

2026
WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 2

75¢

The Hancock News

Hancock, MD 21750

Established 1914 – Our 112th Year

Volume 113, Number 35

Hancock at a Glance

Weather

Wed. 88/70
9/2
30% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Northwest winds.

Thurs. 88/69
9/3
50% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Southwest winds.

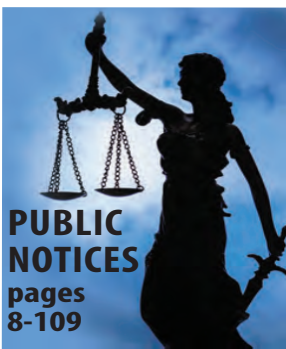
Fri. 87/66
9/4
30% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny.

Sat. 81/61
9/5
20% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny.

Sun. 79/60
9/6
Mostly sunny with a slight chance of showers Sunday night.

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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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Online threat triggers police response to Hancock schools

by Geoff Fox

Classes at schools in Hancock have been in session for one week and already there has been a social media post threat referencing the school.

According to a social media post by the Washington County Sheriff's Office, police concluded an investigation yesterday morning, Tuesday, September 1, into a reported post on social media making threats connected to the schools.

Throughout the night, deputies and investigators worked to identify the individual responsible for the threatening post.

Police said investigators determined the individual

had reposted a social media message originally circulate in 2019 as a prank.

Investigators determined the post did not represent a legitimate threat to the schools or community, the Sheriff's Office said in their post.

Although the matter was resolved, the Sheriff's Office and Hancock Police Department maintained an additional law enforcement presence at area schools Tuesday morning as a precaution and to provide reassurance to students, staff, and the community.

The Sheriff's Office said they understand the concern messages of that nature can create within the community

and all reports involving potential threats to the schools are taken seriously and thoroughly investigated.

"We appreciate the cooperation of Washington County Public Schools and the Hancock Police Department throughout the investigation," the Sheriff's Office said in the post. "We also remind the public to rely on information from official sources and to avoid sharing unverified information or rumors on social media."

The Sheriff's Office also thanked the community for their patience and cooperation as they worked to thoroughly investigate the matter.

Pop on over!



The Hancock News offices have moved two doors over! Last week, our offices shifted to 101 West Main Street, where you can find an office staff member on Mondays and Wednesdays, 9 a.m. to 12 noon, and our reporter Geoff Fox. There's still a secure drop box for news items, ads or subscription payments available 24/7 near the front door. You can also make an appointment to meet with us for printing, advertising or news sharing. Call 301-678-6255, email us at news@hancocknews.us or call The Morgan Messenger at 304-258-1800.

Halloween Parade is creeping up, time to plan entry



The Hancock Rotary is preparing for the 79th annual Halloween Parade on October 28. File photo from previous parade.

by Geoff Fox

The Hancock Rotary's 79th annual Halloween Parade is coming up at the end of October and the public is asked to consider what entry they might like to add to the regional tradition.

The parade will be held Wednesday, October 28, beginning at 7 p.m. A rain date is the following night, Thursday, October 29.

The parade, which has become a tradition, not only in Hancock, but around the tri-

state area, highlights floats, marching units, antique autos, civic organizations, local businesses, costumed marchers, Girl Scouts, Scouting America, and flag football and cheerleaders.

To participate, you have to register by contacting Autumn Williamson at 443-532-4084 or autumn_williamson@hotmail.com.

Cash prizes are available. The deadline for entries is October 19.

Council votes to heat & cool Girl Scout meeting rooms in Town Hall, upgrade Kirkwood restroom units

by Geoff Fox

Town officials last month agreed to make meeting rooms on the second floor of Town Hall more comfortable for those who use them regularly in all seasons.

Council members had heard how the Girl Scouts room on the second floor of the community center needs an air conditioning unit and heater, but in August they heard directly from Girl Scouts representatives about the need.

Tammy Fox, who has been a Girl Scouts leader in Hancock for 23 years, came before town officials to fully explain what was being requested.

The second floor rooms the Girl Scouts use serve not only Hancock youth and adults, but also those from other Washington County towns, Morgan County and Southern Fulton area, Fox explained.

She told officials she is someone who has seen firsthand the difference a safe,



Heating and air conditioning units will be added to the two rooms the Girl Scouts occupy in Town Hall so they can be used comfortably year-round. photo by Geoff Fox

reliable meeting place can make for young people in the community.

Over the years, the Town of Hancock has allowed the Girl Scouts to use a room on the second floor of the community center as a meeting space.

"We are extremely grateful for that support," she said.

Fox said she was asking

the town to invest in maintaining the room, specifically making sure there is adequate heat and air conditioning in that particular room.

"This might seem like a small request, but for our Girl Scouts it is incredibly important," Fox added.

see AC UPGRADES
page 6

Town addresses unauthorized fire hydrant use

by Geoff Fox

The Town of Hancock is asking residents to keep an eye out for contractors or companies connecting to the fire hydrants in town without authorization.

In a social media post on Thursday, August 27, the town said each summer there are individuals drawing water without permission and without paying for the usage.

Only emergency personnel and licensed operators, usually town employees, are legally permitted to operate the fire hydrants.

Unauthorized use is not only theft, it's also a serious public safety concern.

Improper hydrant operation can damage equipment, reduce water pressure needed for fire response, and, if a check valve is not used, can even introduce contamination into the town's water system.

see FIRE HYDRANTS
page 6



The town has asked people to contact Town Hall or Hancock Police if they notice anyone who is not a town employee or firefighter using a hydrant in town. This comes after someone was caught using a hydrant in town without permission last week.

Early Deadline For Sept. 9 Issue

The Hancock News will be closed Monday, September 7 in observance of Labor Day.

In order to meet the deadline, we must ask that news items and advertisements for the September 9 issue be in by noon Friday, September 4.

Hancock Police Report 301-678-5633



Hancock Police report the following arrests and incidents from the week of August 24-30:

August 24
Traffic direction, East High Street. Funeral detail.

Assist Washington County Sheriff's Office, first block Brent Street. Custody issue.

Traffic enforcement, Hancock area. Ten stops.

August 25
Traffic enforcement, Hancock area. Four stops.

Traffic complaint, Fleming Court area. Vehicle fled, unable to locate.

August 26
Traffic enforcement, Hancock area. Five stops.

Suspicious person, 200 block West Main Street. Both subjects checked okay and advised.

August 27
Theft, Whispering Wind Road. Company stealing water from hydrant. Report to follow.

Traffic enforcement, Hancock area. One stop.

August 28
Service to advise, 100 block West High Street. Subject advised.

Service to advise, first block Brent Street. Subject advised.

Disorderly conduct, 200 block Old Rt. 40. Subject advised.

Traffic enforcement, Hancock area. One stop.

August 29
Theft reported, Widmeyer Park. Theft of a cellphone. Report taken.

Accident, personal, Rt. 522/West Main Street. Information exchanged.

Traffic complaint, Pennsylvania Avenue. Motorcycle at high speed. Unable to locate.

August 30
Suspicious person first block East Main Street. Unable to locate subject.

Suspicious person first block West Main Street. Unable to locate subject.

911 hang-up, 200 block Pennsylvania Avenue. Accidental.

CDS violation, 200 block South Street. Unable to locate.

Three sentenced for trafficking large quantities of Methamphetamine

Methamphetamine trafficking in the Northern District of West Virginia has sent three people to federal prison for decades, announced U.S. Attorney Matthew L. Harvey.

Dustin Thomas Socks, 43, of Hagerstown, Md., was sentenced to 150 months in prison. Socks, also known as "Dutch," was convicted following a long term drug trafficking investigation spanning from Washington County, Md., to Berkeley County, W.Va. Investigators documented multiple sales of methamphetamine and cocaine base by Socks. Throughout the investigation, Socks coordinated drug deals across state lines and repeatedly met for sales at locations in Hagerstown, Md. Socks has multiple prior drug convictions.

Mercedes Danielle Waye, 33, of Moorefield, W.Va., was sentenced to 60 months in prison for trafficking methamphetamine in Hampshire County. U.S. Postal Inspection Service personnel intercepted a parcel containing more than 430 grams of high purity methamphetamine addressed to Waye at a Romney, W.Va. address. Waye and co-defendant Charles Muffley, III, attempted to pick up the package the following day and was detained. Searches of Waye's and Muffley's vehicles and belongings uncovered additional methamphetamine, drug paraphernalia, digital scales, and multiple cellular devices. Muffley was convicted of his crimes at trial in March 2026 and is scheduled for sentencing in November 2026.

Alvie William Woods, 64, was sentenced to 36 months in prison. U.S. Postal Inspection Service personnel intercepted a suspicious USPS Priority Mail parcel and obtained a search warrant. Inside the package, officers found nearly two pounds of methamphetamine. The parcel had been mailed from Moreno Valley, Calif., and was addressed to "K. Myers" at a Flatwoods residence. Woods and co-defendant Kelly Myers arrived to retrieve the package and were arrested. Investigators later determined that Woods had received additional methamphetamine shipments at his home from the same California address. Myers was sentenced on August 5, 2026, to 12 months in prison for her role in the scheme.

Assistant U.S. Attorneys Lara Omps-Botteicher, Kyle Kane, and Andrew Cogar prosecuted the cases on behalf of the government. Investigative agencies include the Eastern Panhandle Drug Task Force, a HIDTA-funded initiative; The Federal Bureau of Investigation; the Drug Enforcement Administration; the Potomac Highlands Drug Task Force, a HIDTA-funded initiative; the Hampshire County Sheriff's Office; and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service.

These cases are a part of Operation Take Back America a nationwide initiative that marshals the full resources of the Department of Justice to achieve the total elimination of cartels and transnational criminal organizations (TCOs), protect our communities from the perpetrators of violent crime, and repel the invasion of illegal immigration.

U.S. District Judge Gina M. Groh presided over the Socks and Waye sentences. Chief U.S. District Judge Thomas S. Kleeh presided over the Woods sentencing.

South Morgan Yard Party returns for Labor Day

A decades-old tradition in the southern end of Morgan County is returning this Labor Day weekend. South Morgan Volunteer Fire Company's Annual Yard Party will be held on Saturday, September 5 starting at 1 p.m.

Ham and chicken dinners will be served from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. The fire company's food pavilion will also be open for concessions.

Live music will begin at 1 p.m. with Steve Keith & Lost River followed by All Grassed Up from 6 to 9 p.m.

A new "Touch a Truck" event will begin at 1 p.m., letting kids of all ages explore and learn about the working trucks in the community. A Maryland State Trooper helicopter will be among the apparatus to visit the fire station during the event. Trooper 5 will land at 3 p.m., say event organizers.

Firefighter games of skill will start at 4:30 p.m. The "Battle of the Barrel" will pit firefighter teams against one another to use their hose skills in the competition to ring the bell with the barrel.



A Live Auction of donated items will begin at 6:30 p.m., including many hand-crafted items from local artisans.

All events will take place at the South Morgan fire station, located at 10166 Winchester Grade Road in Berkeley Springs.

The Yard Party has been presented by the fire company for decades. It was integrated into the Fireman's Carnival for the last four years. Since the carnival moved to earlier in the summer this year, the fire company decided to bring the tradition back as a stand-alone event for Labor Day weekend.

Event updates can be found on the fire company's social media page.

Buck Valley Park hosts festival

Buck Valley Park will hold a live concert and festival on Saturday, September 19, from 4-8:30 p.m.

Music will be by Double Barrel.

There will be food, carnival games and prizes.

Take a chair or sit in the pavilion.

The event is to benefit the Buck Valley Park care and maintenance.

The park is located at 6677 Buck Valley Road in Warfordsburg, Pa.

For info go to the Facebook page @Buck Valley Park.

Everyone is welcome.

Ed Steers presents Booth's Diary



John Wilkes Booth, Lincoln's assassin, kept a diary that was found on him the day he was killed, during his failed escape attempt.

There were pages missing and theories abounded that included Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederacy, and Lincoln's secretary of war, Edwin Stanton. The claim is that Stanton removed

the pages, only to have them appear in the 1970s with the intent of using them in a movie.

Internationally known Lincoln author, Ed Steers, will fill in the details on Wednesday, September 2, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the War Memorial Hospital Education Room (use left entrance).

This is a free presentation.

Open mic night

BlackCat Music Shop's Free Open Mic Night Friday, September 4 from 7-10 p.m.

This monthly event is open to all musicians, singers and songwriters. Show up, sign up, play or listen.

All ages are welcome. BlackCat Music is located at 155 Independence Street, Berkeley Springs.

For more information call 304-258-4440.

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Early Deadline For Sept. 9 Issue

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In order to meet the deadline, we must ask that news items and advertisements for the September 9 issue be in by noon Friday, September 4.

Who's Havin' a Birthday?

Monday, September 7
Tommy Brown

SOUTH MORGAN VFD

10166 Winchester Grade Road
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411

NO BINGO

SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 5 &
SEPTEMBER 12

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Admonish the Sinner?

“And we urge you, brothers, to admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak”. +I Thes 5:15.

Galatians 6:1 instructs: “Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness.”

In Matthew 18:15-17 Jesus Himself counsels: “If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone...If he refuses to listen...then go to the church.”

It’s biblically clear we are called to lovingly practice Fraternal Correction, Admonish The Sinner – A Spiritual Work of Mercy.

Item: At Noma, once Copenhagen’s Michelin-starred and top rated restaurant in the world for several years, feared and famed chef René Redzepi, was apparently constantly berating, abusing & physically harming employees and he got a “free pass.” “Because no one spoke up. Or enough, that is.

We need a healthy return to this Spiritual Act of Mercy to Admonish The Sinner. In this coming Sunday’s Catholic Mass we read that we will be held responsible if we had an opportunity to correct a sinner but did not (Ez. 33:7-9).

We can do this, simply, in three ways: Humility, prudence and love. Humility: remember you are a sinner and also in need of help, and speak your correction in the right way, & right voice.

Practice prudence: Ask--Is this the right situation? Am I required by duty to do this? Is there any threat to me or others because of my proposed action? Is the situation serious enough? Love –You should do it not out of revenge or anger, but love of God, for justice and that person’s soul. Jesus did as much, so shall we. And in courtrooms the local judge and court helps “remedy an injustice” -- shouldn’t you?

After all, just think: We’re used to corrections all thru our lives: Mom and dad continually amended our ways thru childhood; at school the teacher reformed our behavior and homework; at work supervisors correct and judge us; in sports coaches cajole us & your kids. And now varied folks, institutions are prescribing what language to use; some call us rectify past wrongs we never participated in and others shame us if we don’t do things their way. Okay, but, you say, morality and personal peccadillos are sensitive. So let’s go sensitively, but still go forward...

Think of a continuum –1 to 10 and those numbers “being the extremes” –ie., One being hardly ever correct a person doing such and such; to five being possibly / probably amending someone; to10 being very serious –and amendment as a duty (like Ezekial’s Lord says).

If you really love someone, even if you don’t know them well, you will assist them, just as your mom did for you & your teacher—and Lord!

Rev. John J. Lombardi is pastor of St. Peter – St. Patrick Catholic Church

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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 Stottlemeyer.

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 Ex-line..

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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Email: ContactCommissioners@washco-md.net

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SHERIFF BRIAN ALBERT

Washington County Sheriff’s Office

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Phone: 240-313-2100

Washington County Treasurer

TREASURER ROBERT BREEDING

Washington County Treasurer

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Phone: 240-313-2110 Email: rbreeding@washco-md.net

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CLERK KEVIN TUCKER

Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court

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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

TTY users may call any government office through the Maryland Relay Service 1-800-735-2258.



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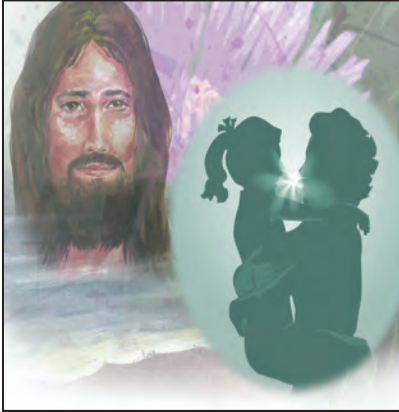
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And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the LORD. John 20:20 (KJV)

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

Ludwell Onsolow Fling
1929-2026

Ludwell “Onsie” Onsolow Fling, 97, of Hancock, Md., passed away, Saturday, August 29, 2026, in Berkeley Springs, W.Va.

Born January 19, 1929, in Hancock, Md., he was the son of the late Edward and Olive Mitchell Fling.

Onsie attended Hancock Area School. He served in the United States Air Force, serving in WWII and the Korean War. He worked and retired as an aircraft mechanic at Fairchild Industries, Hagerstown, Md.

He was a member of the VFW, American Legion and the Moose Lodge.

Onsie had a passion for his woodworking, gardening and loved to read.

He is survived by one son, Rickey O. Fling and wife Tina of Hancock, Md.; one daughter, Donna J. Risinger of Hedgesville, W.Va.; five grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, he is predeceased by his wife Dolores J. Fox Fling; one brother and six sisters.

Viewing will be held on Friday, September 4, 2026, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Grove-Rogowski Funeral Home, 141 W. Main Street, Hancock, MD 21750.

Funeral service will be held on Saturday, September 5, 2026, at 11 a.m. with one-hour prior visitation at the Alpine Bible Church, 5181 Pious Ridge Road, Berkeley Springs, WV 25411. Burial will follow in the Alpine Bible Church Cemetery. Pastor Kenny Mason will officiate. Military honors will be provided by the Tri-State Honor Guard.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Onsie’s name can be made to the Alpine Bible Church and the Tri-State Honor Guard.

Arrangements were entrusted to Grove-Rogowski Funeral Home, 141 W Main Street, Hancock, MD 21750. Online condolences can be expressed to the family at www.grfuneralhome.net.



Joyce Ann Younker
1952-2026

Joyce Ann Younker, 74, of Hancock, Md. passed away on Friday, August 28, 2026, at her residence.

Born Saturday, March 15, 1952, in Berkeley Springs, W.Va., she was the daughter of the late George W. and Wanda L. Vanorsdale Fleece, Sr.

Joyce attended Berkeley Springs School. She enjoyed playing bingo, knitting, quilting and visiting friends at the Senior Life Services Center in Berkely Springs, W.Va.

Joyce had a love for nature and enjoyed watching animals.

Joyce is survived by her loving husband of thirty-three years, Rodney A. Younker of Hancock, Md.; one son, Kenneth L. Hendershot, Jr. of Berkeley Springs, W.Va.; two daughters, Cheryl Green of Florida and Alice “Mickey” Lyons of Berkeley Springs, W.Va.; three brothers, George W. Fleece, Jr. and wife Alice of Berkeley Springs, W.Va., Vernon L. Fleece and John G. Fleece both of Ohio; one sister, Karen L. Burns of Berkeley Springs, W.Va.; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, Joyce is preceded in death by one sister Phyllis M. Hall and one daughter Rhonda Weedle.

Private services for Joyce will be held at the convenience of the family.

Arrangements were entrusted to Grove-Rogowski Funeral Home, 141 West Main Street, Hancock, MD, 21750. Online condolences can be expressed to the family at www.grfuneralhome.net.



Louise Edna Golden
1935-2026

Louise Edna Golden, age 90, of Hancock, Md., passed away Saturday, August 29, 2026, at her home surrounded by her loving family.

Born September 15, 1935, in Millstone, Md, she was the daughter of the late Roger Elwood and Kittie Irene Younker Weller.

She was a 1953 graduate of Hancock School.

She was a professional seamstress retiring from London Fog Factory after at least thirty years. Louise was an avid quilter making numerous quilts for loved ones as well as missionaries. Louise was also a devout Christian. She attended Hancock Assembly of God where she was a Sunday School teacher for over fifty years, helping to shape many many lives. She was also a Missionette Leader for the girls’ ministry for many years.

Louise is survived by her children, Paul Golden of Hancock and Barbara Hullinger of Hancock; granddaughters Karla Crosen (Mathias), Candace Hixon (Josh); and great-grandchildren Alexis Barney (Levi), Memphis Crosen, Kambri Crosen, Weslyn Hixon, Branten Hixon and great-great-grandchildren Kaisley Barney and Walker Barney.

In addition to her parents, Louise was preceded in death by her husband Paul “Pete” Golden, of fifty-nine years; and her sister Phyllis Weller.

Funeral services will be conducted on Wednesday, September 2, 2026, at 12 p.m., with two-hour prior visitation from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Hancock Assembly of God, 431 N Pennsylvania Ave, Hancock, MD 21750. Pastor Don Preston will officiate. Burial will follow at Stonebridge Church, 14904 Orchard Ridge Rd., Hancock, MD 21750.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Louise’s name can be made to Hospice of Washington County or Hancock Assembly of God are appreciated.

Arrangements were entrusted to Grove-Rogowski Funeral Home, 141 W Main Street, Hancock, MD 21750. On-line condolences can be expressed to the family at www.grfuneralhome.net.



Ira Melvin Manley
1936-2026

Ira Melvin Manley, age 90, of Berkeley Springs, W.Va., passed away on Saturday August 29, 2026, at Valley Health Winchester Medical Center in Winchester, Va.

Born July 30th, 1936, in Berkeley Springs, W.Va., he was the son of Eva Lavina Fox and was raised by his beloved grandmother Martha (Mae) Fritzman.

At an early age he made the decision to enlist in the United States Army and was proud to serve for 21 years. During this time, he received many commendation medals and was most proud of the Bronze Star Medal. The other service medals or badges earned during his career include the following: Army Commendation Medal; Good Conduct Medal (Awarded 3 times); National Defense Service Medal; Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal; Vietnam Service Medal; Republic of Vietnam Campaign Ribbon with Device; Driver and Mechanic Badge, Sharpshooter Badge, and Marksman Badge. After retiring from the United States Army, he worked at Massey Ford in Hagerstown, Md, as a service director for 11 years. Then he and his brother-in-law, Herbert Johnson, opened Herb's Auto Mart in Berkeley Springs, W.Va. For over 30 years they had a successful used car business and repair shop.

Ira enjoyed golfing, hunting, working in the yard, the outdoors, listening/dancing to music, traveling, and was an avid WVU football fan. For over 40 years, Ira officiated high school football and basketball for the Eastern Panhandle Basketball and Football Associations.

He is survived by his loving wife Therese of 70 years, his beloved daughter Tanya (Scott Butts), and his beloved granddaughter Lydia Butts. He is survived by his siblings; Carolyn Michael, Barbara Johnson, Diane (Susi) Barker (Ronnie), and George Fox, Jr. Many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his grandmother, mother and brother, Vernon Kuykendall.

No funeral services will be held at his request. Memorial Contributions can made to Blue Ridge Care, 333 West Cork Street, #405, Winchester, VA 22601 or the Morgan County Humane Society, 5366 Valley Road, Berkeley Springs, WV 25411.



Lewis (Lew) Harvey Miller

Lewis (Lew) Harvey Miller, 82, of Warfordsburg, Pa., passed peacefully from his earthly home on Monday, August 24, 2026.

Lew was married to the love of his life and best friend, Susan, for 46 years. Together, they raised two children, Amanda and Kenneth. He is also survived by a son, Robert and his wife, Julie; daughter, Sherri and her husband, Jimmy; eight grandchildren: Jessica, Claire, Alex, Sophie, Jameson, Isabella, Chrissy and Kaci; three great-grandchildren: Taylor, Madison and Ethan and two nephews: Jamie and Gary.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Maurice and Thelma (Davis) Miller; his sister, Deborah Baugher and his brother, John Miller.

Lew spent some of his favorite childhood days on the family farm in Falling Waters, W.Va., where he enjoyed time with his extended family. He always had a story to tell about his cousins, aunts and uncles, and the memories they made together.

In his late teens and early twenties, Lew began working on vehicles at a service station in Baltimore and also began driving a dump truck. In his early thirties, he began his career with Jevic Transportation, where he worked as an over-the-road truck driver and driver trainer. When Jevic became New Century Transportation, Lew continued his career there until his retirement in 2007 due to health concerns.

His children were his pride and joy, but becoming a Pappy made his world even brighter. Whether he was “Silly Pop Pop” or “Pappy,” his grandchildren each held a very special place in his heart. His love for his family was evident in everything he did, and the memories he created with them will be cherished forever.

Having an enthusiastic fondness for classic cars, you could find him tinkering in the garage on the newest vehicle he had acquired. He enjoyed wandering around car shows for hours and making new friends.

Lew was the perpetual life of the party, no matter the occasion. He never met a stranger and was always ready to share a laugh, tell a story and—most importantly—dance.

Alongside his wife, Susan, Lew was a member of the Hancock Lioness Lions Club. He enjoyed outings with the group and especially appreciated the opportunity to help raise money for community service projects.

Lew was a parishioner of St. Peter’s Roman Catholic Church. He was proud of his faith and remained strong in it until the very end.

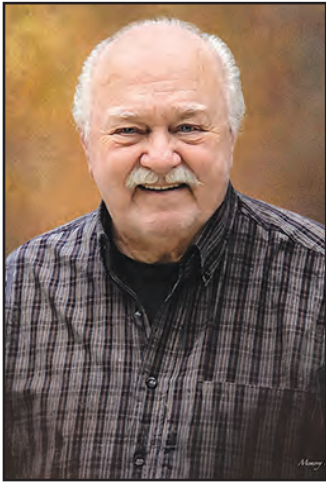
Lew leaves behind a lifetime of stories, laughter, love and memories. He will be deeply missed by his family, friends and all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Until we meet again, keep dancing.

The family received friends and a Rosary Service was held on Friday, August 28, 2026 at Grove-Rogowski Funeral Home, 141 West Main Street, Hancock, Md.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Saturday, August 29, 2026, at 11 a.m. at St. Peter’s Catholic Church, 16 East High Street, Hancock, Md. Celebrant Fr. John Lombardi officiated. Burial followed at St. Peter Catholic Church Cemetery.

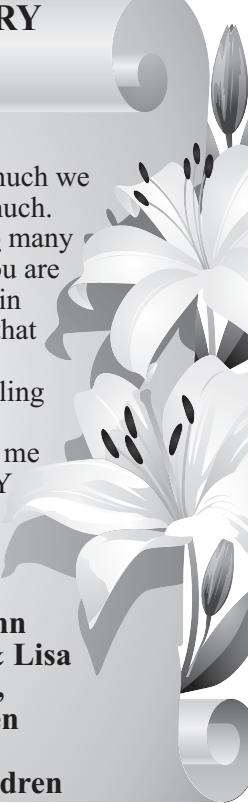
In lieu of flowers donations can be made to St. Peter’s Catholic Church 16 East High Street, Hancock, MD 21750.



IN LOVING MEMORY
of my wife
ANNA PECK
For Labor Day

I just want you to know how much we miss you and love you so very much. You will be with each of us in so many ways for this holiday. I know you are in Heaven, smiling down on me in that pretty white gown. I know that you will also be around on my birthday, September the 3rd, smiling down on me and wishing me a HAPPY BIRTHDAY and telling me how much you LOVE ME VERY MUCH. HAPPY HOLIDAY in Heaven. We love and miss you very much.

Your Husband, John
Our Daughters, Punkin & Lisa
Our Son, Johnny,
Our Grandchildren
&
Our Great Grandchildren



Obituary policy

Obituaries will be printed for a fee based on the amount of information that is provided by a licensed funeral home. A photo of the deceased can be included.

Death Notices will be printed for free in *The Hancock News* as a public service which will only include name, age, date of death, residency and services.

For details, contact *The Hancock News* at 301-678-6255.

Rehobeth Cemetery Association
holds Annual Homecoming Service

Rehobeth United Methodist Church will hold their Annual Homecoming Service on Sunday, September 6, beginning at 2 p.m.

Pastor Frank Koczek will be in charge. The Blankley's will provide opening music prior to the service. Second Chances will provide an afternoon of worship, music and praise.

Lunch in the pavilion after the service with meats, breads, drinks and utensils being furnished. Take a covered dish.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

The church is located at 2328 Tollgate Ridge Road, Mercersburg, Pa.

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Early Deadline

All correspondents and advertisers are reminded the deadline for submitting copy to this publication is Friday this week, due to the holiday.



Newest organizations that need volunteers:
Interfaith Service Coalition - Help to sort, package and handout food bags during Monthly Produce distribution. First Wednesday of each month 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Loaves & Fishes Thrift Store - Help to sort donations every Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. or help to sort, clean and price donations. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Free classic movies every Thursday at the Star

The Star Community Center will host free classic movies every Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Star Theatre, 49 North Washington Street in Berkeley Springs.
September's movie lineup includes "Clue" on September 3. The 1985 cult classic is based on the iconic board game. Six strangers gather in a mansion, when their host ends up murdered, they must determine who among them is the killer. Starring the recently passed Tim Curry. Go see all three alternate endings.
On September 10, "Blue Velvet" will be shown. Director David Lynch's 1986 thriller stars Kyle MacLachlan. When a young college student finds a severed ear in a field, it leads him down a dark investigation into the hidden underworld of his small American town.
The 1962 movie, "The Trial" will be shown September 17. Directed by Orson Welles, starring Anthony

How to volunteer: Go to JustServe.org and create an account. Then search "Hancock, Md", choose "within 5 miles." Choose one of the projects listed above, Click Volunteer, fill out information and add a note saying days/times you are available.
How to list your organizations volunteer projects: Contact Wendy Weller at JustServeHancock@gmail.com

Perkins and adapted from Franz Kafka's classic novel. Josef K (Perkins) is a bureaucrat who must navigate a confusing, illogical and hostile legal system after being accused of an unspecified crime.
On September 24, "The Night of The Hunter" will play. The 1955 movie is the true story of Harry Powers, who was hanged in 1932 for the murder of two widows and three children in Clarksburg, W.Va. Robert Mitchum plays a con-man and serial killer, who marries the widow of his late cellmate in prison to terrorize her children into revealing the location of a stash of \$10,000.
Donations are optional.

Fire hydrant

(from front)
Town Manager Mike Faith said this isn't the first incident the town has had with someone using a hydrant without permission, noting he caught two other attempts to use the hydrants.
At that time, though, the town didn't look to press charges for water theft on the people. Faith said the town had the person pay for the water and imposed a \$500 fine.

AC upgrades

(from front)
Right now, there are two troops of Girl Scouts in Hancock with nearly 40 girls. Troop 15127 has 16 girls ranging in age from kindergarten through fourth grade. Troop 15055 has 19 members from fifth grade through ninth grade.
The troops meet on separate nights every other week and because of the size and age differences, Fox said they need to be divided into smaller groups during those meetings.
Before access to additional scout rooms, Fox said girls were in the hallway because there wasn't enough room.
"The availability of both rooms changed that," she said.
By having those two rooms, Fox said it gave the girls the ability to participate safely and meaningfully in the activities.
Fox said the building is not just a bunch of rooms where meetings are held, it's where the young people of the community grow, solve problems, learn to lead, work as a team, try new things, and many other things.
Girl Scouts also have access to the scout cabins in Widmeyer Park after they had served as the Boy Scouts cabins for many years.
Those cabins allow the older girls to take advantage of outdoor programs during the warmer months.
"We greatly appreciate that

opportunity," Fox said. "But they cannot replace the scout rooms."
She added that her groups cannot meet year-round at the cabins due to the needs of bathrooms and appropriate meeting space during the colder months.
Girl Scout leaders from the western part of Washington County and from Morgan County come to use the rooms for adult meetings, training, collaboration, and planning.
The Hancock troops also host other troops from Hagerstown, Morgan County, Williamsport, Clear Spring and Southern Fulton, Fox said.
When talking about maintaining the rooms, Fox said she's talking about maintaining a space for youth, adult, volunteers, and families from around the area.
That is why reliable heat and air are so important for the rooms.
"Heat and air conditioning are not luxuries in a community building. They are part of making that building safe, usable, and functional throughout the year," Fox said.
If the town is going to move forward making that space available, the basic systems necessary to keep the building usable need to be maintained, Fox said.
"We are not asking the town to create something new," she said. "We're asking the town to maintain an



Town officials also approved the purchase for new heating and air conditioning units at the restrooms by the Kirkwood Park pavilion.

photo by Geoff Fox

existing community resource that is already providing a valuable service to Hancock and the surrounding area."
The Girl Scouts, Fox said, just need a reliable space to continue doing their work for the community.
Mayor Roland Lanehart said the cost would be around \$1,400 and \$1,500, depending which accessories are on it, for an air unit for each room.
An HVAC company wanted \$6,900 to do just one room, the mayor added.
Councilman Richard Strong said the town should spend the \$1,500 per room and buy the unit, which Lanehart said was the motion.
Officials unanimously approved the purchase.
In related business, Councilman David Kerns told the

council that the restrooms at Kirkwood Park -- which used to be old communication buildings -- need better air condition units.
If they removed the existing units and put new PTAC units on the buildings, it would cut the electric usage down by half with two of those units.
Kerns said he didn't want to put money into an old outdated unit, regarding the current air conditioning units, one of which is currently not working.
Town officials unanimously approved those air conditioning units.
In all, the town would be paying \$6,000 for both the air conditioning units for the Girl Scouts rooms and the restrooms at Kirkwood Park.

Early Deadline

All correspondents and advertisers are reminded the deadline for submitting copy to this publication is Friday this week, due to the holiday.

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Thursday	11:30-7:00
Friday	11:30-6:00
Saturday	10:15-2:00
Sunday	Closed

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.

The Hancock News

Section II

• Sports

• School News

• Public Notices

• Classifieds

• Real Estate

Students can help their schools win cash awards and national recognition through Annual WoodmenLife “America Is...250!” video contest

Students across the country have a chance to win cash awards and national recognition for their schools through WoodmenLife's "America Is... 250!" Video Contest. The contest is open now through October 7 and encourages students in grades K-12 to submit an original 30- to 60-second video celebrating the 250th anniversary of our nation's independence and sharing what America means to them. Winners will be selected in two divisions, K-8 and 9-12, with a Grand Prize of \$2,500, Second Place of \$1,500, and Third Place of \$1,000 awarded in each division. WoodmenLife, a champion of family, community, and country since 1890, sponsors the contest

each year. The public will be welcome to view and vote for their favorite entries on WoodmenLife's Facebook page from October 14 through October 21. Grand Prize winners will also receive a commemorative “America Is...” Video Contest award to be presented and displayed at their school. Winners will be announced October 27 on Facebook. The WoodmenLife “America Is...” video contest celebrates the spirit of the red, white, and blue through the eyes of America's youth, while offering students the chance to win cash prizes and national recognition for their schools. Last year's contest

drew 51 entries and more than 21,000 votes from supporters nationwide. “Since the contest launched in 2017, WoodmenLife has proudly awarded \$60,000 to participating schools,” said Robby Molony, Vice President, Fraternal, for WoodmenLife. "As our nation marks its 250th anniversary, we're excited to invite students to celebrate America's story through creative videos while competing for recognition and cash awards for their schools." WoodmenLife encourages educators, parents, and community leaders to spread the word and help students take part in this opportunity to express themselves, honor their country, and potentially win

big for their school. For more information and to submit a video, go to gleam.io/LjFb7/2026-america-is-250-video-contest. For more than 135 years, WoodmenLife has been dedicated to helping hardworking Americans secure their family's futures and leave a lasting legacy. As a leading provider of life insurance and retirement planning solutions with more than \$11 billion in total assets, WoodmenLife is committed to providing financial stability and peace of mind. Our commitment extends beyond financial products; we donate time, money and resources to help strengthen communities from the ground up.

Panther's Den



VOLLEYBALL

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	W/L SCORE
Sept. 9	Forbes Road	6 p.m.	
Sept. 14	at Berkeley Springs (JV/V)	5:30 p.m.	
Sept. 17	Paw Paw	5:30 p.m.	
Sept. 22	Lighthouse Christian (JV/V)	5:30 p.m.	
Sept. 23	Southern Fulton (JV/V)	6 p.m.	
Sept. 26	at St. James Tournament	10 a.m.	
Sept. 28	Faith Christian (JV/V)	5:30 p.m.	
Sept. 29	at McConnellsburg (JV/V)	6 p.m.	
Oct. 1	at Paw Paw	6 p.m.	
Oct. 5	at Faith Christian (JV/V)	6 p.m.	
Oct. 7	Allegany (JV/V)	5:30 p.m.	
Oct. 12	Berkeley Springs (JV/V)	5:30 p.m.	
Oct. 19	at Southern Fulton	6 p.m.	
Oct. 22	at South Hagerstown (JV/V)	6 p.m.	
Oct. 26	Northern Garrett (JV/V)	5:30 p.m.	

• Games that are both JV/V - Times are for JV which plays first.

Studio C dance opens in Hancock

by Geoff Fox
A new dance studio has opened in Hancock and the young lady who is running it just graduated this past May from Hancock High School. At just 18 years old, Chloe Wilson has opened Studio C at 53 West Main Street, next to Martha's House, in Hancock. Wilson has been dancing for 12 years, after getting into cheerleading. She said she became friends with someone who was in dance which led her to wanting to try dance. “Ever since, I’ve loved it,” Wilson said. Throughout high school, Wilson said she was “all over the place” with what she wanted to do as a career. Her biggest thing was she wanted to be happy with what she wanted to do. Every time she looked at a career, Wilson said she’d like it, but not love it. When the dance studio she was attending closed, she decided to open her own studio. “I love doing dance; it’s what I love to do,” she said. Over the summer, Wilson held a summer camp which she said went “really good” with students from ages 3 to 11. Most of the kids from that camp registered last week for her regular classes. Wilson said the classes

would be different as she would be teaching various styles of dance at her studio. From September through December, Wilson said classes would be focused on skills and technique as well as teaching the basics to those newer to dance. From January through April, Wilson said they’d be working on dances for their end of the year recital. Each age group, she said, would be meeting once a week. Those age groups range from 3 to 5 year old, 6 to 8 year olds, 9 to 12 year olds, 13 to 18 year olds, and some adult classes as well. Wilson had 65 students sign up prior to the open houses. Wilson said she got in touch with Debbie Cohill who told her the space next to Martha's House was open and available to be rented. She then met Jackie Daley, who owns the building. “As soon as I met her, she absolutely loved the idea of opening a dance studio, so she just let me have the space,” Wilson said. Wilson is teaching the dance classes in the evenings, and is attending college during the day. She added she’d have about an hour in between her college classes and dance classes to breathe and do homework.



Just months after graduating from Hancock High School, and with a love of dance, 18-year-old Chloe Wilson recently opened Studio C at 53 West Main Street.

Studio C held an open house this past weekend with Sunday being the final day for late registrations for the upcoming classes. Anyone interested in join-

ing Studio C for classes will have to wait for sign-ups, and can contact the studio by email at dancewithstudioc@gmail.com.

Penn State Extension to offer free virtual walking program

Anyone interested in developing healthy habits and increasing stamina can benefit from a free Penn State Extension virtual walking program called “Everybody Walk Across Pennsylvania.” The statewide program will take place from September 14 through November 9, 2026. The program is aimed at harnessing social support to achieve healthy lifestyle goals. Participants may walk individually or with family, friends, coworkers or even their dogs in teams of up to five. Each individual or team member will aim to walk or exercise an average of 10 miles a week for eight weeks. Participants can walk at a time and place convenient for them, such as a park, neighborhood, or yard. Weekly emails sent to participants will include motivators to keep walking and strategies for eating healthy.



Organizers note that physical activity and healthy eating habits are critical to long-term health. Moderate exercise such as walking reduces stress and fatigue and sharpens mental alertness. Exercise improves cardiovascular functioning and strengthens bones. Combined with healthy eating, walking can help reduce or maintain body weight and decrease the incidence of several chronic diseases.

The program is not competitive and is intended to help participants improve their own physical activity levels. Participation is free, but the deadline for registration is September 11. More information is available on the Penn State Extension website at <https://extension.psu.edu/everybody-walk-across-pa> or call 1-877-345-0691.

IT'S SUMMER SOAK UP THE... STORIES!



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Read Aloud 15 MINUTES

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How to Contact Schools & Officials

Hancock Middle-Senior High School

301-766-8186

Website: <https://hmshs.wcpsmd.com>

Principal Andrew Kaetzel

kaetzand@wcps.k12.md.us

Hancock Elementary

301-766-8178

Website: <https://hae.wcpsmd.com>

Principal Shauna Gore

Washington County Public Schools

301-766-2800

<https://www.wcpsmd.com>

Department of Public Information

301-766-2809

Department of Transportation

301-766-2902

Department of Athletics

301-766-2929

Department of Student Services

301-766-2960

Department of Safety & Security

main number

Department of Technology

main number

Dept of Facilities Planning & Development

main number

Washington County Board of Education

Darrell Evans, President

evansdar@wcps.k12.md.us

Dr. April Zentmeyer, Vice President

zentmapr@wcps.k12.md.us

Michael Guessford

guessmic@wcps.k12.md.us

Victoria Beachley

beachvic@wcps.k12.md.us

Charles Burkett

burkchar@wcps.k12.md.us

Ashley McCusker

MccusAsh@wcps.k12.md.us

Linda Murray

murralin@wcps.k12.md.us

How to get in the sports section

Getting your team's scores, team photos and schedules into *The Hancock News* is easy! Coaches and representatives of school teams, adult and youth leagues are encouraged to report their schedules and results in *The Hancock News*, and there are several ways to do it.

--Bring information to the news office at 105 West Main Street (next to the arcade) during our regular business hours, or use the drop box next to the front door for after-hours submissions.

--Email information and photos to the news desk at news@hancocknews.us.

--Call *The Hancock News* at 301-678-6255.

A deadline of Monday at noon is set for all regular submissions, Results from Monday night sporting events should be submitted by 8 a.m. on Tuesday to make it in that week's newspaper.

See you in the sports section!

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUR-1762 SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT HEALTHY FAMILIES HOME VISITING SERVICES

On August 17, 2026, the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County, Maryland awarded a sole source procurement for a one-year period of July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027, to Washington County Health Department in the amount of \$244,274.50 for Healthy Families Home Visiting Services.

This procurement is permitted under Section 1.106.2. (a)(1) 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.

By Authority of:
Brandl J. Kentner
Director of Procurement
9-2-11th

IN THE ORPHANS' COURT FOR (OR) BEFORE THE REGISTER OF WILLS FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

IN THE ESTATE OF:
Karl Kurt Kemp

Estate No: 83773
NOTICE OF JUDICIAL PROBATE
To all persons interested in the above estate:

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed by Michelle Simon, Esquire, 401 North Washington Street, Suite 445, Rockville, MD 20850 for judicial probate of the will and for the appointment of a personal representative.

A hearing will be held at Washington County Orphans' Court, 100 W. Washington St., Ste. 3500, Hagerstown, MD 21740 on October 13, 2026 at 10:30 a.m.

This hearing may be transferred or postponed to a subsequent time. Further information may be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills.

Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills
100 W. Washington St.
STE 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740-4896
Phone: (301)-739-3612
pd8-26-2th

IN THE ORPHANS' COURT FOR (OR) BEFORE THE REGISTER OF WILLS FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

IN THE ESTATE OF:
Ty Chin

Estate No: 83775
NOTICE OF JUDICIAL PROBATE
To all persons interested in the above estate:

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed by Charles F. Gormly, ESQ., 10605 Concord Street, Suite 307, Kensington, MD 20895 for judicial probate of the will and for the appointment of a personal representative.

A hearing will be held at Washington County Orphans' Court, 100 W. Washington St., Ste. 3500, Hagerstown, MD 21740 on October 13, 2026 at 9:30 a.m.

This hearing may be transferred or postponed to a subsequent time. Further information may be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills.

Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills
100 W. Washington St.
STE 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740-4896
Phone: (301)-739-3612
pd8-26-2th

IN THE ORPHANS' COURT FOR (OR) BEFORE THE REGISTER OF WILLS FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

IN THE ESTATE OF:
John Wilson Dyer, Jr.

Estate No: 83771
NOTICE OF JUDICIAL PROBATE
To all persons interested in the above estate:

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed by Karen Frances Reed, 78 DeLawder Ln., Berkeley Springs, WV 25411-3790 for judicial probate of the will and for the appointment of a personal representative.

A hearing will be held at Washington County Orphans' Court, 100 W. Washington St., Ste. 3500, Hagerstown, MD 21740 on October 13, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

This hearing may be transferred or postponed to a subsequent time. Further information may be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills.

Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills
100 W. Washington St.
STE 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740-4896
Phone: (301)-739-3612
pd8-26-2th

Early Deadline

All correspondents and advertisers are reminded the deadline for submitting copy to this publication is Friday this week, due to the holiday.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Estate No. 83726
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Linda Jane Carnes.

Notice is given that Brenda Harne-Herbert, 642 Duckwoods Ln., Martinsburg, WV 25403-2617 was on August 18, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Linda Jane Carnes who died on April 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 18th day of February, 2027.

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 February, 2027.

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.

Brenda Harne-Herbert
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd8-26-3th

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Estate No. 83780
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Clara Sue Vanderford.

Notice is given that Thomas Vanderford, 13113 Kaiser Ridge Rd., Hagerstown, MD 21740-1015 was on August 13, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Clara Sue Vanderford who died on August 2, 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 13th day of February, 2027.

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 13th day of February, 2027.

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.

Thomas Vanderford
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd8-26-3th

4	6	9	3	5	8	2	7	1
5	3	2	1	6	7	8	4	9
1	7	8	2	4	9	5	6	3
6	9	7	4	2	3	1	8	5
3	8	5	9	7	1	6	2	4
2	1	4	5	8	6	3	9	7
8	5	1	6	9	4	7	3	2
9	2	6	7	3	5	4	1	8
7	4	3	8	1	2	9	5	6

This Week's Crossword Answers

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

Edward L. Kuczynski, ESQ.
22 W. Salisbury Street
Williamsport, MD 21795

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Estate No. 83788
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Allan Shay Green.
Notice is given that Amy L. Green, 17836 Lappans Rd., Fairplay, MD 21733-1107 was on August 20, 2026 appointed personal representative of the estate of Allan Shay Green who died on July 24, 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 20th day of February, 2027.

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 20th day of February, 2027.

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.

Amy L. Green
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-2-3th

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

Estate No. 83799
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Timothy Wayne Benner.

Notice is given that Janell Brooke Flores, 11009 Celeste Dr., Williamsport, MD 21795-3039 was on August 20, 2026 appointed personal representative of the small estate of Timothy Wayne Benner who died on December 5, 2021 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.

Janell Brooke Flores
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-2-1thn

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

Estate No. 83744
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF James Elza Ryan, Jr.

Notice is given that Anna Marie Snyder, 17702 Spielman Rd., Fairplay, MD 21733-1023 and Jeffrey Wayne Ryan, 17714 Spielman Rd., Fairplay, MD 21733-1023 were on August 20, 2026 appointed personal representatives of the small estate of James Elza Ryan, Jr. who died on June 29, 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 representatives 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 representatives 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.

Anna Marie Snyder
Jeffrey Wayne Ryan
Personal Representatives
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-2-1thn

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

Estate No. 83782
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Bernard Alvin Keating.

Notice is given that Tina Wolfensberger, 17820 Woodvale Ct., Hagerstown, MD 21740-7855 was on August 20, 2026 appointed personal representative of the small estate of Bernard Alvin Keating who died on January 3, 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.

Tina Wolfensberger
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-2-1thn

NOTICE OF SALE

Adam D. Greivell, Esq.
Substitute Trustee
The Greivell Firm
5 Cornell Avenue
Hagerstown, MD 21742

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY 14321 McAFEE HILL ROAD CASCADE, MD 21719

Under a power of sale contained in Purchase Money Deed of Trust from Johann Karl Messersmith and Angela Mills, dated June 2, 2017 and recorded in Liber 5516, folio 302, said Deed of Trust having subsequently been assigned to Marianna Parascondolo, by virtue of an Assignment recorded in Liber 7388, folio 126, among the Land Records of Washington Co., MD, default having occurred under the terms thereof and at the request of the parties secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at the Circuit Court for Washington Co., at the Court House Door, 95 W. Washington St., Hagerstown, MD 21740, on September 22, 2026 at 1:00 p.m.

ALL THAT FEE - SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND AND THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON situated in Washington Co., MD more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.

The property is improved by a dwelling. The property will be sold in "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions, easements, encumbrances and agreements of record affecting the subject property, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit in the form of cashier's check or certified check, or in such other form as the Substitute Trustee may determine, at his sole discretion, for \$5,000 at the time of sale. If the note-holder and/or servicer is the successful bidder, the deposit requirement is waived. Balance of the purchase price is to be paid within fifteen (15) days of the final ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court for Washington Co., MD. Interest is to be paid on the unpaid purchase price at the rate of 5% per annum from date of sale to the date the funds are received in the office of the Substitute Trustee, if the property is purchased by an entity other than the Noteholder and/or servicer. If payment of the balance does not occur within fifteen days of ratification, the deposit will be forfeited and the property will be resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting Purchaser. There will be no abatement of interest due from the purchaser in the event settlement is delayed for any reason. Taxes, ground rent, water rent and all other public charges and assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, and front foot benefit charges, if applicable, to be adjusted for the current year to the date of sale, and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale. The purchaser shall be responsible for the payment of the ground rent escrow, if required. Cost of all documentary stamps, Transfer taxes and all settlement charges shall be borne by the purchaser. If the Substitute Trustee is unable to convey good and marketable title, the Purchaser's sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to the refund of the deposit to the purchaser. Upon refund of the deposit, the sale shall be void and of no effect, and the purchaser shall have no further claim against the Substitute Trustee.

Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. The purchaser at the foreclosure sale shall assume the risk of loss for the property immediately after the sale.

Adam D. Greivell, Esq.
Substitute Trustee
RONNIE R. ZIMMERMAN
AUCTIONEERING
14504 Reel Road
Hancock, MD 21750
301-331-6821
Property Address:
14321 McAfee Hill Road
Cascade, MD 21719
Tax ID No. 14-009922
9-2-3thn

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Berkeley Springs photographer selected for international nature photo exhibition

Photographer Mark Schwenk of Berkeley Springs has had three of his photographs selected to be included in the inaugural Nature Photography Competition & Exhibition this fall at Arcadian Gallery in Cumberland.

“Mark Schwenk has an eye for conservation and forest restoration close to home,” said gallery director Christopher Sloan in announcing the exhibition.

Three of Schwenk’s photographs — “Carpet of the Forest,” “Piney Grove,” and “Piney Grove Cypress” — including a forest-restoration image, are among 80 images selected for the fall exhibition from more than 800 entries worldwide.

The entries were juried by National Geographic photographer and filmmaker Brian Skerry.

Schwenk wasn't the only regional photographer selected. Daniel Garrett of Rockville, Md., had four images accepted — more than any other regional entrant. Others chosen include Frederick Doerfler of Sarver, Pa.; John Dubicki of Hanover, Pa.; Marta Fiscus of Cumberland, Md.; Paul Grecian of Millville, Pa.; Brandon Hirt of Ebensburg, Pa.; Shannon Murphy of Wolf Creek, W.Va.; Thomas Porett of Ardmore, Pa.; Craig Spielman of Maple Glen, Pa.; Joe Allen of Harrison City, Pa.; and Peter West of Annapolis, Md.

Christopher Sloan's goals for the show are to “bring world-class, conservation-minded photography to Western Maryland” while

giving regional photographers added exposure in the photography world.

“Brian Skerry and I wanted to bring photography of the highest caliber — representing a wide range of subjects and photographers from around the world — to Western Maryland and the Appalachian region,” said Sloan. “I selected Brian not only because he's one of the world’s leading underwater photographers, but because he's a passionate ocean conservation advocate. We wanted to bring the story of ocean conservation to people who live far from the coast.”

Schwenk's forest photo and Fiscus's pollinator image suggest that message already has roots here, said Sloan.

Skerry narrowed the field to 80 photographs by 48 photographers. The work spans wildlife, landscape, macro, botanical, aquatic, and conservation photography. The photographers include wildlife biologists, physicians, veterinarians, and conservation advocates, alongside professional photographers. Some are internationally recognized. Others are showing nationally for the first time.

“I was especially pleased to see local and regional photographers hold their own in such a competitive field,” Sloan said.

The exhibition opens at the Arcadian Gallery, 47 Baltimore Street in Cumberland, with an Opening Reception on Saturday, September 5, from 6 to 8 p.m. The exhibition continues through November 14.

For more information, go to www.arcadiangallery.com.



Mark Schwenk’s “Carpet of the Forest” is one of three of his photos chosen for an international exhibition.



“Piney Grove Cypress” by Mark Schwenk.

Wild Harvest Workshop to be hosted Oct. 17 at Martha's House



On Saturday, October 17, regional nonprofit Wild Potomac will be hosting its final event in the Connecting with Local Trees series they have been running throughout 2026.

They will be offering a workshop at Martha's House called the Wild Harvest Workshop.

This will be a free gathering where you can come and learn how to process and make foods from the nuts and fruits that our local trees produce in the fall. Attendees will be able to learn about what kinds of foods can be made from local trees, and there will be a chance to sample different tree foods at the event.

You're welcome to take any fruits or nuts you have foraged or harvested this year if you'd like to share them with the group. Or just come as you are.

All are welcome to attend, including kids who attend with a guardian. Come wearing clothes that can get a little dirty in case you decide to join in the cooking.

Register for the event ahead of time at Eventbrite to ensure you get sent the details. Registration is available at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wild-harvest-workshop-marthas-house-tickets-1993481131728>

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 1C
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
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K	F	H	T	N	A	R	B	I	V	T	S	K	H	E	U	W	I	D	A
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C	K	Z	M	I	Y	B	F	R	R	A	S	L	C	I	D	E	R	W	L

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AUTUMN
BONFIRE
BREEZE
CHILLY

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CINNAMON
COZY
CRISP
EQUINOX
FLANNEL

FOLIAGE
FROSTY
GOLDEN
HARVEST
HAYRIDE
LEAVES

NUTMEG
PUMPKIN
SCARLET
SWEATER
TWILIGHT
VIBRANT

HOROSCOPES

September 6 - 12, 2026



CAPRICORN

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20
Capricorn, your solid footing may become a bit unstable this week. Don't fret. In fact, infuse a bit of laughter and playfulness into things.



AQUARIUS

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18
There is no excuse for laziness this week, Aquarius. Make sure you get out of bed each day and engage in something that gets your body and mind working.



PISCES

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20
It is time to take action, Pisces. See how far you can take all of the tasks that are on your to-do list. You may be surprised to find that you accomplish so much.



ARIES

ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20
It may feel like you're coming out of the dark and into the light this week, Aries. A weight has been lifted, but there is still some emotional components to work out.



TAURUS

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, have a look at the world around you this week instead of just moving forward with your nose to the grindstone. Enjoy a night out with friends and take an active role in the evening.



GEMINI

GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21
Gemini, question what you hear this week, and do not take all of the information you receive at face value. You might need to read between the lines.



CANCER

CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22
This is a great week to go out and get things done, Cancer. Even if you feel a little indecisive, don't sweat the small details. You don't have to make any great commitments.



LEO

LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, action is the name of the game for you right now. You might notice a sudden burst of physical energy at some point, and that can be channeled into a walk or bike ride.



VIRGO

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22
Take some of the knowledge you have picked up and processed over the past few weeks and spread it around, Virgo. It is time to put your communication skills to work.



LIBRA

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23
Physical stamina is strong for you this week, Libra. Consider working out to release some of that pent-up energy. A sport or hobby can channel it as well.



SCORPIO

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22
Take a break from the seriousness that has taken root lately. You'll find that some upbeat conversations are the way to navigate the waters this week.



SAGITTARIUS

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21
The things you say to others will have a profound effect, Sagittarius. Be mindful of the words you choose. Enjoy a physical group activity.

Knights of Columbus to honor first responders, 9/11 responders at special Mass

The Knights of Columbus Council 12191 will be holding their second annual Blue Mass next Thursday, September 10, at 6 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church in Berkeley Springs.

The Blue Mass will be honoring, recognizing, and praying for first responders from Morgan County, Washington County (Hancock), and Fulton County (Needmore), as well as honoring and remembering those first responders from September 11.

First responders will be doing readings and taking parts in other parts of the Mass.

They will include members of law enforcement, fire, EMS and 911 services.

There will be a moment of silence for those local first responders who have passed on, as well for those first responders killed on September 11 in the World Trade Center and Pentagon, followed by a bell ringing and "Taps."

At the end of the Mass, a special blessing will be given to the first responders.

Everyone is welcome to attend the Mass, no matter your faith, and a small reception will be held after the Mass.

Retired or inactive firefighter, police officer, or EMS are more than welcome to attend and be seated with their respective group.

If your department received an invitation letter and you haven't responded to the invite, the Knights ask that you contact the church office as soon as possible at 304-258-1311 or parishoffice@stvindepaulwv.com to specify if you will have some members in attendance.



The Knights of Columbus Council 12191 will be holding a Blue Mass on Thursday, September 10, at 6 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church in Berkeley Springs. A table from last year's Blue Mass displays the hats from the Hancock Police Department and Morgan County Sheriff's Office, along with a statue of St. Michael the Archangel.

Attorneys General announce Meta settlement & new child safety reforms for social media

A landmark \$17.1 billion multistate settlement with Meta Platforms, Inc.—considered to be the largest state consumer protection settlement in history outside the Big Tobacco settlements of the 1990s — has been announced by state attorneys general, who joined in a lawsuit about dangers to youth on social media platforms.

On top of payments, Meta must put new safety features in place to reduce the time children can spend on Instagram and Facebook, and how they can access and use the platforms.

"The agreement, subject to court approval, resolves claims by 47 States and D.C., Puerto Rico, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands that the company designed Instagram with addictive features, knowingly exposed young users to serious mental harms, and intentionally misled the public about the safety of its platforms, among other things," said a press release from West Virginia Attorney General JB McCuskey.

"Meta knew the dangers it was exposing our children to, all while assuring parents its platforms were safe. That betrayal of trust demanded accountability, and today we've delivered it. This settlement isn't just about the historic payout; it's about the real changes Meta has now pledged to make to protect our kids online. I'm proud of the bipartisan work of attorneys general across the country who put children ahead of politics to make this happen. As the father of two young daughters, this fight -- for our kids and their parents' peace of mind -- is personal. As

long as companies continue to target our kids as customers, we will fight to ensure their products are safe and secure," McCuskey said.

Under the settlement, Meta must make changes to their safety features on Instagram and Facebook, to include:

—Hard cap daily time limits and "Productive Pauses" for children: for its two platforms, Instagram and Facebook, a combined two-hour daily time limit with mandatory pauses after 15 minutes of continuous use and again at 60 and 90 minutes to interrupt endless scrolling. These limits remain in effect for five years. If Snapchat, TikTok, and YouTube adopt comparable terms, the daily limit on each platform will drop to 60 minutes for 10 years.

—"Nighttime blocks" restricting children's access from 12 a.m. to 6 a.m.

—Limited school-time access for children, eliminating push notifications on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. during the school year.

—Robust age assurance measures to more effectively verify the age of young users.

—Safer, age-appropriate content controls, including stronger safeguards against bullying, content promoting eating disorders, and content related to suicide and self-harm.

—Stronger, more user-friendly parental controls.

—Limits on social comparison features, including beauty filters and visible "like" counts, that have been linked to poor mental health outcomes in kids and teens.

According to attorneys, the implementation of these changes will be "regularly assessed by an independent auditor and the settling states."

Beginning in 2021, nearly every attorney general in the country cooperated to investigate the social media industry for designing and promoting platforms to children and teens despite known harms.

"After a bipartisan, nationwide investigation found that Meta designed Instagram's features to addict children while internally documenting the resulting mental health harms and failing to warn parents, attorneys general across the country sued Meta individually or as part of a consolidated federal lawsuit. This settlement resolves those cases and claims by the other settling states and territories," said attorneys general.

The settlement also resolves the states' claims against Meta for its sharing of nonpublic information about Facebook users with third parties, like Cambridge Analytica, leading up to the 2016 election.

The attorneys general of West Virginia, Alabama, Alaska, American Samoa, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Northern Mariana Islands, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming joined the settlement.

People Told Us...

—MAN JOKED: My boss gave a great 10-minute speech yesterday in front of the whole company. The only problem was it took him an hour to deliver it.

—Next Monday, September 7, is Labor Day. Expect federal, state and local government offices and schools to be closed.

—PLANT LOVERS: Time to begin a cycle of 14 hours of darkness for poinsettias to get them to put on color for the holiday season.

—It's migration time for the Monarch butterfly, in case you spot some on their way.

—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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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.

Yard Square quilts to be auctioned for charity Saturday

The Delectable Mountain Quilt Guild of Berkeley Springs will be holding their 21st Annual Yard Square Quilt Auction on Saturday, September 5 at 2 p.m. at the Star Theatre in Berkeley Springs. This annual event has raised over \$118,000 for community charities through the creation and sale of 1,045 quilts. This year the proceeds will benefit the Senior Life Services of Morgan County.

The 2026 auction will include 54 unique 36" x 36" yard square quilts (wall hangings) that showcase many quilting styles and techniques



One of 54 yard square quilts made for the annual auction.

from traditional to modern in the quilting arts tradition. The quilts are on display at area businesses until the auction.

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