

The Hancock News

Hancock, MD 21750

Established 1914 – Our 112th Year

Volume 113, Number 38

Hancock at a Glance

Blood drive

A blood drive will be held Thursday, October 1, from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Presbyterian Faith Center in Warfordsburg.

Call 1-800-733-2767 for an appointment. Walk-ins are accepted when there is a lull between appointments.

Weather

Wed. 9/23 59/49
60% chance of rain, mostly cloudy with northeast winds 7 mph.

Thurs. 9/24 61/45
Partly sunny with northwest winds around 6 mph.

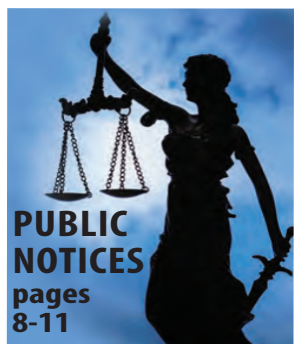
Fri. 9/25 67/48
Sunny with a high near 67 and a low around 48.

Sat. 9/26 67/50
Mostly sunny with a high near 67 and a low of 50.

Sun. 9/27 70/50
Sunny with a high around 70 and a low near 50.

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Keep in Touch

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301-678-6255

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P.O. Box 567
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411



Hancock couple charged in June death of Hancock man

by Geoff Fox

A Hancock man and woman were charged in the hit and run murder of Jacob Allen Long earlier this year.

Tommy Lee Puckett, Sr., 52, and Tammy Louise Puckett, 49, were arrested by Washington County Sheriff's deputies on Friday, September 18, as fugitives from justice from Pennsylvania.

Both had hearings in Washington County Circuit Court on Monday, September 21, and voluntarily waived extradition to Pennsylvania where they both face multiple charges.

They are both being held without bond, according to online Maryland court documents.

The criminal complaint for both people were filed

through Magisterial District Judge Tamela Mellott Heming's office.

According to online Pennsylvania court documents, Tommy Puckett is facing charges of involuntary manslaughter, driver being required to be licensed, driving at safe speed, careless driving – unintentional death, homicide by vehicle, homicide by vehicle while driving under the influence, reckless driving, accidents involving death or personal injury, accidents involving death or personal injury while not licensed, accidents involving damage to attended vehicle or property, duty to give information and render aid – general rule, duty to give information and render aid – fail to report, and DUI/unsafe driving.

He is awaiting a preliminary hearing in Pennsylvania.

Tammy Puckett is facing charges of involuntary manslaughter, permitting violation of title – homicide by vehicle while DUI, homicide by vehicle, and homicide by vehicle while DUI.

She is also awaiting a preliminary hearing in Pennsylvania.

Long, 34, of Hancock, was on Tollgate Ridge Road in the early morning hours of June 26 when he was struck by a southbound Dodge van. The van then continued south and impacted a fence.

Police at the time said the driver fled the scene prior to their arrival.

Fulmer pleads guilty in Appel death, will be sentenced later

by Geoff Fox

Shane Michael Fulmer pled guilty to his role in the vehicular death of Kenny Appel of Little Orleans last Wednesday, September 16 in Allegany County Circuit Court just as a trial in the case against him was to begin.

Fulmer, 54, pled guilty to negligent auto homicide, under the influence, during the hearing.

Just before 8 p.m. on May 19, 2025, Fulmer was driving south in a Ford Ranger on Orleans Road when he entered the northbound lane and struck Kenny Appel's Harley Davidson motorcycle, killing him.

Appel of Little Orleans was the founder and host of the widely attended East Coast Sturgis Motorcycle



Rally that has drawn thousands of motorcyclists to Western Maryland each year.

According to an Allegany County court spokesperson, all other remaining criminal counts against Fulmer were dropped following his plea.

No sentencing date has been scheduled in Fulmer's case, but will come sometime in the near future, the spokesperson said.

Town looking to upgrade servers for cameras

by Geoff Fox

Citing outdated servers for the police cameras in town, officials are looking to replace them with newer, upgraded ones through Bridge Technology out of Frederick.

Denton Powell brought forth a printout for those new servers to the September town meeting to share with town officials.

Powell said the issue with the server has been going on "for a while now, a couple years."

The current server is about eight years old, he added.

One part in the printout would replace the aging infrastructure the town currently has in the police department, which has been made up of donated equipment Powell has been gathering over the years to keep it working.

Right now, the cameras can't get clear photos for the officers to see anything except the front door.

That new device would allow the equipment to get operational and then help with insight with what needs to be replaced throughout the town, if the town is interested.

There is no hardware that supports the current system and it skip similar to a rabbit across the road, Powell said, because the cameras don't have the correct resolution.

Windows also keeps updating and Powell said the system can't keep up with those updates.

"Dead in the water need- less to say," he said.

Town Manager Mike Faith said if the town were to go forward, the town has received money through a state grant for police protection which the town has been accumulating and needs to use.

Powell did say he has an Ipro grant form that would cover the entirety of the server and equipment.



There was another grant available that would also cover the costs.

Powel also had a quote of \$1,187 for a dispatch computer that would replace the current one as it needs to be upgraded to Windows 11 and Powell can't do much more.

"I've tried as much as I could with different types of hardware to upgrade the memory and hard drive," Powell said. He added he'd have to work with the county to get new software installed on the current computer.

That computer, Powell said, is about 10 years old.

"These machines are supposedly well past their lifespan," Faith said.

Powell has been trying to get the servers to go as far as they could go and even to the point telling former Police Chief Rich Miller the servers were bad.

The server houses the information for the town's cameras since 2013 with the server lasting about 10 years.

Powell came in soon after and put three computers together to have the current server the town is using.

"I've been trying to pigtail it as long, best I could," he said.

Powell said the equipment could also be leased if the town wanted to go that route if they don't want to pay out up front.

He also volunteered to run a grants report to see what the town could qualify for as well, which he is going to do for the October town meeting.

GETTING READY FOR HALLOWEEN



Halloween is still over a month away, but Donovan Lantz was getting his front yard along Pennsylvania Avenue ready on Thursday afternoon, September 10, with bodies and grave-stones, clowns, Jack Skellington and Zero, and other ghoulish creatures.

Stairs to rail trail fixed

by Geoff Fox

The stairs from Joseph Hancock Park to the Western Maryland Rail Trail have been replaced and are ready to use.

The funding for the project came through Project Open Space grants and was completed by REM, the lone bidder for the project.

Town officials awarded the contract to REM during the June town meeting with a bid of \$20,500. The grant for the project was \$49,115.

Due to costs rising since the initial bid was open, Town Manager Mike Faith said the actual amount is a little higher than the original bid amount.

However, there is going to be some money left over and he is discussing with town officials what to do at the stairs with the left-over funds.

The wood for the steps and railings on the trail were pressure treated, Faith said, and it just looks lighter than



REM recently completed the stairs from Joseph Hancock Park to the Western Maryland Rail Trail after being awarded the contract in June of this year. The wood for the stairs is pressure treated, stone dust was laid, and mulch put down to dress up the area and give a place for bicycle riders to bring their bike up the steps.

usual. The previous stairs had creosote railroad ties in them, but the creosote didn't seep all the way through to the middle, so they started rotting from the inside out.

The stone around the stairs is stone dust and is permeable so it won't wash out as easy as before.

Along the one side is black mulch that was put down to cover up where the bobcat used in the project tore up the area.

Faith said the mulch is to dress up the area and help bikers get their bicycles up the hill.

Deadline Notice

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

OPINIONS

Editorial

Controlling the story

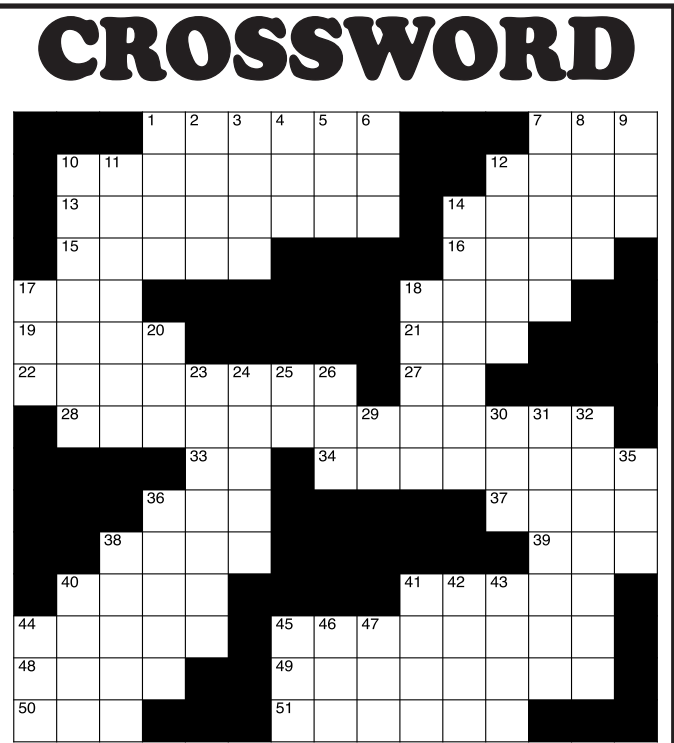
Banning journalists from the White House has probably been the wish of every modern president. Journalists ask pesky questions. Good ones don't just accept the story being offered to them from the White House podium. They dig a bit under the surface, posing the who, when, where and why? of today's pronouncement, whatever it may be. President Trump's recent ban of CNN, MSNOW and Politico from the White House is certainly an act of punishment against those reporters, because the president doesn't like the stories coming out of those media outlets. Blocking access to certain journalists but not others is exactly what it appears – an attempt to hand-select who is telling the story of a presidency and how they tell it. We stand with newspapers and press associations around the country to oppose this restriction of professional journalists. After 250 years as a nation, we know that presidents come and go. Each individual has their personality and their mark to make. History has and will reveal whether a president strengthened

America and aided her people, whether they were good for the nation or set us back. The truth of that comes out in time, and no president can control the story for long. We Americans should always pay close attention to any limitation on what the public is allowed to know about things being done by our government. The White House belongs to us. The Executive Branch belongs to us. The Legislative and Judicial branches belong to us. Every government agency belongs to us, and the money they spend belongs to us. It is our business to know, fully, what is being done in any of those places. And to judge whether those actions are in alignment with our common good. Independent verification of facts by a free press is one of the key protections against political corruption built into our constitutional democracy. Having a diverse and skilled press corps cover the White House is our only guarantee of the fullest picture of this administration's actions and the health of our collective nation.

ZED by Duane M. Abel



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- ACROSS**
- 1. A place for worship
 - 7. Referee declaration
 - 10. Torsos
 - 12. Used to introduce something
 - 13. Healing method
 - 14. Takes to the sea
 - 15. Make law
 - 16. French coastal city
 - 17. Hawaiian dish
 - 18. Young of domestic cattle
 - 19. Women's undergarments
 - 21. 60-minute intervals (abbr.)
 - 22. One after another
 - 27. It's a hot topic these days
 - 28. Folk band frontman
 - 33. They precede C
 - 34. Heavenly
 - 36. Fiddler crabs
 - 37. Major Hindu deity
 - 38. Hebrew given name
 - 39. Cost per mile
 - 40. Romeo, car
 - 41. Rural municipality in Manitoba
 - 44. Narratives
 - 45. "A tragedy had ___ him"
 - 48. Iranian city
 - 49. Praises publicly
 - 50. Founding Father
 - 51. Herbal tea
- DOWN**
- 1. Indian unit of mass
 - 2. "Tears in Heaven" singer Clapton
 - 3. Part of a sailing vessel
 - 4. Part of (abbr.)
 - 5. Polynesian garland of flowers
 - 6. Keyboard key
 - 7. One who steals
 - 8. Large oven
 - 9. Former CIA
 - 10. Idea
 - 11. Solomon Islands capital
 - 12. Afrikaans
 - 14. Remove thatch
 - 17. Television network
 - 18. Jalen Brunson is one
 - 20. Title of respect
 - 23. Flowering trees
 - 24. Occurring in a tube
 - 25. Exists
 - 26. Woman (French)
 - 29. Expression of doubt
 - 30. NHL legend Bobby
 - 31. Accomplished
 - 32. Makes slightly wet
 - 35. National Assn. of Manufacturers
 - 36. Not sated
 - 38. Poe's middle name
 - 40. Swiss river
 - 41. Rhythmic pattern in Indian music
 - 42. "Shane" actor Ladd
 - 43. Popular whodunit board game
 - 44. Bar bill
 - 45. Ballplayer's tool
 - 46. Indicates near
 - 47. Feet per second



Questions & Answers About Our Environment

Dear EarthTalk: Can plants actually "hear" pollinators nearby and open up accordingly and can we harness this knowledge to help pollinators and plants thrive?

—Peter B., Bloomfield, CT

As pollinator populations face steep global declines due to habitat loss, pesticides and climate change, scientists are exploring surprising ways plants may be helping themselves, as well as their insect partners, thrive. Recent research suggests that some plants may actually be able to detect the sounds of nearby pollinators and respond by boosting nectar production. This discovery opens up new possibilities for agriculture, conservation, and our understanding of how plants interact with the world. Although plants don't have ears, they can sense vibrations in their environment, including sound waves in the air. In a 2024 study, researchers found that the evening primrose (*Oenothera drummondii*) increased the sugar concentration of its nectar within just three minutes of being exposed to sound frequencies mimicking bee wingbeats. Interestingly, when the flower petals were removed, the response disappeared, suggesting that petals themselves act as acoustic sensors. This form of "hearing" allows plants to dynamically adjust their offerings based on the likelihood of being visited, effectively making their nectar more appealing to pollinators. As National Geographic reported, it's a fast and targeted response to a specific ecological cue, and it's now considered one of the most direct examples of plant bioacoustics. More recent studies suggest that plants can detect and respond to pollinator sounds in surprisingly specific ways. Francesca Barbero, a professor of zoology at the University of Turin, explains that "plants could improve their reproductive success if their responses drive modifications in pollinator behavior." Additional studies have shown that even some non-flowering plants may respond to mechanical vibrations in their surroundings. A 2025 report highlighted new evidence that even some non-flowering species respond to mechanical vibrations in their environment. One 2024 working paper proposed using pollinator sound simulations in greenhouses to trigger nectar production in crops like berries and tomatoes. This offers a potential tool for improving yields without chemicals. If developed further, such applications could help support pollinators, reduce pesticide use, and optimize crop health naturally. Researchers are thinking about "sound gardens" where speakers mimic pollinator wingbeats to stimulate plants into a more receptive state. Scientists caution that we don't yet fully understand the mechanisms behind these responses or how consistent they are in real-world environments. Others warn against overstating things, as these are unconscious biochemical responses. EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. See more at https://emagazine.com. To donate, visit https://earthtalk.org. Send questions to: question@earthtalk.org.

Calendar of Events SEPTEMBER

Wednesday, September 23
– Free bingo, 1 p.m., Hancock Senior Center, age 60 plus, all welcome

Saturday, September 26
– Hancock Museum open 9-11:30 a.m., basement of Town Hall

Sunday, September 27
– Hancock Museum open 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m., basement of Town Hall

Monday, September 28
– Hancock Lioness Lions Club meeting, Community Center, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, September 29
– Hancock Rotary Club meeting, Hancock American Legion, 12:30 p.m.

Is Your Group or Organization Back To Having A Regular Meeting Schedule?
To Be Included on the Calendar, Call 301-678-6255 or email news@hancock.us

Letters To The Editor over 400 words will not be published.

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.

How To CONTACT WASHINGTON COUNTY OFFICIALS

Board of County Commissioners
100 West Washington Street, Room 1101 • Hagerstown, MD 21740
Phone: 240-313-2200
Email: ContactCommissioners@washco-md.net

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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USPS 234-300 ISSN 1534-6463
1904 - JAMES S. BUZZERD - 1995

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

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

Established 1914

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Hancock - \$30.74 a year Maryland - \$32.86 a year
Fulton Co., Pa. - \$33.00 a year Out of State - \$35.00 a year
Subscribers can find their renewal date on the mailing label of their weekly paper, located in the left corner of the label. Only accepting payment for one year. Non-refundable.

MEMBER

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Hancock
Police Report
301-678-5633



Hancock Police report the following arrests and incidents from the week of September 14-20:

September 14
Check well-being, 100 block East Main Street. Subject advised.
Traffic enforcement, Hancock area. Three stops.
Disorderly conduct, 100 block West Main Street. Subject checked okay.
Assisted Morgan County Sheriff's Office, first block Blue Hill Road. Traffic stop.
September 15
Traffic enforcement, Hancock area. Two stops.
Service to advise, 100 block West High Street. Subject advised.
Check well-being, Pennsylvania Avenue. Unable to locate subject.
Suspicious person, first block Fulton Street. Subject refused to talk.
Traffic enforcement. Crosswalk at Pennsylvania Avenue.
September 16
Harassment, 100 block West High Street. Report to follow.
Trespassing, Quaker Creek Drive. Subject trespassed.
Traffic enforcement, Hancock area. Two stops.
Property damage accident, 100 block West Main Street. Information exchanged.
Trespassing, 200 block West Main Street. Curtis Lee

Ray, 41, of no fixed address, arrested.
Harassment, first block Virginia Avenue. Report to follow.
September 17
Traffic enforcement, Hancock area. Two stops.
Service to advise, 200 block Dale Street. Subject advised.
Service to advise, Hancock area. Subject advised.
Theft from vehicle, 100 block West Main Street. Report to follow.
September 18
Juvenile offense, 200 block West Main Street. Juveniles riding bikes in and out of traffic. Unable to locate/gone on arrival.
Service to advise, 200 block West High Street. Subject advised.
Service to advise, 100 block West Main Street. Subject advised.
September 19
Alarm, first block East Main Street. Accidental.
Traffic enforcement, Hancock area. Five stops.
DUI, eastbound I-70 at the 5-mile marker. Aiden Jeremiah McCarty, 19, Warfordsburg, arrested for DUI.
September 20
Accident, 100 block East Main Street. Report to follow.
Service to advise, 100 block West High Street. Subject advised.

Washington County proclaims September as Citizens' Emergency Preparedness Month

The Washington County Board of County Commissioners has officially proclaimed September 2026 as Citizens' Emergency Preparedness Month, emphasizing the importance of individual, family and community preparedness before an emergency occurs.
The proclamation was presented to the Office of Emergency Management during the September 15 meeting of the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC). The designation recognizes the important role residents play in strengthening the County's ability to prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies and disasters.
Citizens' Emergency Preparedness Month coincides with National Preparedness Month, observed each September, and serves as an opportunity for residents to



evaluate their emergency plans and take practical steps to prepare for unexpected events.
The Washington County Office of Emergency Management encourages residents to:
• Develop an emergency plan for themselves and their

families.
• Build an emergency supply kit with essential items.
• Stay informed about potential hazards and emergencies in the region.
• Maintain enough supplies to remain self-sufficient for three to five days, including food, water and essential supplies for household pets.
• Have multiple ways to receive emergency alerts and information.

Throughout September, the Office of Emergency Management will encourage residents to make preparedness a priority by developing emergency plans, assembling necessary supplies and learning how to stay informed during critical events.

Residents can find more about emergency preparedness through Ready.gov or the Washington County Office of Emergency Management website to learn how to prepare and to sign up for county-specific emergency alerts. Residents are encouraged to sign up for the Emergency Notification System WashCo MD Alerts at: <https://www.washco-md.net/emergency-management/washcomd/alerts/>

To help residents prepare and learn more about emergency response resources, the Office of Emergency Management, Department of Public Relations and Marketing,

and the Public Safety Training Center will host the 2026 Emergency Preparedness Expo on Saturday, October 10, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Public Safety Training Center.

The free, family-friendly event will bring together local agencies, organizations and community partners to provide residents with information, demonstrations and hands-on preparedness activities. Attendees will have opportunities to learn about emergency planning, public safety, health and wellness, fire safety and other resources available in Washington County.

The Emergency Preparedness Expo is an opportunity for residents of all ages to connect with the people and organizations that help keep Washington County prepared, safe and resilient.

The Washington County Office of Emergency Management, in collaboration with Emergency Services, the Sheriff's Department and other County departments and community partners, works year-round to educate residents, strengthen emergency preparedness and support the County's first responders.

Preparedness starts before an emergency happens. Take time this September to make a plan, build a kit and stay informed.

Full moon walk

Cacapon Resort State Park presents full moon walk on Saturday, September 26, at 7:15 p.m.
Meet at the lodge for a walk to upper lake. The

moon will be at 99.8% illumination. Moon rise will be at 6:51 p.m. It's the Harvest Moon.
Dress for the weather. Everyone welcome.

Supper Club

Join us for a plant based meal and a talk about *Foods for Thought* on Sunday, September 27, 4 p.m.
Located in the fellowship hall of the Berkeley Springs Seventh-day Adventist Church, 3606 Valley Road, Berkeley Springs.
Join and eat a healthy Asian meal. All participants will get a copy of the book *Foods for Thought* for free.
This is the second part of a four part series on the topic *Foods for Thought*.

Acoustic jam

BlackCat's Acoustic Jam will be held Friday, September 25 at 5:30-7 p.m.
Take a guitar, uke, fiddle or voice and join for this interactive evening of music.
Mike Kligerman of the Tri-State Ukelectic Orchestra will host this get-together.
For more information call 304-500-2696. BlackCat is located at 155 Independence Street, Berkeley Springs.

SELL IT IN
The Hancock News
301-678-6255

BERKELEY SPRINGS MOOSE LODGE
Welcomes You To Our
75th Anniversary
Saturday, September 26
Band - BLACK JACK - at 7 p.m.
Saturday, October 3
Band - ZAC GRACE - at 7 p.m.
COVER CHARGE - \$5.00

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Letters To The Editor over 400 words will not be published.

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GUN RAFFLE & DINNER
Saturday, October 3
Doors Open 5 p.m. • Dinner Served 6-7 p.m. • Raffle 7 p.m.
TICKETS: \$30 PER PERSON
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT ROY'S SERVICE CENTER, HUNTER'S HARDWARE OR DAWSON'S HOME CENTER OR ANY FIRE DEPARTMENT MEMBER

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Berkeley Springs, WV 25411
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Sat., Sept. 26
Payouts Now Starting at \$40 Regular Games & \$60 Special Games
MORE PEOPLE THE HIGHER THE PAYOUTS
Early Birds at 6:45 p.m.
Regular Play at 7:00 p.m.
PROGRESSIVE NUMBER
\$1,500 JACKPOT
Doors Open at 5:30 p.m.
Refreshments Available
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The Smell of the Kill
by Michele Lowe
A Delicious Dark Comedy
Directed by Hannah Salzman
\$17 - Adults
\$14 - MAC Members
\$9 - Students
Sept. 24 25 & 26 @ 7 p.m.
Sept. 27 @ 2:30 p.m.
Oct. 1 2 & 3 @ 7 p.m.
Oct. 4 @ 2:30 p.m.
**Thursdays are pay-what-you-can*

LIVE MUSICAL ACCOMPANIMENT
THE STAR COMMUNITY CENTER PRESENTS
THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
SUN., OCT. 4 AT 7:00 P.M.
TICKETS: \$10
THE HISTORIC STAR THEATRE
49 N. WASHINGTON ST., BERKELEY SPRINGS, WV

Amazing Stories : Will to Live ...

A woman barely surviving 10 days in her flood-drenched house, in Nepal, while rescuers thought her shrieking cries for help were that of ghosts, and discounted her. A California man survived 13 hours in the Pacific ocean, floating aimlessly until help finally came.

Meanwhile, writing this, I just gotta a call from a man in a far off city, saying “I sometimes get urges to end my life...” We talked, prayed, resolved. We all need a will to live. A Reason.

As Christians, let’s admit it: 1-We do get down and distressed—like St. Paul (2 Cor.4:9), but not destroyed; 2-We’re not always “hyped up on this life”; (Cf. Phil.1:23); and 3- to get some mo-jo in living we need some assistance from the Holy Spirit and / or others (I Thes. 5:11).

The “Nepalese miracle story” is pure marvel. It should make us simply bow, and live life way more deeply, consciously, and never complain again. And cherish life, deeply. Except, we sometimes need stories like this to inspire (kick?) us into gratefulness.

The California man said he, at times, resigned himself to dying; heard voices, saw visions, willed himself to keep afloat, dreamily planned to bloody himself so sharks would come and “speed up the process” of the inevitable—and thought of his loved ones he missed, & who would miss him. He kept living—and floating.

We take life for granted: O, Ill wake up in the morning. Tomorrow’s another day Are we choosing life? Embracing life, really? Do you will to live—actually will it, or are you just going thru the motions, in a kinda’ “Groundhog Day”-like dream?

Remember, as my phone-calling despondent friend and I recalled: “None of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself., for if we live, we live for the Lord” Rm. (14:7-8)...Live for and with and in Him—fully! (Jn. 10:10)

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 Exline..

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

IST 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 1 p.m. Wednesday Bible study 7 p.m. Thursday couples class 6 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 9 a.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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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
35 West Washington Street, Suite 102 • Hagerstown, MD 21740
Phone: 240-313-2110 Email: rbreeding@washco-md.net

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

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

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

State’s Attorney
STATE’S ATTORNEY GINA CIRINCION
State’s Attorney’s Office
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Phone: 240-313-2000 Email: sao@washco-md.net

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

OBITUARIES

George Kelly Manning, Jr.
1934-2026



George Kelly Manning, Jr., age 91, of Hancock, Md., passed away peacefully at Doey’s House surrounded by his family on Monday, September 14, 2026.

Born September 20, 1934, in Needmore, Pa. He was the son of the late George (Doc) Kelly Manning, Sr. and Icy Fern (Hoyle) Manning.

George is survived by his five children: Vicky Rollins

and Husband Larry, Kelly Manning, Lydia Manning, Jeff Manning and wife Lisa, all of Hancock, and Cindy Manning of Hagerstown, Md. He is survived by thirteen grandchildren: Adam Rollins of Greencastle, Pa., Tim Rollins of Hancock, Alura of Greencastle, Pa., Julie Bender, Dylan Keefer, Amber Wills, all of Hancock, Wayne Keefer, Georgia Manning and Tanner Manning of Berkeley Springs, W. Va., Jerrett McCormick, William Boyer, Chesney Sydnor, all of Hagerstown, and Levi Sydnor of Floral City, Fla. He is survived by eighteen great grandchildren, Sunni Schriver, Emma Schriver, Lincoln Bender, Leland Bender, Lillie Keefer, Blake Keefer, Alexis Canfield, Easton Bain, Marshall Bain, Baby Bryner on the way, Walker Manning, Dean Manning, Manse McCormick, Kinnon McCormick, Kase McCormick, Chance Boyer, Oliver Boyer and John Sydnor.

He is preceded in death by his wife of over sixty years, Betty Christine Divel Manning, and Baby Lucas Boyer; one brother Winston Manning, and sisters Catherine Beatty, Virginia Beatty, Marry Mellott, Beulah Fearnow, Violet Trittipoe, Velma Vibbert and Barbara Manning.

George retired from Mack Truck in Hagerstown. He served in the Army and Army Reserves.

He enjoyed hunting, fishing, building bird houses and hunting arrowheads.

He was a member of the Hilltop Chirstian Fellowship, Clear Spring, Md.

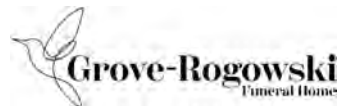
George spent his final five months at Brookdale Assisted Living and referred to it as “home”.

Funeral services were held at Hilltop Christian Fellowship, 12624 Trinity Church Drive, Clear Spring, Md., on Monday, September 21, 2026. Burial followed at Buck Valley Christian Church, 2281 Harmonia Road in Warfordsburg, Pa. Pastors John and Melissa Miller officiated.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Doey’s House by Hospice of Washington County, 11370 Car-ing Pathway Lane, Hagerstown, MD 21742.

Arrangements were handled by the Grove-Rogowski Fu-neral Home in Hancock, Maryland.

Online condolences will be accepted at www.grfuneralhome.net.



Betty Jane Burton
1935-2026



Betty Jane Burton, age 90, of Berkeley Springs, W.Va., passed away on Thursday, September 17, 2026 at Win-chester Medical Center.

Born October 6, 1935 in Berkeley Springs, W.Va., she was the daughter of the late Berkeley Carter and Martha Ellen Barney VanGosen.

She was a member of Cal-vary Bible Church in Berkeley Springs, W.Va. Betty attended Berkeley Springs High School. She worked as a clerk with Bowman’s Department

Store and R & M Department Store for 43 1/2 years. Betty was an avid reader and liked doing crossword puzzles and crafts. She loved putting Thomas Kinkade puzzles together.

Betty is survived by a stepdaughter, Sharon Burton, one sister, Nancy Havermale of Berkeley Springs, W.Va. and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Caudy Jackson “Jack” Burton, four sisters, Ethel Bent, Willadean Courtney, Phyllis Wills and Fairy Emma Jean VanGosen Oyerly and six brothers, Clyde VanGosen, El-dridge VanGosen, Richard VanGosen, Robert VanGosen, Larry VanGosen and Ronald VanGosen.

Funeral services will be conducted at 1 p.m. on Thursday, September 24, 2026 at Calvary Bible Church, 2065 Valley Road, Berkeley Springs, W.Va., with Pastor BJ Worley offi-ciating. Burial will be in Greenway Cemetery.

The family will receive friends on Wednesday, September 23, 2026 from 5-7 p.m. at Helsley-Johnson Funeral Home & Cremation Center, 95 Union Street, Berkeley Springs, WV and from Noon-1 p.m. on Thursday at the church prior to serv-ices.

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

Ruth Marie Miller
1928-2026



Ruth Marie Miller, age 97, of Berkeley Springs, W.Va., passed away on Monday, Sep-tember 21, 2026 at the War Memorial Hospital Extended Care Facility.

Born November 10, 1928 in Berkeley Springs, W.Va., she was the daughter of the late William Harold and Gladys May Beeler Eppinger.

She was a member of High-land Church. Ruth attended Berkeley Springs High School. Ruth worked as a waitress. She was a member of the Repub-

lican Club, War Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, Apple Valley Bowling Association and Highland United Methodist Women. Ruth enjoyed bowling, reading, word searches, quilting, play-ing cards especially Rook, traveling on trips with Schrock Bus Travel, watching her favorite sports teams, the Washington Nationals and Washington Redskins and loved cooking Sun-day dinners for her family. She is especially known for her delicious homemade pies she made for the Warm Springs Res-taurant and many local people.

Ruth is survived by her children, Brenda J. Feltner (David), Darrell S. Miller and Lisa G. Hess (Robert), all of Berkeley Springs, W.Va., one daughter-in-law, Maggie of Fairmont, W.Va., one sister-in-law, Dixie Miller of Berkeley Springs, W.Va., 10 grandchildren, Damian Feltner (Christina), Holly Morgan (Erik), Justin Litten (Amy), Adam Litten (Heather), Julia Miller, Ricky Yost (Ashlea), David Fultz II (April), Brett Fultz (Katelyn), Amber Fleming (Mike) and Cody Hess (Ra-chel), 26 great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Alfred E. Miller, one son, Randy K. Miller, five sisters, Evelyn F. Stotler, Helen J. Younker, Julia M. McBee, Geraldine “Becky” Ruppenthal and Mary Joyce Eppinger and four brothers, Herbert L. Eppinger, William “Bill” Eppinger, Philip B. Eppinger, and Richard H. Eppinger.

Funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m. on Friday, September 25, 2026 at Helsley-Johnson Funeral Home & Cre-mation Center, 95 Union Street, Berkeley Springs, W.Va. with Pastor Kenny Mason officiating. Burial will be in Greenway Cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 1 p.m.-3 p.m. & 5 p.m.-7 p.m. on Thursday at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, contribution in Ruth’s memory may be made to Hospice of the Panhandle, 330 Hospice Lane, Kear-neysville, WV 25430, War Memorial Hospital Extended Care Facility, c/o Resident Fund, 1 Healthy Way, Berkeley Springs, WV 25411 or to Highland Building Fund, c/o Monica Ris-inger, PO Box 104, Berkeley Springs, WV 25411.

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

Rhonda G. Sirbaugh
1948-2026



Rhonda G. Sirbaugh, 77, of Berkeley Springs, W.Va., passed away on Wednesday, September 16, 2026.

Born Rhonda Sue Goodman on November 16, 1948, in Berkeley Springs, she was the daughter of the late Ronald Goodman and Lucy Goodman. She graduated from Berkeley Springs High School in 1966. She went on to West Virginia University in Morgantown, where she was a proud sister of Chi Omega and earned her bachelor's degree in Interior Design in 1970. She later re-turned to WVU to earn her Master’s of Education in 1984.

On August 18, 1973, she married Fred H. Sirbaugh, her hus-band of 53 years.

Rhonda spent her career working with the children who needed her most. She began at Pikeside Learning Center in Berkeley County in 1972, serving students with special needs there for fourteen years. In 1986, she joined Morgan County Schools as a special education teacher, where she taught until her retirement in 2008. Even then she wasn't quite finished — she continued assisting the district's special education depart-ment with diagnostic testing until 2011, closing out nearly forty years of service to West Virginia students.

Those who knew Rhonda knew a woman who loved openly and without reservation. She was generous and welcoming, the kind of person who made anyone who walked through her door feel like family, and everyone who liked her came to love her. She had a way of making people feel comfortable, cared for, and genuinely welcome. Her home was a place where there was always room for one more, whether that meant another person at the table, another conversation at the base-ment bar, or—more often than not—another animal that had somehow found its way into her life.

Rhonda was strong, principled, and never once afraid to speak her mind. She knew what she believed, stood firmly by the people and things she cared about, and had little interest in pretending to be someone she wasn't. She was honest, fiercely loyal, and wonderfully genuine. Beneath that strength was an enormous heart, and the people she loved knew with-out question just how deeply she loved them.

She was immensely proud of her children and treasured every chance to watch them play ball. She was there for the games, the milestones, the celebrations, and all the moments in between. A devoted football fan, she followed her WVU Mountaineers with an enthusiasm the whole neighborhood could hear on game day. Whether they were winning or losing, Rhonda was invested—and everyone around her knew exactly how she felt about the latest play, referee call, or questionable coaching decision.

She was also a lifelong animal lover whose home was rarely without a few fuzzy strays who had wandered in off the street and simply never left. Rhonda never seemed able to turn away an animal that needed a home, and over the years, more than a few found exactly that with her. She cared for them with the same patience, tenderness, and unconditional love she gave to the people in her life.

Rhonda had a personality that was impossible to overlook and a heart that was impossible to forget. She loved deeply, laughed readily, spoke honestly, and gave of herself freely. She left an impression on the people she met, and for those fortunate enough to be loved by her, she leaves behind mem-ories that will remain for the rest of their lives.

She is survived by her husband, Fred H. Sirbaugh, of Berkeley Springs; her daughter, Shea Sirbaugh; and her son, Seth Sirbaugh.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brother, Ronald “Buck” Goodman.

Rhonda has been cremated at her request.

A celebration of her life may be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial con-tributions be made to your local animal shelter.

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

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

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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 serv-ices.

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

Tonoloway Primitive Baptist holds annual fall service

The Annual Fall Worship Service will be held Sunday, October 4, at 2:30 p.m. at the Tonoloway Primitive Baptist Church located at 571 Thompson Road, Needmore, Pa.

Music will be provided by the Sharon Singers, a Men-nonite a cappella group from Harrisonville, Pa.

The speaker will be Pastor Dennis Whitmore of St. Paul’s Reformed Church in Clear Spring, Md.

Donations will be accepted to help on the cost of mainte-nance of the historic church and property. For info, call Connie Barton at 717-294-3468.

Tonoloway Baptist Church was used as a field hospital for wounded and sick Union soldiers after Confederate General Thomas "Stonewall"



Jackson ordered the bom-bardment of Hancock, in January, 1862. The church was likely the first federal field hospital north of the Mason-Dixon line during the Civil War.

Rev. Joseph Powell, the first minister, was selected to be a delegate to the Penn-sylvania Constitution Con-vention in 1789. He is buried in the church cemetery. The other delegate from Bedford County was James Martin. He died in 1809 and is buried in the Union Christian Cem-etery, in Crystal Spring, Pa.

All are welcome.

WHERE WILL BOOKS TAKE YOU?

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Governor Moore announces employer registration for paid family and medical leave insurance is live

Employer registration for Family and Medical Leave Insurance (FAMLI) in Maryland is now live—a critical step forward in implementing this new program.

Employers are strongly encouraged to register as soon as possible at paidleave.maryland.gov, so they can be fully prepared for the rollout of this highly anticipated program, said Governor Wes Moore’s office.

When benefits become available, the program will provide employees with up to 12 weeks of job-protected, paid time off—up to \$1,000 a week—to welcome a new child, tend to their own or a family member’s serious health condition, or manage urgent family needs related to deployment. In addition to helping workers stay financially stable during tough times, this program will help employers recruit and retain talent in a competitive landscape where neighboring jurisdictions—including DC, Delaware, New Jersey, and Virginia—already or will soon offer family and medical leave.

“Maryland workers deserve time to manage the biggest moments in life—having a baby, tending to a serious health condition, caring for a loved one, or managing urgent family needs—without worrying about their employ-

ment,” said Gov. Moore. “Maryland’s paid family and medical leave program will make Maryland’s economy more competitive by helping ensure our workers don’t have to choose between their job and their family and our employers don’t have to choose between supporting their employees and making payroll.”

“As we implement Maryland’s paid leave law, we know employers will have questions about how the program works and specific steps they need to take,” said Maryland Department of Labor Secretary Portia Wu. “Whether you are a small business owner handling HR yourself or a large employer with a big payroll system, the Department of Labor is here to support you every step of the way. We want to make registration as seamless and straightforward as possible.”

FAMLI is an insurance program where contributions go into a dedicated fund that provides partial wage replacement during a period of leave, offering greater financial predictability for both workers and employers.

All employers with at least one Maryland-based employee are required to register. Employers have the choice to participate in FAMLI’s State Plan or apply to provide a private plan.

Under Maryland law, the State Plan is funded through quarterly contributions from employers and employees.

Employers can withhold up to half of the contribution rate from employees via payroll deductions.

Employers with fewer than 15 employees will qualify for FAMLI’s small employer discount, making them exempt from the employer’s portion of the contribution. More than 80% of Maryland employers will qualify for this discount, designed to support Maryland’s small businesses.

When benefits start, either the State Plan or the employer’s private plan will provide partial wage replacement to the employee while they are on leave.

While employers should register now, other key dates are also quickly approaching: employers must begin withholding contributions via payroll deductions in the first pay period in January 2027, and the first contribution payment will be due April 30, 2027. Job-protected, paid leave will become available beginning in January 2028.

For more information about FAMLI, go to paidleave.maryland.gov or contact the Customer Care team at 410-525-4010 or [paidleave@maryland.gov](mailto:leave@maryland.gov).

Maryland welcomes new State Fire Marshal

Colonel Michael A. Jackson announced the appointment of a new Maryland State Fire Marshal.

Caroll H. Spriggs II, 53, has been appointed to the position of Maryland State Fire Marshal for a six-year term. Spriggs will lead the Office of the State Fire Marshal, an agency of the Maryland Department of State Police.

Chief Spriggs will lead the nation’s oldest state fire marshal’s office, overseeing its mission of protecting lives and property through fire prevention, investigation, code enforcement, and public safety education.

Spriggs is also the first African American to serve in this position in the Department’s 132-year history.

Prior to his appointment, Spriggs served as a Deputy Fire Chief for the Prince George’s County Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department. He also served as Deputy Fire Chief for the City of Annapolis and as a Task Force Officer with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF). In 2019, he was elected to serve on the National Bomb Squad Com-

manders Advisory Board. In 2020, he was named secretary. Spriggs also served at the Huntingtown Volunteer Fire Department for 38 years.

“I would like to thank Colonel Jackson for this tremendous opportunity,” Spriggs said. “I look forward to working with all of the partners of the MDSP to continue making Maryland safe.”

The selection process for a new state fire marshal began in May 2026 when the position was advertised. Candidate resumes were reviewed by the State Fire Prevention Commission. The top candidates were forwarded to Colonel Michael A. Jackson, who completed the selection process.

“With a career rooted in service and extensive experience in fire investigation and explosives, Spriggs brings a wealth of knowledge and a commitment to the Maryland State Fire Marshal’s Office,” said Colonel Michael A. Jackson, Superintendent of the Maryland Department of State Police. “I send my sincere appreciation to Chief Deputy Jason Mowbray for his leadership and his continued dedication to the cit-



Chief Carroll Spriggs II.

izens of Maryland.”

Since December 2023, Chief Deputy Jason Mowbray has led the agency as the Acting State Fire Marshal. After ensuring a smooth and successful transition, he will be assigned to the senior management team.

The Office of the State Fire Marshal is responsible for statewide fire, arson, and explosive investigations, enforcement of the State Fire Prevention Code, coordination of fire prevention efforts, and the collection of fire incident data. Fire Marshal Spriggs will oversee the operation of 85 employees, including more than 42 deputy state fire marshals.

Cacapon Resort State Park activities for the week

Thursday, September 24
10 a.m. - Whacky Witch Hazel & Other Interesting Shrubs & Trees. Witch Hazel is brewing up some interesting features currently. We’ll take a short stroll to see their spooktacular leaves. Scented trees will be a focus as well.

1-3 p.m. - Birds of Prey Migration Watch Peak Week. Join us anytime between 1-3 p.m. at Cacapon Mountain overlook (5 miles past the nature center) to watch migrating birds & monarchs. These birds: osprey, bald eagle, northern harrier, broad-winged hawk, American kestrel would be experiencing peak migration at this time. Other wildlife could be spotted: vultures, ravens, crow, deer, monarch butterflies. Come join us just this one time or all the birds of prey watch series listed in the upcoming events. Binoculars will be provided or bring your own. Dress for the weather but this event will be canceled due to rain, fog or snow.

3:30 p.m. - Bush Craft. We’ll make cordage from several natural plants. Yucca, day lilies, irises, and gladiolus will be a few. All materials provided. Yours to take home.

Friday, September 25
2-3 p.m. - Monarch Tagging Demonstration. September is peak Monarch butterfly migration month, when monarchs migrate south to Mexico over a 2,500 mile journey. Be part of a community science project through <https://monarchwatch.org/> that helps tag monarchs along their migration route in West Virginia. A slideshow will be shown to understand the monarchs life cycle; host plant; and more details of their great migration. At the end of the hour, together the class will tag a live monarch butterfly together. Free and fun for all ages.

Saturday, September 26
10 a.m. - National Public Lands Day Bioblitz Walk. Naturalist is an online community for sharing nature observations, identifying species, and contributing to science and conservation data. Meet at the nature center for this National Public Land Day Bioblitz with NEEF. Explore the monarch waystation, forested areas along a trail, and pond habitats.

2-3 p.m. - Monarch Tagging Demonstration. September is peak Monarch butterfly migration month, when monarchs migrate south to Mexico over a 2,500 mile journey. Be part of a community science project through <https://monarchwatch.org/> that helps tag monarchs along their migration route in West Virginia. A slideshow will be shown to understand the monarchs life cycle; host plant; and more details of their great migra-

tion. At the end of the hour, together the class will tag a live monarch butterfly together. Free and fun for all ages.

6:15 p.m. - Irish Road Bowling. Join our volunteer and West Virginia Master Naturalist Dale for WV sport of Irish Road Bowling. Meet at the nature center. He’ll divide you into groups and everyone will use a small cannonball to roll around the nature center loop. Lowest amount of throws wins.

7:15-8:45 p.m. - Full Harvest Moon Hike. Meet at the lodge. We’ll walk to the Upper Lake listening and/or looking for: salamanders, bats, owls, deer and the moon. For those that want a longer hike, we’ll continue a walk to the North Fork Cabins and learn a little about the CCC who built the park.

Sunday, September 27
9-11:30 a.m. - At Berkeley Springs State Park: 1. Critter Find: Use nets to catch critters found in the warm springs stream. 2. Monarch Information Tagging & Release.

1 p.m. - A Lizard’s Life. We’ll learn about WV lizards. If it is sunny, there’s a good chance we’ll see 1 or 2 different species around the nature center.

1:30 p.m. - I Spy. Monarch Butterflies Can you find monarch eggs, caterpillars, chrysalis or adults in our pollinator garden? Children can win a sticker. Fun for all ages. Eggs, caterpillars, and adults have been found.

2:30 p.m. - Sand Art Using Salt. We’ll make a take home jar of your creation.

Wedding Invitations

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People Told Us...

—MAN JOKED: I’m working on a pun about the wind, but right now it’s just a draft.

—September’s full moon—the Full Corn or Harvest Moon—shines this Saturday, September 26.

—Time to bring your potted herbs inside before the first frost.

—The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is free and confidential for people in distress. Dial 988 to reach help.

—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*.



The Hancock News

Section II

- Sports
- School News
- Public Notices
- Classifieds
- Real Estate

Lady Panthers pounce over Paw Paw 3-0

by Lisa Schauer

Hancock High School's varsity volleyball team won their match on home court against Paw Paw High School by a score of 3-0 on Thursday, September 17.

"The girls had an impressive victory, showcasing strong teamwork, determination, and confidence from the first serve to the final point," said Coach Christi Mosier.

The team's most recent win was a boost after losing their match in Berkeley Springs on Monday, September 14 by a score of 0-3.

Tonight, the Lady Panthers (2-1) travel to Warfordsburg to face off against another Indian tribe, Southern Fulton (3-2).

Tipoff is at 7:30 p.m.



Maya Shoemaker goes up to try to return the ball that Indian Abigail Close slams across the net.
photos by Lori Younker



Kaybree Souders goes up to return the ball.



Madison Booth keeps the ball in play.



Sarah Smith stretches for the ball.



Payton McMahon slams the ball back over the net.

Panther's Den



VOLLEYBALL

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	W/L	SCORE
Sept. 9	Forbes Road	6 p.m.	W	3-0
Sept. 14	at Berkeley Springs (JV/V)	5:30 p.m.	L	0-3
Sept. 17	Paw Paw	5:30 p.m.	W	3-0
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.

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!

How to Contact Schools & Officials

Hancock Middle-Senior High School
301-766-8186
Website: <https://hms.hs.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

READ ANYTIME, ANYWHERE!



PUBLIC NOTICES

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS**
Estate No. 79349
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Jack Donald Cushwa.

Notice is given that Donald Lee Cus-hwa, 425 Kinslow St., Hagerstown, MD 21740-3705 was on August 26, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Jack Donald Cushwa who died on September 20, 2021 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 attor-ney.

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal repre-sentative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 26th day of February, 2027.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Reg-ister of Wills on or before the 26th day of February, 2027.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representa-tive 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 deced-ent 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 del-ivers to the creditor a copy of this pub-lished 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 be-fore that date, or any extension pro-vided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be ob-tained from the Register of Wills.

Donald Lee Cushwa
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-9-3th

Lena Clark, ESQ.
Law Office of Lena A. Clark
129 W. Patrick St. Ste 11
Frederick, MD 21701-5688
**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS**

Estate No. 83805
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Irene Elizabeth Dunkin.

Notice is given that Sandra L. Pryor, 106 Bonneau Ct., Summerville, SC 29485-5019 was on August 26, 2026 appointed personal representa-tive of the estate of Irene Elizabeth Dunkin who died on July 27, 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 attor-ney.

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal repre-sentative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 26th day of February, 2027.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Reg-ister of Wills on or before the 26th day of February, 2027.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representa-tive 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 deced-ent 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 del-ivers to the creditor a copy of this pub-lished 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 be-fore that date, or any extension pro-vided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be ob-tained from the Register of Wills.

Sandra L. Pryor
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-9-3th


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

**PUR-1814
SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT
SCHOOL-BASED
MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM
IN WASHINGTON COUNTY,
MARYLAND**

On April 14, 2026, the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County, Maryland awarded a sole source procurement to Brook Lane in the amount of \$320,335 for Operating expenses for the School-Based Mental Health Program, contingent upon contract approval and the subsequent funding award from the Maryland Gov-ernor's Office for Children (GOC).

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:
Purchasing Director
Brandi J. Kentner
9-23-1th

Donald H. Sheffy, ESQ.
1402 Eisenhower Avenue Unit 104
Valparaiso, IN 46383
**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS**
Estate No. 83698
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Cedric Scott Wil-iams.

Notice is given that Thomas J. Wil-iams, 2425 Northlglen Dr., Fort Worth, TX 76119-2747 was on July 8, 2026 appointed personal representative of the estate of Cedric Scott Williams who died on February 10, 2026 without a will.

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

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal repre-sentative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 8th day of January, 2027.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Reg-ister of Wills on or before the 8th day of January, 2027.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representa-tive 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 deced-ent 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 del-ivers to the creditor a copy of this pub-lished 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 be-fore that date, or any extension pro-vided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be ob-tained from the Register of Wills.

Thomas J. Williams
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-9-3th

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS**
Estate No. 83810
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Mildred Irene Wat-kins.

Notice is given that John Clark Wat-kins II, 72 Stiffalt Rd., Hedgesville, WV 25427-1727 was on August 24, 2026 appointed personal representative of the estate of Mildred Irene Watkins who died on August 11, 2026 without a will.

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

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal repre-sentative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 24th day of February, 2027.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Reg-ister of Wills on or before the 24th day of February, 2027.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representa-tive 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 deced-ent 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 del-ivers to the creditor a copy of this pub-lished 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 be-fore that date, or any extension pro-vided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be ob-tained from the Register of Wills.

John Clark Watkins II
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-9-3th

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

IN THE ESTATE OF:
Richard Ryno Flook

Estate No. 82926
NOTICE OF JUDICIAL PROBATE
To all persons interested in the above estate:

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed by Julie Lough, 10728 Connor Dr., Wil-liamsport, MD 21795-3165 for ju-dicial probate of the will dated October 7, 2015 and for the ap-pointment of a personal represen-tative.

A hearing will be held at Wash-ington County Orphans' Court, 100 W. Washington St., Ste. 3500, Hagerstown, MD 21740 on Oc-tober 20, 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
pd9-16-2th

Holly A. Musselman
Brezalaw
11019 McCormick Rd. Ste. 400
Hunt Valley, MD 21031-1407
**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS**

Estate No. 83819
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Donn Francis Eb-berts.

Notice is given that Kimberly Harris, 3007 Marker Rd., Middletown, MD 21769-8310 was on August 31, 2026 appointed personal representative of the estate of Donn Francis Ebberts who died on June 25, 2026 without a will.

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

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal repre-sentative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 28th day of February, 2027.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Reg-ister of Wills on or before the 28th day of February, 2027.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representa-tive 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 deced-ent 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 del-ivers to the creditor a copy of this pub-lished 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 be-fore that date, or any extension pro-vided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be ob-tained from the Register of Wills.

Kimberly Harris
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-9-3th

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS**
Estate No. 83777
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Eloaise Mae Ar-nold.

Notice is given that Pamela Arnold, 11115 Pinewood Cir., Hagerstown, MD 21742-4007 was on August 28, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Eloaise Mae Arnold who died on August 1, 2026 with a will.

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

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal repre-sentative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 28th day of February, 2027.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Reg-ister of Wills on or before the 28th day of February, 2027.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representa-tive 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 deced-ent 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 del-ivers to the creditor a copy of this pub-lished 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 be-fore that date, or any extension pro-vided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be ob-tained from the Register of Wills.

Pamela Arnold
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-9-3th

**PUR-1760
SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT
FAMILY CENTERED SUPPORT
SERVICE IN WASHINGTON
COUNTY, MD**

On July 15, 2025, the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County, Maryland awarded a sole source procurement of family centered support service in Washington County, MD to the Washington County Social Services in the amount of \$91,464 for Operating expenses of the Family Center operated by the Washington County Department of Social Services (WCDSS) contingent upon contract approval and the subsequent funding award from the Maryland Governor's Office for Children (GOC) and was ap-proved by the Washington County Local Management Board at its meet-ing on March 21, 2025. The request for the first two consecutive one-year periods was approved by the Board. This contract renewal is effective from July 2026 – June 30, 2027.

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. Pub-lication of this notice is in compliance with Section 1.106.2.(e)(1) of the Code of the Public Local Laws of Washington County, Maryland.

By Authority of:
Brandi J. Kentner, CPPO
Director of Purchasing
9-23-1th

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

Estate No. 83749
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Ellen Mae Diehl AKA: Ellen Burkett Diehl.

Notice is given that Rebecca Diehl Sheredy, 1140 Hamilton Blvd., Hager-stown, MD 21742-3339 was on August 10, 2026 appointed Personal Repre-sentative of the estate of Ellen Mae Diehl who died on June 19, 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 attor-ney.

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal repre-sentative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 10th day of February, 2027.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Reg-ister of Wills on or before the 10th day of February, 2027.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representa-tive 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 deced-ent 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 del-ivers to the creditor a copy of this pub-lished 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 be-fore that date, or any extension pro-vided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be ob-tained from the Register of Wills.

Rebecca Diehl Sheredy
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-9-3th

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

Estate No. 83809
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Janice Spessard Shane.

Notice is given that Brenda Shane, 16168 Spielman Rd., Williamsport, MD 21795-4104 was on August 31, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Janice Spessard Shane who died on August 5, 2026 with a will.

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

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal repre-sentative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 28th day of February, 2027.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Reg-ister of Wills on or before the 28th day of February, 2027.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representa-tive 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 deced-ent 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 del-ivers to the creditor a copy of this pub-lished 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 be-fore that date, or any extension pro-vided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be ob-tained from the Register of Wills.

Brenda Shane
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-9-3th

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS**
Estate No. 83724
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Pamela Jean Gourlay.

Notice is given that Sean Gourlay, 9536 Purcell Dr., Potomac, MD 20854-4542 and Tracy Wegner, 18223 Rock-land Dr., Hagerstown, MD 21740-1461 were on August 27, 2026 appointed Personal Representatives of the estate of Pamela Jean Gourlay who died on May 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 representatives or the at-torney.

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal repre-sentatives shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 27th day of February, 2027.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Reg-ister of Wills on or before the 27th day of February, 2027.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representa-tives 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 deced-ent 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 del-ivers to the creditor a copy of this pub-lished 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 be-fore that date, or any extension pro-vided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be ob-tained from the Register of Wills.

Sean Gourlay
Tracy Wegner
Personal Representatives
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-9-3th

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

Estate No. 82567
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Laura Louise Traver.

Notice is given that Jack Woodrow Slick, 19405 Emerald Sq. Ste 1400, Hagerstown, MD 21742-3666 was on September 3, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Laura Louise Traver who died on April 13, 2025 with a will.

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

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal repre-sentative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 3rd day of March, 2027.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Reg-ister of Wills on or before the 3rd day of March, 2027.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representa-tive 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 deced-ent 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 del-ivers to the creditor a copy of this pub-lished 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 be-fore that date, or any extension pro-vided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be ob-tained from the Register of Wills.

Jack Woodrow Slick
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-16-3th

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS**
Estate No. 83822
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Cecil William Dag-enhart.

Notice is given that Brenda Woods, 7622 Fairplay Rd., Boonsboro, MD 21713-2319 and Wanda Crilly, 10901 Gaywood Dr., Hagerstown, MD 21740-7724 were on September 1, 2026 ap-pointed Personal Representatives of the estate of Cecil William Dagenhart who died on July 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 representatives or the at-torney.

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal repre-sentative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 1st day of March, 2027.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Reg-ister of Wills on or before the 1st day of March, 2027.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representa-tives 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 deced-ent 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 del-ivers to the creditor a copy of this pub-lished 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 be-fore that date, or any extension pro-vided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be ob-tained from the Register of Wills.

Brenda Woods
Wanda Crilly
Personal Representatives
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-16-3th

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

Estate No. 83611
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Lois Jean Joy.

Notice is given that Ramon Theo-dore Joy, Jr., 15012 Bottom Rd., Wil-liamsport, MD 21795-3008 was on September 1, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Lois Jean Joy who died on March 12, 2025 with a will.

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

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal repre-sentative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 1st day of March, 2027.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Reg-ister of Wills on or before the 1st day of March, 2027.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representa-tive 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 deced-ent 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 del-ivers to the creditor a copy of this pub-lished 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 be-fore that date, or any extension pro-vided by law, is unenforceable thereafter. Claim forms may be ob-tained from the Register of Wills.

Ramon Theodore Joy, Jr.
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-16-3th

**TOWN OF HANCOCK
SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE**
The Mayor and Council will convene a **special meeting on Thursday, September 24 at 7:00 p.m.** at Hancock Town Hall, 126 W. High Street.
The sole purpose of this meeting is to **open and review competitive proposals submitted for the purchase of Town equipment.**

**STOP BY AND
CHECK US OUT**
The Hancock News
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• Advertising • Business Cards
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6	7	1	9	4	5	3	2	8
3	8	4	1	6	2	5	9	7
9	5	2	7	3	8	6	1	4
8	6	5	2	7	4	1	3	9
2	9	7	3	1	6	8	4	5
4	1	3	8	5	9	2	7	6
1	4	9	6	8	3	7	5	2
5	3	6	4	2	7	9	8	1
7	2	8	5	9	1	4	6	3

PUBLIC NOTICES

Lena Clark, ESQ.
Law Office of Lena A. Clark
129 W. Patrick St. Ste. 11
Frederick, MD 21701-5688
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Estate No. 83839
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Peggy Ann Haney.

Notice is given that Ryan D. Skiles, 12468 Carlson Ct., Mercersburg, PA 17236-8750 was on September 3, 2026 appointed personal representative of the estate of Peggy Ann Haney who died on July 25, 2026 with a will.

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

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 3rd day of March, 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 3rd day of March, 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.

Ryan D. Skiles
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-16-3th

Russ Robinson
152 W. Washington Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Estate No. 83843
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Ronald E. Swee-
ney.

Notice is given that Amy Diane Thompson, 73 Grouse Lane, Berkeley Springs, WV 25411 was on September 8, 2026 appointed personal representative of the estate of Ronald E. Swee-
ney who died on October 3, 2024 without a will.

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

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 8th day of March, 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 8th day of March, 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 Diane Thompson
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-16-3th

Joseph Chukla, Jr. ESQ.
21310 Letters Mill Road
Hagerstown, MD 21742
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Estate No. 83773
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Karl Kurt Kemp

Notice is given that Sandra Blacklance, 501 Skyline Dr., Selmer, TN 38375-3245 was on September 3, 2026 appointed personal representative of the estate of Karl Kurt Kemp who died on August 14, 2025 without a will.

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

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 3rd day of March, 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 3rd day of March, 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.

Sandra Blacklance
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-16-3th

Jamie K. Blair
Furey Doolan & Abell LLP
7600 Wisconsin Ave. Ste. 600
Bethesda, MD 20814-9500
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Estate No. 83831
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Tyler Vincent Or-
cino.

Notice is given that Mary Faye Orcino, 2201 Middlegreen Ct. Apt. 204, Lancaster, PA 17601-2088 was on September 2, 2026 appointed personal representative of the estate of Tyler Vincent Orcino who died on March 30, 2026 without a will.

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

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 2nd day of March, 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 2nd day of March, 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.

Mary Faye Orcino
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-16-3th

Nicole R. Hewitt
1447 York Road, Ste. 204
Lutherville, MD 21093
NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF
APPOINTMENT OF FOREIGN
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Estate No: 83826
Notice is given that the Circuit court of Hillsborough County, Florida appointed Jo Ann Hadley, 1709 Tahoe Drive, Sun City Center, FL 33573 as the Personal Representative of the estate of Roger L. Cline who died on February 23, 2024 domiciled in Hillsborough County, Florida, USA.

The Maryland resident agent for service of process is Nicole R. Hewitt, whose address is 1447 York Road, Ste. 204, Lutherville, MD 21093.

At the time of death, the decedent owned real or leasehold property in the following Maryland counties: Washington County.

All persons having claims against the decedent must file their claims with the Register of Wills for Washington County with a copy to the foreign personal representative 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 foreign personal representative mails or 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 claim within two months from the mailing or other delivery of the notice. Claims filed after that date or after a date extended by law will be barred.

Jo Ann Hadley
Foreign Personal Representative
Honorable Lacy M. Flook
Register of Wills
Washington County, MD
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-16-3th

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Estate No. 83791
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Clarence Dwight Heintzelman.

Notice is given that Julie Heintzelman, 19069 Fort Davis Rd., Mercersburg, PA 17236-9430 and Darin Heintzelman, 19069 Fort Davis Rd., Mercersburg, PA 17236-9430 were on September 8, 2026 appointed Personal Representatives of the estate of Clarence Dwight Heintzelman who died on August 13, 2026 with a will.

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

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representatives shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 8th day of March, 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 8th day of March, 2027.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representatives 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.

Julie Heintzelman
Darin Heintzelman
Personal Representatives
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-16-3th

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.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Estate No. 83702
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Kenneth Heath Hartung.

Notice is given that Gabriel Hartung, 7425 Walton Ln., Annandale, VA 22003-2504 was on September 8, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Kenneth Heath Hartung who died on June 4, 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 8th day of March, 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 8th day of March, 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.

Gabriel Hartung
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-16-3th

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Estate No. 83760
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Betty Jane Zeigler.

Notice is given that Sara Elizabeth Zeigler, 14612 Pennsylvania Ave., Hagerstown, MD 21742-1671 was on September 1, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Betty Jane Zeigler who died on July 28, 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 1st day of March, 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 1st day of March, 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.

Sara Elizabeth Zeigler
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-16-3th

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Estate No. 83830
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Margaret Colleen Shank.

Notice is given that Stephen Lee Shank, 2150 Whitacre Rd., Cross Junction, VA 22625-2260 was on September 10, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Margaret Colleen Shank who died on August 29, 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 10th day of March, 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 10th day of March, 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.

Stephen Lee Shank
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-23-3th

NOTICE OF SALE

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

SUBSTITUTE
MORTGAGEE'S SALE
OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY
1014 POPE AVENUE,
HAGERSTOWN, MD 21740

Under a power of sale contained in Purchase Money Mortgage from Erika T. Bell dated November 22, 2019 and recorded in Liber 6122, folio 93, 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 Mortgagee 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

October 9, 2026 at 1:00 PM

All that lot or parcel of land, together with the improvements thereon, situated in Washington Co., MD more fully described in the aforesaid Mortgage. The property is improved by a dwelling.

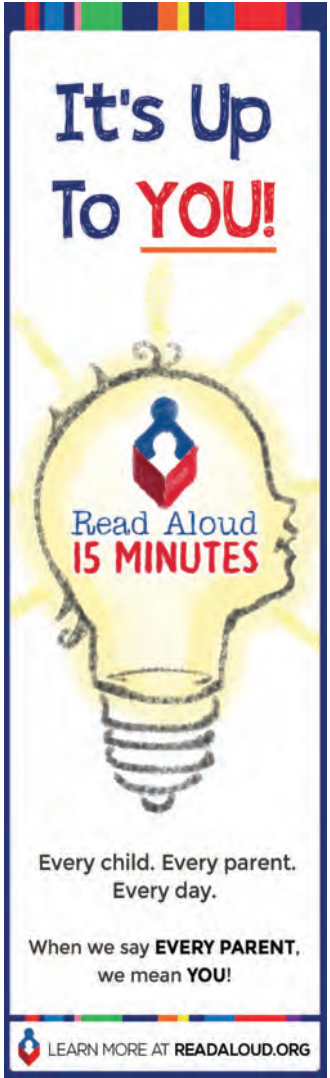
The Property will be sold in "as is" condition and Subject to conditions, restrictions, easements, encumbrances and agreements of record affecting the subject property, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit in the form of cashier's check or certified check, or in such other form as the Substitute Mortgagee may determine, at their 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 Mortgagee, 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 Mortgagee 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 Mortgagee. 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 Mortgagee

RONNIE R. ZIMMERMAN
AUCTIONEERING
14504 Reel Road
Hancock, MD 21750
301-331-6821

Property Address:
1014 Pope Avenue
Hagerstown, MD 21740
Tax ID No. 17-032836
9-23-3thn



SEPTEMBER GUN AUCTION

944 MARTINSBURG ROAD
BERKELEY SPRINGS, WV

AUCTION CLOSSES SEPTEMBER 29

YAMAUCTIONS.COM

PREVIEW SEPTEMBER 28 • 2:00pm-6:00pm



This virtual (online-only) auction features more than three dozen firearms by American Tactical, Bergara, Browning, Crescent Firearms, CVA, CZ, Harrington & Richardson, Marlin, Mossberg, New England Firearms, Remington, Rock-ola, Ruger, Savage, Springfield Armory, Stoeger E.R. Amantino, Thompson Center Arms, Traditions, TriStar, Weatherby, and Winchester, as well as ammo, scopes, hardside cases, and other accessories. Firearms include M1 Carabines & Garands, Winchester 52C rifles, NIB rifles and shotgun, and more!

Youngblood and McPeak

Auctions

LEWIS R. YOUNGBLOOD
WV LIC 2357
304-676-2934
AUCTION ZIP ID 49660

COLIN H. McPEAK
WV LIC 2350
304-283-6599
GOTOAUCTION ID 7847



WE CANCEL TIMESHARES

Many people think they're stuck with their timeshare forever—but that's often not the case. Wesley Financial Group has helped more than 50,000 families break free from unwanted timeshares, and we may be able to help you, too. If you were misled, pressured, or deceived during your purchase, you could qualify for cancellation.

How Does the Cancellation Process Work?

- Start with a **FREE** consultation to tell us your story.
- If we determine your case qualifies, you'll be paired with a specialist to guide you through the process.
- Our **Resolution Department** works diligently to cancel your timeshare and help stop related maintenance fees—permanently.

Thousands of timeshare owners have already found relief through our proven process. You could be just one phone call away from peace of mind. Our dedicated team is ready to help.

Get your free information kit and see if you qualify:

Call 1.888.984.2917

*This is an advertisement. Wesley Financial Group, LLC ("WFG") and its affiliates, successors, or assigns are not lawyers and do not provide legal advice or legal representation. Actual results depend on each client's distinct case, and no specific outcome is guaranteed.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Jeanne F. Singer, ESQ.
864 Jefferson Blvd.
Hagerstown, MD 21740
**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS**

Estate No. 83748
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF George Edward Manger, Jr.

Notice is given that Jessica Decesare, 1215 Woods Rd., Westminster, MD 21158-2959 was on September 10, 2026 appointed personal representative of the estate of George Edward Manger, Jr. who died on July 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 10th day of March, 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 10th day of March, 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.

Jessica Decesare
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-23-3th

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

Estate No. 83692
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Ernest Alvey Truax.

Notice is given that Kathy Lynn Keefer, 130 Rumsey Ter., Martinsburg, WV 25403-1589 was on September 14, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Ernest Alvey Truax who died on April 21, 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 14th day of March, 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 14th day of March, 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.

Kathy Lynn Keefer
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-23-3th

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

Estate No. 83802
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Ronald Eugene Hartman.

Notice is given that Debra Curry, 436 Jefferson St., Hagerstown, MD 21740-4056 and Linda Jones, 1188 Avondale Ct., Frederick, MD 21702-3965 were on September 11, 2026 appointed Personal Representatives of the estate of Ronald Eugene Hartman who died on August 6, 2026 with a will.

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

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representatives shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 11th day of March, 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 11th day of March, 2027.

Any person having a claim against the decedent must present the claim to the undersigned personal representatives 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.

Debra Curry
Linda Jones
Personal Representatives
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-23-3th

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

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

Estate No. 83855
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Jacob William Shaw, Jr.

Notice is given that Richard Shaw, 21427 Black Rock Rd., Hagerstown, MD 21740-1829 was on September 15, 2026 appointed personal representative of the estate of Jacob William Shaw, Jr. who died on July 22, 2026 with a will.

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

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

Richard Shaw
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd9-23-3th

ONLINE MUNICIPAL TAX SALE OF REAL ESTATE

WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND
CITY OF HAGERSTOWN AND TOWNS OF BOONSBORO, FUNKSTOWN, HANCOCK AND WILLIAMSPORT
Online sale begins October 8, 2026 - GovEase.com

As authorized by Title 14, Subtitle 8, Tax-Property Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, notice having been given as required therein, the Washington County Treasurer will conduct an online municipal tax sale on behalf of the participating municipalities listed below. The online sale will commence on October 8, 2026 and will remain open for ten (10) calendar days, through October 17, 2026. The sale will be conducted through GovEase.com.

PROPERTIES SUBJECT TO SALE: The properties listed below were submitted by the respective municipalities because of delinquent municipal taxes, charges, water bills, or other municipal liens. Properties that do not satisfy the applicable statutory minimum for owner-occupied property are not included in this advertisement. Any listed property for which all amounts required to remove the property from sale are paid before the property is sold may be removed from the sale.

ADMINISTRATION OF MUNICIPAL TAX SALE: The Washington County Treasurer is conducting the online municipal tax sale. Each participating municipality will issue its own municipal tax sale certificate for property sold on its behalf and will remain responsible for the collection and accounting of its delinquent municipal taxes, charges, and liens. The municipality will be reimbursed for the amounts due to it from tax sale proceeds remitted directly through GovEase.com. After the sale, redemption payments are to be made to and accepted by the municipality that issued the tax sale certificate, in accordance with applicable Maryland law.

BIDDER REGISTRATION AND ONLINE BIDDING: Bidders must use the GovEase.com online tax sale platform to register and participate in the sale. Prospective bidders are responsible for completing all registration requirements imposed by the online auction platform and for reviewing the sale information and instructions provided there.

TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder will be required to comply with the payment requirements and other terms established for the online municipal tax sale. Neither the Washington County Treasurer, Washington County, nor any participating municipality makes any representation or warranty as to title, condition, use, occupancy, boundaries, or other matters affecting any parcel offered for sale. Purchasers are responsible for conducting their own due diligence and for all costs associated with any later proceeding to foreclose the right of redemption.

RIGHT OF REDEMPTION / FORECLOSURE: Rights of redemption and proceedings to foreclose rights of redemption are governed by Title 14, Subtitle 8 of the Tax-Property Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, including the time periods applicable to owner-occupied and non-owner-occupied property. A purchaser receives a tax sale certificate and does not receive immediate ownership or possession of the property.

Questions concerning the conduct of the online municipal tax sale may be directed to the Washington County Treasurer's Office at 240-313-2110. Questions concerning a municipal delinquency, municipal tax sale certificate, or redemption payment should be directed to the municipality for which the property was sold.

Properties listed in the municipal tax sale include parcels of land situate in Washington County, Maryland and shown on the assessment rolls as follows:

TOWN OF BOONSBORO			
Acct No.: 06-015379	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$875,800	Opening Bid: \$6,473.56
Desc: Parcel A 43.79 Acres 6633 Old National Pike Name: Preserve @ Fox Gap, LLC			

TOWN OF FUNKSTOWN			
Acct No.: 10-011396	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$123,130	Opening Bid: \$497.03
Desc: LOT 82 40.85X90 111 E. CHESTNUT STREET Name: JAMES KERSHNER			

Acct No.: 10-002443	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$202,567	Opening Bid: \$815.92
Desc: LOT 170 26X131 7 & 9 W BALTIMORE ST Name: BENJAMIN NEEDHAM			

CITY OF HAGERSTOWN			
Acct No.: 03-002608	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$91,200	Opening Bid: \$1,061.83
Desc: LOT 23 SEC 19 25X150 845 CHESTNUT ST Name: RAMIREZ BAYRON RENE MIRANDA			

Acct No.: 03-005232	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$128,700	Opening Bid: \$1,510.00
Desc: LOT18 SECTION 9 1029 MAIN AVE Name: RC HOME SOLUTION LLC			

Acct No.: 03-012638	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$46,400	Opening Bid: \$80,036.78
Desc: LOT 17 40X75 10-12 ELIZABETH ST Name: LIGHT TIMOTHY C			

Acct No.: 03-012700	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$135,400	Opening Bid: \$1,588.61
Desc: LT 4 .064AC 28X100 809 GUILFORD AVE Name: REZK YOUSSEF			

Acct No.: 03-016854	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$1,555,800	Opening Bid: \$15,429.44
Desc: LOT 36X146.5 1/3 S POTOMAC ST Name: PROFESSIONAL ARTS BUILDING LLC THE			

Acct No.: 03-023699	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$106,700	Opening Bid: \$1,110.00
Desc: PAR C 0.17 ACRE 425 W ANTIETAM ST Name: SCOTT THOMAS			

Acct No.: 03-033503	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$20,600	Opening Bid: \$239.51
Desc: LOT 1 0.28 ACRES 433 W ANTIETAM ST Name: SCOTT THOMAS H			

Acct No.: 03-033511	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$112,100	Opening Bid: \$1,110.00
Desc: LOT 2 0.26 ACRES 429 W ANTIETAM ST Name: SCOTT THOMAS H			

Acct No.: 17-000802	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$422,400	Opening Bid: \$4,955.89
Desc: LOT 144X165 200-212 S POTOMAC ST Name: YGB INVESTMENTS LLC			

Acct No.: 17-003992	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$103,800	Opening Bid: \$1,217.86
Desc: LOT 16X83 36 S LOCUST ST Name: SMITH DORIS J			

Acct No.: 17-006339	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$265,800	Opening Bid: \$3,583.82
Desc: LOT 98X200 0.36 ACR 640-642 FREDERICK ST Name: MORRISON JAMES W			

Acct No.: 17-006843	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$252,600	Opening Bid: \$1,459.14
Desc: LOT 26X205 .122AC 262 S POTOMAC ST Name: MARTIN CHRISTOPHER BRADLEY			

Acct No.: 17-007238	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$93,400	Opening Bid: \$1,095.84
Desc: PARCEL B 19.75X146 338 S LOCUST ST Name: 338 SOUTH LOCUST STREET			

Acct No.: 17-013467	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$402,500	Opening Bid: \$4,722.42
Desc: LOT 1 IRREG 224 ACRES 154-158 S POTOMAC ST Name: GIDEON PROPERTIES LLC			

Acct No.: 17-015427	Tax Year: 2025	Asmnt: \$1,292,500	Opening Bid: \$15,929.55
Desc: UNIT 1 1.60 ACRE 901 DUAL HWY (BAREFOOT B Name: DC BROTHERS LLC			

Acct No.: 17-016423	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$140,900	Opening Bid: \$1,653.13
Desc: LOT 16.25X200 244 S POTOMAC ST Name: LEGIT MANAGEMENT LLC			

Acct No.: 17-020536	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$790,000	Opening Bid: \$9,268.83
Desc: LOT 13 8.236 ACRES PAUL SMITH BLVD Name: SHAOOL HAGERSTOWN COMMONS			

Acct No.: 17-065651	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$217,000	Opening Bid: \$2,546.00
Desc: CELL TOWER SITE BOWMAN AVE Name: SHENTEL PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS LL			

Acct No.: 21-006572	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$0	Opening Bid: \$46,414.28
Desc: .73 AC OPEN SPACE SW/S GARST COURT Name: R & J BUILDERS INC			

Acct No.: 21-018783	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$179,306	Opening Bid: \$2,087.63
Desc: LOT 1 SEC G 62X100 1101 BEECHWOOD DR Name: ROWLAND CHARLES L			

Acct No.: 22-001523	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$596,600	Opening Bid: \$6,999.73
Desc: 19.37 ACRES SECURITY ROAD Name: BROOK MEADOW LLC			

Acct No.: 22-003623	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$243,900	Opening Bid: \$2,861.60
Desc: LOT 80X240 412 N POTOMAC ST Name: SHEDRICK HOLDINGS LLC			

Acct No.: 22-005081	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$150,200	Opening Bid: \$1,762.25
Desc: LOT 68 PT 67 48X235 626 POTOMAC AVENUE Name: NIKAAR HOLDINGS LLC			

Acct No.: 22-005340	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$144,200	Opening Bid: \$1,691.85
Desc: EASTERN PT LOT 106 50 BROADWAY Name: BAPTISTE KEVIN			

Acct No.: 22-008641	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$114,500	Opening Bid: \$1,333.12
Desc: 1/2 LOT 17.5X83 307 N LOCUST ST Name: CHAUDHARY NABILA R			

Acct No.: 22-008889	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$126,100	Opening Bid: \$1,479.50
Desc: LOT 20X113 0.05 ACR 535 N LOCUST ST Name: ZAKI ZOHAAN LLC			

Acct No.: 22-024833	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$316,100	Opening Bid: \$3,708.71
Desc: LOT 43 .12 AC 184 BRYNWOOD ST Name: ROBINWOOD REALTY LLC			

Acct No.: 25-000994	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$92,400	Opening Bid: \$1,075.81
Desc: LT 46X33 .035AC 54 WINTER STREET Name: MALDONADO LUZ ENEDIA			

Acct No.: 25-003276	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$135,300	Opening Bid: \$3,408.25
Desc: LTS17&18 80X140 .25A 44 WATER ST Name: BENEFIT SERVICES LLC			

Acct No.: 25-005325	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$111,200	Opening Bid: \$1,304.67
Desc: LOT 25X74 .05AC 231/233 ALEXANDER ST Name: 231 ALEXANDER STREET LLC			

Acct No.: 25-009517	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$405,900	Opening Bid: \$4,762.30
Desc: 1/2 LOT 5 41.3X240 41/43/45 N POTOMAC ST Name: JOHNSON TAMARA			

Acct No.: 25-016319	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$95,400	Opening Bid: \$1,119.30
Desc: LT .064AC 10.5X136.5 821 WEST FRANKLIN ST Name: MURRAY MICHAEL C			

Acct No.: 25-022777	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$114,900	Opening Bid: \$1,348.08
Desc: LOT 0.08 ACRE 424 JONATHAN ST Name: MELENDEZ MARIA ROSA			

Acct No.: 25-023609	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$177,300	Opening Bid: \$2,064.27
Desc: LOT 50X140 0.17ACR 833/835 W FRANKLIN ST Name: SMITH DORIS J			

Acct No.: 25-034848	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$83,500	Opening Bid: \$979.69
Desc: LOT 40X60 132 BETHEL ST Name: LODGE OAK SPRING #41 AF&AM			

Acct No.: 25-038592	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$281,800	Opening Bid: \$3,280.96
Desc: LOT T233 .08 AC 17657 POTTER BELL WAY Name: CCARHUARUPAY MAGALY OCHOA			

Acct No.: 25-042867	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$259,100	Opening Bid: \$5,924.81
Desc: LOT TH72 .06AC PHS 1 18215 HURRICANE COURT Name: RODRIGUEZ LUIS FLORES			

TOWN OF HANCOCK			
Acct No.: 05-018943	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$154,400	Opening Bid: \$910.50
Desc: LOT 88 X 320 20 1/2 E MAIN STREET Name: FRANCES YOUNKER			

Acct No.: 05-002699	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$46,000	Opening Bid: \$281.79
Desc: LOT 33 X 90 109 E MAIN STREET Name: PETER PELTIER			

Acct No.: 05-018498	Tax Year: 2026	Asmnt: \$96,267	Opening Bid: \$592.79
Desc: 1/2 LOT 33.5 X 150 201 W MAIN STREET Name: FREDDIE MADDOX			

Acct No.:

Classified Ads

Classified Ads - 25 cents per word first week, 18 cents per word for the same ad in each issue thereafter. Minimum charge \$1.00. An additional charge of a \$1.00 for each ad not paid for when placed.

FOR SALE

DOUBLE Roll Coupon Tickets \$10.24 for sale at The Morgan Messenger and The Hancock News offices. pd1/1- tfmh

YARD sale signs now available at The Morgan Messenger and The Hancock News offices. Also many other signs including Posted, No Trespassing and No Hunting. 1/1- tfmh

OFFICE SUPPLIES for sale at The Morgan Messenger office, 304-258-1800. pd1/1- tfmh

MUMS are available at Fischer's Greenhouse in Little Orleans, Md. 1,000's available. Phone 301-478-2412. 9/2- tfmh

AUTOS

2010 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited, 126,399 miles, \$10,500. 304-671-2808. pd9/23- tfmh

ANIMALS

LEONA'S Pet Grooming and Bath. 304-258-1268. 1/1- tfmh

SERVICES

AUCTIONEER - Appraiser. Ronnie R. Zimmerman, 301-331-6821. MD - PA & WV. 1/7- tfh

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

BEDDOW'S Septic Service, Inc. 304-258-1527 or 304-671-1773. 10/3- tfh

YARD SALE

152 Dawson Lane Berkeley Springs September 24, 25, 26, 27 8 a.m.-? SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE



FOR SALE



2010 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED 126,399 MILES \$10,500.00 304-671-2808



METAL ROOFING Metal Shingles and Panels Installed ELI W. BYLER 814-845-7584 Insured

For Advertising & Printing Call

The Hancock News 301-678-6255

Letters To The Editor over 400 words will not be published.

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Estate No. 83796 TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Stephanie Gwendolyn Morgan.

Notice is given that Brian Stine, 17831 Davidson Dr., Sharpsburg, MD 21782-1702 was on September 10, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Stephanie Gwendolyn Morgan who died on August 8, 2026 with a will.

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

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 10th day of March, 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 10th day of March, 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.

Brian Stine Personal Representative True Test Copy Lucy M. Flook, Register of Wills for Washington County 100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400 Hagerstown, MD 21740 pd9-23-3th

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

Estate No. 83812 TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Dorothea Mae Heavner.

Notice is given that Betty Jacobs McNairn, 17821 Daisy Dr., Hagerstown, MD 21740-9112 was on September 15, 2026 appointed personal representative of the small estate of Dorothea Mae Heavner who died on August 16, 2026 with a will.

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

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment 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.

Betty Jacobs McNairn Personal Representative True Test Copy Lucy M. Flook, Register of Wills for Washington County 100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400 Hagerstown, MD 21740 pd9-23-1thn

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

Estate No. 83820 TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Barbara Jean Churchey.

Notice is given that Carolyn Irene Kline, 214 E. Franklin St., Hagerstown, MD 21740-4922 was on September 14, 2026 appointed personal representative of the small estate of Barbara Jean Churchey who died on July 25, 2026 with a will.

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

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment 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.

Carolyn Irene Kline Personal Representative True Test Copy Lucy M. Flook, Register of Wills for Washington County 100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400 Hagerstown, MD 21740 pd9-23-1thn

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

Estate No. 80903 TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF William Irvin Coyle.

Notice is given that Beverly K. Coyle, 14620 Olsen Ln., Cascade, MD 21719-1840 was on September 14, 2026 appointed personal representative of the small estate of William Irvin Coyle who died on March 4, 2023 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.

Beverly K. Coyle Personal Representative True Test Copy Lucy M. Flook, Register of Wills for Washington County 100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400 Hagerstown, MD 21740 pd9-23-1thn

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

Estate No. 82826 TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Robert Thomas Slate, Jr.

Notice is given that Sharon Kay Slate, 11 Tulsa Ln., Hagerstown, MD 21740-5904 was on September 14, 2026 appointed personal representative of the small estate of Robert Thomas Slate, Jr. who died on August 29, 2025 with a will.

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

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment 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.

Sharon Kay Slate Personal Representative True Test Copy Lucy M. Flook, Register of Wills for Washington County 100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400 Hagerstown, MD 21740 pd9-23-1thn

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS

Estate No. 83849 TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Kazuko O. Alsip.

Notice is given that Michelle Alsip, 13825 Pennsylvania Ave., Hagerstown, MD 21742-2340 was on September 11, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Kazuko O. Alsip who died on August 21, 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 11th day of March, 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 11th day of March, 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.

Michelle Alsip Personal Representative True Test Copy Lucy M. Flook, Register of Wills for Washington County 100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400 Hagerstown, MD 21740 pd9-23-3th

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

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

Estate No. 83846 TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Margaret Elizabeth Evans.

Notice is given that Matthew Evans, 22437 Cave Hill Rd., Smithsburg, MD 21783-1533 and Michelle Snodderly, 4184 Fording Creek Rd., Greencastle, PA 17225-8539 were on September 14, 2026 appointed personal representatives of the small estate of Margaret Elizabeth Evans who died on June 26, 2026 with a will.

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

Matthew Evans Michelle Snodderly Personal Representatives True Test Copy Lucy M. Flook, Register of Wills for Washington County 100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400 Hagerstown, MD 21740 pd9-23-1thn

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF A SETTLOR OF A REVOCABLE TRUST

To all persons interested in the trust of MARGARET A. GEWITZ (a/k/a Margaret Ann Geiwitz):

This is to give notice that Margaret A. Geiwitz died on or about August 22, 2026. Before the decedent's death, the decedent created a revocable trust for which the undersigned, Karen A. Canoles, whose address is c/o Howard & Howard, Attorneys-at-Law, 298 Butler Road, Reisterstown, MD 21136, is now a trustee.

To have a claim satisfied from the property of this trust, a person who has a claim against the decedent must present the claim on or before the date that is 6 months after the date of the first publication of this notice to the undersigned trustee at the address stated above. The claim must include the following information:

- A verified written statement of the claim indicating its basis;
- The name and address of the claimant;
- If the claim is not yet due, the date on which it will become due;
- If the claim is contingent, the nature of the contingency;
- If the claim is secured, a description of the security; and
- The specific amount claimed.

Any claim not presented to the trustee on or before that date or any extension provided by law is unenforceable.

Karen A. Canoles, Trustee 9-23-3trn

SUDOKU

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Level: Intermediate

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

HUNTING & FISHING WORD SEARCH

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

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BAIT
BLINDS
BOBBER
CAMO

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DECOY
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GAME

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HARVEST
LICENSE
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NET
POACHING

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SCENT
SEASON
TACKLE
TRACKING
WILDERNESS

Eagle Scout project to add bench in Widmeyer Park

by Geoff Fox

On the morning of October 23, 1983, in Beirut, two suicide truck-bombs killed 241 U.S. military personnel and 58 French soldiers during a peacekeeping mission in Lebanon.

Toby Nave’s grandfather was a Navy soldier stationed offshore when the bombings took place and was part of the mission to rescue wounded Marines or trapped by the explosions.

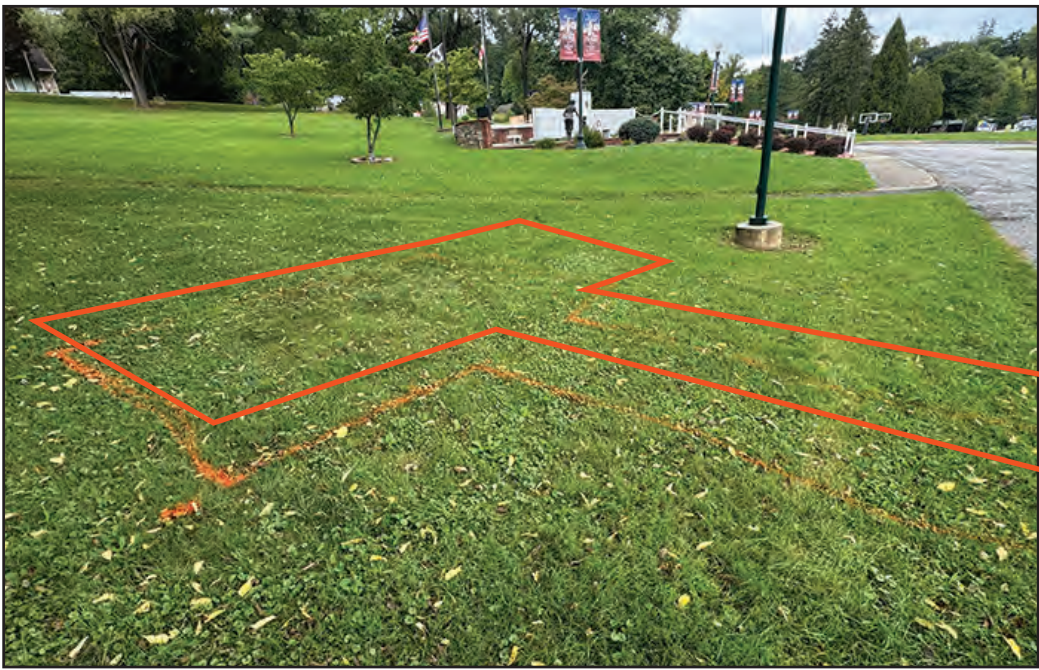
The Beirut Conflict, Nave said, was the largest loss of life in a single day for the Marine Corps since the Battle of Iwo Jima in 1945 during World War II.

Nave wanted to ask town officials for permission to establish a memorial in Widmeyer Park near the park’s War Memorial.

His grandfather’s involvement was what inspired him to do the memorial project.

Nave is an aspiring Eagle Scout and said there aren’t many memorials to the Beirut Conflict due to it being overshadowed by the Persian Gulf War in the early 1990s.

“We don’t really need a



whole lot of funds, we just need approval for us to build it,” Nave said.

In a document to town officials, Nave said he plans to do fundraisers to request donations for the project.

The memorial would be a bench and a placard, but Nave said he’d be open to whatever town officials would have in mind.

Town Manager Mike Faith said he had talked to the secretary of the monument and said it was fine to be there.

Nave said he or members of his troop would be taking care of maintenance of the memorial such as basic mowing.

In a diagram provided to *The Hancock News*, the bench itself is six feet in length and two feet high, sit-

ting on a 12 square foot by 12 square foot concrete slab.

There will also be a 12 foot long, four foot wide walkway leading to the bench.

Along the walkway, there will be 24x18 inch plaque stating “In honor and gratitude to the veterans of the October 23, 1983, Beirut Conflict. Eagle Project Toby Nave 2026 Troop 45.”

The bench would be com-



An orange outline in Widmeyer Park beside the War Memorial marks where a memorial to the 1983 Beirut Conflict, similar to this mockup, will stand. Toby Nave, whose grandfather was part of the rescue mission in Beirut, is doing the memorial as his Eagle Scout project. Mock up picture was provided to *The Hancock News* by Town Manager Mike Faith.

posite wood or like material to withstand the weather.

Mayor Roland Lanehart asked the councilmembers if they would approve the memorial with each shaking their head in agreement.

“Looks like it’s approved, young man,” Lanehart said.

Lanehart said there’d be a meeting with the people in charge of the War Monument

to mark off the area where Nave would want to put his memorial.

As of Friday morning, September 18, the space had already been marked off with orange paint.

The mayor said Public Works would also be available to assist when Nave is ready to cut grass out of that area as well.

Letters To The Editor over 400 words will not be published.

Child Passenger Safety Week Sept. 20-26

The Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration’s Highway Safety Office (MHSO) and the Moore-Miller Administration join safety advocates, including Maryland Department of Health’s Kids in Safety Seats (MDKISS), Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems and Safe Kids in recognizing Child Passenger Safety Week to increase awareness of car seat guidance and safety measures.

Throughout the week-long initiative, free child passenger seat checks will be available during special events throughout Maryland beginning September 20 through September 26.

Motor vehicle crashes remain a leading cause of death for children in the United States, accounting for one of every four unintentional injury deaths among children, according to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. Properly used car seats, booster seats and seat belts are among the best ways to protect young passengers in a crash.

As children grow, their car seat needs change. Maryland law requires children to remain rear-facing until at least age 2, unless they reach the maximum height or weight allowed by the car seat manufacturer. For the best protection, the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that children remain rear-facing for as long as possible within the seat’s height and weight limits.

After outgrowing a rear-facing seat, children should transition to a forward-facing seat with a harness, followed by a booster seat until the vehicle’s seat belt fits properly. Children younger than 8 must ride in an appropriate child restraint unless they are 4 feet 9 inches or taller.

All children younger than

13 should ride properly restrained in the back seat.

Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians can check car seat installation and fit and offer one-on-one guidance to parents and caregivers. During Child Passenger Safety Week, partner organizations will offer free car seat checks at locations across Maryland.

Free in-person and virtual car seat checks are available through MDKISS.

Parents and caregivers should regularly check their child’s car seat. Make sure:

- The seat is appropriate for the child’s age, height and weight.
- The seat does not move more than one inch from side to side or front to back at the belt path.
- Harness straps are snug and positioned correctly.
- The chest clip is positioned at armpit level.
- The child remains in each stage until reaching the seat manufacturer’s height or weight limits.

During Child Passenger Safety Week, the MHSO will share five videos on social media highlighting ways parents and caregivers can keep children safe in and around vehicles. Topics include:

- Hot Cars
 - Child Passenger Safety Law Overview
 - Front Seat Versus Back Seat
 - Proper Installation
 - Be a Safety Role Model
- Child Passenger Safety Week supports the Maryland Department of Transportation’s Serious About Safety campaign, which encourages Marylanders to make safe choices every time they travel. For more information about child passenger safety, including choosing the appropriate seat and finding a car seat inspection location, go to ZeroDeathsMD.gov/carseat.

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