

## Most Anything at a Glance

BY ABIGAIL

Uh-oh. I have a sneaking suspicion my boss (our dear publisher) is up to something and it somehow involves me.

Now what? It's not enough that she's dragged me out of retirement to resume my byline. But now methinks she's foisting something tricky on me.

Now keep in mind, I've known my boss since she was a little girl gleefully playing with letterpress dies and mounds of paper scraps at the Chronicle. She's a good kid (yes, she's still a "kid" to me even though she's my boss). But I know when she's up to something. This week she paid me a visit. That was nice enough, but then she shot me a mischievous look, and with an impish grin and twinkle in her eye said, "Abby, I have a great idea for your next column." (It was a remark disguised as a suggestion that really means, "Get to it!")

"Oh? What might that be?" I wondered aloud.

"What is an Emmitsburgian?" she replied, and then grinned like the cat that got the canary.

After she turned on her heel, bid me good day and hurried off, I thought to myself, "That doesn't sound so bad."

But now, hours later, here I sit at my trusty old typewriter (yes, typewriter — we remain a team in spite of the computer age) pondering what has turned into a conundrum. You see, if she had given me this assignment 30 years ago, it would have been a cinch. An Emmitsburgian is anyone whose surname you see engraved over and over again on the gravestones sprinkled about the cemeteries all over town: Zurgable, Topper, Elder, Wivell, Ott, Troxell, Bollinger, Rosensteel, Boyle, Baker, Welty, Ohler, Long, Warthen, Fitzgerald, Eiker, Hobbs, Little and all the other families who've been around for years on end. But it's not so simple now.

Hmmph. Thanks, Boss.

What is an Emmitsburgian? Well, as one would expect, some fellow natives I've talked to maintain that an Emmitsburgian is one who was born and raised here. Others assert that an Emmitsburgian is someone not only born and raised here, but whose family has been around several generations. Still others simply shrug their shoulders and answer, "Beats me. I don't know anymore."

So, dear readers, I turn to you for help on this one: What is an Emmitsburgian?

Here are some questions to consider as you ponder your answer. Must one be born and raised here to be a true Emmitsburgian?

ABIGAIL, Page 2

# Conservation Pays Town

Chris Patterson  
Staff Writer

At the Feb. 2 town meeting, Emmitsburg's board of commissioners voted unanimously to enter into a contract to restore 60 acres of the town-owned Scott Road property to a more natural state.

The contract is with Chesapeake Wildlife Heritage, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with the mission of restoring wildlife habitat and reducing the impact of farming operations on the environment.

At the meeting, the organization's representative, George Newman, said Chesapeake Wildlife Heritage will plant about 45 acres of the roughly 113-acre property with warm season grasses and turn about 15 acres into wetlands.

The town will then receive money for the rental of the grasslands area and for an easement placed on those portions of the property that are changed into wetlands. The wetlands easement will remain in perpetuity, but at the end of the 10 to 15 year commitment, the contract could be renewed or not, at the town's discretion. The fields could be plowed under if the contract is not renewed.

## CREP

The specific program planned for the Scott Road property is the Conservation Resource Enhancement Program (CREP). According to the United States Department of Agriculture website [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov), CREP contracts are a 10 to 15 year commitment "to keep lands out of agricultural production. CREP provides payments to participants who offer eligible land. A federal annual rental rate, including an FSA (Farm Service Agency) state committee-determined maintenance incentive payment is offered, plus cost-share of up to 50 percent of the eligible costs to install the practice."

At the Scott Road property there were unsuccessful attempts to farm the property, and there were substantial problems with thistle. It is just that kind of problem that makes the property qualify for the financial incentives, Newman said.

Newman said all native grasses, along with wildflowers, will be planted in CREP areas. However, to maintain the meadow, he recommended burning the fields every three years to keep the trees down.

Hunting is allowed on CREP land, he added, which is another reason to keep the trees down. The town will be responsible for a 75 percent survival rate of the plantings, and trees are more likely to be damaged by deer.

Newman also said the choice to make about 15 acres into a wetland pond is because the wetland will act as a natural system that will filter agricultural runoff. It also provides diversity of habitat. He suggested that a variety of birds drawn to the area would be appealing to most bird watchers.

The farmer currently using the property will be permitted to continue grazing his cattle, but a fence will keep the cattle out of the pond and they will provide a watering facility for them, Newman told the *Emmitsburg Chronicle* in an email following the presentation.

## Trails Requested

About nine people testified at the meeting as to their personal interest in placing trails on the Scott Road property.

Bob Mellor, of Emmitsburg, said he supported trails because

he did not "think the town offers much more than baseball." He said he would love people to come to the town and believed trails and wetlands can coexist. He also thought loops in the trails would be wonderful for the fire academy.

"I know I'm tired of running through the alleys," he said.

Dora Connolly, of Emmitsburg, said she is a member of a Gettysburg walking club that walks around small towns. She said she thought trails would bring walkers and bicyclists to the town to dine and shop and it "would be a wonderful program."

Tim O'Donnell, also of Emmitsburg, said he is a member of the Trails Task Force Committee created by the mayor to make recommendations about establishing a trail system through the town's properties, including the watershed. As an off-road and mountain bike enthusiast, he said he would like to see a combination of features in the paths that would invite riders of all skill levels.

People from outside of the town also testified to their interest in

CONSERVATION, Page 5

# Emmitsburg Economy Takes Hard Knocks during Recession, But Is Not Down for the Count



Sign of the times

Katherine Heerbrandt

On a freezing Monday night, the dining room at the Carriage House is packed. A Saturday afternoon finds Ski Liberty's overflow parking lots filled to capacity. An early Sunday evening at Jubilee Foods is no less crowded than it was five years ago. The Antique Mall has its "best month ever."

Recession, what recession?

Delve a little deeper and you will see the signs...literally. RealtyTrac lists 10 homes pending foreclosure in and around Emmitsburg, one property up for auction, and three others in foreclosure. The list changes daily.

Selling a home, especially in this

once-booming area, mirrors the national trend where home prices dropped a record 12.4 percent in the final quarter of 2008, the biggest annual decline in 30 years, according to the National Association of Realtors. The median price for a home fell from \$205,700 in the last quarter of 2007 to \$180,100 in 2008.

Libby Briggs, Briggs Associates' realtor and co-owner, wasn't surprised when the area's housing bubble finally burst. "I always say, if someone told me that housing would go so high here, I would've told them they're crazy," she said.

At the Frederick Community Action Agency, two housing counselors see an average of 30

new people a week, a consistent number for some time.

Counselor Brad Peterson said the worst situation for those hoping to stall foreclosure is when they have lost jobs and take another at a much lower salary or are still unemployed after months of looking. He predicts the pain will persist for another 18 to 24 months.

Losing a job is epidemic. Frederick County Workforce Services reports that the number of visitors to the county's business and employment center has jumped 24 percent since last February.

The construction business was the first indicator that the good times were coming to a close, at least for a while. Contractor W. F. Delauter & Sons is down to 23 employees from 60 this past summer.

The Emmitsburg Dispatch, a staple for several years, shut its doors in December. Newspapers are especially hard hit because they generally rely on advertising

dollars to keep them solvent. The historic building on the square that housed the Dispatch and other offices now sits empty.

Mayor Jim Hoover said that for the better part of a year, the town has witnessed an increase of delinquent water and sewer bills, another indicator that the economy is taking a toll on Emmitsburg's townspeople.

## Holding On

It is true the economy is in bad shape. Debt is high, unemployment is up and people are losing their homes at an alarming rate to foreclosure. But it's not the first time our country has weathered such setbacks. History shows us that prosperity is cyclical.

The unemployment rate will likely top out at 9 percent, according to The Economic Times. But that's not history making. The U.S. unemployment rate hit that all-time

ECONOMY, Page 3

PRE-SORTED STANDARD  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Emmitsburg, MD  
Permit No. 84

# about TOWN

Chris Patterson  
Staff Writer

## Trails Task Force Report Coming

Though the report by the Trails Task Force evaluating the possibility of creating trails on Emmitsburg's properties was not released, the matter was referenced many times throughout the town meeting Feb. 2.

Mayor Jim Hoover told the commissioners and the meeting's attendees that the task force's report is in and is favorable to creating trails, but the process of planning and getting the work done will take years.

The mayor created the task force in 2006 in response to resident requests for the creation of trails on town-owned land, both within the city limits and in the town's watershed property. The task force's report was completed in November 2008 and the mayor has committed to providing a summary report to the town commissioners on the task force's recommendations prior to the March 2 town meeting.

Hoover told the Emmitsburg Chronicle that the task report said that creating hiking and mountain-biking trails connecting the town's watershed and Community Park would be feasible, so multi-use or shared-use trails should be considered. Creating connections between Mount Saint Mary's University and the town's properties was also considered by the task force.

The taskforce was co-chaired by Joseph Leberz, Director of Institutional and Government Relations for Mount Saint Mary's, and town manager Dave Haller. The committee included several representatives from the university, the town and Catoclin Land Trust, a non-profit dedicated to land preservation.

Hoover said he believes identifying a "Founders Group" to manage the planning, implementation and maintenance of the trail system, and establishing by-laws for the group's operation should be done first, before any funding or work begins on any trails. Because the system has a long-term impact to the town, Hoover said it is important to do everything right, which means it may take years to get through the planning process alone.

## Up County Center Lease Approved

Approving the lease for the Up County Family Center between building owner (the Town of Emmitsburg) and the lessee (Frederick County) was just a formality for the Emmitsburg Town Commissioners at the town meeting. The lease, previously agreed upon in principle, now puts the Up County Family Center Program officially under the auspices of the county.

The lease committed the town to renting the 6,000 square-foot facility to the county effective Jan. 1 of this year, but the lease agreement was not official until the vote during the board's meeting. The contract runs for five years through Dec. 31, 2013, and the county may extend the lease, at its option, for an additional five years.

Rent for the facility is \$2,750 per month during the first five years. The county is responsible for all regular maintenance costs and installation of a fire suppression sprinkler system to be operational no later than June 30, 2009.

Though not specifically in the lease agreement, the Town of Emmitsburg is committed to donating \$12,000 per year to the county in order to assist in the funding of programs in the center. How those funds will be disbursed to the county remains to be decided.

## To Drink or Not to Drink

Discussion about whether a proposed change in the liquor policy in the town parks is fair led to a postponement of the issue until the first town meeting in March.

Currently, an ordinance and a policy change are proposed that would permit non-profits to serve alcohol in the town's parks, with specific conditions. However, questions regarding liability and matters of fairness were raised during the discussions.

Parks commissioner Patrick Joy said he thought the town should open up the parks to serving alcohol to everyone.

"If (people) are paying extra, and we want people to use parks, why not make it available to families.... If it causes a problem, and I don't think it will...I think we need to open it up to more than non-profits," Joy said.

Joy also told the board that this issue is just the kind of issue that should be reviewed by the Parks Commission with recommendations forwarded to the town commissioners. The park alcohol policy was not reviewed by the park commission prior to consideration by town commissioners.

Town commission president Chris Staiger said that since the use of alcohol in the parks was a new thing, he thinks it is good not to open the parks to drinking by everyone yet. "We can always come back and open it later (to the general public). Not everyone likes alcohol," Staiger said. "Start out small and see how we go from there."

Commissioner Glenn Blanchard said he thought the issue should have been reviewed by the Parks Commission also, before coming to the town council, because he was also "nervous about alcohol in public use facilities."

The board agreed to revisit the proposed changes at its first meeting in March, with the hope that the Planning Commission will be able to meet and put together its recommendations to the town commissioners by that meeting.

## Who's on First

Who is in charge if the mayor is not available? That question is one the board of commissioners considered at its Feb. 2 town meeting and will continue to discuss at the meeting on March 2.

Mayor Jim Hoover asked the board to consider changes to the town code that would require the commission president to assume the mayor's responsibilities if the mayor was not available for an extended period, but not before.

The extended period was described as "three consecutive meetings, each of which results from the same general cause." This change in policy was recommended by the town attorney, Hoover said.

The proposed change would also create the role of vice-president of the board and require the vice-president to then act as the president of the board when the president is required to assume the responsibilities of the mayor.

Town commission president

## Emmitsburg Chronicle Inc.

D/B/A EMMITSBURG CHRONICLE

107 South Seton Avenue ★ P.O. Box 372  
Emmitsburg ★ Frederick County, Maryland 21727  
Phone 301.447.2977 ★ Fax 301.447.6955  
www.emmitsburgchronicle.com

News, events, history, humor and culture for the Emmitsburg area. Published the first week of every month by *Emmitsburg Chronicle Inc.*

LISA ELDER, PUBLISHER  
publisher@emmitsburgchronicle.com

MICHAEL HILLMAN, EDITOR  
editor@emmitsburgchronicle.com

PUBLISHERS EMERITI:  
ART ELDER, ERIC GLASS

NEWS EDITOR: CHRIS PATTERSON

ADVERTISING: LORI STROMBERG  
advertising@emmitsburgchronicle.com

GRAPHIC DESIGN: EVAN WIEGAND

COPY EDITOR: PAT HOWES BELL

Copy for advertisements must be received not later than the 15th of the month prior to publication. Advertising rates are furnished upon request. Newspaper mailed free of charge via Standard U.S. Postage to residents of Emmitsburg 21727 and Rocky Ridge 21778. Subscription rate for patrons outside of distribution area is \$30.00 per year for shipping and handling.

Letters to the Editor and articles are welcome and may be submitted via regular U.S. Mail to P.O. Box 372, Emmitsburg, MD 21727 or by email to editor@emmitsburgchronicle.com. *The Emmitsburg Chronicle* reserves the right to refuse or edit submissions deemed offensive to or inappropriate for its readers.

Copyright © 2009 Emmitsburg Chronicle Inc. All rights reserved.

## CORRECTION

The Carleo Pizza advertisement in last month's issue excerpting a review from *The Mountain Echo* newspaper should have been labeled a "paid advertisement." We sincerely regret the error.

Chris Staiger said if the town code creates the position of vice-president then the town charter would have to be modified to create that position also. Staiger also expressed concerns that the suggested changes might be "overkill." Section 15 of the town's charter currently names only two positions to be voted upon each year - the president and the treasurer. It further states that the president of the board of commissioners "shall preside over all meetings of the board, and shall be acting mayor when the circumstances are such that the mayor cannot function in his capacity."

*The next meeting of the town commissioners will be March 2, 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall. Items planned for the agenda as of the February town meeting included: consideration of the Parks Commission comments on the proposal to allow alcohol in town parks, subject to restrictions; a report of the Trail Task Force from the mayor; assessment of the town's budget situation by the mayor; and, consideration of formalizing the duties and responsibilities of board members. For the most current agenda, go online to [www.emmitsburg.net/towngov/agenda.htm](http://www.emmitsburg.net/towngov/agenda.htm).*

## ABIGAIL, continued from page 1

What if one was born elsewhere but raised in Emmitsburg and has resided here for many years? What about those — like our editor — who move here as an adult? Must an Emmitsburgian live within town limits? What about natives who move out of state in their later years? Are they still Emmitsburgians?

Or does being an Emmitsburgian have less to do with geography and more to do with attitude? Is it simply a certain *je ne sais quoi*? In other words, can there be two people who have resided in Emmitsburg all their lives, yet one is considered more of an Emmitsburgian by way of an intangible "Emmitsburgian-ness" or *noblesse oblige*?

Now you see, dear readers, why

Abigail seeks your assistance with this one. Usually, I have answers or opinions on most everything. (Yes, I have been known to pontificate on occasion.) But even this old gal is stumped for once.

So, how about a little help on this one? I promise to continue with this topic in a future column as I share some of your answers. Let's see what we can come up with.

*Editor's note: Since Abigail prefers her typewriter to computers, please email her in care of editor@emmitsburgchronicle.com with "Abigail" in the subject line. I will see to it that she receives your comments. Or you may send her a good old-fashioned letter in care of the Chronicle at P.O. Box 372, Emmitsburg, MD 21727.*

## Letters to the Editor

February 9, 2009

I take this opportunity to extend my congratulations to Publisher Lisa Elder and Editor Michael Hillman on the rebirth of the Emmitsburg Chronicle. After some 32 years in retirement, The Chronicle has returned to serve the citizens of Emmitsburg. Both Lisa and Michael deserve special recognition for undertaking such a major project at a time when current economic conditions are posing many problems.

What a pleasure it was to find Abigail's column in the new Chronicle. Over the years she

hasn't lost her touch or writing style. Seems like old times and I look forward to her column in future issues for she covers just about "anything." Welcome back, Abigail!

The return of the Emmitsburg Chronicle brought back many pleasant memories of the days when I was associated with the Emmitsburg paper. It was on Friday, November 21, 1947 when my byline, "This and That", made its very first appearance in the Emmitsburg Chronicle. Previous to that I had been submitting news items and articles pertaining to Thurmont and surrounding areas.

When the Chronicle folded in 1977, my byline became a regular feature in several Frederick County newspapers. I owe it all to C. Arthur Elder, who got me started on my writing career some 62 years ago when he invited me to write a column in the Emmitsburg Chronicle.

My sincere best wishes to the new Emmitsburg Chronicle. It's off to a great start and I hope the citizens of Emmitsburg will give it their full support.

Sincerely,  
George W. Wireman  
Thurmont Historian

## From the EDITOR

Michael Hillman

One of the earliest pieces of advice I received from my riding coach is to approach the first fence of a course with energy and conviction. The idea being that the horse will feel your confidence and feed off of it. A good first fence sets a positive tempo for the more complex fences you and your horse will be asked to negotiate later in the course.

While the advice was worded for riding, I find it good advice for approaching any new situation, such as putting out the first edition of a new paper! I'll be the first to admit I was surprised to discover the first edition was 32 pages. I was shooting for 24. While we missed my mark, I'm glad we overshot it. The tempo set by the first edition manifested itself in an amazingly smooth production of this second edition, and the addition of Pat Howes Bell to the staff as our Copy Editor was like getting extra icing on your cake. Many, many thanks Pat for all your long hours!

I'd like to thank everyone who has emailed or contacted me with their comments on the first edition. Just about every conversation starts off with, "I'm still reading it!" I can't think of a nicer compliment.

When Lisa and I drew up goals for the paper, we both agreed we wanted a paper that readers would take the time to read, to hold onto till the next edition came their way. We wanted to have friendly, thoughtful, and yes, funny conversations with you—in contrast to today's thirty second sound-bite world. I hope you're enjoying the conversations as much as we are.

While we hit our goal with this edition of 28 pages of worthy content, we have enough writers eager to contribute to expand to 32 pages should we wish. But as you might expect, that raises our cost for layout, printing and mailing.

As noted in our first issue, we are pursuing a different business model for the Chronicle. Unlike other newspapers who rely solely upon advertising, we are relying upon both advertising as well as donations from our readers. No donation is too small. If you find the Chronicle still on your

coffee table two weeks after it arrived in the mail, and if you have the means, we would greatly appreciate your financial help. Special thanks to Bo and Jean Cadle, George Combs, and John Hollinger for joining those who already have dug deep into their pockets to help us bring you this paper.

Of course, we recognize that times for many in our community are hard financially and donating to the Chronicle right now is impossible. We understand. Take care of yourself and your family first.

That said, you can still help by patronizing the businesses who advertise in the Chronicle. Next time you find yourself thinking about going to the mall in hopes of saving a few dollars on hardware, food, or a meal, please think about spending those dollars right here in Emmitsburg.

Unlike those warehouse home supply or food centers where you're just another face in the crowd, at Zurgable Brothers you'll be greeted by your first name; at the Jubilee you'll be checked out by the kid next door. When you dine out in Emmitsburg, you'll eat better food and you'll eat with neighbors. The more you shop with our advertisers, the easier it is for them to help us bring you the Chronicle. It's a win-win for everyone.

For those businesses in Emmitsburg who have yet to advertise with us, please consider it. To quote the original 1879 Chronicle mission statement: "...in order to sell effectively, there needs to be a publication of the articles to be sold, what they are, in the inducements which should attract customers, and finally that judicious outlay to enhance profits, will bring better results, devoid of the action, which modern modes of business make indispensably necessary."

Remember, long after other newspapers have been discarded, the Emmitsburg Chronicle will still be setting on coffee tables and nightstands, being read cover to cover by potential customers. Every time the Chronicle pages are opened, your ad will be seen over and over. Your ads will help us continue to make the Chronicle worth reading, keeping, and yes, growing!

## From the desk of...

### STATE SENATOR DAVID BRINKLEY

Greetings from Annapolis! I plan to keep readers in the Emmitsburg area up to date on the many happenings in Annapolis for the duration of this session.

Most citizens are aware of the State's fiscal woes. Our financial imbalance occurs as planned spending outpaces planned revenues. The tax increases from last year's special session have not improved the State's finances. In fact, in some sectors (retail sales, tobacco sales, etc.) more harm may have been done. Current revenue estimates have fallen well short of what Governor O'Malley has based his spending upon.

While my opposition to those increases fell on deaf ears, elected officials have a responsibility to make the best of a difficult situation.

We are currently dissecting the Governor's proposed budget and anticipate making further reductions. Citizens are already seeing

a reduction in some areas, specifically, transportation funding.

The best way out of the recession (or depression, depending upon your perspective) will be to allow the private sector to thrive, thereby preserving jobs and eventually creating jobs. Our community's small businesses are the foundations upon which financial success is built. Most everyone employed is productive to the community and NOT a burden to society. Some measures addressing this are tax incentives; vocational, technical, and higher education programs.

Feel free to contact my office for questions or concerns regarding legislation. I also would welcome ideas for future columns.

Senator David Brinkley  
403 James Office Building  
11 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
800-492-7122 extension 3704  
david.brinkley@senate.state.md.us



The old Main Street Grill, one of the many store fronts now sitting empty on Main Street

### ECONOMY, continued from page 1

high in 1983. The current 7.2 percent unemployment rate isn't anything new either; we witnessed a similar rate of loss in 1990.

A lot of us are saying our current situation is aggravated by bad policies and bad habits, to be sure. But also by a mindset that we're entitled to have it all.

"We Americans are on the spoiled side," said Libby Briggs, who also serves as president of the Emmitsburg Business and Professional Association.

As for the state of Emmitsburg business, Briggs believes most are holding their own, in part, because the town is uniquely positioned to survive an economic downturn.

A ski resort and golf course, college, nursing homes, a hotel and the National Fire Academy aren't just employers, they also bring a steady stream of tourists and visitors into town, a boon to restaurants and other shops.

Business may be a bit off at the Ott House and other local eateries, but manager Laurie Harley said the landmark is fortunate.

"Everyone's feeling the crunch, but we're lucky there are so many people passing through," she said.

That doesn't mean restaurants are immune. A relatively new eatery, Alesandro's Italian restaurant was listed in foreclosure recently, but managed to pull itself together and is still open for business.

Despite the somber economy, the National Restaurant Association forecasts that restaurants, which employ 9 percent of the country's workforce, will remain strong in 2009, experiencing an inflation-adjusted decline of 1 percent.

Bill Kuhn III, owner of the automobile repair service, His Place, Inc., has heard a lot of people talk about their concerns with the economy, but His Place is holding its own, he said.

"Our fleet work has completely fallen off," Kuhn said. "...People are doing more maintenance and repairs because they can't afford a new car."

And people getting repairs instead of buying a new car is helping him to offset the loss of work from his business customers. However, Kuhn said people bringing their

cars in for repairs are also asking what work must be done right away and what can wait.

Mark Zurgable, of Zurgable Brothers Hardware, has been in business about 30 years and seen his share of economy ups and downs. This time around he is hearing a lot about unemployment. People aren't spending the money they used to because they just don't have it to spend, he said.

What is keeping the balance for his hardware store is not unlike that of Kuhn's auto repairs. People are coming in to buy parts to fix things like a toilet instead of getting a plumber, he said.

"We're feeling the effects of the economy, too, and people are only doing what they have to do," Zurgable said.

### Not Just Luck

Maybe Emmitsburg's business community might have luck on its side, but for those industries most hard hit, luck has little to do with it.

Kerry Shorb, owner of My Father's Footsteps hair salon, said the economy is hurting his customers too, and he hears about folks losing jobs everyday. His solution has been to keep his prices stable to make things easier for his customers, even though many of his costs have gone up.

"I cut back on getting things in that I might normally get. We do with what we have," he said.

And Shorb's customers, too, are tightening their belts by getting a service every six weeks instead of four or getting their hair touched up every eight weeks instead of six, he said.

Libby Briggs and husband and partner Don Briggs sold their office building last spring and now operate Briggs Associates, a real estate and appraisal firm, from a home office. The arrangement suits the couple much better, Briggs said, in addition to saving the expense of an outside office.

Carl Athey, W.F. Delauter's vice-president and partner, has seen his share of construction companies go under. In business with partner Kirby Delauter for 17 years, Athey believes the first companies to fail are those that expanded too fast and reached too far. Their credit's

## For Help, Look Here

### Housing

For help preventing foreclosure (the sooner the better): Brad Peterson and Joe Baldi, housing counselors for Maryland HOPE at Frederick Community Action Agency, 301-600-1546. Visit [www.mdhope.org](http://www.mdhope.org).

For rental assistance, find out if you qualify for a rental allowance from Frederick County's Housing and Community Development. Jenny Short, director. 301-631-3530

For an array of services, including help towards rent or mortgage, the Religious Coalition of Human Needs offers small grants. The Rev. Brian Scott, director. 301-631-2670.

### Energy

For help with utility bills, find out if you qualify for Maryland's Energy Assistance Program offered through the Frederick County Dept. of Social Services, 301-600-2410. Visit the state's website at [www.dhr.state.md.us/meap](http://www.dhr.state.md.us/meap).

### Credit

To report credit problems and get information on credit consolidation scams, visit the Dept. of Labor Licensing's website at [www.dhr.state.md.us/finance](http://www.dhr.state.md.us/finance).

### Food

Emmitsburg Food Bank, 502 E. Main Street. Call for hours. 301-447-3391. Bring a picture ID and proof of residency.

shot and they can't get bids on jobs. To survive, you have to be thrifty.

"We didn't purchase new equipment at every opportunity. We might not have had the best looking trucks around, but we don't have debt and we have good credit," he said. "You can't be financially healthy enough."

Chris Patterson contributed to this story.

# 100 Years Ago this Month

☞ **March 5, 1909** ☞

## Wireless Telephone in State FREDERICK AND OTHER TOWNS TO CONNECT WITH BALTIMORE

It is proposed to erect a tower of 120 feet high from the roof of the Union Trust Building, Baltimore, a second tower 320 feet high on the shoreline, and seven others in larger towns of the state, including Frederick, for the Radio Wireless Telephone Company.

It will be several months before all connections will be made. This is the DeForest system and the C&P Telephone lines will be used to connect with the tower on the Forest Building. It is distinctly a long distance method of communicating.

☞ **March 12, 1909** ☞

## Hot Chase of a Sprinting Calf

Paul Agnew and Robert Eyler had a hot chase after a fast-traveling calf on Saturday. They were unloading calves for Patterson Brothers and one of their charges escaped. Across the pike it went, tail high in the air, took to the fields and ran across Mr. Lewis Motter's farm jumping fences with little effort, the boys after it, too. Down the lane to the creek, into the fields again and nothing daunted by the waters of the time honored swimming hole, it plunged in crossing the island, then across the other branch of Toms Creek and through the fields. It was at last cornered near Mr. Cool's residence.

## Much Needed Road Repair Asked

A petition had been circulated asking the County Commissioners to pike the road from town to the Annandale School House. A portion of this road was piked some ten or fifteen years ago and with a little work on it now it can be made first class but any delay would necessitate a large expenditure of money or the road would be little better than our worst mountain roads.

## Three Buildings of Fire

Sparks from the stack of a traction engine at L.M. Zimmerman's warehouse [now the home of the Carriage House Inn] set fire to three buildings on Wednesday afternoon. Prompt action on the part of those in charge of the engine

and others averted a serious blaze. Dukehart and Chrismer's Coach shop, the house occupied by Mrs. Favorite, and Zimmerman's Warehouse were slightly damaged.

☞ **March 19, 1909** ☞

## Q.R.S. Holds Interesting Meeting

The Q.R.S. met on Monday night, at the home of Mrs. Horner. Gladstone, Lincoln, Poe, Browning, Proudhon, Fitzgerald, Kinglake, Blackie, Darwin, Tennyson, McCormick, Chopin, and Mendelssohn claimed attention. The politicians, literary men, poets, musicians and composers of other years seem to flit vividly before the society so ably where the papers handled.

The papers on Mendelssohn and Chopin, Grace really delivered by Mrs. Eva Shulemberger, was very fine. Mrs. Sulemberger also played selections from the famous composers which were highly appreciated and much admired. A chorus by ladies of the society, added to the enjoyment of the evening. Boston will have to scurry it out if it is to get in line with the Q.R.S. of Emmitsburg.

The subject for the next meeting, which will be at the home of Mrs. E.E. Zimmerman, is "Customs and Costumes of the New World."

## The Band

On Monday evening the Emmit Cornet Band gave another delightful open-air concert and played before and after a lecture at the Opera House. This excellent organization has the goodwill of every citizen in Emmitsburg and its courtesy in cooperating in every effort for local public welfare never fails of appreciation.

☞ **March 26, 1909** ☞

## New Bank Incorporated SAVINGS INSTITUTION TO BE ESTABLISHED IN NEAR FUTURE.

Dr. D.E. Stone, Jr. and Messrs. Thomas C. Hays, Ernest Shriver, J. Rowe Ohler, Peter F. Burket, J. Lewis Rhodes, all of Emmitsburg, and John C. Motter, son of Rev. Mr. I. M. Motter, of Frederick, are the incorporators of the proposed Emmitsburg Savings Bank, the articles of incorporation of which have been filed at Annapolis.

These gentlemen are also named as the directors for the first year and will meet either tomorrow or Monday to organize. Nothing definite can be ascertained from the incorporators at this time further than they expect to be able to begin business in temporary quarters in May. The bank's capital will be \$25,000, made up of weekly deposits.

## Horse Sales Bring Out Good Crowds and Lively Bidders

The standard with which to compare gaged the health of the business of the community like this is undoubtedly the public sales. If money was plentiful and easy it is apparent in the returns from different public auctions of livestock and farming implements: dull sales, dull times; spirited bidders, prosperous conditions.

This spring the sales have been very well attended and the price is having good and the percentage of notes giving has been less than many years. Last Saturday Patterson Brothers held a horse sale. The average price they received was \$153, the horses bringing from \$105 to \$192 a head. 28 West Virginia horses were sold, three going to Waynesboro and eight going to Creagerstown, the rest stayed in this community. In all 34 horses were disposed of, those coming from West Virginia were sound of wind, legs, and eyes. Mr. Mead Patterson said to her representative of the Chronicle that is far as cash is concerned this was the biggest sale he and his brother ever had. There were more sales and less notes given than heretofore.

Last Friday, M.P.P. Ogle sold at public auction his livestock and farming equipment. One, six-horse team brought \$1881, one of these horses brought \$290 and two matched bays of the team were sold for \$525. A pair of mules were sold for \$340. The whole sale amounted to about \$4200.

Both of the gentlemen advertised through the Chronicle and both of them are satisfied with the results. This tells the story there is plenty of money and if you have the stuff and tell people about it you'll get the right price.

*To learn more about the history of the Emmitsburg area, visit the Historical Society of Emmitsburg.net*

## From the desk of... CHARLES JENKINS Frederick County Commissioner

Hello Citizens of Emmitsburg. Let me start by congratulating Lisa Elder and Mike Hillman for putting new life into the *Chronicle*. It's great to have someone local provide local coverage. It's not an easy task they are undertaking and I hope you, to the extent you can, help them with this endeavor. I was asked if I would like to contribute an article, any article, without limitations as to subject matter and the length not to exceed one thousand words (if you've been an observer of county politics most of you will know that I don't generally use up a lot of words). There is no shortage of topics I could write about, some that I considered but ruled out are: impacts of illegal immigration on Frederick County, the upcoming FY 2010 budget, transportation issues, the politics of fire and rescue, etc. My selection is the hot topic of the day: waste-to-energy (WTE).

We have a major solid waste problem in Frederick County. Our landfill, if we weren't diverting most of our trash 192 miles one-way to a landfill in Virginia, would be filled up in two years. Last year we spent over \$18 million to long-haul our trash into somebody else's backyard and make it their problem. The county is looking for at least a 50-year solution to our mounting solid waste problem.

The appropriate-sized site for a new landfill, the alternative to WTE, is between 800 - 1,200 acres. For those familiar with The Villages of Urbana, the entirety of that new town is 1,200 acres. Picture all of that land as a landfill. In the last issue of the *Chronicle* you read from Commissioner Hagen about our plans to divert as much as we can from the landfill with the implementation of single-stream recycling. Even increasing our recycling rate from the current 40% (approximately) to 60% by 2024 will leave hundreds of tons of trash to dispose of, daily.

A modern waste-to-energy plant is a tightly regulated power plant that is fueled by garbage, rather than coal, oil or nuclear energy. The garbage burns to create steam in a boiler, the steam turns a turbine, and the turbine puts electricity into the grid. The air emissions are more tightly regulated than the emissions from a coal-fueled power plant.

The proposal is for a plant capable of processing 1,500 tons of trash per day. Frederick is building 900 tons of capacity for itself, and Carroll County is building 600 tons of capacity for itself at the same site. Carroll is a financial partner and will be a 40 percent partner in the use of the facility.

The price tag for the facility will be up to \$527 million, probably less. Frederick County's share will be about \$316 million and the revenue bonds to pay for this will be repaid over a twenty year period. This works out to about \$15 million per year for Frederick County, and then there are the operating expenses. The bond repayments and operating expenses will be paid by a combination of revenue sources, including electricity sales, tipping

fees at the landfill, and the System Benefit Charge on county tax bills. As host county, the contract being considered includes a rebate for Frederick County on the electricity sales that can be used to offset the expenses of our recycling programs or help to lower tipping fees.

There will be enough electricity generated and added to the grid to power approximately 60,000 homes (Frederick County has about 84,000 homes). The waste-to-energy opponents have generally argued against this project based on the following concerns: perceived health impacts, costs of the project, location of the facility, traffic issues. Let's take them one by one.

Over the past two years I have asked the opponents and I have done my own research on any, not perceived, ill health effects of WTE. There are over 800 of these facilities in operation worldwide, including about 90 in the U.S. Cities with WTE include Honolulu, Hawaii and Paris, France. WTE plants have been in operation for decades and if there were studies to support negative health impacts I haven't seen them or been provided any.

Costs: I touched on those above. If this plant is running at full capacity at the start of operations (at least 5 years from the date we approve such a facility) then this project makes financial sense. If the plant is underutilized and not running at capacity, like most plants, the finances do not work. We will be looking to augment the two counties' trash with additional input from other surrounding counties until we have enough of our own to provide maximum efficiency.

Location and traffic issues are the most difficult obstacles. If it's a rural site, folks object; and if it's an industrial site, folks object. There is not an easy solution to this problem. A WTE facility needs access to water (effluent) for cooling and must also be connected easily to the power grid. Most of the sites where this is possible are in the southern to central part of the county. As to traffic, currently 40 semi-tractor trailers criss-cross the county six days a week hauling our trash to the landfill in Virginia. These trucks hit the road after all the local and municipal haulers have made their trips to the transfer station located at the current landfill and dumped their loads. There will not be an appreciable difference in the truck traffic currently in operation.

The decision to go with WTE should have been made twenty years ago. The decision to support WTE is not easy. Each commissioner has done extensive research and wants to make a decision that is best, long-term, for the residents of Frederick County. Folks who are opposed to WTE have threatened non-support in future elections if we go this route. I believe WTE is the best option among lousy options. Contrary to what some would have you believe, solving our waste disposal issues with WTE is real leadership.



**EMMITSBURG  
GLASS COMPANY**  
A reflection of quality

100 Creamery Court  
Emmitsburg, Maryland

**301.447.2245**  
John Mullican, ext. 122



Emmitsburg Glass Introduces Our New  
Residential Service Center

We offer services in:

- Residential and Commercial
- Replacement Glass
- Storm Doors and Windows
- Shower / Tub Enclosures
- Custom Mirrors
- Custom Furniture Tops
- Insulated Units
- Tempered, Lexan & Plexiglass

**FREE Estimates!**  
**10% OFF your first service with this ad**

# From the desk of... CHRIS STAIGER, Emmitsburg Board of Commissioners

Congratulations to Lisa Elder and Mike Hillman for picking up the gauntlet and bringing The Chronicle back to Emmitsburg. The first thing I noticed on the mast at the top of the front page was Volume 98, Issue 1. If that didn't say it all, nothing does. The Chronicle's experience here in Emmitsburg stretches back beyond living memory but Lisa and Mike are committed to preserving the paper's strongest traditions and filling a critical need in our community. So once again, congratulations to the Emmitsburg Chronicle and all the staff working hard behind the scenes! We need you!

I'd like to take this opportunity from time to time to review recent business in Emmitsburg town government. I'll be the first to admit that it's not always exciting stuff but it is important! For example, in January, the Town Council approved a contract for the design of a water treatment facility and storage tank on the east side of town in the vicinity of the Emmitt Gardens

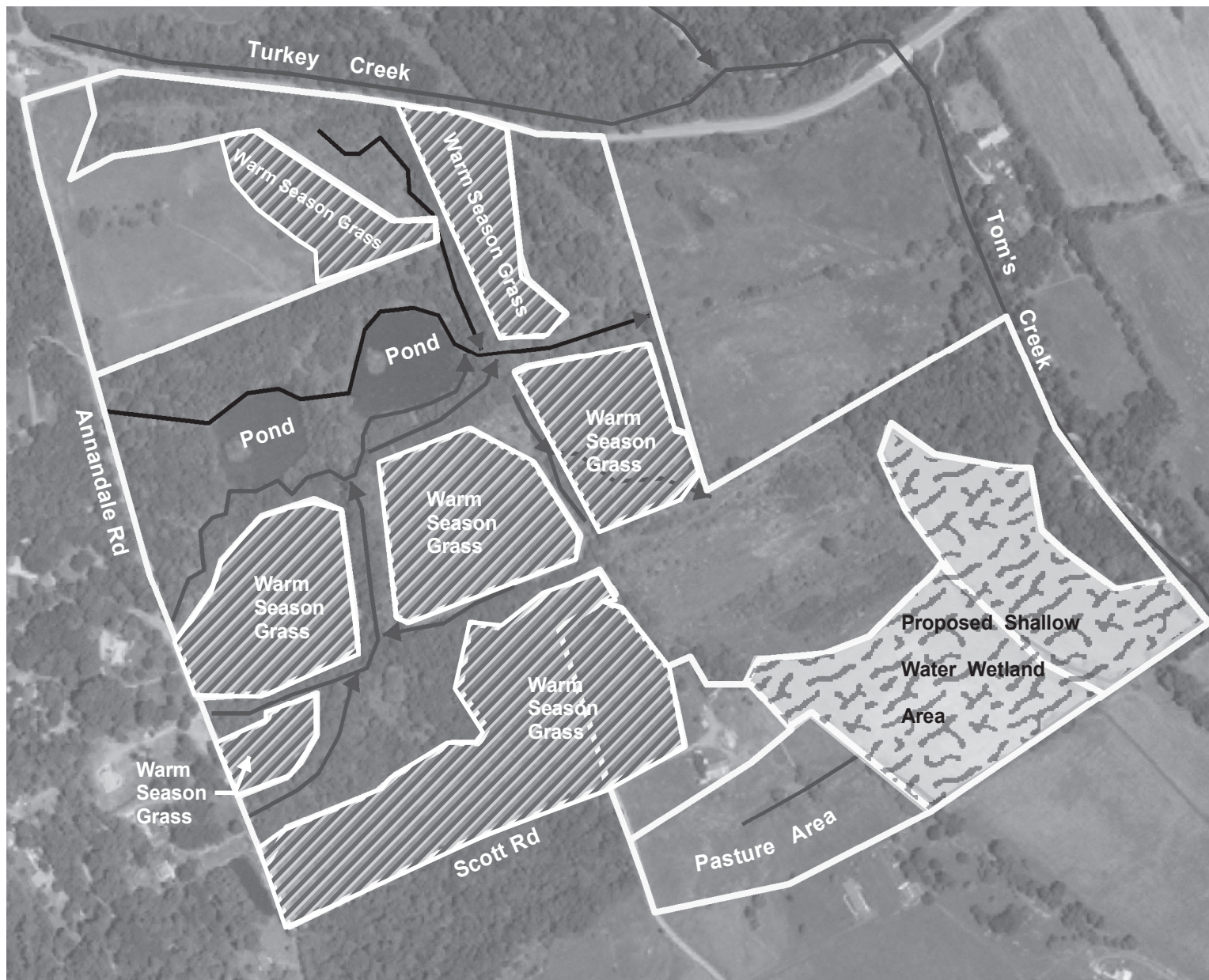
subdivision. Although two wells have been approved for use on the east side of town, there are currently no facilities for production, treatment, and distribution in the area. Outside of an agreement renewed last fall with Mount Saint Mary's University, which provides for the limited sharing of water resources, the town is currently reliant on a single facility up on the mountain to provide all of our production, treatment, and storage capacity. Access to additional water resources will also guarantee that we can continue to meet our increasing demand requirements. The design criteria for the new facility require the treatment building to mimic a typical home in the area so that it will blend in with nearby houses. Access doors and bays will only be visible from the rear of the building in order to minimize any possible impact on the neighboring community. The storage tank will be placed on the opposite side of Flat Run away from the subdivision.

In February, the Town Council approved a new lease agreement for the Up County Program on Lincoln Avenue (next to the municipal pool). This agreement will allow the program to continue servicing the north county area while maintaining its home in the heart of Emmitsburg. With the end of funding from their previous sponsor, this valuable program for families and children, which offers support and education services as well as after school activities, was in danger of closing. The program managers, the Frederick County Board of Commissioners, and the Town of Emmitsburg were able to find a way to maintain the program and all its services through a creative new burden sharing agreement. Local access to these types of programs is of continuing importance to the Town Council in these increasingly challenging economic times.

Also in February, the Town Council approved moving forward with the conservation and

restoration of significant portions of a 170 acre agricultural property known as the Scott Road Farm. Approximately sixty percent of this town property, located at Scott and Annandale roads southwest of the town, qualifies for conversion to meadows and wetlands under the auspices of a federal and state program meant to promote the return of agricultural land to a natural setting. As the program matures, we will be providing increased habitat for native species of plants and wildlife as well as educational and recreational opportunities for area residents.

Well, thank you again for this opportunity to share recent progress on a number of fronts. I encourage you to contact members of the Town Council with questions or input on these or any other issue of concern to you! Our names, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses are available from the Town Office at 240-629-6300. For my part, you can reach me at 410-447-3757 or at [cvstaiger@emmitsburgmd.gov](mailto:cvstaiger@emmitsburgmd.gov)



Approximately 60 of 113 acres of the Scott Road farm will be turned into conservation land, with roughly 45 acres of native grasses and about 15 acres of wetland. This map depicts the areas proposed for restoration by the Chesapeake Wildlife Heritage at the Feb. 2 town meeting, however the final locations and acreage have not yet been finalized by the town.

**CONSERVATION, continued from page 1** supporting trails on the property. However, commission president Chris Staiger said it was premature to discuss developing trails. The board had not yet received a copy of the task force's recommendations, he said.

He added that he could not see any down side to approving the conservation program, but would make no promises about trails.

Newman explained that trails would not be permitted on the CREP land, but nothing would prohibit the town from putting trails on the remaining acreage.

Commissioner Glenn Blanchard said the key thing to him was "preserving the land for future generations, protecting the waterways" and restoring plant life. In general, he thought it was a "great plan," he said.

Town manager Dave Haller requested the board go ahead and vote on approving the program and not postpone the matter until March. "I strongly suggest you allow us to proceed with it. When you look at the environmental history of the State of Maryland, I cannot think of one good reason we wouldn't want to do it," he said.

Commissioner Joyce Rosensteel moved to approve the program

and Commissioner Cliff Sweeney seconded the motion. All commissioners voted for the program except Commissioner Denise Etris who was absent from the meeting.

For more information about Maryland's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), go to <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/wildlife/milo.asp>.

## Emmitsburg Lions Sponsor 26th Annual Health Screening

The 26th annual Emmitsburg Lions Club health screening will be held on Saturday, March 14, 2009 from 7:30 - 10:00 a.m. at Mother Seton School, 100 Creamery Road, Emmitsburg, Maryland.

The health screening will feature several blood screening services made available by the Gettysburg Hospital. Please note that registration is required for all blood tests and can be arranged by calling WellSpan HealthSource at 1-800-840-5905, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Most important of these services and recommended by most health care providers on an annual basis is a multiphasic blood screening (MBS). The MBS focuses on early detection of potential health problems and is available for \$30 to those health fair participants who have pre-registered and who have completed the mandatory 10 - 12 hour fast.

In addition to the MBS, the Gettysburg Hospital is offering four optional blood tests. The prostate specific antigen (PSA) blood test is recommended for men over the age of 50 as a preventative measure against prostate cancer. The cost of the PSA blood test is \$15. Available for \$10 to all participants is the sensitive thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH) blood test, a test used in the early detection of thyroid disease. Other optional tests include the Vitamin B12 deficiency test at \$20 and the (HbA1c) Glycohemoglobin test made available for diabetics only for an additional \$15. All tests may be ordered in whole or in part of any combination.

In continuing with their tradition of supporting vision health, the Emmitsburg Lions will be conducting free vision acuity tests for those interested. No registration is required for vision screening.

For more information call Lion Joe at 301-447-2939 or visit the Lions Club section of Emmitsburg.net

**EMMITSBURG CAR WASH**  
Still only \$1.50 for 4 minutes  
Located behind Chronicle Press

**Calvary Berean Fellowship**  
(John 7:38)

- Prayer
- Line-by-Line Bible Study
- Fellowship

**Sundays 6:30 - 8:00 pm**  
Emmitsburg Presbyterian Church  
415 West Main Street  
Please use the side entrance.

John Bartlett - (717) 360-1501  
[Cbfellowship08@yahoo.com](mailto:Cbfellowship08@yahoo.com)

# Local Groups Help Family Get Van



Callie Watkins at home

Callie attends Emmitsburg Elementary School and her favorite class is gym, "because my teacher makes sure that I can play too," Callie said. And while she is still learning to read, she said she enjoys the Henry and Mudge series.

There are challenges, of course, including the one right now that is bringing local groups out to help the family.

Callie has a new wheelchair to accommodate a growing girl and it is higher than her old one. Unfortunately it does not fit into the family's van the way the old one did.

Now when she has to get into the family's current van, it is challenging to say the least. But the real concern is that her head is so close to the ceiling of the van that she must ride to school or doctor appointments in Baltimore, or anywhere the family goes, bending forward so her head does not hit the ceiling.

Realizing that the family's van was wearing out and that Callie's parents could not afford to replace it — nor would they ask for help — Callie's grandfather asked a local resident if he would consider

leading a fundraising effort to help obtain a van to accommodate Callie safely. A used wheelchair-accessible van will cost \$20,000 or more. That is money the family simply does not have, as they can barely manage the medical expenses, he said.

As might be expected, the community is stepping up to help the Watkins family. Donations and pledges have already been made by area residents and organizations.

The Emmitsburg Lions have pledged funds given in memory of long-time member Dave Martin who passed away recently. Martin is remembered by his fellow Lions for a life lived helping others. The Yellow Springs Lions Club and the Harney Lions Club sent a donation just from hearing about the situation and without being asked for help.

Local groups are also coordinating fundraisers to help the family.

From 6:00 to 11:30 a.m., Saturday, March 21, the Thurmont Lions Club, the Thurmont Trinity United Church of Christ, and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans are jointly hosting a benefit breakfast to help the family raise the needed funds to buy a safer van for Callie.

When the initial plans were formulated for the breakfast, the coordinators phoned Callie's parents to get their approval to proceed with the plans. It was at that time that they learned the very date that had been set at the convenience of the hosting organizations just happened to be Callie's birthday; she will turn 8 years old on March 21.

The breakfast will be at Thurmont Trinity United Church of Christ, 101 East Main Street. The tickets are \$6.50 for adults, \$3.50 for ages 5-10, free for ages 5 and under. Tickets may be purchased in advance or at the door, but purchasing in advance is requested for planning purposes. To purchase tickets in advance, call 301-898-7004 or 301-271-2305. Tax-deductible donations may also be made by making checks payable to "TLC Foundation Inc.," designating "For Callie's Van" and mailing to Gene & Shirley Long, 6903 Colonial Avenue, Thurmont, MD 21788.

For more information on Spinal Muscular Dystrophy, Type 2, go to <http://www.fsma.org>.

Shirley Long contributed to this story.

Chris Patterson  
Staff Writer

maintenance of respiratory health (including clearance of secretions) is necessary.

Despite her condition, Callie is a typical little girl in many ways, her family says. She likes to keep in touch with her new friends who have SMA and Muscular Dystrophy — friends she made at the Muscular Dystrophy Association camp last year.

At 18 months old, Callie Watkins was diagnosed with Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA), Type 2. That meant a life confined to a wheelchair and dealing with the weakness of muscles necessary for breathing. It also meant that the risk of infection is high and careful

## Carleo New York Italian Pizza

**Nobody Makes A Pie Like We Do**

101 Silo Hill Road  
Emmitsburg, MD

301-447-1999  
301-447-3232

*Carleo New York Italian Pizzeria*

**Monday through Thursday**  
10:30 AM to 10:00 PM  
CLOSED TUESDAY

**Friday and Saturday**  
10:30 AM to 11:00 PM

**Sunday**  
11:30 AM to 9:00 PM

<p>1 X-Large 16" Pizza with 2 Toppings</p> <p><b>\$12.99</b> Plus Tax</p> <p>Carry Out Only One Coupon Per Party <small>* Coupons May Not Be Combined With Any Other Offer * Expires 03/31/09</small></p>	<p>Buy (3) 12" Subs and Get The 4th Sub</p> <p><b>FREE</b></p> <p>Carry Out Only One Coupon Per Party <small>* Coupons May Not Be Combined With Any Other Offer * Expires 03/31/09</small></p>	<p>1 X-Large 16" Pizza with 2 Toppings</p> <p><b>\$12.99</b> Plus Tax</p> <p>Carry Out Only One Coupon Per Party <small>* Coupons May Not Be Combined With Any Other Offer * Expires 03/31/09</small></p>	<p>2 X-Large 16" Pizza with 1 Topping</p> <p><b>\$22.99</b> Plus Tax</p> <p>Carry Out Only One Coupon Per Party <small>* Coupons May Not Be Combined With Any Other Offer * Expires 03/31/09</small></p>
<p>2 X-Large 16" Pizza with 2 Toppings</p> <p><b>\$23.99</b> Plus Tax</p> <p>Carry Out Only One Coupon Per Party <small>* Coupons May Not Be Combined With Any Other Offer * Expires 03/31/09</small></p>	<p>Family Pack 2 X Large 16" Pizzas with 2 Toppings each plus 10 Buffalo wings and 2 Liter of Pepsi</p> <p><b>\$28.95</b> Plus Tax</p> <p>Carry Out Only One Coupon Per Party <small>* Coupons May Not Be Combined With Any Other Offer * Expires 03/31/09</small></p>	<p>Hungry Meal Special Any (3) 12" Subs (on menu), 2 Lg. Fries and 2 Liter of Pepsi</p> <p><b>\$24.95</b> Plus Tax</p> <p>Carry Out Only One Coupon Per Party <small>* Coupons May Not Be Combined With Any Other Offer * Expires 03/31/09</small></p>	<p>1 X-Large Pizza With 1 Topping And (2) 12" Subs</p> <p><b>\$22.99</b> Plus Tax</p> <p>Carry Out Only One Coupon Per Party <small>* Coupons May Not Be Combined With Any Other Offer * Expires 03/31/09</small></p>

## Elias Coffee House

Pastor Jon Greenstone

"The Basement Coffee House — Where Christ Is Our Foundation," is going on its fifth year of bringing the best contemporary Christian music to Emmitsburg! "The Basement" is a ministry of Elias Evangelical Lutheran Church. It was started by Lesly and Frank Potts, members of Elias Lutheran Church, with the purpose of reaching out to teens with the message of God's love, providing a safe and "cool place" for kids to hang out, and having a sound that would be enjoyed by the younger generations and the young at heart! Indeed, this ministry has been a blessing to many, especially as we have involved local children and teens as participants in the Christian music ministry.

"We finally realized what the key was to making the coffee house successful — involving children and teens from the ecumenical community of Emmitsburg," says Reverend Jon Greenstone, pastor of Elias Lutheran Church. The children's ecumenical music ministry is called the Children's Praise Choir (CPC) and the teen Christian rock group is called the "Silver Lining Band." Both of these groups are under the direction of Mrs. Jenni Joy, a member of St. Joseph's Parish, who leads them and teaches the kids voice, drama and performance skills. "It has been very rewarding to see the children enjoying the gift of music, and learning and growing in their talents," says Pastor Jon. "And when we have the children performing, their parents and grandparents and siblings all come to The Basement coffee house and everyone has a great time."

The Basement Coffee House normally happens on the second Friday of each month from 7:00 –9:15 p.m., but there are some months during summer and winter that we are "off" and this year, we won't have an April

coffee house, because the second Friday falls on Good Friday. "Please attend church on that night," Pastor Greenstone encourages. The Coffee House ministry usually has a special guest band from the larger area from Hagerstown to Gaithersburg and points west. On March 13th, the guest band will be "Awestruck" (<http://www.awestruck-band.com>) and they will be paired up with the Silver Lining Band.

Some performers have traveled as far as from Tennessee to do a gig at The Basement! All the bands and solo acts are pleased to come and play Christian coffee houses, because they view the music as ministry for the Lord. Most don't charge a fee, but we try to give them a "love offering" that is collected during the evening (free will) from attendees at the coffee house. We want to support these rising Christian artists, although the amount of our offering is not much. A little money for gas shows that we care and are thankful for making their talents count for God. The bands usually have a CD or other promotional items to sell. Here is the schedule of guest bands and performances for the upcoming months:

- March 13** – Awestruck and Silver Lining Band
- April** – No coffee house
- May 8** – Shine A Light Christian Youth Choir and Children's Praise Choir
- June 12** – Beyond the Veil and Silver Lining Band

Watch the Community Calendar and the banner up at Elias Lutheran Church. See you at The Basement Coffee House. Bring a friend! Info? Call Elias 301-447-6239 or visit the Elias Lutheran Church's web site on [Emmitsburg.net](http://Emmitsburg.net).

### "10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY SALE"

## St. Philomena Catholic Books & Gifts



Emmitsburg's Oldest Traditional Bookstore  
More than just books...

Baptism, Communion,  
Confirmation, Teaching Tools, Birthdays  
& Fine Gifts for Every Occasion.

Open Mon. - Sat. 10 am - 6 pm

Tel: (301) 447-3833

200-4 West Main St. Emmitsburg, MD (Next to the Laundry Center)

# St. Patrick: The Man, the Myth, and the Meaning of St. Patrick's Day Celebrations

Father Vincent O'Malley  
St. Joseph's Parish

## The Man

**S**t. Patrick (c. 389-c. 461) was born to a Roman Army officer living at Britain; Patrick was a Roman citizen. His father retired and became a deacon in the Church. Patrick's father's father had been a priest at a time and place where priests regularly married in the Church. Irish raiders captured Patrick just before his 16th birthday. These slave traders docked at northern Mayo County, where they sold Patrick into slavery. For the next six years, Patrick served his master at Slemish, near the borders of Counties Antrim and Mayo. About these six years, Patrick later writes, "I tended herds every day, and I used to pray many times during the day. More and more my love of God and reverence for him began to increase. My faith grew stronger and my zeal so intense that in the course of a single day I would say as many as a hundred prayers, and almost as many in the night." He writes that he would pray wherever he was "in the woods and on the mountains." He writes, "I would rise before dawn to pray. I never felt the worse for it, nor was I in any way lazy because, as I now realize, I was full of enthusiasm." Patrick underwent a profound religious transformation during his enslavement at Ireland.

A couple of times in his night sleep, Patrick heard a voice encouraging him to flee to return to his home country. He escaped and journeyed two hundred miles, he tells us, to the west coast. After some haggling, he caught a ride on a ship transporting Irish hounds to Gaul. The saint writes, "The power of God directed my way successfully, and nothing daunted me until I reached that ship." After three days at sea, and 28 days traipsing across land filled with many dangers, especially hunger, he reached safety. Soon, he arrived home, where relatives welcomed him and urged him never to leave them again.

A few years later, Patrick heard voices calling him to return to Ireland. He describes the first call as "the voice of the Irish." On another night, Patrick heard what he describes as the voice of the Savior: "He who has given up his life for you, he it is who speaks to you." An inner voice whom Patrick describes as the Holy Spirit similarly kept urging the young man to return to Ireland; Patrick quotes St. Paul to describe this experience: "The Spirit comes to help our inadequacy at prayer. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea with great emotion in a way that cannot be put into words." (Rom. 8.26)

Patrick's *Confession*, which is a 50,000 word essay, is replete with Scripture quotations, especially from the Old Testament Psalms and prophets, and from the New Testament gospels. He writes with the vigor of St. Paul. His faith and courage leap forth from the written pages. His sense of sin and humility pervades every page. Despite his minimal education in formal schooling and in theological training, Patrick is a man on fire with the love of God, and His Son Jesus Christ. Patrick is a man with a mission.

Feeling called and perhaps even compelled to preach the gospel to the Irish

people, Patrick left Britain and made his way to Gaul (now, France). He studied at the monastery of Lerins from 412 to 415, and at the monastery of Auxerre, for as little as two or as many as 17 years, depending on which sources one reads. After the first bishop of Armagh either died or left the see in frustration, St. Germanus of Auxerre ordained Patrick a bishop in 432, and appointed him to succeed Bishop Palladius at Ireland. Despite Patrick's embarrassment at his lack of education, a sin he had committed at 15, and his feeling incapable of doing what God was calling him to do, Patrick returned to Ireland.

At the Emerald Isle, Patrick traversed the five-fifths of Ireland, i.e., the five kingdoms, ministering especially in the north and west of the island where Christianity had not yet been preached. He aroused opposition from two main sources. The pagan Druids rejected the Christian challenge to their numerous gods. And bishops at Britain thought that Patrick had been a bad choice to succeed St. Palladius, because Patrick lacked a proper education. For thirty years, this saint dedicated himself to living and preaching the Christian faith and religion. After thirty years of ministry, Patrick died among his beloved Irish people. Tradition tells us that Patrick founded 300 churches, baptized 120,000 Christians, and recruited priests from France and England to assist in the Christianization of Ireland. Patrick is buried at Downpatrick together with his family friend St. Brigid (c. 450-525) and St. Columba (c. 521-97).

## The Myth

Many people inquire about Patrick's nationality. Was he Italian, English, or Irish? For the previous two hundred years, the Roman army had hired soldiers from the local population; soldiers were no longer of Roman extraction, but bore the heritage of their locale. Hagiographers deduce that St. Patrick was of British stock.

Did Patrick drive the snakes out of Ireland? No, no snakes were living on the island. In the course of the current Ice Age period, Ireland thawed out only as recently as 13,000 BC. By this time, Ireland already had separated from the Continent. Snakes could neither survive on the previously ice covered island, nor slither the 12 miles across the cold Irish Sea between England and Ireland.

Did Patrick use the three-leaf clover to demonstrate the Church's teaching about the Trinity? Tradition answers this query affirmatively. When instructing the illiterate Irish, Patrick used the simple metaphor of the shamrock: the shamrock has three leaves but it is one plant just as three divine persons exist in one God. The teaching of the Trinity is essential to Christianity which holds that there are three divine persons in one God. The second person of the Trinity became man; this is called the Incarnation. This second person of the Trinity by his life, death, resurrection, and ascension redeemed the world.

Literature about Ireland oftentimes asserts that Patrick had many saintly relatives. He is reported to have had five sisters, one of whom is St. Tigris. She allegedly had five sons, all of whom became bishops. Another sister allegedly had

fifteen sons, of whom ten became bishops, including St. Mel. Another sister's son was Loman who became the bishop of Trim in County Meath. Just as inns are happy to claim that "George Washington slept here," so too are the Irish happy to claim that they are blood relatives of the universally acclaimed St. Patrick. None of these and other alleged relationships have been verified by the investigations of modern day historians.

## The Meaning of St. Patrick's Day Celebrations

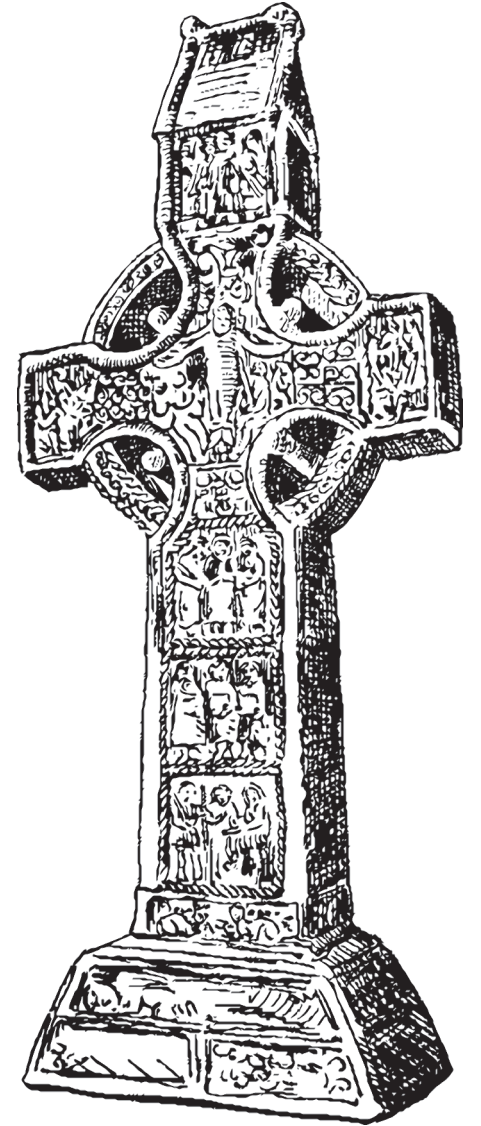
St. Patrick was a saint, a holy person. He dedicated his life to God in Jesus Christ, in the Catholic Church, to preach the gospel to pagans in order to gain for Christ as many people as possible to live for Jesus Christ and the Church. Patrick's mission was to bring people to Jesus and the Church for the sake of their salvation by and in Jesus Christ. To celebrate the feast properly, may we consider the following:

1. Praise and thank God for the gift of this wonderful saint who courageously brought the Word of God to the pagan Irish people.
2. Pray to know what God is calling you to do, just as Patrick heard God calling him to bring the gospel to the Irish people. Prayer requires quiet: shut off the TV, shut down the computer, turn off the cell phone, find a quiet place, and ask God what is his will for you.
3. On the feast of St. Patrick, March 17, go to church, or at least say a private prayer in honor of this saint, and ask him to intercede before God for you and others.
4. Celebrate as the Irish would, with something to eat and drink at the local pub, if you wish. Be sure to apply this Irish proverb: "The way to happiness is to leave the bed a little tired, leave the table a little hungry, and leave the pub a little thirsty." Remember this Irish ditty:

*St. Patrick was a gentleman  
Who through strategy and stealth  
Drove all the snakes from Ireland  
Here's a toast to his health.  
But not too many toastsings  
Lest you lose yourself and then  
Forget the good St. Patrick  
And see those snakes again.*

5. Pray the prayer attributed to St. Patrick:

*St. Patrick's Breastplate  
Christ be with me, Christ within  
me, Christ behind me, Christ  
before me.  
Christ beside me, Christ beneath  
me, Christ above me.  
Christ on my right, Christ on my  
left.  
Christ when I lie down, Christ  
where I sit, Christ where I arise.  
Christ to comfort and restore me.  
Christ in the heart of everyone who  
speaks of me.  
Christ in the eye that sees me.  
Christ in every ear that hears me.  
Christ in the hearts of all that  
love me.  
Christ in the mouths of friends and  
strangers.*



May God bless you and all you do on St. Patrick's Day, when the whole world celebrates with the Emerald Isle in honor of one of the Church's most effective missionaries: St. Patrick of Ireland.

*N.B.* While much of St. Patrick's motives, spirituality, and accomplishments can be learned from his two main writings, the *Confession* and his *Letter to the Soldiers of Coroticus*, much of St. Patrick's biography is intermingled with fantasy. This brief biography of St. Patrick is written from the following reliable sources: Ludwig Bieler, "Patrick, St., *New Catholic Encyclopedia* (NY: McGraw-Hill, 1967), vol. 10, pp. 1099-1102), Matthew Bunson et alii, *Encyclopedia of Saints* (Huntington, IN: Our Sunday Visitor, 1998); John Duffy, *Patrick: In His Own Words* (Dublin, IR: Veritas Publications, 1985); John J. Delaney, *Dictionary of the Saints* (NY: Doubleday & Co., 1980). In this article, all quotations attributed to St. Patrick have been taken from John Duffy's *Patrick: In His Own Words*.

4. When did the St. Patrick's Day parade originate in NYC?

**Ans.** In 1762, the oldest parade in the USA began when Irish militiamen, who had been recruited to serve the colonies, made an impromptu march in the streets to honor St. Patrick.

5. When was the golden age of "Irish saints and scholars?"

**Ans.** 5th-7th centuries. The next major Irish saints were Malachy (1095-1148), Lawrence O'Toole (1128-80), Oliver Plunkett (1629-81) and candidate Ven. Catherine MacCauley (1778-1841)

## Spirituality

Deeply human: simple, shepherd, kidnapped, betrayed, sensitive re: departure and criticism

Deeply faith-filled: son of deacon, grandson of priest, rebellious, prayerful, honest, visions

Apostle of Ireland: Ulster, confrontation at Tara, Archbishop of Armagh, synod

Writings: *The Confession of St. Patrick*.

To read more writing by Father O'Malley, visit the St. Joseph parish's website on Emmitsburg.net.

# Looking Back: How I Arrived At the Mount



Jim Courtney and Joe Doherty on Joe's first day of school for incoming freshmen at Mount St. Mary's in September 1966.

Jack Doherty

Looking back, the year 1966 left some interesting marks on history.

In a landmark decision, the U. S. Supreme Court decided *Miranda v. Arizona* and every televised police show thereafter engaged us in the process of reading an alleged criminal the "Miranda" rights. By end of this year, almost 400,000 American troops would be committed to a place known as Vietnam.

Steve Spurrier would run away with the Heisman Trophy as the country's top collegiate football player. A first class stamp was just a nickel.

1966 also became the year I discovered Emmitsburg, Maryland and, most surprisingly, found a home at a place called Mount Saint Mary's College (now a university).

A few months prior to graduation in June 1965 from a Catholic high school at the New Jersey shore, I had doubts about entering the seminary and pursuing a vocation in the priesthood. Consequently, I

found myself nearing graduation without an acceptance to a college or a job. The best offer I could secure at this late date was admission to the waiting list at St. Joseph's College in Philadelphia.

My prospects for college in 1965 were dim at best. Military service was less of an option. Although my father was a retired Chief Petty Officer in the Navy and my mother served as an Army nurse in World War II, they wanted college educations for my twin brother, John, and me.

Unlikely that my parents would see the benefit in my enjoying a full year of free time, I ventured into the world of work and soon discovered the many things I was not qualified to do. I was a very poor landscape laborer and worse yet at dealing with managers my age in the fast food industry. In each case I felt the sting of getting fired.

Armed with a resume that included a year as the high school paper's sports editor, the publisher of a weekly newspaper hired me as sports editor. The pay was poor; the experience was priceless. Unfortunately, this paper was not the well financed politically connected weekly and profit margins declared me expendable around the start of baseball season 1966.

During this time I continued to be active in my parish community, St. Joseph's of Toms River, a town about halfway between Atlantic City and New York City. That involvement led to that first step on my journey towards Emmitsburg and the Mount.

The Second Vatican Council was another bit of history that impacted the year 1966. It closed in late 1964 and 1965-66 saw an increased role for lay people in the Catholic Church, especially in the

celebration of the Eucharist. One of these new roles was that of a lector to read the inspired Word to the rest of the community at Mass. The idea of being in front of people with a microphone never scared me (and is a habit I've never been able to break).

I was still struggling about my vocational direction. Getting involved in a more defined role as a layperson appealed to me. I signed up to be trained as a lector.

The first evening of practice I stood before the other lectors-to-be; read whatever was handed to me; listened for further instruction and went home.

A young attorney by the name of Jim Courtney was present for this training. He knew my brother John through the Catholic Youth Organization and eventually asked him where I intended to go to college. My brother didn't have a definitive answer, but told Jim Courtney, Mt. St. Mary's Class of 1960, that he'd be very surprised if I ended up at the Mount.

As a white, Irish, Catholic, Kennedy, Bostonian, Democrat by birth and upbringing, I had every intention of attending either Boston College or Holy Cross. We were transplanted to New Jersey courtesy of my dad's Navy service. Massachusetts was home. Maryland and the Mount were not in the future I envisioned.

Jim Courtney proved, and has proven over five decades, to be a remarkable recruiter and marketing specialist for our alma mater. In little time he contacted me and offered to drive me to the Mount for a weekend. I only agreed because two of my high school classmates were freshmen and I'd have a chance to see them.

The Jersey Shore in the 1960's

was sleepy compared to today, but my first impression of Emmitsburg was not of sleep, but coma. Arriving at the Mount campus, I couldn't believe how small it seemed for a college. Was I wasting a weekend?

Fortunately, these first feelings were wrong. By the end of the weekend, I had new impressions: the mountain setting and environs was beautiful; it's not buildings but spirit that sells a school; a seminary was part of the campus in case I decided to renew my quest for the priesthood; and I wanted to enroll at the Mount. I never did spend much time with my high school classmates that weekend.

I remember not being able to make the trip home fast enough to tell my parents about this great place I found!

My father, a man of few words, said, "What's Mount St. Mary's?" Maybe he was as baffled as me that this place, the Mount, was in the higher education equation.

I don't recall how long it took for me to apply to the Mount but I'm certain there wasn't much of a delay.

When my father had another heart attack, Jim Courtney helped me and my mother lug a freshman's belongings to First Brute hall that first day at the Mount in September 1966. He continues to be a good friend to me and so many others that he encouraged to "find" the Mount.

Yes, looking back, 1966 relates a history that impacted us culturally, spiritually and economically. It also reveals a history that is personal.

What happened in September 1966 led me to my wife of 36 years, Mary Ellen Mehl Doherty, SJC '72, and to some enduring friendships of almost 43 years.

Dad, that is Mount St. Mary's.



Mary Doherty (St. Joseph College 1972 alumna) and Joe Doherty in 2006, aging gracefully in New Jersey.

*My timetable for graduation, due to a semester long personal illness, was delayed until June 1971. Regardless of the "official" records at the Mount, I continue to align myself with the class of 1970.*

*Last August I retired after 36 rewarding years with the New Jersey Department of Labor. Most of that time found me serving in various administrative capacities in the human resource management and labor relations arena. Today I serve as a part-time disciplinary hearing referee for the County of Burlington, NJ.*

*Mary and I live in Point Pleasant, NJ and continue to be active in the St. Dominic Parish community. This year marks our tenth year as catechists in the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) program. Our sons, Brian and Kevin, although infused with Mount/SJC blood, opted not to pursue careers through Emmitsburg. We have one grandson, Aidan, who is five years old.*

*Have your own memories about going to school at the Mount? St. Josephs? Emmitsburg High school, or others schools in Emmitsburg? If so, the Emmitsburg Area Historical Society and Emmitsburg Chronicle would love to help you share them! Send them to us at editor@emmitsburgchronicle.com or see our mailing address on page 2.*

## University Shooting Investigation Suspended

Chris Patterson  
Staff Writer

The Frederick County Sheriff's Office has no more leads or suspects in the investigation of a bullet shot into the window of a Mount Saint Mary's University dormitory, and therefore suspended the investigation as of Tuesday, Feb. 17, Frederick County Sheriff's Office Spokesperson, Jennifer Bailey told the Emmitsburg Chronicle.

Bailey said the case is not closed, but would remain in a suspended status until more information comes to light. There is no evidence of a continued threat, Bailey said.

The incident that initiated the investigation occurred at approximately 10:20 a.m., Friday, Feb. 6, when a 9 mm bullet hit a third-floor Sheridan Hall dorm room window and became lodged in the second pane of glass after breaking the first pane.

Bailey said the room's resident heard a bang but did not determine what caused the sound for about 20 minutes. Once she realized there was a bullet in the window, she contacted campus

security, which then contacted the Sheriff's Office.

The campus was checked twice by police for any witnesses or evidence that would identify how the bullet went into the window. The second examination of the campus was with the assistance of campus security, in order to gain access to locked areas, Bailey said.

Investigators have been unable to determine whether the shot was accidental or intentional, or where it came from. However, it is presumed the shot came from a considerable distance away as it did not exit the second pane of glass, Bailey said.

There was an additional incident that initiated a second lockdown at the school at 9 p.m. that evening when a member of campus security believed he may have heard shots fired. However, no evidence of another shooting was found, Bailey said.

*Anyone with information regarding the shooting is asked to contact the Sheriff's Office at 301-600-1046.*

## 11th Annual Central Maryland Formation Day to Be Held at Mount

"Worthy of the Gospel" is the theme of the 11th annual Central Maryland Formation Day to be held on Saturday, March 14, 2009, at Mount St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

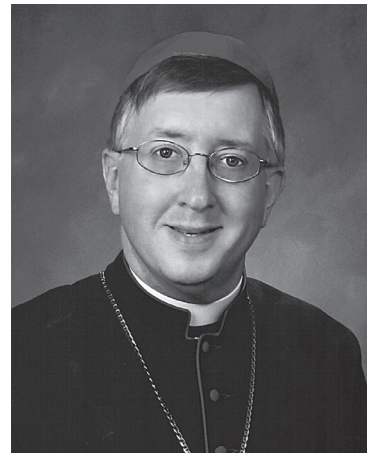
The daylong event will open at 7:45 a.m., with registration, exhibits and continental breakfast. The Keynote, "Worthy of the Gospel, Paul's Spirituality for the Church Today," will follow at 8:45 a.m., and will be delivered by Dr. Michael J. Gorman, Dean of the Ecumenical Institute of Theology at St. Mary's Seminary & University in Baltimore.

"This is a highly enjoyable day," said Chris Weber, Director of the Catholic Education Ministries Center of Central Maryland, sponsor of the event. "We are particularly excited to have not only a great keynote speaker in the morning, but also our new Vicar Bishop here to share in the faith and energy of the afternoon."

The Most Rev. Mitchell Rozanski, Seton Vicar, from the Archdiocese of Baltimore, will lead a new Capstone Session at the end of the day. Bishop Rozanski will address the topic, "The Gospel Unchained: Opening Prisons, Living in Freedom," based on St. Paul's spiritual journey. This



Dr. Michael J. Gorman, Dean of the Ecumenical Institute of Theology at St. Mary's Seminary & University in Baltimore



Most Rev. Mitchell Rozanski, Seton Vicar, from the Archdiocese of Baltimore

inspirational session, at 2:30 p.m., will include drama, music, shared reflection, and prayer.

The event also features two workshop sessions and a buffet lunch. Workshops for catechists, youth ministers, Catholic school personnel, parents, and members of parish ministry teams include titles such as "Community and Ministry in Paul's Churches and Ours," "Awake to the Hope Who Holds You," "Do Not Be Afraid! The Hymns in Paul's Letters," "Praying with St. Paul," and "Facebook,

Friendship and our Future." A special Liturgy Track, sponsored by the Archdiocese of Baltimore's Office for Worship, will offer sessions for lectors, ministers of hospitality, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, and pastoral musicians.

Formation Day is sponsored by Catholic Education Ministries of Central Maryland, Archdiocese of Baltimore. For more information, or to register, call 301-447-3707 or visit the Center's Website at [www.centralmdcatholic.org/formationday](http://www.centralmdcatholic.org/formationday).



# MOUNT ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY

*The Mount is built on four pillars—faith, discovery, leadership and community.*

## LONGTIME MOUNT EMPLOYEE'S RELAY FOR LIFE

By Anne K. Costigan, '10

There are 164 active and retired Mount employees who live in the Thurmont and Emmitsburg communities who collectively have 2,414 years of service to Mount St. Mary's University. This is a story about one of them.

In 2007, **Sharon Ott**, employed at Mount St. Mary's University since July of 1988, was diagnosed with the deadly disease. Her mother and sister had both died of breast cancer; their deaths might have motivated Sharon to schedule regular mammograms, but those deaths scared Sharon so much she wouldn't go for a mammogram. Even after she felt a lump in her breast it took a while before she went in for an exam knowing in the back of her mind that the diagnosis was probably breast cancer. She heard the diagnosis she had half expected: she too had breast cancer and thought it was a death sentence.

It took some time before Sharon's optimism and faith combined to convince her that this was happening for a reason. Today, she believes she is alive for a reason; to help other people through the same experience she has been through and how important it is to stay positive even when the horizon is cloudy and your spirits are low.

Now in remission, the longtime Mount employee feels blessed to have met some wonderful people through her experience. "The Mount community offered amazing support throughout the process," Sharon says, "from meals, to prayers to cards, I felt the Mount with me." One of her favorite places to go during this time was the Grotto, "I would go up there to pray and drink the (holy) water."

Sharon believes that the water helped her strength and her attitude. Something is certainly in the water if that's the case, because her positive attitude and strength are unbelievable!

On Friday, February 6, Sharon participated in the Mount's first Relay for Life. Over 400 people raised more than \$37,600. Throughout the night, Sharon's relay team, Bosom Buddies, made up of family and friends, walked and enjoyed quality time with each other. At the end of the event, Sharon joined 18 other cancer survivors for the Survivor Lap as the onlookers full of energy cheered and clapped. These survivors have done what so many people dream of doing, beaten cancer.

Sharon is an inspiration to the Mount community with her optimistic attitude and faith before, during and after her courageous fight against cancer. Today, Sharon works not only on educating others about the importance of awareness and mammograms, but also works to be a supportive and positive presence for others with cancer. Sharon's message to women: "Have that mammogram even if you're scared. If they get it early, they can cure it, don't be afraid."

For Sharon, the battle through cancer is not the end of the journey, rather, a new beginning.



## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**MARCH 12, 2009**

**Fool for Christ - The Story of Dorothy Day Purcell, 7 p.m.**

Fool for Christ, a one-person play about the life of Dorothy Day, co-founder of the Catholic Worker Newspaper/Movement. Sarah performs her acclaimed show to enthralled audiences around the country, movingly portraying the loves, spirituality and politics of this warrior of peace and champion of the workers and the poor. [www.foolforchrist.com](http://www.foolforchrist.com)

**MARCH 18, 2009**

**Corporate Social Responsibility Symposium Knott Auditorium, 7:30p.m.**

**MARCH 19, 2009**

**The Many Faces of HIV/AIDS Knott Auditorium, 7 p.m.**

Join Richelle Baker Starnes, a Mount alumnae, as she gives one of the most powerful and inspirational speeches on AIDS Awareness you've probably ever heard. She shares not only a personal story but a practical account of HIV and AIDS in our country, particularly amongst young people.

All events are free and open to the public. For more information call 301.447.5366.

## MOUNT ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY

Schedule a one-on-one appointment with a program director or admissions representative.

It's never too late for a fresh start.

✉ 5350 Spectrum Drive,  
Frederick, MD 21703  
☎ 301-682-8315 or  
877-982-2329 (toll-free)  
✉ [inquiry@msmary.edu](mailto:inquiry@msmary.edu)  
🌐 [www.msmary.edu/adult](http://www.msmary.edu/adult)



**DEGREE PROGRAMS**  
*for Working Adults*

Stop by our Frederick Campus for an Open House, April 7 and 16, 6-7 p.m.  
*Refreshments will be served*

# ASTRONOMY: The Night Sky of March

*Dr. Wayne Wooten  
Professor of Astronomy*

For March 2009, the Moon will be a waxing crescent as the month begins. First quarter moon sits high in the sky and half-lit at sunset on March 4th. We spring forward to Daylight Savings Time on Sunday, March 8th. The waxing gibbous moon passes just 5 degrees south of Saturn on March 10th, just two days after the Earth passes between Saturn and the Sun. The full moon on March 11th is before the Vernal Equinox on March 20, so Easter this year must wait still another month, until April 12th. The last quarter moon is on March 18th. The Vernal Equinox happens at 6:45 AM CDT on March 20th. The waning crescent moon passes 1.5 degrees north of Jupiter in morning twilight on March 22nd, then past Mars the next morning. New Moon is on March 26th.

While the naked eye, dark adapted by several minutes away from any bright lights, is a wonderful instrument to stare up into deep space, far beyond our own Milky Way, binoculars are better for spotting specific deep sky objects. For a detailed map of northern hemisphere skies, about March 1st visit the [www.skymaps.com](http://www.skymaps.com) website and download the map for the new month; it will have a more extensive calendar, and list of best objects for the naked eyes, binoculars, and scopes on the back of the map.

Venus dominates the evening sky as March begins, but rapidly moves between us and the Sun and is rising before the Sun in the morning by the end of this month! On March 1st, she is still very bright, a large crescent 18% sunlit, and a disk 45 degrees of arc across, easily seen as a crescent in 10X binoculars. She is setting about two hours after the Sun. But by mid month, she sets about an hour after sunset, is now only 6% sunlit, a very beautiful and slender crescent 55 degrees of arc across. She passes about 8 degrees north of the Sun on March 27th, and her disk is now 60 percent across, the largest any planet can appear in earth's sky, but less than 1% sunlit. Between March 25-30, it may be possible to catch Venus just after sunset in evening twilight (about 6:15 PM, very low in west) then set your alarm and see her before dawn in the east (about 5:50 AM, for you early risers). By April 1st, she dominates the dawn, rising about 40 minutes before the Sun, and now appears 2% sunlit

crescent, but now pulling away from the slower moving Earth, falls to only 58 degrees of arc. Throughout the rest of the spring, she will be a waxing crescent in the morning sky, but getting smaller in size daily as she leaves us behind.

Mercury and Mars play tag in the morning twilight as March begins, with Mercury passing just .6 degrees south of the red planet on March 2nd. Jupiter will be the bright planet to their upper right. Jupiter dominates the morning sky, the brightest object well up in the southeast. Mars pulls farther away from slower Jupiter as March progresses, while Mercury quickly passes behind the Sun by mid month.

On March 8th, we passed between Saturn and the Sun, so Saturn rose at opposition in the east in Leo, coming up at sunset and staying up all night. As we are then closest to the ringed wonder, this is the best time to observe the most beautiful object in the sky. When viewed with a telescope, this year the rings will be even more narrow than last year. In 2010, at Saturn's equinox, the edges on rings are so narrow they will disappear with most telescopes for several weeks.

The constellation Cassiopeia makes a striking W in the NW. South of Cassiopeia is Andromeda's hero, Perseus. Between him and Cassiopeia is the fine Double Cluster, faintly visible with the naked eye and two fine binocular objects in the same field. Perseus contains the famed eclipsing binary star Algol, where the Arabs imagined the eye of the gorgon Medusa would lie. It fades to a third its normal brightness for six out of every 70 hours, as a larger but cooler orange giant covers about 80% of the smaller but hotter and thus brighter companion as seen from Earth. At Perseus' feet for the famed Pleiades cluster; they lie about 400 light years distant, and over 250 stars are members of this fine group. East of the seven sisters is the V of stars marking the face of Taurus the Bull, with bright orange Aldebaran as his eye. The V of stars is the Hyades cluster, older than the blue Pleiades, but about half their distance. Yellow Capella, a giant star the same temperature and color as our much smaller Sun, dominates the overhead sky in the northwest. It is part of the pentagon on stars making up Auriga, the Charioteer (think Ben Hur). Several nice binocular Messier open clusters are found in the winter milky way here. East of Auriga, the twins, Castor

and Pollux highlight the Gemini; it is directly above us as darkness falls in early March. University of West Florida alumni can associate the pair with Jason and the Golden Fleece legend, for they were the first two Argonauts to sign up on his crew of adventurers.

South of Gemini, Orion is the most familiar winter constellation, dominating the southern sky at dusk. The reddish supergiant Betelgeuse marks his eastern shoulder, while blue-white supergiant Rigel stands opposite on his west knee. Just south of the belt, hanging like a sword downward, is M-42, the Great Nebula of Orion, an outstanding binocular and telescopic stellar nursery. The bright diamond of four stars that light it up are the trapezium cluster, one of the finest sights in a telescope. EAAA member John VeDepo captures the beauty of the young stars still imbedded in their birth nebula well in the attached photo.

In the east are the hunter's two faithful companions, Canis major and minor. Procyon is the bright star in the little dog, and rises minutes before Sirius, the brightest star in the sky. Sirius dominates the SE sky as darkness falls. At 8 light years distance, Sirius is the closest star we can easily see with the naked eye from West Florida.

When Sirius is highest, along our southern horizon look for the second brightest star, Canopus, getting just above the horizon and sparkling like an exquisite diamond as the turbulent winter air twists and turns this shaft of starlight, after a trip of about 200 years!

To the northeast, a reminder of Spring come on March 19th; look for the bowl of the Big Dipper rising, with the top two stars, the pointers, giving you a line to find Polaris, the Pole Star. Look for Mizar-Alcor, a nice naked eye double star, in the bend of the big dipper's handle, rising by 7 PM at the start of March.

March comes in like a Lion, as Leo rises. If you take the pointers south, you are guided instead to the head of Leo the Lion rising in the east, looking much like the profile of the famed Sphinx. The bright star at the Lion's heart is Regulus, the "regal star," but brighter still is Saturn, just east of Regulus.

March goes out like a lamb, not just from Easter tradition, but because Aries the Ram is setting in the west by the end of March. Many of our sayings and traditions have astronomical origins.



## The Taney Corporation

Manufacturers of Wood Stairs & Stair Parts

Locally owned continuously  
for over 50 Years

5130 Allendale Lane, Taneytown, Maryland 21787

Office: 410-756-6671 Fax: 410-756-4103

Visit us at [www.taneystair.com](http://www.taneystair.com)

A sponsor of the Emmitsburg Chronicle newspaper

## FAMILY DENTISTRY TIMOTHY B. BRINGARDNER, D.D.S.

Serving Emmitsburg for over 25 years



101 South Seton Avenue  
P.O. Box 538  
Emmitsburg, MD 21727

(301) 447-6662

**New Patients Welcome**



*Elizabeth Prongas, M.F.A.*  
Art Instruction

301-271-4459

All painting media ~ All subject matter

## A Better Tractor A Better Price



### CUB CADET 2009 LAWN TRACTOR

19 HP KOHLER®  
COURAGE™ ENGINE  
Sale Price Only  
**\$1,649**

- 42" heavy-duty twin blade cutting deck
- 12" turning radius
- Welded steel frame

**ZERO INTEREST ZERO  
PAYMENTS FOR 12 MONTHS\***  
See details below



### CUB CADET 2009 LAWN TRACTOR

20 HP KOHLER®  
COURAGE™ ENGINE  
Sale Price Only  
**\$1,699**

- 46" heavy-duty twin blade cutting deck
- 12" turning radius
- Welded steel frame

**ZERO INTEREST ZERO  
PAYMENTS FOR 12 MONTHS\***  
See details below

Service. Knowledge. Selection. Financing. Delivery.



## HARRINGTON & SONS

427 East Main Street  
Emmitsburg, Maryland  
301.447.6666

\*As rated by engine manufacturer. Actual retail prices are set by dealer and may vary. Taxes, freight, setup and handling charges may be additional and may vary. Models subject to limited availability. \*\*12 Months No Payments & No Interest if Paid Within 12 Months. \*Valid on purchases of \$999 or more made by 3/31/09 when you use your Power Credit Card. A \$29 promotion fee will be charged on purchases of \$1,500 or greater. On promo purchase (including promotion fee), no monthly payments required & no finance charges assessed if (1) promo purchase paid in full in 12 months, (2) any minimum monthly payments on account paid when due, and (3) account balance does not exceed credit limit. Otherwise, promo may be terminated & finance charges assessed from purchase date. Standard terms apply to non-promo purchases, optional charges & existing accounts. As of 2/1/09, variable APR is: 19.96% & on all accounts in default, 23.99%. Minimum Finance Charge \$2. Subject to approval by GE Money Bank.

## GUITAR LESSONS

- ♪ Acoustic / Electric
- ♪ Beginners / Advanced
- ♪ All Styles
- ♪ All Ages

Taught by an instructor with over 20 years of teaching & performing experience.

(301) 271-0860

[brent@brentpro.com](mailto:brent@brentpro.com)

*In the #1 Hair Salon*  
in the Orchard Village Shopping Center, 213 Tippin Dr.

## Gary the Barber

Call Gary on his local direct line  
**301-305-7895**  
301-271-1152 or 301-271-5402

Senior Discount Days Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday (65 or older)  
Hours: Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. 9am - 7pm • Wed. 8am - 4pm • Sat. 8am - 2pm

**Gary says, "Now at 2 Locations."**

101 Tippin Dr., 7 - 9am, by appt.  
213 Tippin Dr., 9am - 7pm, walk-ins  
101 Tippin Dr., 7 - 9pm, by appt.  
Sundays by appt., 1 - 5pm

**\*Appointments available evenings and weekends\***

# M<sup>The</sup> Master Gardeners



Beauty is in the eye of the beholder. Un-dead-headed gardens provide both food and winter cover for birds like Nuthatches, Finches, Chickadees, Blue Jays, and Woodpeckers that live year round in this area.



What a difference 4 months makes! Cleaned of last year's growth just before the start of the growing season, gardens quickly shift over to supporting countless butterflies, bees, toads, insects, migrating birds, and of course, your colony of local song birds.

## Early Spring Garden Chores

Annette Ipsan & Phyllis Heuerman  
Frederick County Master  
Gardener Program

All of us are anxious to see bulbs sprouting, buds unfurling and color splashed throughout the garden. And yes, even though it is a bit early to get your hands in the dirt, there is plenty you can do to gear up for the gardening season.

The first thing to remember is: Don't rush things. You will do more harm than good if you try to walk on soggy lawns and gardens, or turn over soil that is too wet. You will compact the soil and destroy its structure. Instead of sloshing around out there, take this time to do some planning and preparation. Decide upon the plan of your vegetable garden, and decide what new plants you will add to your ornamental garden. Check all of your tools and your lawn mower. If you did not do it in the fall, clean your tools and have them sharpened. Clean and tune up your lawn mower, and sharpen the blades. If it is not too wet, begin turning your compost piles.

March is a great month for trimming and tidying. Now is when you should cut back your ornamental grasses. Hand pruners do a good job on smaller clumps, but hedge trimmers are handy for larger clumps. Hold or tie the old growth with twine and cut the grass 4-6 inches from the ground. Compost the old growth and look for new, green shoots to appear in a few weeks.

Most roses appreciate a good pruning now, too. Consult a good rose book for the best methods to trim your type of rose since timing and methods vary widely with individual cultivars. Floribunda, hybrid tea, climbing, shrub and miniature roses all have different care guidelines.

Many trees and shrubs can be

pruned in March, too. Fruit trees, evergreens, many deciduous trees, raspberry canes, grapevines and more can all be trimmed and shaped before new growth begins. Armed with good hand pruners, loppers and a pruning saw, you can tackle all but the biggest of jobs. One of your best tools is a good pruning book that will give you specific techniques for trimming the plants in your yard.

Don't forget your perennial beds. Start cutting back the plants that you left standing for winter



Seed Head can serve as a natural source of feed for birds long into winter. Deadheading flowers after they have died in the fall removes this important source of food for birds.

interest. By now you've probably noticed the first green swirls of new growth on your "Autumn Joy" sedum, so you can cut off the spent flowers. The birds have picked clean the seeds from your purple coneflower and liatris, so those attractive seed heads can get snipped off, too. As soon as the first leaves surface on your bluebeard, you can prune them back as well to spur new growth and bountiful blooms.

Get a jump on the season by edging and weeding your beds. By digging and teasing out weeds

now when they are small, you save yourself countless hours of weeding in the summer heat. Cutting in a neat edge on your garden beds also slows weeds' progress and gives your landscape a neat, professional appearance.

You may plant violas (pansies and Johnny-jump-ups) for color as soon as the soil is workable. If you ordered any perennials and shrubs from catalogs, they will probably arrive in April. Plant them as soon as you can. Shrubs and trees that you purchase locally also may be

in the fall. Newly planted trees and shrubs need supplemental watering for a full year to stay healthy, grow good roots and flower well. As soon as you see new leaves appear, start watering. A slow, steady watering is best. Try using a hose on a slow trickle or a soaker hose to water deeply and well.

Fertilize flowering trees and shrubs after they have bloomed. Non-flowering woody plants can be fertilized as soon as the soil is workable. Non-flowering trees and shrubs generally do not need to be fertilized every year.

Fertilize your lawn with a slow-release, high nitrogen fertilizer, once before the end of May. If you need to control grassy weeds, like crabgrass, put down a pre-emergent weed killer as soon as your lawn is dry enough. This should be done before mid-April, if possible. A good rule of thumb is to do this when the forsythia blooms start to drop. Wait until broadleaf weeds like dandelions start growing and apply broadleaf weed control.

Once the soil is dry enough, you may begin preparing vegetable beds. Turn over the soil and add organic matter, like compost, peat moss, or composted manure. In late March and early April, you may plant early crops and those that do not mind cold soil, like broad (fava) and lima beans, beets, chicory, lettuce, peas, mustard greens, leeks, radishes, onions and turnips. Wait until the soil is warm, in mid-to-late May to plant your tomatoes and peppers.

Begin mulching after the soil and air warms up. Mulching is not important in March through May, when temperatures are not extreme. However, you should have your mulch down by the end

of June, in preparation for the hot summer months.

A pre-season check is a great idea this time of the year. Are your garden tools ready for the busy gardening season? Check them and fix, sharpen or replace them as necessary. Take a stroll around your yard. Did rabbits, mice or deer damage any plants? Do any need to be repaired or replaced? Start a list for your garden center. Flip through your garden journal and start a list of "must do" projects. By the time your list is done, spring will be here.

To read more articles on preparing your spring gardening, visit the gardening section of [Emmitsburg.net](http://Emmitsburg.net). If you are interested in becoming a Frederick County Master Gardener call Susan Trice at 301-600-1596. To become a Adams County Master Gardener please call Mary Ann Ryan at 717-334-6271.

### Master Gardeners Events

**March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30**

The Master Gardeners of Adams County are teaming up with the YWCA Gettysburg/Adams County to present garden classes for novice through intermediate-level gardeners. This 8-session course begins March 2nd and continues through the week of April 13th. It will cover a variety of topics to provide a thorough gardening background. The classes will begin at 6:30 and last for one and a half hours. For more information call Mary Ann Ryan at 717-334-6271

For other upcoming events visit the events section of [emmitsburg.net](http://emmitsburg.net).

# Upon Reflection ...

## Memories of a Substitute Teacher

Ruth O. Richards

Call it what you will — stand in, substitute — I was determined to take the step of filling out the application to become a substitute teacher in the Frederick County Schools. I had heard horror stories about the discipline problems in the Emmitsburg School, but that didn't deter me. I had behind me an incident in the South Dakota school where I had spent one year that gave me courage.

A freshman boy about my size decided to become the class clown in a study hall. I let his shenanigans go on for a while, and then I struck and took matters into my own hands. I went to this boy's seat, dragged him up onto his feet, took him by the waist and set him back down firmly. I used that occasion to prove to the whole study hall that I meant business when I was in charge. Word gets around, you know.

I didn't want to be a full-time teacher as I felt an obligation to be home most of the time with my children. But I also wanted to have a bit of money of my own.

My first call came very soon. I have no idea whose class I was in, but when Mr. Jones called and asked me to come in, I went. Substitutes must be ready to drop everything, all plans for the day, or even for several days. Too many refusals and the calls don't come again. So, many mornings I put aside my ironing, my baking, a shopping trip or even a good day for reading, and went.

I had lots and lots of calls which means of course, that I substituted in many areas in the schools. I know that I was in very nearly all of the elementary classes in Emmitsburg and most of the high school classes.

I think, however, that I never taught for Miss Stull. She was so strong minded that I suspect that she never allowed herself to be sick.

Regular classroom teachers have a responsibility to substitutes in that they are required to have a set of emergency plans for each class so there is no "What am I going to do today?" There must also be a list of names and a chronology of the hour-by-hour activities. Without these "helps" there is always a risk of chaos.

I was very lucky in that I had the ability to learn names very quickly. When I called the roll, I watched to see who responded and was able to remember that name almost immediately. Knowing the students' names, I think is the first step in keeping order.

I don't know where in the Emmitsburg School I began this venture, but I have some memories of this experience I want to share with you.

Opening exercises in each grade consisted of Bible reading by "the student of the day" and the salute to the flag, the words of which Mr. Eisenhower altered by inserting "under God." I was surprised by the Bible reading in a public school, as such a reading would never have happened in any South Dakota school. (Separation of Church and State). I didn't bat an eye, though, as the children were used to it and it was one time to get them to act as a group.

I practically prayed that I'd never be called to go to the first grade as I was sure that the wiggling of the six-year-olds would drive me crazy. Not to worry. When I did go to Mrs. Leary's room I found the most

complete set of plans, plus comments about which child might be a disturbance or which ones would and could be helpful.

As an example of the kind of information she had in her notes, Mrs. Leary wrote, "Joey is different. He likes to do things his own way. 'Helpful?' Indeed it was. During reading class Joey got out of his seat, put his fists up to his chest and began chugging around the room. I let him chug on. The other children, apparently accustomed to his behavior, simply ignored it, and the class proceeded. Joey finally stopped chugging and went back to his desk.

I like to read aloud to children and I knew from experience with my own children that reading was a way to still a restless group. I was in Mrs. Eliot's 5th grade class one day and after I had read a story to the group in the reading circle, Maxine said, "Mrs. Richards, you read just like a movie star. 'Wow! I would have read on forever if Maxine had wanted me to."

Every teacher knows that elementary children do a lot of tattling. The more a teacher is willing to listen to the tattling, the more complaints that are heard. At recess time one day a boy came to me, "Mrs. Richards, Bobby called me 'snot rag.' I said to him, 'And what did you call him?'" "I called him a snot rag." "Well, then you're even, aren't you?"

Both regular teachers and substitutes rely on inventiveness at one time or another. In some ways I had to use my inventiveness more in the high school than in the grade school. For example, I didn't have the ability to really teach music even though I could play the piano a bit. I found that rather than letting the students "do homework," singing would please them more. So we sang. Usually there was one student who could play the piano, but if not I would play. We sang favorite songs. The singing got a bit rowdy at times, but that didn't bother me. It was one way of getting rid of energy.

Other classes where I had to be inventive were math, science, shop and ag. We'd have spelling bees, math bees, and all the other "bees" I could think of. Then there was

"Show and Tell," taking the kids back to first grade and giving them a touch of public speaking.

Probably my most memorable substituting day was one spring when plans were being made for the May Day celebration. Mr. Jones called and asked me if I thought I could carry out the Home Economics. part of this program as Mrs. Remavage was sick. That challenge was made easier by the fact that the high school girls thought highly of Mrs. Remavage. She had been practicing with them before she got sick.

We practiced according to her instructions and when the day came, all went fairly well except for the fact the lights weren't on in the Auditorium. I didn't know how to turn them on and neither did anyone else nearby. The show was fine, but the parents and patrons sat in the dark and only saw the girls in their class-made finery while they were on the stage.

Mr. Corl always tried to make the students behave in the manner of human beings. At the end of one school day as the students were being dismissed for the buses, a male student for whom I had little affection said something nasty to me as he left the room. Mr. Corl heard he remark and sent this boy back to apologize. I accepted his apology and said, "It didn't change my opinion of you at all." He went merrily on his way not realizing I had insulted him.

Early in my substituting there was a day I wish I could erase from my memory. It was hunting season and word was about that the teacher I was in for had gone rabbit hunting. One of the boys remarked that he hoped all the pheasants would be shot as pheasants ate the rabbits. I of course disputed him. Pheasants were seed eaters, not flesh eaters. We argued and argued. "Do not." "Do, too." There was no way I was going to change his mind, and he certainly wasn't going to change mine. (Today, I'm wondering if pheasants do eat rabbits. I read in the paper recently that chicken offal is being fed to cattle.) Any argument there?

Twice I really had more days of substituting than I really wanted.

One time was when Sue Martin was in the 9th grade, I believe. The other was the school year '57-58, the year of the Asian Flu.

A ninth grade teacher decided after the first month of school that he didn't like teaching and resigned. Mr. Jones wanted me to take the class for the rest of the year. I declined and was glad I had. I had no idea what I was to teach and got very little help, leaving me to feeling that I had done a very poor job.

When the Asian Flu struck it affected the whole school. I was in every class until I got sick. That too was not very rewarding as students as well as teachers were in and out and no one, including me, felt very well. I don't know if there was a substitute for the substitute and at the time it didn't matter.

My substituting days ended when I was offered a full-time job teaching English at the Thurmont High School, which eventually led to teaching at Catoctin.

What did I take away from all those days in the Emmitsburg School? One, in many ways it prepared me to be a better teacher when I got a real job. Also I felt good that I got to know all of the teachers and all of the students. I occasionally see some of the students and am able to recognize them. I got to know most of their parents as I was involved also in the PTA from 1954 until 1966.

And not least, by any means, I saved all of the money I earned (\$18.00 a day) and bought myself a new Volkswagen. I loved that little car which I knew I had really earned. I have to say that I never had any discipline experience that I would call "a horror story." I managed to get along very well with most of the students and they managed to get along with me.

To read other articles by Ruth Richards visit the authors section of [Emmitsburg.net](http://Emmitsburg.net)

Have your own memories you would like to share? If so, the Emmitsburg Area Historical Society and Emmitsburg Chronicle would love to help you share them! Send them to us at [editor@emmitsburgchronicle.com](mailto:editor@emmitsburgchronicle.com) or see our mailing address on page 2.



### amber hill

PHYSICAL THERAPY, INC.

where patients come first — since 1985

#### Patients Come First at Amber Hill Physical Therapy

We have built our reputation as one of the area's most respected practices by giving patients quality, compassionate care in a friendly, comfortable setting.

- Orthopedic, sports, neurological and automobile injuries
- Pediatric Speech Therapy\*
- A Pediatric PT/OT Clinic
- We accept & are in-network with most insurances to save you money

*"Recently I received physical therapy at your Thurmont location. I wish to commend your staff for their professionalism, care and help. I hope that AmberHill stays in Thurmont for many years to come."* —M Rice, Thurmont

\* Speech Therapy Services offered through Frederick Pediatric Therapy LLC at the Frederick Pediatric Clinic.

**THURMONT**  
301.271.9230

**FREDERICK**  
301.663.1157

**DAMASCUS**  
301.253.0896

**JEFFERSON**  
301.473.5900

[www.amberhillpt.com](http://www.amberhillpt.com)

New patients usually seen in 24 hours in private rooms  
Early a.m., eve. and Sat. hrs.

Donald J. Novak, P.T., D.P.T., owner

• Our Knowledge & Experience Get You Back to Enjoying Life! •

## THE TOTAL

Hair Salon & Barber Shop

# LOOK

5 EAST MAIN STREET, EMMITSBURG

**301.447.2541**

Tue., Wed., Fri.: 9 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.  
Thu.: 1 p.m. - UNTIL  
Sat.: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.





Katie Tracie Sheila Dick Kelly



ROBERT CHAMBER'S

# The Book of Days

## MARCH

is the first month of Spring. He is Nature's Old Forester, going through the woods and dotting the trees with green, to mark out the spots where the future leaves are to be hung. The sun throws a golden glory over the eastern hills, as the village-clock from the ivy-covered tower tolls six, gilding the hands and the figures that were scarcely visible two hours later a few weeks ago.

The streams now hurry along with a rapid motion, as if they had no time to dally with, and play round the impeding pebbles, but were eager to rush along the green meadow-lands, to tell the flowers it is time to awaken. We hear the cottagers greeting each other with kind "Good morning," across the paled garden-fences in the sunrise, and talking about the healthy look of the up-coming peas, and the promise in a few days of a dish of early spinach. Under the old oak, surrounded with rustic seats, they congregate on the village-green, in the mild March evenings, and talk about the forward spring, and how they have battled through the long hard winter, and, looking towards the green churchyard, speak in low voices of those who have been borne thither to sleep out their long sleep since "last primrose-time," and they thank God that they are still alive and well, and are grateful for the fine weather "it has pleased Him to send them at last."

The early-yearned lambs have now become strong, and may be seen playing with one another, their chief amusement being that of racing, as if they knew what heavy weights their little legs will have to bear when their feeders begin to lay as much mutton on their backs as they can well walk under — so enjoy the

lightness of their young lean days. There is no cry so childlike as that of a lamb that has lost its dam, and how eagerly it sets off at the first bleat the ewe gives: in an instant it recognizes that sound from all the rest, while to our ears that of the whole flock sounds alike. Dumb animals we may call them, but all of them have a language which they understand; they give utterance to their feelings of joy, love, and pain, and when in distress call for help, and, as we have witnessed, hurry to the aid of one another.

How beautiful the cloud and sunshine seem chasing each other over the tender grass! You see the patch of daisies shadowed for a few moments, then the sunshine sweeps over them, and all their silver frills seem suddenly touched with gold, which the wind sets in motion.

Our forefathers well named this month "March many-weathers," and said that "it came in like a lion, and went out like a lamb," for it is made up of sunshine and cloud, shower and storm, often causing the horn-fisted ploughman to beat his hands across his chest in the morning to warm them, and before noon compelling him to throw off his smock-frock and sleeved waistcoat, and wipe the perspiration from his forehead with his shirt sleeve, as he stands between the plough-stilts at the end of the newly-made furrow. Still we can now plant our "foot upon nine daisies," and not until that can be done do the old-fashioned country people believe that spring is really come. We have seen a grey-haired grandsire do this, and smile as he called to his old dame to count the daisies, and see that his foot fairly covered the proper number.

Violets, which Shakespeare says are "sweeter than the lids of Juno's eyes," impregnate the March winds with their fragrance, and it is amazing

what a distance the perfume is borne on the air from the spot where they grow; and, but for thus betraying themselves, the places where they nestle together would not always be found. Though called the wood-violet, it is oftener found on sunny embankments, under the shelter of a hedge, than in the woods; a wood-side bank that faces the south may often be seen diapered with both violets and primroses. Like the rose, it retains its fragrance long after the flower is dead.

The perfume of violets and the song of the black-cap are delights which may often be enjoyed together while walking out at this season of the year, for the black-cap, whose song is only equalled by that of the nightingale, is one of the earliest birds that arrives.

Daisies, one of the earliest known of our old English flowers that still retains its Saxon name, are now in bloom. It was called the day's-eye, and the eye-of-day, as far back as we have any records of our history. "It is such a wanderer," says a quaint old writer, "that it must have been one of the first flowers that strayed and grew outside the garden of Eden."

Sometimes we catch sight of the germander-speedwell, one of the most beautiful of our March flowers, bearing such a blue as is only at times seen on the changing sky; we know no blue flower that can be compared with it. The ivy-leaved veronica may also now be found, though it is a very small flower, and must be sought for very near the ground. Now and then, but not always, we have found the graceful wood-anemone in flower in March, and very pleasant it is to come unaware upon a bed of these pretty plants in bloom, they shew such a play of shifting colours when stirred by the wind, now turning their reddish-purple outside to the light,

then waving back again, and showing the rich white-grey inside the petals, as if white and purple lilacs were mixed, and blowing together.

March also brings the pretty willow-wren, which is easily known by being yellow underneath, and through the light colour of its legs. It lives entirely on insects, never touching either bloom or fruit like the bullfinch, and is of great value in our gardens, when at this season such numbers of insects attack the blossoms.

Sometimes, while listening to the singing birds in spring, you will find all their voices hushed in a moment, and unless you are familiar with country objects, will be at a loss to divine the cause. Though you may not have heard it, some bird has raised a sudden cry of alarm, which causes them all to rush into the hedges and bushes for safety. That bird had seen the hovering hawk, and knew that, in another moment or so, he would drop down sudden as a thunderbolt on the first victim that he fixed his far-seeing eyes upon; and his rush is like the speed of thought. But he always remains nearly motionless in the air before he strikes, and this the birds seem to know, and their sight must be keen to see him so high up as he generally is before he strikes. In the hedges they are safe, as there is no room there for the spread of his wings; and if he misses his quarry, he never makes a second dart at it.

What a change have the March winds produced in the roads; they are now as hard as they were during the winter frost. But there was no cloud of dry dust then as there is now. When our forefathers repeated the old proverb which says, "A peck of March dust is worth a king's ransom," did they mean, we wonder, that its value lay in loosening and drying the earth, and making it fitter to till? In the

old gardening books a dry day in March is always recommended for putting seed into the ground.

## HISTORICAL

We derive the present name of this month from the Romans, among whom it was at an early period the first month of the year, as it continued to be in several countries to a comparatively late period, the legal year beginning even in England on the 25th of March, till the change of the style in 1752. For commencing the year with this month there seems a sufficient reason in the fact of its being the first season, after the dead of the year, in which decided symptoms of a renewal of growth take place. And for the Romans to dedicate their first month to Mars, and call it Martins, seems equally natural, considering the importance they attached to war, and the use they made of it.

Among our Saxon forefathers, the month bore the name of Lenetmonat, — that is, length-month, — in reference to the lengthening of the day at this season, the origin also of the term Lent.

"The month," says Brady, "is portrayed as a man of a tawny colour and fierce aspect, with a helmet on his head — so far typical of Mars — while, appropriate to the season, he is represented leaning on a spade, holding almond blossoms and scions in his left hand, with a basket of seeds on his arm, and in his right hand the sign Aries, or the Ram, which the sun enters on the 20th of this month, thereby denoting the augmented power of the sun's rays, which in ancient hieroglyphics were expressed by the horns of animals.

Visit [Emmitsburg.net](http://Emmitsburg.net) for daily selections from Robert Chamber's *The Book of Days*.

## EAST PARK AUTOMOTIVE, INC.

Warm up your winter woes and wait in our cozy waiting area while your repairs are being completed.  
Enjoy **FREE** coffee, hot chocolate & TV

### SERVICES OFFERED

**Tire Repair** (tire sales, mounting/balancing)  
**Hydraulic Hoses** (fittings sold & repaired)  
**Battery Cables** (custom made)  
**BG Coolant System** (flush & refill)  
**BG Transmission** (flush & refill)  
**Pick up & Delivery** (local vehicles)  
**ASE Certified Mechanics**  
**Certified Diesel Technicians**



1 Creamery Way | Emmitsburg | 301.447.3560

## L.W. BISHOP & SON

### Electric



717-642-9913

RESIDENTIAL-COMMERCIAL  
FREE ESTIMATES

LICENSED, INSURED MASTER ELECTRICIAN

# The Fall of the Banking



Annan-Horner Bank on North West corner of the square ~ 1909

*Editor's note: It seems every day we are deluged with the latest developments in the ongoing financial debacle that has spun our country into what some call the worst economic conditions since the Great Depression. Add in the so-called Bernie Madoff Ponzi scheme, and the reputation of bankers has hit an all-time low. In reading these accounts, we've been struck by the similarities between today's events and those that led to the fall of Emmitsburg's first bank in 1922, the Banking House of Annan-Horner. While the collapse of the Annan-Horner bank had a severe effect on Emmitsburg at the time, it is worth remembering we got through it, and the fall of the bank opened many doors of opportunity for a number of individuals in town — and in the end, the community went on to prosper. So in these gloomy economic times remember, Emmitsburg survived one banking crisis already, and working together, we will beat this one too.*

## Emmitsburg Area Historical Society

The end of 19th and the beginning of the 20th century marked the most promising and prosperous period in Emmitsburg's history. This high watermark owes its thanks in many ways to two families: the Annans and the Horners, whose names and good work have all but been forgotten.

In 1882, Andrew Annan, with his sons Isaac S. Annan, James C. Annan and son-in-law, Major O.A. Horner, organized the Annan-Horner Bank. For 40 years, through diligent loans and investments, the bank brought prosperity to the community. Sadly, these great families lost everything, including their reputations, following the collapse of their banking house in 1922.

Very little is known about Andrew Annan other than that he followed in the footsteps of his father and became a physician in Emmitsburg. Andrew's son Isaac was educated in the public schools of Emmitsburg and became a clerk in the general dry goods store of George W. Rowe. Following Rowe's retirement in 1856, Isaac became the store's proprietor and changed its name to I.S. Annan & Company [now the site of the Ott House Restaurant]. In 1880, Isaac organized the Emmitsburg Water Company. In 1858, Isaac's brother, James C. Annan, joined the firm and the store became known as I. S. Annan & Brother.

Oliver Horner is best known for his role as leader of Company C of Cole's Maryland Cavalry. Under Oliver's leadership the exploits of the Emmitsburg-staffed company became legendary throughout the Union army. Promoted repeatedly for efficiency, bravery and meritorious conduct, he ended the war with the rank of Major. In 1882, Oliver was

elected president of the Emmitsburg Board of Commissioners.

## **The Formation of the Banking House of Annan & Horner**

In 1882, Andrew Annan, Isaac S. Annan, James C. Annan, and Oliver Horner, organized the Annan & Horner Bank and built a stately three story building on the northwest corner of the square to house its offices. In the early 1900s, the original founders of the bank were succeeded by their sons: Edger Annan succeeding his father Isaac, Andrew Annan Horner succeeding Oliver Horner, and J. Stewart Annan succeeding his father James.

In addition to being on the board of the Bank, J. Stewart Annan was also a director in the People's Fire Insurance Company of Frederick County, the Emmitsburg Water Company, the Emmitsburg and Frederick Turnpike Company, and in 1907, he was elected to the office of Commissioner of Frederick County for a four-year term. He was re-elected for a second term in 1911.

In 1896 J. Stewart Annan married Elizabeth Morrison. Shortly after their marriage, the pair purchased the old Horner home place, "Fort Henry," a tract of land which encompassed the present day Jubilee Market area and Silo Hill development.

A wealthy man, Stewart and his wife were the closest thing Emmitsburg ever had to royalty. They lived extravagant lives, funded by the profits they received from all their business investments. Elizabeth was a frequent visitor to the most prestigious stores in Baltimore and the couple thought nothing of paying more for a simple light fixture than most residents in the town earned in a year.

Under the tutelage of these

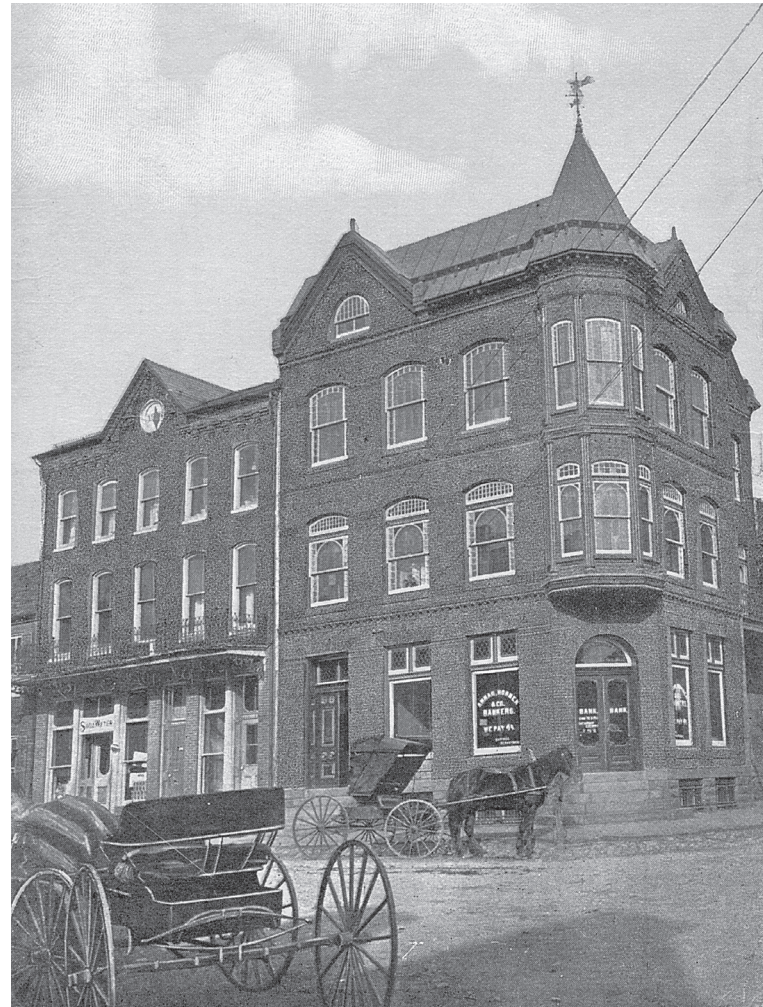
three men, the bank prospered. They loaned liberally to friends and neighbors and reinvested their profits back into the community. In a short matter of time, the Annans and Horners became controlling stockholders in the Emmitsburg Water and Turnpike Companies and, following the bankruptcy of the Emmitsburg Railroad in 1897, they assumed a significant financial holding in it as well. They also invested heavily in local farms and orchards.

## **World War I — Boom in the American Farming Communities**

When the First World War began in 1914, the United States was in a recession. European need for goods such as food helped end the recession and set the stage for a long economic boom. The destruction of European farms benefitted American farmers. Excited by the rise in prices for food, they borrowed heavily to buy more crop land and expand production.

America's entry into the war unleashed a torrent of Federal spending, most of it funded by Liberty War Bonds. To ensure the Liberty Bonds sold well, the federal government pressured the newly founded Federal Reserve to keep its lending rates low, creating an environment where banks could borrow cheaply to buy the Liberty Bonds. Looking to cash in on the higher returns on the Liberty bonds, many small banks, including the Annan-Horner Bank, borrowed heavily from larger banks and invested the proceeds in Liberty Bonds.

In addition, many Annan-Horner Bank customers withdrew savings from lower yielding savings accounts and purchased their own bonds. In withdrawing their funds, the bank's customers had a significant impact on the working capital of the bank,



Annan-Horner Bank on North West corner of the square ~ 1916

making it harder for the bank to finance its day to day operations.

As in any economic bubble, as long as interest rates stayed low, the bubble in the Liberty Bond market remained strong. Unfortunately for the Annan-Horner Bank, as well as individual Emmitsburgians who held Liberty Bonds, the decision of the Federal Reserve to hold interest rates low led to a rapid growth in the money supply, setting off an inflationary spiral.

## **The Bursting of the Liberty Bond Bubble**

Following the cessation of hostilities in Europe, the untested Federal Reserve took action to reign in inflation, starting with a series of rapid increases in the prime lending rate which dramatically affected the value of the fixed-interest Liberty Bond. As interest rates rose, the value of the bonds plummeted.

As the Federal Reserve began to enact its second phase of its deflationary plan, the calling in of loans, the Annan-Horner Bank found itself forced to sell its Liberty Bond holding at below face value in order to raise the cash to repay its loans.

As interest rates continued to increase, small banks across the county, including the Annan-Horner Bank, were forced to sell their Liberty Bonds at whatever price they could get. Needless to say, the actions by the Federal Reserve had a chilling effect. Adjustments throughout the economy were sudden, erratic and severe. By Dec. 7, 1920, the value of Liberty Bonds hit a record low and newspapers were filled with stories of bank failures.

While all Liberty bondholders suffered, farmers were especially hurt. Wartime demand for food and agricultural raw materials had increased the prices of farm products. Higher

prices had stimulated local farmers to borrow heavily and invest in additional land and equipment — most of this purchased on easy credit that was meant to be guaranteed by the rising farm incomes.

Farms, however, were the first thing to recover in Europe following the end of WWI and, with them, the need for American food stocks evaporated almost overnight. Shut out of the European market, the domestic oversupply of food stocks led to a drastic fall in the prices of farm products, which directly translated into declines in farm income in the United States. The fall in food prices undercut the farmland prices and meant that many Emmitsburg area farmers had difficulty paying interest on their loans. The number of farm failures and foreclosures in Emmitsburg soon became a ground swell.

Already pressed by losses from Liberty Bonds, many small banks in farming communities were unable to bear the brunt of the failed mortgages and failed. The Annan-Horner Bank did not escape this fate, and according to its own records was insolvent at the close of 1920. The bank 1920 statement showed that the bank was \$40,000 short in accounts. As bad as this might sound, this loss was only a paper loss and would only become actual if the bank was forced to sell its Liberty Bonds at the depressed prices.

Word of the condition of the Annan-Horner Bank was kept closely guarded and few knew of its dire straits. The Annan-Horner Bank families placed their hope in the return of the bond market; the profitability of their orchard and the water company investments; and the continued loyalty of their customers. These were customers who, in spite of declining farm incomes, had heretofore

# House of Annan-Horner



Liberty Bond Poster used to encourage citizens to purchase World War One Liberty Bonds

not succumbed to withdrawing their savings from the bank. As long as depositors did not need to withdraw their money, there would be no need to cash in the Liberty Bonds and the bank would survive.

However, time and weather were not on the bank's side.

## The Perfect Financial Storm

On April 1921, two nights of freezing temperatures destroyed 75% of the county fruit crop. The cash crops many farmers depended on to fund themselves until the fall harvest were wiped out. The entire cherry, peach, pear and plum crop, along with most varieties of apple were hit the hardest. The late frost also killed the winter wheat crop, which placed additional financial burden on local farmers.

Robbed of their spring cash crops, farmers began to withdraw savings to cover operating costs. To cover withdrawals, the bank was forced to sell more of its Liberty Bonds at depressed prices, forcing it deeper into a financial abyss.

To add insult to injury, the late spring frost was followed by drought that lasted well into August and was described by many as the worst drought ever experienced. In July, the area received less than one inch of rain versus its normal six inches. Hay crops, a vital staple for livestock, produced only stubble. By August, the drought was being called the worst in three years, and water use restrictions were put into effect throughout Frederick County.

To limit its losses, the bank began to call in loans. About the same time, in an attempt to raise badly needed capital, Annan-Horner Bank filed for a charter as a state bank. It was to have a capital of \$50,000 with a surplus of \$25,000. The money was to be raised by the selling of stock at a subscription price of \$15, though the face value of the stock was only \$10 per share. The extra \$5 was to be used to establish a surplus fund.

Shares for the bank were heavily marketed to the residents of Emmitsburg. For many, this was the first opportunity to hold a share in a company. Many residents who bought shares did so by paying for their shares by drawing upon savings in their savings accounts. In doing so, they inadvertently helped

convert a significant portion of the bank's outstanding debt. In this case, it was converting money owed to its depositors to shareholder equity.

Now exchanging debt for equity is a frequent strategy used in resolving high profile bankruptcies today. Creditors agree to trade what is owed to them in exchange for shares in the company. Whether the residents of the town who traded their savings for stock in the Annan-Horner Bank understood the risk they were taking will probably never be known. However, it is reasonable to ask whether they would have been so willing to part with their hard-earned savings had they known the true status of the bank's financial condition.

Unfortunately, since the Emmitsburg Chronicle, which had so effectively chronicled the events of the community for the past 32 years, had ceased operation the year before, the outcome of the stock offering was unknown, as well as what happened over the next two months. It is only through later court testimony and newspaper reports that we learn that the Annan-Horner Bank suspended operations on August 24, 1921, and on October 21, its accounts were assumed by the Farmer's State Bank. Like any modern corporate takeover, the takeover of the Annan-Horner Bank was mostly a paper exercise, as the bank continued to operate under its own name.

## The Collapse of the Banking House of Annan-Horner Bank

The year 1922 brought no relief to the bank's hard-pressed farmer customers. April, usually one of the wettest months of the year, saw only one inch of rain. Once again, a late frost destroyed a considerable portion of peach, apple, cherry and pear crops (upon which the farmers banked so heavily), as well as the early vegetables in the gardens. In increasing numbers, farmers had to turn to savings to make ends meet.

Up until this time, the bank suffered primarily from events outside of its control, but, with the finances becoming increasingly tenuous, certain questionable actions of the bank cast suspicion on its veracity, setting the stage for the collapse of the bank.

A few days before the 18th of February, 1922, the Baltimore Commercial Bank returned a "promissory note" for a loan for Albert Wetzel to the Annan-Horner Bank requesting that the bank substitute collateral in place of it. On February 18, Albert Wetzel, as required, went to the bank to repay his loan. After making the payment, he was informed that the actual loan document was temporarily missing, but "not to worry, it would be found and delivered to him."

Contrary to the bank's statement, a few days after receiving Wetzel's payment, the bank returned his promissory note to the Baltimore Commercial Bank, falsely stating the note was uncollected.

Several months later, the Baltimore Commercial Bank sued Wetzel and wife and obtained a judgment against them for \$140. While

there is no record of Mr. Wetzel's response upon learning that a lien had been placed against him, one can only assume that word spread quickly through the community. Over the following months, more cases like Wetzel's came to light.

In a futile and fatal last-ditch effort to raise capital, on September 22, the Emmitsburg Water Company, which was controlled by the Annan-Horner families, raised the water rates. The public outcry against the rate increase was swift and severe. With it, any sympathy for the plight of the two families and the bank vanished.

The bank's fiascos began to mount and soon the bank lost all credibility with the citizens of the town. In November, the bank admitted the insolvency and offered no objection to the appointment of a receiver, which was appointed on December 4. On December 23, the Annan Horner Bank was officially declared involuntarily bankrupt.

## The Truth Revealed

On March 17, the Federal bankruptcy referee, began his public hearings. The object of the hearings was to ascertain the assets of the bank and individual members of the firm. The bank's assets consisted mostly of personal loans to local residents and equity in real estate in the Emmitsburg area.

On April 27, Edgar L. Annan and Annan Horner appeared as witnesses. It was during this hearing that residents of Emmitsburg first learned that the bank was technically insolvent as early as 1920, a full year after they had been lulled into buying stock in the bank. In his defense, all that Edgar Annan could say was he thought the figures wrong even though they were his figures.

In their testimony, the cousins claimed that poor investments especially Liberty Bonds, were responsible for the condition of the bank's finances.

At the resumption of the hearings four days later, it was disclosed that, before the financial conditions of the bank had been made public, Edgar Annan had sold his place of home and place of business in Emmitsburg for approximately \$11,000 and had invested the proceedings in the name of his wife and two daughters.

In August 1923, the bankruptcy referee appeared before a grand jury and won an indictment charging Andrew Annan with embezzlement, and then later, handed down four more embezzlement indictments against Edgar Annan and Andrew Horner.

## Arrest and Trial

On Thursday, Sept. 20, 1923, Andrew Annan was arrested at his home. That same day, Edgar Annan drove to Emmitsburg from his home in Baltimore, where he had moved two weeks prior, to address some business matters. Upon arriving in town, he was arrested. Andrew Horner was arrested as he walked down Main Street near the center of the town. When it became known that the

arrests had been made, a crowd of several hundred people assembled at the square to witness the officers pass with the men in custody.

On Thursday, September 25th, Andrew Annan's trial began. The courtroom was filled to capacity, mostly with residents of Emmitsburg. From the very beginning, the prosecution and defense clashed over how facts were to be interpreted. It was called one of the most complicated cases ever to be brought before the court because much of the testimony involved intricacies of reporting roles and responsibilities of the Annan-Horner Bank to its new owners the Farmers State Bank.

On September 28 Andrew Horner got the first good news in what probably seemed a lifetime. "Not guilty of Intent to defraud" was the verdict of the court.

On March 8, 1924, Edgar Annan and Andrew Horner finally got their day in court on the remaining charges and were also found not guilty.

The verdicts of both trials were lengthy, and far too long to reproduce in the pages of this paper. But it can safely be said that the courts found that the operators of the banks were caught in a financial storm not of their making, nor within their ability to control. And that while they could have called in loans earlier to stem the bank's losses, they could only have done so to the detriment of the beleaguered Emmitsburg farming community.

As these were the very people whose children their children played with, whom they sat next to while worshipping every Sunday, the bankers held off as long as they could; unfortunately, the die had long since been cast, and as the judge noted, all they were guilty of was looking out for their community.

## Epilogue

While Andrew Horner and Edgar Annan were found not guilty of the charges brought against them, they and their families never recovered the good will of the residents of the town.

Proud men, they were terribly humiliated by being forced to walk through town in handcuffs in front of people they had known all their lives. Less than three days later, Anna E. Annan Horner, the wife of Major Oliver Horner died. According to Polly Baumgardner Shank, niece of Andrew Horner and Edgar Annan, and the oldest remaining relative, "Aunt Anna died of a broken heart over the whole thing."

Andrew Annan and his family moved to Ohio where they joined up with his cousins the Agnews. In 1931, he returned to Washington where he built a reputation as a highly successful and respected lawyer. According to family legend, he held the bible during the swearing in of one of the presidents.

All of Andrew Annan's brothers and sisters moved to their summer home in Lynn, Massachusetts following the collapse of the bank and proceeded on with their lives. Andrew's brother "O. A." would eventually rise to the

position of president of Pittsburgh Glass. Andrew Annan died in 1945.

Edgar Annan stayed in Emmitsburg, but disappeared from public life.

While never charged, J. Stewart Annan's personal fortune and land were ceded to cover the debts of the bank. In 1921, he was forced to sell his Fort Henry mansion. In 1924, he lost all his farms.

As few people in the area had sufficient funds to purchase J. Stewart Annan's property, or the other farms forced into bankruptcy because of the repercussions of the bank's failure, many local farms passed into the hands of outsiders and, with it, many old names that had been uttered since the first settlement vanished.

In 1931, J. Stewart Annan, a man who single-handedly did more to enhance the quality of life in Emmitsburg, died.

*To read an expanded version of the account of the Rise and Fall of the Banking House of Annan-Horner, visit the Historical Society section of Emmitsburg.net*

*Interested in learning more about the rich history of the Emmitsburg area? If so, then join us April 6 as we discuss the Great Fire of Emmitsburg at 7:00 p.m. in the community room of the Emmitsburg Library.*

the  
*Rebecca Pearl*  
Gallery

fine art • custom framing  
ART CLASSES

*"Emmitsburg Fountain" circa 1886*

3 E. Main St. Thurmont, MD  
rebeccapearl.com  
Thur. - Sat. 10-5 • 301.271.2348

## Emmitsburg FOOD BANK

All Donations appreciated

### Items Needed

- Fruit
- Cereal
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Canned Meats
- Box Mac & Cheese
- Toilet paper
- Toiletries

502 East Main St.

(next door to  
Catoctin Pregnancy Center)

### Hours of Operation

Tues. 7-8 pm; Wed. 7-8 pm  
Fri. 1-2 pm; Sat. 10-11 am

ISN'T IT TIME TO ENJOY?

263 DePaul Street  
Emmitsburg, MD

**Charm & Privacy**

Lovely quiet street with superb community connectivity  
Walk to restaurants, library, pool, bank, bakery, 50+ acres of parks, churches,

Mother Seton School  
Emmitsburg Elementary  
minutes to Rt. 15  
& Mt. St. Mary's University  
10 minutes to Gettysburg  
25 minutes to Frederick



ISN'T IT TIME TO ENJOY?

Phone: 301.447.3110  
dbriggs@briggsassoc.com

- October 2008 the NEW ROOF was installed with a 25 year warranty
- 2006 the water heater was replaced
- Furnace with 81.5% efficiency rating
- October 2008 new refrigerator
- 4 new thermal tilt windows with lifetime warranty
- Beautiful lot 91' x 386' for .8+/- acres of privacy
- Outbuilding with dog run and potential garage or workshop
- Hardwood floors through most of the house
- 1st floor bath and laundry

**\$219,000**

# Effective Parenting!

*Editor's note: I recently found myself telling one of my students not to be in such a hurry to grow up. "You're only young once," I told her, "and you're going to spend a majority of your life wishing you were this age again!" Her parents, however, have a completely different view, one that swings between wanting to hug her to pieces, to selling her for a dog that will not talk back! Parenting is hard, but with a good sense of humor you can survive it. But more importantly, ensure your children have the skills to succeed, as Zenas Sikes has.*

*Zenas and his wife Kim recently moved to Emmitsburg because it was an equal distance between their now grown children. They now proudly call Emmitsburg home!*

Zenas Sikes

When my eldest daughter arrived at what she thought was her entry into an independent state of adulthood, I nestled her onto the bed between her mom and me. Lovingly I glanced down at her, and remarked gently, "So, now that you know just about everything there is to know about life, you have a choice between continuing with your formal education or getting on with why God placed you into this world. Will it be marriage or the start of your life's work that you embark on next?"

You all know the kind of look a woman gives a man when he has just either said or done the dumbest thing in his life? Well, imagine getting that look from your wife as well as a young lady in her early teens, one who has been ready for months to be finished with her middle school experience! But, not so fast: I held my train of thought. "So which will it be?" I continued. "DAD," she answered back, "I can't EVEN get a job at McDonald's without at least finishing high school!"

Again, the language of a woman, albeit young, who is demonstrating just how stupid a man can be. But wait, it went further. "Well, you know, part of my duties as a

dad is to teach you how to drive, be knowledgeable about financial affairs and last, find a proper suitor for your hand in marriage." More stares, this time blanker than a freshly whitewashed wall. "Excellent," I thought to myself. "They now both think that whatever sense I have about raising kids is completely gone!" Not entirely true! My underlying intention was to discover how committed she was to her formal education. Driving, finances, and marriage all require a higher level of learning in this day and age. Based on her reaction, I figured she'd stay focused.

The firstborn bears the brunt of all his or her parents' failings as parents. Most of us tend to have more than one child, precisely because at some point we would like to know that we were successful in the raising efforts of at least one future contribution to the human race. But it's typically not the firstborn, who ends up constantly dealing with trying to be perfect. And the second has issues as well, leaving it up to the third, fourth, fifth and so on. I know now that the farmers who had large broods typically did so because they were constantly wanting to perfect their parental skills. Much like the first couple of batches of oatmeal cookies which take the heat of ignorance for the good of the next batch, which are just right.

When God created Man, He certainly must have known that some day the automobile would be part of our everyday life, and therefore made sure that driving ability was part of our chip set. No need for additional detailed training, just place us behind the wheel, start it up and go. So when the time came to pass on these skills, I was ready for the task at hand, anxious to get started. Knowing, just knowing that my first student was going to set the bar for those who followed. Laughing are you? It's not funny to watch your firstborn in tears because every time she almost got the two of us killed, I ended up "yelling at her." YELLING? If keeping two thousand pounds of

metal from running a stop sign or entering into the path of a tractor trailer moving at fifty miles an hour isn't a reason to raise one's voice just higher than a mouse squeal, then I don't know what is. Yelling it was not. Saving our lives it was. Uhhmm, the chip set never took into account the internal hormonal rollercoaster workings of a teenage daughter.

As I look back on the trials of drivers education, the best trained was certainly the last trained. The first trained was half baked, burnt on the bottom, and unequal in size. One out of three Dad duties completed and doing only so-so. But hey, the average can get better since there is still finance and marriage to come! Besides, isn't the financial chip set in men almost as significant as the driving one? Aren't we supposed to be the masters of the house, setting the fiscal tones for everyone else?

Something tells me that a second round of yelling just wasn't her idea of a good time and since she taught herself to drive, what could be so hard about setting up a bank account and using a bank debit card? Always write down money deposited and money spent so the bank won't charge fees for overdrawing funds. What more could there be to know? Besides, the bank with the best lollipops was the right place to start. This was the extent of her training. Perhaps there should have been more, but there wasn't.

That same daughter is now on the launch pad from a four year institution of higher education. Needless to say, she HAS come a long way. She earnestly took on a four-year dual degree in Economics and International Studies. All with an intention of helping emerging countries get their economies together. WOW, I have to look myself in the mirror and thank all the grandparental genes for using me as a conduit, because it certainly didn't come from her mother or me! Her fiscal skills and independence would make any parent proud. Frugal to the core, she figured out how to finance most of her college education, which included not one, but two trips to study abroad, and she only incurred a minor amount of debt. Her first car purchase was not new, but road-tested and safe. She struggles with her own economy, looks brightly to the future, and pauses every once in a while to ask questions about how we managed to raise the brood without going broke. (I am too abashed to tell her that we did go broke, just ask my uncle.)

So just where did she get her skill set for fiscal constraint? My second feat of fatherhood clearly shows that the student made it with very little coaching from the teacher. But the lesson learned was crucial for setting the course for an adult life with proper and sound fiscal policy: never take on more debt than you can comfortably afford and be prepared for economic times like these. Uhhmm, two out of three dad duties and I find myself suffering greatly from lack of effectiveness!

Which brings up the matter of marriage. Perhaps I ought to just stay clear?!



Casual Dining  
Weekend Entertainment

301.447.2625

5 WEST MAIN STREET  
EMMITSBURG, MD

## Daily Lunch Specials

11 am - 2 pm | Monday - Friday  
Extensive Sandwich & Entrée Menu

## MARCH BANDS

- 6-7 Half Shell
- 13 3 AM
- 14 Bloo Stoo
- 20-21 Freddie Long Band
- 27 TBA
- 28 Double Crossed

**No COVER CHARGE**  
with this coupon



16-20 W. Main St. Emmitsburg, MD ♦ (301) 447-3689  
Wed., Thu., Fri. 7:30 am - 9 pm; Sat. 6:30 am - 9 pm;  
Sun. 7:30 - 11:30 am; Closed: Monday & Tuesday

Serving Breakfast, Lunch  
& Dinner  
Daily Specials  
Homemade Soups & Desserts  
Beer, Wine & Cocktails



Owners  
Terry Ryder  
Doug Long

### Week of St. Patrick's Day

**Corned Beef  
& Cabbage  
Special \$7.95**

*Happy St. Patrick's Day*

## Jesters Computers

5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SPRING SPECIAL

# Is your computer running slow?

PLEASE TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR 5TH ANNUAL SPRING SPECIAL  
RUNNING IN MARCH FOR \$69 REG. \$89 WE WILL REMOVE:

- VIRUSES  MALWARE  SPYWARE  REMOVE DUST
- PROGRAMS RUNNING IN THE BACKGROUND  TEMPORARY FILES
- WE ALSO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING SERVICES WITH OUR CLEAN-UP
- DEFRAGMENT HARD DRIVE  OPTIMIZE YOUR SYSTEM
- INSTALL WINDOWS UPDATES  REPAIR REGISTRY ERRORS

WE SPECIALIZE IN SALES & SERVICE

(717) 642-6611

♦ 5135 Fairfield Road ♦ Fairfield ♦ PA ♦ 17320 ♦





# Pondering the Puzzlement

Jack Deatherage, Jr.

Lately I've been trying to order my thoughts on gardening with the "heirloom" varieties of seeds I've been buying, trading, or have been gifted. Heirloom plants are Open Pollinated varieties developed at least 50 years ago. I've been planting heirlooms hoping to find something Grandfather George Cool may have grown when I was a kid. Mom thinks I've gotten close with a couple tomatoes.

There is also a bit of pleasure, perhaps pride, in collecting seeds of varieties once grown by Thomas Jefferson or documented by the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Or having varieties developed in Europe or Asia and brought here by 18th, 19th and 20th century immigrants, or even by those who arrived last week. The history of a plant variety is often interesting. Vegetables I've always taken for granted became intriguing when I learned how they had reached my plate. What a surprise some bean I enjoy had started its journey in Central America, cultivated as long as 7,000 years ago! Over time it had been traded north until natives in this place were growing it. Late in the journey were the European explorers/traders/invaders taking the seeds back to their homelands and selecting aspects of the bean more suited their climates, soils and tastes. Then they brought it back to what had become the U.S.A. where it was further "refined" until it landed on my plate! Very "I didn't know that!" but still not enough of a reason for me to hang onto seeds when there are thousands of varieties I've yet to sample.

I do keep a variety of pepper, Sinahuisa, an heirloom gifted to me by Brook Elliott of Kentucky who got his seeds from a friend in New Mexico. The variety wasn't commercially feasible so Brook and a few others are trying to save it. It is the one variety I have faithfully grown and saved seeds of since 2002.

Another aspect of heirloom seeds is one of survival. When 98% of our population lived or worked on farms there was little worry that some variety of corn would vanish from this rock. Today, with about 2% of this country's people growing their own food, there is a good chance some variety of

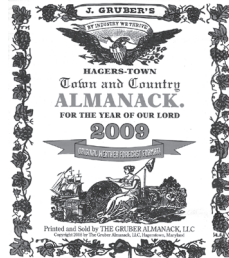
*Zea mays*, or *Pisum sativum*, or *Brassica oleracea* has already vanished forever. Around this rock people are saving seeds in freezers under mountains in frozen places, or in their kitchen freezers from Washington to Florida. Many are saving plant varieties against the time when Big Agriculture fails! I just can't get fired up over that.

Nor could I get into heirlooms as "a valued possession passed down in a family through succeeding generations." My family bought new seeds or plants for each year's garden. The previous generation of gardeners spent the winter months studying seed catalogs and working out their dream gardens, just as I do today. They shared extra seeds or saved some for the next season but I'm not aware of any seed passed from grandfather Cool to his kids. I know Dad had none from grandfather Deatherage and gave none to us. I was urged by heirloom growers to seek out such seeds so I might grasp the significance of having them. They weren't available and I couldn't understand why some people felt they were so important. Sure I can appreciate one Kansas farmer's story of his Russian immigrant family coming to this place in the 1800s with seeds they had planted and used for generations. But I couldn't understand his emotional reasons for treasuring the seeds as he does.

Currently I'm caught in one of "life's little jokes," though I'm not laughing — maybe later. In mid January I visited with Uncle Don Cool as he lay drifting in and out of a pain-pill sleep. I didn't, and don't, know what the hell to say to someone waiting for a cancer to send them on. So we talked of gardens — the last one he tended and the ones I hope to plant. As I was leaving him he gave me the dried beans he grew in his last garden. He didn't think anyone else was interested in them and he didn't want his last efforts at gardening to be wasted. I told him I'd eat some and plant some. They wouldn't be wasted.

I wasn't able to tell Don one of my brothers and a sister asked for some of his bean seeds — he died the end of January. Now I understand the Kansas farmer's attachment to his family's heirloom seeds.

# Hagerstown Farmers Almanack



Gerald W. Spessard,  
Business Manager

**NORTHEASTERN REGION WEATHER WATCH:** Cloudy and cool (1,2,3,4) with heavy rain or snow (5,6). Windy and rather cold (7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12) with periods of light snow or rain

May the Irish hills  
caress you.

May her lakes and  
rivers bless you.

May the luck of the  
Irish enfold you.

May the blessings of Saint  
Patrick behold you.

—Old Irish Blessing

(13,14,15,16). Windy and colder with some flurries (17, 18, 19). Nor'easter is predicted with heavy rains or snow (20, 21, 22) turning colder and windy (23,24,25). Cloudy in the northern part of the region, rain or snow in the southern part(26,27) turning fair and cool (28,29,30,31).

**FULL MOON:** March's FULL MOON occurs on the 10th at 9:38PM. Native Americans called it the SAP MOON because the sap would start to rise at this time throughout the region. It has also been called WORM MOON because March's warmer temperatures often softened the earth just enough to allow earthworms to begin burrowing out of the ground.

**SPECIAL NOTES:** Vernal Equinox occurs on Friday, March 20th and signals the arrival of Spring (at long last!). Don't forget to set your clocks one hour ahead when Daylight Savings starts on Sunday, March 8th. On March 1st, 1790, the first U.S. Census was authorized. When it was completed the following August, the U.S. population totaled 3.9 million. On March 11, 1888, the famous "Blizzard of '88" struck the northeastern United States. In the days that followed, over 400 people perished as a result of the harsh weather.

**HOLIDAYS:** Be sure to wear something green in honor of St. Patrick on Tuesday, March 17th!

**THE GARDEN:** Apply a pre-emergent fertilizer to your lawn in March (or

as soon as the snow melts) and you will have fewer weeds and healthier grass come April. Consult your local nursery for an appropriate fertilizer for your yard. When the soil isn't frozen and is dry enough to dig, begin setting out perennials, shrubs, and young trees. If you have a plant or shrub that needs moving, cut a deep circle around them with a spade and "prune" the roots. This

"Great things are not accomplished by idle dreams, but by years of patient study."

J. Grubers' Thought  
For Today's Living

gets them ready for moving day, which should coincide with signs of any new growth. Don't feed azaleas or rhododendrons until after they bloom. Then give them a fertilizer that is specially formulated for plants that prefer acid soil. And don't forget to throw old coffee grounds around the base of these blooming beauties!

## Oops! We celebrated April Fools' Day early....

March 2009						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1		3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Daylight Saving Time Begins						
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		St. Patrick's Day		First Day of Spring		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
30	31					



We hope you get a laugh out of our March 2009 calendar (and our sense of humor)!

### Fitzgerald's Auto & Cycle Service

REPAIRS ■ SERVICE ■ MAINTENANCE ■ TOWING

"Get Dealer Service at a low home town price."

Petey Fitzgerald  
Service Technician  
29 Years of Experience  
Fully ASE Certified

ALL SERVICES INCLUDE  
27 PT. INSPECTION  
\$50 p/ hour Labor Rate  
Lowest in Town

17307 N. Seton Ave.  
Emmitsburg, MD  
301.447.6274

**TIRE ROTATIONS**  
Free Mounting and Balancing  
Wheel Weights and Valve Stems  
**SUPER LOW PRICES \$14.99** {Cars, Mini Vans, Small Trucks}  
**BIG TRUCKS \$24.99**

2 & 4 Wheel Center Thrust Alignment w/ Print Out  
**ONLY \$49.99**  
COMPUTER SCANS & DIAGNOSIS  
V-Twin Mid USA Mid West

**Motorcycle Parts**  
10% over Cost  
**PLUS Shipping & Sales Tax**



Est. 1879

**CHRONICLE PRESS**  
CPI PRINTING

107 SOUTH SETON AVENUE  
EMMITSBURG, MARYLAND 21127

PHONE 301.447.2333

**Trish Rowe earns Outstanding #1 Realtor for the State for the 2nd year in a Row under Exit Realty-Pa Region**



Exit Preferred Realty is proud to announce **Trish Rowe's** newest achievement as a **#1 Outstanding 2008 Realtor for the State of PA** under Exit Realty. Her title is for the Highest Gross Commissions for the year. She also earned **TOP REALTOR** for all the local Exit Preferred Realty Offices again for 2008.

This is not **Trish Rowe's** only award for this year, as she also won the **National Bronze Award** for all the **United States and Canada** under Exit Realty for her high accomplishments.

Trish is just a little over two years in her new real estate career. Receiving this title as a #1 realtor for the state is most impressive. Her love for people, quick follow-up and hours of dedication to her wonderful buyers and sellers helped her achieve this title. Trish also places God first in her life and relies on His blessings to get her through this changing market.

**If you are interested in listing or buying in MD or PA** or a most rewarding career in Real Estate, please contact **Trish Rowe** at *Exit Preferred Realty*, 717.642.8006 ext. 114 or her direct line at 717.642.6733 or [www.trishrowe.com](http://www.trishrowe.com).

*Paid advertisement*

# DOWN UNDER



## A Sense Of Community

*Lindsay Cooker  
Melbourne, Australia*

The aboriginal peoples of Australia arrived in Australia over 30,000 years ago, making them one of the longest surviving groups in the world. They remained isolated until some 500 years ago, only in the last 100 years being forced to slowly adapt to western values. While in our terms their culture remained 'primitive', they had a stable self-sufficient tribal society, a deep oral history, unique ceremonies, and fundamental beliefs that still form the basis for their ongoing culture and activities.

The two most important of these is the knowledge that they are at one with the land they live in, and that each tribe is a unit. Individuality is merged into these greater spheres, giving them an outlook so different to western perceptions that it is still not generally understood, and often not tolerated. It is also a barrier for non-aboriginals to become accepted by them, for, while they are generally tolerant of the presence of outsiders, achieving a tribal tie is difficult until their perspective is absorbed and the white man absorbs and lives in the same wavelength.

Their sense of community is so strong, however, that numbers of whites have, over the years, taken the trouble to learn what it means, have marveled at the oneness, and have attempted to adapt it to their own society. The great majority, however, has never had this inclination or opportunity, and today's Mr. Average stumbles along in a world where the individual is supreme, 'ME' is the operative, and one-upmanship the norm. Community has become

foreign — a great and devastating loss, for this is one of the things that keep us sanely human, but one that thankfully has a vestige of resonance, an echo of memory in those bought up in close-knit communities — or, at least, have been forced to give consideration to others around them for some time. It's something you do not go to school for, learn from a book, or practice a few hours a day. It takes time, osmosis, and pervasive, unassuming example.

I was brought up at the end of the last great depression. We lived in a working class suburb of Melbourne, and my father was one of the lucky ones, for he had a full-time, steady job with the railways. There were 48 modest wooden or brick bungalows in our street; all occupied, some with widows, one with a family of three boys, one with three girls, but most with just one child. There were some 10 houses with no one in a job, many with part time cleaning or laundry work bringing a pittance, and about 10 with full time jobs. The one thing I will never forget, however, was the community of that street. No one went hungry. No one was looked down on as worthless. The kids all played together. (Well, not the child of the only family to own their own business. They were in movie-screen advertising, with an office in the city, and remained excluded by their "superiority.")

There was one telephone. Anyone could pay their 5 cents to use it. There was one former nurse. Any possible treatment and advice was free. We had one of the two radios. News was always current. We had special friends, we went to one of two schools, and our pleasures were quite simple

— at least by today's standards. And, yes, we were happy. No one complained, except about the government or the weather — good, universal standbys. And there was enough in the purse to pay for my piano lessons.

We were not in the same league as the aboriginals, but we were a vibrant community without a whole lot of luxuries. Everyone was richer because we shared what we had, and although great anxieties remained, my memory is of a sense of real love and care in nearly everyone. I still cherish those feelings, but now have to pretty much confine them to family and friends. Progress (something that often makes us go backwards) has put the boot into city and suburban trust and togetherness.

Coming from god-fearing protestant stock, I was taught to work for what I wanted, to never want more than a reasonable amount, to stand up for what was mine, and to give to those less fortunate. "If you get high and mighty, my lad, the Lord on high will get almighty mad. Better to do without than cheat someone out of their worth. And we all have worth." And with that homily my mother gave me sixpence (10c). What did I spend it on? Two ice creams. One for me, one for the kid over the way whose father got 10 shillings (\$1) per week "sustenance" from the government because he was a returned soldier.

It took me months to get over "stealing" a pencil from Sunday school. Can't get rid of those ethics. Don't want to. I'd much sooner have the worth and esteem of neighbours. Hasn't hurt, not once.

—Lindsay



### St. Patrick's Day Celebration!

Saturday March 14, 2009

In JoAnn's Ballroom at the Carriage House Inn

7:00-10:00 pm

\*\*\* Tin Kettle Band \*\*\*

\* Traditional Guinness Stout (1 per person)

\* Silent Auction

\* An Irish Feast

Culinary creations by chef John Hovde

(Cash Bar)

**Featuring:**

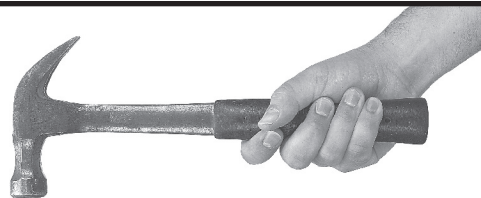
- \* Guinness Shepherds Pie
- \* Corned Beef and Cabbage
- \* Baked Haddock with Emerald Sauce
- \* and much more
- \* Colcannon
- \* Irish Soda Bread

\$50.00 per person-Tickets available at the Carriage House. For further information call Bob Hance @ 301-447-2366 or email [chouseinn@aol.com](mailto:chouseinn@aol.com)

Dinner to benefit the Emmitsburg Business and Professional Association a community organization promoting a healthy business, professional and civic environment in the greater Emmitsburg area.

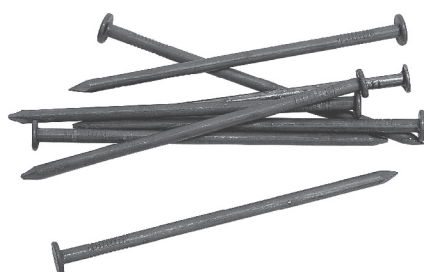


## Zurgable Brothers Hardware



Home Improvement Supplies. **Stay Local. Start Here.**

Open Monday thru Friday 7am - 6pm, Saturday 8am - 5pm, Closed Sundays



- ✓ Valspar Paints
- ✓ Hardware and Tools
- ✓ Lumber
- ✓ Garden Supplies
- ✓ Mulch
- ✓ Sakrete Concrete
- ✓ Snow Shovels
- ✓ Ice Melt
- ✓ Holland Gas Grills
- ✓ Red Wing Shoes

and much more...

16663 Old Emmitsburg Road · Emmitsburg, Maryland 21727  
**301-447-2020**

Licensed

Insured

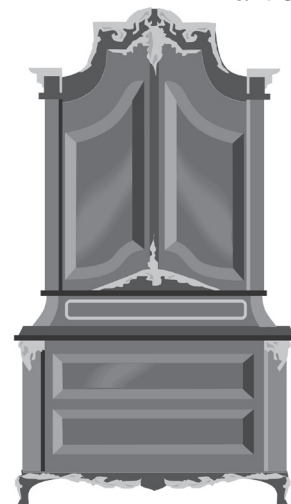
## REAVERS WOODWORKING INC.

Quality Hand-Crafted  
Cabinets/Furniture

Brian P. Reaver, Sr.

Shop: 301-447-3386

Fax: 301-447-1750



- Kitchens, Armoires
- Hutches, China Cupboards
- Computer Stations
- Entertainment Centers
- Fireplace Mantels
- Vanities, Gun Cabinets
- Children's Furniture
- Corner Cabinets, Bookcases
- Dressers, End Tables... etc.

Visit us online at: [www.emmitsburg.net/woodworking](http://www.emmitsburg.net/woodworking)



# OLD Tenant HOUSE



## Inspiration

My interest in local history all began one Christmas Eve. I was enjoying a warm fire in my study, which at one time, years ago, had served as a summer kitchen. For the prior few weeks, I had been working on a mantel-piece which was intended to be the finishing touch to a year-long renovation effort. Made out of old fence boards, the mantel was meant to symbolize that everything, no matter how old, could still serve a purpose.

That evening, as I sat and admired the reflection of the flames off of the old books in the bookcases, I decided that a story on the history of the room would be interesting to do. As I was writing, it occurred to me that I knew more about the history of the Roman Empire than I knew about my house.

According to bits and pieces of stories I've heard, the house was once the tenant house for the old Bollinger family farm, and was built sometime around the turn of the last century. Outside of knowing its past owners, that's about all I knew.

Since then I've had the opportunity to interview people who once called my house home. They told stories of the outhouse that once stood on what is now my front lawn, of wood-burning kitchen stoves, and of an oil-fired heater in the living room in which Mrs. Betty Six died back in the 1940s. My old house had witnessed much in its 120 plus years of existence. Like an archaeologist about to enter a newly discovered site, I was eager to discover what hid within its walls. Above all else, I was hoping to find some clue that could answer the first question I asked about it — when was it built?

With the plans for the kitchen renovation and addition under review by the county, I turned my attention to the original house. It was 24 feet wide, 20 feet long and two stories high. It, if anything, would hold the clues to the age of the house. According to the stories I had been told, it had two front doors, each leading into two 12 foot by 20 foot rooms downstairs. The upstairs had one 12 foot by 20 foot room and two 12 by 10 foot rooms.

Sometime in the 1950's, Charlie Bollinger, who had owned the farm for which my house was the tenant house, moved into the house and renovated it. Charlie added all the creature comforts one wanted in those days: electricity, indoor plumbing (turning one of the original upstairs rooms into a bathroom) and a modern hot water boiler for radiator heat. In addition, Charlie installed new flooring on top of the original floors and re-plastered the walls.

## Day One: It Begins with Discoveries

Sixty years later, Charlie's plaster was cracked, windows were broken, floors were worn, and once-fine trim work an eyesore. But before I could bring down the first piece of plaster, everything had to go! Furniture, that is. All but the most critical



Close-up of Balloon Framing

pieces of furniture and creature comforts, e.g. the bed, TV, and my bottles of gin and tonic, had to first get packed up and moved into the barn, where they would spend the next twelve months.

Once the old part of the house was emptied, plastic was hung between the rooms to contain dust, and the demolition began. I had no sooner taken my first few pieces of lath and plaster down when I discovered what would be the first of my insights into the house — it wasn't insulated! "No wonder," I thought, "the house is so cold in the winter! All I have is a four-inch air gap between the outer wall and the plaster."

A few more whacks and Joe Wivell, who was guiding me in the endeavor, pointed out the second discovery: "This house was built using balloon framing. It's amazing it never burned down."

"Balloon framing? Burned down????!" I replied. "What????"

"When they built this house they nailed together the walls on the ground, with no spacers between the boards and then raised them like an Amish barn raising. Once the walls were up, they hung joists for the floors and rafters for the roof. It was the fastest and simplest way to put together a house," said Joe. "The downside of it, however, was that without any spacers between the studs in the walls, once the outer and inner walls were installed, the space between the studs formed a chimney-type flue. If a fire began, the fire would rapidly spread to the second floor. You wouldn't even know your house was on fire until the fire broke out at the top of the wall. By then, it would be too late. By the time the fire company would get there, the house would be a torch. And given the looks of that old cloth-covered wiring, it's a wonder it didn't happen!"

I was taken aback. Living in an old house was one thing; living in a potential torch was something totally different. "OK, what do I do?"

"Not a problem," answered the savvy, farm-raised carpenter, "all we have to do is install fire breaks. Insulation will also stop the flue effect, and with new wiring, you'll be good as new."

Of course the balloon framing explained another long-standing issue I had... how were the mice getting into my bedroom ceiling? The unobstructed opening between



Close-up of Balloon Framing

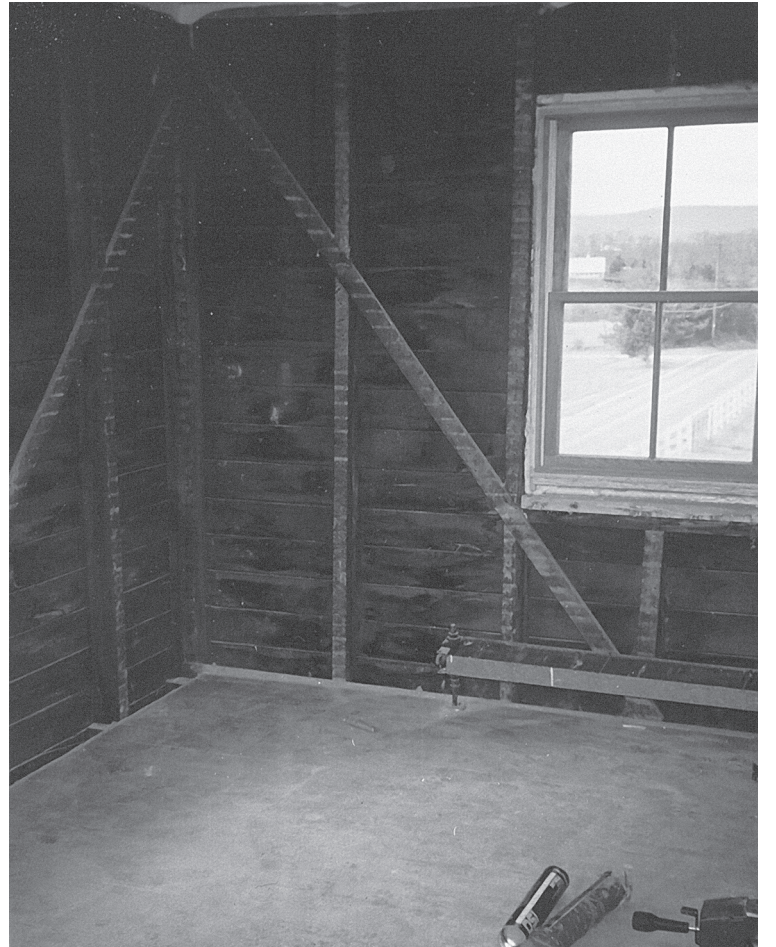
the walls was like a major turnpike for them. Joe assured me the fire breaks would also put an end to that 18-year nuisance.

With the plaster down I could take a good look at the studs. Each bore saw marks made from a saw mill that used an Up-and-Down Saw. Up-and-Down Saws were still in use in many areas well into the 1890's, including Maxell's Saw Mill, located 300 yards North of Toms Creek Bridge. Given its location less than a mile from my house, it's a reasonable guess that the studs for my house were cut there.

Maxell's Mill is one of the oldest mills in the Emmitsburg area. Built in 1771 as a grain mill by William Crabbs, it was known initially as Crabbs Mill. In 1845 the mill was bought by John Maxell who converted it into a saw mill. In 1859 his son Samuel took over ownership. In 1899 the mill went bankrupt. Harry Harner converted it back to a grain mill and operated it until it closed for good in 1924. Over time all traces of it have vanished save the original mill race and a gouge in a nearby hill where the stone for the mill structure was mined. Unless you knew the history of the area, you'd never know a mill once stood there.

So while it wasn't the written date I was hoping to find, knowing the studs had most likely come from Maxell's Mill helped to narrow down the age of the house. And as the lot the house stood on was broken off and sold to Mary Welty in 1889, and Maxell's Mill closed in 1899, the house had to have been built in that time period, giving it an age between 110 to 120 years old.

Joe and I must have talked for hours on local history. I focused on early history, Joe on more recent history. Together we were able to put together disparate events into a coherent timeline.



Balloon Framing. Note how the floor is 'hung' on the studs, creating a clear channel from the first floor to top of second floor.



The bare essentials ... stove, refrigerator (for beer), TV and couch!

To Joe's and my relief, all the studs looked as good as the day they were cut. Not a crack was seen, and no sign of any termite damage. Satisfied I had mastered the art of tearing down plaster, Joe headed off to catch up on some items at his farm. I soon found myself tripping over the debris and decided it was time to make my first trip to the dump.

Over what seemed like an eternity, I filled five gallon buckets and emptied them into trash cans in the back of my truck. When all the trash cans were full, the dogs and I headed to the dump.

Now it had been years since I was last at the county dump, and as far as I recalled, the tipping fee was a few bucks at most. Imagine my shock when I was handed a bill for \$60 for the first of what would be 60 to 70 loads. The price of gas and time it took to drive to the dump was bad enough, but \$60 a load!

On the drive back all I could think of was what a mistake renovating the house was ... and wondered if it was too late to call a halt to it. I wracked my brain with a good excuse that my wife would accept.

I had no sooner pulled into the

driveway when Joe returned and I lost no time in recounting my experience at the dump.

"You did what?" Joe asked, shaking his head. "Why in the world would you take plaster to the dump? All it is is lime, sand, water, and horse hair! Any farmer around here will take it for free. I meant to ask you what you were going to do with it before I left, but I forgot. So now that I know no one has spoken for it, I want it. And I think it safe to say your truck will prefer the two block trip to my farm than the 30-mile trip to the dump."

So on the first day, Joe Wivell and I had managed to uncover and resolve the source of all the heat loss in my house, a major fire hazard, my mouse infestation issue, the age of my house, my debris problem, not to mention saving me three hours a day by eliminating the drive to the dump and \$4,000 in dumping fees! Hiring a knowledgeable Emmitsburg craftsman was already paying dividends.

I couldn't wait to see what Day Two would bring!

To read other articles by Michael Hillman visit [Emmitsburg.net/windy\\_meadow](http://Emmitsburg.net/windy_meadow).

# TODDLERS IN TOW

## I Don't Want to Die

Layla Watkins

I have been fortunate in that, with the exception of my great grandmother, I have never lost anyone that I was close to. I have, however, lost several beloved pets over the last few years. The first was Bosley, an amazingly sweet stray who adopted us and became our barn cat. Then it was my precious little cat Felicia. I'd had her since she was a kitten and she was almost 16 years old when I had to put her down, just a few months after my daughter Kara was born. I was heartbroken over losing Bosley, but losing Felicia was even harder because Natalie (more about her later), Felicia, and I had been through so much together. Felicia's passing was like the end of an era; ironically it ended just as a new one, being a mom, was beginning.

Kara doesn't remember Felicia and, fortunately, neither does she remember the basket case that was her mom for the weeks following Felicia's death. The only question I ever had to answer came when an older Kara saw pictures of herself as a baby with Felicia. Lucky for me, it was an easy one: "Mommy, who's that pretty gray kitty?"

"That's Felicia, honey. She is

pretty, isn't she?"

"Yeah, I like her collar 'cause it's pink. You should get Natalie a pink collar too. Or maybe purple — I like purple and pink...and yellow...and turquoise...and..."

Phew, saved by the short attention span!

Talking about death with children is tricky enough, but when it's "murder" — well, I lie. We have a "convicted" serial killer living amongst us. Her name is Daisy and she is relentless, unrepentant, and feared by many a four-legged varmint. Squirrels, opossums, groundhogs, and yes, even the occasional skunk have died an early death at Daisy's hands (paws?). Of course I can't tell the kids that our dog is a killer so if I can't get rid of the evidence before they see it, I lie. "Daisy wanted to play with the (*insert victim's name*) but she got a little too excited and accidentally hurt it." So far, they've bought it every time.

It got a lot more complicated, though, when it came time to say goodbye to Natalie. I got Natalie as a kitten in 1988 and had to put her down in January 2008 — she was nearly 20 years old. She was truly my "first-born." She knew me better than anyone and loved me

anyway. She was an active, healthy cat until the last year or so before her passing when her kidneys started to fail. I began giving her subcutaneous fluids once or twice a week with great results. Eventually though, she needed treatments three or four times per week and it was heartbreakingly clear that her time had come.

During the course of her treatment, I explained to Kara and Gavin that Mommy was giving Natalie her "medicine." I told them that sometimes when our bodies get old, we need some medicine to help us feel better. They were ok with this and were always amazingly cooperative while I gave Natalie her treatments. But when the frequency increased, they noticed. One day Kara asked me, "Why does Natalie need more medicine than she used to? Isn't it making her feel better?"

"Well, no. It doesn't seem to be helping her anymore."

"You should take her to the doctor."

"Yes, I think that's what I need to do."

As difficult as it was, I knew that the time had come. I also knew that I would have to explain why



Natalie wasn't coming home from the doctor. So, I sat down with a then three-year-old Kara and two-year-old Gavin for a talk. I told them that sometimes when our bodies get really old they just stop working. "It's kind of like when your toys run out of batteries."

"You should get Natalie some new batteries."

"Well, Natalie's medicine is kind of like batteries, but after a while even new batteries don't make it work right. That's what's happening with Natalie, which means it's time for her to go to Heaven."

"Can we go?"

"No, we can't go, at least not for a very long time." I went on to explain our family's beliefs about Heaven. In the end, they both seemed satisfied that even though we were going to miss her, Natalie was going to be very happy in Heaven. I gave them an opportunity to say goodbye to her at which point they decided they wanted to give her something to take with her. Both kids picked out one of their own baby blankets, "so she can be warm." I did not think it was age-appropriate to discuss what happens to the body, but someday, when they are older, I will tell them that Natalie is buried

with those blankets.

All in all, I felt I'd done a fairly good job talking to them about death - that is until few months ago. We were getting ready for Gavin's third birthday party when Kara said, "I don't want to turn five."

"What??? Why not?"

"Because I don't want to die."

Oh boy, time for another talk.

Kara will turn five in March and since our talk, is eagerly awaiting her Princess Party. But, I have to confess — I have been a little less than honest about our most recent death. We have two guppies, Bonnie and Clyde. Or, I guess I should say "had" two guppies because Bonnie just died. I just wasn't up for another death talk, so I fibbed, "Hey kids, Bonnie wasn't feeling well so I had to take her to the fish hospital. She's going to stay there until she feels better and then I'll pick her up and bring her back home." A few days later I returned from the "fish hospital" (aka fish store) with a "new and improved" Bonnie. So, "Bonnie" and Clyde have been reunited and are doing just fine — for now.

To read other articles by Layla Watkins, visit the authors section of [Emmitsburg.net](http://Emmitsburg.net)

## CHILD CARE

***Finally* – Good News For Working Parents**

**Emmitsburg Early Learning Center**

*Is Here To Serve Our Community During Difficult Times*

**Ages 18 months to 12 years  
Monday - Friday 5:45 a.m. to 6 p.m.**

***Sliding Fee Scale Based On Family Income***

Full-Time 3-5 Year Olds Beginning at \$92 per week

**SPECIAL Flat Rates Limited Time**

**Toddlers: \$149 per week**

**Two's: \$119 per week**

**School Age: Openings Available**



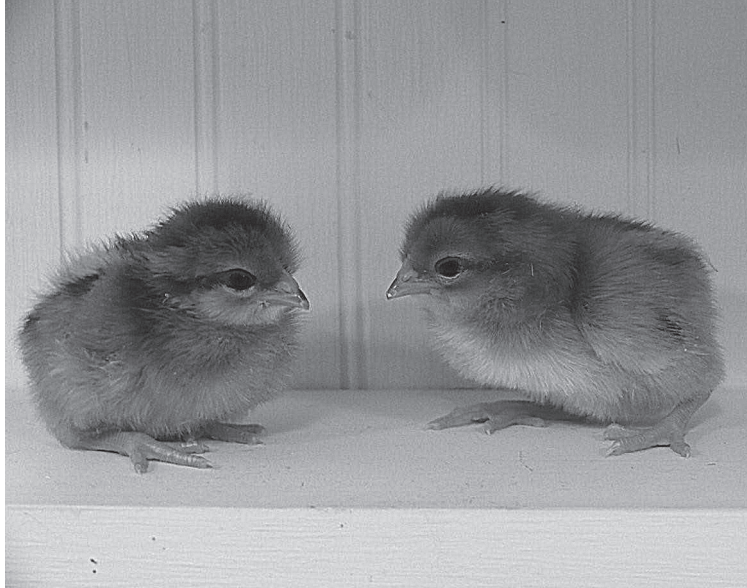
Call Ann Marie or Julie

301.447.6100

16840 S. Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, MD

*Proud to be a United Way Agency*





## Pets Large & Small: PEEP...PEEP...PEEP...

William Morrow  
Whitmore Farm  
[www.whitmorefarm.com](http://www.whitmorefarm.com)

Peep...peep...peep...it's addictive you know. Sometimes, I'm lying in bed trying to clear my mind to fall asleep, and not think about all the things that I didn't get done on the farm today, or all the new things I need to get done on the farm tomorrow and I'll hear it...peep...peep...peep. I know it is all in my mind, a residual hum of peeps from my spending so much time in the hatching room. It is impossible for it to be real. I tell myself I am three buildings and 200 yards from the closest batch of chicks. There is a reason old timers call newly hatched chicks "peeps." That's the sound they make! It's a constant chorus of peeps.

I'm not kidding. We raise chickens here at Whitmore Farm and hatching season is in full swing. The hatching room is full of chicks, the brooders are full of chicks, and the former milk house is full of chicks. I just recently annexed a box stall in the barn and filled it with chicks. If you come to visit, and leave your car unlocked for any length of time, you are likely to come back and find it full of chicks. An imaginary line has been drawn around the house and I know if any

chicks make it inside, I'll have to find someplace else to live. You can only push your loved ones so far.

Not all peeps are the same. I can walk by a room and tell by the frequency or pitch of the peeping, if they need something. When I first started out, I used to think I was crazy, but then I learned to trust my instincts. Sure enough, every time I thought something didn't sound right, I would find a chick that got on the wrong side of a divider, a clogged waterer, or a burnt out heat lamp. Now, years later, I can tell by the peeping whether it is the waterer or the heat lamp. It must be some deep, primitive part of the brain, some paternal instinct that is able to discern the fine nuances of infant sounds that tells me something is wrong, or that everyone is happy. I never intentionally tried to figure it out.

Peep...peep...peep...everyone should have a few chickens. They require far less effort than a dog or cat, once they are grown up, that is. They provide entertainment with their antics. They are trainable and will come to you when you call them. They provide you with fresh, nutritious food that is better than that commonly found in grocery stores. They eat bugs and table scraps and give you fertilizer, otherwise known as

poop. Every gardener would appreciate that! They saved my basil crop last year. I had given up on it because of a huge Japanese beetle infestation. Being an organic farm, we have a limited arsenal against bugs and tend to just grow things that don't need to be sprayed. Well, once the chickens discovered the Japanese beetles, they patrolled the basil patch like cops in a prison yard! After two weeks, there wasn't a Japanese beetle to be found on the entire farm. I think the aromatic basil worked like bait, attracting Japanese beetles for miles around. Then the chickens pounced, one-by-one, until they were all gone. A month later, the basil had flushed out again and we had a good harvest!

There has been a renewed interest in maintaining a few chickens in the backyard as pets and a source of wholesome eggs. All sorts of websites have popped up for people to learn about raising chickens in urban and suburban settings. The City Chicken (<http://home.centurytel.net/thecitychicken/index.html>) and Backyard Chickens (<http://www.backyardchickens.com/>) are probably the most popular websites. But there are a number of Yahoo groups as well that cater to specific breeds of

chickens or specific neighborhoods in different cities. Where town and local ordinances prohibit keeping chickens, citizen groups are either petitioning local governments to change the ordinances, or they are taking their chances and sharing eggs with neighbors in exchange for support. If you live outside the city limits, then the county ordinances apply, and in all likelihood you are allowed to have chickens with some restrictions on the number of birds per acre and the location of the coops. If you follow common sense when siting your coop, make it attractive, and check in with affected neighbors beforehand when in doubt, you should be okay.

I've helped a number of families get started with small backyard flocks. A couple of guidelines I always recommend are the following:

- ★ If you want 10 hens, buy 12. Something invariably happens to one or more birds during the grow-out period. It is much more difficult to integrate a few new birds to an existing flock once they get older.
- ★ More hens is always better. You can share the excess eggs with neighbors, co-workers, and friends. It is also an excellent way to introduce children to entrepreneurship. A larger group of chickens is also better able to keep warm by huddling together during very cold weather.
- ★ If you can have roosters, you should. They are much showier than the females. They are also the first to give a warning call when there is the threat of danger from a hawk or predator. And nothing sounds more rural than the crowing of a rooster.
- ★ If you want a rooster, get 2 or 3. Chickens have a strong social structure and males are always re-establishing their position in hopes of rising to the next level. If there are no other males around to challenge, they will likely start challenging you when you least expect it. You'll be shocked how intimidating a 9 lb. rooster can be. I had one lady call begging me to come get the rooster she purchased months earlier because she could no longer leave her house.
- ★ Get purebreds instead of the industrial production crosses. It costs just as much to care for and feed a purebred chicken as it does a mutt. But with the

purebred, you have a more valuable animal. You can enter the purebreds in state and county fairs and poultry shows sanctioned by the American Poultry Association. And you can sell breeding stock.

- ★ Fencing isn't necessary unless you sited your coop close to the road or property line. Once chickens are imprinted on a structure (coop), they will return there every evening at dusk. Chickens tend to stay within about a 150-foot radius of the coop. It is far better to fence off small areas that you don't want the chickens to go into (e.g., the vegetable garden), than to confine them to a run. It will only be a matter of time before the run becomes an unsanitary muddy mess. And a fence doesn't need to be more than 2 feet tall to keep them out of an area. Yes, chickens can jump higher than that, but they rarely do unless you are fencing them in.
- ★ Feed your chickens formulated poultry pellets free-choice to ensure proper health and maximum egg production. Chickens have been domesticated for so long they can't be expected to get more than 15% of their diet from foraging. If you scrimp on feed, you will get fewer and smaller eggs.
- ★ Join your local poultry club. You'll find out about upcoming shows and meet other folks that share your interests. The Maryland State Poultry Fancier's Association has a show in Frederick the first weekend every November.
- ★ Subscribe to poultry magazines to learn more about different management options and a lot of good, practical advice. My favorites are *Backyard Poultry*, *Practical Poultry*, and *the Poultry Press*.
- ★ Join breed groups for the breeds you are interested in. You will find out about others who are raising the same breed, pick up breeding tips, and be able to sell or buy quality bloodlines.

Peep...peep...peep...I think I hear something...I have to go.

Have a story about a pet you want to share? If so, the *Emmitsburg Chronicle* would love to help you share them! Send them to us at [editor@emmitsburgchronicle.com](mailto:editor@emmitsburgchronicle.com) or see our mailing address on page 2.

voice & data  
**VOXCOM**  
solutions

Voice, Data & Video Communications  
for your business and industry.  
301-447-3848



## The Carriage House Inn

Circa 1857

RESTAURANT & CATERING

301.447.2366

carriagehouseinn.info

### SPECTACULAR SPECIALS

**Sunday 50% OFF 1st Wine Bottle**  
with purchase of Dinner Entrée

**Monday Senior Citizen's Special**  
25% off Dinner Entree (60+)

**Tuesday Half Off Appetizers**  
with purchase of Dinner Entrée

**Wednesday Slow Roasted Prime Rib Night**  
Queen Cut \$14.95  
King Cut \$19.95

**Thursday 50% Off Select Wine Bottles**  
from newly expanded Wine list  
(with purchase of Dinner Entrée )

**\*\*Not valid on Holidays or with any other discounts\*\***



# My Life Is My Career

*Editors Note: With this issue we welcome back Christine Maccabee. For years, Christine contributed to the old Bo & Jean Cadle Dispatch where she spun hear warming tales of life with goats, flowers and life on the mountain top. After a ten year absence, we've got a lot of catching up to do!*

Christine Maccabee

## Chapter One: What a Life!

This winter I had an old dog friend of mine euthanized. She was not a dog I would have chosen, but she chose me after the death of my daughter's fiancée left her homeless 15 years ago. Before she was taken into the kennel at the Humane Society to be gently ushered out of this world which she loved, I took her head in my hands and thanked her for being a blessing to my life and told her and the people around us that she truly was a gentle and beautiful spirit. I do not know if she was thanking me or not, or thought of me as a blessing to her life, but that didn't matter. The fact of the matter was, she had enjoyed years of joy basking in the sunshine curled like a ball in the wild grasses and she had experienced many moments of pleasure with my other daughter exploring streams here in the mountains and valleys of our home in the Catoctins.

As I religiously feed my chickens and ducks and melt ice in their water containers with hot water on frigid winter days, I think to myself, "What a life!" How is it that an aspiring performer of everything from original to classical music spends most of her time tending to

the well-being of both animals and plants, not to mention grandchildren, music students, and friends, cleaning house, and remaining poor...at least monetarily. How is it that all the disappointments of career and difficult relationships have brought me to this point, in my early sixties, wondering how it would have been "IF ONLY"...if only what?...if only I had not known hard times? ... if only I had been "discovered" and my ability as well as my message to the world had flourished?... if only I had had a REAL career??!

I am not really one to give up easily on my vision for my life, but I must say, it has been humbling to watch as my castles crumbled, taking my dreams for my life with them. Still, I am fully aware that most people in war-torn countries such as Iraq and Afghanistan and certain countries in Africa, not to mention a good percentage of the world's population, are lucky to have even the basics of life. As for a career in some area of their expertise, or talent, not only is the competition in the modern world tremendously overwhelming for even the most talented people, but opportunities to nurture and enhance their talents are dismal. Plus, the abyss of poverty in which they live is totally disabling. How then to have a career with all these setbacks?

My answer to this question, at least for myself, is fairly simple, although not entirely easy to digest. It comes to me more frequently the older I get. Perhaps I am just less idealistic, or perhaps I have become humbled so many times

over that I have no choice but to succumb to it. The only answer worth exploring, and a sure way around any grief, regret or disappointment, is to say to myself, like a mantra: "My LIFE was my career." Cleaning up after sick animals and children, nurturing wellness with herbs and good food and pure thoughts, playing my music for the joy of it and not for high ambition, learning how to love well, accepting the truth of my frailties and my limitations and most of all, not regretting the poor choices and setbacks in my life MUST be my answer. Most of all, to see that all I have done over my lifetime, especially the high points, the birthing of three beautiful children, the essays, poems, and songs I wrote from pure experience, the animals and plants whose lives affect mine so deeply, the "O Holy Night's", the "Verdi Requiem Mass", the "Concerts for Love of the Earth" moments, WERE my career.

Even this winter's gentle ushering of my dear dog friend out of this life into the next was part and parcel of why I exist. How to see, how to experience, my entire life as meaningful at all times requires me to let go of the concept of career as commonly conceived. To perceive ALL that I do and have done as my career alleviates both stress and regret and permits me to be more loving and generous both to myself and others.

What a relief to finally be able to say, "My LIFE was my career!"

To read other articles by Christine Maccabee visit the authors section of [Emmitsburg.net](http://Emmitsburg.net)

## Acupuncture — Get to the Point!

Renee Lehman

Licensed Acupuncturist

This is the first of a two part series on Acupuncture.

So, you have intermittent knee pain, tension headaches, and occasional constipation. You may be used to asking the question, "What is causing each of these different problems?" Put aside the thought that these are three different problems, and have three different causes. Be open to the thought that they are all interconnected. Instead, ask the question, "What is the relationship between these different problems?"

When someone has back pain and asks if acupuncture can fix their back, it is important to realize that acupuncture is not about "fixing" the back pain. It is about treating the entire person and getting to the root of the problem. Just like if something was wrong with branches of a tree, you would treat the whole tree and not just the branches.

Acupuncture is a healing art that originated over 3,000 years ago in Asia. It is the oldest continuously practiced medical system in the world. Acupuncture balances the flow of natural vital energy, or Qi (pronounced "chee"), which flows through all living things. This Qi

flows through the body on specific pathways called Meridians, and is essential for health.

When the Qi is balanced, moving smoothly, and in sufficient quality and quantity, health and wellness are promoted. When the Qi is unbalanced or blocked in any way, disease or *dis-ease*, will occur. This *dis-ease* may show up as symptoms on a physical, mental/emotional, or spiritual level. For example, on a physical level, aches or pains could occur; on the mental/emotional level, someone could experience obsessiveness, indecisiveness, lack of self-esteem, or have a difficult time concentrating. Finally, on a spiritual level, someone could be resentful, live with constant sadness or fear, or have the inability to experience joy. It is important to realize that these symptoms are only the end result of an imbalance, and not the illness itself.

Pain and impaired function are signals from the body, mind, and spirit that there is something wrong within us that needs to be attended to. So, just like the tree example, the whole person needs to be addressed and not just the symptoms. The underlying root of *dis-ease* is addressed rather than just treating the symptoms.

So how does acupuncture work?

Consider what happens to the water flow (Qi) in a stream (Meridian) when beavers build a dam (*dis-ease*). By placing an acupuncture needle into an acupuncture point on the Meridian (stream), the smooth Qi flow (water) is restored, and balance is brought to the *dis-ease* (dam is gently broken open).

Because the body, mind, and spirit are one, individuals receiving acupuncture often experience a heightened sense of relaxation and well-being along with their complaints being addressed.

The second part of this two part series will address benefits of acupuncture. The information provided in this article is for informational purposes only and is not intended for diagnosis or treatment. It is not intended as a substitute for advice from your physician. You should consult with a healthcare professional if you have or suspect you might have a health problem.

If you have any questions regarding acupuncture, you may e-mail me at [rlehman@gettysburg.edu](mailto:rlehman@gettysburg.edu).

Renee Lehman is a licensed acupuncturist and physical therapist with over 20 years of health care experience. Her office is located at 249B York Street in Gettysburg, PA. She can be reached at 717-752-5728.

# HIS PLACE

INC.

Est. 1969

AUTO REPAIR • RESTORATION •

301-447-2800



Authorized MD Inspection Station #4866am

[www.HisPlaceInc.com](http://www.HisPlaceInc.com)

Family owned & operated for over 40 years

Complete AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE

FOR ALL MAKES / MODELS | HYBRIDS | DOMESTIC | IMPORTS

"Get Ready for Spring" Special

### Spring Check-Up

- Oil & Filter Change
- Rotate & Balance Tires
- Check Brakes & 36 Point Check-Up

**\$34.95** plus materials

### Dim Headlights?

Get your Headlights Polished & Changed

For Only **\$39.95**

One coupon per customer/car. Not valid with any other offer

Napa NIAT Diesel Technicians on Duty  
Two ASE Certified Master Technicians



3 years/ 100,000 miles parts & labor  
Nationwide Warranty



Approved  
Auto Repair



TO ACCESS YOUR VEHICLE HISTORY LOG ON TO  
[hisplaceinc.mechanicnet.com](http://hisplaceinc.mechanicnet.com)

20 CREAMERY WAY | EMMITSBURG, MD

301.447-2800 | 800.529.5835

Monday - Friday 8 am - 5:30 pm  
We accept all major credit cards | EOE



# THE (RETIRED) ECOLOGIST: Thoughts Between Naps on Anniversaries and Paradigm Shifts

*Bill Meredith*

2009 has been colder than normal here in Emmitsburg's corner of the universe, which put a stop to any ambitions I might have had for observing nature first-hand. I seem to have reached that time of life when a cold, brisk day prompts me to curl up in a comfortable chair with a good book instead of bundling up and going outside to look for birds. In theory, this should be acceptable; there is a vast amount of scientific information I have yet to master, as well as music to hear and novels to enjoy, and the birds will be happy for me to look at them when it is warmer. In practice, though, it hasn't worked well. The chair does not cooperate. We have grown old together, and it has conformed itself to the exact shape of my rheumatic joints, so I seldom last 15 minutes in it without dozing off. Nevertheless, we keep trying.

Between naps, I have been thinking a lot about Charles Darwin. It would be hard for a biologist not to think of him; February 12 was his 200th birthday, and the news media have been full of articles and programs about him, most of which contained errors. Hoping for something more original, I looked up Darwin's horoscope for Feb. 12, and found the following: "You are whimsical and funny and don't mind showing a silly side... but when it comes to serious business you have the sang-froid of a ninja master." Not too good a fit! The only silly thing I ever heard of Darwin doing was when traveling through Argentina with some local gauchos as guides, he tried to catch a cow with a

weighted rope or bola (the gaucho version of a lasso); he got the rope tangled around his horse's legs and had a nasty fall. I had to look up sang-froid; it comes from a French word meaning cold-blooded, and now means composure or imperturbability. That doesn't fit either; Darwin suffered from stress and depression all his life. So I decided to stick to what I know.

I can't claim to be an expert on Darwin, but it is impossible to be an ecologist without having some knowledge of his "theory." All of the things we know in science begin as theories, which are nothing more than attempts to explain how and why things work. Some theories are about specific details; for example, in the 1620's William Harvey published a theory that the circulation of blood was caused by the pumping of the heart. This was a radical idea because it disagreed with the teaching of famous doctors like Galen, but it was tested by experiment and quickly proved to be correct. In Darwin's case, the questions before him were on a grander scale, like why fossils exist, or why animals like the cat family occur in such varied forms as lions, tigers, leopards and cheetahs. People had become increasingly curious about such questions in Darwin's time, because digging canals and coal mines in the Industrial Revolution had led to the discovery of fossils that were unlike living animals, and botanical gardens and zoos were full of strange creatures that had been unknown in Europe before the time of Columbus. The idea that living things might change over the course of time was not new; several

people had proposed theories of evolution before Darwin's time, but none of them could be defended successfully.

Darwin's theory was deceptively simple; it began with two obvious points. First was variation, the fact that all individuals are different. If you buy a herd of sheep, they all look alike at first, but within a week you will have names for all of them. Some have different amounts of black around their faces; some are bigger, or more aggressive, or tamer, or better mothers, but each is different. Point two was over-production: every species produces more offspring than can ever survive. This is self-evident: Think what the world would be like if every maple seed grew into a mature tree, or every mouse lived to produce full litters, all of which survived and reproduced. From these two points Darwin reasoned that if all individuals are different and the environment cannot support all of them, the ones that are best suited to the environment will have a better chance of surviving... i.e., survival of the fittest. And if the environment changed over long periods of time, survival of the fittest would make living things change too. This all made sense; the sticking point was that in order for change to be permanent, the characteristics that enabled the fittest to survive would have to be inherited, and when Darwin first figured this out, no one understood how inheritance worked. He knew this was a weakness in his theory, and was reluctant to publish it until he had overwhelming evidence; so he worked on it for 20 years before circumstances finally forced him to publish in 1859.

When Darwin's theory first came out, many biologists questioned it because of the problem about heredity; others accepted it at once, assuming that heredity eventually would be worked out. They were right; at just that time, Gregor Mendel was doing experiments with peas which would lead to the birth of the new science of Genetics. Mendel published his work in 1865 and sent a copy to Darwin. Unfortunately, it was written in German, which Darwin could read only with difficulty; he did not have time to sit down and translate it, so he laid it aside and it was found among his papers after he died. It is one of the great ironies in history that when other scientists criticized Darwin's theory, the answer to their criticism was lying there on his desk, unread. Of course, Darwin might not have understood Mendel's paper even if he had read it; several other well-known scholars read it and failed to see its relevance to evolution. So the connection between evolution and genetics was not fully worked out until the 1930s, long after both Darwin and Mendel had died.

The economist, Martin Feldstein, once remarked that "knowing" is always a matter of degree. This means scientists have the ultimate job security; their task is to understand nature, and they are aware that they can never know it all. New questions arise; new theories attempt to explain them. If they fail, they are discarded; if they hold up, eventually they become accepted as correct explanations of the natural world. They are then called paradigms, and become part of the mindset of scientists; they are

assumed to be true unless something is discovered that they cannot explain, and then a new theory must be developed. Scientists are human; like everyone else, they do not like to give up their old ideas, so it takes time for a new theory to be accepted. This process of replacing a major old idea with a new one is called a paradigm shift. Young people usually accept the new idea first, and it may take years of argument and controversy before it gains acceptance by everyone else. David Brooks observed that "intellectual history moves forward in a hearse;" some people hang onto old ideas as long as they live, even if they were proved wrong years ago.

Darwin's theory initiated the greatest paradigm shift in the history of biology; in public opinion it is still not complete. Recent surveys show that evolution is now accepted by over 99.5 % of all biologists, but public acceptance has been much slower. Various surveys have found that 150 years after its publication, between 39 and 51% of non-scientists believe in evolution. This is roughly the same fraction of the public as those who believe in horoscopes. In the meanwhile, it is worth noting that Abraham Lincoln, who was born on the same day as Darwin, also generated a paradigm shift: 143 years after the Civil War ended, the American electorate decided that a person's competence and ability were more important than the color of his skin. Paradigm shifts may be slow, but they do happen.

*Read past editions of the Retired Ecologist on Emmitsburg.net*

## SENIOR NEWS

*Susan Allen*

Put on your green cap, pin a shamrock on your lapel, and get ready to celebrate St. Patrick's Day on March 17th. Don't let the month's famous winds blow you all the way back to Ireland!

Looking ahead: We've added a new game to our Friday afternoons in March. It's played with dominoes and is called "Chickenfoot." Come in and try it!

Night card parties will resume in April — call Linda at 301-600-6350 for details.

And remember that whatever the weather, it's always cool to come in and shoot some pool.

The seniors encourage all eligible persons (50 years and older) to join them for regular program activities and special events. Our lunch program is open to those 60 and older. Programs are held in the Community Center on South Seton Avenue. Call for lunch reservations 24 hours in advance. The Senior Center will close whenever county offices are closed. To register for special events or for information,

call program coordinator Linda Umbel at 301-600-6350.

### REGULAR ACTIVITIES

**Bowling:** Mondays at Taneytown bowling center. Car pool: Meet at center at 12:30 p.m.

**Strength Training Conditioning:** Tuesday & Thursday, 10 a.m. Dress comfortably, wear athletic shoes. Participants will use small weights. Free.

**Bingo:** March 11 & 25

**Cards, 500, and Bridge Group:** March 4 & 18.

**Men's Pool:** Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m.

**Pinochle:** Thursdays at 12:30 p.m.

**Canasta:** Fridays at 12:30 p.m.

**Shopping at Jubilee Foods:** Thursdays at 12:30 p.m.

## Let's talk Zoonotic Diseases

*Dr. Hugh Matthews*

*Emmitsburg Veterinary Hospital*

Zoonotic diseases are defined as those diseases transmissible from animals to man. I will touch on some of the more common diseases in our area. As you can imagine prevention of these diseases is primarily about using common sense. Please wash your hands after gardening, and don't play with wild foxes or raccoons stumbling down Main Street.

### Rabies

Rabies is caused by a virus transmitted via the saliva of a mammal. There are only a few cases of rabies in humans per year in the United States. However rabies kills more than 55,000 people worldwide annually, mostly in Asia and Africa. There were over 400 confirmed cases of rabies in animals in Maryland in 2007. Raccoons, skunks, bats, and foxes are the primary carriers in the wild animal population. Feral cats must be recognized as a potential source of rabies to humans. A wild kitten found in Gettysburg tested positive for rabies within the last year. It is important to note that transmission is almost exclusively

through biting or scratching. The rabies virus cannot survive in the environment (on the ground or on dead animals) for very long. If you are bitten or scratched by a feral cat, call your doctor immediately. Better yet be very careful when handling feral animals; and most importantly be sure all your pets are up to date on their rabies vaccinations. Cat and dog rabies vaccination is MANDATORY by law in most states.

### Lyme Disease

Lyme Disease, while not a true zoonotic disease, is so common in our area it deserves mentioning. In addition, animals are important reservoirs for the ticks that transmit lyme. Lyme is caused by a bacteria called Borrelia. Small rodents and wild mammals are the normal hosts that these ticks feed from. We see lyme disease at least once a week at our veterinary hospital. Vaccinating dogs and using proper tick prevention on our pets are the best ways to prevent the disease in our dogs; and to minimize their ability to bring home ticks to us. Cats do not get lyme but can bring home these ticks as well.

### Roundworms and Hookworms

These are intestinal parasites of dogs and cats. If a person ingests fecal material from an infected animal they can get these worms. The Center for Disease Control in Atlanta has offered guidelines to help prevent transmission to humans. They involve deworming puppies and kittens every 2-3 weeks until about 16 weeks of age. In addition, fecal samples should be tested for parasites in young animals and one to two times per year in adults. In addition to looking for round and hookworms, fecal examination can also diagnose other potentially harmful internal parasites.

There are many more diseases that have the potential to transmit from animals to man. So, wash your hands after gardening, keep your yard poop-free as frequently as possible, keep your pets current on vaccinations and free from external and internal parasites; and go enjoy your four-legged friends. Now if I could just stop my 12-year old from kissing our lab, Sully, on the mouth!

Adios,

Dr. Hugh Matthews

# Obituaries

## Mr. James Adelsberger

James O. Adelsberger, 87, of Emmitsburg, died peacefully Tuesday, Feb. 24, 2009, at St. Catherine's Nursing Center in Emmitsburg.

Born May 24, 1921, in Baltimore, he was the son of the late Dwen and Adele Adelsberger. James was happily married for 55 years to the late Lorretta C. (Sanders) Adelsberger.

James was a member of the Emmitsburg Memorial VFW, Post 6658, the American Legion Francis X. Elder Post 121 and a lifelong communicant of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Emmitsburg. His hobbies included stamp collecting, hunting and fishing.

After 35 dedicated years of service to the United States Post Office in Emmitsburg, James retired with 40 years of service to the United States government, having served five years with the U.S. Army Air Corps.

During his time in the Air Corps, James rose to the rank of sergeant and faithfully defended Hickam Airfield at Pearl Harbor during the attack, Dec. 7, 1941.

James is survived by three sons, Ken Adelsberger and his spouse, Linda; Roy Adelsberger and his spouse, Betsy; and Greg Adelsberger and his spouse, Sue; 14 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; two sisters, Jane Adelsberger-Streets

and Adele Adelsberger-Engel; one brother, John Adelsberger; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his wife, James was predeceased by two sons, Edward Adelsberger and Robert Adelsberger; two grandsons, Bobby Adelsberger and Matt Sanders; three brothers, Joseph Adelsberger Jr., Francis Adelsberger and Eugene "Gus" Adelsberger; and three sisters, Martina Adelsberger-Mooney, Ann Adelsberger-Fleischman and Alice Adelsberger-Dunn.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Friday, Feb. 27, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 47 DePaul St., Emmitsburg. The Rev. Stephen P. Trzeciecki, C.M., was celebrant.

Interment was in the St. Joseph's Catholic Cemetery in Emmitsburg.

## Mr. James Glacken

James Edward Glacken, 83, of Taneytown, died Wednesday, Jan. 28, 2009, at Golden Living Center in Gettysburg, Pa.

Born July 20, 1925, in Emmitsburg, he was the son of the late James Michael and Carrie Mae Lookingbill Glacken. He was the husband of the late Dorothy Wilson Glacken, his wife of 33 years.

He worked as a plumber for more than 33 years and was retired from his trade. He served in the United States Army during World War II and the Korean Conflict. He was a member of Keysville Lutheran Church, Hesson Snider American Legion Post 120 and Monocacy Valley VFW in Harney.

He enjoyed spending time with family, camping and traveling.

Surviving are daughters and sons-in-law, Darlene and Charles "Ron" Schwinger of Taneytown and Sharon and Robert Summers of Taneytown; sister, Margaret Zepp of Hanover, Pa.; sister and brother-in-law, Ruth and David Martin of Union Bridge; and brother, Leroy "Skip" Glacken of Union Bridge. He was the proud grandparent of grandson, Bobby Summers; and great-grandchildren, Hayley and Zachary Summers. He

is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

In addition to his wife, he was predeceased by sisters Mary Smith and Helen Pletzer, and brothers Charles, William, Maurice and George Glacken.

Interment was at Keysville Union Cemetery, Keysville.

## John Turner

John Annias Turner, age 93, of Friends Creek, Emmitsburg, Maryland, died on Saturday, January 24, 2009 at his home.

Born June 8, 1915 in Friends Creek, Maryland, he was the son of the late John A. and Margaret Elizabeth (Miller) Turner.

John was retired in 1975 as a grit mill operator/laborer from GAF Corporation in Greenstone. He was an outdoorsman, who loved to hunt and chop wood.

Surviving are children Richard Turner and wife Dixie of Emmitsburg, Md., Stanley "Tony" Turner and wife Melissa of Emmitsburg, Md., Lavinah Sanders and husband Randy of Waynesboro, Gary Turner and wife Bobbi of Waynesboro, and Steven Turner and wife Nancy of Waynesboro; 12 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren; a sister-in-law, Lula Turner of Emmitsburg, Md.; former spouse, Naomi Baker of Waynesboro, and several nieces and nephews.

He was the last of his immediate family, predeceased by sisters Mary Wetzel, Carrie Stouter, and Ida Hardman; and brothers Norman, Stanley, and Samuel Turner.

A funeral service was held at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 27, 2009, at Friends Creek Church of God, Friends Creek Rd., Emmitsburg, with his nephew the Rev. Frank Turner officiating. Interment was in the Friends Creek Cemetery.

## Patricia Adams Flessner

Patricia Adams Flessner of Emmitsburg, died suddenly Wednesday, February 25, 2009. Funeral services were held at St. Joseph's Catholic Church on Tuesday, March 3 at 11 a.m.

## FITNESS: March into Spring

Linda Stultz  
Certified Fitness Trainer/  
Therapist

Those of you who want to be ready for your yard work in April and May should start now! Start with a walk everyday. Some days walk a little farther, some days walk a little faster, some days walk up a slight hill. Are you getting the idea? Change your workout each week so your body does not get used to the exercise. Start slowly and work up to a challenging pace. Starting now will give you time to get your body in shape and will give you energy while you are preparing for the outside work that awaits you.

The winter tends to slow us down and energy decreases without us being aware, until one day we discover that we have become couch potatoes. Exercising all year round is so important to keep our metabolism and energy up. Did you ever notice that a few pounds sneak on during the winter? Once we start mowing the grass, raking the leaves and tending to the flower and vegetable gardens those added pounds drop off and stay off. That's why finding an exercise for the winter is so important.

Look for something that you enjoy. There are so many things that will keep us moving and we won't even think of them as exercise. Find something that you can do with your kids or grandchildren. They will like spending time with you and they, as well as you, will be exercising at the same time. Ask them what they would like to do. Children always have ideas and you may be surprised that you enjoy the activity too.

If you can't think of an activity, here are a few ideas: walking, yoga, water aerobics, table tennis and DVDs. Check your local senior center. Several centers have strength training classes a few times a week as well as bowling and other activities. Whatever you choose to do will get you moving and that is your goal. Remember, it is always advisable to check with your doctor before starting an exercise program, especially if you are sedentary and have a low energy level.

Starting now will have you ready for Spring and all the little jobs that come with it. Spring also brings the warm weather, song birds, sunshine and light breezes. You will enjoy all the gifts of the season even more because of the benefits you feel from starting your exercise program now.

Remember, Keep Moving, You'll Be Glad You Did!

A sponsor of the Emmitsburg Chronicle newspaper



**EMMITSBURG**  
GLASS COMPANY

**A reflection of quality**

P.O. Box 346 / 100 Creamery Court  
Emmitsburg, Maryland 21727  
301.447.2245 / Fax: 301.447.2316

**SERVICE CALL COUPON**  
**\$30.00 OFF ANY SERVICE CALL**



DIVISION OF R.W. WARNER, INC.

*Our Service is Your Comfort*

PLEASE CALL 301-662-5387 | [www.warnerservice.com](http://www.warnerservice.com)

**Plumbing • Heating • Air Conditioning • Water Heaters**  
**Heat Pumps • Water Treatment • Duct Cleaning**

FREDERICK, MD

MD Registered Plumber # 8431 / MD HVACR # 01-7196

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFERS



# LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS

## EMMITSBURG LIBRARY

► 300 South Seton Avenue | 301.600.6329  
Register online at [www.fcpl.org](http://www.fcpl.org)

### Celtic Festival!

**Monday – Friday, Mar. 9 – 15**  
Enjoy the Celtic displays at the library. Book Sale throughout the week: \$1 a bag (while supplies last)

**Saturday • 11:00 – 4:00 p.m.**  
Irish dancing, bagpipers, Celtic crafts and face painting

**Sunday • 1:00 p.m.**  
Mt. St. Mary's Knott Auditorium. Performances by Maggie Sansone, Sue Richards, Sharon Knowles, Scottish Pipes & Drums, TinSmith. Plan to arrive early as only 500 people (Maximum Capacity) get free tickets

### Children/Family Programs

**Saturday, Mar. 7 • 11:00 a.m.**  
Dr. Seuss' Birthday Celebration\*

**Wednesday, Mar. 11 • 6:30 p.m.**  
Leprechaun's Story time

**Wednesday, Mar. 24 11:00 a.m. – noon**  
Infant massage (ages 6 wks. to 4 mos.)

**Saturday, Mar. 18 • 10:30 a.m.**  
American sign Language Mystery (ages 6–12)\* Unravel the mystery through stories, songs and more.

\*Registration required. Call or stop by the library.

### Adult/Teen Programs

**Tuesday, Mar. 3 • 6:00 p.m.**  
Native American Bead Weaving\*  
Make a bracelet on a loom

**Saturday, Mar. 7 • 2:00 p.m.**  
Jeff Yeager, author of The Ultimate Cheapskate\* A fun book, full of nuggets about frugality

**Tuesday, Mar. 17 • 6:00 p.m.**  
Teen Book Club

**Tuesday, Mar. 24 • 6:30 p.m.**  
Leaf Printing Class\*

### Ongoing Programs

**Tuesdays • 10:30 a.m.**  
Two Terrific Storytime

**Wednesdays • 10:30 am.**  
Babies with Books

**Wednesdays • 7:00 p.m.**  
Family Storytime

**Thursdays • 10:30 a.m.**  
Pre-School Storytime

**2nd Mondays • 4:00 p.m.**  
Dragons & Droids (ages 8 – 12)

**3rd Wednesdays • 4:00 p.m.**  
Book Bunch (ages 6 – 11)

**Last Fridays • 10:30 a.m.**  
A.R.T. Books & Crafts (ages 3 – 6)

## THURMONT REGIONAL LIBRARY

► 76 East Moser Road | 301.600.7201  
Register online at [www.fcpl.org](http://www.fcpl.org)

### For Everyone

**March 17 • 7:00 p.m.**  
**Irish Music**  
Join us Saint Patrick's Day where our very own Lesa Zuke shares a variety of Irish tunes on her flute and Irish Penny Whistle.  
*No registration.*

**March 21 • 11 a.m.**  
**Homegrown Here!**  
National Agricultural Week local growers and products of the Northern Frederick County area highlight crafts, displays, face painting, 4-H demonstrations puppet show and more.  
*No registration.*

### For Teens

**March 11 • 7:00 p.m.**  
**The Write Stuff For Teens Who Write**  
Introduction to genres and explore approaches to poetry, blogging, journaling.  
*Registration required.*

### For Children

**March 10 • 4:00 p.m.**  
**Curious Kids**  
Grades K-2 who are curious about science and nature can come explore the world around them with simple, hands-on science activities in the Children's Department.  
*Registration required.*

**March 12 • 10:00 a.m.**  
**New Thursday Event for Preschoolers**  
Play in the Imagination Zone with activities, toys, and imagination starters for children ages 6 mos. to 5 years with a caregiver.  
*No registration necessary.*

**March 14 • 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.**  
**Captain Underpants Party**  
"Tons-O-Fun" and "Lots-O-Laffs"! Trivia games, photo-op, crafts and good-humored fun!  
*No registration.*

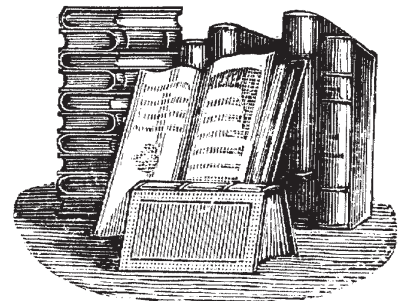
**March 17 • 7:00 p.m.**  
**Girls Book Club**  
Just for girls in grades 3-5. Make new friends and discuss great books, crafts, and activities.  
*Registration required.*

### For Adults

**March 14 • 2:00 p.m.**  
**History & Heritage**  
How to successfully research Local Family Farms and offer tips for tracking down important recorded documentation.  
*Registration required.*

**March 18 • 7:00 p.m.**  
**The Write Stuff**  
Monthly writer's workshop targeting skill development, the writer's voice and constructive critique sessions.  
*Registration required.*

**March 24 • 11:00 a.m.**  
**Retirees and Seniors**  
Interested in county services for seniors? Frederick County's Department of Aging will discuss their core programs, senior care giving, home delivered meals and community resources.  
*Registration required.*



RED MULCH \$34.00/YD.  
DARK MULCH \$24.00/YD.  
BLACK MULCH \$34.00/YD.  
TOPSOIL SCREENED OR UNSCREENED

— COMPOSTED —  
MUSHROOM SOIL OR COW MANURE  
\$24/YD

DRIVEWAY & LANDSCAPING STONE  
HAULING - EXCAVATING  
SAND · LANDSCAPE SUPPLIES  
FILL DIRT

**Rodney McNair**  
CALL 301-447-2675  
17618 Old Gettysburg Rd., Emmitsburg

**Maple Syrup Festival**

**March 14, 15, 21, 22 • 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. each day**  
**Cunningham Falls State Park**  
**William Houck (Lake) Area • Rt. 77 West of Thurmont**  
Demonstrations of maple sugaring from sap to syrup  
Bring the family for a pancake breakfast from 9:30am–2:30pm  
Music and children's activities  
Maryland Maple Syrup products for sale

For more information on the breakfast call 301-271-7574

Park Service charges apply.  
For free info about Frederick County, Maryland contact the Tourism Council of Frederick County 800-999-3613 or visit [www.fredericktourism.org](http://www.fredericktourism.org)

**Catoctin Pregnancy CENTER**  
*All services free and confidential*

**PROBLEM PREGNANCY? WE CAN HELP**

- Pregnancy Test
- Emergency Housing
- Maternity and infant clothing, diapers, formula, cribs, etc.
- Referrals for medical, financial, legal and general resources

502 East Main Street  
PO Box 1168  
Emmitsburg, MD 21727  
301-447-3391

**24 Hour Hotline**  
1-800-492-5530





# THANK YOU

Thank you, one and all, for your extraordinary generosity. We are humbled and deeply moved by your kindness, encouragement and trust.

## DONORS

Jean and William "Bo" Cadle

George Combs

John Hollinger

## PIONEER ADVERTISERS

Amber Hill Physical Therapy, Inc.

David E. Little Custom Painting

East Park Automotive, Inc.

Emmitsburg Business and Professional Association (EBPA)

Emmitsburg Early Learning Center

Gene's Towing

His Place Inc.

Hughes Piano Service

The Total Look

Timothy Bringardner, D.D.S.

Vigilant Hose Company #6

Wood Crafters Hardwood Flooring

"PLEASE SUPPORT THE PEOPLE WHO SUPPORT THE CHRONICLE."



### Baumgardner Farms Landscaping

Lawn Care & Maintenance  
Planting & Bed Installations  
Mulching

Mulch available for Sale | Delivery or Pick-up

Pond Installation  
Snow Removal

Other Services available



Chad Knox, Manager 301.418.1353  
Paul Baumgardner 301.676.9847 | 717.642.5469



Est. 1999  
*Classic Affairs D.J.'s*  
Elaine & Dennis Ebaugh

Wedding, Anniversary & Birthday Parties  
1930's to Top 40

39 Federal Ave.  
Emmitsburg, MD 21727  
301.447.6440

E-mail: ebaughr2@comcast.net

Karaoke available

### J.D. WALTER & CO. INC.

- Historic Brick and Stone Restoration
- Repointing, Sandblasting, Pressure Washing
- Stucco, Formstone, Waterproofing
- Veneer Stone Sales and Installation

MHIC #21419

16617 Old Emmitsburg Rd.  
Emmitsburg, MD

301-447-6131  
Free Estimates



### WOODCRAFTERS Hardwood Flooring

Sanding • Staining • Refinishing  
Custom Installation • Repairs • Restoration  
Also specializing in Ceramic Tile & Stone



717-359-8845

FAX: 717-359-8732



E-MAIL: woodcrafters12@comcast.net • MHIC #92845

Owned & Operated by: Tim Wantz & Joe Williams Littlestown, Pa.

### THE ROSENSTEEL STUDIO

WWW.ROSENSTEELSTUDIO.COM

Emmitsburg & Thurmont Only



**FREE PHOTO SHOOT!**  
In your home or on location

For the months of February and March, The Rosensteel Studio will be waiving the usual sitting fee for all on site and in home photo sittings with the presentation of this coupon

SINCE 1986

301-447-6272



### Services Provided

- Senior Wellness Counseling
- Preventive Health Care Exams
- Specialty Surgical Procedures
- Boarding • Grooming
- Behavior Counseling

Helping Pets & People Care For Each Other

(301) 447-6237

www.emmitsburgvet.com

9436-B Waynesboro Pike, P.O. Box 337 • Emmitsburg, MD 21727

### NEED PAINTING?

DAVID E. LITTLE  
CUSTOM PAINTING

11530 Simmons Road, Taneytown, MD 21787

Phone: (301) 447-2315

MHIC #41079



David E. Little  
Owner



Residential & Commercial  
Interior & Exterior

Free Estimates  
Power Washing



Friendly Service  
Reasonable Rates

### GENE'S TOWING

SNOW REMOVAL  
Parking Lots • Driveways  
Jump Starts • Flat Tires • Lock Outs

Need a jump?  
Now offering full battery service!  
Batteries Available.

Office: 301-447-2243  
Mobile: 301-676-0842  
Fax: 301-447-2381

Eugene B. Troxell  
Emmitsburg, MD 21727

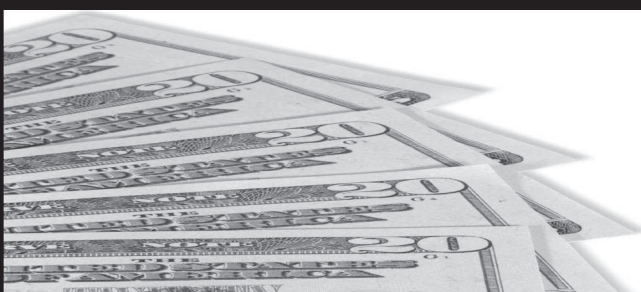
It's a fact:

Chronicle readers support  
Chronicle advertisers.

Interested in joining us?

Please contact Lori at  
advertising@emmitsburgchronicle.com

## NEW CUSTOMER'S SPECIAL PRICING



### NO GIMMICKS. NO KIDDING

At Jackson Hewitt, preparing tax returns is what we do best. We'll dig deep, asking you all the right questions so you'll get every credit and deduction that you deserve. Even if your tax return is tough choosing Jackson Hewitt is easy.

Call 301-447-5950 or visit [www.jacksonhewitt.com](http://www.jacksonhewitt.com)

Bring this offer in today and receive the \$99 New Customer flat rate.

**\$99\*** FLAT FEE  
TAX PREPARATION

Visit us at 402 W. Main St.

**JACKSON HEWITT**  
TAX SERVICE

Applies to new customers only. Offer valid on tax preparation fees only. Does not apply to free tax preparation, financial products or other services. Present coupon at time of tax preparation. Valid at this location only and may not be combined with any other offer. \*Flat fee is based on Federal and one State return, additional states will result in additional charge. PPHX7 expires 4/08/2009



**Jubilee** foods  
*Premium*  
**MEATS • SEAFOOD • DELICATESSEN**

EMMITSBURG, MARYLAND  
301.447.6688



www.ShopJubileeFoods.com

Email: Jubilee515@comcast.net

# Easter Kid's Day

**Saturday, April 4 ~ 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

- ✓ Drawings
- ✓ Cookie decorating
- ✓ FREE photo with the Easter Bunny
- ✓ Egg decorating
- ✓ Guess-the-jellybean contest
- ✓ Face painting

*Jubilee loves kids and this day will be filled with fun things to do; prizes, free samples, and of course the Easter Bunny*



## \$30,000 CASH GIVEAWAY

For Tickets and Information: Vigilant Hose Company 301-447-2728  
Chris Stahley 301-447-3081; John Glass 301-447-3724; or Gabe Baker 301-447-2212

### Vigilant Hose Company #6 First Annual Spring Fling

*Saturday, May 16, 2009*

Benefit: Vigilant Hose Company, VHC Auxiliary & VHC Explorers Post

Noon .....\$1500 cash	1:00.....\$1000 cash	2:00.....\$1000 cash	3:00.....\$2500 cash	4:00.....\$1000 cash	5:00.....\$1000 cash
12:05 .....\$200 cash	1:05.....\$200 cash	2:05.....\$200 cash	3:05 .....\$200 cash	4:05.....\$200 cash	5:05.....\$200 cash
12:10 .....\$400 cash	1:10.....\$400 cash	2:10.....\$400 cash	3:10 .....\$400 cash	4:10.....\$400 cash	5:10.....\$400 cash
12:15 .....\$100 GCert	1:15.....\$100 GCert	2:15.....\$100 GCert	3:15 .....\$100 GCert	4:15.....\$100 GCert	5:15.....\$200 cash
The Palms	One More Tavern	Dave & Jane's	Chubby's Barbeque	Carriage House	5:20.....\$300 cash
12:20 .....\$400 cash	1:20.....\$400 cash	2:20.....\$400 cash	3:20 .....\$400 cash	4:20.....\$400 cash	5:25.....\$200 cash
12:25 .....\$200 cash	1:25.....\$200 cash	2:25.....\$200 cash	3:25 .....\$200 cash	4:25.....\$200 cash	5:30.....\$400 cash
12:30 .....\$400 cash	1:30.....\$400 GCert	2:30.....\$400 cash	3:30 .....\$400 GCert	4:30.....\$400 cash	5:35.....\$200 cash
12:35 .....\$100 GCert	Shriver's Meats	2:35.....\$100 GCert	Jubilee Foods	4:35.....\$100 GCert	5:40.....\$300 cash
Ott House	1:35.....\$100 GCert	Hillside Restaurant	3:35 .....\$100 GCert	Stavros Pizza	5:45.....\$200 cash
12:40 .....\$400 cash	Carleo's	2:40.....\$400 cash	Alesandro's	4:40.....\$400 cash	5:50.....\$400 cash
12:45 .....\$200 cash	1:40.....\$400 cash	2:45.....\$200 cash	3:40 .....\$400 cash	4:45.....\$200 cash	5:55.....\$200 cash
12:50 .....\$400 cash	1:45.....\$200 cash	2:50.....\$400 cash	3:45 .....\$200 cash	4:50.....\$400 cash	<b>FINAL DRAWING</b>
12:55 .....\$200 cash	1:50.....\$400 cash	2:55.....\$200 cash	3:50 .....\$400 cash	4:55.....\$200 cash	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>
	1:55.....\$200 cash		3:55 .....\$200 cash		<b>\$4,000 cash</b>

#### Vigilant Hose Company #6 First Annual Spring Fling Rules

- 1) Cost per ticket is \$60 which is valid for one or two people attending.
- 2) Each ticket has five (5) four digit random numbers between 0000 and 9999.
- 3) Ticket price include admissions for up to two (2) people and includes food, drinks, and entertainment.
- 4) Gates will open at 10:30 a.m. with drawings held from noon until 6 p.m.
- 5) All participants must check in at the registration area and have proper identification to enter food and drink areas.
- 6) All ticket stubs for purchased tickets must be returned by Saturday, May 2, 2009.
- 7) All unsold tickets will become the property of the VHC and are eligible for any winning prizes.
- 8) The VHC reserves the right to cancel the event if ticket sales quota is not met.

#### Random Numbers

# \_\_\_\_\_, # \_\_\_\_\_, # \_\_\_\_\_, # \_\_\_\_\_, # \_\_\_\_\_

- 9) You must be 18 years of age or older to claim prizes. Winners will be responsible for any and all taxes.
- 10) All prizes must be claimed within 30 days of notification.
- 11) The VHC and the Town of Emmitsburg are not responsible for any accidents during the event.
- 12) By purchasing this ticket, the buyer accepts any and all responsibility and liability pertaining to this event, including travel to and from, and the attendance of the event.
- 13) During the drawing, all patrons must conduct themselves in an orderly and appropriate fashion. The VHC reserves the right to request any person(s) to leave the event grounds if they cannot conduct themselves as such. Furthermore, the VHC may request law enforcement to remove said person(s) if needed.
- 14) For additional information, log onto www.vigilanthose.org.