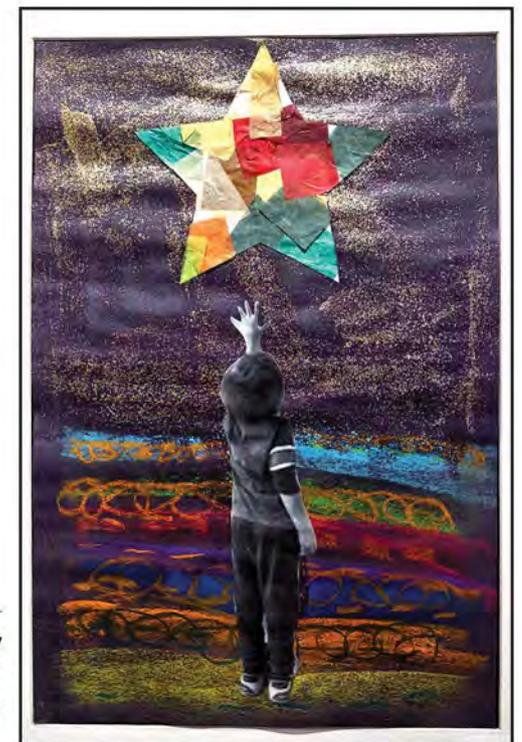
Ava Burdette, Thurmont Middle School, *Circus Mandala*; Medium: Colored Pencil; Art Teacher Stephanie Strenko.



Elaina Hardman, Sabillasville Environmental School, *Candlelight*; Medium: Acrylic and Tempura; Art Teacher Amy Messenger.



(left) John Clements, Emmitsburg Elementary School, *Lemur*; Medium: Tempera and Watercolor; Art Teacher Heidi Hench.



(right) Ethan Besemer, Lewistown Elementary School, *Reach for the Stars Portrait*; Medium: Mixed Media; Art Teacher Cenica Korrell.



Each month, students from Mother Seton School's Newspaper Club will be submitting articles from their perspective as a student.

Photo Courtesy of Francesca Kinnamont

The Christmas Puppy

Hey, everyone! If you were in third grade with me, you may have seen some photos of my adorable puppy, and I'm talking about him today! In case you weren't in my class, here's the article! Brace yourself for major cuteness.

My dog, Nicolas Charles (or if you're boring, Nico, but Nicolas is his full name), is a mini golden doodle, a mix between a golden retriever and a poodle. I say mini because regular golden doodles are pretty big, while Nico is probably just knee-height. But he's huge when he jumps! He can get up to my chest! He was born on November 27, 2022, which means he's three years old right now.

Now, you may be wondering why the heading is called "The Christmas Puppy." When I was in third grade in December of 2022, we opened all of our Christmas presents and started opening them behind our couch. Suddenly, I came into the living room and saw a single unopened present for all of us. I called everyone in, and we opened it. I thought it was clothes because it was so soft. When we opened it, I saw words reading *Kinnamont Puppy*. I was confused! Was it for Nova, our dog, whom we only had for a few weeks before dying very young? But when my older sister, Gianna, saw it, she hesitated and said, "Wait..." Then she started YELLING! I was still SO confused! But then my brother, Anthony, did the same, and I finally understood. We were getting a puppy! I was so excited!



Francesca Kinnamont and Nicholas Charles smile for the camera.

I wanted this article to be special, so I decided to interview Nico! Now, I know what you're thinking: *He's A DOG! He can't talk to you!* But you're wrong! Just you wait...I mean, read.

First question: "How's your day today?" Answer: "Rough." Second question: "What's your favorite thing to chew on?" Answer: "Bark.:" Third question: "Are you excited to be on the Daily Bayley?" Answer: "Yip, yip!" And, finally, I asked a math question. "Nico, what's 2-2?" Guess

what he answered? NOTHING! He's a genius!

Nico gets the zoomies all the time. He loves to run around the house and jump on the couch next to my mom. He chews up things that are cloth or blanket material THAT quick if he's not watched, so don't give him that dog toy you got for your new pup! Besides all of the craziness and just pure NICO-NESS, he's also really cute. You should see him, he's adorable—when he's not STINKY! *Bleugh!*

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EHS Alumni Association Offers Four Scholarships

The Emmitsburg High School Alumni Association is accepting scholarship applications. Four \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded in May to deserving students.

Any Catoctin High School senior or graduate who is enrolled in an institution of higher learning is eligible if he/she resides in the Emmitsburg School District. This includes Emmitsburg 21727, Rocky Ridge 21778, and Taneytown 21787 (Taneytown boundary is determined by Bridgeport on Rt. 140). Applicants may apply each year as long as they are enrolled in an institution of higher learning.

Selection is based on having a 3.0 or higher GPA, being a full-time student, presenting two letters of recommendation, and pursuing higher education (four-year college, community college, or technical school). No GPA is required for full-time technical school.

Applications may be obtained by contacting the Guidance Department at Catoctin High School at 240-236-8082 or Phyllis Kelly at 717-642-6963). You may also pick up an application at Jubilee in Emmitsburg.

All applications must be received by May 5, 2026.

Thurmont Grange #409 Scholarships Available

The Thurmont Grange #409 wants everyone to know that there are scholarship applications now available. If you are a 2026 Catoctin High School graduating senior and will be attending a two- or four-year college, technical or trade school, you are eligible to apply. You do not need to be a Grange member.

Email thurmontgrange@gmail.com or call 301-471-5158 to request an application. Deadline to apply is April 15, 2026.

Nominate a CHS Graduate Making a Difference

The Distinguished Graduate Organization was established to recognize the graduates of Catoctin High School (CHS) who have made a difference locally, in the state, and/or in the nation.

These men and women are nominated in five categories: Academics, Arts & Humanities, Athletics, Business, and Service (community, military, or public).

Nominated graduates will be mailed an application to complete. Honorees are selected from those applications returned to the committee. All nominees must be graduates of Catoctin High School. Students who attended CHS but did not graduate from CHS are not eligible for recognition.

The Distinguished Graduate Organization would also like to recognize former Catoctin staff members who have had a significant impact on the graduates of Catoctin High School. The community can nominate former cafeteria workers, custodians, instructional aides, secretaries, administrators, or teachers. The earliest a former staff member can be nominated is two years following their departure from CHS.

To submit a nomination, complete the form at <https://forms.gle/hUw6ZssRadFduovW8>.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call 227-203-3150. You may also reach out by email to Lacee.Andrew@fcps.org or Rebecca.Hurley@fcps.org.

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Since 1995, Thurmont Masons have awarded scholarships worth over \$100,000 to area students! Scholarships are available to all graduating high school level seniors from a Maryland State accredited public, private, and/or homeschool program who reside within the Catoctin High School district boundaries, as per the Frederick County Public School district map (see FCPS District Map at www.fcps.org/dept/facilities/boundaries).

Scholarship application forms are available at the Catoctin High School Guidance Office and the Thurmont Regional Library.

Interested students must complete an application and return it to the location where it was obtained on or before April 30, 2026.

The three scholarships are:

- The Mary and Robert Remsburg Memorial Scholarship Award, worth up to \$6,000 (scholarship funds would be distributed at \$1,500 per year, for up to four years of continued education with passing grades from an accredited college or university.)
- The Bernhard "Bernie" Cohen Memorial Scholarship Award, a one-time award worth \$3,000.
- The Acacia Lodge #155 "Master Mason" Scholarship Award, a one-time award worth \$3,000.

Applications will be judged upon the following criteria in order of importance: Participation and leadership roles in community and/or school activities; Content of a personal resume; Academic record and/or special achievements; Need for financial assistance; Evaluation by school official and/or mentor; Organization, appearance, and completeness of the application.



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From Calf to Show Ring

An FFA Project Series

BY MAKAYLA COMER

Makayla Comer is a junior at Catoclin High School and a member of the Future Farmers of America (FFA). She is serving as the 2025-2026 Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show Ambassador and currently serves as Social Media Coordinator. In this monthly series, Comer will take readers behind the scenes of what it takes to raise both market and breeding cattle, sharing her journey as she prepares to show at the Carroll County Fair and the Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show in 2026. Comer and her family own and operate a cattle farm in Rocky Ridge, Maryland. Readers are invited to follow along as she shares the dedication, responsibility, and hard work involved in raising cattle.

For my 2026 Market and breeding projects, all animals were born and bred on my farm. The steer I plan to take to the Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show in September is a Maintainer named Fort Worth.

Fort Worth was born on March 25, 2025, and was the last calf born on my farm in 2025. I also plan to bring two heifers to the Community Show: my Maintainer heifer, Montana, and my Shorthorn Plus heifer, Daytona.

We have had a second calf born at the end of February. Sadly, this calf came out dead, and we were able to get a replacement calf in time for the mother. The calf we got came from a dairy farm and is a Holstein-Angus mix. The way we were able to make sure the mother would accept this calf was

by rubbing her old calf's scent on the new calf. We took a calf blanket and made sure to get that scent all over the blanket, so the mother wouldn't be able to smell the other calf as well. Many people will skin the dead calf and put it on the replacement, but we tried a different way. And our way ended up being a success, and both of them are happy and healthy.

As I have two more shows coming up, I will wash my cows very often to make sure they are clean and that they have healthy hair.

First, I will blow off all the dust and hay that they have on them to help the washing process. With extra dirt and junk on them, the dust will get into my brush and won't clean as well. I will then wash them with Dollar Tree soap. We like to save the expensive stuff for shows. With any of my cows that have white on them, like Daytona, I will use purple shampoo to get all their stains out. Once all the soap and dirt are washed off, I will blow-dry them. You want their hair to be completely dry, so you can put all the conditioners in. Once they are dry, I like to add Revive conditioner. There are two different kinds: a green and an orange can. The orange can is Revive Lite, which should be used during the summer since it has a lighter formula. The regular Revive is a thicker formula, which is used during the colder months.

Conditioning should be done every day, but you should not wash

your calf every day, as it will dry out the hide. The conditioner will be sprayed all over the cow and then brushed in with a rice brush. The rice brush makes sure that all the product gets to the skin. After, I will blow-dry in the product, but you want it to be on a low setting and not a powerful one.

After the hair is all dry, I'll put in some ProHair from Weaver or Sure Coat Max. Those sprays will help the hair grow, so the cow looks fuller. Or if you have a short-haired calf, it will help make the hair grow faster. You will want to brush in the spray with a comb, then you can lightly blow-dry the animal or put them under a fan, so the spray can work its magic.

Depending on how dirty your cow is, it can take over an hour

to clean. Having a clean calf and washing them will make you spend less time at the wash rack and more time learning new things. Your cow will also have very healthy hair.

Showing season has officially started for us, and I can't wait to travel with Fort Worth and his sisters and see how they will improve over time.

Photo by Makayla Comer



Pedra, the adopted calf.

pet of the month



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The Catoctin Banner Brings You a Serial Fiction Story for Your Enjoyment

The King's Gambit

written by
JAMES RADA, JR.



4: The Visitor

Lou Preston slept uneasily. Four generations of Prestons had lived in this house on the edge of the Gettysburg battlefield, sometimes overlapping with as many as three generations living here at one time. They had gotten under each others' feet. They had gotten on each others' nerves. They knew one another intimately.

Or so Lou had thought.

What he believed he knew about his family, what he thought he knew about history, had changed in just a few hours. His great-grandfather, Harley Preston, had served as a spy for President Abraham Lincoln during the Civil War. And President Lincoln had been in secret peace negotiations

with Confederate President Jefferson Davis.

The question was: Why hadn't anyone else learned these things since then? Had Lincoln burned all the dispatches Harley had delivered to him as a courier for Col. David Donaldson? It didn't seem likely. Wouldn't the president have wanted to keep a record of what was going on? Hadn't Jefferson Davis wanted to keep a record of any promises made to end the war? Both men surely preserved records of such earth-shaking talks.

And what had happened with the peace negotiations? Why had they failed? Lou assumed they had, since the war had ended years after the events that Lou was reading about in his great-grandfather's journal.

Then there was the odd change of life Harley had had sometime during the war. Harley had written about looking forward to returning home to Lake Erie in Pennsylvania. He had written that seeing the Potomac River, as small as it was compared to Lake Erie, made him long for home where he had worked on fishing boats during summers in Erie, Pennsylvania.

So why hadn't Harley returned home after the war to be near the water once again? He had moved to Gettysburg, a landlocked town in a landlocked county in Pennsylvania, and stayed there for the rest of his life. If he yearned for the great blue

expanse, why choose fields of wheat over Erie's shores?

So far, things weren't making sense. The puzzle pieces weren't fitting together. Lou only hoped that they would be by the time he finished reading his great-grandfather's journal.

He woke up in the morning, feeling as if he hadn't slept at all. It took two cups of coffee to make him feel functional, although he still wouldn't have trusted himself behind the wheel of a car. A lukewarm shower helped wake him even more.

He could have gone back to sleep if he had wanted to. He was retired, after all, but he had work around the house to do. More importantly, he wanted to read more of the journal. Lou doubted he would get much sleep until he had answered the many questions that he had.

After his shower, he put on a clean shirt and sweatpants and went into his study, carrying the journal with him. He reclined on the couch, opened the old leather-bound book, and started reading from where he had left off yesterday.

August 2, 1862

As the president had requested, I started watching Col. Donaldson closely. When he would send me with a letter to deliver to the

president, I would also make a report to the president of any suspicious behavior—any odd glance, any furtive meeting—anything that might aid the president's secret peace efforts.

Neither the president nor Col. Donaldson showed me any of the colonel's letters, but from things that were said, I suspected some bore Jefferson Davis's hand.

I never saw any behavior from Col. Donaldson that led me to believe he wasn't acting in the best interest of the Union. I should have been happy about it, but I felt like I was failing President Lincoln. Having discovered that Col. Donaldson was actually a man named Paul DuPont, it seemed to me that he must be acting as a spy, but I couldn't find evidence of it.

Yes, he traveled into Rebel territory, but that was ostensibly to meet with Jefferson Davis or someone acting in Colonel Donaldson's capacity, but for the Confederates.

There must be a reason he chose to live under an assumed name, though, and I had to discover it. That reason might mean the success or failure of President Lincoln's efforts.

August 4, 1862

Yesterday Col. Donaldson

Continue reading story on page 45

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The King's Gambit

Continued from page 44

announced another trip south. Judging by past journeys, he'd be absent for a week. Eager to glean more intelligence, I offered my company. He refused, saying solo travel was easier. I suspected he slipped back into his real identity once in Confederate territory.

After he left, I scoured his office by lantern light. I cracked drawers, thumbed through every book for hidden compartments, tapped at the bookshelf's panels. I poked at the desk's underside—hoping for a secret latch. Finding nothing, I felt a stab of frustration: had I overlooked some vital clue? My relief that he might be innocent warred with the dread I'd missed treachery.

What I did find were letters that indicated that he thought presidents Lincoln and Davis were both negotiating hard, but Col. Donaldson thought that they were working toward a fair deal if they could see things through to the end.

I also uncovered unsigned letters—threats from shadowy profiteers on both sides of the Mason-Dixon line. Their red wax seals bore strange emblems. "If the war ends too soon, you will answer to us," one warned. If what I could understand from the insinuations in their letters was that most of the authors were businessmen profiting off the war, through both legal and illegal profiteering.

I didn't like the sound of them at all. I copied some of the letters and any information on the envelopes. Two of them had wax seals. I traced them, thinking they might be a way to identify the sender. I planned to turn over all the information to the president the next time I visited Washington.

Then an unexpected caller arrived. A guard ushered in a tall, impeccably dressed man. The soldier's rolling eyes spoke volumes. "He insists on seeing Colonel Donaldson," the guard muttered. His rolling eyes and frown told me the soldier's encounter with the man hadn't been pleasant.

I waved him away. "I will handle this." Once the guard departed, the visitor sneered, "Incompetent bumpkin."

His fine wool coat and polished boots marked him as a man of means. He pressed me: where was Donaldson? I told him truthfully

that the colonel was away—while lying about the appointment book. "He records every visitor," I said.

The man regained a bit of his composure. "This was a private matter."

"Private. I see. Regardless, the colonel is still not in."

"Where is he?"
"He is performing his duties as a military officer."

"What does that mean?"
"It means he's not here and is not expected to be here anytime soon. I can, however, take a message and your card and let him know you were here as soon as he returns."

I wanted to know this man's name. He was not the typical visitor the colonel saw. Knowing who he was could be useful information. His reluctance to tell me made me even more suspicious.

The man shook his head. "No, that is fine."

"I at least need your name for our log sheet. It is military protocol at a time of war," I lied.

"I've never had to do that before."

"You wouldn't have if it wasn't wartime, or you left your card. We are close to the enemy here, though. We can't take any chances of a spy coming across the river or even a sympathizer."

"Sympathizer! I'll have you know that I am loyal to the Union. I am helping you boys survive this war. I am no sympathizer."

"Then can I get your name, sir?"
He hesitated. "John Smith."

It was an obvious lie, but I had been painting a mental picture of this man to describe him to the president. He was wealthy and most likely a businessman or industrialist supplying the army. Col. Donaldson wasn't a quartermaster and not at a rank to conduct business for the army, so I was unsure of what legitimate business this man would have with the colonel.

"Thank you, sir," I said.

The man remained standing in front of me.

"Is there anything else I can help you with?" I asked.

He placed a cigar between his lips, turned on his heel, and strode off in silence—leaving Lou with more questions smoldering in his mind than any of the colonel's hidden letters ever had.

POETRY

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April Joy



by REBECCA ADELYN RUTHERFORD

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GAMES

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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 Catocin Banner* newzine. Winners are given a gift certificate to the advertiser of their choice. To participate, call 301-241-9249 or email news@thecatocinbanner.com to record your guesses by the 15th of each month. Please don't forget to include your full name. Don't forget that you need to check the next month's issue to see if you won.

Please note: The contests are not based on who gets their guesses in first. Each month, we put all correct guesses in a "hat" and randomly draw a winner.

Where Am I? 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, Lewistown to Emmitsburg, Foxville to Creagerstown, and everywhere around and in-between. Good luck!



March's "Where Am I?" photo was taken of the Seton Shrine Seminary on Seton Avenue in Emmitsburg. **The winner of the Where Am I? Contest for March's issue is Katherine O'Donnell.** Katherine, please select an advertising business from which you'd like your gift certificate. Then, contact *The Catocin Banner* at news@thecatocinbanner.com or call 301-241-9249, so we can mail you your prize!

Hidden Object Contest

The hidden object for March's issue was a golden horseshoe. It was hidden on page 18 in the *Catocin Dental* ad. **The winner of the Hidden Object Contest for March's issue is Margaret Ann Wooden.** Margaret, please select an advertising business from which you'd like your gift certificate. Then, contact *The Catocin Banner* email news@thecatocinbanner.com or call 301-241-9249, so we can mail you your prize! Happy hunting for this month's hidden object!

This month's Hidden Object Contest is an Easter Egg Hunt. Find all the hidden eggs (*only egg-hunt eggs have "Banner Egg Hunt!" on them; no other eggs count in the egg hunt*). They can be hidden in ads AND photos. Let us know how many you find!



Good luck!

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Existentialist Battery Crisis

SOMETIMES YA GOTTA CHOOSE WHICH ONE WINS BUT IN THE END WE'RE ALL GOING TO MOVE FORWARD ANYWAY

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(from left) Gene, Rita, Judy, Brian, Annetta, and Charlie visit Toledo, Spain, in January, and don't forget to take us along with them!



~Thanks for taking us along, Gene, Rita, Judy, Brian, Annetta, and Charlie!

We appreciate you!



Brandon Masser and family visit Marco Island, Florida, and they didn't forget to take *The Catoctin Banner* along!



~Thanks for taking us along, Brandon and family!

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LOOK UP

BY MITCHELL TESTER, College Student



Millions of miles away from our home here on Earth sits the smallest planet of our solar system, the planet Mercury. Mercury is incredibly hot, with it being only an average of 36 million miles away from the Sun. For reference, here on Earth, we are roughly 93 million miles away from the Sun. Although Mercury can be extremely hot, it can also be very cold. At night, Mercury sits at -290 degrees Fahrenheit, while during the day it can reach temperatures of 800 degrees Fahrenheit. Mercury's surface is riddled with craters from impacts with meteoroids and comets. This leaves the planet looking quite similar to our Moon. Mercury and the Moon are very similar in size, with Mercury being only slightly larger.

One of the most interesting facts I have learned about Mercury is what occurs at its poles. "Permanently shadowed regions" (PSRs) are locations on planets that the Sun never hits. Due to the Sun never reaching these areas, Mercury has large amounts of water ice. Astronomers theorize that there are between 100 billion and 1 trillion metric tons of water ice; this is enough to bury a city like Richmond, Virginia, twice.

Mercury is not an easy planet to spot with a telescope due to how close it is to the Sun. To have the best chances of seeing the tiny planet, it is best to wait until Mercury is in "greatest elongation." This simply means that Mercury is the farthest away from the Sun.

Missions such as "Mariner 10" and "Messenger" helped us understand the innermost planet. We were surprised to find that Mercury is not

geologically dead, as it was theorized that the smaller planets cooled very quickly. What we found is that Mercury has experienced relatively recent geological activity, and most likely still has a molten core. Despite this, Mercury is still cooling down. Similar to our Moon, both are cooling down from a violent birth and past. This causes their inner core to shrink,

which causes their surfaces to "wrinkle." This shrinking can cause what we call earthquakes; although for Mercury and the Moon, they are called Mercuryquakes and Moonquakes, respectively.

Specifically for the Moon, these quakes could make it hard for humans to explore it, especially when trying to set up a permanent camp on the Moon. As for future exploration of Mercury, we have the BepiColombo mission from the European Space Agency (ESA) and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA). This mission will be orbiting Mercury, collecting information on the planet's geology and composition.



Image shows Mercury as it appeared to NASA's MESSENGER as it sped away from the planet following its first flyby on January 14, 2008.

Source: science.nasa.gov



The Best Time to Start a Financial Plan is Now

BY TRICIA BUSH, CPA, CFP®
Owner, AAA Advisory LLC



WHY WE HANDLE MONEY THE WAY WE DO

Have you ever noticed how two people can earn similar incomes and still feel completely different about money? One person carefully watches every dollar, hesitating before making even small purchases. The other seems far more relaxed about spending and doesn't think twice about picking something up if they want it.

From the outside, those behaviors can look completely opposite. One person may seem overly cautious, while the other might appear a little too comfortable swiping the card. But interestingly, both patterns often grow out of the same underlying concern, the quiet belief that, at some point, there may not be enough.

Where Money Habits Begin

Many of the ways we handle money today started forming long before we earned our first paycheck. Our attitudes toward money are shaped by the environment we grew up in, the conversations we heard around the dinner table, and the financial experiences we watched our families go through.

If money felt tight or unpredictable growing up, it can leave a lasting impression—even if your financial situation later becomes stable.

The Ultra Saver

For some people, that early uncertainty shows up as a strong instinct to save. Having money set aside creates a sense of safety, and building that cushion becomes an important goal. These individuals often become disciplined savers

who plan carefully and think ahead.

You might recognize this person as the one who is keeping track of every purchase at home, and occasionally getting frustrated when their spouse seems to buy things without the same level of consideration.

The Quick Spender

On the other side are people who respond to financial uncertainty in almost the opposite way. For them, money can feel temporary. If it's here today, there's no guarantee it will still be there tomorrow. So, when money comes in, there can be a natural instinct to use it, to enjoy it while it is available.

They might be the one who happily stops at that coffee trailer, picks up lunch with friends, or buys something they've been wanting without much hesitation. To the saver, that behavior can look reckless. To the spender, the saver can seem unnecessarily restrictive.

And somehow, for reasons no one has fully figured out, these two types of people often end up marrying each other. It's funny when you think about it: opposites attracting doesn't just apply to personality, it extends to money habits, too.

Same Fear, Different Approach

What's interesting is that both the ultra-saver and the quick-spender are often reacting to the same basic fear. Both are trying, in their own way, to protect themselves from the possibility that money may not always be there when they need it.

The saver responds by holding on tightly and building as much

security as possible. The spender responds by making sure they enjoy money while they have it. Neither reaction is inherently wrong. In fact, both likely developed for understandable reasons.

The important step is simply recognizing our own tendencies.

Knowing Where You Fall

If you pause for a moment and think about your relationship with money, you might start to notice certain patterns. Some people feel a deep sense of comfort watching their savings grow, while spending, even on something meaningful, can create tension. Others feel more relaxed once money has been used for something they value, rather than sitting in an account.

Most people fall somewhere between these two extremes, but many of us lean slightly in one direction. That's okay. The goal isn't to label your approach as "right" or "wrong," it's to understand what's driving your behavior.

To help relieve tension, try this: Notice where you fall on the scale between saver and spender, and ask yourself, *Am I acting this way out of fear, or is this something we can truly afford?* That small pause can completely change the conversation about money, whether it's with yourself or with your partner.

Building Confidence With Money

Financial confidence doesn't necessarily come from having the highest income or the largest investment portfolio. More often, it comes from understanding how your finances work and feeling comfortable with the decisions you're making.

Some people build that confidence by learning the basics

and managing things themselves. Others prefer working with a financial planner who can help guide decisions without selling products. And for many, simply having a trusted professional to talk through choices can make a huge difference.

The approach doesn't matter as much as feeling informed and supported. When that happens, money decisions start to come from understanding, not fear.

Letting Money Support Your Life

At its best, money is simply a tool. It helps create stability, allows us to support the people we care about, and gives us opportunities to enjoy life along the way. But when fear quietly drives decisions, money can start to feel like a burden rather than a resource.

The good news is that awareness can change everything. Once you recognize your natural tendencies, you can begin to respond more thoughtfully. Saving can become a deliberate strategy, and spending can become a thoughtful choice rather than an instinctive reaction.

And over time, that shift replaces fear with something far more valuable: confidence. Confidence that your financial decisions are helping you live the life you actually want. And maybe, just maybe, the next time that coffee trailer rolls up, you'll feel free to say yes. Whistle Stop Coffee, anyone?

Disclosure: This article is for educational purposes only and is not intended to be investment, tax, or financial advice. Investment decisions should be based on your individual financial situation, goals, and risk tolerance. Consider consulting with a qualified financial professional before making investment decisions.

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LOOKING BACK « That's the Way the Ball Bounces

BY JAMES RADA, JR.



(left) An early Thurmont High School basketball team.



(right) The old Thurmont Town Hall, where home basketball games were played.

Photos Courtesy of Thurmontimages.com

Although James Naismith invented basketball in 1891, Thurmont High School didn't field its first school team until 1926.

Basketball's popularity at the time was spreading throughout the county, and Thurmont was actually late to the game. Frederick High and Emmitsburg High already had teams playing other county teams. Emmitsburg's team had hit the court in 1925.

Roger Culler formed the team near the end of 1925 and worked with the boys, teaching them the rules and skills. He saw the team's potential and thought he had a winning team.

The Thurmont High team played its first game on January 16, 1926, against the St. John's Athletic Club in Frederick. It was a home game played in the Thurmont Town Hall. At this time, the town hall was a 46-year-old building that also served as the fire hall for the Guardian Hose Company and a town event building.

It was a rough opening for the Thurmont boys. St. John's soundly defeated the team. The final score was 58 to 7. "After piling up a big lead, the local club sent a number of substitutes into the fray," The (Frederick) News reported. Apparently, Coach Culler was hoping desperately to find a player who might get some traction against St. John's.

E. Moser was the leading scorer for Thurmont with 4 points. St. John's leading scorer was Alton Lipps with 20 points.

Thurmont's second game against Frederick High on Jan. 19 was even worse. With a final score of 67-4, Frederick scored more than St. John's had, and Thurmont put even fewer points on the board. Thurmont didn't even score in the first half of the game. They fared better during the second half because Frederick High played its second-string boys.

"Although bewildered, the losers fought their way through to the end, displaying a determined spirit," The Frederick Post reported.

"The basketball game will probably be adopted in Walkersville High School next year, it is rumored, as a new gymnasium has been proposed for that facility, providing a place for practice and games," The (Frederick) News reported.

With the addition of Walkersville High having a team, the next step expected was the formation of a north county league under the direction of the Public Athletic League.

While boys and girls would go on to enjoy basketball at the high school for another 23 years, the school does not seem to have produced a championship team at the state level.

When Catoclin High School opened in 1969, combining Emmitsburg High and Thurmont High, things improved for the Thurmont boys.

The boys team had back-to-back winning seasons in 1979-80 and 1980-81. It was a first for the program.

The team also won a league/conference title, earned playoff berths, and advanced to the MPSSAA state semifinals at Cole Field House in 1981. This was also a program first.

The team continued to play well and has made other state tournament appearances since that time.

Girls basketball at Catoclin High has been even more successful. The team was an MPSSAA state semifinalist in 1985, 1994, and 2005; state finalist in 1986 and 2022. In 2006, the team won its first state championship.

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Turn to Page 46

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Observer OR Participant?

Are you an observer or a participant?

The psychology of observers versus participants has always fascinated me. On the surface, you would think that these two personality types would resemble the introvert versus extrovert personality types. However, although they share common characteristics, observers versus participants do not directly equate to introverts (who recharge through solitude) versus extroverts (who regain energy from social situations).

While it's true that introverts often prefer observing, thereby avoiding overstimulation, being observant is a skill that anyone—including extroverts—can develop.

So, what are the essential differences between the observer and the participant? The answer lies in the fundamental difference in how observers and participants engage with life.

According to Psychology Today, participants are immersed, emotionally involved, and active agents in a scenario. Observers maintain distance to analyze, think, and process information.

Research indicates that people generally fall into the two primary orientations—participant or observer—based on how they interact with their environment and emotions. However, people can be both an observer and a participant; although they usually lean more one way or the other.

I am unequivocally more observer than participant—although I do carry some participant traits. And I believe I always have been. I am the youngest of five. My siblings tell me stories of when I was very young, and they were supposed to be babysitting me while my parents

were out. They laugh as they recall how they would invite a bunch of friends over, and how I would just sit and watch everyone, taking it all in. No doubt that I learned a lot of stuff I wasn't supposed to know about at that young age. If my parents had only known what was going on when they left me in the care of my older siblings. But I never told. I wasn't a tattletale.

My husband is always dumbfounded by how, at social gatherings, I will come away with insights into friends or family. Cues I will notice and intuitions I will discern that something is going on with them, and a great deal of the time, I end up being spot on.

Research on observer personalities shows that because they use their senses, such as watching body language, listening to tone, and noticing behavioral patterns, they tend to pick up on the sense that something might be amiss with someone.

Participants often “plunge” into situations, rather than maintaining a detached, analytical distance. They are often “in the moment.” The participant prefers to experience life directly, often leading with their feelings rather than a purely logical approach.

So, what are the benefits and potential downfalls of each personality type?

Observers have strong intuition and insight, with a keen attention to detail. While sometimes quiet or detached, the observer often sees the “full picture” of a situation, allowing them to recognize broader patterns and consequences. They tend to see the “forest for the trees,” as they don't get caught up in specifics, but rather gauge the situation as a whole, often leading to good decision-

making. They possess a keen eye for noticing patterns, errors, or changes in their environment that others might miss.

Some of the potential drawbacks of being an observer include overthinking details, resisting change, and sometimes ignoring abstract or future possibilities. Due to an observer's tendency to stand back and witness what's going on around them, this can hinder them from getting in the mix and experiencing life. Their inclination to perceive what others miss can cause problems. In fact, observers often feel frustrated and wonder how it is possible that others do not see what is so obvious to them.

Participants are oriented toward being in the middle of a scenario, often with high emotional involvement. They are action-oriented, energetic, and bring a hands-on approach to life. Participants are likely to directly experience and participate in emotional situations, rather than watch from the sidelines. They are often team-oriented and comfortable working collaboratively with others rather than alone. Participants naturally engage through feeling.

A potential drawback is the participants' provocation to “plunge” into a situation without first assessing it, which can result in a lack of objectivity due to emotional involvement and lead to reduced decision-making quality.

Whether you are an observer or a participant, or a bit of both, we can all take lessons from the other. A participant can emulate an observer to gain perspective on a situation, while an observer can emulate a participant to feel more engaged in a situation. Balance in anything is key.

That's just my two cents.

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VETERAN SPOTLIGHT

BY RICHARD D. L. FULTON

Kenneth P. Anders Battle of the Hedgerows

**THANK
YOU
FOR YOUR SERVICE**



(left) Soldiers, Battle of the Hedgerows.

Source: National Archives; Records Administration



(right) Kenneth P. Anders headstone, Mount Tabor Cemetery in Rocky Ridge.

Source: findagrave.com

Kenneth P. Anders was born on February 28, 1922, in Rocky Ridge, Maryland, to parents Grayson Howard and Grace Emma Brown Anders, and had two sisters, Zelda (who only survived one year) and Beatrice, and three brothers, Atlee, Wade, and Kermit.

Grayson Anders' obituary published in the February 1, 1944, *The (Frederick) News* mentioned a daughter named Mrs. Grace Angel, which would have been a sister of Kenneth Anders, but the name was not encountered anywhere else by the author of this column, and

additionally, it was not mentioned on ancestry.com.

Before entering the Army, Anders was employed with his father as a painter. Upon entering the military service, Anders was assigned to the Army's Company A, 115th Infantry, 29th Division as a mortar gunner, wherein he achieved the rank of private first class/PFC.

Anders wrote to his parents on June 24, 1944, that "he came through safely" during the June 4, 1944, D-Day assault on Omaha Beach, according to an article published in the July 15, 1944, edition of *The (Frederick) News*.

However, he would not be so lucky as the 115th Infantry delved deeper into the Allied advance through Normandy and found itself bogged down in the "Battle of the Hedgerows," battling heavy German resistance.

As the 115th Infantry began to attempt to capture Saint-Lô (located about 37 miles from Omaha Beach), they found themselves facing a terrain comprised of successive rows of hundreds of years-old earthen banks, covered with thick hedges, bordering fields, and sunken roads, and held by entrenched German forces.

The battle lasted from June into July, with the American troops gaining sometimes as little as a few hundred yards a day. From the time the 29th Division "hit the beach" at Omaha to securing Saint-Lô, the division had sustained significant casualties, the 115th Infantry alone suffering 175 killed and 726 wounded, one of the wounded having been Anders.

According to an article published in *The News* on August 5, 1944, "Anders was reported seriously wounded in France on July 11." According to Anders' 1998 obituary, he had been wounded by mortar fire.

Anders' father passed away on January 31, 1944, while Anders and his brothers were still serving in the military during World War II. Thus, his father had never learned of Anders' having been wounded.

After having been discharged from the Army, Anders enjoyed gunsmithing and repairing watches, and, according to his obituary, he had also enjoyed hunting and fishing, and automobiles and motorcycles.

By the end of World War II, Anders had been awarded two Purple Hearts, a Bronze Star, Bronze Arrowhead, Expert Infantry Badge, and a Combat Infantry Badge.

After the war, Anders married Margaret Lucille Hartman on March 1, 1946, in Newport News, Virginia, according to Virginia, U.S., Marriage Records, 1936-2014. The couple had five children: Patricia, Lynn, Kenneth, Wade, and Mark.

His wife, Margaret, had served in the Army as a medical technician (Tech-5) from Feb. 8, 1945 to April 6, 1946. She was a member of the Blue Angels Nursing Corps in Pittsburgh, and was stationed at the U.S. Army Hospital in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, according to findagrave.com, and verified via the US Department of Veterans Affairs BIRLS Death File, 1850-2020.

At the time of Anders' death, he was listed as having been a resident of 214 Sunhigh Drive, Thurmont.

Anders passed away at age 76 on October 7, 1998, at Frederick Memorial Hospital. His wife, Margaret, had preceded him in death, having passed away on October 5, 1990. His sisters and brothers had also preceded him in death.

Funeral services for Anders were held on October 13, 1998, with the Reverend James Russell officiating, and Anders was then interred in the Mount Tabor Cemetery in Rocky Ridge.

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Thurmont AMVETS Post 7, Thurmont

Thurmont AMVETS Post 7, located at 26 Apples Church Road in Thurmont, is now open for lunch and dinner every Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, from 12:00 to 7:00 p.m., with weekly specials Wednesday through Saturday, from noon to 7:00 p.m. Check out the Friday Night Special, a "Bucket of Domestic Beer and an appetizer for only \$20.00! Follow them on Facebook for the weekly menus. View the advertisement on page 39.

Every Thursday is Bar Bingo at AMVETS Post 7! Enjoy cash prizes, drinks, food, and fun! Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Bingo is open to the public. Come early; it fills up quickly! View the advertisement on page 19.

The AMVETS Post 7 Ladies Auxiliary's Bingo is on April 15. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Bingo is open to the public. Enjoy homemade food available for purchase, as well as games of chance and raffles. View the advertisement on page 39.

American Legion Post 168, Thurmont

Thank goodness spring has finally arrived! The spring flowers are in full bloom and beautifying this wonderful world. I am sure that after all that snow, we have plenty of yard work that needs done. Don't forget to check on the elderly, Veterans, and any Active Duty families in your neighborhood to see if they need assistance.

Spring at the Legion is looking very busy, with all kinds of events for Members and the Community! We have Ham & Turkey Night with the Easter Cake Silent Auction on April 3; Veterans Luncheon on April 11; Gun Drawing on May 2; SAL Car Show June 13; and a new event this year: 250th Anniversary Community Day. Plans for all these are just starting, but they are sounding like lots of fun! Hope you can join us!

We are always talking about checking on our Veterans, but now we need to switch gears. We need to pray for our Active Duty. If you know of any Active-Duty service members, please check on their family. They may need some sort of assistance or someone to talk to. Let them know that the Legion is here for them.

History of Vietnam Veterans Day: The Vietnam War was a lengthy and costly conflict between Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam. It occurred from November 1, 1955, to April 30, 1975—a total of 19 years before the fall of Saigon. As Vietnam's principal ally, the participation of the U.S. significantly determined the fate of the war. In 1961, U.S. President John F. Kennedy sent a team to Vietnam to report its conditions. It was found that there was an American buildup of economic, military, and technical aid to Ngo Dinh Diem to defeat the Viet Cong. Due to the "domino theory," which suggests that if one Southeast Asian country falls, the others will follow, Kennedy increased the American aid in Vietnam. By 1962, the U.S. military presence in the country reached up to 9,000 troops.

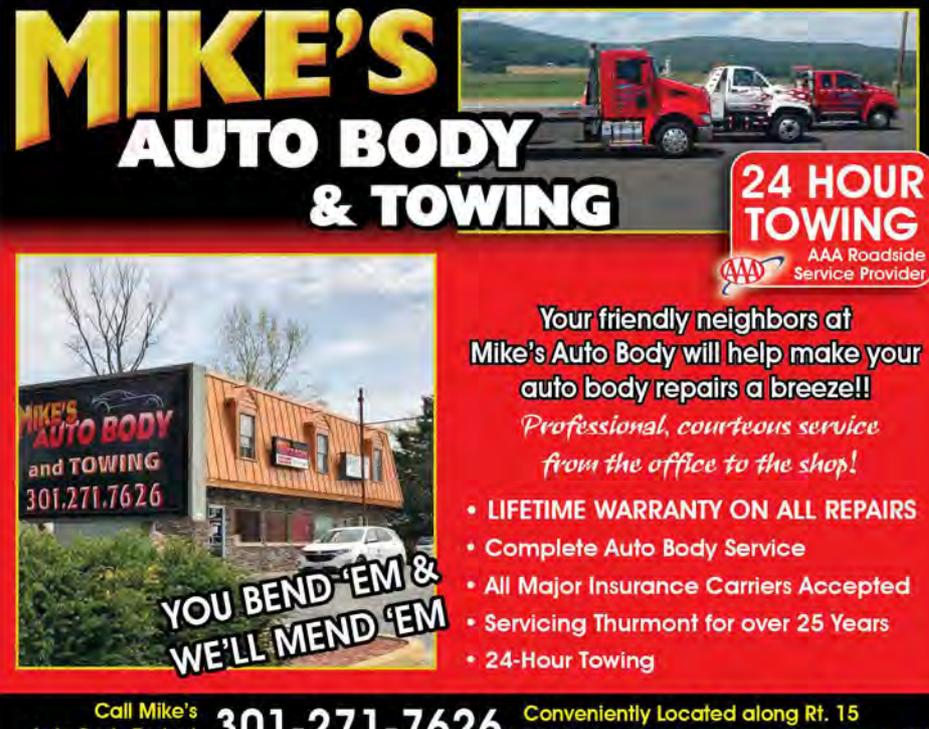
By March 1965, U.S. aid continued in Vietnam, with the support of Lyndon Johnson, Kennedy's successor. By June of the same year, American troops reached 82,000. A month later, 100,000 more troops were delegated, and 100,000 more a year later. By November 1967, the number of U.S. troops reached 500,000; however, 15,058 were killed, and 109,527 were wounded.

On November 5, 1969, there was a massive anti-war movement in Washington. More than 250,000 Americans participated, calling for the withdrawal of military troops from Vietnam. On March 29, 1973, U.S. President Richard Nixon officially withdrew the American combat forces from Vietnam. A year later, the first Vietnam Veterans Day was held.



VETERAN SPOTLIGHT

If you are a Veteran, or you know a Veteran, who would like to share their experiences in the military for publication in *The Catoctin Banner*, please contact us at news@thecatocinbanner.com.



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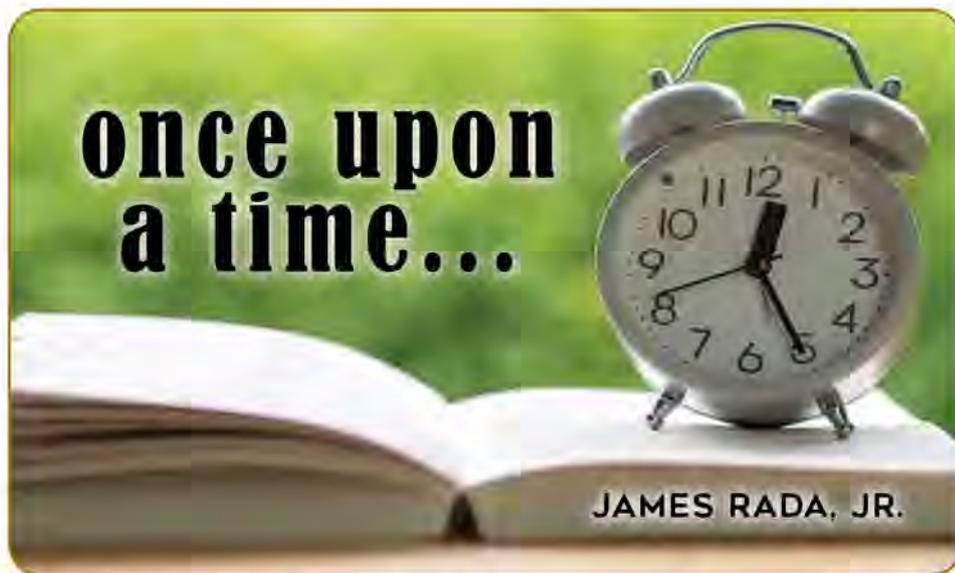
Come be a part of our family.

We welcome you to come worship with us as often as you can. God loves you and made you one of a kind. He has great plans for you. He wants the best for you.

I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord'. Psalm 122:1

Come discover His goodness!

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Note: Newspaper excerpts are as they appeared in their respective issues.

April 1976, 50 Years Ago

Selected As Outstanding Young Men

The Board of Advisors for the Outstanding Young Men of America Awards Program announced that the following men have been selected for inclusion in the 1976 edition of *Outstanding Young Men of America*.

All from the Emmitsburg area they are: Mr. Ronald Albert Valenti, Associate Dean of Students, Mount St. Mary's College; Mr. Thomas Lawrence Topper, 320 E. Main St.; Mr. Michael Henry Scheerer, Rt. 2, Box 163; and Mr. Frank Pietrazak, Rt. 2, Box 162.

The Program is sponsored by the U.S. Jaycees and numerous other leading men's civic and service organizations throughout the nation.

— *Emmitsburg Chronicle*, April 22, 1976

Silver Fancy Plants Wye Oak Seedling

Smile, if you must, at the small size of the Wye oak seedling planted last week in the park area by the Post Office. With the good wishes of attending Mayor Sprankle and Park Commissioner E. Eugene Myers and members of the Silver Fancy Garden Club, the tender year-old tree was carefully planted.

Mr. Edward Myers did the actual spade work while the garden club members stood by with peat-moss and water and stakes. A sturdy wire enclosure was built to protect the seedling.

The Silver Fancy Garden Club, who is sponsoring the infant tree, hopes it will grow to the towering height of its famous forebearer: the giant Wye Oak at Wye Mills, Md.

That ancient tree sprouted in the 16th century when Henry the Eighth was king of England and was 100 years old when Lord Baltimore's "Ark and the Dove" landed at St. Clement's Island. Indians held pow-wow's under its giant branches and a tavern there was a gathering place for travelers and countrymen.

— *Emmitsburg Chronicle*, April 29, 1976

April 1926, 100 Years Ago

DETOUR

A number of folks of this place are having their houses wired for electric lights.

— *The Carroll Record*, April 2, 1926

HARNEY

On last Sunday, the Haines family moved from this place to Bristol, Pa. We are informed that it is a town of about 10,000 inhabitants, with nearly every Nationality represented. About one-third Americans, and the remaining two-thirds foreigners and colored people. Those who accompanied did not seem to be very favorably impressed with the place. The Haines people's departure closes one of our stores.

— *The Carroll Record*, April 9, 1926

April 1951, 75 Years Ago

Fish There—But No One Can Catch 'Em!

Favored by ideal weather—even though the temperature was a little too low for comfort at first—hundreds of anglers and fly fishermen greeted the opening day of the trout season at 5:30 a.m. last Sunday morning along Frederick County streams. At 6:30 a.m., an estimated 600 were strung out along Fishing Creek and 350 cars were counted in that area, reported Deputy Game Wardens Durward Kettells and Glenn Butts who roamed that stream from 4:30 to 9 o'clock.

Big Hunting Creek drew a proportionate number, and similar conditions prevailed along Middle and Friends Creeks, which were the scene of early patrol by Regional Warden Benjamin Phebus and a deputy from an adjoining county.

— *Emmitsburg Chronicle*, April 20, 1951

S.E. Barnhart New Thurmont Mayor

Thurmont citizens on Monday elected S. E. Barnhart, Western Maryland Railway agent, as their new president of the Board of Commissioners, and elected Theodore Beard and Ross V. Smith to the board. The term of the new mayor is for one year and the commissioners were elected for two-year terms.

Mr. Barnhart, who has served on the board for four years, succeeds D. Saylor Weybright, who served as Mayor from 1947 to date. The latter declined nomination at a recent primary but received 17 write-in votes on Monday. Mr. Barnhart received 116 votes.

About one-fourth of the eligible voters cast ballots. There were three candidates for the two board posts. Mr. Beard received 111, Mr. Smith 109, with 23 cast for Jesse Kirchner, the third formally nominated candidate. There was one write-in vote for Merhl Pryor.

— *Emmitsburg Chronicle*, April 27, 1951

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April 2001, 25 Years Ago

Pricetag for Community Center Renovation Increases 43 Percent

At the March 5 town meeting, the commissioners were advised of a 43% cost increase on the renovation of the Community Center. Town Manager David Haller said that the increase resulted from a more detailed study of the building, which uncovered issues not addressed in the first study.

Approximately \$1.4 million will be needed to correct foundation problems, stormwater management, and roof repairs, raising the total projected cost to \$4.2 million. The increase will add \$70,000 to the town's projected cost of \$200,000.

The commissioners voted 4-0 to accept the changes proposed by the county for renovating the building. Construction on the project is expected to begin in May 2002 and the building occupied by July 2003.

— *The Dispatch*, April 2001

Orioles Mascot to be at Local Season Opener

Emmitsburg Baseball and Softball League is in the final stages of preparing for the 2001 Little League Baseball and Softball season. Opening day for baseball is set for April 21, and to help kick off the season, the Baltimore Orioles Mascot will be there from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

— *The Emmitsburg Regional Dispatch*, April 2001

"The Old Adage"

appearing in
Emmitsburg Chronicle,
4-20-1951





Recipe of the Month

BY MAXINE TROXELL

I use my basic rich, hot rolls recipe to make these rolls. This recipe is so versatile that you can use it for all kinds of rolls, sweet or savory. The Rich Hot Rolls recipe came from one of the *Farm Journal* recipe books. This recipe will make 18 rolls. These are popular at bake sales and special occasions. You can use your own creativity with this recipe. I hope you enjoy them!

Cranberry Orange Sweet Rolls

Ingredients

- ¾ cup milk
- ½ cup sugar
- 2 pks active dry yeast
- 4¼ to 4¾ cups sifted bread flour
- 1 cup Orange Marmalade
- melted butter
- ½ cup shortening or butter
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- ½ cup lukewarm water (110 to 115 degrees)
- 2 eggs
- ¼ cup dried cranberries

Glaze: 2 cups confectioners' sugar / 3 teaspoons orange zest / ¼ cup orange juice / pinch of salt

Directions

1. Scald milk. Combine milk, shortening or butter, sugar and salt in a bowl. Cool to lukewarm. Sprinkle yeast on lukewarm water; stir to dissolve.
2. Add 1½ cups of flour to the milk mixture; beat well by hand or with an electric mixer at low speed for 1 minute.
3. Beat in eggs and yeast. Gradually stir in remaining flour, a little at a time, to make a soft dough. Turn onto a lightly floured surface; knead until smooth, satiny, and no longer sticky, approximately 8 minutes.
4. Place dough in a lightly greased bowl; invert to grease the top. Cover and let rise in a warm place until doubled, approximately 1½ hours.
5. Punch dough down and turn onto a lightly floured surface. Divide the dough into 2 portions. Roll each portion into an 18 x 12 rectangle. Spread ½ cup Orange Marmalade and sprinkle with dried cranberries. Starting at the 18-inch side, roll up and seal edges. Cut into 9 equal slices. Place rolls into greased 5 x 7-inch pans. Let it rise for another half hour.
6. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes or until golden brown. Brush with melted butter. When cool, combine glaze ingredients and spread glaze evenly over rolls.

Enjoy!



The Supermarket Gourmet

BY BUCK REED



Ramen: How to Order in a Noodle Shop



Japanese raw fish dishes known as sushi have been firmly entrenched in the American food service industry. Learning the Japanese terms for ordering in a Sushi restaurant is almost a part of our own language at this point. Given that Ramen has not only made its place in Japanese restaurants and is even making its way into stand-alone shops, it might be advantageous to get ahead or catch up by looking at and learning the terms used in ordering this seemingly complex dish.

Broth

Ramen is made with various broths, differentiated by what they are made of, richness, and flavor profiles.

- Miso – Made from fermented bean paste, this broth has a slightly sweet flavor with a savory umami flavor.
- Shio – This broth is the oldest traditional, and is salt-based with a delicate, light flavor.
- Shoyu – Broth based on soy sauce, and is clear, brown, and bright.
- Tonkatsu – Pork broth is considered the richest broth choice.

Noodles

Ramen is noodles, so picking the style of noodle for your dish might be worth your consideration. Noodles are made with or without flour and with or without egg, both of which will affect the richness and texture of the noodles.

- Firmness – Most Ramen shops in the USA will offer various firmnesses of the noodle you choose: firm, medium, or soft.
- Fotomen – Thick, chewy noodles.

Toppings

The broth and noodles in Ramen might be the dish by themselves, but are often upstaged by the toppings.

- Ajitama – Soft-boiled egg marinated
- Chashu – Pork Belly braised
- Garlic – Fresh, roasted, or fried
- Kikurage – Wood ear mushrooms
- Kyabetsu – Sliced cabbage
- Menma – Fermented bamboo shoots
- Moyashi – Bean sprouts
- Narutomaki – Fish cake
- Negi – Sliced scallion
- Nori – Dried Seaweed
- Americanized – Additions such as corn, spice paste, shitake mushroom

One thing to understand about Japanese cooking is that when you put ingredients all together, there really isn't one star. It is about making the ingredients harmonize with each other.

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THE BENEFITS of PROTEIN and HOW MUCH YOU NEED

BY DR. THOMAS K. LO, Advanced Chiropractic & Nutritional Healing Center

Protein is often called the “building block” of life. It repairs tissues, supports immune defense, regulates metabolism, and helps you age gracefully; it is involved with almost every corner of your health.

The Benefits of Protein

Protein promotes muscle growth, repair, and strength by providing amino acids, the building blocks your body uses to repair muscle tissue. It is vital for building and maintaining lean mass, especially as you age.

It aids in weight management. We often think of protein as adding muscle, but it can also support weight loss and healthy weight management.

- Protein has a higher thermic effect of food than carbs or fat, meaning your body spends more energy (calories) digesting it.
- Eating more protein triggers hormones like peptide YY and GLP-1, which help you feel full and reduce hunger.
- It preserves lean mass during dieting: When you're in a calorie deficit, higher protein protects your muscles, so more of your

weight loss comes from fat, not muscle.

A randomized trial published in the *International Journal of Obesity and Related Metabolic Disorders*, conducted on moderately obese adults, found that a modest increase in protein intake during a weight maintenance phase after weight loss cut weight regain by half, mainly by boosting satiety and lowering energy efficiency.

Protein's role in metabolism goes beyond just burning calories. It also helps maintain lean mass.

For example, a randomized, controlled overfeeding study in humans showed that when participants consumed a high-protein diet (25 percent of energy), their resting and total energy expenditure increased significantly compared with lower-protein diets.

Adequate protein supports bone remodeling (the ongoing process of breaking down and rebuilding bone) and is associated with higher bone mineral density.

Another benefit of protein for bones is helping reduce fracture risk. A meta-analysis of randomized, controlled trials and cohort studies published in *The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* found that higher protein

intake modestly, but reliably, increased lumbar spine bone mineral density compared to lower protein intake, with no evidence of harm at typical intake levels.

Protein may help regulate blood pressure by promoting the production of nitric oxide, a compound that relaxes and widens blood vessels. In fact, research has revealed modest yet meaningful reductions in both systolic and diastolic blood pressure with higher protein intake.

A meta-analysis of 40 randomized, controlled trials showed that replacing some carbohydrates with dietary protein reduced systolic blood pressure and diastolic pressure.

Another long-term study of more than 1,300 middle-aged adults in the Framingham Offspring cohort relayed that higher total protein intake (both plant and animal protein) was associated with lower blood pressure and a 40 percent reduced risk of developing hypertension over an average of 11 years.

Proteins are essential for immune health. They are needed to build antibodies and immune cells.

In addition, certain amino acids (like glutamine, arginine, and lysine) support gut barrier function and immune resilience.

A study in older adults with type 2 diabetes, published in *Clinical Nutrition*, showed that a six-week high protein diet (30 percent of energy) lowered pro-inflammatory adipokines, indicating reduced systemic inflammation.

As we age, muscle mass naturally declines, a process called sarcopenia. Sarcopenia is progressive muscle loss, and is not just limited to older adults. It can be seen in younger, sedentary people, too.

Getting enough quality protein can help slow this muscle loss, support strength and maintain mobility.

Structural proteins like collagen also help keep skin supple, joints resilient, and tissues more flexible, supporting vitality as we grow older.

As people age, adequate protein intake helps preserve muscle strength and function.

For example, in a 14-year longitudinal study of adults 50 and older, higher animal protein intake was linked to a 30 percent to 48 percent greater preservation of grip strength and a lower risk of functional decline.

Amino acids from protein are the raw materials for neurotransmitters (like serotonin, dopamine, and norepinephrine), which regulate mood, focus, and cognition. It's suggested that protein mitigates oxidative stress and inflammation within the brain.

A study of 196 older adults published in *Alzheimer's Research & Therapy* found that higher dietary protein intake was significantly associated with better episodic memory and overall cognition, and this relationship was even stronger in people carrying a gene that is a known risk factor for Alzheimer's.

In another large cross-sectional analysis of U.S. adults aged 60-plus published in *The Journal of Nutrition, Health & Aging*, higher total protein intake (especially from meat, eggs and legumes) correlated with better performance on memory, processing speed and verbal fluency tests.

Protein is critical when your body is recovering from injury, illness, or physical stress.

Research supports higher protein intake during recovery phases.

In a 2022 randomized, double blind, clinical trial of patients undergoing posterior spinal fusion surgery, those given extra protein (in the form of a whey supplement) had a significantly higher rate of vertebral fusion, faster wound healing, lower inflammation (reduced C reactive protein), and

...continue reading on page 57

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THE BENEFITS OF PROTEIN AND HOW MUCH YOU NEED

better recovery markers than those receiving a placebo.

How Much Protein Do You Really Need?

Determining your ideal protein intake depends on your goals, age, activity, and health status.

According to research, most people may benefit from between one to two grams of protein per kilogram of body weight (0.45 to 0.9 g per pound).

For older adults (65-plus), research-backed guidelines suggest 1 to 1.2 g/kg (0.45-0.54 g/lb.) to help preserve muscle mass.

In cases of illness, injury, or recovery, protein needs may increase up to 2 g/kg for severe stress or malnutrition.

For weight loss goals, experts often recommend 1.6-2.2 g/kg (0.73-1.0 g/lb.) to support fat loss while preserving lean mass.

Timing matters, too.

Distributing protein more evenly across meals can more effectively stimulate muscle protein synthesis than loading most protein into one big meal.

Consuming protein around workouts (before or after) can enhance muscle repair and growth.

Best Sources of Protein

Here are some of the top high-protein foods and supplements to consume.

High-quality animal proteins—Lean meats: chicken, turkey, lean beef; seafood: fish (salmon, tuna), shellfish; dairy: Greek yogurt, milk, cheese; eggs.

Plant-based proteins—Legumes: lentils, chickpeas, beans; soy products: tofu, tempeh, edamame; grains and seeds: quinoa, chia, hemp, pumpkin seeds; protein isolates: pea protein, rice protein, chickpea protein.

Protein supplements—Whey protein: fast absorption, complete amino acid profile; plant-based blends: often combine pea, rice, or other plant proteins to provide a full amino acid profile; collagen peptides: support joints, skin, and connective tissue (though not a “complete” protein for muscle building).

Boosting protein intake

Try a high-quality protein powder. If you struggle to hit your protein goals with food alone, add one scoop of a clean, high-quality protein powder to your daily routine.

“Protein may help regulate blood pressure by promoting the production of nitric oxide. Research has revealed modest, yet meaningful, reductions in both systolic and diastolic blood pressure with higher protein intake.”

Aim to include a quality protein source at every meal. Try simple, go-to combinations. Breakfast: Greek yogurt, chia, and berries; Lunch: grilled chicken or tofu over a quinoa/greens bowl; Dinner: wild-caught salmon with roasted vegetables; Snacks: hard-boiled eggs, cottage cheese, nuts, or hummus.

Structure meals wisely. Spread protein evenly across meals (breakfast, lunch, dinner). Pair protein with fiber-rich foods (vegetables, whole grains) to support digestion and fullness. Use protein-rich snacks: nuts, seeds, Greek yogurt, boiled eggs, etc.

For aging adults, prioritize high-quality protein at meals to preserve muscle.

For busy people, use high-quality protein powders or ready-to-go protein-rich meals.

For plant-based eaters, combine different sources (e.g., legumes and grains) to ensure a full amino acid profile.

Track your intake for a week. Most people think they’re getting enough protein but fall short without realizing it. Use a nutrition app or a simple notebook to track your intake for five to seven days.

If you’re increasing protein for the first time, ramp up gradually and stay well-hydrated. Your digestion (and energy) will thank you.

Talk to a professional if you have health conditions. If you have kidney, liver, or metabolic conditions, check in with your

health care provider before making major dietary changes.

Risks of Too Much Protein

While protein is essential, more isn’t always better. Overconsumption or imbalance can lead to issues in some people.

1. Kidney Strain

High protein intake increases nitrogen waste, which kidneys must filter. In people with pre-existing kidney conditions, excessive protein could worsen function.

2. Digestive Issues

Very high-protein diets, especially those low in fiber, can lead to constipation, bloating, or other gut discomfort. Lack of diversity in protein sources (e.g., mostly animal, little plant) may impair gut microbiome diversity.

3. Dehydration Risk

Processing protein generates more waste products (like urea),

which requires water to excrete. Without adequate hydration, you risk dehydration.

4. Weight Gain (If Caloric Surplus)

If you’re consuming more protein than you burn, extra calories (even from protein) may be stored as fat.

Some “high-protein” processed products can be calorie-dense and nutrient-poor, which undermines health goals.

If you are struggling with health issues, call the Advanced Chiropractic & Nutritional Healing Center at 240-651-1650 for a free consultation. Dr. Lo uses Nutritional Response Testing® to analyze the body to determine the underlying causes of ill or non-optimum health.

The office is located at 7310 Grove Road #107, Frederick, MD. Check out the website at www.doctorlo.com.

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- Allergies
- Brain fog
- Puffiness in face and extremities



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BY JEFF YOCUM

A Change of SCENERY

“A Change of Scenery” focuses on day trips from Thurmont that are within 150 miles (give or take). These trips will not include “Disney-level” destinations, but rather, lesser-known points of interest. The purpose of the article is to suggest venues for folks seeking a short, easily accessible change of scenery. In the process, hopefully something will be learned. Some will be historic, some cultural, and others just plain quirky. I confess an ulterior motive for writing this article: I have a wanderlust addiction.

Fort Ritchie

Looking for a safe place to get your steps in? Want to shoot some hoops out of the weather? How about meeting a friend at a casual café designed for conversation? Getting married? Desperate for a place to host an event? Need your car fixed? Feeling under the weather and want medical help? There’s a place that offers all of these things and much more.

Think about looking at the repurposed campus of Fort Ritchie. The old fort continues its metamorphosis from an Army base to a civilian complex. Culture, commerce, and recreation are coalescing to create a viable community that enriches Frederick, Washington, and Franklin counties.

It would be easy for an active person to spend the better part of a day enjoying some of what Ritchie has to offer. Grab a free permit from the Community Center and spend a day fishing. Top it off with a cool treat from Mountain Top Ice Cream Shop. If you stick yourself with a fishing hook, visit Meritus Health’s urgent care facility.

Perhaps your daughter is a bride-to-be. Ritchie has its own, newly renovated chapel and a banquet hall literally within walking distance of each other. Lakeside Hall was formerly the Officers’ Club. It features a floor-to-ceiling stone fireplace with exposed beam ceilings. There is a large deck overlooking the lake with scenic views.

Upcoming events from the Community Center include an Easter Egg Hunt on April 4, Zumba on April 18, and a health and wellness fair on May 16, along with many other scheduled events throughout the year. Check the Fort Ritchie Community Center’s website at www.THEFRCC.org.

Fort Ritchie’s website provides a directory of all the businesses, services, and opportunities available. The web address is: <https://www.ritchierevival.com>.

Do yourself a favor and visit the Fort. You will probably find something to your liking.

Courtesy Photos



Get your steps in at Fort Ritchie Community Center’s fitness center.



The Fort Ritchie Community Center offers a full-service fitness center, with cardio and strength-training equipment, as well as a gymnasium with a full basketball court, a multi-purpose room with volleyball court, and meeting room for business events.

Graceham Moravian Church
 8231A Rocky Ridge Rd. (Rt77)
 Thurmont Md. P./301-271-2379
 Sunday Worship Service 10:30am.
 Sunday School 9:15 am.
 Served With Grace Free Dinner
 April 6 - 5:30 to 7pm.
Easter Celebration
 Holy Week Readings
 March 30 to April 3, at 7pm
 Children’s Activities
 Saturday April 4 at 10 to 11:30 am
 Easter Sunrise Service at 6:15 am
 Lovefeast Worship Service at 8 am

Here’s Clyde’s
 Spring Into A New Look!
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 Facials • Extensions • Waxing
 Call for your Appointment!
301-271-4479
 5 South Center Street, Thurmont, MD

LOOK Traveling? Day Trip? TAKE US WITH YOU!
Photo must be high resolution

Email us a photo of you holding *The Catoctin Banner*, along with the details of where you traveled, name(s) of person(s) pictured, and any other fun, interesting details you would like to add, to: news@thecatocctinbanner.com. Safe Travels!

EMMITSBURG 50+ CENTER

BY CAITLYN KIRBY 300A South Seton Avenue • 301-600-6350

It's springtime here at the Emmitsburg 50+ Center, and there is something for everyone in April. For the crafty folks out there, on April 8 at 11:00 a.m., we are upcycling cards into bookmarks to either keep or give away. Also, our art teacher, Dorothea Barrick, returns on April 21 to teach a class on collage (\$15.00). Try out a new style of art with a variety of materials.

Spring is also the time to learn something new. On April 28 at 1:00 p.m., an educator from the University of Maryland Extension will teach us how to grow garden herbs and veggies in containers. Whether you have space outdoors or not, container gardens are for everyone. The next day, on April 29 at 11:00 a.m., Jack Deatherage will lead a bread-making class, sharing his tips and tricks for making sourdough and yeast breads.

Also happening this month is the start of our Emmitsburg History series, where, once a month, we will visit an Emmitsburg landmark. On April 28, we'll meet at the Grotto at 10:00 a.m. to walk around and view the history, art, and exhibits of the site. Pre-registration is appreciated by contacting the center for all one-time activities.

For fitness, Chair Yoga on Mondays at 1:00 p.m. with Christina continues, with the Spring quarter beginning April 6. Try your first class for free, then drop in for just \$4.00 a class (or \$35.00 for the quarter—April-June). Unrulies Pickleball continues on Wednesdays and Fridays at 1:00 p.m. Have you ever wanted to try out Pickleball but are intimidated to start? Try out the Unrulies! They play for fun and exercise, and do not worry about the rules. We also have daily exercise to video at 9:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Lunch Bunch also continues weekly on Mondays at noon. Please call and reserve your meal by Wednesday. Lunch Bunch is a great time to meet new people and socialize while having a nutritious meal.

We hope to see you at an upcoming program this spring! For details on all these activities, you can visit our site at www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/Virtual50. We are always happy to answer any questions by phone (301-600-6350), by email (EmmitsburgSeniorCenter@FrederickCountyMD.Gov), or in person (just drop by). Find us at 300 South Seton Avenue, Lower Level, in Emmitsburg.

Did you know?

Surprising Facts About Aging and Seniors

Sweat glands shrink with age, leading to less sweating.

Studies confirm that the human brain continues to grow new neurons in the hippocampus, the area responsible for learning and memory, throughout adulthood, including up to age 78. Older adults actually outshine younger adults in recognizing faces.



Senior Benefits Services
 You don't need to be a senior for us to help - start planning now!
 Life and Retirement options available. We offer many company choices.
 Give us a call!
SENIOR BENEFIT 301-271-4040
 Services, Inc. 112A East Main Street
 Thurmont MD, 21788
 VISIT US ON FACEBOOK! www.seniorbenefitclient.com

The flowers are coming up, the robins are back, and the spring peepers are singing in the evenings, and things at the Thurmont Senior Center are just as lively. As we turn the page to April, we look back on a wonderful March and look ahead to an even more exciting month to come. Whether you are a longtime member or someone who has been thinking about stopping in for the first time, there has never been a better time to be part of our community.



Photo by Tara Miller

Pictured from left are James T. Demarais, Freeda Toms, Verna Radcliffe, Earl Powell, and Sandy Powell.

March was a busy and meaningful month at the Senior Center. Our members enjoyed regular favorites like Bingo, Zumba Gold, Chair Yoga, Strength & Balance classes, Manicure Mondays, and Stitch & Chat. Our popular "Craftin' in the Catocins" craft sessions brought out the creativity in everyone, and our DIY Window Herb Gardens had members going home with a little piece of spring.

We also gathered as a community to honor the memory of two of our most beloved members, Ken and Marilyn Oland, who passed away following injuries from an automobile accident. Their seats were reserved with a memorial flower at our monthly Bingo game, and they were remembered with warmth, love, and many fond smiles. In their honor, we are currently working on plans to create a memorial flower garden here at the Senior Center, a living tribute to two people who meant so much to so many. They will not be forgotten.

Our fundraiser night and bake sale at Roy Rogers were a record-breaking success. Thank you to everyone who came out and supported the center! Events like these make a real difference, and we are deeply grateful for the community's continued support.

April is packed with exciting events, new programming, and all the community fun you have come to expect from the Thurmont Senior Center. Mark your calendars for Tuesday, April 14, at 1:00 p.m. for the Gospel Bluegrass Concert featuring Big Mac & Frys.

We are thrilled to introduce a brand-new class this April: a 30-minute Zumba Gold Seated Dance Exercise class on Mondays at 1:00 p.m.! This fun, low-impact option makes the joy of Zumba accessible to everyone, regardless of mobility. Give it a try on April 13 or April 27.

Join us on Wednesday, April 22, for our Potluck Luncheon and General Meeting, beginning at noon. Bring a dish to share.

On Thursday, April 16, from 10:00 a.m. to noon, join us for a Digital Learning session presented by the Thurmont Library.

Our monthly Roy Rogers Fundraiser Night is back on Thursday, April 9, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. When you order, simply mention the Thurmont Senior Center, and a portion of your purchase supports our programs.

All of your weekly favorites continue in April, including Zumba Gold every Friday morning, Strength & Balance classes Monday through Friday, Chair Yoga on Wednesdays, 50/50 Bingo, Craftin' in the Catocins, Manicure Mondays, Stitch & Chat, Solo Aging Café, Seated Massage with Marie, and of course our Monthly Birthday Party on April 17th. Cards and games are available every afternoon for those who love a little friendly competition!

The Thurmont Senior Center is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. A hot lunch is served every day at noon for just \$7.00. Our volunteers also provide transportation for homebound seniors within a 6-mile radius for medical appointments, grocery runs, and more. In addition, we deliver carryout lunches for \$7.00 to homebound seniors within six miles. Call us for details!

April is going to be a fantastic month, and we would love to share it with you. The door is always open, the coffee is warm, and the company is even better. We will see you soon!

Understanding FIV: What Every Cat Owner Should Know

Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) is one of the most misunderstood health conditions affecting domestic cats. Thousands of FIV-positive cats and kittens are unnecessarily euthanized each year. While there is no cure for FIV, with proper care, many FIV-positive cats live long, happy lives.

What Is FIV?

FIV is a slow-acting virus that weakens a cat's immune system, making them more susceptible to infections and diseases. It is most commonly spread through deep bite wounds, which means outdoor, unneutered male cats are at a higher risk due to fighting. Casual contact—such as sharing food bowls, grooming, or using the same litter box—rarely spreads the virus.

Reducing the Stigma

One of the greatest challenges facing FIV-positive cats is not the virus itself, but the stigma surrounding it. Many cats are overlooked in shelters despite being able to safely live with other non-aggressive cats. Organizations such as American Association of Feline Practitioners and American Veterinary Medical Association emphasize that FIV-positive cats can enjoy a good quality of life in stable homes.

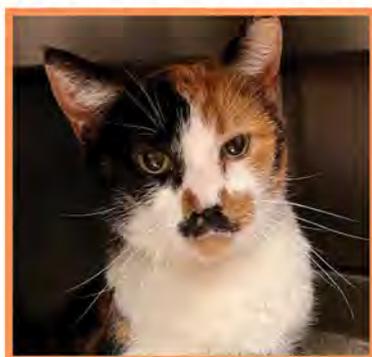
Educating ourselves about FIV helps ensure that fear does not stand in the way of compassion. With knowledge, responsible pet ownership, and regular veterinary care, cats living with FIV can thrive as beloved members of the family.

PET OF THE MONTH

Email us a photo (high resolution) of your pet for inclusion in a future issue! Include your pet's age, breed, personality traits, likes and dislikes, and any other fun details you'd like to add!
send to: NEWS@THECATOCTINBANNER.COM

FREDERICK COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL & PET ADOPTION CENTER

KITTY KITTY



#26-1275
AGE: 10Y
GENDER: FEMALE
BREED: DSH

KIBA



#26-1168
AGE: 5Y
GENDER: FEMALE
BREED: TERRIER X

FOR MORE INFO CALL, 301-600-1546
SCHEDULE YOUR VISITATION AT
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meet PACO

Paco and Micah The Cat pose with Evangeline Valerio.

Paco is the beloved and cherished pet of the Valerio Family.

"Paco's full name is Paco Taco Nacho Libre Valerio—all the kids wanted to name him, so he has multiple names! Paco was found as a stray in Southern West Virginia in the summer of 2022. The vet said that he was between one and two years old at the time. We celebrate his birthday on August 1 each year, and he is now either four or five—in the prime of his life! We believe he is a Beagle Chihuahua Mix.

Paco enjoys being right with his humans wherever we go. He loves going for walks, chasing bunnies, car rides, road trips, and attention from everyone he meets. He also assumes everyone loves him as much as he loves others and will sit on people's laps, even if uninvited. When Paco sits on a lap or beside someone, he sits straight up like a person. He is such a calming presence, full of love and so funny at the same time. Paco is also learning to get along with a stray cat that likes to visit us often. He's gone from always chasing to acceptably tolerating the stray that we have named 'Micah The Cat.'

Paco is an absolute blessing to our family, and we feel complete with him."



Classifieds

Connect directly with local buyers or sellers

FOR SALE

Cub mower Model 2554 with 21 hp Kohler & shaft drive. Less than 400 hours, excellent condition. Asking \$1500 Call 301-748-9194 and leave message.

Vertical reading lamp and magnifying lenses on caster wheels. Good working order, asking \$25, cash. Call 301-748-9194, if no answer leave message.

WANTED

Yard Sale, Craft & Antique Vendors for Guardian Hose Company event at the Thurmont Carnival Grounds on Saturday, June 6, from 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. \$20 per spot. Call Patty at 301-788-0432.

Antiques & Collectibles like crocks, jugs, postcards, photographs, advertising items, old signs, old dolls, toys & trains (pre-1965), quilts, political items, guns, old holiday decorations, hunting & fishing items, jewelry, and coins; gold, sterling, coin collections, etc. Will buy one item or a collection. 301-514-2631.

We buy gold & silver. Call 301-788-2626.

SERVICES

Accounting services, tax management, and filing with Melissa Wetzel in Emmitsburg. Schedule your appointment today by calling 301-447-3797.

J&K Mowing, a fireman-owned company, offers mowing, mulching, trimming, leaf removal, seasonal clean-up, and more. Call 240-446-0994.

Construction Services: Roofing, Decks, Additions, Bathrooms, Basements, and More. Call Elite 4 Roofing and Remodeling at 240-397-0406.

Chance 2 Mowing is now accepting new clients for 2026. Spring yard clean-up, mowing, mulching, junk removal, and more. Call for a free estimate: 301-748-9745.

Rocky Top Music Man. Hire for your next party, get-together, club, wedding, home, or at the park. Golden Oldies, Country, or Rock. Call Kimberly Wiles at 410-714-3607.

Karen's Cleaning Service, in business 25 yrs., excellent references. Call for a free in-home estimate. Call 410-736-0486. Serving the Emmitsburg/Thurmont area.

Asphalt paving and seal coating by Frederick County Paving. Call 301-662-2820 for a free estimate or email frederickcountypaving@comcast.net.

Visit Quality Tire in Emmitsburg for super tire service at 17650 Creamery Road in Emmitsburg. Call 301-447-2909.

Mountain View Lawn Care: Call 301- 271-2832 for all your lawn care needs.

FOR RENT

2br/bath condo for rent. Ocean City/Ocean front with pool. Week or mini weeks. Full kitchen/dining and living rooms. Call Matt at 240-422-4690.

Looking for a storage solution? Storage units are available for rent in Emmitsburg. Call Dan at 301-788-2626.

HELP WANTED

Hobbs Trucking:Local Family business looking for Class "A & B" CDL drivers. Please call 717-334-6586 for more information.

Landscape Tech, Crew Leader, Fertilizer Tech. Must be reliable. Contact Mt. View Lawn at 301-271-2832 or email MTVIEWLAWNS@AOL.COM.

Apples U.C.C. in Thurmont is currently looking for a pianist/organist for Sunday service. The church holds a traditional service which lasts 1 hour. We have an average of 20 members. Music has always been a very big part of our church. We would ask that the applicant would be a good sight reader even though that occurs very infrequently. Please contact Paula at paulamathis65@gmail.com or calling or texting 240-446-6027

Camp Airy & Camp Louise are now hiring cooks/prep cooks, dining hall servers, dishwashers, drivers, housekeepers, night shift snack bar attendants, and receiving and inventory. Competitive pay and paid training. Contact joanna@airylouise.org or go to airylouise.org/staff.

Los Amigos in Thurmont is now hiring servers. Apply within at 205 Frederick Road, Thurmont, MD 21788.

D&J Auto Enterprises, located at 12440A Creagerstown Road in Thurmont, is hiring for a skilled auto body tech and mechanic. Stop in and apply. www.newbillsautobody.com.

YARD SALES

CARROLL VISTA COMMUNITY-WIDE YARD SALE: Saturday, April 25; 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Something for everyone! Use 1 Clubside Dr., Taneytown, MD for GPS directions.

Lewistown Vol. Fire Dept. Indoor & Outdoor Yard Sale: April 4, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., 11101 Hessong Bridge Rd., Thurmont.

Used Book & Clothes Rummage Sale: April 17, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. & April 18, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Clothing Sale, April 24, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. & April 25, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Emmanuel Baust United Church of Christ, 2950 Old Taneytown Rd., Westminster.

Apples UCC Spring Yard Sale: Friday, May 8 & Saturday, May 9, 8 a.m.-3 p.m., 7908 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont.

Gigantic Yard Sale: April 25, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Thurmont Lions Club, Bell Hill Farm, Rt. 15, Thurmont.

Yard Sale: May 1 & 2, 15 families, Rt. 15 & Lohr Rd., Thurmont, 8 a.m. Fishing poles, butchering kettle, stirrers, tubs, sausage stuffer, hooks, tools, antiques, hand sewn items, new items, household furniture. Don't miss it. Rain or shine.

- 1.....Slippery Pot Pie & Country Ham Sandwiches Take-Out, Lewistown UMC, 11032 Hessong Bridge Rd., Thurmont. Chicken Slippery Pot Pie: \$9/quart; Country Ham Sandwiches: \$5/each. Advance orders by April 4: Email lumcpotpie@gmail.com (indicate quantity, name, phone number, pickup time). Pickup: April 11, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. (baked goods available).
- 1.....Queen of Hearts Drawing (Wednesdays), American Legion Post 168, 8 Park Ln., Thurmont. 7:30 p.m.
- 1.....Comhole Tournament (Wednesdays), American Legion Post 168, 8 Park Ln., Thurmont. Doors open at 5 p.m.; games at 7 p.m.
- 1.....Bingo, Thurmont Senior Center, 806 E. Main St., Thurmont. 1 p.m. Also: 15,29.
- 1.....Chair Yoga (Wednesdays), Thurmont Senior Center, 806 E. Main St., Thurmont. 10:15 a.m.
- 2.....Bar Bingo (Thursdays), Thurmont AMVETS Post 7, 26 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. 7 p.m. Open to the public. 301-271-3371.
- 2.....7 of Hearts Drawing (Thursdays), Thurmont AMVETS Post 7, 26 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. Open to the public. Must buy ticket by 6 p.m. 301-271-3371.
- 2.....Maundy Thursday, Tom's Creek UMC, 10926 Simmons Rd., Emmitsburg. 7 p.m. www.toms creekumc.com. 301-447-3171.
- 2.....Maundy Thursday Service, Harriet Chapel, 12625 Catocin Furnace Rd., Thurmont. Service with Holy Eucharist. 7 p.m. 301-271-4554.
- 2.....Holy Thursday Service, Weller UMC, 101 N. Altamont Ave., Thurmont. 7 p.m. 301-271-2802.
- 2.....Balance & Strength (Mon., Tues., Thurs. & Fri.), Thurmont Senior Center, 806 E. Main St., Thurmont. 10:15 a.m.
- 2.....Bingo (Thursdays), American Legion Post 168, 8 Park Ln., Thurmont. 7 p.m.
- 2.....Line Dancing (Thursdays), American Legion Post 168, Upstairs, 8 Park Ln., Thurmont. 7 p.m.
- 2.....Maundy Thursday, Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church, 15116 Foxville Church Rd., Sabillasville. 6 p.m. Dinner with Holy Communion.
- 3.....Good Friday Service, St Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 13025 Greensburg Rd., Smithsburg. 7 p.m. Dinner with Holy Communion.
- 3.....Deerfield UMC Presents: The Journey to the Cross, 16405 Foxville Deerfield Rd., Sabillasville. 7:30 p.m. All welcome.
- 2.....Craftin' In The Catocins, Thurmont Senior Center, 806 E. Main St., Thurmont. 1 p.m. Also: 9,23,28.
- 3.....Good Friday Service, Harriet Chapel, 12625 Catocin Furnace Rd., Thurmont. Good Friday Liturgy with Communion. 7 p.m. 301-271-4554.
- 3.....Good Friday Tenebrae, Messiah UMC, Taneytown. 7 p.m. www.toms creekumc.com. 301-447-3171.
- 3.....Bingo (every Friday night), Thurmont Event Complex, 13716 Strafford Dr., Thurmont. Doors open 5 p.m.; Bingo 6:45 p.m. Tip jars; food; jackpot up to \$1,000. Benefits Thurmont Community Amb. Srv. www.thurmonteventcomplex.com.
- 3.....Ham & Turkey Night & Easter Cake Silent Auction, American Legion Post 168, 8 Park Ln., Thurmont.
- 3.....Zumba (Fridays), Thurmont Senior Center, 806 E. Main St., Thurmont. 9:30 a.m.
- 4.....Easter Cash Bingo, Rocky Ridge Vol. Fire Co., 13516 Motters Station Rd., Rocky Ridge. Doors open at 11 a.m.; games start at 12:30 p.m. 20 regular games, 2 specials, 1 Jr. jackpot, 1 big jackpot, door prizes, 50/50, raffle & tip jars. Pre-sale tickets: \$25. www.rockyridgenvfc.com.
- 4.....Easter Egg Hunt, Thurmont Community Ambulance Co., Thurmont Event Complex, 13716 Strafford Dr., Thurmont. 1 p.m. Rain or shine. Open to ages birth thru 12. Visit from Easter Bunny. Free event.
- 4.....Indoor & Outdoor Yard Sale, Lewistown Vol. Fire Dept., 11101 Hessong Bridge Rd., Thurmont. 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Lots of vendors. Food available for purchase.
- 5.....Easter Service, Deerfield UMC, 16405 Foxville Deerfield Rd., Sabillasville. 10:30 a.m.
- 5.....Easter Sunrise Worship with Easter Breakfast, Mt. Zion UMC, 13010 Mt. Zion Rd., Sabillasville. 7 a.m. All welcome.
- 5.....Easter Sunrise Worship, Mt. Zion UMC, 13010 Mt. Zion Rd., Sabillasville. 9 a.m. All welcome.
- 5.....Thurmont Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt, Thurmont Town Park, Thurmont. 2 p.m. Ages birth thru 12 (three age category hunting sites). Top egg \$20 in each category. Eggs with candy, money & or surprises.
- 5.....Easter Buffet & Special Menu, Carriage House Inn, 200 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. \$49/adult; \$17/child; Free/ages 3 & under. Reservations required: 301-447-2366.
- 5.....Easter Service, Harriet Chapel, 12625 Catocin Furnace Rd., Thurmont. 9:30 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt following Service. 301-271-4554.
- 5.....Easter Worship, Tom's Creek UMC, 10926 Simmons Rd., Emmitsburg. 9 a.m. www.toms creekumc.com. 301-447-3171.
- 5.....Easter Sunrise Service, National Shrine Grotto, 16330 Grotto Rd., Emmitsburg. 6:30 a.m. Music by Emmitsburg Community Chorus. Sponsored by Emmitsburg Council of Churches.
- 5.....Easter Services, Weller UMC, 101 N. Altamont Ave., Thurmont. 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. 301-271-2802.
- 5.....Easter Sunrise Service, Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church, 15116 Foxville Church Rd., Sabillasville. 6:30 a.m. Breakfast to follow service.
- 5.....Worship With Holy Communion Easter Sunday, Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church, 15116 Foxville Church Rd., Sabillasville. 9 a.m.
- 5.....Worship With Holy Communion Easter Sunday, St Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 13025 Greensburg Rd., Smithsburg. 11 a.m.
- 6.....Served With Grace Free Dinner, Graceham Moravian Church, 8231-A Rocky Ridge Rd., Thurmont. 5:30-7 p.m. www.gracehammoravian.org.
- 6.....Stitch & Chat, Thurmont Senior Center, 806 E. Main St., Thurmont. 1 p.m. Also: 16.
- 7.....Into the Woods Teen Hiking Experience, Catocin Mountains, Meet at Thurmont Rec. Center (on side of Thurmont Middle School). 10 a.m.-3 p.m. www.recreator.com.
- 7.....Yoga (Tuesdays), American Legion Post 168, 8 Park Ln., Thurmont. 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- 9.....Bar Bingo (Thursdays), Thurmont AMVETS Post 7, 26 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. 7 p.m. Open to the public. 301-271-3371.
- 9.....7 of Hearts Drawing (Thursdays), Thurmont AMVETS Post 7, 26 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. Open to the public. Must buy ticket by 6 p.m. 301-271-3371.
- 9.....Into the Woods Teen Hiking Experience, Gambrill State Park, Meet at Thurmont Rec. Center (on side of Thurmont Middle School). 10 a.m.-3 p.m. www.recreator.com.
- 11.....PICKUP: Slippery Pot Pie & Country Ham Sandwiches Take-Out Orders, Lewistown UMC, 11032 Hessong Bridge Rd., Thurmont. Chicken Slippery Pot Pie: \$9/quart; Country Ham Sandwiches: \$5/each. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Baked goods available.
- 11.....Bingo, Rocky Ridge Vol. Fire Co., 13516 Motters Station Rd., Rocky Ridge. Doors open 5 p.m.; games 7 p.m. Food available for purchase.
- 11.....Veterans Luncheon, American Legion Post 168, 8 Park Ln., Thurmont. Noon-2 p.m. Veterans are free.
- 12.....Shotgun Shoots (12 Gauge & 410), Indian Lookout Conservation Club, 17107 Riffle Rd., Emmitsburg. Registration starts at Noon. Shoots start at 1 p.m. Tip jars available.
- 13.....Seated Dance Exercise Class, Thurmont Senior Center, 806 E. Main St., Thurmont. Also: 27.
- 14.....Gospel Bluegrass Concert, Thurmont Senior Center, 806 E. Main St., Thurmont. 1 p.m.
- 15.....AMVETS Post 7 Ladies Auxiliary Bingo (every 3rd Wednesday each month), 26 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. Doors open at 5 p.m. Open to public. Door prizes. Pull tickets. Food available to purchase.
- 16.....Bar Bingo (Thursdays), Thurmont AMVETS Post 7, 26 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. 7 p.m. Open to the public. 301-271-3371.
- 16.....7 of Hearts Drawing (Thursdays), Thurmont AMVETS Post 7, 26 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. Open to the public. Must buy ticket by 6 p.m. 301-271-3371.
- 16.....Seated Massages, Thurmont Senior Center, 806 E. Main St., Thurmont. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- 17.....Monthly Birthday Party, Thurmont Senior Center, 806 E. Main St., Thurmont. 12:30 p.m.
- 17,18.....Used Book & Rummage Sale — BOOKS ONLY, Emmanuel Baust United Church of Christ, 2940 Old Taneytown Rd., Westminster. Fri.: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat.: 8 a.m.-noon. All proceeds donated to local schools. 410-984-2780.
- 18.....Seton Center 5K Run, Mount St. Mary's University, 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd., Emmitsburg. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Last day to register: April 10.
- 18.....Old Fashioned Bingo, St. Anthony's Shrine, Upper Hall, 16150 St. Anthony Rd., Emmitsburg. Doors open at 5 p.m. Games start at 6:30 p.m. Tip jars, 50/50 & raffles. Food & baked goods for sale.
- 22.....General Meeting & Potluck Lunch, Thurmont Senior Center, 806 E. Main St., Thurmont. Noon.
- 23.....Bar Bingo (Thursdays), Thurmont AMVETS Post 7, 26 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. 7 p.m. Open to the public. 301-271-3371.
- 23.....7 of Hearts Drawing (Thursdays), Thurmont AMVETS Post 7, 26 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. Open to the public. Must buy ticket by 6 p.m. 301-271-3371.
- 24.....Solo Aging Cafe, Fraud and Home Safety Presentation, Thurmont Senior Center, 806 E. Main St., Thurmont. 12:30 p.m.
- 24,25.....Used Book & Rummage Sale — CLOTHES ONLY, Emmanuel Baust United Church of Christ, 2940

- Old Taneytown Rd., Westminster. Fri.: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat.: 8 a.m.-1 p.m. All proceeds donated to local schools. 410-984-2780.
- 24,25.....Yard & Bake Sale, Jacob's Church Pavilion, 495 Harbaugh Valley Rd., Fairfield, PA. 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- 25....A Night at the Races, Mother Seton School, 100 Creamery Rd., Emmitsburg. "Live" horse races, games of chance, silent & live auctions, and much more. Must be 21+ to attend. Tickets: \$50/person or \$350/table of 8. Dinner catered by Carriage House Inn. www.mothersetonschool.org/gala.
- 25....Thurmont Business Expo, Thurmont Event Complex, 13716 Strafford Dr., Thurmont. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Meet your local businesses. This year's theme: Hollywood. Thurmont Amb. Co. will be selling its delicious food. www.thurmontmainstreet.com.
- 25... Thurmont Lions Sandwich Sale & Gigantic Yard Sale, Bell Hill Farm, Rt. 15 (north of Thurmont on west side of Rt. 15, Thurmont. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. or sold out.
- 25....200th Anniversary Celebration of Apples UCC Stone Sanctuary, 7908 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. 1 p.m. All are welcome. www.applesucc.org.
- 25....St. John's Lutheran Church of Creagerstown Drive-Thru Dinner & Bake Sale, 8619 Blacks Mill Rd., Creagerstown. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Featuring St. John's Fried Chicken, green beans, pepper slaw, biscuit & cake for \$17. Buckets of chicken: 8 pc. \$12; 12 pc. \$17; 16 pc. \$22. Vegetables: \$5/pint; \$8/quart. Order (due by April 19): Carmi Saylor 301-401-0633 or text orders to 240-529-7471.
- 26....Shotgun Shoots (12 Gauge & 410), Indian Lookout Conservation Club, 17107 Riffle Rd., Emmitsburg. Registration starts at Noon. Shoots start at 1 p.m. Tip jars available.
- 26....Vigilant Hose Co. Auxiliary Big Cash Bingo, 17701 Creamery Rd., Emmitsburg. Doors open at 11 a.m. Bingo starts at 1 p.m. Kitchen open 11 a.m.-1 p.m. & at intermission. \$50/ticket (18 games at \$500; 2 jackpots at \$1,000). Tickets: Patty 717-752-0476; JoAnn 240-367-0715; Karen 301-514-6683.
- 30....Bar Bingo (Thursdays), Thurmont AMVETS Post 7, 26 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. 7 p.m. Open to the public. 301-271-3371.
- 30...7 of Hearts Drawing (Thursdays), Thurmont AMVETS Post 7, 26 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. Open to the public. Must buy ticket by 6 p.m. 301-271-3371.

ADVERTISE WITH US Alisha@TheCatoctinBanner.com



YOUR PUBLIC LIBRARIES

THURMONT

- 2..... Elementary Explorers: The Magic School Busher Wonders, Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 2 p.m.
- 2..... DCFS Family Support Specialist Office Hours, Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 10 a.m.
- 4..... Gentle Yoga Flow: A Beginner Yoga Class, Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. Noon.
- 6..... Stop the Bleed Emergency Training - An Adult Adaptive Program, Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 11 a.m.
- 6..... Bringing Down the Deck - A Spring Break Kick-Off, Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 2 p.m.
- 6..... Spring Break Anime Afternoon (Ages 10-17), Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 5:30 p.m.
- 8..... A Conversation on International Affairs with Shaun Donnelly, Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 7 p.m.
- 9..... DCFS Family Support Specialist Office Hours, Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 10 a.m.
- 9..... Elementary Explorers: Animal Adaptations- Ocean Friends!, Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 2 p.m.
- 9..... Tween Lego Builders (Ages 9-13), Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 5:30 p.m.
- 11.... Gentle Yoga Flow: A Beginner Yoga Class, Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. Noon.
- 12.... Sunday Funday: Science & Surprise-Earth Science, Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 2 p.m.
- 13.... Teen Paper & Pressure: Engineering with Newspapers (Ages 13-18), Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 5:30 p.m.
- 15.... Offsite: Pop-Up at the Thurmont Senior Center, Thurmont. 10 a.m.
- 16.... Offsite: Drop-In Digital Learn at the Thurmont Senior Center, Thurmont. 10 a.m.
- 16.... DCFS Family Support Specialist Office Hours, Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 10 a.m.
- 16.... Elementary Explorers: Amazing Organs with Infinite Legacy, Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 2 p.m.
- 16.... Tween Infinite Legacy Rock Painting (Ages 9-13), Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 5:30 p.m.
- 16.... Thurmont Green Fest: Creating an Emergency Plan, Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 6 p.m.
- 18.... Thurmont Green Fest: Living Green, Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 10 a.m.
- 18.... Thurmont Green Fest: Power Down Your Electric Bill!, Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 2 p.m.
- 19.... Sunday Funday: Create & Craft Our World, Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 2 p.m.
- 20.... Teen Intro to Dungeons and Dragons: Character Building (Ages 13-18), Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 5:30 p.m.
- 20.... Junk Journaling Workshop, Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 6 p.m.
- 20.... Thurmont Green Fest: Fishing With a Regional Expert, Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 6 p.m.
- 23.... DCFS Family Support Specialist Office Hours, Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 10 a.m.
- 23.... Elementary Explorers: Build It Boats!, Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 2 p.m.
- 23.... Library Tween Hangout (Ages 9-13), Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 5:30 p.m.
- 23.... Thurmont Green Fest: Understanding Solar and Traditional Generators Class,

- Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 6 p.m.
- 25.... Gentle Yoga Flow: A Beginner Yoga Class, Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. Noon.
- 26.... Sunday Funday: R.E.A.D with WAGS, Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 2 p.m.
- 27.... Teen Gaming Hour: Switch Edition (Ages 13-18), Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 5:30 p.m.
- 30.... DCFS Family Support Specialist Office Hours, Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 10 a.m.
- 30.... Elementary Explorers: I Survived The Sinking of the Titanic, Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 2 p.m.
- 30.... Tween Gaming Hour: Switch Edition (Ages 9-13), Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. 5:30 p.m.

EMMITSBURG

- 1..... Tween Egg Crafts (Ages 9-13), Emmitsburg Library, 300 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg. 3:45 p.m.
- 1..... YMCA STEM Quest, Emmitsburg Library, 300 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg. 5 p.m.
- 2..... Family Fun: STEM Night, Emmitsburg Library, 300 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg. 6 p.m.
- 6..... School's Out: Stuffed Camp at the Library!, Emmitsburg Library, 300 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg. 10 a.m.
- 7..... Stuffed Animal Shenanigans (Ages 11-18), Emmitsburg Library, 300 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg. 2 p.m.
- 8..... School's Out: Paddington Crafternoon and Movie!, Emmitsburg Library, 300 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg. 2 p.m.
- 9..... Family Fun: Read with WAGS for Hope, Emmitsburg Library, 300 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg. 6 p.m.
- 11.... Stop the Scam! Scam and Fraud Awareness, Emmitsburg Library, 300 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg. 11 a.m.
- 11.... Secrets of a Travel Advisor, Emmitsburg Library, 300 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg. 2 p.m.
- 14.... Art Ventures, Emmitsburg Library, 300 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg. 1 p.m.
- 15.... Fountain Rock Nature Center - An Adult Adaptive Program, Emmitsburg Library, 300 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg. 11 a.m.
- 16.... Family Fun: Pajama Storytime, Emmitsburg Library, 300 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg. 6 p.m.
- 18.... Saturday Crafternoon: Earth Day Nature Art, Emmitsburg Library, 300 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg. 2 p.m.
- 21.... Teen Ready, Set, Grow Plant Studio (Ages 9-18), Emmitsburg Library, 300 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg. 5:30 p.m.
- 22.... Tween - Earth Day Celebration (Ages 9-13), Emmitsburg Library, 300 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg. 3:45 p.m.
- 23.... Family Fun: Art Night!, Emmitsburg Library, 300 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg. 6 p.m.
- 25.... Big Bears with Mark Spurrier, Maryland Park Service, Emmitsburg Library, 300 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg. 2 p.m.
- 28.... Art Ventures, Emmitsburg Library, 300 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg. 1 p.m.
- 28.... Straight Talk with Mayor Davis, Emmitsburg Library, 300 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg. 7 p.m.
- 30.... Family Fun: Pajama Storytime, Emmitsburg Library, 300 S. Seton Ave., Emmitsburg. 6 p.m.



*Photo must be high resolution

Send us your best photo of your best buddy for "Pet of the Month"! Email your pet photo, along with your pet's name, breed, age, personality, and your name/family name, to:

news@thecatocinbanner.com

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- Attach your Jubilee receipt to your card
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WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!

2 WINNERS WILL BE DRAWN TO WIN A \$100 JUBILEE GIFT CARD!

B I N G O				
KUNZLER 10 LB. BACON \$39.99/BOX	STONE RIDGE 1.5 QT. ICE CREAM \$2.99 EACH	FROZEN FILETS TILAPIA \$5.99/BAG <small>SOLD IN 2 LB. BAG</small>	FROOTIES 12 OZ. STRAWBERRIES 99¢ EACH	VENEZUELAN LUMP CRAB MEAT \$13.99/LB.
HATFIELD DELI SLICED HONEY HAM \$2.99/LB.	TROUT'S CRAB DIP \$9.99/LB.	OSCAR MAYER 1LB. BACON \$3.99/PACK	TROUT'S CRAB DIP 6 PK. POTATO SKINS \$6.99/PACK	MAIERS ITALIAN BREAD BOGO
TROUT'S STOREMADE CRAB CAKES \$12.99 EACH	MARIE CALLENDER'S PIES <small>ASSORTED VARIETIES!</small> \$6.99 EACH	FRESH CHOICE RIBEYE \$12.99/LB. <small>SOLD IN FAMILY PACK!</small>	FARM RAISED OYSTERS \$8.99/PINT	E-Z PEEL 3 1/40 CT. SHRIMP \$11.99/BAG <small>SOLD IN 2 LB. BAG</small>
LOCAL GROWN SWEET POTATOES 89¢/LB.	OSCAR MAYER DELI PACK LUNCH MEAT <small>ASSORTED VARIETIES!</small> \$3.99/PACK	TROUT'S CRAB PRETZELS \$4.99 EACH	SCHWEID & SONS BUTCHER BLEND BURGERS \$7.99/PACK <small>SOLD IN 4 PACK!</small>	CHRISTY'S FAMOUS DEVILED EGGS \$5.99/ 6 PACK
26/30 BROWN GULF SHRIMP \$17.99/BAG <small>SOLD IN 2 LB. BAG</small>	LESHER'S POULTRY FARM LARGE EGGS 3 FOR \$5.00	MARTINS OR UTZ FAMILY SIZE CHIPS BOGO	FRESH CHICKEN DRUMSTICKS 99¢/LB. <small>SOLD IN FAMILY PACK!</small>	8" ROUND COCONUT CAKE \$8.99 EACH

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