

The Hancock News

Hancock, MD 21750

Established 1914 – Our 109th Year

Volume 110, Number 13


Hancock at a Glance


Blood drive

A blood drive will be held Thursday, April 6, from 12:30-6 p.m. at Warfordsburg Faith Center.

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


Weather

Wed. 3/29 57/28 
Sunny with calm southwest winds 5-9 mph in the morning.

Thurs. 3/30 51/31 
Sunny with northwest winds around 11 mph.

Fri. 3/31 65/52 
50% chance of rain. Partly sunny with a high near 65.

Sat. 4/1 72/32 
90% chance of rain. Windy with a high around 72.

Sun. 4/2 55/34 
Sunny and mostly clear with a high around 55, low of 34.

Letters to the Editor

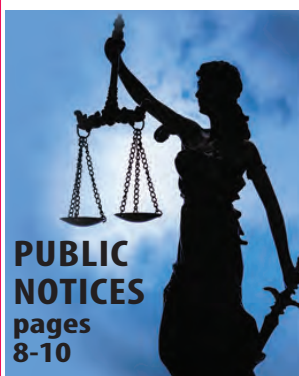
Letters to the editor are invited. They must be signed, typed and double-spaced. The writer must include a phone number and address for verification.

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 Letters longer than 400 words will not be published.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, 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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301-678-6255

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news@hancocknews.us
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thehancocknews.com

Or Write To:
The Hancock News
263 Pennsylvania Ave. Ext.
Hancock, MD 21750



Town officials establish themselves as Hancock's Urban Renewal Authority

by Geoff Fox

Hancock town officials have officially established an Urban Renewal Authority for the town, naming themselves as the primary agency to guide town renewal plans.

Town officials made the unanimous decision last Thursday evening, March 23, in a special town meeting.

By establishing the Urban Renewal Authority, it would allow town officials to identify the properties that are a blight or need to be improved.

A plan to do so must be presented to the public and a public hearing must be held.



Under the amendment passed by the Maryland Legislature, the town had the ability to have the mayor and council serve as the authority or create a separate body. Hancock officials chose the latter.

Because the creation of the Urban Renewal Authority was not an ordinance, it became official as soon as it passed.

Town Manager Mike Faith said the town's planning commission would have a function in the authority to recommend properties that need to go into urban renewal.

Faith added the town could add the property with or without the owner's permission.

see **URBAN RENEWAL**
page 3

Annual cross walk set for next Friday

by Geoff Fox

A Hancock Easter tradition will continue next Friday, April 7, as parishioners from various churches take to the street for the annual Cross Walk.

The Cross Walk starts at 10 a.m. in Widmeyer Park, travel along Main Street and up Church Street to the final destination of St. Peter's Catholic Church.

The annual Good Friday Cross Walk is open to everyone no matter the age or faith. Everyone is invited to walk, sing, pray, and reflect in the annual remembrance of Jesus traveling the road to the Cross, regardless of religious affiliation.

The walk begins in Widmeyer Park with Rev. Steven McCarty of St. Thomas Episcopal Church reading scripture and a prayer. From there, the walk will go to the United Methodist Church with Rev. Becki Wessinger.

Deacon Jim Mason of St. Peter's will be presenting a message outside Martha's House as well.

Breathed Park will have Pastor Jeff Hawbaker of Orchard Ridge Church of God reading and praying. The walk will then head to the Meditation Garden at Hancock Presbyterian Church with Rev. Terry Martin-Minnich's reflection.

The walk will then head up



Rev. Terry Martin-Minnich of the Hancock Presbyterian Church reads scripture and a prayer during the 2022 Cross Walk. This year's event will be held on April 7.

photo by Geoff Fox

Church Street to St. Thomas Episcopal Church and a reflection from Chaplain (COL, retired) Ron Martin-Minnich of the Hancock Presbyterian Church.

The pilgrimage concludes at St. Peter's Catholic Church with Rev. Jack Lombardi closing the Cross Walk.

The Greater Hancock Council of Churches sponsors the event.

For more information, contact any of the participating pastors or GHCC president Pastor Terry Martin-Minnich at 301-678-5510 or by email at hancockpc1841@yahoo.com.

Hancock council goes after grant for police vehicles, may buy Weaver's, searches for trash service providers

by Geoff Fox

A grant from the USDA may allow town officials to purchase two new vehicles for the Hancock Police Department.

Officials voted unanimously to approve the grant application.

The new vehicles would be Chevrolet Tahoes, which would replace the two pick-ups.

The only vehicles available are the Tahoes as Ford stopped making the Interceptor last year, Mayor Tim Smith said.

In talking to the company, Smith said the cost, with discounts, would be \$46,456. General Motors gives a \$5,000 discount, he added, and the USDA grant is \$7,525.

If the town bought two new vehicles, the cost would be \$25,000 and the USDA would pay the other 75%.

The new vehicles would be four-wheel drive and have better in town

gas mileage than the Dodge trucks currently use.

If the town doesn't get the two vehicles now, the next shipment through the dealer wouldn't be available until June.

Smith said the Pennsylvania State Police are looking at the same vehicles through the same dealer and could possibly take all 115 vehicles on the lot.

Main Street property

Town officials are in the process of negotiating the purchase of a property on Main Street that has been home to a longtime restaurant.

Officials are putting the contract together to purchase 77 West Main Street, which would be the former Weaver's Restaurant, and the parking lot across the street.

An ordinance to buy the building was introduced during the special meeting on March 23, and if the final ordinance would pass during the

April 11 meeting. It would become effective 28 days later.

According to the contract, the property would have to be purchased within 30 days of that effective date.

Smith said the property would be sold as is, which would include the contents of the building.

Trash issue

Mayor Smith said the temporary trash company who was collecting trash while the town received bids for a new contract "bit off more than they could chew" and are not equipped to tackle the town's needs.

There was probably two hours of trash that still needed picked up, Smith said, so Public Works took the town's dump truck and filled it in about 20 minutes.

Smith said the mayor of Berkeley Springs loaned Hancock their trash truck so long as the town paid for the truck to dump the trash and if anything happened to the truck.

Community Easter Egg Hunt to be held Saturday

Families will fill Widmeyer Park this Saturday, April 1 for the annual Community Easter Egg Hunt in Hancock.

Registration for youth egg hunters starts at 1 p.m. and ends at 2 p.m., when different age groups will begin their rush for colored prizes.

Children registered for the hunt will also be entered to win door prizes, raffle drawings and Easter Basket prizes.

Families of children aged two to 10 should take an Easter basket for the event.

Attendees are also asked to take donations of canned and non-perishable food for the local food bank.

The Community Easter Egg Hunt is sponsored by



the Hancock Lions Club, Hancock United Methodist Church and Catalpa United Methodist Church.

In case of rain, the event will be held on Sunday, April 2.

Board of Ed approves roof replacement at Hancock Elementary

by Geoff Fox

Washington County Board of Education officials voted 5-1 in favor of a consent agenda that would see them spend \$5 million on two roof replacements at Eastern Elementary and Hancock Elementary, plus funds for Chromebooks, and an internet service provider.

The contract to replace the roof at Hancock Elementary was awarded to FirstLine Contracting, Inc. with a cost of \$1,074,500.

While five board members and the concurring student member approving the measure, Michael Guessford was the lone vote against it.

A couple years ago, Washington County Commissioners requested Washington County Public Schools to fund more programs in Hancock and at Cascade Elementary.

Board Member Pieter Bickford asked Chief Operating Officer Jeff Proulx if the roof replacement would satisfy that request.

Proulx said the funds for the roof are coming out of the remaining money allo-

cated for the new Sharpsburg Elementary, which came in under budget.

The \$1.8 million of county funds left is to be used for Hancock and Cascade, Proulx said.

There was a small project done at Hancock, but "ultimately wanted to see the roofing project come to fruition," he said.

The roofing project is actually being done ahead of schedule as the funds are available and are time sensitive as they are bond funds.

"We wanted to see this bid come in before we identified future projects because we wanted to make sure we got the roof done first," Proulx said.

With the cost of the roof replacement being less than the remaining funds, Proulx said there would be about \$700,000 left for future projects.

Work on the roofing project is slated to begin at the start of Summer 2023 and all work should be completed prior to students and staff returning to school in August 2023.



"That was the quickest route other than leaving trash sit out," Smith said.

That took around two hours to finish the job.

see **HANCOCK COUNCIL**
page 3

OPINIONS

EARTH TALK

Questions &
Answers
About Our
Environment

Dear EarthTalk:

What are the health and environmental benefits of planting more trees in urban areas?

—B. Marsden, Buffalo, NY

Planting more trees in urban areas has numerous health and environmental benefits. Trees are essential to human health, and they provide environmental benefits by reducing air pollution, conserving energy, mitigating the urban heat island effect, and reducing stormwater runoff. According to the Arbor Day Foundation, a single mature tree can absorb up to 48 pounds of carbon dioxide (CO₂) annually and release enough oxygen for two people to breathe comfortably all year.

Trees play a crucial role in improving air quality in urban areas. A study by the U.S. Forest Service found that trees in urban areas remove 711,000 metric tons of air pollution annually, saving the United States \$6.8 billion in air quality-related health care costs. Trees absorb pollutants such as sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and ozone, which can cause respiratory problems and other health issues. Trees also absorb fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}), which is associated with asthma, heart attacks, and premature death.

Urban forests also help reduce the urban heat island effect, which is when urban areas are significantly warmer than rural areas due to human activity and infrastructure. Trees provide shade, which helps to reduce surface temperatures, and they also release water vapor through transpiration, which cools the air around them. According to a study published in the journal Landscape and Urban Planning, increasing tree canopy cover in cities can help reduce temperatures by up to two degrees Celsius.

In addition to their health benefits, trees also provide environmental benefits by reducing energy consumption. Trees provide shade, which reduces the amount of energy needed to cool buildings in the summer. According to federal researchers, properly placed trees can reduce a building's air conditioning needs by up to 30 percent. Trees also act as wind-breaks, which can reduce heating costs in the winter, helping to achieve up to a 50 percent decrease in annual heating costs. In fact, just three properly sited trees could save homeowners up to \$250/year overall.

Trees are also essential in managing stormwater runoff. When it rains, stormwater runoff can cause flooding, erosion and water pollution. Trees absorb rainwater through their roots and help to reduce the amount of runoff. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency calculates that a single mature tree can absorb up to 100 gallons of water per day.

Furthermore, planting more trees in urban areas can improve mental health and well-being. Studies have shown that exposure to nature and green spaces can reduce stress, anxiety and depression. A study published in the Journal of Environmental Psychology found that people who live in areas with more trees and green spaces report better mental health than those who live in areas with less greenery.

We also need trees to absorb all that excess CO₂ we have spewed into the atmosphere that is causing global warming. Trees have always been essential to the survival of humans and other organisms, but maybe never so much as the present given the existential threat posed by human-induced climate change.

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

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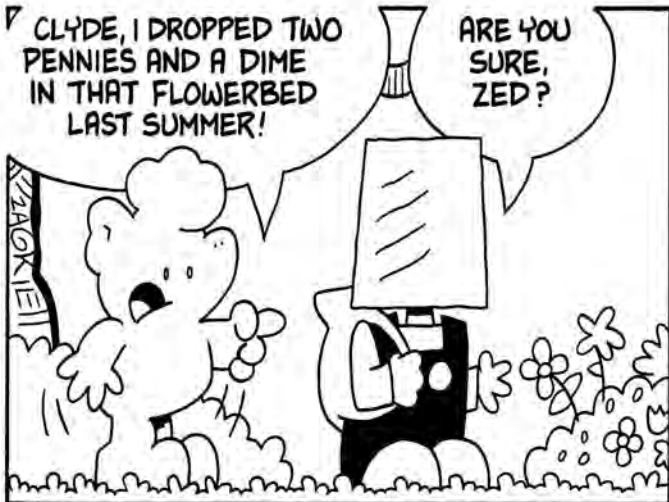
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Calendar of Events APRIL

Tuesday, April 4
– Hancock Rotary Club
meeting, Martha's House,
47 W. Main Street,
12:30 p.m.

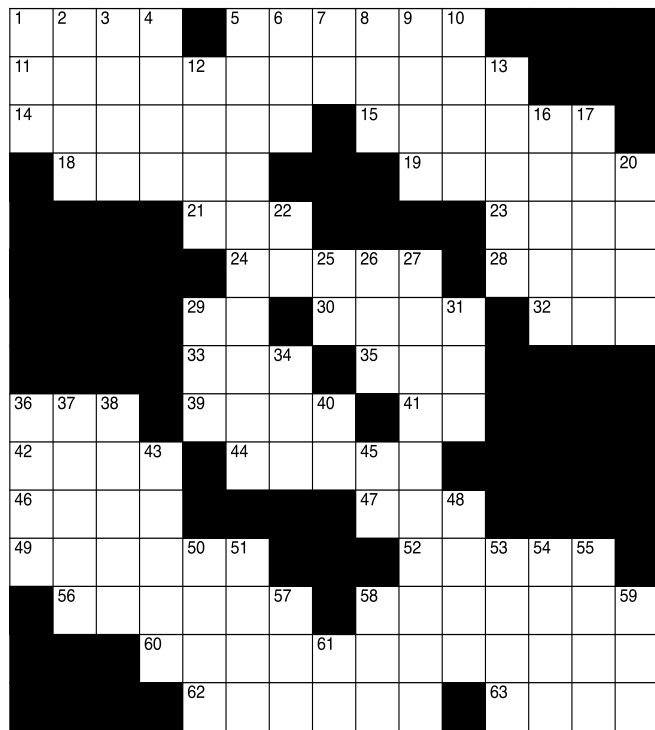
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ACROSS

1. Millisecond
5. Narcotic drug
11. Accident
14. Formal submissions
15. Popular 70s rock band
18. Discourage from doing
19. More socially elite
21. Arid
23. A way to look
24. Heroes
28. A surfer rides it
29. Potato state
30. Insect repellent
32. Cool!
33. Have already done
35. Collegiate women's fraternity
36. To the ___ degree
39. Gasteyer and de Armas are two
41. Blood type
42. Looked over
44. Language of Cameroon and Chad
46. Species of armadillo
47. Touch softly
49. Part of your upper body
52. Large, stocky lizards
56. Lack of social or ethical standards
58. Congressman
60. Unofficial force
62. As a result of this utterance
63. A main branch of Islam

DOWN

1. Woman (French)
2. Province of Pakistan
3. This (Spanish)
4. Transportation device
5. Greater in importance or priority
6. The human foot
7. Within
8. Consumed
9. Respectful Malaysian term

10. Therefore
12. Ceased to exist
13. Type of macaroni
16. English composer
17. Wooded tract
20. Tall, slender-leaved plant
22. 36 inches
25. Take too much (abbr.)
26. Allow
27. Individually
29. Journalist Tarbell
31. Bar bill
34. Hong Kong food stall: ___ pai dong
36. Not messy
37. Species that includes reed mace
38. Former MLB catcher Ed
40. Northern U.S. state
43. Wilt
45. Commercial
48. Bolivian river
50. Nursemaid
51. A car needs four
53. Guns (slang)
54. American state
55. Clusters of fern fronds
57. Body part
58. A person's brother or sister
59. Breed of sheep native to Sweden
61. Of I

Answers for March 22, 2023



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 TODD HERSHEY

Washington County Treasurer
35 West Washington Street, Suite 102 • Hagerstown, MD 21740
Phone: 240-313-2110 Email: thershey@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 KRISTA HART

Office of the County Clerk
100 West Washington Street, Room 302 • Hagerstown, MD 21740
Phone: 240-313-2204 Email: khart@washco-md.net

State's Attorney

STATE'S ATTORNEY GINA CIRINCION

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

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MEMBER



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National Newspaper Association

Hancock Police Report 301-678-5633



Hancock Police report the following arrests and incidents from the week of March 20-26:

March 20
Traffic enforcement, Hancock area, four stops.

Disabled vehicle, first block Pennsylvania Avenue. Tractor-trailer stuck. Fixed and sent in a safe direction.

Disabled vehicle, 400 block East Main Street. Vehicle moved in a safe location.

911 hang-up, first block Virginia Avenue. Accidental.

Assisted Pennsylvania State Police, 200 block West High Street. Missing juvenile.

Disorderly conduct, 200 block Pennsylvania Avenue. Subjects advised.

Service to advise, 200 block West High Street. Subject advised.

Assisted Washington County Sheriff's Office, Millstone Road. Disabled vehicle.

March 21
Suspicious person, 300 block Pennsylvania Avenue. Subject checked okay.

Traffic enforcement, Hancock area, two stops.

Property damage accident, 200 block West Main Street. Information exchanged.

Alarm, 100 block Rayloc Drive. All secure.

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

March 22
911 hang-up, 100 block West High Street. Unfounded.

Disabled vehicle, 200 block Pennsylvania Avenue. Helped subject jumpstart vehicle.

Traffic enforcement, Hancock area, seven stops.

911 hang-up, first block West Main Street. Accidental.

Warrant service, Rt. 522/I-70. Warrant served for FTA Traffic Court on Bayle Scott Johnson, 25, of Berkeley Springs.

March 23
Noise complaint, 100 block Franklin Street. Unable to locate.

Assisted Washington County Sheriff's Office, 14,000 block Warfordsburg Road. Accidental 911 hang-up.

Property damage accident, High Street. Information given.

Property damage accident, 200 block East Main Street. Information given.

Assisted Washington County Sheriff's Office, 100 block East Main Street. Eviction.

Animal complaint, first block East Main Street. Dog in car. Gone on arrival.

Suspicious vehicle, 5000 block Creek Road. Vehicle checked okay.

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

Warrant service, first block Brent Street. Humane Society criminal warrant served on Angela Nicole Weller, 37, of Hancock.

Domestic, 200 block Jackson Street. Subjects advised.

Assisted Washington County Sheriff's Office, 14,000 block Willow Road.

March 24
Check well being, first block Brent Street. Subjects checked okay.

Check well being, 100 block Pennsylvania Avenue. Subject checked okay.

Disorderly conduct, 100 block East Main Street. Subjects advised.

Traffic enforcement, Hancock area, one stop.

Assisted Washington County Sheriff's Office 911 hang up 14,000 block Warfordsburg Road. Unfounded.

Assisted Maryland State Police, eastbound I-70 at the 1-mile marker. Property damage accident. Information exchanged.

March 25
Lost/found property, 300 block Pennsylvania Avenue. Subject advised.

Traffic enforcement, Hancock area, two stops.

Assisted Washington County Sheriff's Office, Warfordsburg Road area. Struck deer. Unable to locate, deer ran off.

March 26
Traffic enforcement, Hancock area, two stops.

911 hang-up, 300 block Pennsylvania Avenue. Accidental.

Check well being, 200 block Quaker Creek. Subject checked okay.

Urban Renewal

(from front)

"All we're doing, is it's an avenue for us to get rid of some of the blight," he said. "It's one more tool for us to use in the toolbox."

No plan has officially been adopted.

Faith also noted putting a property into the Urban Renewal Plan could spark an owner who has owned a piece of property for 30 years and not touched it to take action.

Residential property within the town center, or commercial zone, can also be added to the Urban Renewal Plan, Faith said.

Faith said he spoke with a property owner whose property couldn't be fixed up due to lack of funds.

Under an Urban Renewal Plan, the town would have options to help the property owner acquire the property.

Faith said any steps to take over blighted property would be "way down the road." The creation of the Urban Renewal Authority opens the opportunity for the town to use money that was allocated by the state of Maryland for the town.

Town Attorney Ed Kuczynski said Williamsport is looking at the same issue and there is a building that might get pushed to the point where that town might have to take it because the property owner doesn't want to improve the building.

There are also a few commercial properties in Williamsport, Kuczynski

said, that could use a freshening up on the outside and they have a grant program through their Main Street program.

"You could see a building like that go into the Urban Renewal Plan with the plan to be to encourage the owner to apply," Kuczynski said.

Councilman Roland Lanehart, Jr. said without the authority and plan being created, the state wouldn't give Hancock the money allotted them.

"We have to have a plan. They just don't write you a check," Faith said.

State legislators passed the Urban Renewal law last year.

If a property would need to be demolished, Kuczynski suggested officials could create a demolition grant pro-

gram that would look like a loan.

He said it would be a grant for as long as the same person owns the property, the grant/loan would be deferred payments. The loan would only have to be repaid if there is a sale of the property on the market or the passing of the owner.

Mayor Tim Smith said the plan is not pressing someone to sell because they don't have the money to fix something, but it does open opportunities to apply for grant money to fix things up.

Town officials will announce when they have a draft plan for urban renewal priorities, and when a public hearing on that plan will be set.

Hancock council

(from front)

Faith called a trash company in Cumberland to do a temporary coverage until a bid is awarded.

The town was working with the previous company without a contract because it takes time to solicit bids and get them back.

A request for bids went out last year and the town only received one bid.

"That doesn't serve the taxpayers to only get one bid," Faith said.

The town then put the contract out to bid again to get more competition and a better break for taxpayers.

The town was in the predicament where they needed trash picked up. They couldn't wait for the bids to come back and hope Apple Valley didn't raise the cost.

The cost for the temporary company is about the same as what the town was paying Apple Valley for their contract.

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Saturday, April 15 at Hillbilly Heaven

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will be holding a

HAM POTPIE DINNER

Saturday, April 1 • 4-6 p.m.

DINE IN OR TAKE OUT AVAILABLE

Donations to Benefit Our Local Deacon's Mission Fund

Menu Will Be Ham Potpie, Green Beans, Apple Sauce, Roll & Dessert

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

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BINGO

Sat., April 1

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Early Birds at 6:45 p.m.
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Refreshments Available

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SOCIAL DISTANCING AND MASK REQUIRED WHILE STANDING

Harp Recital

featuring Lauren Swain

Friday, March 31 7 p.m.

HANCOCK ASSEMBLY OF GOD

431 N. Pennsylvania Avenue
Hancock

Third Annual Berkeley Springs Film Festival

Friday March 31 - Sunday April 2, 2023

at The Historic Star Theater

A little art, a lot of fun!

- Festival Passes From \$10-\$49 (open to public)
- Over 15 Hours of Quality Films from WV and around the world selected by Judges
- Guest speaker Academy Award Winning Make-up artist John Caglione, Jr.
- Award Ceremony and After Party Saturday Night
- Meet The Independent Filmmakers
- Filmmaker Seminars (open to public)
- Sponsorship Opportunities available \$50-\$400 see website for more details
- Enjoy all that the Historic Spa Town of Berkeley Springs, WV has to offer!

Tickets available only via www.BSFilmFestival.com

Community Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 1

Registration from 1:30 p.m.
Ages 2-12

Widmeyer Park

Sponsored by Hancock Lions Club,
Hancock United Methodist Church &
Catalpa United Methodist Church

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Passion ...Enter it, Live it!

Our youth group last Sunday watched “The Passion of the Christ” – for prayerful entrance into upcoming Holy Week, which begins this Passion-Palm Sunday, and by the end of viewing it--err, experiencing it, we were all, proverbially, speechless.

During the movie, in which I winced many times to the graphic depiction of the torture and crucifixion of Jesus-we witness His Passion for us sinners (Rm. 3:20) and the depth of sorrow of sin and dedication of a Savior.

Many Christians today discount the Passion and all that drama, thinking, exclaiming: He’s risen!, and:That’s a Catholic thing. Hmm: How about St. Paul?: “For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified. (1 Cor. 2:2).

We Catholics--and Passionate Christians--can focus on the Passion this week and also apprieacte the Glorious Resurrection-- come Easter!

And, for many, the Crucifixion and Passion is ongoing “I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me.” (Gal. 2:20 . Padre Pio, the Italian Franciscan priest, and saint, apparently had the stigmata--wound marks of Christ on his body, so identified was he with the Savior.

After the movie of “The Passion” I thought: How can I live a normal life, after such drama? And: Do you really know what they did to Jesus? Do you apprieacte what He went through, for you? And: Wait a minute- our religion is sterilized, stripping us of the True Story of Christ and His Passion.

How can anyone take anyone else seriously for a real, “throw down-leader”--after we deeply experience “The Passion” which Christ utterly went through: He WALKED the walk.

So, in response, we should be passionate about God, our Faith, The Church and prayer, and serving others. If folks can get stimulated by TikTok and politicians and sports in today’s world --they can be “hijacked” out of God’s Life--so what about the Passion of our Savior’s Ultimate Act-His Death, and Resurrection?

So, now, Spiritual Prep for Holy Week: Pray The Stations of the Cross which recount in fourteen steps Jesus’ Passion and burial...Read the Passion Narratives at the end of each Gospel...Make a Confession of sins (Jas. 5:16) as, when we sin we kinda “re-nail” Jesus - Heb.6:6). Get a crucifix (You can now make one from the Internet). Carry a cross in our pocket this week and “refer” to it--Him-- this week. Participate in your church services, and remember: There’s no Crown without the Cross!

Rev. John J. Lombardi
St. Peter and St. Patrick Catholic Churches

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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 Stottemyer.

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 7 p.m. Wednesday activities 7 p.m. Women’s ministries first Tuesday of each month.

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 11 a.m. Sunday School for children & adults 10 a.m. Alcoholics Anonymous in lower parish hall. Interim Rector Steven McCarty.

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

Buck Valley Zion Lutheran Church - The first church service of the year will be held Sunday, April 9. Then the services will be held every third Sunday of the month at 7 p.m. from May through December with Rev. Ron Martin-Minnich and Rev. Terry Martin-Minnich.

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 - Sunday school 10 a.m., service 11 a.m. Pastor Barbara Suffecool.

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.

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.

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

Hancock (USA) Presbyterian Church, 17 East Main Street, 301-678-5510 - Sunday worship 11 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 - Sunday school 10 a.m., morning worship 11 a.m. Sunday evening services 6 p.m. Wednesday evening services 7 p.m. Pastor James Touchton.

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

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

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

Bethel Community Church, Bethel Church Road off Rt. 522, Warfordsburg, Pa., 301-991-7141 - Sunday school 9:30 a.m., worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday night fellowship and music at 7 p.m. Rev. Joe Martin.

Berkeley Baptist Church, Route 522 and 13, 304-258-4101 - Youth Wednesday 6:30-8 p.m., Sunday school 9:30 a.m., worship service and children’s church 10:45 a.m. Food pantry distribution site call for more infor. Wednesday Bible study 7 p.m. Pastor Joey N. Giles, Jr.

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

Damascus Christian Church, Big Cove Tannery, Pa. - Worship every Sunday 11 a.m. Pastor Travis Mellott. Sunday services online.

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.

Love Assembly of God, 4 miles south of Berkeley Springs on Rt. 522 - Sunday praise & worship 10 a.m., children’s church and youth services 11 a.m., Tuesday family night and kid’s club 7 p.m. Pastor Dave Kidwell.

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., Warfordburg, Pa., 301-678-5340 - Prayer service, Wednesday 7:30 p.m., Sunday service 10 a.m. Pastor Warren Ensor and Deacon Emmanuel Ensor.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Buck Valley Christian Church, 717-294-3940 - 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.

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., 717-573-4581 or 814-392-3070 - Sabbath School Saturday, 9:30 a.m. Sabbath worship service Saturday 11 a.m. Pastor Preston Monterrey.

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.

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.

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 United Methodist Church, 9512 National Pike, Big Pool, I-70 east at exit 9, Indian Springs, 301-842-3212 - Sunday school 9:30 a.m., morning worship 10:30 a.m. Pastor Len Horst.

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 Pressinger.

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

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

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

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

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

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Email: ContactCommissioners@washco-md.net

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 TODD HERSHEY
Washington County Treasurer
35 West Washington Street, Suite 102 • Hagerstown, MD 21740
Phone: 240-313-2110 Email: thershey@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 KRISTA HART
Office of the County Clerk
100 West Washington Street, Room 1101 • Hagerstown, MD 21740
Phone: 240-313-2204 Email: khart@washco-md.net

State’s Attorney

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

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

HOPE

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

OBITUARIES

Seth Partridge Berman
1980-2023

Seth Partridge Berman, 42, of Washington, D.C., passed away on Wednesday, March 22, 2023.

Seth was born on June 22, 1980 in the District of Columbia to Jerry and Sally Berman of Great Cacapon.

He grew up on Capitol Hill and attended U of NH where he received his BA in Psychology. He was passionate about hiking, camping and nature photography.

Seth is survived by his parents, brother, Zev Berman of Pasadena and sister, Kristin Bedford of Los Angeles.

A private service with the family will be held in the Berkeley Springs area.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the National Parks Conservation Association.

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.

Kathy Kay Brake
1959-2023

Kathy Kay Brake, age 64, of Elkins, W.Va., died on Saturday, March 25, 2023 at the West Virginia Caring Hospice House in Elkins, W.Va.

Born January 22, 1959 in Berkeley Springs, W.Va., she was the daughter of the late Wendell Oliver and Nita Mae Lyons Jamison.

She attended Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church in Berkeley Springs. Kathy was a graduate of Berkeley Springs High School. She worked as a social worker for the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources Morgan County office for 21 years and in earlier years she was a beautician. Kathy was a member of the Alderton-Dawson American Legion Ladies Auxiliary Unit #60. She enjoyed cross stitching, raising her children and grandchildren.

Kathy is survived by her husband, Philip Wayne Brake, at home, her children, Michael Jamison and his wife Crystal of Berkeley Springs, Zebadiah Unger of Martinsburg, Samuel Brake of Elkins, her siblings, Suzann Michelle Stevens and her fiancé, Steve, John Wendell Jamison and his wife Cindy Lue, all of Berkeley Springs, 10 grandchildren, Kennedi Jamison, Korbin Jamison, Riley Unger, Hannah Unger, Ella Unger, Karsyn Brake, Timber Brake, Eli Brake, Tinsley Brake and Myia Brake, one niece, Shauni, and five nephews, Preston, Trevor, Remington, Payton and Michael.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her sister, Lu Ann Jamison.

Funeral services will be conducted at 1 p.m. on Thursday, March 30, 2023 at Helsley-Johnson Funeral Home & Cremation Center, 95 Union Street, Berkeley Springs, W.Va., where the family will receive friends from 11 a.m. until service time. Pastor Kenny Mason officiating. Burial will be private.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in Kathy's memory may be made directly to the funeral to help defray funeral expenses.

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



Where to
turn for help

Maryland Crisis Helpline
Call 211, Press 1

Maryland Crisis Helpline 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
Behavioral
Health Services
240-313-3200

CAMEO HOUSE
Residential treatment
program for adult females who
are pregnant or have children.
Call Admission Screening at
240-313-3322.

Peer Recovery Services
Program for those seeking
or in recovery from substance
use disorder.
Call 240-313-3242 to enroll.
kelly.marquart@maryland.gov

Project Act Now
Call 240-313-3310 to learn
more about how to use Naloxone
or take a class on its use.
Visit <http://projectactnow.org> for a list of treatment
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Obituary
policy

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.



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301-678-5300

Tuesday 11:30-7:00

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Thursday 3:00-7:00

Friday 11:30-6:00

Saturday 10:15-2:00

ARTICLES MAY BE EDITED

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

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

BUDDY LOU'S
EATS & DRINKS ANTIQUES

Happy Easter
Easter Bunny is Coming to BuddyLou's!
Sunday, April 9

He will be hopping around with treats and photo ops for everyone!

2 DEVEILED EGGS - \$5
In a Nest of Watercress with Lemon Garlic Aioli with Bacon & Chives

RABBIT & MUSHROOM STEW - \$8
with Fresh Parsnips, Sherry and Roasted Garlic

LAMB CHOP DINNER - \$24
Pan Seared Marinated Lamb Chops in Rosemary, Lemon & Garlic, W
evoo, Feta, Mint and Lemon Drizzle. Served with
Pomegranate Glazed Baby Carrots & Garlic Mashed Potatoes

BAKED HAM DINNER - \$18
Baked Apple Butter Mustard Glazed Ham
Served with Creamy Mac & Cheese, Fresh Green Beans
and Home Baked Biscuit

SPECIAL DESSERTS
For the Grown Ups - BooZy Rockin' Robin Shake - \$12
For the Squirts - Special Peep Sundae - \$6
For the Pups! - Blue's Puppy Cup - Free

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**Spring Shopping
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Over 30 Vendors Indoors,
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Saturday, April 1
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**Life or Drugs of Tri-State
Support Brighter Horizons**
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Sunday, April 2 • 1 p.m.

Doors Open at 11 a.m. • Games at 1 p.m.
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\$2,000.00 JAR AT HALF TIME
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Email Gregg at gconnelly156@gmail.com
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TICKETS ARE FIRST COME FIRST SERVE

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11AM**

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DIRECTLY AFTER THE SERVICE AT 1PM**

Stoner's Florist celebrates 55 years of floral & family tradition

by Trish Rudder
One of Hancock's longest running businesses, Stoner's Florist & Greenhouse, is celebrating 55 years of providing fresh and silk flowers for all occasions to the area's customers.

"My parents Homer and Mary Stoner started this business 55 years ago this spring," said Dianne Stoner McCusker, who now owns and operates the florist and greenhouse.

The business has expanded to include garden and flower plants, herbs, succulents and house plants, McCusker said last week in her shop at 139 Washington St. in Hancock.

"Mom always loved flowers," McCusker said. And she would visit her friend who had a Hancock florist shop along the B&O Canal - Ella Mae Hopkins Flower Shop, she said.

She said Ella Mae told her mom that she wanted to retire and that "Mom should go in the business, and they did," McCusker said.

When the Stoners started the florist business, they had four greenhouses to grow the flowers to provide for the shop.

But before the flower shop existed, Homer Stoner had a garage at that location. He was a mechanic in World War II and learned the trade. She said they lost that busi-

ness from a fire and her father was burned badly, too.

She said her parents were hard workers -- Homer in the garage and Mary worked in the elementary school as a cook until they started the florist business.

McCusker began working full time with her parents in the shop in 1971.

Even as a teenager, she said when they were delivering flowers during busy holidays, she would begin preparing the evening meal to help get it ready when they returned home to their house close by.

She said when her daughters were born, they would play in the shop while their mother and grandparents were working.

"Daddy said he wanted to go with his shoes on," McCusker said. He died in 2003 at 81.

"Mom died in 2008 at 85," she said.

"While I was working, Mom would sit and talk to the customers in the shop," she said. "The customers enjoyed that and looked forward to talking to her because it felt like visiting my mother in her home."

The shop is filled with memorabilia honoring her family, which is most important, she said. A portrait of Homer and Mary Stoner hangs on the wall above the counter.

She said her father was a



Dianne Stoner McCusker is celebrating 55 years at Stoner's Florist & Greenhouse.

photo by Trish Rudder

volunteer with the Hancock Fire Company for years and her son-in-law put up a display with Homer's fire hat and boots in his honor in the shop entrance. McCusker added her grandfather's army boots from World War I to the display.

The flower shop is a family tradition that has many warm memories for McCusker that she continues to make as part of Hancock's rich history.

"I'm lucky to be sur-

rounded with these precious memories."

Hours of operation are Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.; Closed on Sunday. The flower shop is located at 139 Washington St. in Hancock. They can be reached at 301-678-6167.

"Stop by just to see me," McCusker said. "And see my Easter and Mother's Day arrivals."

Free "Wonderful Wetlands" workshops this Saturday, April 1

The Maryland Forest Service and Division of Environmental Management is offering a free set of workshops for citizens about backyard buffers and wetlands on Saturday, April 1 at the Washington County Agricultural Education Center.

Attendees should register for the event by March 31. To register, go to <https://tinyurl.com/wy8tjg5>.

"Wonderful Wetlands" workshop will be held at the Washington County Agricultural Education Center on April 1. The workshop will include several sessions, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Workshops will include sessions on wetland ecology,

Creating a Landscape That Will Make a Difference



wetland restoration, living alongside beavers, building a stream buffer, stormwater and tree-planting.

Registration can also be done by emailing Robert Schwartz at robert.schwartz@maryland.gov or calling the Forest Service at 301-791-4733.

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Mon. & Fri. 8:30-7:00; Tues., Wed., Thurs. & Sat. 8:30-5:00

Federal gun law does not shield gun manufacturers and dealers from liability under state laws

To protect public safety and hold gun manufacturers and dealers liable when they violate the law, Maryland Attorney General Anthony G. Brown has joined a coalition of 17 Attorneys General in filing an amicus brief with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit in the case Estados Unidos Mexicanos v. Smith & Wesson Brands et al.

In the brief, the coalition describes the amici states' interests in upholding public safety and preserving state-law remedies for misconduct by gun manufacturers and sellers. To further these inter-

ests, the coalition urges the court to recognize that the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act (PLCAA) creates only a narrow restriction on state-law remedies against the firearms industry. Under PLCAA's plain terms, the coalition argues, gun manufacturers and dealers are not exempt from liability when they violate state or federal laws governing the sale and marketing of firearms.

"We have a responsibility to protect the safety and well-being of Maryland residents from the risks associated with gun violence, including encouraging responsible gun manufacturing and sales by enacting and enforcing State and federal laws," said Attorney General Brown. "The gun industry cannot be allowed to shield itself from liability using overly broad interpretations of the law."

The brief was filed in support of a lawsuit against seven U.S.-based gun manu-

facturers and a gun distributor. The lawsuit alleges that the defendants designed, marketed, distributed, and sold guns in a way they knew appealed to drug cartels and violent gangs in Mexico. The defendants successfully moved to dismiss the case on the theory that the claims were barred under PLCAA.

The coalition argues that when Congress enacted PLCAA, it did so with the intention of striking a balance: exempting gun manufacturers and sellers from liability for harms inflicted solely because of third parties' unlawful conduct, while also expressly preserving liability where gun industry members themselves violate state or federal laws applicable to the sale or marketing of firearms. PLCAA thus does not grant broad immunity for gun manufacturers and sellers and does not stand in the way of actions, like this lawsuit, alleging that the defendants knowingly violated state or

federal statutes applicable to the sale or marketing of firearms.

The coalition argues that the state and federal statutes identified in the complaint filed in this case, such as the federal Gun Control Act of 1968, the National Firearms Act of 1934, and state consumer protection laws, are precisely the sort of statutes that the PLCAA says can be enforced. Since this lawsuit alleges violations of each of these laws, the coalition argues, the district court erred in analyzing only the alleged state-law violations, but not the alleged federal violations, before dismissing the complaint as barred by PLCAA. The coalition also argues that principles of federalism and respect for state sovereignty require reading PLCAA narrowly.

People Told Us...

—WOMAN JOKED: Babies born on March 31 are the easiest to prank on April Fools' Day. They literally were born yesterday!

—This Saturday is April Fool's Day - don't let your guard down.

—OLD WEATHER LORE: The old cow storm will come the first week in April.

—Be on guard against pine needle scale crawlers on your Scotch pine, dogwood anthracnose and carpenter bees.

—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*.

2-1-1 Maryland

211 HEALTH CHECK
Free Mental Health Check-Ins with a Person Who Cares.

Need to talk? Call 2-1-1

How it Works

- Enroll**
Call 2-1-1. Press 1 to sign up for Health Check. You can also text HealthCheck to 211-MD1*
- Connect**
Schedule the day and time for your first call, and provide contact information.
- Check-in**
Engage with the 211 specialist each week. Get tools and resources to ease your mind and stress.

Let Us Check-In With You! Dial 2-1-1.

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

Tommy Raskin struggled with depression. His name is now a symbol of hope for those struggling with mental health. His legacy inspired the Thomas Bloom Raskin Act/211 Health Check. Tommy is the late son of Congressman Jamie Raskin, of Takoma Park and Maryland's 8th Congressional District.

For more information, scan or visit 211md.org.

SUDOKU

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Level: Advanced

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.

The Hancock News

Section II

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

Lady Panthers lead with big wins at home & away

Hancock’s Lady Panther softball team has established their dominance in the 2023 spring season already, nearly shutting out two opponents in last week’s diamond action.

Hancock opened their season with a 19-1 win at home against the St. Maria Goretti Gaels on Tuesday, March 21.

Heavy hitting and solid field skills led Hancock around the bases in a whirlwind game on a sunny afternoon.

The Panthers continued their streak in Pennsylvania.

Hancock’s lady Panthers

brought home a win from the softball diamond in Confluence, Pa. on Thursday, March 23, beating the Turkeyfoot Valley Area Rams 18-1. Hancock leaped out of the gate, rolling in 13 runs in the first inning against the Rams.

Turkeyfoot Valley answered with one run in the second inning, but Hancock knocked in three more runs in the same inning, then added two more in the third inning, sealing a decisive win that ended the game early. Play was cut short in the fifth inning, with the victory to the

Panthers, who turned 20 hits into 18 runs.

The Rams earned six hits against Panther pitching, but turned only one into a run.

Upcoming schedule

The Lady Panthers were set to face Southern Fulton in Warfordsburg on Tuesday, March 28, and then to host Forbes Road at Hancock’s home field on Friday, March 31 at 4:45 p.m. Hancock softball continues their play on the road on Monday, April 3 at the Maryland School for the Deaf.



Alyssa Keefer goes to throw the ball in from the outfield on Tuesday, March 21 as the Panthers hosted St. Maria Goretti.

Panthers varsity boys’ baseball starts the season 1-1

by Lisa Schauer

The Hancock Panthers boys’ varsity baseball team lost their season opener at home on Tuesday, March 21 to Northern High School of Accident, Md. by a score of 14-0.

Then on Thursday, March 23, the Panthers boys’ varsity baseball team won their home

non-conference game against Turkeyfoot Valley Area of Confluence, Pa. with a score of 10-3, upping their record to 1-1.

The next home game will be Friday, March 31 at 4:45 p.m. when the Panthers host Forbes Road of Waterfall, Pa.



Logan Trumpower slides in to base for the Panthers on Tuesday, March 21 against Northern High School.



Shawn Thomas safely makes it home during last Tuesday’s game against Northern High.



Alyssa Morris stretches across the St. Maria Goretti player to get the out. photos by Lori Younker



Pitching for the Panthers was Hannah Swain.



Haylee Penwell takes it home for the Panthers, adding to a 19-1 win over the Gaels.

SPRING BREAK WORD SEARCH

S	T	K	L	U	F	O	H	B	W	H	U	W	C	N	O	O	Y	T	A
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COLLEGE
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SEMESTER
SOUTH
SPRING

SUNSHINE
SWIMSUIT
TRAFFIC
TRAVEL
VACATION
WARM

David H. Patterson, Jr.
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd3-22-3th

PUBLIC NOTICES

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

Estate No. 80025
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Susan Diane
Boward.

Notice is given that Megan Parziale, 17 Violet Lane, Falling Waters, WV 25419 was on March 14, 2023 appointed personal representative of the small estate of Susan Diane Boward who died on February 18, 2023 with a will.

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

All persons 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.

Megan Parziale
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd3-29-1thn

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

Estate No. 80081
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Lester R. Line.

Notice is given that Johnny Line, 16 Vaquero Drive, Martinsburg, WV 25403 was on March 16, 2023 appointed personal representative of the small estate of Lester R. Line who died on February 26, 2023 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 persons 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.

Johnny Line
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd3-29-1thn

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

Estate No. 80087
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF James O. Hamilton, Sr.

Notice is given that Tracy Hamilton, 402 Wild Rose Lane, Harpers Ferry, WV 25425 was on March 17, 2023 appointed personal representative of the small estate of James O. Hamilton, Sr. who died on November 26, 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 persons 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.

Tracy Hamilton
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd3-29-1thn

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

Estate No. 80083
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Marie Grimes Schubert.

Notice is given that Sheri Wilson, 610 Wilson Place, Frederick, MD 21702 was on March 16, 2023 appointed personal representative of the small estate of Marie Grimes Schubert who died on July 29, 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 persons 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.

Sheri Wilson
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd3-29-1thn

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

Estate No. 80051
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Julius T. Walent.

Notice is given that James Walent, 20618 Woodbridge Drive, Hagerstown, MD 21742 was on March 17, 2023 appointed personal representative of the small estate of Julius T. Walent who died on February 13, 2023 with a will.

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

All persons 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.

James Walent
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd3-29-1thn

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

Estate No. 79789
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Anna Marie Brake.

Notice is given that Wanda Mathias, 15231 Mud College Rd., Thurmont, MD 21788 was on March 16, 2023 appointed personal representative of the small estate of Anna Marie Brake who died on November 16, 2022 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 persons 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.

Wanda Mathias
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd3-29-1thn

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

Estate No. 80089
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED
IN THE ESTATE OF Peter John Wuebbens.

Notice is given that Stephanie Wuebbens, 268 Worchester Road, Princeton, MA 01541 was on March 17, 2023 appointed personal representative of the small estate of Peter John Wuebbens who died on November 7, 2020 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 persons 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.

Stephanie Wuebbens
Personal Representative
True Test Copy
Lacy M. Flook,
Register of Wills for
Washington County
100 W. Washington St. Ste 3400
Hagerstown, MD 21740
pd3-29-1thn

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.

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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.

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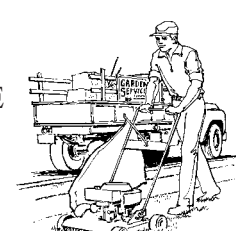
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DOUBLE Roll Coupon Tickets \$10.24 for sale at The Morgan Messenger and The Hancock News offices. pd1/1- tfmh

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

STRAW Sq. bales \$4.00, 304-258-0584. 11/9- tfmh

MANURE spreader, \$600; 3 pt fertilizer spreader, \$600; post hole digger & 3 augers, \$750 & International tractor front end weights, 717-294-3943. pd3/29-2mh

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MALE Chihuahua puppy, ready now, \$400. jackie_keefer@yahoo.com, 304-258-3059 or 717-331-4629. pd3/29-1mh

Helpful Hints For Writing A Classified Ad HELP WANTED

Kind Of Job
Hours
Security
Benefits
Facilities
Vacation
Privileges
Wages
Experience
Necessary
Qualifications
Location
How To Apply

SERVICES

AUCTIONEER - Appraiser. Ronnie R. Zimmerman, 301-678-6821 or 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

GLEN Smith Septic Pumping, Tri-State Area. MD. License 094, PA. DET 99027. 301-678-5233. 4/8- tfmh

WILL purchase and pick up your scrap vehicles. Please call 301-739-7159 or 301-797-8358 to receive a quote. 8/29- tfmh

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

HOME Care available. 304-258-2223. pd3/22-4mh

HELP WANTED Immediate Opening For An ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR

Senior Life Services of Morgan County, (SLSMC), is seeking to employ a PART-TIME Activities Coordinator. Must be an outgoing, energetic, enthusiastic person who will plan and conduct social, recreational and educational programs. Top notch customer service skills are needed and enjoy working with seniors. Must be an organized team player with the ability to plan events. Must possess a valid Driver's License. Individuals aged 60 and over are encouraged to apply. SLSMC is an equal opportunity employer.

Application Is Available at
<https://slsmc.org/in-home-care/careers/>
Or At The Senior Center Office

SEND RESUME TO:
Executive Director
Senior Life Services of Morgan County
106 Sand Mine Road, Suite 1
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411

Berkeley Springs Morgan County Chamber of Commerce is Seeking a Qualified EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Candidates should demonstrate exceptional abilities in the following areas:

Written Communication
(Microsoft Office Suite required)

Verbal Communication and Leadership Abilities
Administrative and Organizational Skills
and is **Community Development Director**

Responsibilities include: **welcoming, supporting and developing a diverse and inclusive membership**; organizing relevant, exciting and educational programs and events; community engagement and the ability to lead the organization under the direction of the Chamber Board of Directors.

This full-time, exempt position offers a competitive salary and negotiable benefit package that can be customized to the right individual.

All Interested Parties Please Email Cover Letter, Resume and Salary Requirements to: admin@berkeleyspringschamber.com
Please See Our Website For Full Job Description and More Information www.berkeleyspringschamber.com
EEO

NOW HIRING COOK/ BARTENDER FLEXIBLE SCHEDULE BERKELEY SPRINGS MOOSE LODGE #1483

593 S. Washington Street
Berkeley Springs, WV

COACH VACANCY

The Southern Fulton School District
Is Seeking Applications Until
The Positions Is Filled For a
BOYS VARSITY
HEAD SOCCER COACH

For the 2023-2024 School Year

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

Completed applications and clearances should be returned to:

Kent Hendershot, Athletic Director
Southern Fulton School District
13083 Buck Valley Road
Warfordsburg, PA 17267

HELP WANTED Delivery Installation Technician

Good Driving Record Required
Delivery Home Furnishings Products
Great Pay & Schedule!

CLARK'S

Home Furnishings

1734 Valley Road • Berkeley Springs

304-258-2226

clarksinc@frontier.com

THE SOUTHERN FULTON SCHOOL DISTRICT Is Seeking A FULL-TIME ELEMENTARY TEACHER

This is a full-time contracted teaching position with employment to begin at the start of the 2023-2024 school year. The candidate must possess strong instructional skills. Knowledge of technology and positive classroom management skills are necessary. Appropriate PDE certification is required. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled

Please submit a letter of interest, resume, standard PA teaching application, transcripts, copy of teaching certificate, three letters of recommendation, copies of Act 34, Act 151, Act 114 and Act 168 clearances to:

MaryAnn Johnson

Southern Fulton School District
3072 Great Cove Road, Suite 100
Warfordsburg, PA 17267
or majohnson@sfsd.k12.pa.us

HOROSCOPES

April 2 - 8, 2023



CAPRICORN
December 22 - January 19

Capricorn, this week you have an opportunity to impress others and get them talking, likely changing their opinions of you. Make every effort to win others over.




ARIES
March 21 - April 19

A message from a romantic partner or business associate could come this week, Aries. Keep a watchful eye on your email inbox or the regular mail.




CANCER
June 22 - July 22

Keep an eye on the front door. Cancer. A delivery may be coming your way in the next few days. It's not something you ordered, but could be a gift.



LIBRA
September 23 - October 22

Speaking with someone else on a fascinating subject triggers your curious side, Libra. You may want to take a class or pursue this subject in another way.



AQUARIUS
January 20 - February 18

It's important to keep in touch with friends even if they have moved away, Aquarius. Phone calls, texts and video chats can bridge the gap created by physical distance.



TAURUS
April 20 - May 20

Taurus, this week you can expect to have an interesting conversation with someone about a topic you're fond of discussing. It could spark a new friendship.



LEO
July 23 - August 22

Leo, you could use a diversion this week. When a friend seeks your company, this can be the perfect way to direct your mind somewhere else.



SCORPIO
October 23 - November 21

Your emotions might get the better of you this week, Scorpio. Try to focus attention onto something that doesn't trigger negative feelings. Distraction could be the key.



PISCES
February 19 - March 20

Pisces, tally up your investments because they could be worth more than you think, especially if you are invested in real estate.




GEMINI
May 21 - June 21

You likely will have a lot of physical and mental energy this week, Gemini. Figure out a project you can stand behind and put that energy to good use.



VIRGO
August 23 - September 22

Virgo, financial paperwork could take up some of your time in the days to come. It's a necessary evil to keep things on track. Seek help from someone else if you get frustrated.



SAGITTARIUS
November 22 - December 21

Stimulating social occasions are what you need right now, Sagittarius. Such get-togethers will introduce you to new people and new ideas that can inspire.

FOR ENTERTAINMENT PURPOSES ONLY

Your guide to using

The Hancock News was established in 1914 and is now in its 104th 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:

263 Pennsylvania Avenue Extended
Hancock, MD 21750
Phone: 301-678-6255
Fax: 301-678-5520

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: 263 Pennsylvania Avenue Extended, Hancock, MD 21750, or taken to the Hancock office.

Questions about your subscription may be phoned to 301-678-6255.

Yearly rates are:

Hancock.....\$29.68
Maryland.....\$31.80
Fulton County, Pa.....\$32.00
Out of State.....\$34.00
Online.....\$25.00

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Subscriptions may be made by cash, check, money order or credit cards. We accept:



POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Hancock News, 263 Pennsylvania Avenue Extended, Hancock, MD 21750.

The Hancock News

Established 1914 - Our 107th Year – Hancock's Oldest Business

CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified ads cost 20¢ per word for the first insertion and 13¢ 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. They may also be sent via fax to 301-678-5520.

DISPLAY ADS

Display ads cost \$5.25 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. They may also be sent via fax to 301-678-5520.

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.

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.

Out for a Sunday stroll



Families took advantage of the warm, sunny spring weather on Sunday and explored along the C & O Canal towpath, checking out the Tonoloway Aqueduct, locks and the Bowles House visitors center.

Washington Co. seeking applicants for historic district commission

The Washington County Board of County Commissioners is seeking applicants interested in serving on the Historic District Commission (HDC).

Applicants should be individuals who possess a demonstrated special interest, specific knowledge or professional or academic training in such fields as architecture, history, architectural history, planning, cultural anthropology, archaeology, folklore, curation, conservation, landscape architecture, historic preservation, urban design or related disciplines. Applicants should be knowledgeable about the protection, enhancement and perpet-



uation of significant historic districts, sites, and structures.

For additional information on the Historic District Commission, go to: <https://www.washco-md.net/planning-zoning/historic-district-com/mission/about/> or contact Meghan Jenkins, HDC Staff, at 240-313-2439 or email mjenkins@washco-md.net.

February jobs report points to drop in jobs & unemployment

The U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) released state jobs and unemployment data.

According to the preliminary survey data, Maryland decreased by 3,900 jobs in February, and the unemployment rate decreased to 2.9%. This is the lowest unemployment rate on record for Maryland since the BLS began publishing estimates for Maryland in January 1976.

"We continue to see historic lows in the unemployment rate. This trend underscores the importance of bringing people back into the workforce and ensuring they have the skills

they need to thrive in our economy," said Secretary of Labor Portia Wu.

The Professional and Business Services sector experienced the most growth with an increase of 3,300 jobs. The Other Services sector added 2,000, and the Government added 100 jobs.

Sectors that experienced a decline include: Leisure and Hospitality (2,900); Private Education and Health Services (2,900); Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (2,200); Mining and Logging, and Construction (400); Financial Activities (300); Information (300) and Manufacturing (300).

Regional lawmakers bid to renew C&O Canal National Historical Park Advisory Commission

U.S. Senator Ben Cardin and Congressman David Trone (both D-Md.), joined together with Senators Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.), Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.), Joe Manchin (D-W.Va.), Mark Warner and Tim Kaine (both D-Va.), as well as Representatives Alex Mooney (R-W.Va.), Jamie Raskin (D-Md.), Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-D.C.), Jennifer Wexton (D-Va.), Don Beyer (D-Va.) and Gerald Connolly (D-Va.) to introduce legislation that ensures the continued involvement of the Chesapeake and Ohio (C&O) Canal National Historical Park Federal Advisory Commission in decisions that affect the administration and development of the park.

For more than 40 years, the Advisory Commission has provided a vital link between the surrounding communities and the National Park Service, which manages the operations, maintenance and restoration of the C&O Canal National Historical Park.

"There is no better wealth of knowledge of the unique issues the C&O Canal and its resources face than the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park Advisory Commission," said Senator Cardin, a senior member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. "History has shown us what happens when we do not listen to the people who know their home best, and this commission ensures that all surrounding communities have a voice in shaping their future. I'm proud to work together with our neighboring delegations to keep this commission running strong."

"The Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park Federal Advisory Commission has a decades-long, proven record of ensuring the continued growth and maintenance of this valued park, and I'm honored to represent so many Maryland communities that benefit from it," said Congressman Trone. "With its work reauthorized for another 10 years, I look forward to working with the Commission and its continued efforts to protect our parks."

"The C&O Canal has a rich history of facilitating the transportation of goods between West Virginia, D.C., and Maryland. Today, its trails serve as a gateway, bringing tourists to places like Harpers Ferry National Historical Park. I co-

sponsored the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park Commission Extension Act because it is important to continue to give West Virginia a seat at the table when it comes to enhancing the visitor experience and safety along this historic canal," Senator Capito said.

"For decades, this commission has been an honest broker for the National Park Service and local communities. Together, they have helped boost our outdoor economy in a responsible way while preserving this important recreational space for Marylanders and visitors across the region. This legislation is vital to ensure the commission can continue to grow and maintain one of our greatest treasures – the C&O Canal National Historical Park – for years to come," said Senator Van Hollen.

"The C&O Canal National Historical Park is one of six national park units in West Virginia, and the park's Federal Advisory Commission has a long history of working with the communities the canal passes through to ensure that all Americans can enjoy this beautiful piece of our nation's history. More people are visiting America's national parks than ever before. This reauthorization legislation will ensure that the C&O Canal continues to have essential input from our communities," said Senator Manchin.

"West Virginia features a bevy of wonderful outdoor activities. Along its 184.5-mile route, the Chesapeake and Ohio National Canal National Historical Park passes alongside many beautiful West Virginia communities," Rep.

Mooney said. "The Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Park Advisory Commission is best suited to ensure this wonderful park remains a top destination for my constituents and visitors alike."

The C&O Canal National Historical Park is 184.5 miles long and covers 20,000 acres winding north and west along the Potomac River from the heart of Washington D.C. to Cumberland, Md. The park's watered canal, contiguous towpath (which is popular among cyclists, backpackers, day hikers and runners), hundreds of historic structures and pre-Civil War-era towns like Hancock, Hagerstown, Williamsport and Sharpsburg; all tell the story of how the C&O Canal once served as a crucial East/West commercial link. The park also preserves pristine views of the Potomac River, evocative of the C&O Canal's working days.

In 2021, more than five million people visited the C&O Canal National Historical Park, making it Maryland's most popular national park.

Tourism related to the park has generated an estimated \$161 million for surrounding businesses and towns, supporting 1,360 jobs. Much of the park's success is attributed to the positive relationship and goodwill that has developed over the years between the NPS and local community leaders through the Advisory Commission.

The Advisory Commission was first established in 1971 as part of the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal Development Act. Every 10 years Congress must reauthorize the Advisory Commission, which has been reauthorized three times with overwhelming congressional support. Without intervention, the Commission will expire on September 26, 2024.

The Advisory Commission operates at a nominal cost, serving in a purely advisory role to the National Park Service. Senator Cardin and then-Rep. Van Hollen introduced companion bills to reauthorize the commission in the 111th Congress.

How To CONTACT REPRESENTATIVES

MARYLAND

Call Legislative Reference at 1-800-492-7122 for information about general state issues and bill status.

The following lists representatives and how to contact them:

GOVERNOR WES MOORE (D)

Address: 100 State Circle, Annapolis, MD 21401-1925
Phone: 1-800-811-8336

DELEGATE TERRY BAKER (R)

Allegany & Washington Counties District 1C

Office: 23 Lowe House Office Building
6 Bladen Street, Annapolis, MD 21401
Phone: 410-841-3321 • 301-858-3321
Toll Free in Maryland: 1-800-492-7122 Ext. 3321
Email: terry.baker@house.state.md.us

SENATOR MIKE MCKAY (R)

Allegany, Garrett & Washington Counties District 1

Local Office: 100 N. Mechanic St., Cumberland, MD 21502
240-362-7040

Annapolis Office: 416 James Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street, Annapolis, MD 21401
410-841-3565

Email: mike.mckay@senate.state.md.us

CONGRESSMAN DAVID TRONE (D)

U.S. House of Representatives 6th District

Rayburn House Office Building, Room 2404, Washington, DC 20515
Telephone: 202-225-7221

U.S. SENATOR BENJAMIN L. CARDIN (D)

Address: 509 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510
Phone: 202-224-4524
Email: cardin.senate.gov/contact.cfm

U.S. SENATOR CHRIS VAN HOLLEN (D)

Address: 110 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510
Phone: 202-224-4654
Local Office: 32 W. Washington St., Suite 203, Hagerstown, MD 21740
Phone: 301-797-2826

PENNSYLVANIA

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

GOVERNOR JOSH SHAPIRO (D)

Address: 508 Main Capitol Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120
Phone: 717-787-2500 **Fax:** 717-772-8284
Email: Governor@pa.gov

CONGRESSMAN JOHN JOYCE (R)

U.S. House of Representatives, 13th District

1221 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2431 **Fax:** 202-225-2486

REPRESENTATIVE JESSE TOPPER (R)

Fulton County, District 78

Bedford Office: 133 South Richard Street, Bedford, PA 15522
Phone: 814-623-9097 **Fax:** 814-623-6633

Email: jtopper@pahousegop.com

Capitol Office: 403 Irvis Office Bldg., P.O. Box 202078, Harrisburg, PA 17120-2078
Phone: 717-787-7076

STATE SENATOR JUDY WARD (R)

Fulton County, District 30

Capitol Office: Senate Box 203030
460 Main Capitol, Harrisburg, PA 17120-3030
Phone: 1-717-787-5490 **Fax:** 717-783-5192
Local Office: 201 Lincoln Way West, Suite 102, McConnellsburg, PA 17233
Phone: 717-485-3616

PRESIDENT

PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN (D)

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

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