

The Hancock News

Hancock, MD 21750

Established 1914 – Our 112th Year

Volume 113, Number 27

Hancock at a Glance

Weather

Wed. 7/8 79/67
40% chance of showers with light and variable winds.

Thurs. 7/9 82/67
90% chance of showers, possible thunderstorm, calm winds.

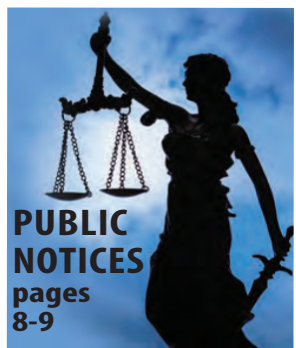
Fri. 7/10 84/67
50% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny.

Sat. 7/11 81/65
50% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny.

Sun. 7/12 79/64
40% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy.

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Deadline Notice

All correspondents and advertisers are reminded the deadline for submitting copy to this publication is Monday each week at noon.

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P.O. Box 567
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411



Hancock celebrates America's founding



Washington County had commemorative coins minted, representing each of the county's municipalities, as part of their 250th celebration.

LEFT: Members of the Hancock Arts Council Band played patriotic and Americana music at the town's celebration of the 250th anniversary of America's founding on July 5.

photos by Geoff Fox

County commissioners approve temporary moratorium on data center applications

by Geoff Fox

Washington County Board of Commissioners approved a 12-month moratorium on the acceptance, processing, reviewing and approval of applications, plans, or requests for data centers in Washington County during their June 30 meeting.

The commissioners voted 4-1 to provide the county sufficient time to develop policies, performance standards, and zoning regulations which would be the foundation guiding future proposals.

Officials said the time would be used to evaluate the potential impacts of large-scale data center facilities in Washington County.

Data center development has become a regional and national topic of interest and the potential impacts associated with these contemporary data center facilities are not specifically addressed in existing county zoning regulations.

Discussions need to take place before any permit applications are made in Washington County, officials said.

To advance public health, safety and welfare, commissioners said they want to obtain more information and during the moratorium period the county will take three steps.

First, they'd conduct research and evaluate the potential impacts of data center development on the environmental resources, utilities, local infrastructure, and land use compatibility.

They'd then engage residents, stakeholders, and subject matter experts in discussions regarding data center development, associated opportunities and challenges.

Finally, they'd review and consider text amendments to the county's zoning ordinance and other applicable regulations which will establish applicable standards for future proposals, they said during the agenda item.

Data centers are defined as facilities that consist of one or more buildings used primarily for the storage, management, processing,



and transmission of large amounts of digital data and house computing infrastructure such as computers, network equipment, systems, servers, appliances, and other associated components related to digital data operations.

Data centers can also require significant amounts of land, water, and electricity and may have implications for local infrastructure, county officials noted.

Other concerns raised during the commissioners' meeting surround potential environmental impacts, including hazardous material storage and electronic waste disposal, noise generation from cooling systems and backup generators, and land use compatibility in agriculture and residential districts.

The county's moratorium was approved to provide "adequate time to thoroughly study this emerging technology and land use potential."

Officials noted it will also provide the county with time to adequately determine how future data center proposals, if any, can be evaluated for consistency with Washington County community goals and long-term planning objectives.

The moratorium is not intended to permanently prohibit data center development, commissioners said.

The moratorium became effective immediately upon adoption and will remain in effect for 12 months unless modified or extended by a majority vote of the Washington County Board of County Commissioners.

In Northern Virginia, there are over 600 data centers. In the state of Maryland, there are roughly 45 operational data centers, the closest of which are in Frederick. West Virginia has 10 with the closest being a small center in downtown Berkeley Springs. Pennsylvania has 133, but none near Hancock.

Splash away the heat



The temperature in Hancock just broke the century mark by two degrees, but that 98 felt like it was 106 outside last Thursday afternoon, July 2. To beat the heat, kids of all ages headed to the splash pad in Widmeyer Park to get water dumped or sprayed on them or even take a wet ride down the slide. The forecast for the weekend was highs around 100 degrees.

Rotary displays 313 Flags for Heroes this July 4th holiday

by January Weber
Hancock Rotary

The flag of the United States of America is more than just a national symbol—it is a powerful reminder of our history, our freedoms, and the people who have shaped our lives.

Our Flags for Heroes display at Widmeyer Park in Hancock is installed the Tuesday before the Fourth of July and removed the following Tuesday.

This year, Rotary members Tracy Salvagno, Jan Weber, Deanne Baker, Carolyn Clingerman, Dan Murphy, Autumn Williamson, and Donna Wallizer, along with our dependable volunteers Pat and Bryant Wallizer, worked together to make this display possible.

Pat and Bryant established the flag lines, and despite the summer heat, everyone showed up ready to work without a single complaint.

Six years ago, I brought the idea of a Flags for Heroes display to our club after sponsoring a 3' x 5' flag for \$50 in honor of my daughter, who is now a U.S. Marine Corps veteran. I envisioned a smaller, manageable fundraiser that would allow our community to honor the people who have made a difference in their lives. Our Rotary members immediately embraced the idea, and their dedication has helped this project grow each year.

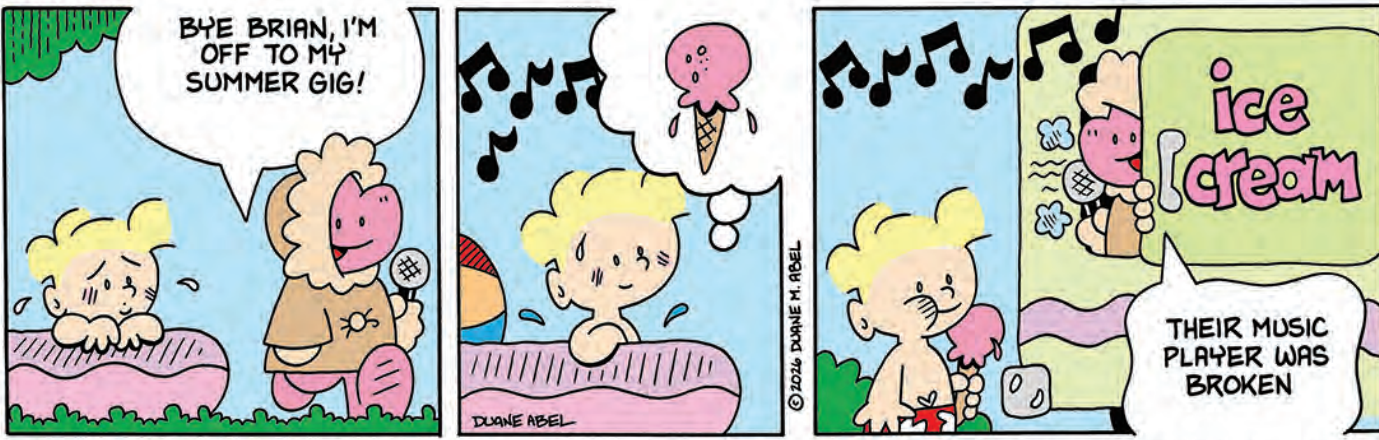
see ROTARY FLAGS
page 12



Hundreds of flags adorned the lawn near Hancock's War Memorial as part of the annual Flags for Heroes display, which was visible for the week surrounding July 4th.
photo by Geoff Fox

OPINIONS

ZED by Duane M. Abel



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Calendar of Events JULY

Saturday, July 11
 - Hancock Museum
 open 9-11:30 a.m.,
 basement of Town Hall

Sunday, July 12
 - Hancock Museum
 open 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.,
 basement of Town Hall

Monday, July 13
 - Hancock Lioness Lions
 Club meeting, Community
 Center, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, July 14
 - Hancock Rotary Club
 meeting, Hancock
 American Legion,
 12:30 p.m.

Is Your Group or Organization Back To Having A Regular Meeting Schedule?

To Be Included on the Calendar, Call 301-678-6255 or email news@hancock.us

ARTICLES MAY BE EDITED

Articles submitted to *The Hancock News* may be edited for clarity, style and content and to conform to the newspaper's policies and protect against libel.

EARTH TALK

Questions & Answers About Our Environment

Dear EarthTalk:

Is anybody working on solar-powered trains, and if so, when will they be ready for prime time?
 —Paul Best, Los Angeles, CA

Solar-powered trains run on the Sun's energy to operate, via solar panels placed on train stations, on the roofs of trains, or most commonly, from the rail tracks. They also often gain indirect energy from the sun, using electricity from solar farms that is sometimes stored in batteries to facilitate auxiliary functions other than propulsion, including lighting, ventilation and GPS systems. Most solar train travel as of 2026 has been for short distances, optimal for tourism and urban shuttles, like the Byron Bay Train in Australia.

However, there are significant plans to achieve long-term solar train travel across the world. Unlike traditional diesel-powered trains, solar-powered trains are highly sustainable and offer an improved climate future because they rely on clean and renewable energy. Like other renewable energy sources, solar power improves the environment because it decreases environmental tensions and pollutants that arise with the use of fossil fuels.

In 2019, the International Earth Agency predicted that the global rail network could expand to almost 2.1 million kilometers by 2050. In 2024, Argentina unveiled its first solar-powered tourist train with a range of about 41 kilometers. Since introducing their first solar-powered train in 2017, India has also joined the effort. Indian Railways plans to develop 20 gigawatts of solar energy in vacant lands by 2030. The U.K. and Switzerland have also made efforts to introduce solar energy in train travel.

In 2017, Alice Bell, co-director at the U.K. climate change group Possible, wrote in *The Guardian*, "We think solar could power 20 percent of the Merseyrail network in Liverpool, as well as 15 percent of commuter routes in Kent, Sussex and Wessex...trains and trams all over the world could be running on sun in a few years' time." Approved in 2008, California's solar-powered high-speed train will run approximately 1287.5 kilometers and is the first of its kind across the world. This train is set to be completed in 2030 and hopes to connect to cities like Vancouver, San Diego and Los Angeles.

While solar-powered train projects are promising, they still face financial, operational and timing challenges. Many have to do with train maintenance and durability, which can impact the safety of train operations. Nevertheless, solar trains could completely shift the current state of climate-conscious transportation.

EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. See more at https://emagazine.com. Send questions to: question@earthtalk.org.

Letters Policy

Letters to the editor are invited. They must be signed, typed and double-spaced. The writer must include a phone number and address for verification.

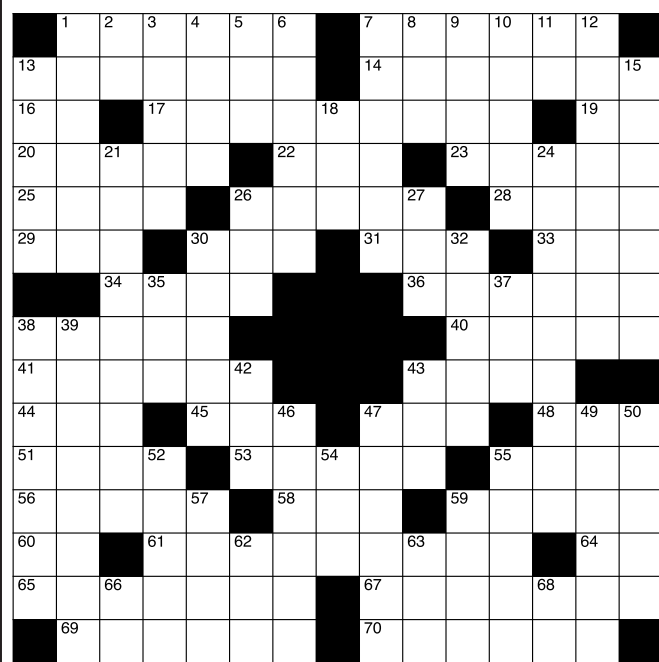
No more than two letters from any individual will be printed in a four-week period.

Letters are subject to editing. Letters longer than 400 words will not be published. Nor will letters that are libelous, too personal or not of general interest to the public.

Letters are a way for citizens to comment on current issues. They are not meant to provide anyone with a platform to write again and again about their philosophy, group or business.

Thank you notes and political endorsements are considered advertising. Form letters are often discarded.

CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. Mended
7. Hymns
13. Commercial transport of goods
14. Poked holes in the ground
16. They precede C
17. Branch of knowledge concerned with wealth
19. Larry and Curly's pal
20. Injured
22. Popular type of dance
23. Moon crater
25. American state
26. Places to lock valuables
28. Stalk that supports the capsule
29. Keyboard key
30. '___ death do us part
31. A type of cage
33. A place to sleep
34. Annual music awards show
36. Made over
38. Hard, stony substance
40. Incantations
41. Long-legged, wading bird
43. Breathe noisily
44. Congressman
45. Rip off
47. Golf score
48. Popular pickup truck
51. Where infants sleep
53. Music term
55. Small opening in a surface
56. Musical term meaning "very"
58. Soviet Socialist Republic
59. Treats with powder
60. Email subject line feature
61. A British lawyer
64. Expression of laughter
65. Farmer's calendar
67. Seeds used as food
69. Eurasian shrubs
70. Periods of inactivity

DOWN

1. Hard things to kick
2. Collective of countries
3. Letter of Hebrew alphabet
4. One-time Alabama running back Eddie
5. One's sense of self-esteem
6. Of the teeth
7. Treat with care
8. Type of whale
9. Curved structure
10. Emits coherent radiation
11. One of the Gospels (abbr.)
12. Smallest interval in western music
13. Netherlands seat of government
15. Gives to charitably
18. Lout
21. Pastas
24. Release from restrictions
26. Female sibling
27. Title of respect
30. Silver coins
32. Region in India
35. Partner to cheese
37. Dark or dusky
38. Pacific Northwest tree
39. Exaggerate
42. Toddler
43. Touch lightly
46. Fundamentals
47. Jeopardies
49. Curved structures
50. Isolated, flat-topped hills
52. Forming the bottom layer
54. Reciprocal of sine
55. Genus of Old World birds
57. New York college
59. Cloak
62. Kawhi Leonard's team (abbr.)
63. Vietnamese offensive
66. "The Great Lakes State"
68. "___, myself and I"

Hagers-town Town and Country Almanac

Mid-Atlantic Weather Watch: seasonable and dry, very hot and humid, then occasional thunderstorms and turning cooler (9, 10); initial dose of thunderstorms, then dry, seasonably warm and humid(11, 12, 13, 14, 15); dry, very hot and humid, then afternoon storms followed by more seasonable heat and (16, 17, 18, 19, 20); dry with near record heat at first, then occasional afternoon and early evening thunderstorms with muggy conditions (21, 22, 23, 24, 25); quite isolated showers and thunderstorms and seasonable (26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31).

Severe Weather Watch: The Hagerstown Town and Country Almanac sees excessive heat (23, 24) and threats of severe thunderstorms (25).

Full Moon: July's Full Moon will occur on Wednesday, July 29. Many Native American tribes referred to it as Thunder Moon because of the numerous severe thunderstorms during the month. Other tribes in various regions of the United States called it Buck Moon due to the rapid growth of antlers on young bucks during the month or Ripe Corn Moon because of the appearance of young corn on the stalks planted in the Spring.

THE GARDEN: Continue to keep the garden adequately watered. Expect plants to do well with all of the extra rain in July but as the summer continues, be sure to make up for what Mother Nature neglects to provide. Deadhead some perennials, either for continued bloom, or for improved foliage. Be sure that all tall annuals and perennials are securely staked so that they will remain upright during the afternoon thunderstorms that are so common for this time of year. During the dry summer months, remember to mow the lawn when it is high and mow less often. Taller grass withstands drought better because its blades shade the soil.

The farm: Best for planting root crops (9, 10); weeding and stirring the soil (15, 16); planting above-ground crops (22, 23); harvesting all crops (24, 25, 26); the best days for setting hens and incubators (21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31); the slaughtering and butchering of meat(14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20);transplanting (14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20); the weaning of all small animals and livestock (24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31); harvesting and storing grains (9, 10, 11, 12, 13).

The Hancock News

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105 West Main Street
 Hancock, MD 21750

Phone: 301-678-6255 or 304-258-1800
 news@hancocknews.us

USPS 234-300 ISSN 1534-6463

1904 - JAMES S. BUZZERD - 1995

Publisher
 The Hancock News, Inc.
Editor
 Kate Shunney
Reporter
 Geoff Fox

Published every Wednesday, except the last week of the year. Periodicals postage paid at Hagerstown, MD and additional post offices. Postmaster: Send returns to P.O. Box 567, Berkeley Springs, WV 25411.

Established 1914

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Hancock - \$30.74 a year Maryland - \$32.86 a year
 Fulton Co., Pa. - \$33.00 a year Out of State - \$35.00 a year
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Hancock Police Report

301-678-5633



Hancock Police report the following arrests and incidents from the week of June 29-July 5:

June 29
Animal complaint, Pennsylvania Avenue area. Dog loose. Humane Society notified.

Trespassing, 200 block West Main Street. Information taken.

Suspicious Person, 300 block Pennsylvania Avenue. Subject checked okay.

June 30
911 hang-up, 200 block Pennsylvania Ave. Accidental.

Alarm, 200 block West Main Street. Accidental.

Disorderly conduct, first block Brent Street. Subjects advised.

July 1
Harassment, 100 block West Main Street. Information taken.

911 hang-up, first block Taliferro Street. Unfounded.

Suspicious person, Joseph Hancock Park. Subjects identified.

Trespassing, 200 block Veterans Highway. Subject advised.

Suspicious vehicle, first block Brent Street. Unable to locate vehicle.

Undesirable, 200 block W. Main Street. Subject trespassing.

911 hang-up, 200 block Fulton Street. Accidental.

Service to advise, first block Blue Hill Road. Subject advised.

Assisted Morgan County Sheriffs Office. Tractor trailer all over roadway.

Suspicious person, Widmeyer Park. Subject advised.

Traffic enforcement, Hancock area. One stop.

Warrant service, warrant served on Claudia Dean McClain, 52, of Baltimore, Md. for fraud.

July 2
Assault reported, First block E. Main Street. Information taken.

Suspicious person, Joseph Hancock Park. Subjects advised and moved on.

Theft reported, 200 block Pennsylvania Avenue. Theft of a bicycle. Report to follow.

Service to advise, 100 block West High Street. Subject advised.

Service to advise, 100 block E. Main Street. Subject advised.

Traffic enforcement, Hancock area. One stop.

Disorderly conduct, 100 block West Main Street. Subject gone on arrival.

July 3
Service to advise, Hancock area. Subject advised.

Animal complaint, 200 block Creek Road. Lost dog. Owner found.

Check well-being, first block West Main Street. Subject checked okay.

Domestic, first block Fleming Court. Verbal. Subjects advised.

Traffic enforcement, Hancock area. Five stops.

911 hang-up, 100 block Baptist Road. Accidental.

July 4
Traffic enforcement, Hancock area. Three stops.

Suspicious vehicle, first block Grand Street. Subject advised.

Service to advise, 100 block East Main Street. Subject advised.

Fireworks complaint, Dale Street.

July 5
Property accident, first block Blue Hill Road. Information exchanged.

Service to advise, Hancock area. Subject advised.

MVA encourages drivers with out-of-state tags to register in Maryland ahead of October 1

The Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) launched the Plate Where You Live campaign, a state-wide effort to help Maryland residents properly register their vehicles in Maryland ahead of new enforcement measures authorized under Senate Bill 111. The measure, passed by the Maryland General Assembly and signed into law by Governor Wes Moore, will expand the ability of MVA and local law enforcement to issue fines to residents who fail to properly register their vehicles in the state where they primarily reside.

"Proper vehicle registration is fundamental to road safety. Our goal is to help more Maryland drivers get into compliance for the well-being of everyone on our roads," said Motor Vehicle Administrator Chrissy Nizer, who also serves as Governor Wes Moore's Highway Safety Representative. "When drivers don't register their vehicles properly, there

is no guarantee those vehicles are safe and have the necessary insurance, putting everyone at risk of death or serious injury. We look forward to working with drivers, and our government partners to make Maryland roads safer for everyone. Safety is a everyone's responsibility."

The Plate Where You Live campaign is designed to educate Maryland residents about vehicle registration requirements and provides residents with an opportunity to correct any registration issues ahead of the October 1 deadline. The campaign features a dedicated webpage with resources and tools to assist drivers who are new to Maryland or who continue to maintain vehicle registrations in other states. Under current Maryland state law, vehicle owners have 60 days to register their vehicle, secure a nonresident vehicle permit or provide proof the vehicle is not required to be registered in the State.

Beginning October 1, vehicle owners will be given a

60-day warning to bring their vehicle into compliance with state law or obtain proper documentation showing they are exempt. If vehicles remain out-of-compliance 60 days after the initial warning, the vehicle owner will be fined \$7 for each day the vehicle remains out of compliance (up to 60 days or \$420). 120 days after the initial warning, the MVA will notify the appropriate local jurisdictions for additional penalties, which may result in civil action, booting, towing, vehicle impoundment, and seized out-of-state plates.

Maryland residents who need to register or re-register a vehicle are encouraged to visit mva.maryland.gov/PlateWhereYouLive for step-by-step instructions, tools and resources to complete the process. MVA is committed to helping drivers meet registration requirements before the new law takes effect. Additional assistance is available through Contact MVA or by calling 410-768-7000.

Irish Road bowling Saturday

Irish Road Bowling will be held Saturday, July 11 at Cacapon Resort State Park.

Irish Road Bowling is similar to fast pitch softball and bowling, combined.

Registration begins at 10 a.m. at the Nature Center and road bowling starts at 11 a.m. Enter as a team of four or solo for a chance to win a trophy.

The beginner friendly course is mostly downhill and is 1.2 miles on smooth pavement.

SOUTH MORGAN VFD
10166 Winchester Grade Road
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411

NO BINGO SATURDAY, JULY 11 & 18

PVAS to host nature journaling

Potomac Valley Audubon Society will host Nature Journaling | Shadows & Shade on Saturday, July 18 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Yankauer Nature Preserve, 438 Whittings Neck Road, Martinsburg, W.Va.

Experience the slower, quieter rhythms of midsummer. Journal contrasts of light and shadow, textures, and hidden details waiting to be discovered in shaded spots.

This is a free/donation-based program. All ages are welcome, though youth must be accompanied by an adult. Pre-registration is required and limited to 12 participants.

For additional details and to register, go to <https://www.potomac>



audubon.org/event/nature-journaling-at-yankauer-nature-preserve-shadows-shade/

For more information, contact PVAS Staff at info@potomacaudubon.org or 681-252-1387.

FREE MOVIES at the Star Theatre
Downtown Berkeley Springs
Thursday Nights
Doors Open 6:30 p.m. - Movie Starts 7 p.m.

July 9 - DOA
(1950) Starring Edmund O'Brien, classic original which was so popular it was remade two times.

July 16 - JAWS
(1975) A classic Spielberg movie starring Richard Dreyfuss and Matt Hooper.

July 23 - FREAKS
(1932) A cult classic drama horror film produced and directed by Tod Browning.

July 30 - THE BIG TRAIL
(1930) Starring John Wayne in his first major film role. A western classic.

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Case Nature Center open house

Join Potomac Valley Audubon Society for a Special Weekend Open House at the Case Nature Center at Cool Spring Preserve, 1469 Lloyd Road, Charles Town, W.Va. on Saturday, July 18 from 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Drop in anytime between 9:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. to explore our interactive touch table filled with interesting nature objects, check out binoculars, field guides, and other gear, and meet our Animal Ambassadors.

This event is free and open to the public. All ages are welcome, though youth must be accompanied by an adult. Registration is not required.

For additional details, go to www.potomacaudubon.org/event/nature-center-open-house-4/.

NATURE CENTER OPEN HOUSE
Come explore, learn, and connect with nature!

HANDS-ON DISCOVERY
Explore nature's treasures at our touch table!

GEAR UP FOR ADVENTURE
Borrow binoculars, nature ID books, & more!

For more information, contact PVAS Staff at info@potomacaudubon.org or 681-252-1387.

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JULY 2026 Workshops

Saturday July 11th 1pm
Hat Burning Workshop (Pyrography)
Many Styles - Bands, Feathers, and Hat Pin Included

Saturday July 18th 1pm
Perfume Making

Saturday July 18th 6pm
BYOB Wine Glass Painting

Saturday July 25th 4pm
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Influence and Inspirations

As we celebrate 250 years of the United States of America, did you realize that Catholic-Christian principles undergird both the United States Declaration of Independence (1776: God and "Divine Providence" are mentioned) and the Constitution (1787: "in the Year of Our Lord")?

Further, in both documents, important spiritual and social principles include: the dignity of every individual; Federalism, which echoes Catholicism's & Christianity's subsidiarity principle (the most local environ should rule itself, and the Federal Government, nationally, has other domains of legitimate influence); the common good (recall The Acts of the Apostles—"They shared all things in common-- 4:32). Also, there are, should be, varied sectors of authority and powers by various branches of government (this echoes the Israelites in The Exodus and their leadership styles and applications: Think Moses and the varied tribes; and also the early Church in the Book of Acts, culminating in the Council of Jerusalem (ch.15). There is also the similitudes in American governance and Biblical Christianity of Natural Law and the free rights of all individuals.

Note, now, a fact and irony: as uniquely Judeo-Christian as these above facts and "influences" are—our Country has been the most diverse, welcoming, abundant and attractive, precisely because of these past influences and blessings!

Segueing to internationalism now, perhaps you've seen some varied, consistent comments of international World Cup Soccer fans visiting here in the USA.

And how much they like the United States, its food, culture, and, well, lifestyle. They're impressed. One Asian fan said: "Things are bigger (in the U.S.). My stomach gets bigger here." Indeed: our land, economy, riches, variety of people, entrepreneurial spirit, our vehicles, houses, bank accounts- they're all stellar here.

And: our Faith. Christians gives so much here and further those past principles of the Bible mentioned above, thankfully. We can take this for granted. Don't. Give thanks and recall those soccer visitors—perhaps they're kind of like "visiting angels" delivering a message of appreciation and uniqueness: God Bless America!

+Fr. Jack Lombardi

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Hancock Council of Churches Welcomes You To Worship With Them

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, five miles west of Hancock on Resley Road, 301-678-7180 - Adult Bible and Sunday school classes for all ages, 8:45 a.m., worship service 10 a.m. Pastor W. Kenneth Stottleyer.

Long Hollow Church, 12722 Long Hollow Road - Sunday school 9:30 a.m., morning worship 10:30 a.m.

Hancock Assembly of God, 431 North Pennsylvania Avenue, 301-678-5313 - Sunday school 10 a.m., worship service and kid's church 11 a.m. Evening service 6 p.m. Wednesday activities 7 p.m. Ladies' quilting every Tuesday at 10 a.m.

Stone Bridge Church of the Brethren, 14904 Orchard Ridge Road, Hancock, 301-582-4135 - Sunday school 9:30 a.m., worship 10:35 a.m. Rev. Harry E. Strite.

Victory Chapel, 116 W. Main Street - Sunday school 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m. Sunday evening 7 p.m. Rev. Bob Ardinger.

Saint Thomas' Episcopal Church, Church and High Streets, Hancock, 301-678-6569 - Sundays 7:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. Sunday School for children & adults 10 a.m. Alcoholics Anonymous in lower parish hall.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 200 Douglas Street, Hancock - Sacrament meeting 10 a.m. Sunday school 11 a.m. Bishop Eric Exline..

Hancock Grace Church of the Nazarene, 304-258-4412 - Sunday school 11 a.m., Sunday morning worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday evening service 6 p.m., Wednesday prayer meeting 7 p.m. Pastor Rodney Truax 304-676-3306.

Buck Valley Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church - Services will be held on the third Sunday of each month at 7 p.m. until December. Rev. McCarty.

St. Peter's Catholic Church, 16 E. High Street, Hancock, 301-678-6339 - Weekend Mass schedule: Sunday morning: 7:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. Weekday Mass schedule: Monday, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday-Saturday, 7:30 a.m. Mission Church-St. Patrick's, Little Orleans: Saturday Vigil Mass at 5 p.m. Rev. John J. Lombardi.

Corner Independent Church, Corner Road, Big Cove Tannery, Worship, 11 a.m. Pastor Richard Bernhard.

Sideling Hill Charge: Catalpa U.M. Church, Rt. 144 west of Hancock about two miles, turn left on Willow Road. Go about five miles, bear right at fork. Church about one mile on right. Sunday service 8:30 a.m.

Piney Plains U.M. Church, Exit 72 off I-68, left off exit, then right at stop sign, right on Mann Road, cross back over I-68 and then left on Faith Circle, follow to end, Little Orleans, 717-658-3906 - Sunday school 10 a.m., service 11 a.m. Pastor Jean Squires.

Hancock United Methodist Church, 170 West Main Street, Hancock, 301-678-6440 - Sunday School all ages 8:30 a.m. Worship service 9:30 a.m. Pastor Becki Wessinger.

Non-Denominational Service, Seavolt Road, Hancock, 304-274-2353 - Campground ministry at Happy Hills Campground every Sunday 10 a.m. Pastor Tim Staubs.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 180 South Washington Street, Berkeley Springs, 304-258-2440 - Sunday service 10 a.m.

Hancock (USA) Presbyterian Church, 17 East Main Street, 301-678-5510 - Sunday worship 10 a.m. Senior soup and sandwich first Saturday of each month from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in Church Social Room. Pastor Terry Martin-Minnich.

Grace Christian Fellowship, 130 Pennsylvania Avenue, Hancock, 301-678-6036 - Sunday services: Sunday school 10 a.m., worship 11 a.m. Wednesday 7 p.m. Bible study and prayer meeting. Rev. Edward Guyer.

Hancock Church of God, 7528 Millstone Road, 301-678-5390 - Sunday school 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m. Wednesday evening services 6:30 p.m. Pastor James Touchton.

Tri-State Community Church, 326 E. Main St., Hancock, across from CNB Bank, 301-302-6412 - 6 p.m., Saturday, Adult truth, teen thrust sixth grade and up. Children blast fifth and under. Pastor Alan Myers.

Orchard Ridge First Church of God, 13642 Orchard Ridge Road, 301-678-7267 - Sunday morning worship 9 a.m. Sunday school 10 a.m. Sunday evening worship 6 p.m. Kids club and youth group 6 p.m. Rev. Jeffrey Hawbaker.

1ST Evangelical Methodist Church, 11510 Price Road, Little Orleans, 240-609-6770 - Sunday school 10 a.m. Worship service 11 a.m. Wednesday evening Bible study 7 p.m. Darhl Trail, Jr.

Bethel Community Church, Bethel Church Road off Rt. 522, Warfordsburg, Pa., 301-991-7141 - Sunday school 10 a.m., worship 11 a.m. Rev. Gary Quackenbos.

Berkeley Baptist Church, 300 Winchester Grade Road, 304-258-4101 - Wednesday prayer and study 6:30 p.m., Sunday school 9:30 a.m., worship service 10:45 a.m. Food pantry distribution site call for more info. Pastor Joey N. Giles, Jr.

Needmore Bible Church, 6939 Great Cove Road, Needmore, Pa., 717-573-2212 - Sunday school and life groups 9 a.m. Sunday worship 10 a.m. Monday 8:45 a.m. ladies Bible study. Wednesday evening 6:30 p.m. Awana for children. Pastor Doug Poffenberger.

Hope Community Church, 31 Buzzard Acres Lane, Berkeley Springs - Sunday service at 9 a.m. & 10:45 a.m., Kids Ministry infant-fifth grade, Youth Ministry Sunday nights 6 p.m. Pastors Skip Euler.

Gospel Light Tabernacle, 21 Gospel Lane on Williams Street, Berkeley Springs - Sunday school and worship/children's church 10 a.m., Sunday evening service 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Bible study 7 p.m. Pastor Shane Boyer.

Church of the Lord Jesus Christ, 14464 Buck Valley Rd., Warfordsburg, Pa., 301-678-5340 or 717-294-6494. Bible study, Wednesday, 6 p.m. Second Friday of each month prayer service 6 p.m. Sunday service 10 a.m. Pastor Emmanuel Ensor and Deacon Shadrach Ensor.

Warm Springs Baptist Church, 3683 Pious Ridge Road, Berkeley Springs, 304-258-1551. - Sunday SVCS 10-11 a.m. Sunday SVC 6 p.m. Wednesday Bible study 7 p.m. Pastor Robert Burton.

St. Patrick's Catholic Church 12517 St. Patrick Road, SE, Little Orleans, 301-678-6339 - Saturday Vigil Mass 5 p.m. Rev. John Lombardi.

Needmore Full Gospel, six miles north of Hancock on Rt. 655, 717-294-3100 - Regular services: Sunday school 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m. Evangelistic service 6 p.m. Wednesday evening service at 7 p.m. Rev. John Lewis.

Cedar Grove Christian Church, Rt. 522 at 643 near Dott, Pa. - Sunday school 9:30 a.m. and worship service 10:30 a.m. Timothy B. Close.

Chapel of Praise - 14457 Buck Valley Road, Warfordsburg, Pa., 717-294-3184 - Worship services: Sunday morning 10 a.m. Wednesday evening service at 7 p.m. Pastors Jack and Lola Hiles.

Whips Cove Church, Rt. 643, three miles east of Town Hill, Exit Rt. 156, 717-294-3229 - Sunday school at 10 a.m. and worship service at 11 a.m.

Faith Assembly of God Church, Amaranth, Pa. - Sunday school 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m. Sunday CA service 6:30 p.m. Sunday evening service 7 p.m. Wednesday evening service 7:30 p.m. Pastor Delmas F. Bard.

Buck Valley Christian Church, 717-375-5881 - Sunday school 9:30 a.m. Worship service 10:20 a.m. Primary church and junior church are held 10:30 a.m. Pastor Bill Croteau, Jr.

New Testament Church, Buck Valley, Pa., Warfordsburg exit on 484 west, six miles on right - Sunday school 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m., prayer meeting Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Pastor R. Bobby Layman.

Damascus Christian Church, 717 Big Cove Tannery Road, BCT, Pa. - Worship every Sunday 11 a.m.

Bethel Independent Church, Sleepy Creek - Sunday school 10 a.m. Sunday worship 7 p.m. Wednesday evening prayer and Bible study 7:30 p.m.

Amaranth Church of the Brethren, Sunday school 9:30 a.m., Worship service 10:30 a.m. Wednesday kids program 6 p.m. Pastor Michael Lida.

Calvary Bible Church, 2065 Valley Road, Berkeley Springs, just south of Dairy Queen on top of hill, 304-258-1099 or 304-579-9389 - Sunday school 9:45 a.m. Sunday worship 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Wednesday prayer meeting and Bible study 7 p.m. Pastor B.J. Worley.

Needmore Seventh-day Adventist Church, corner Rt. 522 and 655, Needmore, Pa., 205-492-9989 - Sabbath School Saturday, 9:30 a.m. Sabbath worship service Saturday 11 a.m. Pastor Murvin Camatchee.

Oasis Community Church, 1121 Maryland Avenue, Hagerstown, located in the South End shopping center across from South High, 301-745-6183 - Sunday worship 6:30 p.m. Rev. Bill Lynn.

Unity of Berkeley Springs, New Earth Granary, 143 N. Mercer St., Berkeley Springs, 304-268-4222 or 304-258-2954. Celebration service, 10 a.m. Rev. Anne Murphy-Oswald.

Mountain Top Church, one mile east of Rocky Gap State Park on Rt. 144, Flintstone, 301-777-0923 - Sunday services: Sunday school at 10 a.m., morning worship 10:45 a.m., evening service 7 p.m. Wednesday Bible study and prayer 7:30 a.m.

LifeHouse Church Bethel, 515 E. Wilson Blvd., Hagerstown, 301-739-1167 - Sunday life classes 8:30 a.m., worship gathering 9:30 a.m. and Wednesday family life 7 p.m.

Church of Christ, 290 South Green Street, Berkeley Springs, 304-258-5175 - Sunday Bible study 9:30 a.m., worship 10:15 a.m. Evening service 6 p.m. Wednesday Bible study 7 p.m. for all ages. Evangelist Van Sprague.

Parkhead Union Church, 9512 National Pike, Big Pool, I-70 east at exit 9, Indian Springs, 301-639-9154 - Sunday school 9:30 a.m., morning worship 10:30 a.m. Pastor Randy Bivens.

Hilltop Christian Fellowship, 12624 Trinity Church Drive, Clear Spring, 301-842-2225, Early Bible class 8:15-9 a.m. Sunday school 9:15-10:15 a.m., worship service 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Bible study 7:15-8:15 p.m. Pastor John Miller.

Warfordsburg Presbyterian Church, 717-294-3028 - Fellowship 9 a.m. Sunday school 9:30 a.m. Worship service 10:30 a.m. Bible basics class for children K through fourth grade. 12941 Buck Valley Rd., Warfordsburg.

Unitarian Universalist, 626 Washington Avenue, Hagerstown, 301-745-6576 - Sunday service 10:45 a.m. youth religious education 10:45 a.m. Minister Valerie Wills.

Pleasant Grove Christian Church, four miles west of Needmore, Pa. - Sunday worship 10 a.m., Sunday evening services 6 p.m. Rev. Denver Plessinger.

Green Ridge Assembly of God, Green Ridge - Sunday services: Sunday school 9:45 a.m., worship service 10:45 a.m., evening service 6 p.m. Wednesday Bible study and prayer 6 p.m. Holy communion first Sunday of each month.

Blairs Valley First Church of God, Clear Spring, 301-842-2663 - Sunday school 10, worship 9 a.m. Bible study Wednesday evening 6:30 p.m. Pastor John Cook.

St. Catherine's Eastern Orthodox, 433 Liberty Street, Hagerstown, 301-739-5237 - Saturday 6:30 p.m. Vesper service Sunday 10 a.m. Divine Liturgy. Rev. Dennis Buck.

Rehoboth New Life, 8159 Great Cove Road, (U.S. 522), 717-496-7558 - Services Sunday, 10 a.m., 6 p.m. Wednesday, 7 p.m. Bible based, spirit-filled church and discipleship center. Pastor Lowell Bard.

Mt. Olivet Presbyterian Church, Exline Road, Hancock, 301-678-6038 - Church service 9:30 a.m.

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Washington County Sheriff's Office
500 Western Maryland Parkway • Hagerstown, MD 21740
Phone: 240-313-2100

Washington County Treasurer
TREASURER ROBERT BREEDING
Washington County Treasurer
35 West Washington Street, Suite 102 • Hagerstown, MD 21740
Phone: 240-313-2110 Email: rbreeding@washco-md.net

Circuit Court / County Clerk
CLERK KEVIN TUCKER
Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court
24 Summit Avenue • Hagerstown, MD 21740
Phone: 301-733-8660 Email: washcocc_clerk@mdcourts.gov

COUNTY CLERK DAWN MARCUS
Office of the County Clerk
100 West Washington Street, Room 1101 • Hagerstown, MD 21740
Phone: 240-313-2204 Email: dlmarcus@washco-md.net

Register of Wills
REGISTER LACY M. FLOOK
Register of Wills for Washington County
100 West Washington Street, Suite 3400 • Hagerstown, MD 21740
Phone: 301-739-3612 Email: lflook@registers.maryland.gov

State's Attorney
STATE'S ATTORNEY GINA CIRINCION
State's Attorney's Office
33 West Washington Street, Room 302 • Hagerstown, MD 21740
Phone: 240-313-2000 Email: sao@washco-md.net

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And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the LORD.
John 20:20 (KJV)

HOPE

Most of us have experienced times when all seemed lost, but with Christ in our lives, we can never lose hope. Just when all seemed lost, Christ rose again, giving hope to His disciples and all who believe in Him.

OBITUARIES

Roger Lyle Kerns
1949-2026

Roger Lyle Kerns, age 77, of Warfordsburg, Pa., passed away on Sunday, July 5, 2026 at Embassy of Woodland Park in Orbisonia, Pa.

Born March 5, 1949 in Hancock, Md., he was the son of the late Robert Johnson and Carrie Blanche Divel Kerns.

He worked as an over-the-road truck driver. Roger enjoyed cutting wood, hunting and watching his favorite television show, American Pickers.

Roger is survived by his siblings, Robert Kerns of Warfordsburg, Pa., Gloria Hoffman (Rick) of Berkeley Springs, W.Va. and Lisa Stotler of Hagerstown, Md. and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers, Gary Kerns and Kenny Kerns.

Graveside services will be conducted at noon on Thursday, July 9, 2026 at Mount Olivet Presbyterian Church Cemetery, 14253 Exline Road, Hancock, Md., with Pastor Jeff Hawbaker officiating.

The family will receive friends from 6-8 p.m. on Wednesday, July 8, 2026 at Helsley-Johnson Funeral Home & Cremation Center, 95 Union Street, Berkeley Springs, WV.

Online condolences may be expressed at www.helsleyjohnsonfh.com.

Rhonda Sue Carter
1962-2026

Rhonda Sue Carter, age 64, passed away on Saturday, June 27, 2026 at her daughter's home in Falling Waters, W.Va.

Born March 3, 1962, in Hagerstown, Md., she was the daughter of Opal Marie Hawvermale McCusker of Berkeley Springs, W.Va. and the late Gary Lester McCusker, Sr.

Rhonda attended two churches, Crossroads Assembly of God in Martinsburg, W.Va., and Gateway Ministries in Williamsport, Md. She was a graduate of Hancock High School and went on to earn her cosmetology degree from Hagerstown Community College in Hagerstown, Md. She worked at Hair Concepts in Hagerstown, Md.

Rhonda loved her family, church and spending time with her grandchildren.

In addition to her mother, Rhonda is survived by one son, Joshua Carter of Wendell, N.C.; one daughter, Janessa Watkins of Falling Waters, W.Va.; one sister, Vickie Maslauskas of Berkeley Springs, W.Va.; one brother, Gary McCusker, Jr., of Berkeley Springs, W.Va.; three grandchildren, Cameron Watkins, Harper Watkins and Joslyn Carter and several nieces and nephews.

Private graveside services will be in Union Chapel Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Rhonda's memory may be made to Union Culture Church, 2021 Cotton Barn Court, Wendell, NC 27591.

Online condolences may be expressed at www.helsleyjohnsonfh.com.

Arrangements are being handled by Helsley-Johnson Funeral Home & Cremation Center, 95 Union Street, Berkeley Springs, W.Va.



Vivian Regina Wandless
1938-2026

Vivian Regina Wandless, 87, of McConnellsburg, Pa., entered into eternal rest on June 24, 2026.

She was born on October 20, 1938, in Hancock, Md., a daughter of the late Phillip Bishop and Iva Weller Bishop.

Vivian's greatest joy in life was her family. She cherished every moment spent with them and found her deepest fulfillment in the love they shared.

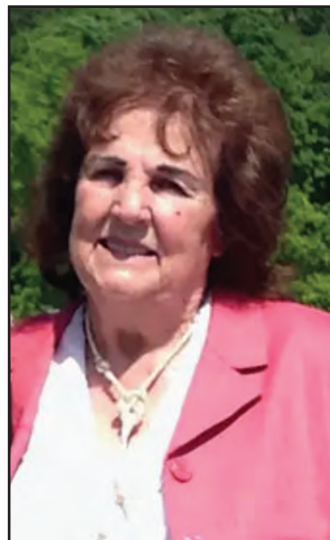
She was preceded in death by her first husband, Grant William Diehl; her second husband, Arnold Richard Wandless; her brothers Lloyd Bishop, Jeff Bishop, Herb Bishop and Paul Bishop; her sisters Doris Keefer and Mildred "Nook" Edwards; and her parents.

Vivian is survived by her loving children, Grant William Diehl II and wife Alberta Diehl, Warfordsburg, Pa., David Allen Diehl, Hancock, Md., and Iva Melody Diehl Bowman and husband Allen Bowman, Clearville, Pa. She is also survived by her grandchildren Grant Diehl III, Jeffery Morris, Ashley Diehl Rhodes, Jessica Diehl, Tiffany Diehl, Logan Bowman and Taylor Bowman; along with seven great grandchildren, all of whom brought her tremendous pride and joy. She leaves behind many nieces, nephews and close friends who will remember her with love.

Vivian's memory will continue to live on in the hearts of those she leaves behind, and her legacy will be carried forward through the generations.

Services are private and at the convenience of the family. The family has entrusted Kelso-Cornelius Funeral Home in McConnellsburg, Pa with Vivian's arrangements.

Online condolences may be expressed at www.kelso-corneliusfuneralhome.com.



PVAS to host "Kingfisher Kahoot" virtual trivia night



Come play a live, online quiz game. This virtual event will take place on Thursday, July 16 from 7:30-8:30 p.m. Join Master Naturalist Roy Boyle for a fun night of trivia and learning as we explore this month's theme, West Virginia's Moths. This engaging evening program is held over Zoom, so you can join in from the comfort of your favorite chair.

Nothing beats finding a large moth next to your porch light. This month's Kahoot will examine the many moths of our dark forests and fields. Their nocturnal adaptations, amazing life cycles, and their connection to the natural and built environments will be examined in this program.

Kahoots are best played in a group setting, so we are ex-

cited to join together with fellow players virtually. We will play as a group with Roy Boyle as our team leader and host. Brand new to Kahoots? Roy Boyle will be available to answer any questions you may have at the beginning and along the way.

This event is free and open to the public. Anyone is welcome to join in. Pre-registration is required and limited to 25 participants.

For more information and to register, go to <https://www.potomacaudubon.org/event/kingfisher-kahoot-virtual-trivia-night-west-virginias-moths/>.

Contact PVMN at PVMN@PotomacAudubon.org or 681-252-1387 with any questions you may have.

Marvelous Moths of Cool Spring Preserve

Join Potomac Valley Audubon Society for an evening of 'mothing' at Cool Spring Preserve, 1469 Lloyd Road, Charles Town, W.Va. on Monday, July 27 from 8-10:30 p.m.



Discover the marvelous world of moths from local moth expert Kathy Barylski. Moths are among the most diverse and successful organisms on earth, and scientists estimate there are 150,000 to more than 500,000 moth species. There is much to learn about moths, and Kathy is eager to share her knowledge and passion.

The program will begin with a talk about these marvelous creatures. The evening will continue with lightsheeting/mothing to explore the various moth species active at Cool Spring Preserve.

All ages are welcome, though youth must be accom-

panied by an adult. Pre-registration is required and limited to 12 participants.

For additional details and to register, go to <https://www.potomacaudubon.org/event/marvelous-moths-of-cool-spring-preserve-4/>.

For more information, contact Sonja Melander at sonja@potomacaudubon.org or 681-252-1387.

Cacapon Resort State Park activities

Thursday, July 9

10:30 a.m. - Making Fire Starters & Fire Starting. Meet at the nature center campfire circle. We'll learn various ways to make fire starters & do a few. Also, we'll learn various ways to start a campfire. If we get a campfire going, our reward will be marshmallows.

1 p.m. - Stream Stud. Learn about stream macroinvertebrates and how they let us know a stream's health. We'll go to a nearby stream and find macroinvertebrates, tiny fish and crayfish. Wear shoes you are willing to get dirty/wet.

2:30 p.m. - Who Done It? Discover the Mysteries of Cacapon. Become a forensic scientist and discover the mystery animal by following the clues left behind.

3 p.m. - Turtle Talk. Learn about Cacapon's common turtles and play a fun game.

3:30 p.m. - The Closer You Look. A nature & painting activity for all ages including adults.

Friday, July 10

1 p.m. - Blueberry Picking. In honor of Pick Blueberries Day, let's walk the Laurel Loop and pick berries along the way. Take your own bags/pails or use one of ours.

3 p.m. - WV Mammals. Fun facts for all ages. This WVDNR powerpoint helps us to discuss well known and lesser known mammals of WV. Pelts, taxidermy scat models, track models, some skulls and bones, and animal calls will help us to use our senses for this program.

4-6 p.m. - Meet & Greet at the Lodge. Welcome to Cacapon. The park naturalist is on site to share nature center programming and weekend events.

7 p.m. - Irish Road Bowling. Practice for tomorrow's IRB tournament. Join our volunteer and West Virginia Master Naturalist Dale for WV sport of Irish Road Bowling. Meet at the nature center. He'll divide you into groups and everyone will use a small cannonball to roll around the nature center loop. Lowest amount of throws wins.

8:30 p.m. - The Great Glow Stick Walk. Meet the naturalist outside on the North Terrace patio for this night hike on the golf course. Free glowstick bracelets, necklaces and more. Observe night sounds and evening wildlife too.

Saturday, July 11

9:30 a.m. - Fishing 101 Meet at the nature center. Grab a fishing pole and let's head to

the lake. Fishing poles & bait provided.

10 a.m. - West Virginia Irish Road Bowling Tournament. Sign up same day for this fun challenge...no prior experience required. Enter a team of four or compete individually for a trophy. 10 a.m. Sign-up/11 a.m. competition starts.

11 a.m. - Black Bear Game. Discover all about WV's state mammal while playing this fun game.

2 p.m. - Irish for a Day Tie-Dye. Make an Irish themed Cacapon T-shirt. Green, White, and Orange for Ireland's flag or colors of the rainbow for luck of the Irish.

3:30 p.m. - WV Snakes. Let's explore venomous vs. non venomous snakes of WV. See and feel some snake skin, snake bones, and replicas. We will also ID some identifying characteristics of some common snakes. Milk snakes get confused with copperheads. Can you tell the difference?

7 p.m. - Special Performance "All Aboard the Iron Horse." Songs and Stories about the History of America's Railroads by Mick Souter. The show will include numerous sing-a-longs and performances on a wide array of instruments, including banjo, fiddle, auto harp, guitar, dulcimer, and mandolin. Location: Lodge North Patio.

8:30-10 p.m. - Moth Madness. Moths are all about us day & night. Let's attract them to our blacklight. Wildlife we may see: moths, macroinvertebrate adults stages, beetles, true bugs, and neuropterans. Meet at the lodge.

Sunday, July 12

9-11:30 a.m. - Berkeley Springs State Park: 1. Critter Find: Use nets to catch critters found in the warm springs stream. 2. Mammal Pelts: See & feel WV mammal pelts. 3. Beading: Whether it's a friendship bracelet or a beading necklace, we have the materials and instructions to help guide you.

1 p.m. - Yucca Cordage. You can try your hand at Yucca bush craft cordage.

3 p.m. - Bird Bingo. Play a few games of bingo, learn some facts, and win a prize.

Monday, July 13

10 a.m. - Tai Chi. This volunteer led class will help increase balance, flexibility, and focus on connection to mind, body, & spirit. Location: lodge.

10 a.m. - Fishing 101. Meet at the nature center. Grab a fishing pole and let's head to

the lake. Fishing poles & bait provided.

1 p.m. - Stream Study. Learn about stream macroinvertebrates and how they let us know a stream's health. We'll go to a nearby stream and find macroinvertebrates, tiny fish and crayfish. Wear shoes you are willing to get dirty/wet.

2 p.m. - Wildlife Track Molds. Pelts, tracks and molds, Oh my. We'll discuss some facts about a few mammals while feeling pelts, looking at those mammal tracks and making casts of their footprints. Each person can take one cast home.

3 p.m. - Monarch Life Cycle Game. Join us for an exciting game to discover the monarch's life cycle.

Tuesday, July 14

10 a.m. - Cacapon Birds. We will first learn some information about common WV birds. Then we will walk looking for Cacapon spring birds. All ages welcome.

1 p.m. - Vultures: Nature's Clean Up Crew. Learn some unique features and behaviors of vultures. Can we see any using binoculars?

3 p.m. - Butterfly Bonanza. July and August are when most species of butterflies are present. Let's identify and take in the beauty of common WV butterflies in our Monarch Waystation at the nature center.

Wednesday, July 15

10 a.m. - Cloud Spotting. Where do WV clouds come from, how are they made, and what are the 3 main clouds? We'll make a cloud in a jar. We'll also make frost & snow. Finally, we'll go outside and cloud spot.

1 p.m. - The CCC Boys, A West Virginia Legacy. This 30 minute film shares how the Civilian Conservation Corps in the late 1930's were active with conservation projects in our WV state parks and forests. A short guided history walk to follow the video weather permitting.

2 p.m. - Pollinator Pursuit. Join us to fill out a pollinator journal and learn more about pollinators and pollination. After, we will conduct a citizen science survey to determine what lives in the garden and what flowers they are attracted to.

3 p.m. - Geology Game & Activities. Play a fun interactive geology game, learning about WV rocks, fossils, gems and geological formations. A word find of geology terms and a coloring sheet of our WV State Fossil Jeff will be provided.

7 p.m. - Geology Rocks. Join state geologist, Ken Ashton at the nature center to learn about the geology of West Virginia and the geology of Cacapon Resort State Park. Participants earn a sticker.

ARTICLES MAY BE EDITED

Articles submitted to *The Hancock News* may be edited for clarity, style and content and to conform to the newspaper's policies and protect against libel.

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Maryland forest landowners can *Lunch time!* become certified tree farmers

The Maryland Forest Service is encouraging landowners to become certified tree farmers to access resources to help them manage their land sustainably.

The Forest Service is an official co-sponsor of the American Tree Farm System (ATFS), which certifies small sustainable tree farms and works to connect tree farm owners through events and education programs.

Landowners who own between 10 and 10,000 acres of forestland are eligible to participate in the program. Many join to protect their land's long-term forest health, create a family legacy, access tax incentives, and market certified sustainable wood products.

"The gamut of experiences, forest types, and management objectives is very diverse," said Aaron Cook, a Maryland Forest Service forester. "What unites tree farmers is a shared commitment to caring for their woods and keeping them healthy for the future. I take great pride in the trust these landowners place in me as their forester."

The American Tree Farm System, a national program of the American Forest Foundation, promotes healthy forests, watersheds, and wildlife habitat through private stewardship. The program recognizes the sustainable forestry efforts of family and community forest owners.

Founded in 1941, American Tree Farm System is the nation's oldest and largest sustainable family woodland

certification system. The program also meets rigorous third-party certification standards.

Maryland currently has 964 tree farmers, including 757 certified members, representing nearly 110,000 acres of forestland.

The state's largest tree farm is the City of Frederick's municipal watershed, which spans 7,000 forested acres and helps protect the city's drinking water supply.

Maryland Forest Service staff conduct inspections, enroll landowners, and ensure forest stewardship activities align with Tree Farm Standards of Sustainability, which include:

- Commitment to sustainable forestry
- Compliance with laws
- Reforestation and afforestation efforts
- Protection of air, water, and soil
- Conservation of fish, wildlife, and biodiversity
- Forest aesthetics
- Protection of special sites

—Forest product harvests conducted according to a management plan

Benefits and Resources

"The benefits and resources associated with Tree Farm membership remain consistent across the country," Cook said. "They include professional sustainable forest certification, legislative updates affecting forest landowners, access to a forester, and a network of peers who can share successes and challenges."



Participants may also compete in the National Tree Farmer of the Year contest and display the official Tree Farm sign and certificate.

"In some states, access to a forester or assistance with drafting a forest management plan can be difficult or expensive, but not in Maryland," Cook said. "The Maryland Forest Service closely aligns with Tree Farm goals, which likely explains why Maryland continues to have one of the strongest Tree Farm programs in the country despite its relatively small size."

American Tree Farm System membership is free, but landowners must:

- Own between 10 and 10,000 acres of forestland,
- Maintain a written and implemented forest management plan that addresses forest products, water quality, wildlife habitat, soil conservation, biodiversity, and recreation opportunities,
- Enroll through Maryland's Tree Farm program.

"The best way for most landowners to become Tree

Farmers is to talk with their local forester," Cook said. "Our field staff can explain the program, guide landowners through enrollment and inspections, and help them earn that coveted Tree Farm sign."

Landowners can find local foresters on the Maryland Forest Service webpage at <https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/contacts.aspx>

General inquiries can be emailed to forest_service.dnr@maryland.gov.



Hancock's resident blue heron was patiently looking for his lunch last Thursday, July 2, along the C&O Canal along Berm Road.

"All Aboard the Iron Horse" at Cacapon Resort State Park

Cacapon Resort State Park will present "All Aboard the Iron Horse: Songs and Stories about the History of America's Railroads" on Saturday evening, July 11, at 7 p.m. This is performed by West Virginia's "Bard of Education", actor and musician, Mick Souter. The concert will take place at the North Patio of the lodge.

The show will include numerous sing-a-longs and performances on a wide array of instruments, including banjo, fiddle, auto harp, guitar, dulcimer and mandolin. The singing will be interspersed with humorous and historically based stories that set-up the songs while adding an intriguing touch of historical context to the performance.

The admission is free to the public and the event is family friendly. This is presented in connection with the observance of America250 as well as the Bicentennial of the B&O Railroad.

Souter is West Virginia's leading educational performing artist who has made over 3,000 appearances at festivals, theaters, state parks and schools throughout West Virginia and several other states. His dynamic performances and instrumental versatility



have thoroughly delighted audiences of all ages over the past 30 years.

Souter's touring musical theater takes the audience aboard this musical train excursion, from the early days of smoke belching steam locomotives to the streamlined diesel engines of today. In yet another exciting program, Souter is both the conductor and the engineer, transporting the audience through songs and stories about the heritage of America's railroads, while stoking the boiler with some heaping shovelfuls of humor, historical anecdotes and au-

dience participation! The show includes songs by Jimmy Rodgers, Woody Guthrie, Steve Goodman and the Kingston Trio, and makes stops along the way to meet the likes of John Henry, Casey Jones, Collis P Huntington, Stonewall Jackson and others who played significant roles in the story of the iron horse.

Cacapon Resort State Park is located south of Berkeley Springs on U.S. 522 at 818 Cacapon Lodge Drive.

South Morgan Volunteer Fire Department

10166 Winchester Grade Road • Berkeley Springs

CARNIVAL

Tuesday, July 14 through Saturday, July 18

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

<p>TUESDAY, JULY 14</p> <p>5 p.m. - South Morgan Games & Food Pavilion Opens</p> <p>6 p.m. - Bingo</p> <p>6-10 p.m. - Snyder's Attractions Ride All Night for One Price</p> <p>Fire Extinguisher Demonstration</p> <p>Monster Truck Rides</p> <p>7 p.m. - Ben Jamn</p> <p>WEDNESDAY, JULY 15</p> <p>5 p.m. - South Morgan Games & Food Pavilion Opens</p> <p>5-9 p.m. - Knight Rider K.I.T.T.</p> <p>6 p.m. - Bingo</p> <p>6-10 p.m. - Snyder's Attractions Ride All Night for One Price</p> <p>Fire Extinguisher Demonstration</p> <p>Monster Truck Rides</p> <p>7 p.m. - Eclipse (Journey Tribute Band)</p> <p>THURSDAY, JULY 16</p> <p>5 p.m. - South Morgan Games & Food Pavilion Opens</p> <p>6 p.m. - Bingo</p> <p>6-10 p.m. - Snyder's Attractions Ride All Night for One Price</p> <p>Fire Extinguisher Demonstration</p> <p>Monster Truck Rides</p> <p>7 p.m. - The Red Handed Band (Classic Rock)</p>	<p>FRIDAY, JULY 17</p> <p>5 p.m. - South Morgan Games & Food Pavilion Opens</p> <p>5 p.m. - Baby Contest Registration</p> <p>6 p.m. - Baby Contest</p> <p>6 p.m. - Bingo</p> <p>6-10 p.m. - Snyder's Attractions Ride All Night for One Price</p> <p>Fire Extinguisher Demonstration</p> <p>Monster Truck Rides</p> <p>7 p.m. - Dean Crawford & The Dunns River Band</p> <p>At Dark - Fireworks Display</p> <p>SATURDAY, JULY 18</p> <p>4 p.m. - South Morgan Games & Food Pavilion Opens</p> <p>4-10 p.m. - Snyder's Attractions Ride All Night for One Price</p> <p>6 p.m. - Bingo</p> <p>6:30 p.m. - WDW Pro Wrestling</p> <p>Fire Extinguisher Demonstration</p> <p>Monster Truck Rides</p> <p>7 p.m. - Promising Leith (Rock)</p> <p>NO DOGS ALLOWED</p> <p>UNLESS SERVICE CERTIFIED</p> <p>NO ALCOHOL PERMITTED</p> <p>BRING A CHAIR TO ENJOY THE BANDS</p> <p>firemascarnival.com</p>
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21

DAY

CHALLENGE

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Section II

- Sports
- School News

- Public Notices
- Classifieds
- Real Estate

Maryland state trails open to pedal-assist E-bikes with limits on speed

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources has approved new regulations to allow some pedal-assist e-bikes on multi-use trails on public lands across the state.

Under the new regulations, Class 1 pedal-assist e-bikes — those that provide motorized assistance up to 20 miles per hour — are cleared for use on public lands. The approved regulation was published in the Maryland Register in May and is now in effect.

The change is meant to welcome new user groups to public trails in state parks and boost options for those with mobility issues, while maintaining trail safety and environmental protections.

“We’re excited to formally welcome e-bikes to public trails throughout Maryland’s state park system and public lands,” said Department of Natural Resources Secretary Josh Kurtz. “These new regulations will allow more people to respectfully explore the state’s beautiful natural scenery while ensuring their e-bikes travel at safe speeds that enable them to yield to more vulnerable trail users such as hikers, horseback riders, and mountain bikers.”

The regulation covers many of the most commonly used electric bikes. E-bikes that provide assistance only when the user is pedaling, and cut out when the rider reaches 20 miles per hour, may be used on trails on state lands.

When using the trails, riders must:

- Ride safely and with respect for those around them.
- Follow posted speed limits and right of way.
- Ride only on trails where e-bikes are permitted.

“Our goal is to provide predictability and consistency in biking regulations across state lands,” said Maryland

Office of Outdoor Recreation Director Sandi Olek. “Updating our regulations to address the demand within a framework forges a clear path forward for e-bikes in Maryland, with safety in mind.”

Bicycles that have a motor that operates without pedaling or a motor that provides assistance after the e-bike has reached 20 mph are not allowed on state trails. Those e-bikes are limited to areas that are used by motor vehicles, including roads, parking lots, and areas that are specially designated for off-road vehicles, dirt bikes, and ATVs.

E-bike users who operate prohibited e-bikes, violate the speed limit, ride in a reckless manner, cause damage to property or wildlife, or travel in prohibited areas face fines and penalties ranging from \$500 on a first offense to up to a year in jail. E-bike riders who are caught operating under the influence of drugs or alcohol must appear in court and potentially face significant fines and other penalties.

Adaptive e-bikes are specialized mobility devices that are used by individuals with physical disabilities or mobility challenges.

These are permitted on state lands with the same restrictions as e-bikes that provide motorized assistance up to 20 miles per hour, but are permitted to have motors that do not require pedaling.

The Office of Outdoor Recreation adjusted its e-bike regulation proposal in response to public comment.

Commenters expressed concern about allowing e-bikes that don’t require pedaling, and allowing e-bikes that provide assistance up to 28 miles per hour given the potential for dangerous conflicts with other, more vulnerable trail users.



photo courtesy of Maryland DNR

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources received more than 60 public comments on the proposed regulation. Roughly 87% supported the proposed operational rules.

Opening up some of Maryland’s trails to e-bikes expands the state’s mountain biking community and encourages those who experience battery-powered support to hit the state’s scenic public trails.

Those who do not already have e-bikes may choose to make the switch, further stimulating the biking economy in Maryland. Biking contributed \$36.5 million to the state’s economy in 2024 according to the Bureau of Economic Analysis, boosting the outdoor recreation economy as a whole.

“Allowing e-bikes would make the trails more inclusive for everyone—older adults, people with health challenges, and those who may not have the endurance for traditional biking,” one commenter wrote. “Maryland’s trails are one of our state’s greatest treasures, and they should be available for all residents to enjoy, regardless of age or ability.”

The market research company Circana reports in a blog post on the People for Bikes website that sales of e-bikes have accelerated na-

tionally from 50,000 units in 2017 to more than 500,000 in 2022.

The new regulations will also help those with limited mobility get outside and experience Maryland’s public lands, empowering more Marylanders to explore, recreate, and bond with our beautiful natural resources.

“Our well-developed trail system is highly valued by hikers, bikers, equestrians, hunters, and other outdoor enthusiasts across the state,” Olek said. “The new e-bike regulations don’t change the rules of the road or who has the right of way on the trail. Visitors should still look out for others, familiarize themselves with yielding to more vulnerable trail users, and ride in a safe manner that respects the resource and makes it enjoyable for all.”

Cyclists should wave and greet other trail users, yield to pedestrians and equestrians, maintain a safe speed, and be aware of the needs of other users on the trail. The general motto for all Maryland trail users is “Say Hey, Give Way, and Enjoy the Day.”

More information on regulations and the accompanying trail etiquette campaign can be found on the DNR e-bike webpage at <https://dnr.maryland.gov/outdoorrec/Pages/eBike-Regs.aspx>

Resurfacing of tennis courts at Marty Snook Park completed



Washington County Parks & Recreation recently announced the completion of resurfacing and maintenance improvements at the tennis courts at Martin L. “Marty” Snook Park.

The project included full resurfacing and painting work designed to enhance playing conditions, improve safety, and extend the long-term usability of the courts for residents and visitors.

With construction now complete, the tennis courts at Marty Snook Park have officially reopened to the public. All posted closures and barriers have been removed.

Washington County Parks & Recreation also reminds the public that additional court improvement projects are still scheduled at Chestnut Grove Park, Regional Park and Pleasant Valley Park.

These ongoing and upcoming projects are part of the County’s broader effort to maintain and enhance recreational facilities throughout Washington County.

For more details contact Washington County Parks & Recreation at parcsupport@washco-md.net or 240-313-2700.

Invasive Plants: The Good, the Bad, and the Pretty



Wonder what menacing plants might be lurking in your yard? Morgan County Master Gardener, Ruth Eisenhour, will lead a free workshop on Saturday, July 11 at 10 a.m. at The Blue, 440 Fearnow Road. She will discuss some of Morgan County’s most problematic invasive plants and the pests they sustain. Find out how to identify and eradicate some of the most troublesome species and what to do to keep them from coming back. Samples will be on hand to learn how to find them in your own yard. For more information go to: www.tinyurl.com/mocomg.

photo by Ruth Eisenhour

HCC receives grant from Appalachian Regional Commission

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) recently announced approval of a grant in the amount of \$197,331 to Hagerstown Community College for “Blueprints to Success: Expanding Apprenticeship and Skilled Trades Programs.”

“The funding received from the ARC will enable the college to purchase equipment that will enhance training in the skilled trades area at the Bowman Training Center,” said Jack Drooger, HCC’s senior program manager for workforce training. “From construction registered apprenticeships to automotive/diesel programs, hundreds of students will benefit with expanded training capabilities that will make them even more job capable for area employers.”

With ARC’s investment, 274 students will use the new equipment to complete their training program and/or earn industry-recognized credentials. In addition to the ARC grant, HCC will provide matching funds in the amount of \$197,331, bringing the total project funding to \$394,662.

Appalachian Maryland faces a growing labor shortage in the construction and trades, with demand for HVAC technicians, carpenters, plumbers, and electricians expected to rise.

Through this project, HCC will purchase and install high-tech training equipment, including low voltage/alarm trainers (for electrical training), drill presses and other carpentry equipment, and an oil furnace (for HVAC training). These items will allow HCC instructors to provide students with hands-on training in these growing fields.

HCC has engaged a network of local employers who will participate in the project through curriculum development, advisory board participation, and, primarily, hosting students in registered apprenticeships in their fields of study. These partnerships will benefit the students through skills attainment and work exposure, and the employers by providing them with a pipeline of skilled employees they need to thrive.

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) is an economic development agency of the federal government and 13 state governments focusing on 423 counties across the Appalachian region. ARC’s mission is to innovate, partner, and invest to build community capacity and strengthen economic growth in Appalachia and help the region achieve socioeconomic parity with the nation. More information is available at www.arc.gov.

HCC Foundation receives grant from NACCE

The Hagerstown Community College Foundation has received a \$5,000 grant from the National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship (NACCE) through its Everyday Entrepreneur Program, Level One: Educate. The one-year grant will support entrepreneurship

education and student innovation through HCC’s David W. Fletcher Incubator + Labs.

Through the grant, HCC will provide entrepreneurship programming through credit, non-credit, or bootcamp-style learning opportunities and will host a student pitch com-

petition. The initiative is designed to help students strengthen entrepreneurial skills, develop business ideas, and gain experience presenting their concepts in a supportive, real-world setting. The grant period will continue through June 2027.

“We’re incredibly excited to bring this opportunity to our students,” said Maureen Kolb, business and culinary incubator director. “Entrepreneurship is about empowering individuals to see possibilities and act on them, and this program provides a powerful platform for students to explore their ideas, build skills, and gain confidence in a supportive environment. Through this hands-on learning and pitch competition experience, we are helping students develop ideas with the potential to contribute to the economic vitality of our community.”

NACCE is a nonprofit or-

ganization dedicated to advancing entrepreneurship education and fostering economic vitality through partnerships with community colleges, technical colleges, universities, and entrepreneurial ecosystem partners. Its Everyday Entrepreneur Program supports community colleges by providing resources, curriculum, and funding to help students develop entrepreneurial ideas and pursue business opportunities.

The David W. Fletcher Incubator + Labs serves as a hub for innovation, entrepreneurship, and business development at Hagerstown Community College. Through programming, mentorship, and access to resources, the incubator supports emerging entrepreneurs and strengthens connections between HCC and the regional business community.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS**

Estate No. 83622
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Deborah Ann Toms.

Notice is given that Bradley Poffenberger, 12247 Ashton Rd., Clear Spring, MD 21722-1903 was on June 12, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Deborah Ann Toms who died on May 26, 2026 with a will.

Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal representative or the attorney.

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 12th day of December, 2026.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Register of Wills on or before the 12th day of December, 2026.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representative or file it with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned on or before the earlier of the following dates:

(1) Six months from the date of the decedent's death, except if the decedent died before October 1, 1992, nine months from the date of the decedent's death; or

(2) Two months after the personal representative mails or otherwise delivers to the creditor a copy of this published notice or other written notice, notifying the creditor that the claim will be barred unless the creditor presents the claims within two months from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. A claim not presented or filed on or before that date, or any extension provided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be obtained from the Register of Wills.

Bradley Poffenberger
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd6-24-3th

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS**

Estate No. 83628
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Patricia Ann Osborne.

Notice is given that Jack Edward Osborne, Jr., 21617 Black Rock Rd., Hagerstown, MD 21740-1833 was on June 16, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Patricia Ann Osborne who died on May 18, 2026 with a will.

Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal representative or the attorney.

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 16th day of December, 2026.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Register of Wills on or before the 16th day of December, 2026.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representative or file it with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned on or before the earlier of the following dates:

(1) Six months from the date of the decedent's death, except if the decedent died before October 1, 1992, nine months from the date of the decedent's death; or

(2) Two months after the personal representative mails or otherwise delivers to the creditor a copy of this published notice or other written notice, notifying the creditor that the claim will be barred unless the creditor presents the claims within two months from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. A claim not presented or filed on or before that date, or any extension provided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be obtained from the Register of Wills.

Jack Edward Osborne, Jr.
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd6-24-3th

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS**

Estate No. 83612
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Doris Jean Jenkins.

Notice is given that Lelia Cacciola, 20204 Old Forge Rd., Hagerstown, MD 21742-4842 and Susan Herbst, 20204 Old Forge Rd., Hagerstown, MD 21742-4842 were on June 12, 2026 appointed Personal Representatives of the estate of Doris Jean Jenkins who died on May 25, 2026 with a will.

Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal representatives or the attorney.

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representatives shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 12th day of December, 2026.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Register of Wills on or before the 12th day of December, 2026.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representative or file it with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned on or before the earlier of the following dates:

(1) Six months from the date of the decedent's death, except if the decedent died before October 1, 1992, nine months from the date of the decedent's death; or

(2) Two months after the personal representative mails or otherwise delivers to the creditor a copy of this published notice or other written notice, notifying the creditor that the claim will be barred unless the creditor presents the claims within two months from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. A claim not presented or filed on or before that date, or any extension provided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be obtained from the Register of Wills.

Lelia Cacciola
Susan Herbst
Personal Representatives
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd6-24-3th

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS**

Estate No. 83017
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Ida Patricia Myers.

Notice is given that Krista Myers, 365 Nottingham Rd., Hagerstown, MD 21740-4513 was on June 12, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Ida Patricia Myers who died on December 1, 2025 with a will.

Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal representative or the attorney.

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 12th day of December, 2026.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Register of Wills on or before the 12th day of December, 2026.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representative or file it with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned on or before the earlier of the following dates:

(1) Six months from the date of the decedent's death, except if the decedent died before October 1, 1992, nine months from the date of the decedent's death; or

(2) Two months after the personal representative mails or otherwise delivers to the creditor a copy of this published notice or other written notice, notifying the creditor that the claim will be barred unless the creditor presents the claims within two months from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. A claim not presented or filed on or before that date, or any extension provided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be obtained from the Register of Wills.

Krista Myers
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd6-24-3th

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS**

Estate No. 83602
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Bonita Kay Cunningham.

Notice is given that Brian Scott Cunningham, 1347 Williamsport Pike, Martinsburg, WV 25404-4205 was on June 15, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Bonita Kay Cunningham who died on May 9, 2026 with a will.

Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal representative or the attorney.

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 15th day of December, 2026.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Register of Wills on or before the 15th day of December, 2026.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representative or file it with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned on or before the earlier of the following dates:

(1) Six months from the date of the decedent's death, except if the decedent died before October 1, 1992, nine months from the date of the decedent's death; or

(2) Two months after the personal representative mails or otherwise delivers to the creditor a copy of this published notice or other written notice, notifying the creditor that the claim will be barred unless the creditor presents the claims within two months from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. A claim not presented or filed on or before that date, or any extension provided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be obtained from the Register of Wills.

Brian Scott Cunningham
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd6-24-3th

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS**

Estate No. 83633
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Kenneth Robert Finkelsen.

Notice is given that Jennifer Hulvey, 5327 Concord Ct., Mount Airy, MD 21771-5860 was on June 16, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Kenneth Robert Finkelsen who died on April 15, 2026 with a will.

Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal representative or the attorney.

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 16th day of December, 2026.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Register of Wills on or before the 16th day of December, 2026.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representative or file it with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned on or before the earlier of the following dates:

(1) Six months from the date of the decedent's death, except if the decedent died before October 1, 1992, nine months from the date of the decedent's death; or

(2) Two months after the personal representative mails or otherwise delivers to the creditor a copy of this published notice or other written notice, notifying the creditor that the claim will be barred unless the creditor presents the claims within two months from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. A claim not presented or filed on or before that date, or any extension provided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be obtained from the Register of Wills.

Jennifer Hulvey
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd6-24-3th

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS**

Estate No. 83524
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Marjorie Lea Murphy.

Notice is given that Elizabeth Ann Wahl, 13638 Village Mill Dr., PO Box 417, Maugansville, MD 21767 was on June 17, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Marjorie Lea Murphy who died on March 26, 2026 with a will.

Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal representative or the attorney.

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 17th day of December, 2026.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Register of Wills on or before the 17th day of December, 2026.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representative or file it with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned on or before the earlier of the following dates:

(1) Six months from the date of the decedent's death, except if the decedent died before October 1, 1992, nine months from the date of the decedent's death; or

(2) Two months after the personal representative mails or otherwise delivers to the creditor a copy of this published notice or other written notice, notifying the creditor that the claim will be barred unless the creditor presents the claims within two months from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. A claim not presented or filed on or before that date, or any extension provided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be obtained from the Register of Wills.

Elizabeth Ann Wahl
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd7-1-3th

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS**

Estate No. 83629
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Gerald Andrew Yaukey.

Notice is given that Kevin Yaukey, 1019 Israel Creek Ct., Knoxville, MD 21758-1355 was on June 17, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Gerald Andrew Yaukey who died on May 12, 2026 with a will.

Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal representative or the attorney.

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 17th day of December, 2026.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Register of Wills on or before the 17th day of December, 2026.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representative or file it with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned on or before the earlier of the following dates:

(1) Six months from the date of the decedent's death, except if the decedent died before October 1, 1992, nine months from the date of the decedent's death; or

(2) Two months after the personal representative mails or otherwise delivers to the creditor a copy of this published notice or other written notice, notifying the creditor that the claim will be barred unless the creditor presents the claims within two months from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. A claim not presented or filed on or before that date, or any extension provided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be obtained from the Register of Wills.

Kevin Yaukey
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd7-1-3th

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS**

Estate No. 83627
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Lovetta Vaughn Lyons.

Notice is given that Keith Leroy Lyons, 11822 Peacock Trl., Hagerstown, MD 21742-4447 and Lori Ann Gearhart, 13813 Windy Hill Ln., Hagerstown, MD 21742-1434 were on June 17, 2026 appointed Personal Representatives of the estate of Lovetta Vaughn Lyons who died on May 11, 2026 with a will.

Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal representatives or the attorney.

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 17th day of December, 2026.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Register of Wills on or before the 17th day of December, 2026.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representative or file it with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned on or before the earlier of the following dates:

(1) Six months from the date of the decedent's death, except if the decedent died before October 1, 1992, nine months from the date of the decedent's death; or

(2) Two months after the personal representative mails or otherwise delivers to the creditor a copy of this published notice or other written notice, notifying the creditor that the claim will be barred unless the creditor presents the claims within two months from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. A claim not presented or filed on or before that date, or any extension provided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be obtained from the Register of Wills.

Keith Leroy Lyons
Lori Ann Gearhart
Personal Representatives
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd7-1-3th

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS**

Estate No. 83499
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Mouy Op.

Notice is given that Charles F. Gormly, Esq., 10605 Concord Street, Suite 307, Kensington, MD 20895 was on June 23, 2026 appointed personal representative of the estate of Mouy Op who died on April 18, 2024 without a will.

Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal representative or the attorney.

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 23rd day of December, 2026.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Register of Wills on or before the 23rd day of December, 2026.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representative or file it with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned on or before the earlier of the following dates:

(1) Six months from the date of the decedent's death, except if the decedent died before October 1, 1992, nine months from the date of the decedent's death; or

(2) Two months after the personal representative mails or otherwise delivers to the creditor a copy of this published notice or other written notice, notifying the creditor that the claim will be barred unless the creditor presents the claims within two months from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. A claim not presented or filed on or before that date, or any extension provided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be obtained from the Register of Wills.

Charles F. Gormly, Esq.
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd7-1-3th

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS**

Estate No. 83634
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Gladys Margarette Hoffman.

Notice is given that Peggy Shatzer, 1 S. Mont Valla Ave., Hagerstown, MD 21740-5105 and Howard Hoffman, 2289 W. Harewood Pl., Beverly Hills, FL 34465-3153 were on June 18, 2026 appointed Personal Representatives of the estate of Gladys Margarette Hoffman who died on June 7, 2026 with a will.

Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal representatives or the attorney.

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representatives shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 18th day of December, 2026.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Register of Wills on or before the 18th day of December, 2026.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representative or file it with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned on or before the earlier of the following dates:

(1) Six months from the date of the decedent's death, except if the decedent died before October 1, 1992, nine months from the date of the decedent's death; or

(2) Two months after the personal representative mails or otherwise delivers to the creditor a copy of this published notice or other written notice, notifying the creditor that the claim will be barred unless the creditor presents the claims within two months from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. A claim not presented or filed on or before that date, or any extension provided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be obtained from the Register of Wills.

Peggy Shatzer
Howard Hoffman
Personal Representatives
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd7-1-3th

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS**

Estate No. 83529
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Joseph Andrew Powell.

Notice is given that Megan Powell, 1707 Hollins St., Baltimore, MD 21223-2310 was on June 23, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Joseph Andrew Powell who died on April 25, 2026 with a will.

Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal representative or the attorney.

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 23rd day of December, 2026.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Register of Wills on or before the 23rd day of December, 2026.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representative or file it with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned on or before the earlier of the following dates:

(1) Six months from the date of the decedent's death, except if the decedent died before October 1, 1992, nine months from the date of the decedent's death; or

(2) Two months after the personal representative mails or otherwise delivers to the creditor a copy of this published notice or other written notice, notifying the creditor that the claim will be barred unless the creditor presents the claims within two months from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. A claim not presented or filed on or before that date, or any extension provided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be obtained from the Register of Wills.

Megan Powell
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd7-1-3th



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This Week's Crossword Answers

H	E	A	L	E	D	P	S	A	L	M	S		
H	A	U	L	A	G	E	A	E	R	A	T	E	D
A	B	E	C	O	N	O	M	I	C	S	M	O	
G	I	M	P	Y	T	A	P	H	E	D	I	N	
U	T	A	H	S	A	F	E	S	E	T	A		
E	S	C	T	I	L	R	I	B	C	O	T		
A	M	A	S	R	E	D	O	N	E				
C	O	R	A	L					R				

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Estate No. 83652
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Martha Mae Gosard.

Notice is given that Wayne Dennis Clever, 2805 Lysander Pl., Oklahoma City, OK 73128-5822 was on June 23, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Martha Mae Gosard who died on June 8, 2026 with a will.

Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal representative or the attorney.

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 23rd day of December, 2026.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Register of Wills on or before the 23rd day of December, 2026.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representative or file it with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned on or before the earlier of the following dates:

(1) Six months from the date of the decedent's death, except if the decedent died before October 1, 1992, nine months from the date of the decedent's death; or

(2) Two months after the personal representative mails or otherwise delivers to the creditor a copy of this published notice or other written notice, notifying the creditor that the claim will be barred unless the creditor presents the claims within two months from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. A claim not presented or filed on or before that date, or any extension provided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be obtained from the Register of Wills.

Wayne Dennis Clever
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd7-1-3th

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Estate No. 81436
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Stephen Allen.

Notice is given that Melissa Allen, 12 Marietta Ln., Falling Waters, WV 25419-4665 was on June 23, 2026 appointed personal representative of the estate of Stephen Allen who died on May 24, 2024 without a will. There was a prior small estate proceeding.

Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal representative or the attorney.

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 23rd day of December, 2026.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Register of Wills on or before the 23rd day of December, 2026.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representative or file it with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned on or before the earlier of the following dates:

(1) Six months from the date of the decedent's death, except if the decedent died before October 1, 1992, nine months from the date of the decedent's death; or

(2) Two months after the personal representative mails or otherwise delivers to the creditor a copy of this published notice or other written notice, notifying the creditor that the claim will be barred unless the creditor presents the claims within two months from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. A claim not presented or filed on or before that date, or any extension provided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be obtained from the Register of Wills.

Melissa Allen
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd7-1-3th

PUR-1827 SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT Auto-Cad software, Updates and Upgrades at the Division of Emergency Services

On June 9, 2026, the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County, Maryland awarded a sole source procurement for Auto-Cad software, Updates and Upgrades at the Division of Emergency Services in the amount of \$109,651.26 from ESO Solutions, Inc. of Dallas, TX.

This procurement is permitted under Section 1.106.2. (a)(1) (2) of the Code of the Public Local Laws of Washington County, Maryland stating that a sole source procurement is permissible when (1) only one source exists that meets the County's requirements and (2) The compatibility of equipment, accessories, or replacement parts is the paramount consideration. Publication of this notice is in compliance with Section 1.106.2.(e)(1) & (2) (1) of the Code of the Public Local Laws of Washington County, Maryland.

By Authority of:
Brandi J. Kentner
Procurement Director
7-8-1th

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Estate No. 83675
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Wayne Edward Monn.

Notice is given that Melissa Kay Monn, 10015 Beaver Creek Church Road, Hagerstown, MD 21740 was on June 29, 2026 appointed personal representative of the estate of Wayne Edward Monn who died on May 19, 2026 without a will.

Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal representative or the attorney.

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 29th day of December, 2026.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Register of Wills on or before the 29th day of December, 2026.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representative or file it with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned on or before the earlier of the following dates:

(1) Six months from the date of the decedent's death, except if the decedent died before October 1, 1992, nine months from the date of the decedent's death; or

(2) Two months after the personal representative mails or otherwise delivers to the creditor a copy of this published notice or other written notice, notifying the creditor that the claim will be barred unless the creditor presents the claims within two months from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. A claim not presented or filed on or before that date, or any extension provided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be obtained from the Register of Wills.

Melissa Kay Monn
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd7-8-3th

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Estate No. 83671
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Patrick James Carpegna.

Notice is given that Andrew Scott Carpegna, 605 Virginia Ave., Hagerstown, MD 21740-6250 was on June 29, 2026 appointed personal representative of the estate of Patrick James Carpegna who died on June 9, 2026 without a will.

Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal representative or the attorney.

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 29th day of December, 2026.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Register of Wills on or before the 29th day of December, 2026.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representative or file it with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned on or before the earlier of the following dates:

(1) Six months from the date of the decedent's death, except if the decedent died before October 1, 1992, nine months from the date of the decedent's death; or

(2) Two months after the personal representative mails or otherwise delivers to the creditor a copy of this published notice or other written notice, notifying the creditor that the claim will be barred unless the creditor presents the claims within two months from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. A claim not presented or filed on or before that date, or any extension provided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be obtained from the Register of Wills.

Andrew Scott Carpegna
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd7-8-3th

Michael G. Day, ESQ.
Michael G. Day & Associates, PC
10715 Downsville Pike
PO Box 889
Hagerstown, MD 21740

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Estate No. 83665
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Janet Snyder.

Notice is given that Karen Dillard, 13121 Hepplewhite Cir., Hagerstown, MD 21742-1709 was on June 26, 2026 appointed personal representative of the estate of Janet Snyder who died on June 5, 2026 with a will.

Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal representative or the attorney.

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 26th day of December, 2026.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Register of Wills on or before the 26th day of December, 2026.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representative or file it with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned on or before the earlier of the following dates:

(1) Six months from the date of the decedent's death, except if the decedent died before October 1, 1992, nine months from the date of the decedent's death; or

(2) Two months after the personal representative mails or otherwise delivers to the creditor a copy of this published notice or other written notice, notifying the creditor that the claim will be barred unless the creditor presents the claims within two months from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. A claim not presented or filed on or before that date, or any extension provided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be obtained from the Register of Wills.

Karen Dillard
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd7-8-3th

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Estate No. 83643
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Diane Romaine Clifford.

Notice is given that Wayne Dean Clifford, 1323 W. Church St., Hagerstown, MD 21740-3502 was on June 25, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Diane Romaine Clifford who died on May 16, 2026 with a will.

Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal representative or the attorney.

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 25th day of December, 2026.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Register of Wills on or before the 25th day of December, 2026.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representative or file it with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned on or before the earlier of the following dates:

(1) Six months from the date of the decedent's death, except if the decedent died before October 1, 1992, nine months from the date of the decedent's death; or

(2) Two months after the personal representative mails or otherwise delivers to the creditor a copy of this published notice or other written notice, notifying the creditor that the claim will be barred unless the creditor presents the claims within two months from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. A claim not presented or filed on or before that date, or any extension provided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be obtained from the Register of Wills.

Wayne Dean Clifford
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd7-8-3th

Jeanne F. Singer, ESQ.
864 Jefferson Blvd.
Hagerstown, MD 21740

SMALL ESTATE NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Estate No. 83665
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Andrew Wells Ridenour.

Notice is given that Karen C. Ridenour, 21856 Boonsboro Mountain Rd., Boonsboro, MD 21713-1803 was on June 29, 2026 appointed personal representative of the small estate of Andrew Wells Ridenour who died on May 1, 2026 with a will.

Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal representative or the attorney.

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment shall file their objections with the Register of Wills within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. All persons having an objection to the probate of the will shall file their objections with the Register of Wills within six months after the date of publication of this notice.

All persons having claims against the decedent must serve their claims on the undersigned personal representative or file them with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned on or before the earlier of the following dates:

(1) Six months from the date of the decedent's death, except if the decedent died before October 1, 1992, nine months from the date of the decedent's death; or

(2) Thirty days after the personal representative mails or otherwise delivers to the creditor a copy of this published notice or other written notice, notifying the creditor that the claims will be barred unless the creditor presents the claim within thirty days from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. Any claim not served or filed within that time, or any extension provided by law, is unenforceable thereafter.

Karen C. Ridenour
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd7-8-1thn

SMALL ESTATE NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Estate No. 83672
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF James Baffour Akowuah.

Notice is given that Mercy Baffour Akowuah, 18211 Brownstone Pl., Hagerstown, MD 21740-9721 was on June 29, 2026 appointed personal representative of the small estate of James Baffour Akowuah who died on January 24, 2026 without a will.

Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal representative or the attorney.

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment shall file their objections with the Register of Wills within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. All persons having an objection to the probate of the will shall file their objections with the Register of Wills within six months after the date of publication of this notice.

All persons having claims against the decedent must serve their claims on the undersigned personal representative or file them with the Register of Wills with a copy to the undersigned on or before the earlier of the following dates:

(1) Six months from the date of the decedent's death, except if the decedent died before October 1, 1992, nine months from the date of the decedent's death; or

(2) Thirty days after the personal representative mails or otherwise delivers to the creditor a copy of this published notice or other written notice, notifying the creditor that the claims will be barred unless the creditor presents the claim within thirty days from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. Any claim not served or filed within that time, or any extension provided by law, is unenforceable thereafter.

Mercy Baffour Akowuah
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd7-8-1thn

HOW TO CONTACT REPRESENTATIVES MARYLAND

Information about the Maryland General Assembly can be found at mgaleg.maryland.gov.
The following lists representatives and how to contact them:

GOVERNOR WES MOORE (D)
Address: 100 State Circle, Annapolis, MD 21401-1925
Phone: 1-800-811-8336

DELEGATE TERRY BAKER (R)
Allegany & Washington Counties
District IC

Office: 323 Lowe House Office Building
6 Bladen Street, Annapolis, MD 21401
Phone: 410-841-3321
Toll Free in Maryland: 1-800-492-7122 Ext. 3321
Email: terry.baker@house.state.md.us

SENATOR MIKE MCKAY (R)
Allegany, Garrett & Washington Counties
District 1

Local Office: 100 N. Mechanic St., Cumberland, MD 21502
240-362-7040
Annapolis Office: 416 James Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street, Annapolis, MD 21401
410-841-3565
Email: mike.mckay@senate.state.md.us

CONGRESSWOMAN APRIL McCLAIN DELANEY (D)
U.S. House of Representatives
6th District

1130 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515
Telephone: 202-225-2721

U.S. SENATOR ANGELA D. ALSOBROOKS (D)
B40E Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510
Phone: 202-224-4524

U.S. SENATOR CHRIS VAN HOLLEN (D)
Address: 730 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510
Phone: 202-224-4654
Local Office: 32 W. Washington St., Suite 203, Hagerstown, MD 21740
Phone: 301-797-2826

PENNSYLVANIA

Both Houses of the Pennsylvania Assembly reconvene in January, and meet year-round, with intermittent breaks. Pennsylvania residents may call 1-717-787-2342 for information about bills pending before either House. Or, residents may contact the representative at the district office in their area at the following locations:

GOVERNOR JOSH SHAPIRO (D)
Address: 508 Main Capitol Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120
Phone: 717-787-2500 Text: 717-788-8990
Email: Governor@pa.gov

CONGRESSMAN JOHN JOYCE (R)
U.S. House of Representatives, 13th District
2102 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2431

REPRESENTATIVE JESSE TOPPER (R)
Fulton County, District 78
Bedford Office: 133 South Richard Street, Bedford, PA 15522
Phone: 814-623-9097 Fax: 814-623-6633
Email: jtopper@pahousegop.com
Capitol Office: 423 Main Capitol Bldg., P.O. Box 202078, Harrisburg, PA 17120-2078
Phone: 717-787-7076

STATE SENATOR JUDY WARD (R)
Fulton County, District 30
Capitol Office: Senate Box 203030
362 Main Capitol, Harrisburg, PA 17120-3030
Phone: 1-717-787-5490
Local Office: 201 Lincoln Way West, Suite 102, McConnellsburg, PA 17233
Phone: 717-485-3616

PRESIDENT

PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP (R)
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, DC 20500
Switchboard: 202-456-1414
To send an email, go to: www.whitehouse.gov/contact

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	7	2				1		
5								6
3						5	8	7
6				3	4			1
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			9	1				6
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Level: Intermediate

The objective is to fill a 9x9 grid with digits so that each column, each row and each of the nine 3x3 sub-grids that compose the grid contains all of the digits from 1 to 9.
Answer elsewhere in paper.

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It's carnival time!

Fireman's Carnival arrives at South Morgan next Tuesday, July 14

Morgan County's fireman's carnival will return to town earlier than usual this year, with South Morgan Volunteer Fire Department kicking off its 5th year of the event next Tuesday, July 14. The carnival runs through Saturday evening, July 18 at the fire company grounds on Winchester Grade Road.

While the first four years brought rides, games and food in late August, this year the carnival fun arrives smack dab in the middle of summer.

When carnival ride company Snyder Attractions offered South Morgan the chance to bring the carnival to town earlier, the fire company seized the opportunity. The change helps alleviate scheduling conflicts with school activities in late August, say carnival organizers. They're hopeful the timing will suit locals and visitors better.

Free entry, entertainment
Entry to the carnival and parking at the carnival grounds are free.

Entertainment is provided to the community through sponsorships from local and area businesses.

This year, free nightly entertainment at the bandstand includes:

—Ben Jamn on Tuesday at 7 p.m.

—Eclipse: The Ultimate Journey Tribute band on Wednesday at 7 p.m.

—The Red Handed Band on Thursday at 7 p.m.

—Dean Crawford & The Dunns River Band on Friday at 7 p.m.

—Promising Leith on Saturday at 7 p.m.

Guests can bring a chair to listen to the music for free at the fire company stage.

Other carnival events include visits from Smokey Bear and a guest appearance from Amelia Bolden, the West Virginia University Mountaineer Alternative Mascot on opening night, July 14.

On Friday, organizers will hold the Annual Baby Contest at 6 p.m. Registration of youngsters starts at 5 p.m. Age divisions range from 0-6 months to 36 months. Categories will include cutest smile, prettiest eyes, most photogenic and chubbiest cheeks.

Friday night will bring free fireworks to the carnival grounds, starting at 8:30 p.m.

WDVA will bring its pro-wrestling action to South Morgan as the "Clash at the Carnival" on Saturday, July 18 at 6:30 p.m. for a free show.

Raffles & games

Three special items will be raffled off during the carnival, with winners drawn on Saturday night. Tickets can be purchased to win a hand-crafted quilt made by Jennifer Waugh, a custom wooden bench handmade and donated

by the 304 Wild Hogs and a lottery ticket board with \$50 cash bill and \$150 worth of scratch-offs.

T&K Amusements will bring their carnival games for paying players.

The fire company will run its dime toss booth, dunk booth, tip jar sales and

nightly bingo from 6 to 9 p.m. outside under the tent.

Rides & special treats

Those who want to ride carnival rides can purchase a ride-all-night armband or individual tickets for age-appropriate rides. Rides start running at 6 p.m. Tuesday



Games, food, rides and entertainment are on offer at next week's South Morgan Fireman's Carnival.

through Friday. On Saturday, rides will open at 4 p.m.

Pre-event ticket sales are available through July 13 at firemanscarnival.com. Tickets will be sold every night at the carnival.

The carnival is also bringing Monster Truck rides all five nights, as the public gets a chance to ride in the back of a mammoth special vehicle for a special fee.

Also new at the carnival this year is K.I.T.T., the specially-equipped car from the 1980s TV show Knight Rider. Fans will be able to see the vehicle up close and take photos on Wednesday from 5 to 9 p.m.

South Morgan will also host nightly fire extinguisher demonstrations.

Time to eat

Hungry visitors will have ample carnival food vendors to meet every taste. Snyder Attractions will bring their specialty offerings among the rides.

South Morgan Volunteer Fire Company's food pavilion will be open nightly at 5 p.m. with hamburgers, hot dogs, French fries, nachos, drinks, ice cream and more. The pavilion will open at 4 p.m. on Saturday.

To stay up to date on carnival happenings, follow the South Morgan Volunteer Fire Department on social media at <https://www.facebook.com/SouthMorganFireDept>

The carnival is held at 10166 Winchester Grade Road south of Berkeley Springs.

Double the music this weekend with the Morgan Arts Council

Summer is in full swing, and the Morgan Arts Council (MAC) welcomes everyone to experience another weekend of free live music with two outstanding performances as part of the 2026 MAC Summer Concert Series.

Kick off the weekend on Friday, July 10, at the Ice House for the third installment of the Friday Night MAC Summer Series Concerts on the Charlotte's Café Garden Stage, featuring the powerful sounds of Proverbs Rootz. Doors open at 6 p.m., with music beginning at 7 p.m. Admission is free, and guests should enter through the Mercer Street entrance.

Known as the only band in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area dedicated to preserving the authentic sound of Rasta Roots Reggae, Proverbs Rootz delivers an uplifting blend of soulful rhythms, conscious lyrics, and positive energy. Their music celebrates unity, hope, and community, creating an unforgettable concert experience that will have audiences dancing and singing along all evening.

The music continues on Saturday, July 11, as the Saturday Concerts in the Park series welcomes The Weber Brothers to Berkeley Springs State Park for a 5:30 p.m. performance.

With decades of experience



Proverbs Rootz

entertaining audiences across North America, The Weber Brothers are celebrated for their outstanding musicianship, soaring harmonies, and electrifying stage presence. Blending rock, roots, folk, and Americana, the Ontario-based brothers have earned a reputation as one of Canada's premier live acts. Their hometown performances are always a crowd favorite, showcasing the remarkable chemistry and musicianship that have made them beloved by fans for years.

Whether you're relaxing under the trees at Berkeley

Springs State Park or experience the intimate atmosphere of the Ice House, these free concerts offer the perfect opportunity to gather with family, friends, and neighbors to celebrate the joy of live music.

Take a lawn chair or a favorite blanket, settle in, and experience two unforgettable evenings filled with incredible performances, great food, and community spirit.

Mark your calendars and join us for a weekend of music you won't want to miss.

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FOR SALE

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APPLIANCES - Sales & service for the Tri-State Area. Gordon's Garage & Appliance. Needmore, Pa. 717-573-2590. Prompt & reasonable. 11/14- tfh

GLEN'S Septic Service LLC, Tri-State Area. MD. License 094, PA. DET 99027. 301-491-2078 or Clayton Smith 301-992-2026. 4/8- tfmh

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YARD SALES

FRIDAY 7/10, Saturday 7/11, Sunday 7/12, 8 a.m. - ? 13944 Heavenly Acres Ridge, Hancock. Moving & downsizing. too much to list!! pd7/8-1mh

28 Melody Lane, Pious Ridge, Berkeley Springs. Household items, holiday decorations, Jr clothing, bedding, microwave, toys. July 9 and 10, 8 to 4. Rain or shine. pd7/8-1mh

THREE family yard sale, 88 Sherrill Place, Berkeley Springs, July 10, 8-4. Kitchen items, holiday decorations, books, men and women clothing, luggage, folding chairs, rugs, sheets, house decorations and many more items. pd7/8-1mh

COACH VACANCY

The Southern Fulton School District Is Seeking Applications Until the Position is Filled, for a JUNIOR HIGH HEAD BASEBALL COACH For the 2026-2027 School Year

Contact MaryAnn Johnson in the district office for an application, 717-294-2203.

Completed Applications and Clearances Should Be Returned To: Jamie Bivens, Athletic Director Southern Fulton School District 13083 Buck Valley Road Warfordsburg, PA 17267

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The Southern Fulton School District Is Seeking Applications Until the Position is Filled, for a JUNIOR HIGH GIRLS ASSISTANT BASKETBALL COACH For the 2026-2027 School Year

Contact MaryAnn Johnson in the district office for an application, 717-294-2203.

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HELP WANTED

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is seeking an energetic, compassionate individual to plan and lead activities that promote the physical, social and emotional well-being of older adults

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APPLY IN PERSON: SENIOR LIFE SERVICES OF MORGAN COUNTY 106 Sand Mine Road, Suite 1 Berkeley Springs, WV 25411 304-258-3096

APPLY ONLINE: <https://slsmc.org/in-home-care/careers/> EMAIL: tammy.director@slsmc.org EOE

COACH VACANCY

The Southern Fulton School District Is Seeking Applications Until the Position is Filled, for a VARSITY ASSISTANT BASEBALL COACH For the 2026-2027 School Year

Contact MaryAnn Johnson in the district office for an application, 717-294-2203.

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HOROSCOPES

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CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20
Capricorn, keep an open mind so you can discover new experiences. You don't have to completely reinvent yourself, but make a concerted effort to be open to new ideas.

CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, there is no time for daydreaming right now. You will be tasked with managing multiple projects in the days ahead. Remain focused.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18
The horizon is clear and you have all of the information you need to navigate what life is throwing at you right now, Aquarius. Keep the faith that you are on the right path.

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23
Are you getting pummeled by obstacles, Leo? It could be that you need to set aside more time to yourself to complete the tasks expected of you. You also may need to ask for help.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20
Pisces, share your experiences and feelings with someone close to you. Let your feelings out and express your gratitude to the person who lends a listening ear.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22
Virgo, an ability to communicate clearly is among your most notable assets. If you have thoughts about explaining your ideas to others, keep reinforcing your goals.

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20
There is nothing that you cannot handle this week. Expect to juggle a lot at the same time, but somehow you make it look easy. A calm demeanor is a big asset.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23
Your projects will take some time to set up. A patient approach will pay off as results begin to materialize. Your ability to multi-task will drive you forward.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21
This week will be fairly quiet for you, Taurus. You are likely to connect with a task and dig down deep until it is completed. If someone tries to persuade you to take a break, you likely won't.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22
Life isn't an individual sport, Scorpio. You don't have to do everything alone. Interact with others as much as you can this week.

GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21
Many forces are working together to provide insight, Gemini. Take a step back and consider all of the variables in play. The solution may be simpler than you can imagine.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21
Sagittarius, when a person has found his or her path, naturally the desire is to start walking down it. You are eager to get started on something that has been on your mind.

Bowles House re-opening could take into summer of 2027

by Geoff Fox

Earlier this year, Sinclair Hamilton gave town officials a bit of news that the historic Bowles House along the C&O Canal could possibly be reopened to public visitation with limited hours after inspections had been done at the site.

Those inspections have been done and from the looks of it, Dan Murphy said the Bowles House won't be inviting people in until next summer at the earliest.

In June, Murphy told town officials the house has fallen into disrepair and the Historical Society has been trying to find a way for the C&O Canal National Historical Park to do some maintenance, otherwise the house would deteriorate like old buildings do.

He said the Historical Society was ready to enter into an agreement with the National

Park Service to open the Bowles House on a very limited time frame.

Citing not having enough manpower, Murphy told town officials about the Colonial Dames of America who keep the Abner Cloud House in Washington D.C. open one day a month, which is enough for the National Park Service to keep that building open.

Murphy said in a recent inspection of the Bowles House, the Park Service found a moisture problem in the floors which have started to rot.

"There's not a safe room for us to walk into to look it over," Murphy said, repeating what he was told by the National Park Service.

It will be fiscal year 2027 before anything can be done at the Bowles House, Murphy said.

The Park Service maintenance person Murphy was

talking to mentioned there had been budget cuts from the current administration to all the park and there isn't enough money to do anything.

Murphy told town officials there had been plans to do some pickin' on the porch at the Bowles House with support from both the National Park Service and Hancock Historical Society but the issues at the house put a stop to that.

"It's not going to be happening this year at all," Murphy said.

Mayor Roland Lanehart, Jr. said hopefully when 2027 rolls around, the Park Service won't be saying the problems are too bad and they can't do the repairs.

"The longer they put it off, the worse it's going to get," he said.



Earlier this year, there was talk about the Bowles House reopening to the public as a visitors center along the C&O Canal tow path in Hancock. photo by Geoff Fox/The Hancock News

Rotary Flags

(from front)

This year, we proudly displayed 313 Flags for Heroes.

A master list of all dedications has been published on the Hancock Rotary Club Facebook page. While the list does not specify whether each flag is dedicated in memory of or in honor of someone, sponsors indicate that distinction when they purchase a flag, and it is printed on each individual dedication tag.

Most importantly, this display is inclusive. The flags are not limited to active military members or veterans. They honor anyone who has touched your life in a meaningful way—a family member, friend, mentor, teacher, first responder, healthcare worker, neighbor, or anyone deserving of recognition. Every flag represents a unique story and a special person.

What many people don't see is the tremendous amount of work that takes place behind the scenes. Before the display is even installed, we coordinate with the Town of Hancock, and this year Dan Murphy took the lead on that responsibility.

Throughout the month of June, club members promote the fundraiser and collect sponsorships.

Carolyn Clingerman spends countless hours carefully ironing every flag to remove wrinkles, attaching each dedication tag, and ensuring that when multiple flags are sponsored by one



Lining up more than 300 flags takes many hands each year as Rotary members set up the annual display. photo by Geoff Fox

family, they remain together so they can be displayed in the same row. Carolyn and I make many trips back and forth between her office and mine, checking every tag, every list, and every detail to ensure everything is accurate before the flags are ever placed in the park.

But the work doesn't end there. The Tuesday after Independence Day, Melinda Golden handles removing the display. It truly is a team ef-

fort. That's what Rotarians do—we Unite for Good.

Seeing all 313 flags waving together is a beautiful sight, day or night. More importantly, it's the stories and the people they represent that make this project so meaningful.

I'd like to say thank you to everyone who sponsored a flag, volunteered your time, and continues to support this cherished Hancock Rotary Club tradition.

People Told Us...

—MOM JOKED: What's a library's favorite thing to grill during the summer? A shhhh-kabob.

—WEATHER LORE: Whatever the weather brings on July 15, St. Swithin's Day, it will stay for the next 40 days. St. Swithin, a Saxon Bishop of Winchester, Eng-

land, is also considered a patron saint of apples. Old lore says no apples should be picked or eaten before July 15, his feast day.

—Veteran in crisis? The Veterans Crisis Line can be reached at any time by dialing 988 and pressing 1 or texting 838255.

—Charitable contributions of food and money to help needy local people can be sent to the Interfaith Service Coalition, 116 West High Street, Hancock, MD 21750.

—Tell our advertisers you read about them in *The Hancock News*.

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