2026 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25

Happy Thanksgiving

75¢

The Hancock News

Hancock, MD 21750 | *Established 1914 – Our 112th Year* | Volume 113, Number 47

Hancock at a Glance

Blood drive

A blood drive will be held Thursday, December 3, from 12-5 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. 11/25 48/37
Calm winds becoming east around 6 mph in the afternoon.

Thurs. 11/26 52/40
100% chance of rain with northeast winds 11 to 14 mph, gusts up to 32 mph.

Fri. 11/27 50/36
30% chance of rain. Mostly cloudy with a high near 50.

Sat. 11/28 54/35
Mostly sunny with a high near 54 and a low around 34.

Sun. 11/29 57/37
Mostly sunny with a high near 57 and a low around 37.

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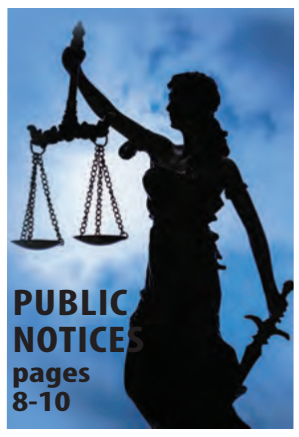



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The Hancock News
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Berkeley Springs, WV 25411

Town staff keeps on top of blighted property status

by Geoff Fox

Town Manager Michael Faith gave officials an update on where things stand with the two blighted properties on Main Street and High Street.

There was supposed to be a court date on November 10, but that was postponed due to the town's attorney having a family emergency. Faith said he has spoken to both property owners.

Faith said Jordan Butts, the owner of 110 High Street, wasn't sure what all he needed to do. Faith said he's already been notified he needs to get a set of plans, get an engineer to look at the property, draw up a set of plans, and apply for a building permit.

Faith said when they meet again, he's going to suggest moving forward on the demolition of the building, with Councilman David Kerns agreeing about the demolition.

Kerns said Butts has had ample time to get the permits and it's gone through the process at the court level that now it's time to tear it down.

see **BUILDING UPDATE** page 6

Officials look at option for new surveillance cameras in town

by Geoff Fox

Hancock town officials heard a sales pitch from ARC Systems about new security cameras that could be placed around town. The presentation came during the November town meeting.

Town officials could replace faltering cameras that no longer work and former Flock cameras.

Butch Kirk of ARC, along with Greg Wilson and Chris Rowe from Motorola Solutions, came to present what their camera system can do for the town.

ARC Systems is a system integrator that installs products manufactured by Motorola, which offers a vast array of products to assist the cameras.

With the kind of technology in the ARC's cameras, Kirk said it was unheard of 10 years ago to be able to identify someone by the color of shirt or pants they're wearing, hair color, or find them in an archive video.

"It was witchcraft to do that," he said. "Today it ships with our cameras."

The town has been looking at replacing servers for the police department, however Kirk said his cameras don't require servers as they are cloud based.

Kirk described an incident in Harford County where woman was killed on the Ma & Pa Trail in Bel Air. After the murder, Harford County hired ARC and Motorola to install cameras over 4.5 miles of the densely forested recreational trail.

From that, he said, alarms are triggered if someone comes out of the woods and onto the trail or vice versa or somebody falls and doesn't get up.

"All things are possible," he said. "The longer our cameras sit there, the more intelligent they get and they start to understand what normal is and what normal isn't."

Noises are also analyzed as well.

Kirk added they are looking to find grants that might be available to help the process along.

Wilson told town officials Motorola is "the 800-pound gorilla" when it comes to radios, and that also includes body cameras, license plate readers, in vehicle cameras, facial technology alongside their communication devices.



One of Hancock's non-working surveillance cameras at Pennsylvania Avenue and Main.

The AI in that camera system is what helps with that information.

Motorola helps tie the information into a useful property.

There's two systems, he said. The first is where everything is stored on site in a server with Windows or Lynix. The other is stored in the Cloud.

The video is also stored directly on the camera itself for however long the town would want it stored.

Police could also tell the cameras to watch if someone does something such as taking a fire extinguisher off the wall and not replacing it, watch if someone falls on and doesn't get up after a certain amount of time, or if there's a fire, to let the police or town know.

"It's making that dumb video smart," Wilson said.

He also added there's options with the technology regarding wireless and cellular as there are a few remote locations without access to fiber or internet.

Wilson said there's a few options available for point to point using cellular and solar if there's no power available.

Wilson said there's also cameras available that can cover long distances or wide spaces such as one camera that could cover an entire ballfield and zoom in and get details.

Mayor Roland Lanehart did mention that Kirkwood Park is the most remote of the town's parks.

Wilson added should there be an incident, Motorola can broadcast that over their radios via a radio link. No one else offers that service.

Kirk said they'd be willing to carry the system into the east part of town, including the Blue Goose area.

Rowe comes with a police background and said if he'd had ARC's system, it would have helped him to be proactive on the police side of things.

He said if the town went with a cloud-based system, the police or town officials could see it almost immediately.

He also said expenditures are important, but "Rome wasn't built in a day" and the town doesn't have to do anything right away as there's time to expand.

"As the town grows, you can expand," he said.

see **TOWN CAMERAS** page 3

Mike McKay assigned to Maryland's Senate committee on Education, Energy and the Environment



State Senator Mike McKay

This week, Senator Mike McKay (R-District 1-Western Maryland) was assigned to the Maryland Senate Education, Energy and the Environment Committee for the Maryland General Assembly.

The Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee reviews and considers legislation affecting a broad range of state policies and government operations. Its responsibilities include public education and higher education, energy production and utility regulation, renewable energy, environmental protection, natural resources, agriculture, farmland preservation, land use, housing and community development, business and professional licensing, local government affairs, elections, and government ethics.

The Committee conducts public hearings, evaluates proposed legislation, considers amendments, and votes on whether bills should advance through the legislative process.

It also examines policy issues and legislation affecting state agencies, county governments, municipalities, businesses, property owners, and Maryland residents.

Senator McKay said of his new assignment, "I welcome this new assignment on the Maryland Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee as another opportunity to be a strong and effective voice for the people of Western Maryland. Throughout my time in the Maryland Senate, I have made it a priority to stand up for our region, advocate for our communities, and ensure that Western Maryland is not overlooked in decisions made in Annapolis."

"This committee assignment will allow me to build on that commitment by bringing Western Maryland's perspectives and priorities to the forefront on issues involving education, energy, environmental policy, natural resources, and local government. I intend to use this opportunity to continue fighting for policies that respect our rural communities, protect our natural resources, support our local economies, and ensure that the interests of Western Maryland residents have a meaningful voice in state government," McKay said in a statement about the committee assignment.

Festival of Trees next weekend

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will be holding their fourth annual Festival of Trees next weekend, Friday December 4, and Saturday, December 5, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the church located at 200 Douglas Street in Hancock.

The event is free and will have a number of activities including free refreshments, nativity displays, Kids Corner with activities, scavenger hunt, picture booth for selfies, handbell activity, Christmas music, nativity video, and the Family History Center will be open. Attendees can view all of the decorated trees entered in this year's contest.



The Hancock News
WILL BE CLOSED
Thursday & Friday
Nov. 26 & 27
HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Opinions

ZED by Duane M. Abel



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EARTH TALK

Questions & Answers About Our Environment

Dear EarthTalk:

With all the recent development in robotics, what are some ways environmental advocates are deploying these machines for the benefit of the planet?

– Paul U., via email

Advanced technology and automated systems are becoming a big part of environmental conservation. Researchers are starting to use smart machines to tackle large-scale ecological challenges that used to be too hard or dangerous to handle. These tools are changing how scientists protect nature and study our changing planet. While strictly "humanoid" robots—those with two legs and a humanlike torso—are still mostly in the testing phase for rugged outdoor terrain, highly automated, specialized robots are already making a massive impact on global conservation efforts.

One major use is tracking wildlife and keeping an eye on habitat health. Automated ground rovers and flying drones can travel into harsh, remote places—like thick forests or high mountains—without disturbing the animals living there. Armed with artificial intelligence and thermal imaging, these machines monitor endangered populations and track poachers in real time. Experts note that "The application of robotics in the field of biodiversity presents innovative solutions to complex environmental challenges."

In the water, specialized marine robots and automated sailboats dive deep into the ocean. Autonomous underwater vehicles (AUVs) check water quality, measure carbon levels, and assess damage in fragile coral reefs or deep-sea areas where humans cannot easily swim or stay for long periods. Some underwater robots are even designed to map the seafloor or track the migration patterns of marine megafauna, providing critical data for creating marine protected areas.

Robots are also stepping in to handle invasive species and help restore damaged environments. As these machines work outdoors, "These robots can work tirelessly to control populations of species that threaten biodiversity, using physical removal methods or administering targeted treatments with minimal impact on native species." For example, autonomous underwater drones are deployed to eliminate the destructive crown-of-thorns starfish on the Great Barrier Reef. On land, advanced robotic systems can pull agricultural weeds mechanically without chemical pesticides, or fire seed-pods into deforested areas to plant new trees much faster than human crews.

On the industrial and city side, automated systems are cleaning up urban spaces. Air quality monitoring robots check pollution levels in real time, while smart recycling plants use machine vision and robotic arms to sort waste quickly, keeping useful materials out of landfills.

All of these tech tools connect directly to larger international environmental goals. According to the International Federation of Robotics (IFR), "Environmental Stewardship: The use of robots extends to recycling, waste management, and renewable energy, demonstrating their role in promoting sustainability." By taking over dangerous, repetitive, or logistically impossible tasks, robotics has transitioned from a futuristic concept into an essential toolkit for safeguarding Earth's future.

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

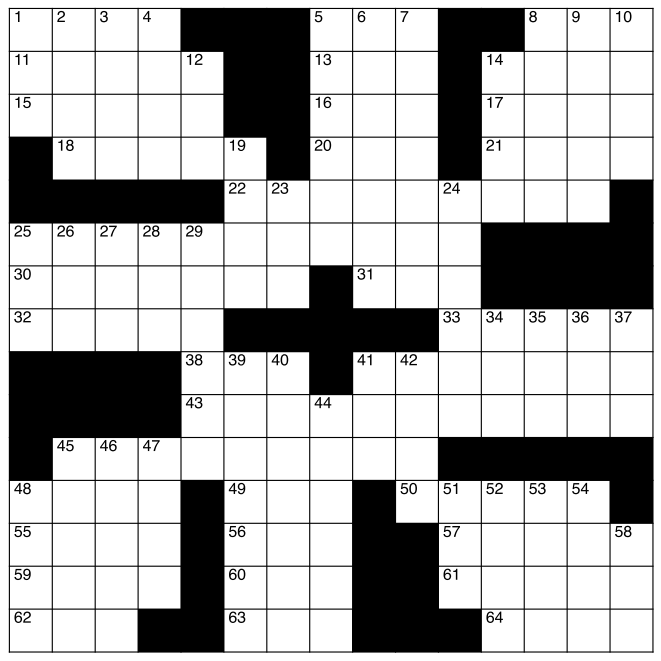
Correction

In last week's article about the Girl Scouts getting permission to add flowerbeds at the cabins in Widmeyer Park, we incorrectly stated the Cadettes "have an opportunity to win their Silver Award."

Instead, it should have read, "have a chance to earn their Silver Award."

The Silver Award is the highest award a Cadette can earn as it awards rank higher than badges and carry specific requirements, including hourly obligations; each Girl Scout commits at least 50 hours to her project; Girl Scouts follow the guidelines and requirements set by Girl Scouts of the USA; and award projects sustainable and make the world a better place.

CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. Insect feeler
5. Central processing unit
8. Part of (abbr.)
11. Typical
13. Tall, rounded vase
14. __ Alto, California city
15. Lustrous, velvet-like fabric
16. "Fresh Prince of __ Air"
17. Hebrew calendar month
18. British surgeon who discovered bone disease
20. Agreement between debtor and creditor (abbr.)
21. Elongated part of anatomical structure
22. Acts slowly on
25. Keeps a little too safe
30. Greek seaport
31. "Baba O'Riley" rockers
32. Vision
33. Potassium nitrate in mineral form
38. Midway between northeast and east
41. Not a pro
43. Give a new look
45. Sensational
48. Nobel Prize-winning physicist
49. Annoy constantly
50. Vaccine developer
55. Lying down
56. Type of language (abbr.)
57. Flat-bottomed boat
59. Smallest or slightest
60. Bind
61. Speeds
62. The products of human creativity
63. Consume food
64. Ancient Greek sophist

DOWN

1. A young canine
2. As fast as can be done
3. Soviet moon probes
4. Sharp spasm of pain
5. One who adheres to a specific art movement
6. Show parts of
7. Unfasten
8. San Diego ballplayer
9. Santa
10. Rocky peaks
12. "Matt Houston" actor Horsley
14. A written agreement between two sides
19. Beginning to end (abbr.)
23. Greek goddess of the dawn
24. Not written in any key
25. Organized missions
26. Seven
27. Work unit
28. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
29. Broadway legend Bernadette
34. Belonging to a thing
35. Vietnamese offensive
36. Bitterly regret
37. Make a mistake
39. Newborn child
40. A combined landmass
41. Satisfaction
42. Hilly peninsulas in Denmark
44. Young swine
45. Type of sword
46. Siskel's partner
47. Brood of pheasants
48. Hindu model of ideal man
51. Suitable in the circumstances
52. La __ tar pits
53. Unstressed-stressed metrical foot
54. California wine country
58. Badly

The Hancock News

HOURS

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Calendar of Events NOVEMBER

Wednesday, November 25
– Free bingo, 1 p.m., Hancock Senior Center, age 60 plus, all welcome
2nd & 4th wednesday

Saturday, November 28
– Hancock Museum open 9-11:30 a.m., basement of Town Hall

Sunday, November 29
– Hancock Museum open 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m., basement of Town Hall

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.

Thankful Turkey



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

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

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

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

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

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Hancock Police Report

301-678-5633

Hancock Police report the following arrests and incidents from the week of November 16-22:

November 16

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

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

Suspicious person, first block Fleming Court. Subject advised.

Disorderly conduct, first block Fleming Court. Subjects advised.

November 17

Fraud, 100 block West Main Street. Information taken.

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

Check well being, first block Fleming Court. Subject checked okay.

Animal complaint, 200 block East Main Street. Dogs inside of vehicle. Dogs checked okay.

November 18

Traffic enforcement, Hancock area. One stop.

Service to advise, Widmeyer Park. Subject advised.

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

November 19

Domestic, 200 block Pennsylvania Avenue. Unable to locate subjects.

Service to advise, first block Fleming Court. Subject advised.

Service to advise, Hancock area. Subject advised.

Trespassing, 100 block West Main Street. Subjects trespassed.

Traffic enforcement, Hancock area. Three stops.

November 20

Service to advise, Blue Hill Road. Subject advised.

Domestic, area of West High Street. Verbal only, subjects advised.

Assault in progress, 200 block Myers Street. All parties advised of options.

Main Street/Pennsylvania Avenue, suicidal juvenile. Claims unfounded.

Traffic enforcement, Hancock area. One stop, vehicle towed.

November 21

Property damage accident, 200 block West High Street. Information taken.

Property damage accident, 200 block West High Street. Information taken/exchanged.

Suspicious vehicle, area of East Main Street. Subject advised.

Traffic enforcement, Hancock area. Five stops.

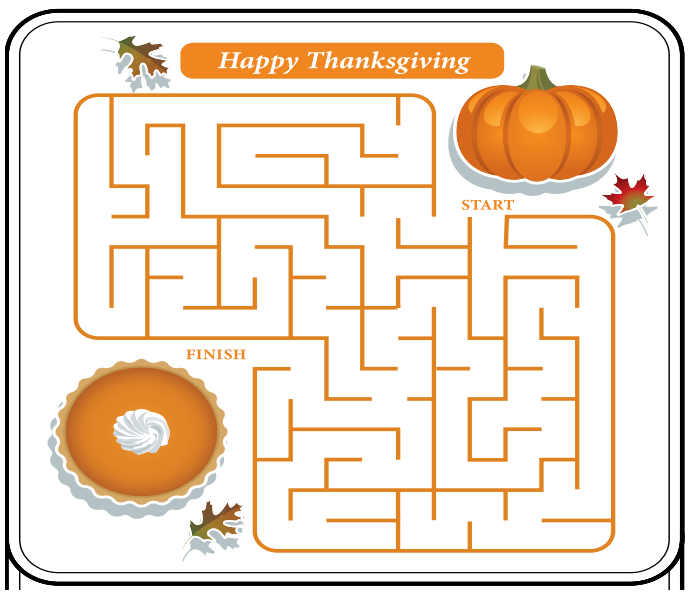
Assisted other department, 9000 block Corner Road. Subjects advised.

November 22

Service to advise, 200 block West Main Street. Subjects advised.

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

Welfare check, 200 block West High Street. Check completed.



Hancock Police to add new rank, ready for Shop with a Cop

by Geoff Fox

By the time town officials meet for the next town meeting in January, there could be a new rank bestowed upon an officer with the Hancock Police Department.

Mayor Roland Lanehart said police commissioners and Sgt. Shawn Faith have been working on setting up a corporal test for the officers, which they've already taken.

However, Lanehart said they haven't gotten the results yet from those tests.

Councilman David Kerns added the officers working the night shift have been helping the town by getting the numbers of the poles and what lights are out so they can be fixed.

Kerns said as soon as they compile the list, Potomac Edison would come to Hancock and fix those lights.

Lanehart said the town is paying for the light whether it's working or not.

Sgt. Faith told town officials that the department has had training with the Axon equipment and is up and running.

He also told them the officers with the Hancock Police Department have been getting ready for Shop with a Cop on December 13.

The officers take a group of children Christmas shopping in Hagerstown that evening and then return to Martha's House to wrap the gifts the children bought.

Never drive impaired on Thanksgiving or any day

The U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is reminding drivers about the deadly consequences of alcohol-impaired driving. For a safe Thanksgiving night, drivers should make plans for a sober ride home. Remember: Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving.

"It's a common and dangerous misconception that buzzed driving isn't a big deal," said Jack McNeely, Director of the Governor's Highway Safety Program. "This message is simple: Impaired driving is always dangerous, and it's always illegal. Our goal is to ensure that drunk driving and its deadly consequences do not rob anyone of their life and chance to enjoy a safe Thanksgiving holiday. Even if you only feel "buzzed," your driving and reaction times may still be impaired. Remember: Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving. If you drink, do not drive."

Many people believe that driving after just a couple of drinks doesn't affect their abilities, but they are wrong. Alcohol slows reaction times, impairs cognitive performance, and makes it significantly more difficult to safely control a vehicle.

According to NHTSA, in 2024, 164 people died in drunk-driving crashes during the Thanksgiving holiday (6 p.m. Wednesday – 5:59 a.m. Monday). Drivers ages 21-34 (37%) had the highest involvement in fatal drunk-driving crashes on Thanksgiving 2024. Law enforcement is doing their part to get dangerous drivers off the road, so do your part by driving sober during the November 25-29, 2026 enforcement period.

Those who plan to consume alcohol should not drive. Drivers should always secure a designated sober driver or call a taxi or rideshare for a sober ride home.

If a driver finds they are unable to drive, they should give their keys to a sober driver so that person can get them home safely. When a friend has been drinking alcohol and is considering driving, friends should be proactive and take away the keys and help them get a sober ride home.

If anyone spots an impaired driver, contact local law enforcement.

Join NHTSA in sharing the lifesaving message, Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving. For more information on impaired driving, go to www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/drunk-driving.

Town cameras

(from front)

Town Manager Michael Faith said he'd recommend town officials get three prices – one for ARC to replace the cameras that aren't working, a second price to replace all the cameras in town, and a third to replace all the cameras and add the east end where there is no coverage.

If the town had 12 cameras that needed replaced and could only see a certain area at a low resolution, ARC could install six and cover the same area with better resolution.

He also suggested the town mark up a map he'd given them and have Sgt. Shawn Faith note which cameras don't work.

"That'll be a good starting point," Town Manager Faith said.

Town officials will work on scheduling a demonstration of the cameras in Hancock before making any further decisions.

County offices to remain closed for Thanksgiving holiday



In observance of Thanksgiving, Washington County Government offices will be closed on Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27.

All essential public safety services will remain in effect.





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Tree Lighting Saturday, November 28 • 6 p.m.

Followed by Singing Christmas Carols

Thanks-Giving

Here's another both / and phenomena. Or two.

In the (recent) past we have discerned that Catholics and Christians are "both / and people". Like, believing: Jesus is both God and man. Life is both good and bad. Jesus' Mom is both Mother Mary and Virgin Mary!

This week I think of Thanksgiving both as a verb—like St. Paul suggests: "Give thanks in all circumstances" (I Thes. 5:18); and also, a state of being, a noun--the name of one of our most fabled Holidays.

Let's pursue this both/and phenomenon by beginning with being thankful.

What are you thankful for? Are you (always / usually?) in a state of want, need, lack, or abundance? See: Eph. 3:20 & Jn. 10:10 and weep no more! St. Paul subverts our normal, commercialistic mentality, by challenging:

"And whatever you do, in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him" (Col. 3:17). The opposite, is: always desiring, craving, whining.

Now: Thanksgiving, the Feast. Okay, some say, we robbed the Indians /Native Americans /Indigenous of their country. Others: we're colonialists and built on slavery. Still others: this is the greatest country on Earth. Ever.

Herein we can be both / and: recognize both our sinful past (What country doesn't have one?) --our ancestors did enslave so many--and also recognize this Land, has freed so many. Abolitionists in the late 1700's formed an Underground Railroad and liberated African Americans, later, along with Harriet Tubman in Maryland; The USA sheltered Jews fleeing Nazi Germany, like Einstein + artist Marc Chagall; and helped Russian and Chinese imprisoned by communists to come to the USA.

As I recall my many, myriad blessed travels all over the world, I remember: How much the many Africans, Asians, South Americans esteemed both Americans and America; and I also remember in Liberia last summer natives trying to get my autograph and phone number!; and I recollect how my own grandparents came from Italy and Poland, almost penniless, both, and catapulted me and siblings into upper class life. Incredible

Now, I wanna pay it back, err forward. So, not only be thankful, show it! Thanksgiving--not just for gifts, but to Him, Our Lord!

Rev. John J. Lombardi is Pastor of St. Peter-St. Patrick Catholic Church

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Hancock Council of Churches Welcomes You To Worship With Them

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Warm Springs Baptist Church, 3683 Pious Ridge Road, Berkeley Springs, 304-258-1551. - Sunday SVCS 10-11 a.m. Sunday SVC 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 4 p.m. Rev. John Lombardi.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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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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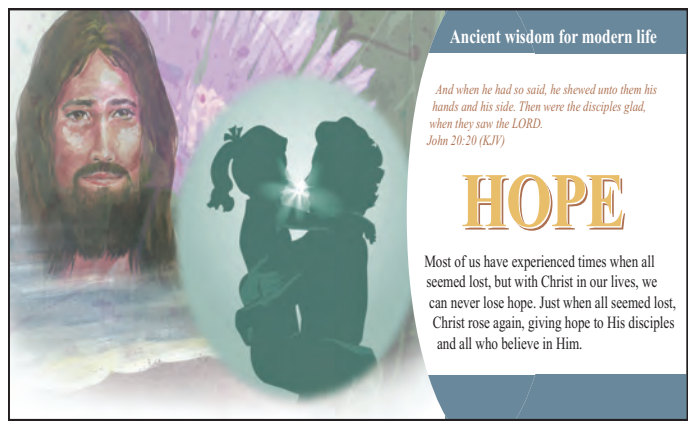


OBITUARIES

Theresa Ann Ehrhardt
1959-2026

Theresa Ann Ehrhardt, age 67, of Berkeley Springs, W.Va., passed on Thursday, November 19, 2026 at Winchester Medical Center in Winchester, Va.

Born July 13, 1959 in New York City, N.Y., she was the daughter of the late Robert Tippett and Evelyn Pearl Spicer Turner.

Theresa was a high school graduate. Her career was in the medical field as a medical transcriptionist. She was a member of the Berkeley Springs Seventh-day Adventist Church. She enjoyed cooking, reading, playing board games and going to the beach.

Theresa is survived by her husband, Anthony Michael Ehrhardt, at home; two brothers, Bob Turner and John Turner and several nieces and nephews.

Services will be private.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in Theresa's memory may be made to Hope House, c/o Martinsburg Union Rescue Mission, P. O. Box 843, Martinsburg, WV 25402.

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

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

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

Suzette "Sue" Brackett
1960-2026



Suzette "Sue" Brackett, age 65, of Martinsburg, W.Va., passed away on Friday, November 6, 2026 at her home while under the care of Hospice of the Panhandle.

Born December 9, 1960, she was the daughter of the late Charles M. Gallion and Loretta V. Werdebaugh Eader.

Sue had a love for dogs and had many during her lifetime. She also loved to read books and play bingo.

She is survived by her husband of 40 years, Doug Brackett, at home; three sisters, Hester Mason (Donald) and Ruth Doyle, all of Berkeley Springs, W.Va., and Loretta Stevens (Wayne) of Aspers, Pa.; one brother, Richard Eader (Tammy) of Warfordsburg, Pa.; grandchildren, Sara Keefer and Jaxon Keefer and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her son, Jason Keefer; two sisters, Iva Shives and Carol Somers and two brothers, Jacob Eader and Ronald Eader.

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

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

Richard E. Day
1933-2026



Richard E. Day, age 93, of Berkeley Springs, W.Va., passed away on Thursday, November 12, 2026 at his home while under the care of Hospice of the Panhandle.

Born January 6, 1933 in Mound City, Kan., he was the son of the late L. P. and Geneva Johnson Day.

He was of the Methodist faith. Richard was a graduate of Grand Mound City High School and received his bachelor's degree from Kansas State University and earned his law degree from Washburn University. Richard worked as an attorney for United Nuclear Corp. in Santa Fe, N.M. for 9 years and after moving to Berkeley Springs, he worked at Pennsylvania Glass and Sand and U.S. Silica until his retirement. He enjoyed traveling and watching Kansas State University football and basketball.

Richard is survived by his wife of 72 years, E. Ruth Wells Day, at home, two daughters, Diane Day Shockey of Hagerstown, Md. and Lindy Hull (Kirby) of Hilton Head, S.C., one grandson, Jared Shockey, one great-grandson, Sutton Shockey and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two sisters, Pauline Kennedy and Aileen Day and three brothers, Robert Day, George Day and Tom Day.

Services and burial will be private.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in Richard's name may be made to K-State Pre-Law Program Excellence Fund, 1800 Kimball Ave., Suite 200, Manhattan, KS 66502-3373 or to Hospice of the Panhandle, 330 Hospice Lane, Kearneysville, WV 25430.

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

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

FCMC Foundation launches campaign for critical care transport vehicle

Fulton County Medical Center Foundation is launching a fundraising campaign in support of critical care services at Fulton County Medical Center that includes its own transport vehicle, it was announced by Mike Straley, Executive Director of the FCMC Foundation.

The announcement comes after it was reported there was a need for volunteer EMS and emergency support personnel in rural communities across the country, including Fulton County.

Combine that with the critical care needs of patients who require immediate transport from FCMC to other medical facilities for a higher level of care, and the timing for a critical care transport vehicle is right, according to Straley.

"A few years ago I needed to be transported to another hospital because of a critical condition, but I had to wait for over 10 hours to be transported to another medical facility, which provided its own transportation," said Straley. "Having our own transport vehicle is a gamechanger for our Emergency Department and Acute Care team. Staffing it will be the responsibility of a third-party organization (HealthNet), which will offer 24-hour service."

The price tag for a fully equipped transport vehicle is $347,000. The fundraising campaign will be a five-month mini campaign. For those who want to make a tax-deductible gift, they can contact the Foundation via phone at 717-485-6322 with a credit card; go online at www.fcmcpa.org and click on the Donate Now button; or mail a check (made payable to the FCMC Foundation) to FCMC Foundation, 214 Peach Orchard Road, McConnellsburg, PA 17233.

"We are grateful for each and every gift, no matter the size," said Straley. "We will continue to serve our community by providing their necessary care when they need it most."

HELP LINES

MARYLAND CRISIS CONNECT
Call 211, Press 1
Maryland Crisis Connect is available 24 hours/7 days a week to provide support, guidance and assistance on how to access Substance Use Disorder services, in addition to the current mental health crisis services provided by this hotline.
Callers will also be given information about naloxone, recovery support and family services as available/appropriate in the individual's local area.

WASHINGTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
240-313-3310
Walk-in assessments for substance abuse treatment are provided Monday through Thursday at 12:30 p.m. Other times are by appointment. Crisis intervention provided as needed.

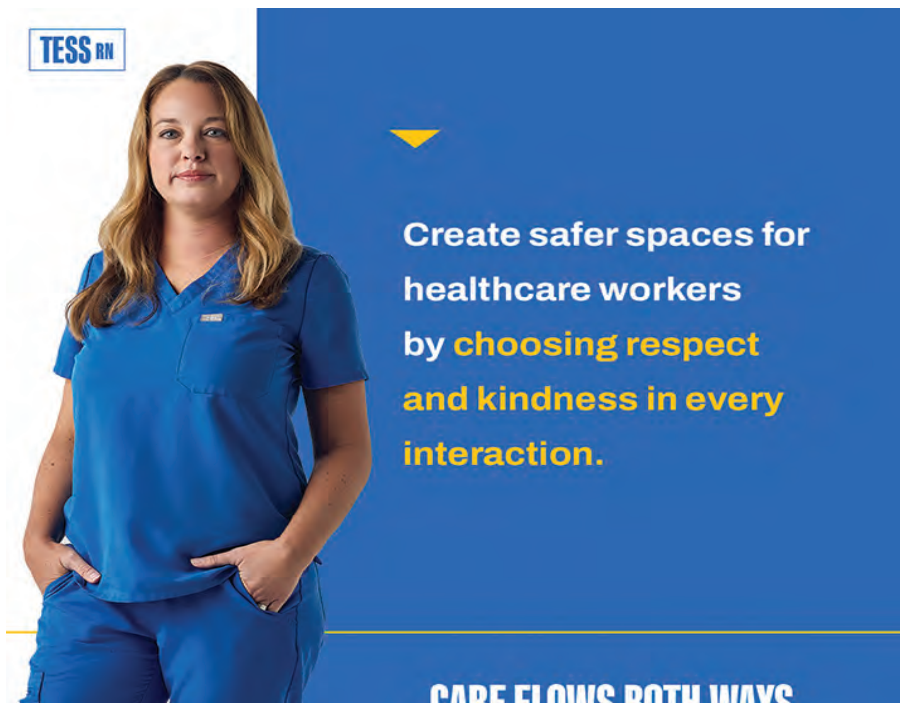
MARYLAND CRISIS HOTLINE
1-800-422-0009
Maryland's Crisis Hotline is available 24 hours/7 days a week to provide support, guidance and assistance.

Obituary policy

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

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

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



In Memory of
ALICE FAYE FLETCHER TURNER
April 15, 1947 ~ September 16, 2021



I'm thankful for the time
I had with you.
I'm sad because it wasn't enough.



IN LOVING MEMORY
of my wife
ANNA PECK
For Thanksgiving

THANKSGIVING is a time to be THANKFUL having an angel for a wife for 55 years.

I am THANKFUL we raised 3 wonderful kids that are loving and caring and thoughtful. I am THANKFUL for all our grandchildren and great grandchildren.

I am THANKFUL for all the many years that you were with us; all the wonderful times we shared together with our family. I am THANKFUL that these memories are ours forever. You are always on our minds and forever in our hearts.

Wishing you a HAPPY THANKSGIVING in Heaven and WE LOVE YOU SO MUCH.

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

Hancock council reviews variety of issues & updates

by Geoff Fox

Councilman Joshua McCusker told his fellow council people that Parks and Recreation is up and running with the middle school girls' volleyball seeing 50 girls taking part in the activity.

He added middle school boys' basketball was starting soon as well with first practices underway.

Elementary school kids' basketball will be starting up the first week of January to avoid overlapping of activities.

There's only one gym available and with all those kids trying to get practice in, it would mean only one practice per week and if they separate the two basketball activities, it would allow for at least two practices a week.

McCusker also said the traveling elf will be making a return this year after someone stole the original Hancock the Elf a couple years ago.

The elf will return closer to Christmas and more information will be released on social media, McCusker said.

Museum to close for the season

Former Mayor and Historical Society President Dan Murphy said the Historical Society is getting ready to wind down things at the Hancock Museum as they will be closing it for the season after Thanksgiving.

He said it's been a good season with people coming through and volunteers coming in to have it open.

Murphy said if someone were to call the town office with a special need to visit the museum, the museum would open for them.

Public Works out of yellow building

Mayor Roland Lanehart said the town's Public Works Department is completely moved out of the "big yellow dinosaur" and into the old shop now, which is across from AC&T.

The mayor added they need to start planning to get them a new shop.

Kerns concerned about leaks

Councilman David Kerns said the town is still chasing water leaks as usage is creeping back up again and is very high.

"We have got leaks we don't know about surfacing," he said. "They're going somewhere other than where we can see them."

Lanehart said it's the time of year when it makes it harder to find leaks.

Work started on yellow building

Town Manager Michael Faith said he's met with the new owner of the building, Bruno Reigh, who has started some surveying at the site and preliminary work.

Right now, the windows needed covered as there was a pigeon problem there and a mess to clean up from the pigeons.

Other people are still getting their belongings out as well, Faith said.

Grant money put to another use

A few years ago, town officials had a program that would award businesses and those looking to improve Main Street a $10,000 grant.

That program dried up almost as quickly as it started.

Sinclair Hamilton was awarded one of those grants to repair the brownstone on his building along Main Street. However, since being awarded the money, the contractor who was to do the work quit or retired.

That kind of work can no longer be found, Faith said.

Hamilton offered to return the money to the town or paint the building, which Faith said he is a fan of.

Hamilton said he would be painting the white trim of the building should town officials allow him to use the money for that endeavor instead.

He added if there's money left over, he'd also paint the sides as well.

Town officials allowed Hamilton to amend the use of the money and to paint the trim instead.

Officials make decision on water theft case

This past August, Councilman McCusker noticed someone hooking up to a hydrant near his house and called Town Manager Faith inquiring if the town was selling water to anyone, which they weren't.

The person told Faith they had a permit from the City of Hagerstown to draw water anywhere in the district, which doesn't include Hancock.

The person said they'd be happy to pay for the water, but town officials had already agreed to press charges.

The court date is coming up and both Faith and McCusker, along with a Public Works employee, have been subpoenaed as part of the court process.

Faith said he believes the town has made their point, the person would get a slap on the wrist and not go to jail, but he'll be fined and reimbursed for the water.

Faith said he's okay with that, but if town officials want him to push the issue, he would.

However, he thought he could talk to the State's Attorney, letting him know the town has made their point if the person is willing to pay for the water.

There are fines for tampering with hydrants, however that wasn't part of the charges, Faith said.

The total cost, Faith said, would be less than $100.

There have been times Faith has caught people hooking up to the hydrants and Lanehart said he caught someone filling up a 500-gallon container to water their garden elsewhere.

If the town were to sell water, they'd need their employees to operate the hydrants under state law.

Town officials agreed they'd be fine with the person just paying for the water instead of continuing the case to court.

Building update

(from front)

"If you're not going to do what you're supposed to do, it's time to tear it down," Kerns said.

Kerns said he would recommend the town should start the process for them to tear the house down on their own and if they can do that, since it has water and sewer already there, it can be sold for someone to build a house on it to make the property usable again.

Any cost on the town would go on the property's tax bill, which would then go to a tax sale.

Mayor Roland Lanehart said officials should go to the town's attorney to see if the town can legally have someone come in and tear the house down.

As for Kenneth Appel, Faith said he has hired another engineer after the previous one quit on him.

There is an initial assessment of the work, but not a real scope of work that needs to be done.

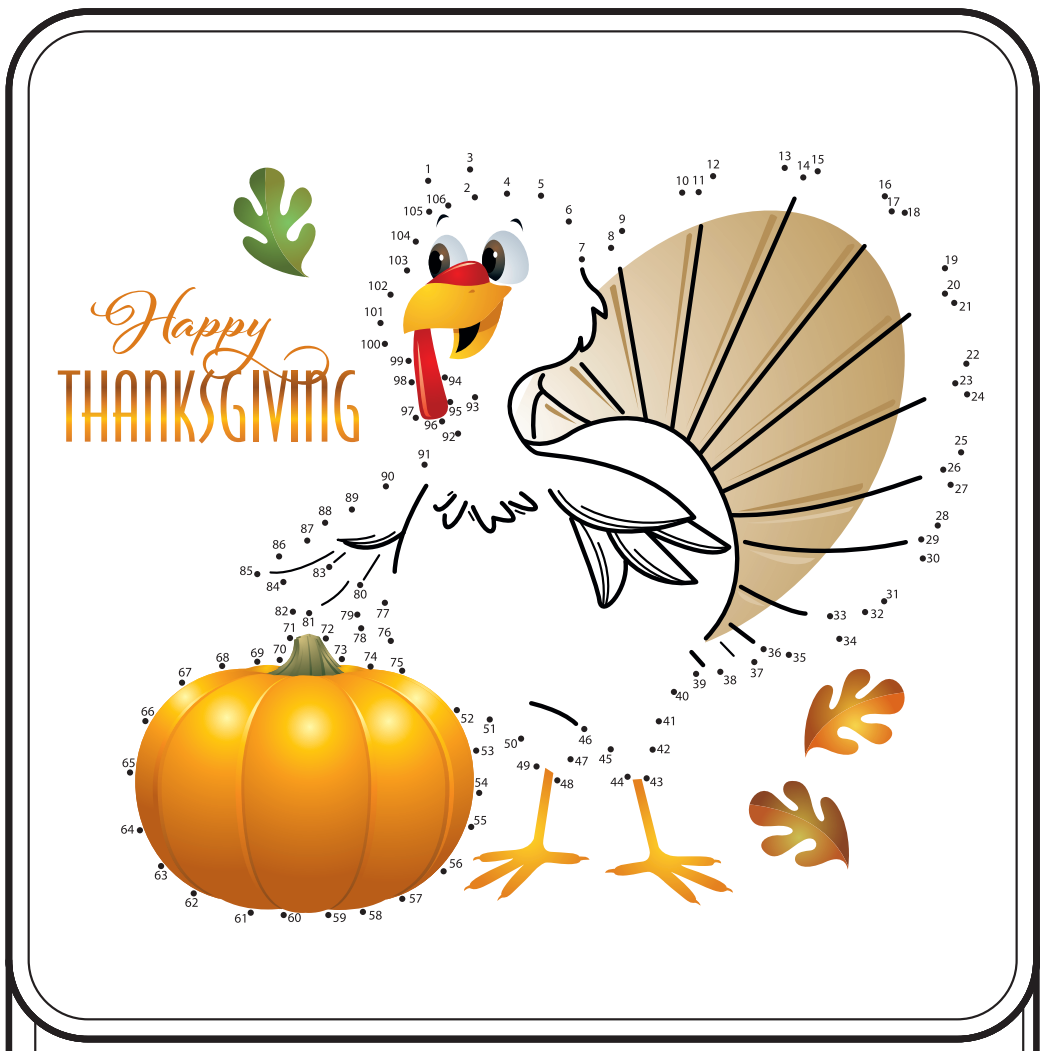
Because of the property being in a floodplain, it can't be fixed up after falling into the state it currently is in.

What needs to happen is an elevation certification which would have to raise the building above the floodplain.

Kerns said it would have to be about three feet above the sidewalk since it's in the floodplain.

Faith added there can't be a basement in the building either once he starts the improvements.

Faith said he'd continue to keep town officials advised on the subject.





People Told Us...

—DAD JOKED: Why did the turkey get thrown out of the holiday party? Because he used fowl language!

—Tomorrow is Thanksgiving Day. Schools and offices will be closed on Thursday and Friday. Take the chance to express your gratitude and share your bounty.

—OLD TIME LORE: When wild turkeys perch in trees and refuse to come down, snow is on the horizon.

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

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

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

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

National Child Abuse Hotline
1-800-4-A-CHILD

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La-Z-Boy Recliners
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The Hancock News

Section II

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

Glenny, Bair & Jefferson win Pa. State Elks Soccer Shoot Championships

On Sunday, November 8, 10 local soccer shoot players got together to compete in the 2026 Pa. State Elks Soccer Shoot Championship, held at the Nittany Valley Sport Centre, State College, Pa.

All of the eight different Elk Districts were represented.

The following athletes all represented the Chambersburg Elks Lodge #600 and the South Central District.

In the U12 competition the highest score of the day was Isaac Glenny winning the 2026 Pa. State Elks Soccer Shoot for the U12 Boys Division by scoring a 63. He is the son of Jodi and Nathan Glenny of Mercersburg. He attends James Buchanan Middle School .

U14 Boys Pa. State Champion shooting a 46 went to Conner Bair. Bair is the son of Jessica and John Bair of Mercersburg and attends James Buchanan Middle School.

In the U16 Boys competition, Noah Jefferson shot a 50 to capture the 2026 U16 Boys Elks Soccer Pa. State Title. He is the son of Latoya and Art Jefferson of McConnellsburg and attends McConnellsburg High School.

These three athletes will represent the State of Pennsylvania on March 6 in York, Pa., at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Championship.

Other results are as follows: U8 Girls Division – Kensley Clark from the North Central District won shooting a 45 which was a perfect score. Kenna Baker, daughter of Jennifer and Scott Baker of Needmore, Pa., shot 27 to place fourth. Baker attends Southern Fulton Elementary and represented the Chambersburg Elks Lodge #600 and the South Central District.



Isaac Glenny



Conner Bair



Noah Jefferson

In the U8 Boys Division David Fish captured the title by shooting a 36. Fish was from the North Central District. David Smith, son of Ashley and Scott Smith of Dillsburg, Pa., shot a 22 and represented the West Shore Elks Lodge #2257 and the South Central District.

In the U10 Girls Division, Nola Marra won the title shooting a 47 and represented the South West District. Pyper Egolf shot a 44 to capture second place. Egolf is the daughter of Hunter and Blake Egolf of Mercersburg, Pa. She attends Montgomery Elementary and represented the Chambersburg Elks Lodge #600 and the South Central District.

In the Boys U10 Division, Jayce Martin won shooting a 55.

Zander Bussard shot a 45 to capture fifth place. He is the son of Courtney and Joseph Bussard of Needmore, Pa. He attends McConnellsburg Elementary School and represented the Chambersburg Elks Lodge #600 and the South Central District.

In the U12 Girls Division, Gracie Leskovic won shooting a 57 and representing the West District. Brynlea Wible, daughter of Tami Ulsh and Jeremy Wible, both of McConnellsburg, Pa., shot 41 to acquire third place. She attends McConnellsburg Middle School and represented the Chambersburg Elks Lodge #600 and the South Central District.

In the U14 Girls competition, Piper Genaway shot a 37 to capture first place. She represented the West District. Blakely Cromer, daughter of Kayla and Eric Cromer of Hustontown, Pa., shot a 33 to capture third place. Cromer attends Forbes Road Middle School and represented the Chambersburg Elks Lodge #600 and the South Central District.

In the U14 Boys Conner Bair became the new 2026 Pa. State Champ.

In the U16 Girls competition, first place champion was Sophia Barnes of the South East District. She shot a 39 to get first place. Holly Harr, daughter of Belinda Harr of Big Cove Tannery, Pa., shot a 37 to attain second place. She attends McConnellsburg High School and represented the Chambersburg Elks Lodge #600 and the South Central District.

After it was all over South Central won the 2026 District Elks Soccer Shoot Championship with a combined total of 406 points. Second place went to South West with 330 points and third place to the West District with 329 points.

Pro wrestling returns to Berkeley Springs

After the Thanksgiving holiday, the men of the Squares Circle will take over when Championship Pro Wrestling returns to Berkeley Springs for an event at the Family Fork Restaurant on Saturday, November 28 with an 8 p.m. bell time.

Local favorite "Mr. Martinsburg" Jordan Evans pairs up with Maryland's own Bill Bain to face the well known tandem of Andrew Thompson and Professor Jakob Edwinn, collectively known as The Family in the evening's main event.

Other bouts feature some of the areas' best, with a mix of veteran performers and up and coming young talent.

CPW was founded in 1997, and is operated by Shane Heimberger (aka Shane Shadows) and currently operates events in five different states.

The Family Fork Restaurant is operated by Tony and Tina Moxley, a husband/wife restauranteur tandem who previously operated Angus and Ale.

Fans who take this newspaper and/or ad attached are allowed a 10% coupon off their next visit to Family Fork, and a discount on each ticket night of the event.

Card is subject to change.

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!

PVAS to host Christmas bird counts with guided participation

Join Potomac Valley Audubon Society for Christmas Bird Counts. Get engaged with community science by participating at home, in the field, or joining a guided participation.

Birders of all experience levels can support research to better understand the trends and health of bird populations in our area. This is a free/donation-based program. All youth must be accompanied by an adult. Pre-registration is required.

There are three ways to take part in the Charles Town or Inwood Christmas Bird Count:

At Home – Live within the Inwood/Martinsburg/Hedgesville Circle or Charles Town Circle? You can participate right from your own backyard by counting the birds that visit your feeders. First, check the map to make sure your home is within the count area. If it is, register online and print the tally sheet to record your observations. Birders of all experience levels are welcome.

In the Field – Join a team of birders and head out to explore an assigned section of the Charles Town or Inwood



Circle. Each team will survey its designated area and record observations on a tally sheet. Experienced birders are encouraged to sign up to lead or claim a section. Newer birders are encouraged to contact KC Walters to be paired with an experienced birder.

Join a Guided Participation – New to birding or curious about how a Christmas Bird Count works? This Guided Participation is a great way to get involved in this long-standing community science tradition. With guidance from experienced birders, you'll learn how to spot and identify birds, record observations, and contribute to a nationwide effort to monitor bird populations and support conservation. Charles Town Christmas Bird Count: Guided Participation will take place on Sunday, December 20 from 7:30-9:30 a.m. at the USGS Eastern Ecological Science Center, 407 Reservoir Road, Kearneysville, W.Va. Inwood Christmas Bird Count: Guided Participation will take place on Sunday, January 3, 2027 from 7:30-9:30 a.m. at Stauffer's Marsh Nature Preserve, 4069 Back Creek Valley Rd., Hedgesville, W.Va.

For additional details, go to www.potomacaudubon.org/birding/birdingcommunitysci/chirstmas-bird-counts/

For more information, contact KC Walters at Katelyn@potomacaudubon.org or 681-252-1387.





Wedding Invitations
Stationery
The Hancock News
101 West Main Street • Hancock, MD 21750
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Quick Quality Printing
Business Cards
Brochures
Envelopes

PUBLIC NOTICES

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. 83984

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Roseann W. Fisher.

Notice is given that Marith L. Fisher, 3778A Madison Ln., Falls Church, VA 22041-3680 was on October 28, 2026 appointed personal representative of the estate of Roseann W. Fisher who died on October 3, 2026 with a will.

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

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 28th day of April, 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 28th day of April, 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.

Marith L. Fisher
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-11-3th

J. Russell Robinson III, ESQ.
Robinson & Robinson
152 W. Washington Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 83983

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Colleen Phyllis Barkman-Crowther.

Notice is given that Gwendolyn Ann McCully, 341 Chicasaw Ct., Saint Johns, FL 32259-4329 was on October 27, 2026 appointed personal representative of the estate of Colleen Phyllis Barkman-Crowther who died on September 18, 2026 with a will.

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

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 27th day of April, 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 27th day of April, 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.

Gwendolyn Ann McCully
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-11-3th

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 83959

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Michael Willard Yourtee.

Notice is given that Justin Michael Yourtee, 1016 Klick Way, Hagerstown, MD 21742-2989 was on October 30, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Michael Willard Yourtee who died on October 12, 2026 with a will.

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

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 30th day of April, 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 30th day of April, 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.

Justin Michael Yourtee
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-11-3th

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 83930

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Evelyn Rae Eccard.

Notice is given that Marjorie Sharlene DeLauter, 11302 Wolfsville Rd., Smithsburg, MD 21783-1841 was on October 30, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Evelyn Rae Eccard who died on September 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 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 30th day of April, 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 30th day of April, 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.

Marjorie Sharlene DeLauter
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-11-3th

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 82926

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Richard Ryno Flook.

Notice is given that Julie Lough, 10728 Connor Dr., Williamsport, MD 21795-3165 was on October 30, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Richard Ryno Flook who died on October 30, 2025 with a will.

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

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 30th day of April, 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 30th day of April, 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.

Julie Lough
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-11-3th

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 83963

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Betty Jane McCoy.

Notice is given that Malcolm McCoy, 11005 Coventry Ln., Hagerstown, MD 21740-7708 was on October 30, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Betty Jane McCoy who died on January 5, 2026 with a will.

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

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 30th day of April, 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 30th day of April, 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.

Malcolm McCoy
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-11-3th

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 83925

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Helen Barbara Shank.

Notice is given that Linda Geraldine Hendrickson, 17714 Daisy Dr., Hagerstown, MD 21740-9156 was on October 8, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Helen Barbara Shank who died on September 23, 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 April, 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 April, 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.

Linda Geraldine Hendrickson
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-11-3th

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 83994

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Mary Ellen Shipley.

Notice is given that Ronald Wayne Ellis, Jr., 520 W. Howard St., Hagerstown, MD 21740-6363 was on October 30, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Mary Ellen Shipley who died on April 7, 2026 with a will.

Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal 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 30th day of April, 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 30th day of April, 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.

Ronald Wayne Ellis, Jr.
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-11-3th

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 83975

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Daniel Wheeler Moylan.

Notice is given that Dana Moylan Wright, 24 Summit Ave., Hagerstown, MD 21740-4800 was on October 30, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Daniel Wheeler Moylan who died on September 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 30th day of April, 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 30th day of April, 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.

Dana Moylan Wright
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-11-3th

J. Russell Robinson III, ESQ.
Robinson & Robinson
152 W. Washington Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 83987

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Mary Amelia Mowen.

Notice is given that James Russell Robinson III, 152 W. Washington St., Hagerstown, MD 21740-4710 was on October 29, 2026 appointed personal representative of the estate of Mary Amelia Mowen who died on September 14, 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 29th day of April, 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 29th day of April, 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.

James Russell Robinson III
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-11-3th

J. Russell Robinson III, ESQ.
Robinson & Robinson
152 W. Washington Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 83988

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Francis Richard Crowther II.

Notice is given that Gwendolyn Ann McCully, 341 Chicasaw Ct., Saint Johns, FL 32259-4329 was on October 29, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Francis Richard Crowther II who died on March 10, 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 attorney.

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

Gwendolyn Ann McCully
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-11-3th

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 83972

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Paul Everitt Needy.

Notice is given that Tammy Lyn Needy, 10863 White Hall Rd., Smithsburg, MD 21783-1709 was on October 29, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Paul Everitt Needy who died on September 16, 2026 with a will.

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

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

Tammy Lyn Needy
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-11-3th

NOTICE
Positively
No Hunting or
Trespassing
on Property
Owned by
FISCHER
(Dickey's Mtn.)
B. Fischer

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

NOTICE
Positively
No Hunting or
Trespassing on the
SHIVES' FARM PROPERTY
West of Hancock, MD
The Shives' Families

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.





PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 83991

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Beulah May Kursey Wilk.

Notice is given that Earl Dennis Wilk, Sr., 802 Virginia Ave., Hagerstown, MD 21740-6256 was on October 30, 2026 appointed personal representative of the estate of Beulah May Kursey Wilk who died on October 18, 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 30th day of April, 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 30th day of April, 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.

Earl Dennis Wilk, Sr.
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-11-3th

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 83836

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Joyce Marie Shifler.

Notice is given that Deanna Lee Nalley, 11114 Glenside Ave., Hagerstown, MD 21740-7841 was on October 26, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Joyce Marie Shifler who died on August 14, 2026 with a will.

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

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

Deanna Lee Nalley
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-11-3th

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. 84010

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Joanne F. Scarcelli.

Notice is given that Janet A. McPhillips, 912 Lincoln St., Rockville, MD 20850-1410 was on November 10, 2026 appointed personal representative of the estate of Joanne F. Scarcelli who died on April 7, 2026 with a will.

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

Janet A. McPhillips
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-18-3th

Ann Marie Rotz, ESQ.
Rotz Law Offices, LLC
PO Box 4628
Hagerstown, MD 21742
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 84020

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Kevin Paul Begosh.

Notice is given that Lauren E. Begosh, 1067 View St., Hagerstown, MD 21742-3447 was on November 9, 2026 appointed personal representative of the estate of Kevin Paul Begosh who died on January 14, 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 9th day of May, 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 9th day of May, 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.

Lauren E. Begosh
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-18-3th

This Week's Crossword Answers

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

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

NO PAPER WILL BE PRINTED DECEMBER 30

IN THE ORPHANS' COURT FOR
(OR)
BEFORE THE REGISTER
OF WILLS FOR
WASHINGTON COUNTY,
MARYLAND
IN THE ESTATE OF:
Melody Ann Geary

Estate No: 84008
NOTICE OF JUDICIAL PROBATE

To all persons interested in the above estate:

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed by Tara Jeneen Burchett, 12721 Bradbury Ave., Smithsburg, MD 21783-1405 for judicial probate of the will dated March 22, 2023 and for the appointment of a personal representative.

A hearing will be held at Washington County Orphans' Court, 100 W. Washington St., Ste. 3500, Hagerstown, MD 21740 on December 15, 2026 at 11:30 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
pd11-18-2th

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 84003

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Amber Nicole Itnyre AKA: Amber Nichol Itnyre.

Notice is given that Cynthia M. Moore, 1185 Mt. Aetna Rd. #101, Hagerstown, MD 21740 was on November 5, 2026 appointed personal representative of the estate of Amber Nicole Itnyre who died on October 5, 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 5th day of May, 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 5th day of May, 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.

Cynthia M. Moore
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-18-3th

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 83943

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Maurice Hayes Payne, Sr.

Notice is given that Carol Held, 3102 Lander Rd., Jefferson, MD 21755-7607 was on November 10, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Maurice Hayes Payne, Sr. who died on October 1, 2026 with a will.

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

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

Carol Held
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-18-3th

IN THE ORPHANS' COURT FOR
(OR)
BEFORE THE REGISTER
OF WILLS FOR
WASHINGTON COUNTY,
MARYLAND
IN THE ESTATE OF:
James Warren Nicholson

Estate No: 84015
NOTICE OF JUDICIAL PROBATE

To all persons interested in the above estate:

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed by Kathleen Jordan, 1213 Wayne Ave., Hagerstown, MD 21742-3047 for judicial probate of the will and for the appointment of a personal representative.

A hearing will be held at Washington County Orphans' Court, 100 W. Washington St., Ste. 3500, Hagerstown, MD 21740 on December 15, 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
pd11-18-2th

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 83996

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF James Nelson Shockey.

Notice is given that Anni McCall Rhule, 12424 Pleasant Valley Rd., Smithsburg, MD 21783-2103 was on November 5, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of James Nelson Shockey who died on September 16, 2026 with a will.

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

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representative shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 5th day of May, 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 5th day of May, 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.

Anni McCall Rhule
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-18-3th

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 83990

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Patricia Anne Rice.

Notice is given that Robert Joseph Rice, Jr., 13370 Penns Point Pl., PO Box 207, Cobb Island, MD 20625 was on November 6, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Patricia Anne Rice who died on October 20, 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 6th day of May, 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 6th day of May, 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.

Robert Joseph Rice, Jr.
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-18-3th

William McC. Schildt
44 N. Potomac Street, Suite 201
Hagerstown, MD 21740
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 83823

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF William W. Kidd.

Notice is given that Barbara J. Faller, 9719 Garis Shop Road, Hagerstown, MD 21740 was on October 9, 2026 appointed personal representative of the estate of William W. Kidd who died on December 7, 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 9th day of April, 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 9th day of April, 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.

Barbara J. Faller
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-18-3th

Charles F. Gormly, ESQ.
Rosenthal Gormly, LLC
10605 Concord Street, Suite 307
Kensington, MD 20895
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 83775

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Ty Chin.

Notice is given that Charles F. Gormly, ESQ., 10605 Concord Street, Suite 307, Kensington, MD 20895 was on November 6, 2026 appointed personal representative of the estate of Ty Chin who died on September 7, 2012 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 6th day of May, 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 6th day of May, 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.

Charles F. Gormly, ESQ.
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-18-3th

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 83771

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF John Wilson Dyer, Jr.

Notice is given that Karen Frances Reed, 78 Delawder Ln., Berkeley Springs, WV 25411-3790 was on November 9, 2026 appointed personal representative of the estate of John Wilson Dyer, Jr. who died on May 1, 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 9th day of May, 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 9th day of May, 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.

Karen Frances Reed
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-18-3th

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 84011

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Robert Edward Cauffman.

Notice is given that Diane Cauffman, 13163 Salem Church Rd., Hagerstown, MD 21740-2452 was on November 6, 2026 appointed personal representative of the estate of Robert Edward Cauffman who died on September 12, 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 6th day of May, 2027.

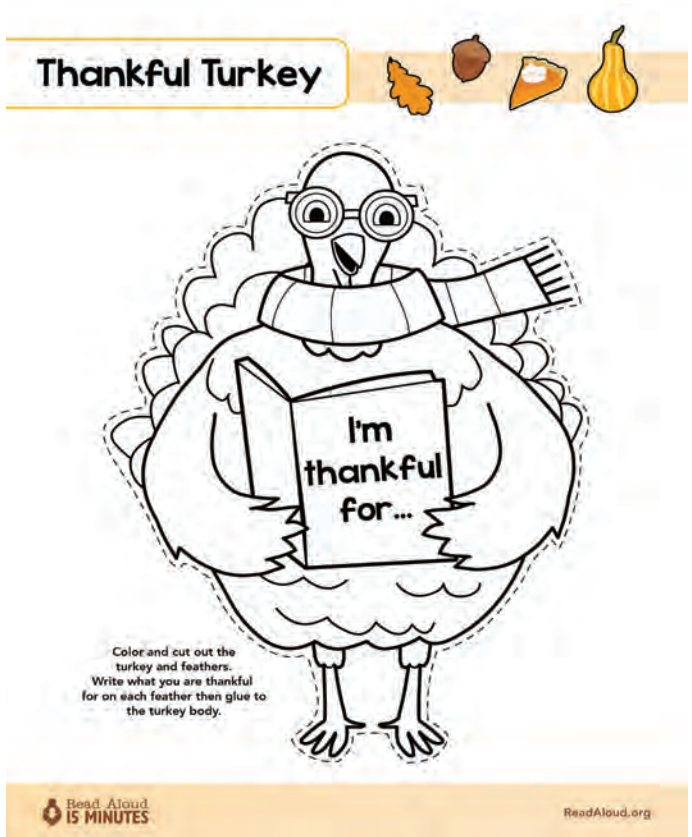
All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Register of Wills on or before the 6th day of May, 2027.

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.

Diane Cauffman
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-18-3th



PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 84000

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Nettie L. Harris AKA: Nettie Lean Harris.

Notice is given that Sandra Fields, 306 N. Colonial Dr. Apt. B, Hagerstown, MD 21742-6561 was on November 6, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Nettie L. Harris who died on October 7, 2026 with a will.

Further information can be obtained by reviewing the estate file in the office of the Register of Wills or by contacting the personal 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 6th day of May, 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 6th day of May, 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 Fields
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-18-3th

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 84036

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Lowell Richard Coats AKA: Lowell Richard Coats, Jr.

Notice is given that Lowell Coats III, 4701 Joe Foss Way, Jefferson, MD 21755-8252 was on November 13, 2026 appointed personal representative of the estate of Lowell Richard Coats who died on May 27, 2022 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 13th day of May, 2027.

All persons having any objection to the probate of the will of the decedent shall file their objections with the Register of Wills on or before the 13th day of May, 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.

Lowell Coats III
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-25-3th

J. Russell Robinson III, ESQ.
Robinson & Robinson
152 W. Washington Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 84029

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Miriam Tucker AKA: Miriam M. Tucker, Miriam E. Tucker, Mariam E. Tucker.

Notice is given that Mary Elizabeth Tucker Petre, 1688 Diehl Rd., Bedford, PA 15522-4809 and Sarah Etta Tucker Miller, 9018 Glades Pike, Berlin, PA 15530-7930 were on November 16, 2026 appointed personal representatives of the estate of Miriam Tucker who died on September 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 representatives or the attorney.

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

Mary Elizabeth Tucker Petre
Sarah Etta Tucker Miller
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-25-3th

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 84040

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Karen Kay Joyce-Wells.

Notice is given that Kourtney Helen Wells, 58 E. Water St., Smithsburg, MD 21783-1633 was on November 16, 2026 appointed personal representative of the estate of Karen Kay Joyce-Wells who died on October 14, 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 16th day of May, 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 16th day of May, 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.

Kourtney Helen Wells
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-25-3th



Use Your Local Library
HANCOCK VETERANS MEMORIAL LIBRARY
301-678-5300

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

IN THE ORPHANS' COURT FOR
(OR)
BEFORE THE REGISTER
OF WILLS FOR
WASHINGTON COUNTY,
MARYLAND
IN THE ESTATE OF:
Teresa Ann Mentzer

Estate No: 83776

NOTICE OF JUDICIAL PROBATE

To all persons interested in the above estate:

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed by Gregory Alan Davidson, 14363 National Pike, Clear Spring, MD 21722-1730 for judicial probate of the will for the appointment of a personal representative.

A hearing will be held at Washington County Orphans' Court, 100 W. Washington St., Ste. 3500, Hagerstown, MD 21740 on January 5, 2027 at 10:30 a.m.

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

Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills
100 W. Washington St
STE 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740-4896
Phone: (301)-739-3612
pd11-25-2th

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 84035

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Barbara Sue Jordan.

Notice is given that Jesse Taylor, 403 Ridge Ave., Hagerstown, MD 21740-5348 was on November 17, 2026 appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Barbara Sue Jordan who died on October 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 17th day of May, 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 17th day of May, 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.

Jesse Taylor
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-25-3th

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 84026

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Yvonne Elizabeth Bussard.

Notice is given that Julie Murphy, 508 Foxclove Cir., Glenmoore, PA 19343-8924 and James Bussard, Sr., 10840 Archer Ln., Williamsport, MD 21795-1401 were on November 16, 2026 appointed Personal Representatives of the estate of Yvonne Elizabeth Bussard who died on November 7, 2026 with a will.

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

All interested persons or unpaid claimants having any objection to the appointment of the personal representatives shall file their objection with the Register of Wills on or before the 16th day of May, 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 16th day of May, 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 Murphy
James Bussard, Sr.
Personal Representatives
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-25-3th

IN THE ORPHANS' COURT FOR
(OR)
BEFORE THE REGISTER
OF WILLS FOR
WASHINGTON COUNTY,
MARYLAND
IN THE ESTATE OF:
Patricia Jean McClelland-Sibert

Estate No: 84012

NOTICE OF JUDICIAL PROBATE

To all persons interested in the above estate:

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed by Harry G. Sibert, 125 North Artizan St., Williamsport, MD 21795 for judicial probate of the will dated June 3, 2026 and for the appointment of a personal representative.

A hearing will be held at Washington County Orphans' Court, 100 W. Washington St., Ste. 3500, Hagerstown, MD 21740 on January 5, 2027 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
pd11-25-2th

SMALL ESTATE
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 84005

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Helen Clark Chaney AKA: Helen Ann Clark Chaney.

Notice is given that Blake Chaney II, 13628 Ivy Way, Hagerstown, MD 21740-9137 was on November 12, 2026 appointed personal representative of the small estate of Helen Clark Chaney who died on July 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 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.

Blake Chaney II
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-25-1thn

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.

SMALL ESTATE
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 84046

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Raymond Leroy Ruck, Jr.

Notice is given that Angelina Marie Kitchen, 17008 Reading Dr., Williamsport, MD 21795-3193 was on November 17, 2026 appointed personal representative of the small estate of Raymond Leroy Ruck, Jr. who died on October 3, 2026 without a will.

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

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

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

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

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

Angelina Marie Kitchen
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-25-1thn

SMALL ESTATE
NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN HEIRS
Estate No. 83992

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF Allen Lynn Ahalt.

Notice is given that Ida Fincham, 7825 McClellan Ave., Boonsboro, MD 21713-2423 was on November 18, 2026 appointed personal representative of the small estate of Allen Lynn Ahalt who died on August 14, 2026 without a will.

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

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

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

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

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

Ida Fincham
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd11-25-1thn

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.*

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Hancock
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Brochures
BANNERS
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Calendars
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Receipt Books
Rubber Stamps
Door Hangers
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Post Cards
Invitations/ Announcements
Holiday/Greeting Cards
Note Pads
Laminating
And More
You Name It We Can Do It
The Hancock News
105 West Main Street
Hancock
301-678-6255

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

HAY, round bales $35, 304-258-0584. 12/24- tfmh

15 Foot aluminum boat, excellent condition, complete with seats, paddles & anchors, $300 Or Best Offer, 304-886-6210. pd11/18-2tmh

AUTOS

2010 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited, 126,399 miles, $10,000. 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



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126,399 MILES
$10,000.00
304-671-2808

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Kind Of Animal
Breed
Age
Size or Weight
Color, Markings
Registered
Price
Phone Number

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

CASSEROLE
CENTERPIECE
CORNBREAD
CORNUCOPIA
CRANBERRY
DESSERT
DINNER
FEAST
GATHERING
GOURD
GRATITUDE
GRAVY
HARVEST
LEFTOVERS
MAYFLOWER
PARADE
PILGRIMS
PUMPKIN PIE
STUFFING
SWEET POTATOES
TABLE
TURKEY
WAMPANOAG
WISHBONE



November 29 - December 5, 2026



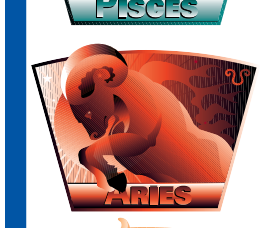
CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20
Capricorn, don't forget to schedule time to do absolutely nothing. A break from your otherwise hectic schedule can be just what you need to stay charged .



AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18
This week you are throwing out ideas that run from brilliant to absurd. You never know what might be the next great thing, so keep the ideas coming.



PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20
Pisces, daydreams can turn into firm, productive plans if you write them down. Direct creative endeavors into something tangible before it drifts away.



ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20
Your inner fire is burning hot this week, Aries. Try not to burn anyone in the coming days. Channel any extra energy into a project you've been putting off for a while.



TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21
Stubbornness is an art form for you, Taurus. Currently you are standing your ground this week on what matters. But be open to being a little flexible with the ones you love.



GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21
Gemini, right now it seems like your brain has 20 tabs open and one of them is replaying old movies. All of this distraction can make it difficult to focus. Avoid taking on more tasks.



CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22
Your intuition is operating at full signal this week, so trust any gut feelings about a person or plans. You may feel like protecting your personal space, but don't isolate yourself.



LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23
All eye are on you right now, Leo. You may as well strike a pose and make the most of the attention. Share any ideas you have without holding back. Others will appreciate your enthusiasm.



VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22
You might be in full organizing mode, but remember that life isn't a spreadsheet. Some unexpected disorder can be fun. Let some minor details slide without adjusting your plan.



LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23
Libra, indecision could stall your progress right now, especially when choosing between two tempting options. Go with your first instinct on this.



SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio. your magnetic mystery is at an all-time high, making everyone curious about your next move. Use this influence wisely when negotiating.



SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21
Your budget may only allow for a road trip, but your brain is plotting a European vacation. Start saving if you really want to travel next year.

Your guide to using *The Hancock News*

Established 1914 - Our 111th Year – Hancock's Oldest Business

The Hancock News was established in 1914 and is now in its 112th year. No one else completely covers the Hancock area every week of the year. Your suggestions and comments are always welcome and are invaluable in producing an ever-improving paper each week. We hope this guide will help you understand how to help us provide the most comprehensive coverage of ALL of Hancock and how to contact us.

Our office address is:
105 West Main Street • Hancock, MD 21750
Phone: 301-678-6255 or 304-258-1800
Fax: 304-258-8441

Established 1914
Published Every Wednesday
Except the Last Week of the Year

Entered as 2nd Class Matter at the Post Office
Hancock, MD

SUBSCRIPTIONS

New or renewal subscriptions may be sent to: 105 West Main Street, Hancock, MD 21750, or taken to the Hancock office.

Questions about your subscription may be phoned to 301-678-6255 or 304-258-1800.

Yearly rates are:

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Fulton County, Pa	$33.00
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Subscriptions may be made by cash, check, money order or credit cards. We accept:

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Hancock News, P.O. Box 567, Berkeley Springs, WV 25411.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified ads cost 25¢ per word for the first insertion and 18¢ per word for the following issues. There is a $1.00 billing fee if the ad is not paid for when it is placed.

Ads may be placed at the office or by calling 301-678-6255 or 304-258-1800. They may also be sent via fax to 304-258-8441

DISPLAY ADS

Display ads cost $5.50 per column inch up to 40 inches per month. After the 40 inches the rate decreases by the amount of advertising.

Ads may be placed at the office or by calling 301-678-6255/304-258-1800. They may also be faxed to 304-258-8441. Email: ads@morganmessenger.com.

GETTING AN ITEM PUBLISHED

The Hancock News does not charge for publication of any news items and photos, including anniversaries, weddings, social events, clubs, organizations, churches and reunions. Just send us your news release.

We prefer typewritten, double-spaced copy to minimize errors, but we will accept legible, handwritten stories.

If you are not sure how to write your story, please contact the office for assistance. We will be glad to help you.

If you have a suggestion for a story or photograph or a question about a news item, please call *The Hancock News* office.

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.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

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

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

Thank you notes and political endorsements are considered advertising, not subjects for letters. Form letters are often discarded.

OBITUARIES

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

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.

For details, contact The Hancock News at 301-678-6255 or 304-258-1800

RESOLVING PROBLEMS

If you have a question, suggestion or problem with something that appears in *The Hancock News*, please contact us.

If we have made a correctable error, corrections will be published in the same section of the newspaper where the original article appeared.

DEADLINE

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

Washington County free scrap tire event December 5

The Washington County Department of Environmental Management announces a free Scrap Tire Collection Day on Saturday, December 5, from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Forty West Landfill.

This event is open to Washington County residents only. Residents may drop off up to 10 tires per household at no cost. Passenger and light truck tires will be accepted, both on and off the rim. Participants must present a valid driver's license showing a Washington County address and are limited to one trip during the event.

Tires from commercial entities will not be accepted.

Follow the posted signs to the designated drop-off area. Participants should not report to the scale house.

This program is funded and limited by the Maryland Department of the Environment and the Maryland Environmental Service. Once the State-established tire collection limit has been reached, additional tires will be accepted and processed at the regular residential disposal rate of $250 per ton.



The Forty West Landfill is located at 12630 Earth Care Road, Hagerstown.

For additional information, contact Washington County's Public Relations and Marketing Department at pr@washco-md.net.

Cacapon Resort State Park activities

Friday, November 27

9:30 a.m. - Walk Off That Thanksgiving Dinner. Join us for a brisk walk with several breaks. We'll hike the Hovermale homestead trail which is an easy 1.2 mile loop. As we hike, we'll learn some history, geology and possibly find some fossils. (leave them in the park) Meet at the nature center.

1 p.m. - Name that Tree. Naming trees without leaves is harder but not impossible. Learn some leafless ID tricks. Stem features, fruits, seedpods, and bark can help ID a tree. We'll take a short walk to reinforce our newly learned skills.

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

3 p.m. - Origami. Let's celebrate Origami Day by making nature themed origami. If this is a skill of yours, share your ideas with everyone.

Saturday, November 28

10 a.m. - WV Owls & Owl Pellet Dissection. Are owls out at night? Do all owls make a hoot sound? A few facts will be presented about each WV owl, along with owl strengths, owl sounds and an owls diet. We'11 dissect owl pellets.

1-3 p.m. - Birds of Prey Migration Watch. Join us at 1 p.m. at the locked gate just beyond the Batt Parking Area. We will watch migrating birds & year-round birds. You'll need to be early or on-time to get in. These birds: black vulture, turkey vulture, bald eagle, northern harrier, northern goshawk, rough-legged hawk, and red-tailed hawk, would be experiencing peak migration at this time. Other wildlife could be spotted: ravens, crows, and deer. 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 take your own. Dress for the weather but this event will be canceled due to rain, fog or snow.

3:30 p.m. - All About Bats. Meet at the nature center. Bats are important to ecosystems. We'll discuss common WV bats, their habitats, their importance and their challenges.

Sunday, November 29

9:30 a.m. - Nature & History Walk. Meet at the lodge. Join park volunteer Dale and we'll take a 45 minute to 1 hour easy walk looking at sites in the park related to our CCC history and beyond. We'll discuss any wildlife we may see too.

Monday, November 30

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

9:30 a.m. - Ridge Trail Ramble. Meet at the nature center. Join park volunteer Dale and we'll take a 1.5 mile; 45 minute to 1 hour walk. Though rated easy, it has a rocky steady up and rocky steady down. Lake views, 2 mountain ridge views, rock formations.

Tuesday, December 1

2:30 p.m. - All About Bird Anatomy. Feel bones, claws, and feathers. Learn about the basic anatomy of birds through a Cornell Lab of Ornithology Interactive Program. Learn some unique bird only body parts.

3:30 p.m. - Feeder Watch & Bird ID. Which birds are at our feeders? After identifying them, we'll match the birds with sounds.

Wednesday, December 2

10 a.m. - Logcocks, Peckerwoods, Woodhacks & Woodnackers. Whatever you call them, our local woodpeckers are beneficial for a healthy ecosystem. Learn their calls and some fun facts of each WV species. A short walk to search for woodpeckers will follow the brief talk.

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

3 p.m. - Life in the Soil. Where does everyone go? True hibernation, torpor, brumation, diapause are some ways animals spend the winter months. Discussion of soil horizons and soil types and which is best for particular animals.





