

The Catoctin Banner

OCTOBER 2026

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Ghosts of Frederick
County

8



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Years in Business

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Thurmont & Emmitsburg
Community Show

26



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Maryland House of Delegates

DISTRICT 2A

☒ VOTE :

William Valentine

☒ VOTE :

William Wivell

Early Voting: *October 22-29th*

General Election: *November 3rd*

Authority: Friends of William Valentine

Authority: Friends of William Wivell

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LETTER FROM THE PUBLISHER

CATOCTIN BANNER FANS:

Fall weather is certainly upon us, and I don't know about you, but it is one of my favorite times of year! I love the cool nights and being able to sport a hooded sweatshirt. Of course, fall is also one of the busiest times of year for many of us.

September was jam-packed with the Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show and the Great Frederick Fair. Check out all of the results from the Community Show on pages 26 through 30, along with a few pictures from the Fair in our Out & About section beginning on page 34.

Of course, October also means fall festivals are just around the corner. Be sure to check out the many advertisers who are holding events during the week of October 9-11. You can even find the Fall Festival Yard Sale Guide on page 60.

With Halloween approaching, we've included a few spooky-themed articles this month, including "Ghosts of Frederick County" on page 8. In this month's Businesses of the Past, Richard Fulton explores the history of Creager Funeral Home on page 24.

As always, please support the many businesses that support our community and *The Catoctin Banner*. When using their services or attending one of their events, be sure to mention that you saw their ad in our paper!

Happy fall, everyone!

— Alisha Yocum,
Publisher



Alisha Yocum
Publisher



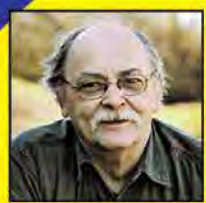
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YEARLY SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$37.00

Factoid

EMMITSBURG

A ladies shirt, waist, and wrapper factory owned by Walderman and Maxwell in Emmitsburg opened in December 1974. It employed 20 seamstresses and was expected to increase that number to 50.

Factoid

ROCKY RIDGE

In 1951, the Rocky Ridge Fire Company sold its 1930 fire engine. A new booster tank was also installed on the 1945 engine for \$350.

Factoid

HAGERSTOWN

Emmitsburg's 10-day-long Old Home Week celebration happened in late August and early September 1951. Events kicked off with a parade through town. Events and activities celebrating Emmitsburg were held throughout the town and at Mount St. Mary's College and St. Joseph College.

POLICY: The publisher of *The Catoctin Banner* reserves the right to revise, reclassify, or reject any advertisement or any article for any reason, at any time, and to omit all copy when not submitted in time to conform with deadline. The views expressed in advertisements may not be those supported by the staff of *The Catoctin Banner*. The deadline for submission is no later than the middle of the month prior to the issue month. Information and advertising copy received after the deadline will be accepted at the discretion of the publisher. The publisher assumes no liability for misinformation, misprinting, or typographical errors. The publisher reserves the right to edit all submitted material.

HALLOWEEN EMMITSBURG

Trick-or-Treating
5:00pm - 6:45pm

31st Oct 2026

COSTUME PARADE TAGGING & LINE UP AT THE TOWN POOL
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UPCOMING Events



9 Oct Sporting Clays Tournament
8:30AM - 12:30PM **SGI**



9 Oct Speaker Series: Nutrition and Heart Health
6:00 - 7:00 PM



10 Oct Steppin' Saturdays Walking Group
8:20 - 8:40 AM **Community Foundation**



14 Oct Red Cross Blood Drive
1:00 - 6:00 PM



17 Oct Fall Craft Bazaar
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM



17 Oct Steppin' Saturdays Walking Group
8:20 - 8:40 AM **Community Foundation**



31 Oct Trunk or Treat
3:00 - 5:00 PM



7 Nov Indoor Yard Sale
7:00 AM - 1:00 PM

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about the COVER

Marshall Hahn poses with Black-and-white ruffed lemurs that he has raised and that are part of the Catoctin Wildlife Preserve Exhibits.

Cover Photo

Photo by Alisha Yocum

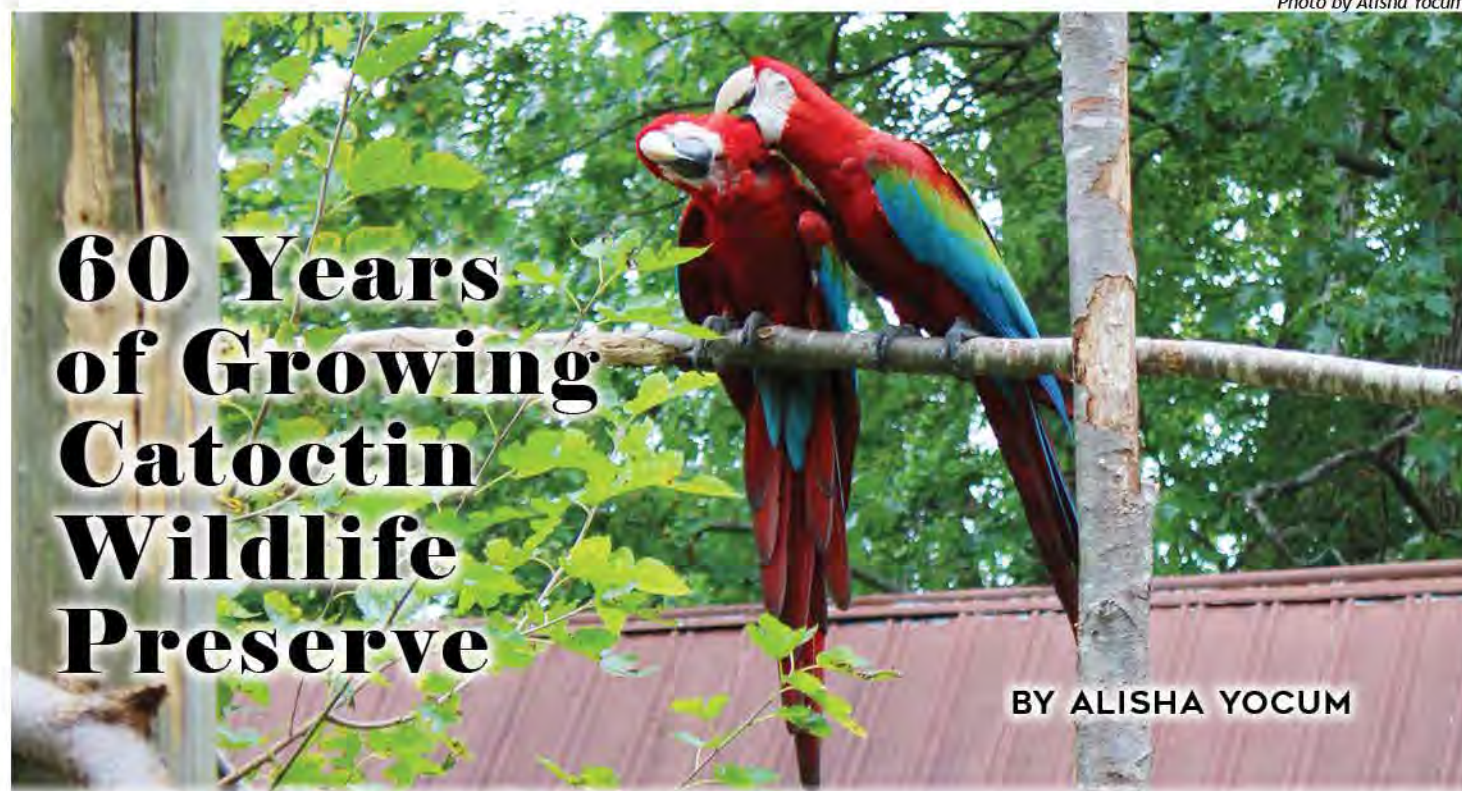


Photo by Alisha Yocum

60 Years of Growing Catoctin Wildlife Preserve

BY ALISHA YOCUM

Sixty years and three generations later, Catoctin Wildlife Preserve (CWP) is still sharing a love of animals with the community.

Richard and Mary Anne Hahn first purchased the property at 13019 Catoctin Furnace Road in Thurmont in March 1966. The three-acre property was purchased from the widow of Gordon Gaver, who owned and operated the Jungleland Snake Farm.

The property included the small building along the road, which still exists today, along with several snake pits. "It was mostly wooded, overgrown, and covered in poison ivy," recalls Mary Anne.

After a lot of cleanup, Richard and Mary Anne, just 23 and 24 years old and with a baby on their



Photo by Alisha Yocum

Pictured from left are Callan Hahn, Mary Anne Hahn, Richard Hahn, and Marshall Hahn.

hip, officially opened the preserve on Mother's Day that year. In the beginning, the preserve featured mostly reptiles, as reptiles have always been Richard's true passion.

The plan was for the preserve to be a summer business, while Richard, who had a degree in biology, would teach during the rest of the year. The couple would soon learn that this was more than a summer business. They committed themselves year-round to growing the business and caring for the animals.

The Hahns continued expanding the property as neighboring parcels became available. What began as a three-acre property has now grown to more than 160 acres, home to more than 700 species

and providing jobs for 60 people.

Their son, Callan, and grandson, Marshall, help run the family business, and it is easy to see that Richard's love and passion for animals have been passed down through the generations.

Callan grew up living at the zoo. The family's home was a cabin that stood on the original property when Richard and Mary Anne purchased it, and they lived there for 50 years. Marshall has since taken over the cabin, where he now lives with his family.

Both have completed "walkabouts," where they have worked at zoos across the country

to learn their practices and bring knowledge back to CWP.

Over the years, the Hahns have focused on species they felt needed "a champion."

"Our zoo has become a stronghold for animals you won't see anywhere else," says Callan.

The sun bear is one example. CWP was the first zoo in the country to successfully breed sun bears in captivity and eventually became one of the largest breeders in the country, providing bears to six major zoos.

"The biggest expansion wasn't at the zoo; it was beyond the zoo," says Marshall, describing his grandfather's impact on the industry.

■ continue reading on Page 7



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Courtesy Photos

At a time when zoos often kept their animal-care knowledge closely guarded, Richard took a different approach. When the Hahns discovered successful breeding practices for specific species, he shared that information with other zoos.

That spirit of collaboration eventually led Richard to establish the International Herpetological Symposium, creating a place for zoologists and others in the field to share information and best practices. The symposium continues today.

Of course, with all the successes also come the challenges. “We are self-surviving; whatever comes through that front door is what provides for us,” says Mary Ann.

The Hahns say this has led them to be resourceful, with most of their exhibits being built from repurposed materials, which has a dual purpose of also earning them awards for being a green business.

The Hahns are grateful for the Thurmont community.

“We raised our kids here, we feel safe here, we have lots of friends here.” Says Mary Anne.

They take pride in seeing multiple generations visit the preserve, with grandparents now bringing their grandchildren to the same zoo they visited as children.

Today, Callan and Marshall continue the work Richard and Mary Ann began six decades ago. And while much has changed at Catoctin Wildlife Preserve over the

years, one thing remains the same—the Hahn family is still building on what started with a young couple and a dream of working with animals.

The Catoctin Wildlife Preserve is open daily, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For more information, visit their website at www.catoctinwildlifepreserve.com or follow them on Facebook or Instagram.

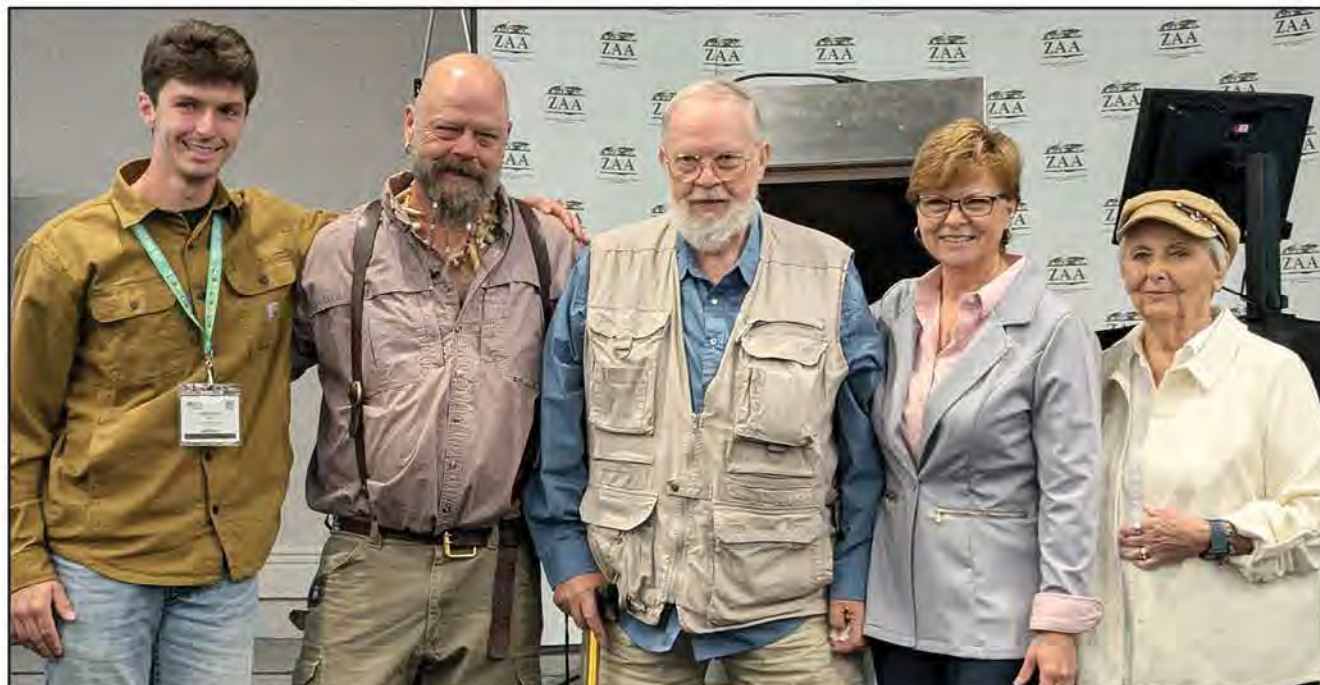
Richard Hahn holds a young Brown Lemur, circa 1972. At that time, Catoctin was one of the first and only preserves to have a permit to exhibit lemurs in the country.



Kelly Hahn (left) handles a Mountain Lion cub while Father Richard and sister Whitney look on. The family regularly hand-raised preserve animals when the mother could or would not rear them.



Richard Hahn helps introduce son Callan to a young Siamang Gibbon, cradled by Mary Anne Hahn. Daughter Whitney “supervises.”



Hahn family members: Marshall, Callan, Richard, Whitney, and Mary Anne at the 2024 Conference. Richard’s work, influence, and contributions to the industry were acknowledged with a Lifetime Achievement Award. Lifetime Achievement Award is given for notable contributions and career dedication to the zoological profession.



Catoctin Wildlife Preserve has over 700 species on exhibit.



GHOSTS OF FREDERICK COUNTY

BY RICHARD D. L. FULTON



The boundaries which divide Life from Death are at best shadowy and vague. Who shall say where the one ends, and where the other begins?

— Edgar Allen Poe

Ghost and spirit stories and ghostly hauntings are as old as civilization itself, with virtually every culture on Earth having stories of spirits or ghosts embodied within their legends. According to many anthropological sources, ghost and spirit lore exists in nearly every culture worldwide, reflecting universal human fascination with the unseen, the unexplained, and the fear of death.

The oldest depiction of a ghost/spirit appears to have been inscribed on a 3,500-year-old clay tablet dating back to Babylon, according to an article titled “3,500-Year-Old Babylonian Tablet May Contain Earliest Known Depiction of a Ghost,” published in the *Smithsonian Magazine* on October 22, 2021.



McCaffrey Hall, Brute Hall, Mount St. Mary's College, Emmitsburg.

The oldest known ghost story was recorded in the first century A.D. by Pliny the Younger, who wrote about “the spirit of an old man in a beard and wearing chains (that) haunted his home in Athens,” according to the North Bergen Free Public Library website.

Generally, most of the individuals involved in paranormal investigations have distinct definitions of what a ghost is and what a spirit is, that being that a *ghost* is merely a repetitive, reoccurring image of a place or event or deceased person (or animal) that *cannot* be interacted with, while a *spirit* is that of a deceased person or animal with which a living person *can* interact.

EMMITSBURG

Ghostly encounters between living and deceased residents of the Emmitsburg area are not terribly uncommon.

Paranormal activity has, over time, been frequently reported of a phantom nun of the former Saint Euphemia's School and Sisters' House (wherein one time, a police K-9 refused to enter a room in the basement), to the “orbs” of the former St. Joseph's Academy, and the ghost of Burlando Hall, and a number of private homes, as per “Spirits of Emmitsburg – Ghostly Encounters in a Small Town,” written by the author of “Ghosts & Legends of Frederick County,” and published in the October 19,

2006, edition of *The Emmitsburg Dispatch*.

But Mount Saint Mary's University, including the nearby grounds of the National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes, seems to be a hotspot for ghostly activity, including the ghosts or spirits of Father Simon William Gabriel Bruté, and even Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton.

According to “Mount St. Mary's University and Father Simon Gabriel Bruté's Ghost,” by Michael Kleen (michaelkleen.com), Bruté's ghost or spirit seems particularly fond of Room 252 in Brute Hall, wherein he reportedly had relocated various objects in the room and wherein electronic devices would exhibit “strange behavior.”

■ continue reading on Page 9

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St. Anthony's Shrine, Emmitsburg, MD

Source: Library of Congress



Winchester Hall as it appeared when it housed the Frederick Female Seminary.

However, Kleen noted that Bruté's appearance has also been reported elsewhere on the university campus.

Bruté became associated with the Mount through his having served as an assistant to Mount founder, Father John DuBois (1810-1812 and 1818-1834), and his teaching literature and theology at the then-college.

Elizabeth Ann Seton, who would become the first native-born American saint, arrived in Emmitsburg when she relocated there in 1809 from Baltimore, thereby subsequently establishing the Order of the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph.

Her home, the "Little White House," had been constructed for her by Michael Charles Adelsberger in 1819 (the original 1819 contract between the sisters and Adelsberger was found several years ago among the belongings of the author's wife, E. Catherine Curtis, a great-great-granddaughter of Michael Charles; a copy of it was presented to the sisters).

According to the Civil War Ghosts website (gettysburgghosts.com), the spirit or ghost of Seton has been reported to have been seen "in the gardens and walkways of the Mount," or "wandering quietly among the statues (in the nearby National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes)."

Thurmont had its own mischievous spirit as the "Overall Man," so-named because he was seen, or imagined, wearing overalls whenever he appeared, according to "Ghosts and Creatures in the Catocins," an undated article in the archives of *The Catocin Banner*.

Apparently, the spirit was something of a trickster and

practiced his "trade" in a particular home on Main Street, wherein he was known for frequently pulling bedcovers off sleeping residents in the middle of the night, turning lights on throughout the house, closing bedroom doors after they had been left open, and shifting silverware and assorted utensils around in their drawers.

FREDERICK

Winchester Hall, located at 12 East Church Street. In Frederick City, which once served as the home to the Frederick Female Seminary and presently houses the county government, it was utilized during the 1862 Battle of Antietam as an impromptu hospital for thousands of wounded soldiers.

In the aftermath, a second tragedy took place at the facility when construction workers, who were preparing for the construction of an additional building on the grounds, uncovered countless human skeletal remains, with the end result being that they were instructed to dispose of the bones with the dirt that was being removed, according to the National Museum of Civil War Medicine website.

According to the Lizzie Borden Ghost Tours website (lizzie-borden.com), Winchester Hall reportedly "harbors ghostly figures, chilling screams, and objects that seemingly move on their own."

The Schifferstadt house, located at 1110 Rosemont Avenue in Frederick City, was originally built by Elias Brunner, sometime after he had acquired the site in 1753, according to the Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum.

Schifferstadt takes its name from the hometown of the Brunner family.

Today, the house serves as the headquarters of the Schifferstadt Architectural Museum and, according to the Frederick Landmarks' website (fredericklandmarks.org), it remains the oldest house in Frederick that is still open to the public.

According to Lizzie Borden Ghost Tours, strange noises have been reported within the home, as well as flickering lights. And so, add to that, unmistakable feelings "of being watched." The ghost tour further notes, "Some believe that the spirits of its earliest occupants remain tied to the home, silently observing the passage of time..."

BRUNSWICK

The Brunswick Heritage Museum, 40 West Potomac Street, in Brunswick, is a rather "oddball haunting" wherein the spirits seem to actually enjoy messing with the model railroad on display therein.

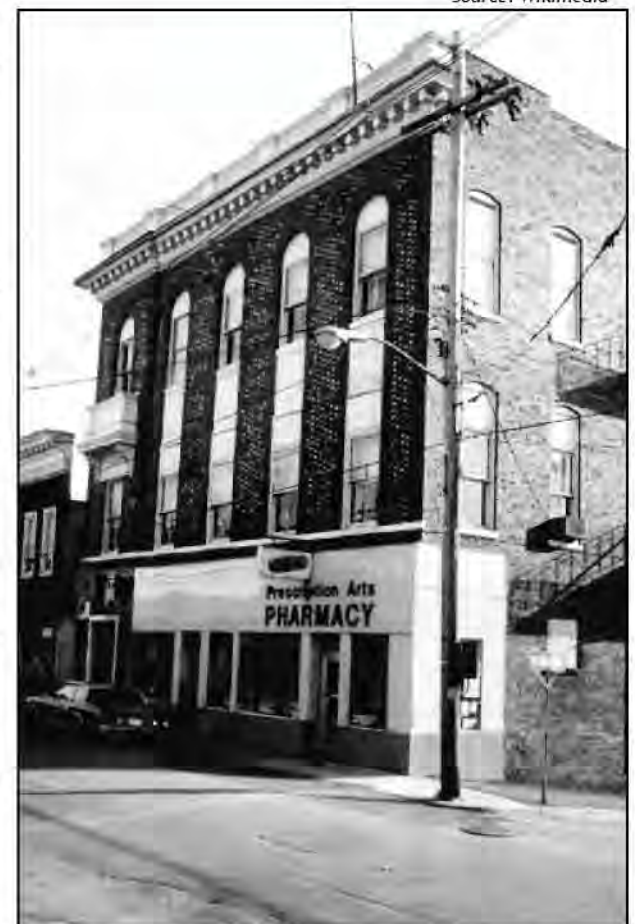
Today, the Brunswick Heritage Museum shares its location with the National Park Service – Brunswick Visitor Center. The building actually dates way back to 1904, and previous occupants included the Order of Red Men fraternal lodge, the Fraternal Order of Eagles Brunswick Aerie No. 1136, and other commercial uses, including a drug store (which the author of this article frequented for his monthly supply of comic books back in the day).

Source: Wikipedia



Original Brunswick building, which now houses the Brunswick Heritage Museum.

Source: Wikimedia



Schifferstadt house on Rosemont Avenue in Frederick.

Today, the Brunswick Heritage Museum apparently has had a few "after-hours" visitors, one in the form of an apparition of a lady wearing a white dress, which has reportedly been seen within the museum drifting through corridors, and at least one spirit that apparently enjoys messing with the model railway on display, according to marylandhauntedhouses.com.

For more on the haunted places of Frederick County, visit Maryland Ghost Tours' website at marylandghosttours.com, or search for "Frederick County, Maryland ghost tours" online.

TOWN HALL REPORT

BY JAMES RADA, JR.



THURMONT

For more information on the Town of Thurmont, visit www.thurmont.com or call 301-271-7313.



From the **MAYOR**

THURMONT

Mayor John Kinnaird

Flood Mitigation Project Approved

The Thurmont Mayor and Commissioners voted to approve funding for the Emmitsburg Road Flood Mitigation Project. The project will see the installation of two stormwater management facilities and a large culvert under Emmitsburg Road. The town had applied for a grant through the Maryland Water Infrastructure Financing Program through the Maryland Department of the Environment and was eligible for up to \$1.8 million for the project.

The grant requires a one-time 25 percent match that is estimated to be \$375,000 for a \$1.5 million estimated project cost. The \$190,000 in engineering and design costs that have been accrued to date can be applied to the match. The remaining \$185,000 can come from the General Fund Capital Reserves.

Colorfest Services Approved

The Thurmont Mayor and Commissioners approved bids for services at Colorfest. Each of the needed services received only one bid.

Mays Security will provide traffic control for \$22,200. This is a reduction from the 2025 Colorfest. Mays will provide 21 traffic direction personnel, 2 supervisors, and 2 relief personnel for the festival.

Rill's Bus Service will provide the shuttle buses for \$28,200, which is a \$1,200 increase over last year. Rill's will provide nine standard buses and two wheelchair-accessible buses on Saturday, and seven standard buses and two wheelchair-accessible buses on Sunday.

Key Sanitation will take care of trash removal and the portable toilets for \$24,350, which is a reduction of \$600 from 2025. Key Sanitation will provide 102 regular toilets, 14 handicapped-accessible toilets, and a pump truck on site for the festival. They will also provide a special trash pickup after 6 p.m. on both days of the festival and 2 roll-off dumpsters at the public works building.

Vacant Streets & Parks Position To Be Filled

The Thurmont Mayor and Commissioners voted to allow the Street and Parks Department to fill a vacant position. The position is funded in the current town budget and is expected to be filled around November. Because of this delay in filling it, it will save about \$15,000 in salary this budget year. The board voted 4-1 to fill the position, with Commissioner Marty Burns in opposition.

Wastewater Department Apprenticeship Program Approved

The Thurmont Mayor and Commissioners voted to move forward with an apprentice program sponsored by the Maryland Rural Water

Association. The Thurmont Wastewater Department is looking to fill a vacant position, which this two-year program would do. It would also help the apprentices get the certification they need to work and run the wastewater treatment plant.

The apprentices would earn 65 percent of the position's regular salary in year 1 and 80 percent in year 2. Once the apprentices complete the program and choose to continue, they will then be paid the regular salary. The cost of the program is \$3,000, but it is recouped over the course of the program.

Here we are heading into October. Where has the year gone? School is back in session, Labor Day has passed, cooler days are here, and the leaves will soon be changing. One of the best things about living in this area is the experience of enjoying four distinctive seasons and the wonderful changes they bring.

It seems like just yesterday that the first of the 2026 Thurmont Main Street Farmers Market kicked off the season, and the last one was just held on Saturday, September 26! A big thank you to all the vendors and guests who made this the best Farmers Market season so far. I am already looking forward to next year's market!

This year is Thurmont's 275th Anniversary, and we celebrated with a weekend of events on September 26-27. On Saturday, we had a Then and Now event, featuring photographs and artifacts from our history. The Thurmont Historical Society displayed land documents from the very early 1800s. Nancy Rice provided old receipts from local businesses, documents from when she worked for the town, and an amazing model train. The train was built by Thurmont blacksmith John Kesselring in 1929. The model is a replica of one of the original steam locomotives that ran on the Monocacy Valley Railroad, the predecessor of the Hagerstown and Frederick Railway. Saturday's event featured presentations from our Representatives William Valentine, William Wivell and Senator Paul Corderman, Councilman Mason Carter. The chairman of the Thurmont 275th Anniversary planning organization, Dominic Curcio, gave an inspiring speech and then read a proclamation from the Governor congratulating Thurmont on its 275th Anniversary. I want to thank everyone who attended our 275th events and all of our volunteers.

On Sunday, September 27, the Gold Star Memorial was unveiled in Thurmont's Memorial Park. This memorial honors the families whose daughters and sons have made the ultimate sacrifice in the Armed Services of our nation. The placement of this memorial was conceived by Julie Anne Robinson El-Taher and was supported by the Thurmont Lions Club. The memorial was made possible by generous donations from local individuals, businesses, and organizations. The unveiling was a very solemn event, with many Gold Star family members in attendance. Several speakers related personal stories and spoke of the debt our nation owes the families for their sacrifices. Everyone is invited to visit Thurmont Memorial Park and to view the Gold Star Memorial.

The Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show was a great community event, offering a look at local agriculture, home crafts, baking and canning talent, and many interesting displays. The show started with a remembrance of Rodman Myers on Friday evening. Rodman has been a critical part of the Community Show since day one, and his passing was felt by all those who had participated over the past 70 years and all the guests over those many years. It was strange being at the show and not seeing Rodman; he was always there working hard to make sure the show went off without a hitch. It says a lot about Rodman, his family, the volunteers, and participants that the Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show has achieved 70 years of success and is the largest community agricultural show in Maryland! The Community Show will carry on as new generations step up to support this amazing event. But at its heart, the memory of Rodman will live on as his legacy to the community he loved so much.

The Thurmont Community Parking Lot do-over is coming to completion. The lot has been redesigned, allowing for an additional 14 parking spaces. There are areas for trees and other plantings, and the entire lot will be laid out with freshly painted lines. One important change to watch for is the new full stop sign at the South Center Street and Park Lane intersection. Changes to the sidewalks at the intersection have resulted in the change to a full stop sign. I want to thank Thurmont staff member Jim Rice for the planning and design of the much improved Thurmont Municipal Parking lot.

Colorfest is almost here! I hope we have good weather, all of our non-profits do great, and that everyone finds the perfect whatever it is they are looking for.

I can be reached at 301-606-9458 or by email at jkinnaird@thurmont.com.

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From the **MAYOR**

EMMITSBURG

Mayor Frank Davis

This month, I am writing from 30,000 feet in the air, flying from Baltimore to Indianapolis for some football. Let's see if my writing skills are better at a high altitude.

This will be the second time I have flown on 9/11, and the atmosphere in the airport is very somber. While waiting for my morning flight, I could remember exactly where I was 25 years ago. I was sitting in the Emmitsburg Family Barbershop when the news broke. Just as Jamie was finishing my haircut, the second plane hit the towers. My work pager went off to call in immediately. At that time, I was working as a firefighter at Fort Detrick, and we were also responsible for Site R. My chief asked me to stay in Emmitsburg to coordinate air traffic coming into the National Emergency Training Center. It was a day I will never forget.

The other thing I will never forget is how our country pulled together. Differences were forgotten. There was no separation between Republicans and Democrats. Strangers became friends, and within hours, the world was different. I would give anything for people to be who they were on September 12, 2001.

As construction begins on North Seton Avenue, I know some of you will experience some inconveniences over the next few months. Our staff will do everything possible to keep the issues to a minimum and work with you to make the upcoming months bearable. I just ask that you please be polite to the contractors and our staff. If you want to yell, I'm your guy!

I want to thank our citizens who have been stepping forward to serve on town committees and boards. We still have a few openings, so visit the town website and contact our staff to fill a vacancy.

There are two dates to remember in the upcoming months: October 17 is our Fall Festival in the Park. Lots of activities are planned, and the big event is music by the Reagan Years; November 20 will be "Emmitsburg Night" at the Mount St. Mary's Men's Basketball game. More information will be forthcoming, so save the date.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, or just want to chat, please give me a call.



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The Catoctin Banner Newzine exists due to the advertising support of those featured in each issue.

TOWN HALL REPORT

BY JAMES RADA, JR.



EMMITSBURG

For more information on the Town of Emmitsburg, visit www.emmitsburgmd.gov or call 301-600-6300.

Election Items

The Emmitsburg Board of Commissioners approved the election judges for this year's town election on September 29. Russell Luczak, Tammy May, Mark Long, and Melissa McKenney were unanimously appointed as the judges.

The town election was held in the Community Building Gymnasium on South Seton Avenue.

Mayor Frank Davis was re-elected without opposition. Former Commissioner Glen Blanchard, Mike Myers, and incumbent Commissioner Valerie Turnquist ran to see which of them would fill Turnquist's seat on the Board of Commissioners.

Planning Code Advisory Group Formed

The Emmitsburg Board of Commissioners voted to form a Planning Code Advisory Group during a recent meeting. A small group of Emmitsburg residents of diverse backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives will work with town staff to review existing regulations, identify opportunities for improvement, and workshop proposed concepts and language. Members may bring professional or community experience in planning, development, construction, engineering, business, real estate, property ownership, or other relevant areas.

The group will help review and rewrite Chapters 16 (Subdivisions) and 17 (Zoning) of the Emmitsburg Town Code.

Neighborhood Meals Program Going Strong

The Emmitsburg Lions Club hosted the August Neighborhood Meal, serving 119 meals to members of the community.

Mount St. Mary's University hosted the September Neighborhood Meal on September 9.



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Doors Open @ 5 PM
Bingo Starts @ 7 PM
Jackpot up to \$1,500!
Tip Jars, Food & Family Fun.

Check out the Event Complex! 13716 Stafford Drive, Thurmont • www.thurmonteventcomplex.com

Seton Center's Helping Hands Holidays Brings Hope to Local Families

BY RONALD ARULDASS, Marketing and Volunteer Manager



Courtesy Photo

Seton Center's Helping Hands Holidays program helps struggling families celebrate the holidays with a little less worry.

The holiday season is often filled with family gatherings, shared meals, gifts, and traditions. But for families struggling to meet their basic needs, the added expenses of Thanksgiving and Christmas can make what should be a joyful season a stressful one.

Seton Center's Helping Hands Holidays program has been working to ease that burden for over 20 years, by helping local families celebrate the holidays with dignity, joy, and a little less worry.

Each year, Seton Center assists approximately 150 eligible families through its holiday program. The support is designed not only to meet practical needs, but also to give families the opportunity to celebrate in ways that are meaningful to them.

For Thanksgiving, participating families can decide if they'd like to receive a cooked turkey dinner or receive a turkey with the sides to make in their own home, helping put a warm holiday meal on the table.

At Christmas, Seton Center will provide grocery gift cards, allowing families to select foods that fit their own holiday traditions and needs. Families with children may also receive toys for younger children and gift cards for teenagers.

The Helping Hands program reflects an important part of Seton Center's mission: treating every neighbor with dignity and respect while providing meaningful assistance to individuals and families experiencing financial hardship.

The program also demonstrates what can happen when a community comes together.

The amount of assistance Seton Center is able to provide depends

on donations from individuals, businesses, organizations, and other community supporters. Every contribution—large or small—helps make it possible for another family to experience the comfort of a Thanksgiving meal, the excitement of Christmas morning, and the reassurance that their community cares.

For families seeking assistance, eligibility requirements apply. Applicants must live within Seton Center's designated service area and provide documentation, including identification, proof of income or unemployment, proof of residency and, when applicable, proof of custody or guardianship for children in the household.

Helping Hands Holidays is about more than food or presents. It is about neighbors helping neighbors and making sure families facing difficult circumstances know they are not alone during the holiday season.

As Thanksgiving and Christmas approach, Seton Center invites the community to help make the season brighter for local families.

Give hope. Share joy. Lend a Helping Hand.

For information about Seton Center's Helping Hands Holidays, eligibility, registration, or ways to support the program, visit Seton Center's Helping Hands page or call 301-447-6102 ext. 11

Seton Center is located at 226 East Lincoln Avenue, Emmitsburg, Maryland 21727, and is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and sponsored work of the Daughters of Charity.

Presented by Thurmont AMVETS & NAM Knights of America

STAND UP COMEDY SHOW

OCTOBER 16
7:00 - 10:00 PM

\$30 PER PERSON

Purchase All You Can Eat Wing Buffet for \$18.99

Purchase Tickets at AMVETS Post 7

Three Comedians:
Rob Maher
Yelena Kulick
& Bill King

26 Apples Church Rd, Thurmont

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NEW YEAR'S EVE BINGO

Thursday, DECEMBER 31

Doors Open at 10:30 am
Games Start at 1:00 pm

• **New Times for 2026** •

TICKETS: \$50.00 in Advance,
\$60 after December 11

GUARANTEED RESERVED SEATING FOR TICKETS PURCHASED BY DECEMBER 11

All inclusive 9 pack
Includes 22 Games at \$300
6 Games at \$500
2 Games at \$2,000

- Dinner Platter Included -
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Snacks & Refreshments available for purchase during breaks.

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CHECKS SHOULD BE MAILED TO:
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No checks mailed after November 28, 2026

We reserve the right to lower payouts if 200 tickets are not sold.

pet of the month

LOVE

Email us your pet's best photo and tell us all about your best buddy: name, breed, age, personality traits, likes, and dislikes! Don't forget to give us pet owner's name(s)!

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Registration @ 12 PM
Kickstands Up @ 1 PM
Ride Ends @ 3 PM

IN CASE OF RAIN THE RIDE WILL BE
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PASTOR JULIE BRIGHAM
AT 240-405-2173
FOR MORE INFORMATION!

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Turn to page 26 for more **Community News**



Saturday, October 10th | Sunday, October 11th
9 AM - 5 PM | 9 AM - 4 PM

- FREE Admission & Parking -

Join us for this family fun event!

- Vendors • Live Demos • Kid's Games
- Food Trucks - The Savagery / Old Fireman's BBQ
Antietam Dairy
- Live Music -

Saturday - Matt Metz (11 AM - 1 PM) | Mike Kuster (1 PM - 3 PM)
 Sunday - Hannah Ponce (11 AM - 1 PM) | Seneca Creek Bluegrass (1 PM - 3 PM)

CAR SHOW



Saturday, October 10th (Rain Date, October 11th)

11:00 AM - 3:30 PM, Registration starts at 10 AM

\$10 Entry Fee

Dash Plaques for First 50 Registrants • Trophies Awarded to Best Car, Truck, Motorcycle, Custom, Kid's Choice and People's Choice

TRACTOR SHOW



Both Days of the Event

No Entry Fee

Contact Brad Brauning for Drop-Off Information at 443-375-9766

TOUCH A TRUCK



Sunday, October 11th

11:00 AM - 3 PM

Come touch, learn and explore a variety of construction, emergency, farm, and military vehicles!

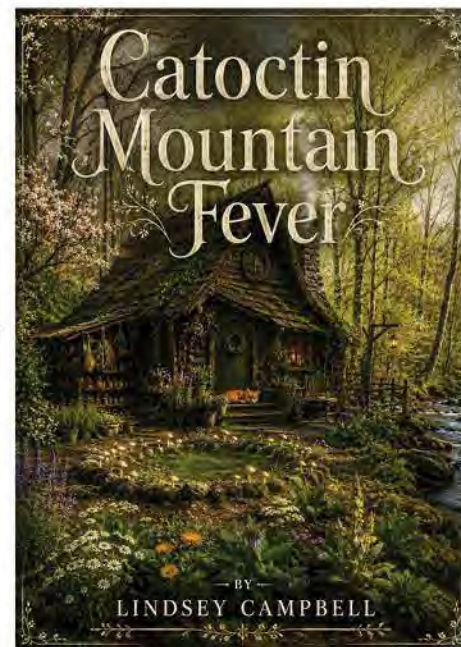


All proceeds benefit the Sabillasville Environmental School Parent Teacher Organization

Sabillasville Environmental School
 16210 Sabillasville Road, Sabillasville, MD
www.sesclassical.org

Campbell Captures the Magic of the Mountain

BY JAMES RADA JR.



Courtesy Photos

Lindsey Campbell and the cover of her new book, *Catoctin Mountain Fever*.

Catoctin Mountain is now the setting for a fantasy novel by first-time author Lindsey Campbell.

Catoctin Mountain Fever is a story of a healer woman, Airmed, who lives in the mountains above Thurmont, who gives much to the community but is also feared and ostracized. She has a variety of animal companions who assist, protect, and accompany her.

When disease sweeps through Thurmont, Airmed faces her most daunting challenge as a healer.

"I sat down and started writing one day because the idea would simply not leave me alone," Campbell said. "It brewed and bubbled over until the only release was to write down the tale. At that point, the words just flowed."

The heroine's unusual name is derived from Celtic mythology, meaning a goddess of healing, herbs, and botanical medicine.

Campbell herself is a nurse and a Veteran. She and her family own and run a produce farm in Sabillasville.

"Growing up, I listened to superstitious tales of the mountains and their people—stories which clearly never left me," she said.

Campbell spent two months writing the fantasy, using many locales that she was familiar with; although, as she pointed out, some of the places may no longer exist.

"I drew inspiration from family lore and articles I've read about Thurmont," Campbell said. "Moreso, I think I drew inspiration from my role as a combat medic, as a nurse, and probably from my current pre-Civil War home, a farm in Sabillasville."

The novel, which is 150 pages long, is available in paperback and hardback. It is available for pre-order at lindsey-campbell-author.square.site. You can also find her at the carnival grounds in Thurmont signing copies of her book during Colorfest.

"I just want to encourage others to write the story that is burning in their heart," she said. "Many people I have spoken to about my book have shared a similar feeling, but something is holding them back (perhaps fear of rejection or unfamiliarity with the publication process). But please share your story with others!"



Saturday, October 31

Doors Open at 4 PM

Dinner at 5 PM

\$35.00 per person

Drawing includes 12 guns and a Losers Jar

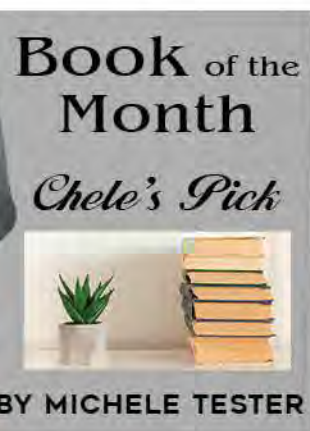
(Must be 21 Years or Older to Attend)

26 Apples Church Rd, Thurmont

BOOK CLUB

Book of the Month
Chele's Pick

BY MICHELE TESTER

My Husband's Wife | by Alice Feeney | published in 2026 | psychological thriller novel

I love psychological thriller novels, and this one did not disappoint. It had me guessing the whole time, with lots of twists and turns. I am usually very good at predicting the ending twist in the books I read; however, in this one, I never saw it coming. In this story, nothing is as it seems.

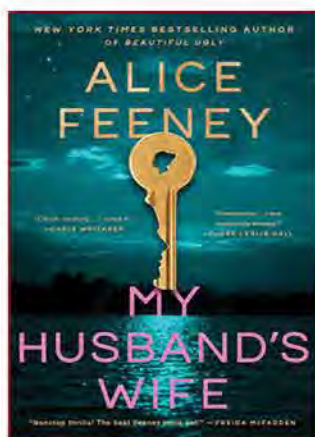
The book begins with the main character, Artist Eden Fox, going out for a run before her first art exhibition. She returns home to find her key doesn't fit the front door lock; a stranger answers the door, looking a great deal like her and claiming to be her husband's wife; and, if that's not enough, her husband insists he doesn't know who she is. The whole time reading, I'm thinking to myself, *What the heck is going on?* I was hooked from page one.

Eden Fox lives in a historic coastal estate, Spyglass, in Hope Falls—a fictional seaside village in Cornwall, England—with her husband, Harrison. But on this day, Eden's world is turned inside out. Everyone insists that the other woman is Harrison's *real* wife and the mother to Gabriella, their disabled, nonverbal 18-year-old daughter. Everyone insists Eden is an imposter. Someone is lying.

The novel alternates with events from six months earlier. A woman named Birdy inherits the same seaside home, Spyglass, from a grandmother she never knew. Birdy visits a mysterious clinic that actually predicts her date of death, and sinister secrets begin to emerge. The dark reality of Spyglass and its residents unravels into a haunting narrative of stolen identities, fixation, deceit, and betrayal. Then, a woman's body washes up on the beach, turning the story into a tense investigation. No one is what they seem. This thriller splits its narrative between multiple points of view and two timelines. For me, it was one of those books that I didn't want to put down.

Alice Feeney develops and sets the stage for each character very well, and you're along for the ride, trying to figure out what is what and who is who.

If you like twist-heavy, fast-paced psychological thrillers, then this is worth the read. Some readers suggested that there were too many plot twists, making the story hard to follow or far-fetched. I didn't feel that way. But what feels like "too many" turns to one reader can feel fast-paced or exciting to another. Happy reading!



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\$299,900

2 Bdrm/ 1 Bath/2 Acres w/
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\$399,900

2 Bdrms/ 1 Bath
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Deck



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\$490,000

2 Bdrm/ 2 Bath/ Waterfront
Bayside Condo w/ Private Deep
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**5529 ADAMSTOWN RD,
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3100+ SqFt Currently
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UNDER CONTRACT



**13840 COUNTRYSIDE DR,
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4 Bdrms/ 2 Baths/ Rancher on
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Covered Patio/ Deck/
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Sandbox



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UNDER CONTRACT



**13636 CATOCTIN FURNACE
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Rancher/ Updated Kit
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up & Walk-out access/ Fenced
Yard/ 3 Car Garage



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**7303 IRA SEARS
RD, ADAMSTOWN**

\$375,000

3 Bdrms/ 2 Baths/ Classic
Brick Rancher on 1 Acre/
Surrounded by Picturesque
Farmland/ Hdwd Flrs/ Stone
Frpl/ Unfinished LL/ Attached
Garage



Call
Cindy Grimes
301-788-5354
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UNDER CONTRACT



**12408 OLD GERMANTOWN
RD, WAYNESBORO, PA**

\$235,000

Climate Controlled
Commercial Bldg/ Open Flr
Plan/ Maintenance Free Ext
w/ Loading Dock/ 2 Bays/
Handicap Accessible/ Security
System w/ Cameras



Call
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301-401-8620
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UNDER CONTRACT



**417 N CHURCH ST,
THURMONT, MD**

\$359,900

4 Bdrms/ 2 Bath/ Cape Cod
w/ Hdwd Flrs/ Fireplace/
Cover Porch/ In-Ground
Pool



Call
Belth Ohler
240-315-5376
MD & PA

Live Music at the AMVETS

The Thurmont AMVETS is now offering weekly live music, from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. (unless noted). This is open to the public, and there is no cover charge. Food is available for purchase until 7:00 p.m. The line-up for October includes: October 3—Firehouse DJ; October 17—Tune Shifters Band (7:30-10:30 p.m.); October 23—Lauren Hill (6:00-9:00 p.m.); October 24—Truck Stop Burritos. View the advertisement on page 48 for more information.

Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company Bingo

Mark your calendars for the next Bingo at the Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company in Rocky Ridge on Saturday, November 14. Doors open at 5:00 p.m., with games starting at 7:00 p.m. Come hungry! Food is available for purchase. View the advertisement on page 41.

Lottery Fundraiser for Scholarships

You could win \$500 while supporting the Thurmont AMVETS Lottery Ticket Fundraiser for Scholarships. Tickets can be purchased from November 9 through December 17. The drawing will take place on December 17 on Maryland's Pick 3 Lottery. View the advertisement on page 32 for more information.

Apples Church Events

Join Apples Church on October 4 for a Skunk Meet & Greet at 10:00 a.m. with Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve. Fun for all ages. Then, on October 9-11, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., stop by and browse their annual yard sale. View the advertisement on page 31.

Boo in the Zoo

Join the Catoclin Wildlife Preserve for an evening at Boo in the Zoo on October 23, 24, 25, 30, and 31, from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. The event includes treat stations, animal encounters, food trucks, games, activities, a campfire, and more! For information on tickets and more details, view the advertisement on page 27.

Pop-Up Book Sale

Stop by the Friends of the Thurmont Regional Library Pop-Up Book Sale, taking place on October 10 at the Thurmont Regional Library. Weather dependent. View the advertisement on page 25.

Hurley Auction Property Showing

Stop by 1518 Hughes Shop Road in Westminster for property showings on October 3, from noon to 2:00 p.m., and October 8, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. The auction takes place on October 15 at 3:00 p.m. View the advertisement on page 25 for more details.

Thurmont Lions Club Bingo

Come ready to play Bingo with the Thurmont Lions Club on November 15 at the Guardian Hose Company Activities Building. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. Bingo starts at 1:00 p.m. The cost is \$25.00 per ticket. Bingo will feature a \$1,000 Jackpot. View the advertisement on page 25.

Thurmont Grange Food & Yard Sale

Stop by the Thurmont Grange Building, located near the Carnival Grounds and Carroll Street in Thurmont, on Friday, October 9, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and October 10-11, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., for homemade food, including chicken salad and country ham sandwiches, soups, ice cream, baked goods, and more. Yard Sale Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. View the advertisement on page 24.

Catoclin Church of Christ Gospel Sing & Hog Roast

All are welcome to join the Catoclin Church of Christ for a Gospel Sing and Hog Roast on Saturday, October 3, at 4:00 p.m. at the Thurmont Community Park in the Large Pavilion. RSVP to CatoclinCOC@gmail.com. View the advertisement on page 23 for more details.

Weller Fall Festival

Come join the fun at the Weller UM Church's Fall Fest on October 25, from noon to 2:00 p.m. The afternoon will include a costume contest, face painting, hayrides, Trunk or Treat, crafts, and a light lunch. View the advertisement on page 22.

Thurmont Christmas Market Craft & Vendor Show

Come ready to shop for all those holiday gifts at the Thurmont Ambulance Company's Christmas Market Craft & Vendor Show on November 21, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Food will be available for purchase from the Thurmont Ambulance Company. View the advertisement on page 21.

Breakfast with Santa and Christmas Bazaar

Join the Mother Seton School for its Annual Breakfast with Santa and Christmas Bazaar on December 5, from 8:00 a.m. to noon. Breakfast is \$10.00 per person or \$50.00 for families (5-8). Ages two and under eat free. Admission to the Bazaar is free. For information on being a vendor and tickets, view the advertisement on page 21.

Spaghetti Luncheon & Chinese Auction

Join the Thurmont AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary for its last community service fundraiser of the year! On October 25, from noon to 3:00 p.m., they will hold a Spaghetti Luncheon & Chinese Auction Fundraiser. The cost is \$10.00 for all-you-can-eat spaghetti. Raffle tickets will be 7 for \$5.00 or 30 for \$20.00. Come wearing your bells. View the advertisement on page 20.

Mt. Tabor Church Ridgefest

Stop by Mt. Tabor Church Park on October 9-10, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and October 11, 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., for yummy home-cooked food, including soups, fried ham, breakfast and other sandwiches, and pies (cash only). Due to a late frost, apple butter will only be available Saturday starting at 8:30 a.m. for \$6.00 a pint. Flea Market vendors will be set up as well. View the advertisement on page 20 for details.

AMVETS Bar Bingo

Come ready to win every Thursday at Bar Bingo from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Thurmont AMVETS Post 7. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. The 10 of Hearts Drawing also takes place, with the current Jackpot at \$12,415. Open to the Public. View the advertisement on page 15 for more information.

Country Breakfast & Butchering

The Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company's Country Style Breakfast & Butchering is on Saturday, November 21, at the Activities Building on Motters Station Road, from 6:00 to 10:00 a.m. Butchering orders must be placed by November 14. For information on placing orders and more details, view the advertisement on page 15.

Gateway for a Cure 5K

Join the Town of Thurmont for the Covered Bridge Gateway for a Cure 5K on October 17 at 8:30 a.m. Run or walk in support of breast cancer, with all proceeds going to the Patty Hurwitz Breast Cancer Fund. For registration information and more details, view the advertisement on page 23.

RidgeFest

Come support the Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company at RidgeFest. They will be serving up food on October 10, from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and October 11, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., including the famous fried ham sandwiches, breakfast sandwiches, and French fries. Yard sale spots are still available. Inside spots are \$20.00, and outside spots are \$10.00. View the advertisement on page 13 for more information.

Graceham Moravian Food & Yard Sale

Shop and dine at the Graceham Moravian Food & Yard Sale on October 8, 9, and 10, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Food available will include soup, breakfast sandwiches, fried oyster and chicken salad sandwiches, hot dogs, and baked goods. View the advertisement on page 37.

Patronize the Advertisers in THE CATOCLIN BANNER

Graceham Moravian Church Served with Grace Dinner

Graceham Moravian Church will hold its monthly Served with Grace Free Dinner on Monday, October 5, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. View the advertisement on page 47 for more information.

Harriet Chapel Fall Fest & Fundraiser Night

Fall is here, and Harriet Chapel is once again holding its Fall Fest on October 7-10, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. They will be serving delicious homemade soup, sandwiches, and baked goods. While you are there, browse the giant yard sale. On October 16, grab dinner at the Thurmont Roy Rogers, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., for the chapel's Fundraiser Night. For more information, view the advertisement on page 15.

2nd Annual Mike Taber Memorial Ride

Come out for the 2nd Annual Mike Taber Memorial Ride on Saturday, October 17, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, located at 13025 Greensburg Road in Smithsburg. This is a family-friendly ride. Registration starts at noon. Kickstands up at 1:00 p.m. The ride ends at 3:00 p.m. Motorcycles, cars, and bicycles are all welcome. The suggested donation is \$25.00 per rider. Proceeds going to Micah's Backpack and Ladders to Leaders. View the advertisement on page 13 for more information.

Ft. Ritchie Community Center Events

Ft. Ritchie Community Center has a busy fall ahead with a variety of events for the whole family: October 9, Sporting Clays Tournament, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; October 9, Speaker Series: Nutrition and Heart Health, 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.; October 10, Steppin' Saturdays Walking Group, 8:20 to 8:40 a.m.; October 14, Red Cross Blood Drive, 1:00 to 6:00 p.m.; October 17, Fall Craft Bazaar, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.; Steppin' Saturdays Walking Group, 8:20 to 8:40 p.m.; October 31, Trunk or Treat, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.; November 7, Indoor Yard Sale, 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. View the advertisement on page 5 for more information.

Mountain Fest

Come out for the 50th Annual Mountain Fest on October 10 (9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) and October 11 (9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) at Sabillasville Environmental School. The event will include a Car Show on Saturday (Rain date: Sunday), a Tractor Show all weekend, and Touch-A-Truck on Sunday (11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.). Admission is free. The event is currently looking for vendors. View the advertisement on page 14 for more information.

Vigilant New Year's Eve Bingo

Bring in the New Year with the Vigilant Hose Company at its New Year's Eve Bingo on December 31. At a new time this year! Doors open at 10:30 a.m. Bingo begins at 1:00 p.m. Tickets are \$50.00 in advance and \$60.00 after December 11. Tickets include a 9-pack with 22 games at \$300, 6 games at \$500, and 2 games at \$2,000, and a dinner platter (roast beef and fried shrimp). For tickets, call 240-472-3484. View advertisement on page 13.

Bingo — Every Friday Night

The Thurmont Community Ambulance hosts its Friday Night Bingo every Friday! Come out to the Thurmont Event Complex every Friday night to play bingo! Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Bingo starts at 7:00 p.m. Bingo also features tip jars, food, and a jackpot of up to \$1,500! Proceeds benefit Thurmont Community Ambulance. View the advertisement on page 12.

Indian Lookout Shotgun & 3-D Archery Shoots

The Indian Lookout Conservation Club in Emmitsburg will be hosting Shotgun Shoots (12 gauge and 410) on October 4, October 18, and November 1. Registration starts at noon. Shoots start at 1:00 p.m. 3-D Archery Shoots are on Thursday evenings, starting at 5:00 p.m. View the advertisement on page 10 for more information.

Halloween in Emmitsburg

Bring the whole family out for Halloween in Emmitsburg on Friday, October 31, for a spooky-fun time! Trick-or-treating will be from 5:00-6:45 p.m. The costume parade tagging and line-up will be at the town swimming pool parking lot, from 6:45 to 7:00 p.m., with the parade starting at 7:00

p.m. Evening features costume judging, gingerbread and cider, games, and door prizes and awards! View the advertisement on page 5 for more information.

Slippery Chicken Pot Pie Sale

It is the perfect weather for some Slippery Chicken Pot Pie! Pre-order a quart (or two) from the Ladies Auxiliary of the Union Bridge Fire Company by October 20. The cost is \$8.00/qt. Call Missi at 443-340-9462. Pick-up will be Sunday, October 25, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. View the advertisement on page 8 for more information.

Veterans Military Ball

Join the Thurmont American Legion Post 169 for the Veterans Military Ball on November 14, from 4:00 p.m. to midnight. Happy Hour is from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. The evening will include guest speakers, music and dancing, a cash bar, and a grog bowl. Tickets include a buffet dinner. Tickets are \$40.00 for Veterans; \$75.00 for Veterans with a guest; \$50.00 for Non-Veterans; \$85.00 for Non-Veterans with a guest. Tickets are available at the Post or by calling 301-271-4411 or 240-784-6851. View the advertisement on page 5.

62nd Annual Catoctin Colorfest

Bring the whole family out for the 62nd Annual Catoctin Colorfest on October 10 and 11, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the Thurmont Community Park. Browse the juried art and crafts vendors and enjoy great food. Free admission and shuttle bus service available. View the advertisement on page 2.

Frederick County Fall Recreater Now Open

Registration for Frederick County Parks and Recreation Recreater is now open. Sign up for exciting programs for the whole family, including fitness, sports, history, dance, cooking, nature, and more! To register, go to www.recreator.com or view the advertisement on page 55.

Mother Seton Cash Turkey Bingo

Win cash or a turkey at the Mother Seton School Cash Turkey Bingo on November 1 at the VHC Activities Building in Emmitsburg. Doors open at 11:00 a.m. Bingo starts at 1:00 p.m. Advanced tickets are \$40.00 (\$30.00 for students); \$50.00 (\$40.00 for students) at the door. Includes 25 games, with \$150 regular games, \$250 specials, and a \$1,000 Jackpot. All winners will be entered into a drawing for a turkey. For information on purchasing tickets, view the advertisement on page 53.

AMVETS Comedy Show

Come ready to laugh at the Thurmont AMVETS Comedy Show on October 16, from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. The cost is \$30.00 per person. Add the All-You-Can-Eat Wing Buffet for an additional \$18.99. Comedians include Rob Maher, Yelena Kulick, and Bill King. Purchase tickets at the AMVETS. View the advertisement on page 13.

Fall Used Book & Rummage Sale

Come browse for treasures at the Emmanuel Baust United Church of Christ Fall Used Book and Rummage Sale. Used books will be on October 23, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and October 24, from 8:00 a.m. to noon. Clothes will be on October 30, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and October 31, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. View the advertisement on page 49 for more information.

Twelve Days of Christmas Lottery Drawing

Support the Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company by purchasing tickets for the Twelve Days of Christmas Lottery Raffle. The cost is a \$10.00 donation per ticket. The winner will be picked by the evening Maryland Pick 3 Lottery numbers for December 14-25. Get your tickets online at tockyridgeevfc.org or call one of the numbers listed in the advertisement on page 49.

Homemade Applesauce Sale

Support the Thurmont Lions Club by purchasing homemade applesauce just in time for the holidays! The cost is \$8.00 per quart (specify with or without sugar, and with or without cinnamon). Applesauce will be frozen. Call 301-271-0558 to reserve your order. Pick-up will be on November 21 at Mountain Gate Restaurant. View the advertisement on page 49 for details.

MOUNT TABOR CHURCH

Ridgefest

Home of the
BIG SLIDE!

Mount Tabor Church Park

13616 Motters Station Rd

• Rocky Ridge, MD •

October 9-11, 2026

Fri & Sat 8:30 am - 5 pm

Sun 11 am - 2 pm (Apple Butter
only, if available)

Yummy Home-Cooked Food:

Soups • Fried Ham,
Breakfast & Other Sandwiches

Pie • Iced Tea

CASH ONLY

Apple Butter:

ATTENTION-ATTENTION

Due to late spring frost less
apple butter will be available
For sale Saturday ONLY

beginning at 8:30 am • \$6.00/pint

Flea Market

Tables by numerous vendors

For free flea market spaces

call Jeff Sharrer at 301-447-6387

Sponsored by the Willing Workers
of Mt. Tabor Church since 1974

Rowdy, The Sabillasville Donkey

RELAYED BY BECKY ROYER SMITH, SUBMITTED BY JOAN BITTNER FRY

If you've ever used Route 550 from Thurmont to Sabillasville, you probably became familiar with seeing Rowdy, the donkey. Rowdy was owned by Jim Royer, who lives just outside Sabillasville. He was a farmer for many years along with his father, Paul, who lived on the family farm behind Jim.

In 1993, Jim's wife, Peggy, and her daughter, Becky, went to look at a pair of emus a lady had for sale. The lady's main business, however, was miniature donkeys. Peggy and Becky immediately fell in love with a certain donkey, so their excuse for bringing him home was a birthday present for Jim. He was named Rowdy.

Over the years, countless people would stop to look at the emus, but Rowdy became a favorite and was often given treats. (I remember that George Wolfe, a former mail carrier, would give him dog biscuits.) Rowdy loved the attention.

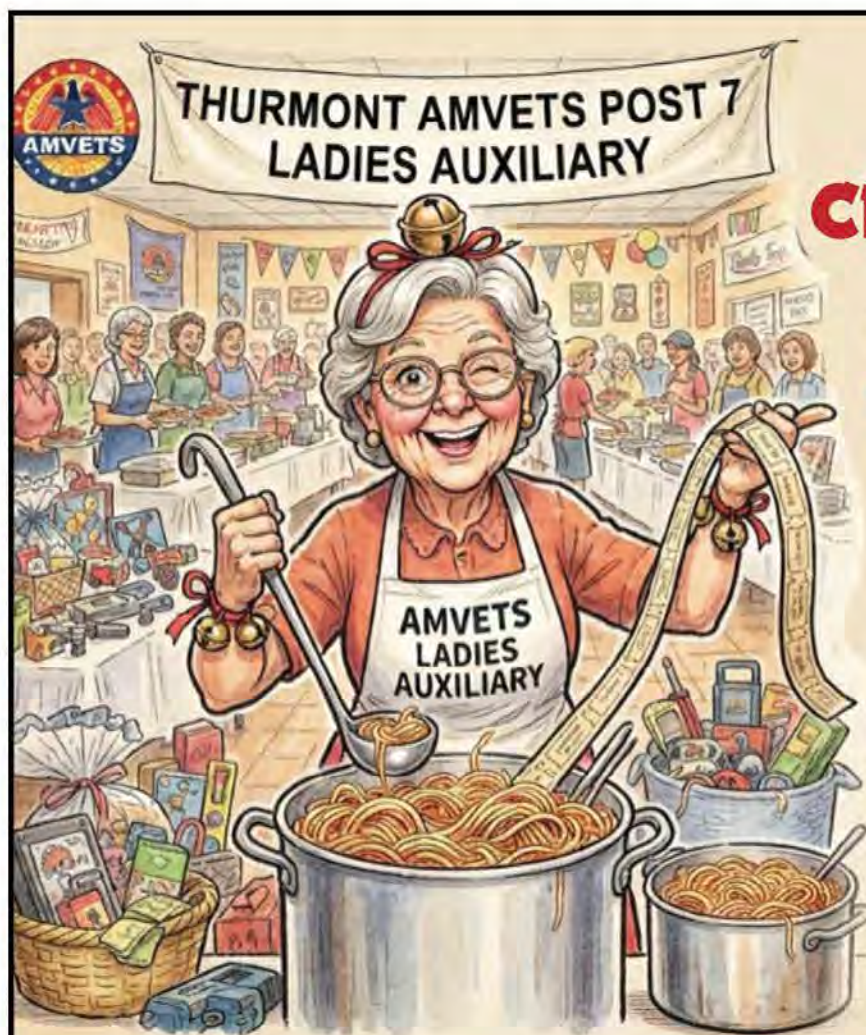
On several occasions, when Rowdy was locked up due to cold weather or a farrier visit, people would call or stop at the Royer home to ask if he was okay.

Rowdy passed away on February 9, 2026, at the age of 35. The Royers owned him for 33 years. Unfortunately, Rowdy can no longer be seen along 550 outside Sabillasville near Brown's Quarry Road. We can now look at those strange-looking birds. A good country memory. Thanks, Royers!

Photo Courtesy of Becky Smith



Rowdy, The Sabillasville Donkey.



SPAGHETTI LUNCHEON & CHINESE AUCTION FUNDRAISER

OCTOBER 25

12:00 - 3:00 PM

OPEN TO THE
PUBLIC

ALL AGES
WELCOME

All You Can Eat Spaghetti: \$10

Raffle Tickets: 7 for \$5.00

30 for \$20.00

*This is our last fundraiser for
Community Service of the year!*



WE WILL SEE YOU THERE WITH YOU BELLS ON



26 Apples Church Rd, Thurmont

Thurmont's Rocky's Celebrates 36 Years in Business

BY ALISHA YOCUM

Tony and Tina Testa have been staples of the Thurmont community for the last 36 years and are excited to be celebrating another year of business.

Growing up in Italy, Tony has always had a love of food. At just 10 years old, he started working as a dishwasher at a restaurant, and, well, I guess you could say the rest is history! After working as a dishwasher for four years, he began learning the trade from the restaurant owner, who taught him how to cook.

This led Tony on a path to culinary school, where he would then go on to work in a variety of industries, including hotels and cruise ships.

"Every region of Italy has a different dish, a different style, different sauces. Even the wines are different in the north and south of the country," Tony said. Pizza was not something he had a lot of experience with prior to moving to the United States.

Forty-two years ago, the newlyweds came to the United States on their honeymoon for two weeks. They fell in love with the country and decided not to return to Italy, except for their yearly



Photo by Alisha Yocum
Tony and Tina Testa celebrate 36 years in business at Rocky's NY Pizza & Italian Restaurant in Thurmont.

visits to see family—a time perhaps everyone notices, as the restaurant closes for a few weeks every August.

"This was the land of opportunity, and it still is. This country has given us a lot, and this is home now," Tony expressed.

While Tina wasn't necessarily interested in the culinary world, opening a restaurant was a decision the couple made together.

The Testas opened Rocky's NY Pizza & Italian Restaurant originally on Main Street in Thurmont in 1990, where they stayed for six years before moving to their current location at 205 Tippin Drive.

Tony admits that Tina has learned how to cook everything he can, and he admits she may even do a few things better.

Tony loves creating new dishes, including one of his more recent creations, the crab and lobster ravioli, which has become a popular menu item.

When asked what their secret to success has been, Tony replied, "Keep it simple, be nice to people, and give customers what they are looking for."

After 36 years, Rocky's continues to be a part of the Thurmont community, serving up good food, welcoming familiar faces, and creating new memories for generations of customers.

Check out their 36th Anniversary Celebration advertisement on page 23 for discount specials.



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DECEMBER 5 | 8 AM to 12 PM

Now accepting vendor applications!



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for more information, tickets, and
vendor application



Tickets for Breakfast
\$10 pp | \$50/family (5-8)
2 and Under Free

Admission to the Bazaar
is Free

Mother Seton School, 100 Creamery Rd, Emmitsburg

Thurmont Christmas Market
Craft & Vendor Show
Saturday, November 21 & Sunday, November 22
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Food will be available for purchase from the
Thurmont Ambulance Company
Santa will be
visiting!
Thurmont Event Complex, 13716 Strafford Dr, Thurmont

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October 25th | 12- 2

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Corn Crib Boutique Moves to Thurmont

BY ALISHA YOCUM

Tahler Moxley (pictured right), owner of Corn Crib Boutique, moves the store to its new location at 6 North Church Street in Thurmont.



Looking for something a little different? Thurmont has a new place to shop for unique clothing, accessories, and gifts for the whole family.

Corn Crib Boutique offers a variety of styles for men, women, and children. Whether your style leans toward a little country, something edgy and trendy, or somewhere in between, you're likely to find something that catches your eye.

For owner Tahler Moxley, Corn Crib Boutique is more than just a new business venture. Moxley previously worked at the boutique for several years before purchasing the business from its original owner, Jessica Albaugh, in September 2025.

As an Emmitsburg resident, Moxley decided to move the boutique from its former location at Widespread Market in Frederick to a new location at 6 North Church Street in Thurmont. The move brings the business closer to home and her full-time job at Tracey's Auto in Thurmont.

Corn Crib Boutique celebrated the opening of its new location with a grand opening on September 12.

One thing Moxley takes pride in is making sure that there is something for everyone.

"Boutiques can be size-inclusive," Moxley said.

While many boutiques have limited sizing, Moxley makes an effort to carry a variety of sizes, so more customers can find something they love. The boutique also offers homecoming and prom dresses, making it a place where shoppers of all ages can find something for special occasions, as well as everyday wear.

Moxley has already hosted a "Dolly Day" event, celebrating all things Dolly Parton, and has more events planned. On October 31, the boutique will host a Halloween Party from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., featuring flash tattoos, permanent jewelry, spooky snacks and drinks, and in-store trick-or-treating.

Corn Crib Boutique is open Wednesday through Friday, from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.; Saturday, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; and Sunday, from noon to 4:00 p.m., with the exception of one Sunday each month.

Customers can also shop online at www.corncribboutique.com.

Follow Corn Crib Boutique on Facebook and Instagram for the latest updates on new products, events, and specials.

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Judy Cochran, Owner

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THURSDAY OF THE
MONTH

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• LIONS CHICKEN BBQ	MAY 2
• COMMUNITY HERITAGE DAY	JUNE 27
• NEIGHBORHOOD MEALS	AUGUST 12
• LIONS CHICKEN BBQ	SEPTEMBER 19
• HALLOWEEN PARADE & PARTY	OCTOBER 31
• ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY	DECEMBER 12

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SCAN TO REGISTER

Businesses Past...

Closed

BY RICHARD D. L. FULTON

The Creager Funeral Home

The Creager Funeral Home in Thurmont was established in 1840 by James Jacobus Krieger when Thurmont was still known as Mechanicstown (the name was changed to Thurmont in 1894). The change of spelling from Krieger to Creager occurred sometime after the business establishment was founded.

According to an article published in the August 20, 1975, edition of *The (Frederick) News*, the business had initially been established for selling general merchandise, which was then soon changed into a funeral home and furniture business.

Casket makers in the 1800s and early 1900s were also frequently manufacturers of furniture, given their woodworking experience, combined with having established sources of wood and also having the proper tools already at hand for casket production.

Mechanicstown was known for its skilled artisans, mechanics, and craftsmen (thus the original name



The Creager Funeral Home at 104 East Main Street in Thurmont in 1944

of Thurmont). The arrival of the Western Maryland Railroad in 1871 further fueled business for those engaged in the various trades.

Creager, who was born in 1817, became an entrepreneur as such at age 15 in 1832, when he had engaged in providing a variety of services, including sales and construction work, according to an article published in the July 6, 1990, edition of the *Gettysburg Times*.

During 1840, at age 23, he had gained enough carpentry skills to have established his own funeral home and made coffins of various sizes, as the need demanded, and had become skilled at making furniture, according to an article written by Margaret E. Myers, then Frederick County's only registered genealogist, which was published in the September 13, 1975, edition of *The (Frederick) News*. Thus, what would prove as having been a highly successful funeral home, and a future furniture store, were then launched.

Creager had two sons, John Wesley Creager (J.W.) and Martin Luther (M.L.) Creager, both of whom worked with their father at what was then called James Creager & Sons.

However, that association was dissolved in 1894, as per the legal advertisement published in the June 25, 1894, edition of the *Catoctin Clarion*, after J.W. apparently had previously decided several years beforehand to establish a business of his own by producing lumber, rails and posts, according to an article published in the October 4, 1895, edition of *The (Frederick) Citizen*.

The company was then reorganized on the same date that James Creager & Sons was dissolved and reincorporated as James Creager & Son (M.L.).

James Creager passed away in 1900, resulting in M.L. thereby inheriting the business, which was then renamed as M.L. Creager (also known as M.L. Creager Furniture and Undertakers).

In 1913, the Creagers acquired their first motorized hearse, a new Cadillac model. According to Myers, "It was the first motorized hearse used in Frederick County."

Of course, the funeral homes' hearses were originally horse-drawn carriages, a memory of which was recalled by Raymond Creager—son of M.L., who joined his father in the company in 1922—in an interview published in the August 20, 1975, edition of *The (Frederick) News*, in which he had stated, "The hearses were very valuable, and during funeral services, someone would have to stay and watch the horses, which he frequently volunteered to do to get out of school."

When M.L.'s son joined the company, it resulted in another name-change, this time to M.L. Creager & Son. When M.L. passed away in 1948, his son, Raymond, became the owner of the operation.

After Raymond Creager retired, the furniture store was taken over by his twin daughters, Mary Ellen and Clara Jean, who sold it in 1987 to Ken and Lois Fraley, according to the August 2020 edition of the Thurmont Lions Club's newsletter, the *Lion Breeze*.

Over time, the funeral home and furniture store had changed locations, the funeral home finally ending its days at 104 East Main Street in Thurmont, and the two had been operated as separate entities.

The building was sold in 2012 to Stauffer Funeral Home, which occupies the building to this day.

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Emmitsburg New Business and Development Briefs

The following are the statuses of new businesses and development coming to Emmitsburg from the town planner's report:

- **Emmit Ridge** — The preliminary plan was approved on August 10. The applicant continues to address improvement plan comments from the Frederick County Soil Conservation District and Frederick County.
- **Brookfield Phase 5** — Construction work is ongoing.
- **Patriot Crane** — The site plan was submitted on June 23, and comments from the town engineer were provided to the applicant on July 10. The applicant submitted a Board of Appeals application for a variance of the allowable fence height on August 25. The project will be reviewed by the Emmitsburg Planning Commission on September 28.
- **Seton Center Subdivision** — Subdivision application has been reviewed. Comments were provided to the applicant. The Planning Commission reviewed the application and conditionally approved it on June 29. The town is now waiting for the submission of a revised plat for approval before recordation.

Thurmont New Business and Development Briefs

The following are the statuses of new businesses and development coming to Thurmont from the town planner's report:

Subdivisions:

- **Hammer Hill, Phase 2** (Westview Drive) — 22 single-family homes in R-2. Completed.
- **Mechanicstown, LLC** (Emmitsburg Road) — Final Plat conditionally approved for 31 single-family lots in R-2/ ARP. Discussions between developer and builder in progress.
- **Mountain Brooke** (Emmitsburg Road) — Final Plat conditionally approved for 11 single-family lots in R-2/ ARP. Discussions between developer and builder in progress.
- **Leal Homes** (Eyler Road) — Improvement Plan conditionally approved — 6 single-family lots in ARP.
- **The Meadows** — Simmers Property Concept Plan for subdivision to create 61 single-family dwelling lots in R-2/R-5.

Site Plans:

- **Michael & Holly Late** — Preliminary Plan, 2 duplexes, 4 dwellings in Mixed-Use Village-1, Final Site Plan.
- **Mountain Gate Business Park** — Access road from Thurmont Blvd. to access Thurmont Village Lot 1, zoned General Business. Preliminary Plan conditionally approved.
- **McDonald's** — Site demo and rebuild, zoned General Business. Preliminary Site Plan conditionally approved.
- **J&R Transport Office Building** — Apples Church Road zoned Office Industrial. Preliminary Site Plan conditionally approved.

Other:

- Planning & Zoning Staff provided project management on the current street resurfacing project.
- Planning & Zoning staff are currently providing project management on the upcoming Municipal Parking Lot Improvements project.

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2026 Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show

The 70th Anniversary of the Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show was held at Catoctin High School in Thurmont from Friday through Sunday, September 11-13.

The opening ceremonies began with the 50th Anniversary of the C. Rodman Myers Community Organizations Flag Ceremony, and was renamed in honor and memory of Rodman, Community Show Co-Founder, who passed away in April 2026. Rodman had the idea to start the Flag Ceremony during our country's bi-centennial in 1976, and it was so popular that it was permanently added to the opening ceremonies.

Highlights included several presentations made by State Delegate William "Will" Valentine, Maryland House of Delegates, representing District 2A in Washington and Frederick counties. Will presented Rodman Myers' children—Cheryl, Bobby, and Andrea—with a Maryland State Flag flown over the State House in Annapolis, Maryland, with a certificate "in honor of Charles Rodman Myers, Co-Founder and President of the Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show." He also presented them with a Maryland General Assembly Proclamation in memory of Rodman. Lastly, Will presented Community Show Vice President Cheryl Lenhart with an Official Citation offering congratulations to the Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show as it celebrates its 70th Anniversary.

The first annual Community Show Volunteer Award was presented by Andrea Myers Mannix on behalf of siblings Cheryl and Bobby and in memory of Patty and parents Rodman and Jean Myers. Excerpts from her presentation: "Thurmont Grange members voted on a way to honor the memory of Dad/Rodman was an annual volunteer award to be presented at the Community Show's opening ceremonies, with the three Myers children deciding on the award criteria and annual recipient. Thank you to Grange member Alan Brauer for bringing up this idea to the membership, and thank you to the Thurmont Grange for this new award.

Rodman co-founded the Community Show 70 years ago with his Thurmont High School agriculture teacher, Bill Baker, and the show has been bringing our communities together since 1957. When anyone would ask Dad/Rodman about how everything gets done for the show, he spoke with such pride to first mention that the Community Show is an all-volunteer organization. During the past several Community Shows, Dad/Rodman would sit at the Community Show history table in the Auxiliary Gym, where he was able to see and talk with so many attendees, which he loved doing!

The 2026 inaugural award recipient of the Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show Volunteer Award—in honor and memory of Co-founder C. Rodman Myers—is David L. Harman (see more information with the photo and caption below)."

At the end of the opening ceremonies was the new Catoctin FFA Ambassador program and announcement, lead by Catoctin FFA Advisor Amy Poffenberger. Becky (Myers) Linton, the first Community Show Chapter Sweetheart in 1957, was present and wearing her 1957 Chapter Sweetheart jacket.

A Catoctin Enterprise article from its October 11, 1957, edition, which covered the first Community Show on September 27-28, 1957, at the old Thurmont High School (now the Thurmont Middle School) stated, "Much interest was evidenced in the Community Show, both through the number of fine exhibits and the attendance both nights. The show was sponsored by the Thurmont Grange and Future Farmers

of America (FFA), and it is hoped to be made an annual event."

Here are some excerpts from Becky's heartfelt speech:

"It is such an honor to be welcomed back to the Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show after 70 years. Standing here tonight brings back many memories, and it fills my heart with gratitude for being part of this special occasion.

Back then, boys were the only ones allowed to be members of the FFA. The girls who were candidates to be the Chapter Sweetheart did not have to be FFA members, as the young ladies do tonight. We have come a long way since 1957, and I believe that is a wonderful change. Today, girls can be full members, leaders, competitors, and representatives of FFA in their own right. That is something worth celebrating for that amount of time.

And here we are, 70 years later. What a blessing it is to see that 'hope' become such a strong and lasting tradition. This show has continued to bring people together, to honor agriculture, to encourage young people, and to celebrate the families and farms that have shaped this community.

I will always be especially proud of my awesome brother, Rodman Myers. Rodman asked that I be here for this special night, and he had planned to be here alongside me, his family, and you. Rodman, as most of you know, helped start the Community Show, along with Bill Baker, Agriculture teacher in 1957. His love for this community and his dedication to this show means so much to all of us.

Tonight, I want to thank the Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show, the FFA, the families, volunteers, exhibitors, and everyone who has helped keep this tradition alive for 70 years. It is an honor to look back, but it is an even greater joy to see how far we have come. Thank you for welcoming me back, and may this wonderful Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show continue for 70 more years and more!"

Becky then announced the new 2026-27 Catoctin FFA Ambassador, Blake Smith! The opening ceremonies were followed by the annual Baked Products Auction. The Community Show committee thanks our communities for all of their support at the annual auction and throughout the entire Community Show weekend!

Courtesy Photos



Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show

In Loving Memory
Charles Rodman Myers
CO-FOUNDER & PRESIDENT
April 9, 1934 - April 23, 2026



2026 Community Show Volunteer Award in honor and memory of Community Show Co-Founder C. Rodman Myers was presented to David L. Harman (holding his plaque), and on the left is his wife, Denise, and son, Jared. Rodman's family members on the left side are son Bobby Myers and daughter-in-law Karen Myers, son-in-law David Johnston, and on the right side are daughters Andrea Mannix and Cheryl Lenhart.

David (Dave) L. Harman has been a consistent and dedicated volunteer for the Community Show for over 50 years—since being a member of the Catoctin FFA Chapter at Catoctin High School. He is a department superintendent for four departments, chair of Saturday morning's Pet Show, chair of Sunday's kiddie pedal tractor pull, and he had the idea of a new activity for children: Saturday's 1:00 p.m. kiddie hay bale throwing contest for ages 5-10. Dave has also been leading the opening ceremonies for many years. Dave is the son of David W. and Margie Harman of Sabillasville. He is married to his wife, Denise, and they have a son, Jared. Dave, congratulations, and thank you for all your contributions to the Community Show!

■ COMMUNITY SHOW continued on Page 27

Courtesy Photos



50th Anniversary of the C. Rodman Myers Memorial Community Organizations Flag Ceremony.

Presentations were made by State Delegate William “Will” Valentine, Maryland House of Delegates, representing District 2A in Washington and Frederick counties.

Will presented Rodman Myers’ children (photo on right), Andrea, Cheryl, and Bobby, with a Maryland State Flag flown over the State House in Annapolis and its certificate stating, “In honor of Charles Rodman Myers, Co-Founder and President of the Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show.”

He also presented them with a Maryland General Assembly Proclamation: “In Memoriam—Be it hereby known to all that sincerest sympathy is extended to the family of Charles Rodman Myers—in recognition of a lifetime of dedicated service, leadership, and lasting contributions to Maryland Agriculture. We honor and remember Charles Rodman Myers for a life and legacy that will forever inspire future generations.”



William Valentine presented Community Show Vice President Cheryl Lenhart with an “Official Citation – Be it hereby known to all that sincerest congratulations are offered to the Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show in recognition of Maryland’s largest Community Show as it celebrates its 70th Anniversary and for its continued commitment to educate, inspire, and entertain all area residents who attend and participate each year.”



The Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show is sponsored by the Thurmont Grange, Catoclin FFA Chapter, Catoclin FFA Alumni & Supporters, Maryland State Grange, and the Maryland Agricultural Fair Board.



(above) 1957-58 Thurmont FFA Chapter Sweetheart, Becky Linton, who was the first Community Show’s FFA Chapter Sweetheart 70 years ago, announced the new 2026-27 Catoclin FFA Ambassador, Blake Smith.

(right) Andrea (Myers) Mannix (left) presents David L. Harman with 2026’s first annual Community Show Volunteer Award in honor and memory of Community Show Co-Founder C. Rodman Myers.



■ COMMUNITY SHOW continued on Page 28

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Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show Champions & Reserve Champions

The following were the Champion and Reserve Champion winners at the 2026 Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show, held September 11-13 at Catoctin High School in Thurmont.

Each Champion and Reserve Champion winner will receive additional premium money. Bollinger's Restaurant in Thurmont will provide a gift certificate to each Department Champion, and Jubilee Foods in Emmitsburg will provide a gift certificate to each Reserve Department Champion.

Fresh Fruits: Champion – Kylie Robertson (Laurel Peaches); Reserve Champion – Kylie Robertson (Pink Lady Apples); **Fresh Vegetables:** Champion – Robert Portner (Largest Pumpkin); Reserve Champion – Jimmy Miller (Green Cabbage); **Home Products Display:** Champion – Angie Mathews; **Canned Fruit:** Champion – Linda Franklin (Peaches); Reserve Champion – Linda Franklin (Applesauce); **Canned Vegetables:** Champion – Don Stanley (Whole Tomatoes); Reserve Champion – Karen Myers (Sauerkraut); **Jellies & Preserves:** Champion – Sandra Santos (Others – Lemon Jelly); Reserve Champion – Angie Mathews (Christmas Jam); **Pickles:** Champion – Tess Hahn (Others – Pickled Cauliflower); Reserve Champion – Gerilyn Cardon (Pepper Pickles); **Meat (Canned):** Champion – Karen Myers (Others – Canned Turkey); Reserve Champion – Melissa Kinna (Canned Tenderloin); **Home Cured Meats:** Champion – Catoctin FFA (Country Ham); Reserve Champion – Robert Wiles (Country Ham).

Baked Products: Cake: Champion – Karen Willard (Chocolate Cake); Reserve Champion – Maxine Troxell (Coconut Cake); Honorable Mention Cake – Burall Brothers Scholarship – Denise Valentine (Chiffon Cake); **Bread:** Champion – Maxine Troxell (Bread – Other Variety – Garlic & Herb); Reserve Champion – Maxine Troxell (Sweet Buns); **Pie:** Champion – Denise Valentine (Blackberry Pie); Reserve Champion – Denise Valentine (Shoo Fly Pie); **Sugar Free:** Champion – Joyce Kline (Sugar Free Cake); Reserve Champion – Nancy Wine (Sugar Free Cookies); **Gluten Free Baked Product:** Champion – Maxine Troxell (Gluten Free Cake); Reserve Champion – Cheryl Lenhart (Gluten Free Banana Bread); **Misc. Baked Product Champion:** Champion – Cheryl Lenhart (Bar Cookies – Pecan Bars); Reserve Champion – Cheryl Lenhart (Misc. – Others – Cranberry Orange Scones); **Youth Dept. – Baked Products: Grand Champion Cake (Youth Department – In Honor and Memory of Mearl McCleaff):** Champion – Masyn Sanders (Cake with Fruit – Hummingbird Cake); Reserve Champion Cake – Adalyn Eaves (Chiffon Cake – Coconut Chiffon); **Youth Dept. – Misc. Baked Product:** Champion – Bryce Yocum (Muffins – Blueberry); Reserve Champion – Dylan Ridinger (Quick Bread – Zucchini); **Junior Dept. Baked Product:** Champion – Autumn Mullineaux (German Chocolate Cake); Reserve Champion – Brantlee Young (Other Variety – Butter Pecan); **Junior Dept. Misc. Baked Product:** Champion – Landon Nicholson (Quick Bread – Banana); Reserve Champion – Jet Derr (Fruit Pie – White Pecan).

Fabric and Fiber Arts (Sewn Items): Champion – Shirley Greene (Recycled Sewn Item); Reserve Champion – Shirley Greene (Sewn Item-Animal); **Fabric and Fiber Arts (Misc. Fiber Items):** Champion – Charlotte Dutton (Animals, Felted); Reserve Champion – Charlotte Dutton (Fiber Item – Misc. Felted); **Fabric and Fiber Arts (Crocheting):** Champion – Pam Stansbury (Afghans, Other Misc.) Reserve Champion – Calliope Hench (Home Items, Other, Misc.); **Fabric and Fiber Arts (Cross Stitch):** Champion – Angie Kaas (Pictures – 8-13 inches); Reserve Champion – Leah Souris (Pictures – Over 18 inches); **Fabric and Fiber Arts (Crewel, Embroidery & Needlepoint):** Shirley Greene (Other, Misc.); Reserve Champion – Carolyn Hahn (Other Seasonal Decorations on plastic); **Fabric and Fiber Arts (Knitting):** Champion – Joan Howard (Knitted, Cap or Hat); Reserve Champion – Joan Howard (Knitted Sweater); **Fabric and Fiber Arts (Quilts & Quilted Items):** Champion – Karen Willard (Quilts, Original Design); Reserve Champion – Cynthia Shugars (Other, Misc. Quilted Items); **Fabric and Fiber Arts (Rugs):** Champion – Janet Jewell (Rugs, Other Misc. Rugs); Reserve Champion – Lisa Valentine (Rugs, Latch Hook from a Kit),



Kaitlyn Schildt wins both Dept. Champion and Reserve Champion of Dept. 14's Color Photography.

Flowers & Plants: Champion – Kim Fox (Flowering Potted Plant in Bloom); Reserve Champion – Shawn Brown (Fresh Floral Arrangement – one sided, suitable for side table); **Fine Arts:** Champion – Charlotte Dutton (Decorative Painting – Wood – Wood Fish); Reserve Champion – Pennie Keilholtz (Pen & Ink – Bird in Pine tree); **Arts & Crafts:** Champion – Pete Knill (Wood Craft – Whirlgig); Reserve Champion – Delany Hench (Ceramics – Mushrooms); **Color Photography:** Champion – Kaitlyn Schildt (Still Life – Green vase, orange flower); Reserve Champion – Kaitlyn Schildt (Farm Activity/Scene – Barn); **Black & White Photography:** Champion – Joyce Kline (People – Selfie – Selfie Enhanced – B&W); Reserve Champion – Kaitlyn Schildt (Animals – Birds, B&W).

Corn: Champion – Caroline Clark (Hybrid Corn); Reserve Champion – Brooke Ridinger (Indian Corn); **Small Grain & Seeds:** Champion – MaKayla Comer (Soybeans); Reserve Champion – Matt Clark (Timothy, 1 jar); **Eggs:** Champion – Brooke Ridinger (Brown Eggs); Reserve Champion – Jason Ridinger (Green Eggs); **Nuts:** Champion – Edward Hahn (English Walnuts); Reserve Champion – Edward Hahn (Chestnuts); **Rabbit:** Champion – Leah Morgan (Breeding Rabbit – Buck); Reserve Champion – Olivia Dutton (Breeding Rabbit, female); **Poultry:** Champion – Ella Eaves (Poultry Exhibit – 1 rooster); Reserve Champion – Ella Eaves (Poultry Exhibit - 1 hen); **Dairy:** Champion – Addy Green (Ayrshire Fall Calf); Reserve Champion – Dylan Ridinger (Holstein Spring Calf); **Dairy Goats:** Champion – Matthew Shriner (Doe in Milk – 5 years and over); Reserve Champion – Abigail Snriner (Doe – 3 years, under 5); **Hay:** Champion – Preston Clark (Hay, Orchard Grass); Reserve Champion – Caroline Clarke (Alfalfa Hay); **Straw:** Bobby Myers (Barley Straw); Reserve Champion – Matt Clark - (Oat Straw).

Junior Department: Paytin Moore (Recycled Craft); Reserve Champion – Maggie Biggs (Painting, ages 6-10); **Youth Department:** Champion – Amelia Rice (Halloween Craft – Beetlejuice Figures); Reserve Champion – Dylan Ridinger (Others, ages 11-13 – Shadow Box);

Beef: Champion – Avery Harbaugh; Reserve Champion – Jordyn Ohler; **Beef Heifer:** Champion – Jordyn Ohler; Reserve Champion – Colton Wood; **Sheep:** Champion – Reid Thurston; Reserve Champion – Elizabeth Schubel; **Ridenour Lamb:** Destiny Briggs; **Swine:** Champion – Chase Wiles; Reserve Champion – Peighton Rhinehart; **Market Goat:** Champion – Alyssa Costa; Reserve Champion – Trey Glass.

Decorated Animal: Champion – Brinley Jackson; Reserve Champion – Shiloh Jackson.

Kiddie Bale Throwing Contest: Ages 5-6 – 1st, Mazekeen Blasé; Ages 7-8 – 1st, Nathaniel Darling; 2nd, Emerson Rickard.

■ COMMUNITY SHOW continued on Page 29

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Courtesy Photos



Children's Team (age 10-18): 1st Place – Bryce Dennis and Owen Ott.



Men's & Women's Team: 1st Place – Todd Lindenberg and Kelly Lindenberg.



Women's Team: 1st Place – Payton Troxell and Kelsey Troxell.

2026 Catoctin Mountain Log Sawing Contest Winners

The 41st Annual Catoctin Mountain Log Sawing Contest was held at the 70th Annual Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show with the winners as follows:

Women's Team: 1st – Payton Troxell and Kelsey Troxell (3:03:98); 2nd – Josey Harbaugh and Sophie Wagerman (3:07:30); 3rd – Valeria Lake and Addy Smith (3:28:15).

Men's Team: 1st – Simon Burrier and Blake Smith (1:34:78); 2nd – Grady Abruzzese and Drew Potter (1:45:95); 3rd – Bradley Brauning and Connor Smith (2:05:01).

Men and Women's Team: 1st – Todd Lindenberg and Kelly Lindenberg (1:25:83); 2nd – Mark Valentine and Jessica Valentine (1:36:36); 3rd – Eric Troxell and Payton Troxell (1:40:75).

Children's Team: 1st – Bryce Dennis and Owen Ott (2:38:00); 2nd – Jason Green and Emerick Eaves (6:00:09); 3rd – Jason Green and Wade Wolfe (9:30:76).

Adult and Child Team (child age 10 & under): 1st – Jett Derr and Jessica Valentine Derr (5:11:15); 2nd – Elle Eaves and Gabby Brauning (5:25:04); 3rd – Kelly Lindenberg and Mazikeen Lindenberg (5:34:52).

Adult and Child Team (child age 10 & over): 1st – Jason Ridinger and Dylan Ridinger (2:03:77); 2nd – Ethan Black and Michael Smith (3:55:16); 3rd – Dixie Eckenrode and Audrey Eckenrode (5:14:85).

■ COMMUNITY SHOW continued on Page 30

2026 Horseshoe Pitching Contest Winners

Winners in the 45th Annual Robert Kaas Memorial Horseshoe Pitching Contest for the Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show were (from left): 2nd place, Donnie Kaas, Sr.; Dale Kaas; 1st place, Paul Eyler; 3rd place, Richard Brown; 1st place, Charlie Kaas, Sr.; and 3rd place, Gary Hoffmaster.

Courtesy Photo



2026 Pet Show Winners

The 2026 Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show Pet Show was held on Saturday, September 12, at the Catoctin High School. There were 31 exhibitors who exhibited 66 pets at the show. Judges were Jon Branson of the Catoctin Veterinary Clinic and Becky Clarke of the Dirty Dawg who both did an excellent job judging all of the pets.

Many thanks to Dave Harman, Bobby Myers, Dave Johnston, and Karen Myers for helping with the event. The Grand Champion winner received a \$25.00 gift card donated by The Dirty Dawg. The Reserve Grand Champion received a \$15.00 gift card donated by Tractor Supply (located on Devilbiss Bridge Road). Each participant received treats for their animals and free ice cream cone coins and dessert coupons donated by Roy Rogers.

Winners were as follows: **Grand Champion:** Ashley Fisher (Prettiest Dog – Goose Dog); **Reserve Grand Champion:** Mazikeen Blasé (Best Costumed Pet – Mini Pony); **Cat with Prettiest Eyes:** 1st – Negenia Haidary; 2nd – Annalise Abruzzese; 3rd – Gwynne Pope; **Cat with the Longest Whiskers:** 1st – Annalise Abruzzese (4 inches); 2nd – Gwynne Pope (3 1/2 inches); **Pet with the Most Spots:** 1st – Ashley Foster; 2nd – Abby Owens; 3rd – Gwynne Pope; **Largest Pet (by height):** 1st – Ashley Foster; 2nd – Mazikeen Blasé; 3rd – Jennifer Wager; **Dog with the Waggiest Tail:** 1st – Abby Owens; 2nd – Donna Fogle; 3rd – Audrey Kidd; **Prettiest Dog (25 lbs. and under):** 1st – Gwynne Pope; 2nd – Kristi Wood; 3rd – Lori Snyder; **Prettiest Dog (26 lbs. and over):** 1st – Ashley Fisher; 2nd – Jennifer Wager; 3rd – Lorieali Willard; HM, Donna Fogle; **Dog with the Prettiest Eyes:** 1st – Ashley Fisher; 2nd – Lori Snyder; 2nd – Gwynne Pope; 3rd – Audrey Kidd; HM, Jennifer Wager; **Cutest Pet (other than a cat or dog):** 1st – Mazikeen Blasé (Mini Horse); 2nd – Leah Morgan (Rabbit); 3rd – Evalena Cucorullo (Regal Jumping Spider); **Smallest Pet:** 1st – Evalena Cucorullo (Regal Jumping Spider); 2nd – Audrey Kidd (Cockroach); 3rd – Leah Morgan (Rabbit); **Cutest Cat:** 1st – Negenia Haidary; 2nd – Annalise Abruzzese; 3rd – Gwynne Pope; **Best Costumed Pet:** 1st – Mazikeen Blasé; 2nd – Lorieali Willard; 3rd – Abby Owens; HM, Audrey Kidd; HM, Leah Morgan; **Most Unusual Pet:** 1st – Audrey Kidd (Cockroach); 2nd – Evalena Cucorullo (Regal Jumping Spider); 3rd – Mazikeen Blasé (Mini Horse); HM, Leah Morgan; **Best Trained Pet:** 1st – Donna Fogle; 2nd – Lorieali Willard; 3rd – Abby Owens.

Courtesy Photo



Pictured from left are Blake Smith, 2026-27 Catoctin FFA Ambassador; Judge Becky Clark of The Dirty Dawg, Judge Jon Branson of the Catoctin Veterinary Clinic, and Pet Show Champion Ashley Fisher with her dog, who won the Prettiest Dog class.

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2026 Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show's Baked Products Auction

Photos by John Kempisty



(above) Adult Division Reserve Champion Cake (from left): 2026-2027 Catoctin FFA Ambassador Blake Smith, baker Maxine Troxell holding her Coconut Cake, and buyer David Coblenz of David W. Coblenz Trucking. The winning bid funds benefit the Catoctin FFA Alumni & Supporters.



(above) Adult Division Grand Champion Cake (from left): 2026-2027 Catoctin FFA Ambassador Blake Smith; baker Karen Williard holding her Chocolate Cake; and buyer reps from South Mountain Collision, Jacob Keeney, Madisyn Ormsby, and Jaycee McAfee. The winning bid funds benefit the Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show.



(above) Adult Division Honorable Mention Cake (from left): 2026-2027 Catoctin FFA Ambassador Blake Smith, baker Denise Valentine holding her Chiffon Cake, and buyers Denise and David Shriver (David is not pictured). The winning bid funds benefit the Burall Brothers Grange Scholarship Fund.



(left) Special Cake Auctioned in memory of Community Show Co-Founder C. Rodman Myers and baked by his daughter, Cheryl (from left): 2026-2027 Catoctin FFA Ambassador Blake Smith; baker Cheryl Lenhart holding her Spice Cake; and Mountain Gate Family Restaurant buyer representative, Caleb McCleaf. The winning bid funds benefit the Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show.



(right) Grand Champion Pie (from left): 2026-2027 Catoctin FFA Ambassador Blake Smith; baker Denise Valentine holding her Blackberry Pie; and buyers from Black's Funeral Home representatives, Colt and Michaela Black. The winning bid funds benefit the Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show.



(left) Grand Champion Bread (from left): 2026-2027 Catoctin FFA Ambassador Blake Smith, baker Maxine Troxell holding her Garlic & Herb Bread, and buyer Gregory Phillips. The winning bid funds benefit the Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show.



(above) Grand Champion Sugar Free Baked Product (from left): 2026-2027 Catoctin FFA Ambassador Blake Smith, baker Joyce Kline (represented by Emily Kline) holding her Yellow Cake, and buyer Jeremy Thompson of Bald Beaver Holsteins. The winning bid funds benefit the Thurmont & Emmitsburg Community Show.



(above) Grand Champion Gluten Free Baked Product (from left): 2026-2027 Catoctin FFA Ambassador Blake Smith, baker Maxine Troxell holding her Gluten Free Cake, and Mountain Gate Family Restaurant buyer representative, Caleb McCleaf. The winning bid funds benefit the Catoctin FFA Alumni and Supporters Scholarship Fund.



(above) Junior Dept. (Ages 10 & under) Grand Champion Cake (from left): 2026-2027 Catoctin FFA Ambassador Blake Smith; baker Autumn Mullineaux holding her German Chocolate Cake; and Mountain Gate Family Restaurant buyer representative, Caleb McCleaf. The winning bid funds benefit the Thurmont & Emmitsburg Food Banks.



(left) Youth Dept. (Ages 11-18) Grand Champion Cake (from left): 2026-2027 Catoctin FFA Ambassador Blake Smith; baker Masyn Sanders holding his Hummingbird Cake; and Mountain Gate Family Restaurant buyer representative, Caleb McCleaf. The Youth Grand Champion Cake is In Honor & Memory of Mearl McCleaf and benefits these three youth-related funds: Thurmont Grange Scholarship, Catoctin FFA's National FFA Convention Trip, and Catoctin FFA Alumni & Supporters Scholarship.

Thurmont Receives \$1.5 Million Grant for Flood Mitigation Project

The Town of Thurmont has received notification from the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) that they have been selected to receive a grant from the Maryland Water Infrastructure Financing Administration (WIFA), which will be used to fund the Emmitsburg Road Flood Mitigation Project, a project that has been in the planning stages since 2021. The WIFA funding is a grant which means no annual debt service; however, a one-time 25 percent local match is required. Engineering and design costs, which have already been incurred, totaling approximately \$190,000, can be used to supplement the \$375,000 match, leaving the Town with approximately \$185,000 in additional funds needed to satisfy the required match.

During the September 15th Town Meeting, Commissioner Martin Burns said the funding for the project makes sense to him. “We’d be ignorant not to do this,” Burns said. “We only need to come up with \$185,000 for a \$1.5 million project.”

Mayor John Kinnaird agreed, stating, “We’ve been trying to resolve flooding on Emmitsburg Road for some time now, and this allows us to do it.”

The Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to fund the required match from the town’s General Fund Capital Reserve account, not to exceed \$200,000.

The project has already undergone engineering and design and incorporates the following components:

- Construct a new stormwater basin on property owned by the town on North Church Street.
- Construct a new stormwater basin on property owned by the town on Radio Lane.
- Improve the existing channel and culverts under Emmitsburg Road, connecting the two basins.

The WIFA grant will cover the costs of all three components of the project. Grant stipulations require the project to be under construction in Fiscal Year 2027, which runs from July 2026 through June 2027.

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Emmitsburg High School Alumni Banquet

The Emmitsburg High School's 102nd Annual Alumni Banquet will be held on Saturday, October 17. All graduates of Emmitsburg High School and all who attended the school at some time are invited. They are asked to seek out classmates and encourage them to attend. Graduation is not a requirement. Teachers of the Emmitsburg School are also invited.

The event will be held at the Emmitsburg Ambulance Center, located at 17701 Creamery Road in Emmitsburg. Social Hour will begin at 3:00 p.m., followed by dinner at 4:00 p.m. The cost for the dinner is \$32.00. Honored class photos will be taken after the meeting. We will honor classes from years 1946, 1951, 1956, 1961, 1966, and 1971.

Anyone who has not received an invitation and would like to attend may call Vickie Frushour at 443-677-5705 or email frushourvickie@gmail.com.

Come see classmates you haven't seen for years. It's always a fun and memorable evening.

Rhinehart Takes Grand Champion Honors at Maryland State Fair

BY ALISHA YOCUM

Courtesy Photo



For Catoctin High School student Peighton Rhinehart, showing cattle is more than a 4-H project. It is something she has been working on since she was just five years old.

That hard work paid off at this year's Maryland State Fair, where Peighton earned Grand Champion Market Steer with her Shorthorn Plus steer, Pablo (pictured above).

Pablo weighed in at 1,472 pounds and was sold during the 4-H Auction to Growing People, Carol Chaney, and KCL Electric for \$7,500.

Peighton is a member of the Paddock Pals 4-H Club. Her family has been raising and showing cattle for more than 30 years. The Rhinehart Family purchased their Creagerstown farm in June 2021 and has continued building their operation ever since.

Over the past several years, Peighton has expanded her experience beyond the local show ring, competing at junior national shows and various jackpot cattle shows throughout the Mid-Atlantic region.

Her success with Pablo at the Maryland State Fair was not her only major accomplishment this summer. Peighton also traveled to Abilene, Texas, where she competed at the Shorthorn Junior Nationals and earned the title of Grand Champion Shorthorn Plus Steer.

While winning Grand Champion is certainly an accomplishment, Peighton has learned that success in the show ring also comes with its share of setbacks. Her advice to younger 4-H members is simple: "Don't give up. Don't let your losses and setbacks stop you from reaching for your goals."

CORRECTION: The article about Mt. Bethel's 190th Anniversary Celebration in the September issue included a typo. The author of the paper is Betty Willard not Betty Willard Brown as originally included in the article.

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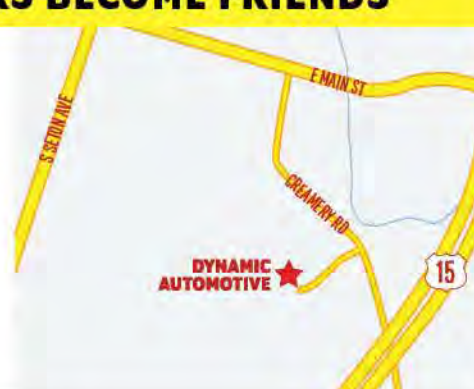
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Lions Club Holds 9/11 Memorial Ceremony

BY ALISHA YOCUM

Photos by Alisha Yocum



Multiple organizations were represented during the flag raising.



Retired Fire Captain Daryl Byrne was the Guest Speaker.



Lions read messages and phone calls from September 11, 2001, in remembrance of those who lost their lives.

For many Americans, September 11, 2001, is a day they will never forget. They remember where they were when they first heard the news, watched the images on the television screen, and realized that the country had experienced an attack unlike anything most had ever witnessed.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks, making the importance of remembering those who lost their lives, those who responded, and the many whose lives were forever changed even more significant.

The Thurmont Lions Club held a memorial ceremony to honor and remember the nearly 3,000 people who lost their lives that day and to ensure their voices are not forgotten.

As I stood at the event, I found myself thinking about the current generation that is growing up with

no personal memory of September 11. For them, the event is simply something that happened in history, which is why ceremonies like this provide an opportunity to share stories, honor those who were lost, and remind us of the courage and compassion that followed one of the darkest days in our nation's history.

The crowd was silent as Lions read the final conversations or voicemails left by victims that day. Voicemails like the one left by Linda Gronlund, a passenger on Flight 93, on her sister's home answering machine. On the message, she briefly describes that they have been hijacked and proceeds to say, "Mostly, I just wanted to say I love you and I'm going to miss you, and please give my love to Mom and Dad...I don't know if I'm going to get the chance to tell you that again or not."

Other recordings came from people inside the World Trade Center.

Melissa Doi was working on the 83rd floor of the South Tower when she called 911. Her call captured the terrifying reality inside the building as she told the dispatcher, "It's very hot, I see...I don't see any air anymore. All I see is smoke. She would later ask the dispatcher if she was going to die and then prayed, "Oh, God, it's so hot. I'm burning up." The line would soon go silent.

The ceremony continued with guest speaker Retired Fire Captain Daryl Byrne from Norfolk, Connecticut. In addition to the various roles he served in the U.S. Navy, Byrne served in his career as a tactical paramedic, hazardous materials technician, and a neonatal newborn critical care provider.

He was requested to assist at ground zero with an elite group of tactical paramedics trained to work in austere environments,

but nothing could prepare him for what he experienced that day. Bryce took those in attendance through what he experienced that day. Bryce talked about how he witnessed people jumping into action that day with no hesitation.

The ceremony concluded with a cannon salute, the 21-gun salute, and the playing of Taps.

We must continue to remember the voices of those who were lost and share their stories with the generations who did not live through September 11, so they can understand the impact that day had on our country and why we will never forget.

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Matthew, Andrew, and Dennis Smith, and Maverick Cox at the Orioles game!

Out & About

Good Times, Good Vibes



First soccer practice for Madi Faulkner!



"Happy first day of school, big guy!"

Love & Togetherness

Family Time is happy time!



Kinsley and Cooper Carter show off their barrel-balancing skills after the Cowboy Circus Show at the Great Frederick Fair!



Richard and Tina Thompson celebrating Eddie Murray 500th home run at Camden Yards!



Caleb Lynn with his banner for winning champion spot barrow!



Labor Day 2026 with the Staubs!

Making Memories

Masyn Sanders with his Senior Champion cake at The Great Frederick Fair!



Good Times



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Isabelle, Eleanor, and Stella enjoying a day at the fair!

Happy Memories Out & About

Matt, Ethan, Tristin, and Christopher celebrate a win at the Florida State football game in Tallahassee!



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Joey Brown: "First place running figure 8 at the Great Frederick Fair!"



Heather Kinnaird at The Great Frederick Fair!



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Brent and Angie buying their first home in Cascade!

Out & About

Good Times, Good Vibes



Brandy Myers: "Just busy doing boy band stuff at the Great Frederick Fair!"

Love & Togetherness



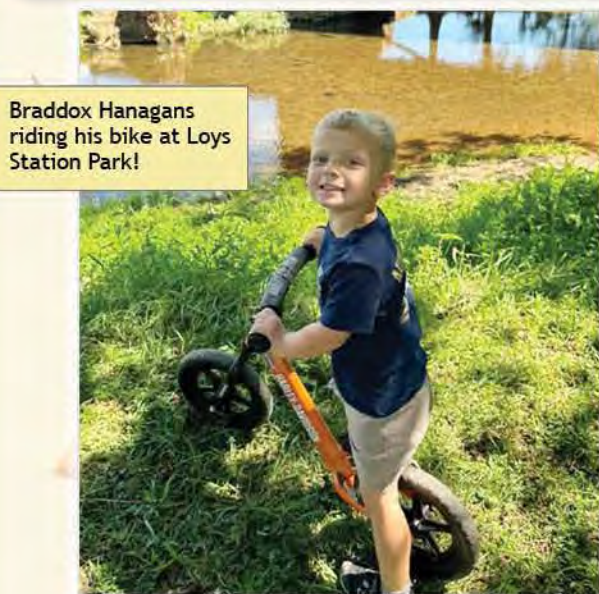
Coop Andrew enjoying the last days of warmth at Dutch Wonderland!



Catoclin High School Cheerleaders volunteering at the Kreitz Auto Booth!

Happy Memories

FALL Adventures!



Braddox Hanagans riding his bike at Loys Station Park!



Savannah Abrecht on her horse at J Bar W Ranch!

Making Memories



Judy Arellano, Lisa Cantwell, and Yesenia Arellano enjoy an evening at the Great Frederick Fair!

Good Times



New Discoveries



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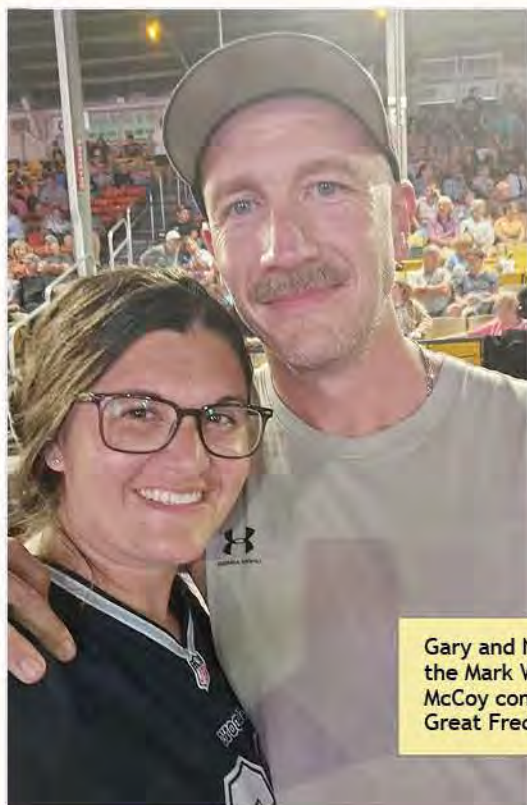
The Young Boys enjoyed getting cowboy belt buckles!

New Discoveries



Brindle and Lainey Fitzwater, Kyla Derr, and Abigail Zimmerman enjoying the Community Show!

Happy Memories Out & About



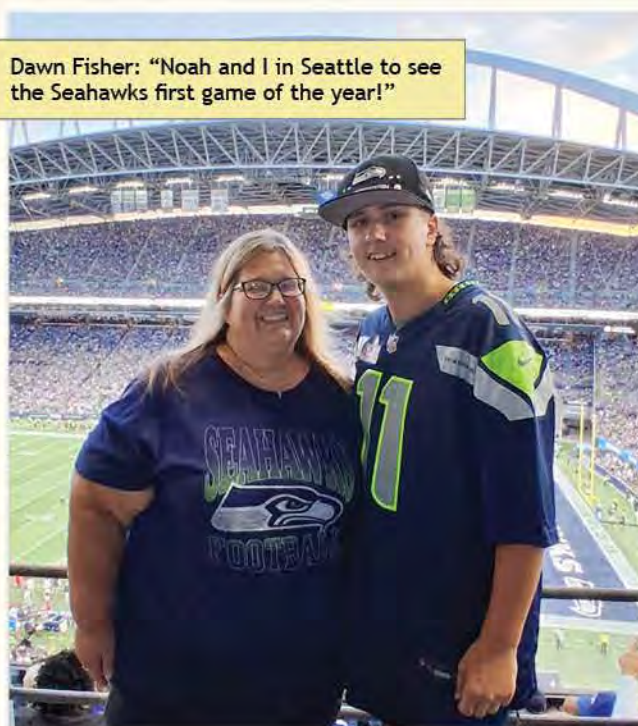
Gary and Nicole Tyler at the Mark Wills and Neal McCoy concert at The Great Frederick Fair!

Good Times, Good Vibes



The McNemar family vacationing in Myrtle Beach!

Dawn Fisher: "Noah and I in Seattle to see the Seahawks first game of the year!"



FALL Memories!

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January 20, 1966 — September 11, 2026

**Michael "Mike"
Johnson**



Michael "Mike" Johnson, age 60, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by family in Thurmont, Maryland, on Friday, September 11, 2026.

Born on January 20, 1966, in Frederick, Maryland, Mike built a life marked by hard work, deep devotion to his family, and a trademark sharp sense of humor. In his earlier years, Mike enjoyed farming, establishing a lifelong connection to the outdoors. He went on to found and operate his own fencing business, taking great pride in his craft and strong work ethic.

Above all, Mike cherished time spent with those he loved. He looked forward to family vacations at the beach, visiting Walton's Mountain, and spending quiet days fishing. A favorite spot of his was Cactus Flats, where he loved hanging out and listening to live bluegrass music. Known for his witty quickness and playful nature, Mike had a unique nickname for virtually everyone in his life—rarely calling anyone by their actual name. His greatest joy was his family, especially his daughter and his extensive family of nieces, nephews, and great-nieces and nephews.

Mike was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Norville and Lillian Johnson; his maternal grandparents, Harvey and Lula Lescalleet; his beloved nephew, Gregory Brashears Jr.; and special cousin-in-law, Jim Riche.

He is survived by his father, Robert Johnson Sr. of Walkersville, MD; his mother, Helen Johnson of Thurmont, MD; and his daughter, Cassie Johnson, and her fiancé, Dave Wampler of Kearneysville, WV.

He is also survived by his siblings: brother, Robert "Rob" Johnson Jr. and his wife, Grace; sister, Sherrie McDonald and her husband, David; sister, Lisa Brashears and her partner, Rob Sturgill; and sister, Lori Hurley and her husband, Larry.

Mike leaves behind his nieces and nephews: Maria Strite; AJ Strite; DJ Long and his wife, Kenna; Laura Brashears; Kristi Lewandowski and her husband, Chris; and Kelsey Hurley and her fiancé, Jacob Fisher; as well as his beloved great-nieces and great-nephews: Alyvia, Katie, Gregory, Brady, Baylor, Gemma, Brinley, Tripp, Wesley, Stevie, Bennett, and Charlie.

He is also survived by special cousins, Lynne Riche and Diana "Beanie" Portner, as well as special friends, Donna, Molly, Larry, Jason Pasiak, and far too many more dear friends to name.

Services will be announced at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations to assist needy children with horseback riding lessons can be made to: Gregory A. Brashears Jr. Memorial Fund, In memory of Michael Johnson, c/o Lori Ann Hurley, 8920 Longs Mill Road, Rocky Ridge, MD 21778-8631.

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That's How It's Done!

I think this might be the first time that I have ever written a golf column. I know I've mentioned golf in this column, but I've never written an entire story on high school varsity golf. But this 2026 Catoctin golf team is special!

Let me back up a bit and give you some background on my golf knowledge. I know I've shared in previous columns my extensive experience playing golf. I am really good! Right now, I have \$4,525 in the bank after winning my last tournament in the Asia Pacific division at Yongsan Gardens with a 3 under par. Transparency requires me to admit playing Golf Clash on my cellphone. I binge-watched the entire series *The Hawk*, starring Will Ferrell, on Netflix. Does that count? Oh yeah, I caddied once or twice in my teens to put some summer fun money in my pocket. That's the extent of my golf background.

Truthfully, I have never once actually played the real game of golf. I have two excuses. No one ever invited me to play, and I'm left-handed. It's not like pickup basketball, where all you do is walk out onto the court and pick teams. First, you've got to borrow a set of left-handed clubs, and then you've got to find someone who is willing to hamstring their outing with a

rookie hacker. That's my story, and I'm sticking to it. Note: I am still open to invitations.

Now that we have my golf qualifications out of the way, let's talk about some local kids who definitely qualify.

Sophomore Callen Edmonston qualified back in mid-September and took second place in the CMC Golf Championships at Black Rock Golf Course in Hagerstown. Callen shot a 70, two strokes behind the leader, Oakdale's Landon Tudor. Earlier in the month, Callen won the PB Dye Golf Club tournament in Ijamsville with a 36 and helped Catoctin finish second overall in the match. Golf is in Callen's DNA. He grew up surrounded by golf. Before he was old enough to walk, his father would take him to Waynesboro Country Club just to soak in the vibe. Callen began playing golf at a very early age, and everyone realized he was a natural. Now that he is playing competitively, it is evident that those predictions were true. Last year as a freshman, he recorded one of Frederick County's lowest single-round scores a 5 under par 31. High school golf matches consist of nine holes. Playing a nine-hole course, he had to have birdied (1 under par) at least 5 holes. That is amazing by

any stretch of the imagination, especially for a 14-year-old. Callen finished first overall in the small school CMC tournament this year and second in the entire conference. Callen's average golf score this season is 36.4. Did I mention he's a sophomore?

As amazing as this golf team appears to be, there is actually a bigger story here. Believe it or not, that story involves Catoctin varsity football. The golf team has two new players. From cleats to clubs, Colton Gray and Lane Koenig, both former Catoctin Cougars varsity football running backs, are tearing up the golf links for Catoctin.

As a former football coach and now announcer, my passion for football made it impossible for me to imagine not being around the sport. I asked Colton how he could have possibly walked away from football in the most important year of his career, as a senior. Colton was very open and honest, and in a moment of complete vulnerability, he admitted the decision came with tears. Colton had suffered his ninth concussion toward the end of the season last year. Over the summer, he and his parents sat down and had a very tough conversation about his future. The very gift that made him a great football player, his football brain, was injured. But how do you treat an injury you can't see? Colton and his family decided to step away from football and play golf. He showed amazing maturity for a young man in making that decision. He chose to use the same skills that made him excel in football and apply them to another sport which he loved: golf. He shared with me that the mental focus, the work ethic, and the team camaraderie that made him love

football are exactly what golf is all about. Colton's average golf score this season is 40.7. Pretty impressive for a first-year high school golf competitor.

Former Catoctin Cougars running back Lane Koenig shares a similar story. He is also playing golf now. Lane is averaging a 46.3 this year.

I spoke with golf coach Mark Smith about this team. Coach Mark told me he has the largest roster in Catoctin golf history with 22 players. His team went from finishing thirteenth in a 16-team CMC conference in 2021 to fifth in 2026. Now, that's how you build a winning program. Steady progress! To prove that point, this Catoctin golf team made a Maryland State golf tournament appearance for the first time in over 20 years last year, and it's a safe bet they do it again this year.

But it doesn't stop there. Teammate Gage Eyler has averaged 44 this year, along with Weston Brantner, who shot a 46.3, and Wyatt Kinna with a 46.7, all nine-hole averages.

The season is winding down, so I hope you'll head over to Maple Run Golf Course in Thurmont to watch them play on Thursday, October 8. They tee off at 3:00 p.m. I'll certainly be there. I wonder if anyone is left-handed?

Pro golfer Lonnie Hawkins (played by Will Ferrell) has a famous catchphrase throughout the Netflix series, *The Hawk*, after every win. Picture a team photo of the Catoctin Cougars golf team with the Lonnie Hawkins caption underneath: "THAT'S HOW IT'S DONE!"

I'm going to take that picture at the next match and post it on my website. See you at Maple Run.

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SCHOOL News



STUDENTS
Corner

BY BAYLEY GROSSNICKLE, 7th Grade

Each month, students from Mother Seton School's Newspaper Club will be submitting articles from their perspective as a student.

La Antorcha de la Independencia (The Independence Torch)

Every year on July Fourth, you celebrate with your family and friends with barbecues, glow sticks, pools, fireworks, and more food—or however you and your family celebrate our day of freedom. Every year in Guatemala, people celebrate Guatemala's Independence Day on September 15. We celebrate our Independence Day with fireworks and food, but Guatemala celebrates its Independence Day in a different way. The people of Guatemala run through their streets carrying REAL LIT TORCHES!

Seems like a fire hazard to me, but what's even crazier is that students, families, and communities take part in this tradition. Yes, real torches with fire coming out of the top! What a cool tradition!

Sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-grade students at Mother Seton School (MSS) got to experience our own little torch run. Our amazing Spanish teacher, Mrs. Thomas, gave us torches, and I know what you're thinking: REAL torches? No! Mrs. Thomas brought in inflatable torches, and each class split into two groups. We ran to the sidewalk and back and handed the torch off to our teammate. It's a day I don't think any of us will forget!

You guys think that's fun? This month is Hispanic Heritage Month! Celebrate with your own families or do some research, because there are a lot more super cool and fun things that Hispanic countries celebrate.

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If you know the history of ancient Israel, you'll know one of the most important events that the Bible records is the destruction of Jerusalem and the captivity of Judah by the Babylonians. 2 Chronicles 36:17-21: Therefore he brought up against them the king of the Chaldeans, who killed their young men with the sword in the house of their sanctuary and had no compassion on young man or virgin, old man or aged. He gave them all into his hand. And all the vessels of the house of God, great and small, and the treasures of the house of the Lord, and the treasures of the king and of his princes, all these he brought to Babylon. And they burned the house of God and broke down the wall of Jerusalem and burned all its palaces with fire and destroyed all its precious vessels. He took into exile in Babylon those who had escaped from the sword, and they became servants to him and to his sons until the establishment of the kingdom of Persia, to fulfill the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed its Sabbaths. All the days that it lay desolate it kept Sabbath, to fulfill seventy years.

What you might not be aware of is why God did that. It's right there in the text. The land had not kept its Sabbath. The weekly Sabbath, Saturday, which most people are familiar with, is not what is being referred to. Rather, this is the much more obscure yearly sabbath. Leviticus 25:1-7 commands the people not farm their land every seventh year. They were to rely on God to provide them with enough food.

As far as we can tell, that never happened. Not once did Judah follow God's law to leave the land alone every seventh year. As a result, they were punished for it.

The lesson for us is simple: there is no such thing as a small law when it comes to God. Although we might see the sabbatical year as an unimportant footnote, God clearly thought it was important enough to punish his people over. Therefore, we must pay close attention to God's law too.

We study God's law all of the time! We hope you come to worship Christ with us soon! We would love to meet you.

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MEADE TAKES COMMAND

BY RICHARD D. L. FULTON

Major General George Meade was assigned command of the Union Army of the Potomac during the Great Rebellion of 1861-1865 on June 28, 1863, after former commander General Joseph Hooker had resigned.

Meade was officially placed in command of that Union army while encamped at Frederick, after having been awakened from his sleep in his tent around 3:00 a.m. on June 28 by a courier who had been dispatched by President Abraham Lincoln to inform Meade that he was to immediately assume the command of the Army of the Potomac, according to "Frederick, Maryland – Meade Takes Command," as published at stonementals.com.

Meade "instantly" rose from commanding the 12,000 troops of the Union Fifth Corps to now commanding an army of some 100,000... this having taken place only three days before his then newly acquired army would collide with that of Confederate General Robert E. Lee's army, at Gettysburg.

A commemorative cover was issued denoting the change of command during the Civil War Centennial on June 28, 1963. The covers were canceled at the Frederick Post Office. In the example depicted, the images of Hooker and Meade are shown, along with their names, with the legend "1861-1865, 1961-1965 Civil War Centennial," and

"Serious-minded General Meade takes command of the Army of the Potomac at Frederick, Maryland, after Hooker is relieved."

The stamps used to "frank" the cover, in the example depicted, were the four-cent commemorative stamp issued regarding the Battle of Shiloh, and two ½ cent Benjamin Franklin regular issues (postage had been increased to 5 cents after the Shiloh stamp had been issued).

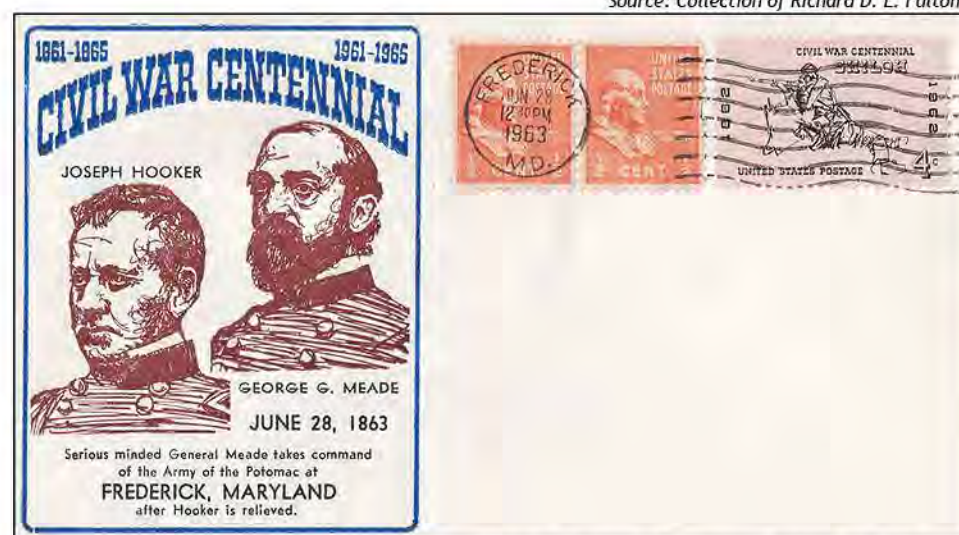
Meade was born on December 31, 1815, in Cádiz, Provincia de Cádiz, Andalucía, Spain, to parents Richard Worsam and Margaret Coats Meade, and had 11 brothers and sisters, including brothers Robert, Richard, and sisters unnamed infant (died at birth), Catherine, Henreita, Marianne, Elizabeth, Charlotte, Margaret, Maria, and Salvadora.

Meade's father was described as having been a wealthy Philadelphia merchant and had served as a military agent for the United States government, passing away in 1828, leaving the family facing serious financial straits, according to American History Central's website.

Meade enrolled in the United States Military Academy (West Point, New York) in 1832, graduating in 1835, ranking 19th in his class, and then subsequently enrolled in the 3rd U.S. Artillery, which was deployed to Florida in order to participate in the Second Seminole War.

He had resigned for a short time due to illness, but rejoined the Army in 1842 as a second lieutenant in the Corps of Topographical Engineers, while the Army was then engaged in the Third Seminole War.

However, before re-entering military service, Meade married Margaretta Sergeant in 1840. The couple subsequently gave birth to four children: sons John, George, and Spencer, and one daughter, Margaret.



June 28, 1963, commemorative cover denoting the change-of-command during the Great Rebellion.

Meade gained further military experience during the Mexican-American War, where, in 1845, he served as a staff officer and was subsequently promoted for gallantry to the rank of first lieutenant.

From there, he continued as a military engineer, designing Barnegat Lighthouse on Long Beach Island, Absecon Lighthouse in Atlantic City, and Cape May Lighthouse in Cape May, and in Florida, according to the thelatinlibrary.com, and he remained in that position until the opening shots of the Great Rebellion in 1861.

Until his appointment as the commander of the Army of the Potomac, he led troops in the battles of the Peninsula Campaign,

the Northern Virginia Campaign, Antietam, Fredericksburg, and Chancellorsville.

After being placed in charge of the Army of the Potomac, he led his forces in the Battle of Gettysburg, the Bristoe Campaign, the Mine Run Campaign, the Overland Campaign, the Richmond-Petersburg Campaign, and, finally, the Appomattox Campaign.

However, in 1864, when Lieutenant General Ulysses S. Grant was placed in command of all Union armies, Meade was still in charge of the Army of the Potomac, under the overall command of Grant.

Meade passed away on November 6, 1872, in Philadelphia. He was then buried in the Laurel Hill Cemetery in Philadelphia.

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The King's Gambit

written by
JAMES RADA, JR.

10: Betrayal

Lou Preston's eyelids fluttered open to a room still half-draped in shadow, the dawn light too timid to chase away every dark corner. He sat up slowly, his muscles protesting, and realized he couldn't recall when or how he had drifted off the night before. The leather-bound journal of his great-grandfather lay cradled in his lap, its corners softened by years of handling. He had been lost in its faded ink when sleep claimed him.

He set the journal gently on the oaken nightstand, the wood cool beneath his fingertips, then swung his legs over the edge of the bed. The floorboards creaked under his feet. Through the window, the sky was paling to a misty blue—it was a little after six in the morning.

He stretched and shook his head to clear residual dreams. He picked up the journal and leafed through its pages again, the gritty texture of old paper under his fingertips, as if desperate to confirm he had not invented the revelation he'd glimpsed. Almost two days before the Civil War's fiercest clash, his great-grandfather, Major Harley Preston's old comrade Colonel Donaldson, had written of a rumored peace—an outcome Lou knew history denied. Something had gone terribly awry.

Brewed coffee called to him downstairs. He carried the journal down the creaking staircase and set it on the kitchen table. Steam curled up from the glass pot as he poured

a cup, the rich, earthy aroma enveloping him. Leaning against the sink, he sipped slowly, gazing out through the glass at the rounded silhouette of Little Round Top, still shadowed in the early light.

Lou's mind churned: how could David Donaldson, a Union officer with Confederate connections, have been so certain a treaty was imminent when, two days later, Gettysburg erupted in bloodshed? And if that promise of peace had been sabotaged, might that explain why Harley Preston never returned home to Erie?

June 30, 1863

I discovered a half-empty bottle of brandy in the tavern's dim corner, its golden liquid sloshing with promise. Back in my rented room, I poured a stiff dram, but my nerves refused to calm. Nightfall found Colonel Donaldson still absent when he meant to be gone only hours. Now the moon had climbed twice its height, and my anxiety mounted. I would have gone after him myself, but he ventured westward, and I had no map of his course.

From the window, I watched Emmitsburg's silent streets. Most townsfolk, unnerved by the Union encampment on their outskirts, had fled to safer havens; the remainder stayed shuttered indoors.

A sharp knock startled me. Heart pounding, I opened the door to find a dusty boy of ten, eyes wide.

"Are you Major Preston?" he asked, the cloak of night clinging to him.

At my nod, he handed over a folded scrap. Inside, in Donaldson's precise hand: "Give the boy two bits. He will bring you to me. Come quickly and alone."
— Donaldson.

"Who gave you this?" I asked.

"A man out near Zora. He's hurt. I said I'd get a doctor, but he sent me to get you."

"What does he look like?"

"He's a Union soldier like you, but older, with brown hair, a mustache, muttonchops."

"How is he hurt?"

The boy shrugged. "I don't know, but he was bleeding pretty bad."

I seized my saddlebags and hurried to the livery. As I cinched the saddle, the boy piped up, "He said I'd get two bits."

I offered him a quarter. His smile was fleeting in the lamplit darkness. I lifted him onto the horse's withers, then prompted my mount northwest, where a narrow trail curled into the nearby woods.

"Is there to be a battle here?" the boy ventured, voice small.

"That's what we're trying to avert," I replied, though my own confidence wavered.

He spoke of his father and brother—one dead at Antietam and the other still fighting somewhere in the South—and his mother's unending grief. His wide eyes reflected moonlight as he described

farm chores, tending ailing kin, and protecting his little sister.

After we passed the last outlying homes, the boy guided me down a faint track, overhung by low branches that brushed my shoulders. Then, from within tangled shadows, a figure detached itself—rifle barrel glinting in silver moonbeams.

"This is him," the boy nearly shouted.

Alarm jolted through me: a trap! The rifle cracked. I threw myself from the saddle as the shot screamed overhead. I was looking away at the time, so I wasn't blinded by the gunpowder flash. The horse bolted, neighing into the night. The boy's startled cry echoed as I dove for my pistol.

I saw the attacker rush at me in broken glimpses, stark contrasts of shadow and light. I swung my pistol in wide arcs until finally his face surfaced. He leveled his rifle. I squeezed the trigger, but before I could react, a second shot rang out. The man fell.

From behind an oak stepped Colonel Donaldson, limping, coat spotted dark. He holstered his weapon and inquired, breathless, "Are you all right?"

I stared at the corpse, then back at him. "What happened?"

"He ambushed me earlier and killed my Confederate contact," Donaldson panted, voice hoarse. "He nearly killed me."

 Continue reading story on page 43

The colonel limped over to the dead man and rolled him over. I joined him. He lit a match.

"Do you recognize him?"

I did. I didn't know who he was, but I recognized his face. I had seen him somewhere.

"I don't know his name, but I have seen him before," I said.

"Very good, Preston. He was one of the soldiers at the door to the Daughters of Charity building."

"He's Union? But why would he ambush us?"

"Perhaps he was ordered to."

Things started falling into place. "Why? Who would order him to? General Meade?" It didn't make sense, but it was the only thing that did make sense.

"He followed me out here to stop the exchange." Donaldson had come to exchange signed copies of a document that would end the war with a Confederate officer sent by Jefferson Davis.

"But why? The general wouldn't go against the president," I asked.

"Remember the agent in Frederick last year?"

"This soldier is a sympathizer?"

"I doubt it. He was probably just following orders from the general, but the general..."

"You're not saying Gen. Meade is a sympathizer." I liked Colonel Donaldson, but I wasn't about the stand for him accusing General Meade of treason.

"He doesn't have to be. The South is not the only place where there are war profiteers. All it would take is one who has Meade's ear."

"That would be treason."

"A southern agent tipped the Union army to General Lee's movements. Is it so hard to believe it could happen here? It had to be Meade. He was the only one who knew why we are in town."

I noticed the spreading stain at his collar. Donaldson was bleeding.

"Where's the boy?" I asked.

"He fled with your mount. We cannot risk a second ambush." Donaldson's face tightened. "I need paper, pen, light. I have them in my saddlebags."

We retraced our steps through moonlit woods until another body lay unmoving on the leaf-strewn ground—Donaldson's Confederate counterpart. The colonel paused, voice low: "He was a good man, though he answered the South's call more eagerly than this Union soldier did."

I extracted parchment, ink, and quill from his saddlebags and passed them to Colonel Donaldson. He braced the paper on the seat of his

saddle. Blood trickled from his mouth as he dipped his pen.

"What are you doing? We must get you a doctor," I protested.

Donaldson shook his head, eyes glazed. "Too late for that. They won't let peace stand—they'll strike down anyone who tries to make it happen. You must protect yourself... and the President."

"Protect from whom?"

He coughed, his hand trembling. "A conspiracy at the highest levels—war profiteers embedded in both North and South. I suspect General Meade's ear has been bought by men who profit from prolonging this slaughter." He paused, gathering strength for his final act. "It won't be the war's end that saves us now, but leverage. Hide these documents. They expose families who have committed treason and murder for profit." He pressed the confession into my hand:

"My name is Paul Dupont of the George Dupont Family of North Carolina. My family, along with others, has been working both on their own and in conjunction with other families to prolong the War of Rebellion. These families have committed treason and murder for no other reason but to profit off this war. The blood of the slain, in great part, stains their hands."

"I am also a victim of their treachery. You can see this confession is on the back of the peace they have finally managed to stop." On the reverse lay a peace agreement, bearing Jefferson Davis's signature—a treaty that might have ended the war months ago, if not for these hidden hands.

"I fear this will no longer be enough to end the war," Colonel Donaldson said. "The families I know of who are involved are..." He listed seven names. I knew two of them. "I swear to the truthfulness of this confession with by blood and my life." Then he took the document back and signed it.

He passed it back to me. "Hide that and let it be known that it exists. It will make them hesitate, and that will give you time to take the documents from my safe. They have more proof that shows the families were conspiring against their respective governments." Then he told me the combination to the safe in his office.

"How will these keep me safe?" I asked.

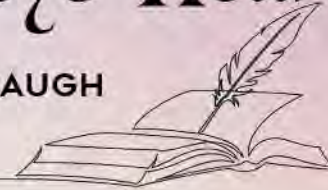
"These families have one face they show the world and one that stays in the shadows. They don't want the light shined on the latter.

POETRY

Send us your poetry: news@thecatocinbanner.com

"A Granny's Heart"

by SUE E. CLABAUGH



"Mom, do you think you could watch them for a few weeks?"

WELL SURE.

Ten years later, they are still here
ON LOAN.

Now baby blankets, binkies and booties
Turn into telephones, computers and cookies.
Doll babies, coloring books and crayons
Turn into volleyball, softball and tennis.
Playing dress-up with make-up and heels,
Turns into JUST RIGHT Jeans, t-shirts and sneakers.
Then one day Granny thinks – "I'll throw some of these things away,"
BUT Granny's HEART says – "There ain't no way!"
How can I throw that little blanket and binkie away?
And that baby doll in pink with her messed up hair.
Well Granny's heart says –
"She ain't going nowhere!"
and the little green stroller that they pushed their babies in
could never go to any trash bin.
Old toys, paint brushes and games are here still
But maybe one day I'll take them to Good Will.
and then it hits you—getting rid of all these things
can break a Grandmother's Heart

Not only would it destroy their profiteering, it might destroy their legitimate businesses and their reputations. Hide these tonight. Don't wait."

"Are you sure it will stop them?"

"Stop them? No. Protect you and the president. Yes. They won't make a move if they know those documents exist, and they haven't destroyed them."

"What about the peace?"

Donaldson sighed and shook his head. "It won't happen. At least not with this agreement. Meade won't stop, and Lee doesn't know we were on the cusp of peace. Another battle. Another wedge, and when Davis doesn't hear from his man, he will think himself betrayed." The colonel shook his head. "I tried. I tried my best. Tell the president I'm sorry."

Then he closed his eyes and slowly slid down the side of the horse to the ground.

I searched his neck for a pulse. Nothing.

Clutching the folded peace agreements to my chest, I felt the weight of history in my coat. The morning birds had begun their song beyond the trees. The coming storm of battle could not be halted. Gettysburg's fields lay ahead and would be stained with blood by day's end. I now carried proof of the treachery that had undone peace. I only wished that it could have been peace.

I rose, steeling myself for the journey to come. The truth, I hoped, might yet offer salvation—for the president, and for my own fragile soul.

Stay tuned for Part 11 in our November issue!



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GAMES

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Each month, you're invited to participate in our Where Am I? Photo Contest and Hidden Object Game. The winners of each game are announced in the next issue of *The Catocin Banner* newzine. Winners are given a gift certificate to the advertiser of their choice. To participate, call 301-241-9249 or email news@thecatocinbanner.com to record your guesses by the 15th of each month. Please don't forget to include your full name. Don't forget that you need to check the next month's issue to see if you won.

Please note: The contests are not based on who gets their guesses in first. Each month, we put all correct guesses in a "hat" and randomly draw a winner.

Where Am I? Contest

For the "Where Am I?" Photo Contest, take a look at the photo to the right and tell us where it was taken. It is somewhere in or around our Northern Frederick County Area, which is defined as Rocky Ridge to Cascade, Lewistown to Emmitsburg, Foxville to Creagerstown, and everywhere around and in-between. Good luck!



September's "Where Am I?" photo was taken at the E. Eugene Myers Community Park in Emmitsburg. The winner of the Where Am I? Contest for September's issue is Alicia Weber. Alicia, please select an advertising business from which you'd like your gift certificate. Then, contact The Catocin Banner at news@thecatocinbanner.com or call 301-241-9249, so we can mail you your prize!

Hidden Object Contest

The hidden object for September's issue was a tape dispenser. It was hidden on page 53 in the Affordable Self Storage ad. The winner of the Hidden Object Contest for September's issue is Grace Cassella. Grace, please select an advertising business from which you'd like your gift certificate. Then, contact The Catocin Banner email news@thecatocinbanner.com or call 301-241-9249, so we can mail you your prize! Happy hunting for this month's hidden object!

This month's hidden object is a Snickers candy bar  Good luck!

*Note: Hidden Object is always hidden in one of our advertiser's display ads.

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Get Your Funny On!

That's Country Wisdom

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Old Wise Farmer, this is a question that's confounded thinkers throughout the ages:

Which came Orst, The Chicken, or The Egg?

Welp, this mornin I set at Norma's Griddle & I got t' thinkin'... What do I want fer breakfast?

A Western omelet with Bacon- Natch! Coffee, too & I thought no more of it.

Then, later on, over at Larry's Lunchbox-

I was sittin' there and it hit me! Blazin', up above Larry's head like a sign!

Well, it was a sign, and it said:

Tonight's Special:
Fried CHICKEN

And that's when I knew the answer!

Well there you have it Folks! Another unanswerable question, answered by The Old Wise Farmer

Because we know: Country Wisdom is the Best Wisdom! Thank you

LOOK WHO TOOK US ALONG!

Thanks for taking *The Catoctin Banner* along on your travels!



Kathy Jaynes, owner of Artisan Thyme Cottage Market at 30 N. Altamont Avenue in Thurmont, traveled to Italy, visiting Todi, Rome, and Palermo, Taormina and Cefalù in Sicily.

Kathy poses with the Banner in Cefalù, Sicily, on May 10, 2026, to celebrate Mother's Day with her daughter, Jaimee Tennant (pictured below with mom, Kathy), owner of Jaimee Raneigh Photography in Tennessee.



~Thanks for taking us along, Kathy!
We appreciate you!



Owen, Aiden, and Addison Koontz visit the Louisville Slugger Museum & Factory while in Kentucky, and they didn't forget to take *The Catoctin Banner* along with them on their travels!



~Thanks for taking us along, Owen, Aiden, and Addison!

We appreciate you!



On their recent trip back to Ireland, Dave and Joe Ann Reid took *The Catoctin Banner* to the site in Belfast where the luxury liner Titanic was built. While this was Joe Ann's fourth trip to Ireland, it was Dave's fifteenth, and final, visit to the Emerald Isle.



~Thanks for taking us along, Dave and Joe Ann!

We appreciate you!



Tina Winfrey: "Once again, we took the Banner on our annual trip! This year, we stayed at Coconut Beach resort in St. Lucia."



~Thanks for taking us along on your annual trip!

We appreciate you!

TAKE US ALONG ON YOUR TRAVELS, ADVENTURES, AND DAY TRIPS send to: NEWS@THECATOCTINBANNER.COM

LOOK UP

BY MITCHELL TESTER

TIME ~ Part 3 ~

What fascinates me the most about the Big Bang theory—especially in the way that we theorize it now—is that the Big Bang lends to the idea that there was a start of this. Everything we know and love here on Earth, and beyond, is only encompassed in the amount of time since the Big Bang, nearly 14 billion years ago. As I said last month, we are only able to see far enough back to see the Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB), an opaque, dense particle soup that surrounds what we think of as the universe. CMB is direct evidence of the Big Bang, as it helps explain that at one point, there was not, and then at the point we are at now, there just is. We have no idea what is past this point, nor do we know what existed before time existed. Time has a beginning and an end. So, for this last part of “Time,” we will learn about the theories of the end of the universe that are widely accepted in the scientific community.

Big Freeze

We have talked about this before, but it is important that this is discussed again. The Sun, which is just an average-size star, has a finite amount of fuel to keep shining. It will eventually die out in roughly 5.8 billion years. So do not worry, readers; you will be able to read *The Catoctin Banner* for many, many years to come. Although, stars only existing for a finite amount of time does land us with an interesting question. Will all the stars die out eventually if the amount of matter and energy that is needed runs out? If the supply of gas runs out, then yes. It is true that there will come a point in time when the last star in our sky will slowly die, leaving the universe in darkness. This new dark universe will be covered in black holes from larger stars than our own. But the black holes, too, will eventually

disappear. This will leave the universe with nothing, in a certain sense, possibly leaving the universe much like how it was before time as we know it began, before the Big Bang.

Big Crunch

A large part of the most accepted theory of the Big Bang is cosmic inflation. The universe expanded ridiculously fast and is continuing to do so, faster and faster each nanosecond that passes. How it looks in the year 2026, it appears that the universe will not be running out of dark matter (energy that expands the universe) any time soon. This theory, though, states that eventually the universe will start contracting due to the average density of the universe in the future. What average density means in this case is that if this expansion keeps going on for billions and billions of years, the amount of matter in the universe would eventually be so large that the gravity of said matter would cause the space that we exist in to contract and, figuratively, crunch. Due to singularity not being as accepted today, this theory is also not as accepted, but is still considered nonetheless. All we know is that we know nothing.

Hypothetically, though, the Big Crunch states that all of the matter in the universe being contracted to one point would be what caused the singularity that our Big Bang could have come from (again, singularity theory is not widely accepted anymore). This crunch would cause another Big Bang to happen instantly after the crunch, which leads to a cyclic model of the Universe. Meaning that it repeats. But what came first? The Big Bang or the Big Crunch?

Big Slurp (Yeah, I don't know what they were thinking with these names)

Last month, we discussed what a false vacuum is. To explain again, a

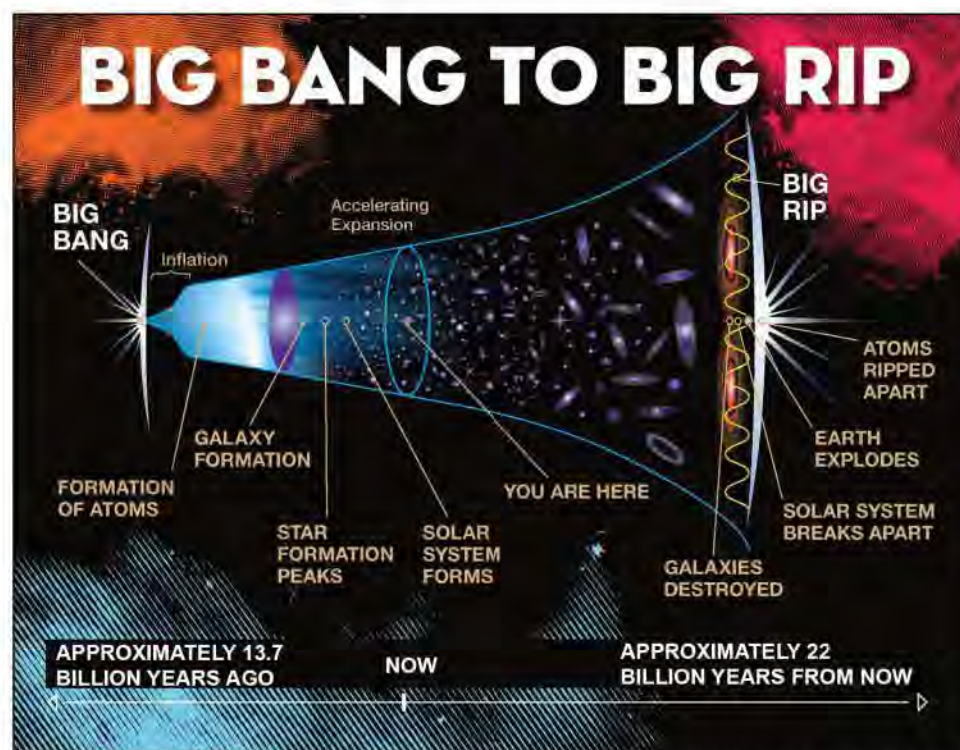
SPACE FACTS

Some Fun Space Facts You May Not Know:

Earth is the only planet in our solar system that has exactly one moon.

A single day on Pluto lasts 153 hours—about 6 Earth days long.

The ancient Romans named Mars after their god of war because its reddish color was reminiscent of blood.



Source: <https://www.snexplores.org/article/how-will-universe-end>

false vacuum is basically saying that space is not actually completely empty, as we now have a very good understanding of subatomic physics, learning that there is actually something smaller than an atom. Our own universe is likely a false vacuum.

This theory suggests that this false vacuum could, with a great amount of time, decay and become a true vacuum. This would result in a complete flip of the physics that we have studied since the start of the human race. Matter itself would change vastly. This would result in the universe changing in every conceivable way. The Big Slurp would not be able to reach all of the universe, though, as the rate of decay could not exceed the speed of light. This theory is similar to the Big Freeze in the sense that the bubble that the Big Slurp affects would most likely be chemically dead. Although understanding how our specific kind of physics works, really anything is possible as to what it would look like.

Kind Regards from the Universe

What fascinates me the most about theories of the universe is just how much it actually does not affect us. As said before, the Sun will only continue to live for around 5.8 billion years before it ultimately starts to die out.

Whether the human race finds a way to exist in 5.8 billion years or not, we cannot stay here on Earth. Mars is great for right now and for a long time, but just like Earth, it would not be viable when the Sun stops fusing hydrogen into helium, which is what allows us to live. We would need to seek outside the solar system, which is not exactly an easy task. Other planets in neighboring galaxies are incredibly far, taking 80,000 years to get to. Hopefully, we find a way to live in space, always on the figurative “road.” We would live as nomads in space, I guess. Everything that has existed in the human consciousness will end in a very physical sense at some point. But, of course, we do not know when; we can only hope that we can continue to exist outside of what we can physically see and exist in.

Astronomy has really taught me about what exists beyond what I can see. It has ultimately taught me something that my father has always told my siblings and me: “Everything is temporary.” It seems like he may be on to something.

Tune in next month for another edition of “Q’s.” In this one, I will be answering my friend Erin’s question, which is one I think you all will enjoy.

I hope you all have a wonderful October, and thank you, as always, for learning with me.



The Best Time to Start a Financial Plan is Now

BY TRICIA BUSH, CPA, CFP®
Owner, AAA Advisory LLC



DON'T LET YOUR CREDIT SCORE HAUNT YOU

October is the month of ghosts, goblins, and things that go bump in the night. But there's another kind of scary surprise that can show up when you least expect it: a credit score that has suddenly taken a nosedive.

The good news is that your credit score doesn't have to be a permanent haunting. Understanding what affects it can help you avoid some of the most common credit-score scares and, if your score has taken a hit, work your way back.

THE CREDIT SCORE MONSTERS

Your credit score is calculated using several factors, but some have a much bigger impact than others.

Payment history is the biggest one. Late payments can be particularly frightening because they can have a significant impact on your score. A payment that is 30 or more days late may be reported to the credit bureaus. The longer an account goes unpaid, the more serious the potential impact.

And here's where a seemingly harmless \$25.00 bill can become a very expensive ghost story.

Imagine you sign up for a streaming service, store credit card, or other accounts and select paperless statements. Months later, you've forgotten about the account or stopped checking the email associated with it. A \$25.00 charge goes unpaid. The balance grows, the account becomes delinquent, and eventually, the late payment is reported to the credit bureaus.

That \$25.00 missed payment could potentially cost you hundreds of credit-score points.

The best way to avoid this particular monster is simple: pay your bills on time, every time. Automatic payments can help make sure an occasional busy week or forgotten bill doesn't turn into a credit-score problem.

Then there's credit utilization, which is simply how much of your available credit you're using. For example, a \$3,000 balance on a card with a \$10,000 limit means you're using 30% of your available credit.

A high balance can give your credit score a fright, even if you pay the card in full every month. Credit card companies typically report your balance at a certain point in the billing cycle, which may be before you make your payment.

Lower is generally better. A good rule of thumb is to keep utilization below 30%, and below 10% is even better if you're trying to maximize your score. There's no magic percentage, though, so don't panic if your utilization occasionally creeps higher.

Another creature lurking in the shadows is applying for too much new credit at once. When you apply for credit, the lender may make a hard inquiry on your credit report. One inquiry generally isn't something to lose sleep over, but several applications in a short period can make you look like you're suddenly desperate for credit.

That doesn't mean you should never apply for a new card or loan. Just avoid opening multiple accounts simply because you're tempted by every rewards offer that comes your way.



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Your question could be answered
in a future issue!

THE SNEAKIEST SCORE CLOSING A CREDIT CARD

Here's one that surprises people. You might have an old credit card you rarely use and think, "Why am I keeping this thing open?" So you close it.

The problem? Closing a credit card reduces the amount of credit available to you, which makes your credit card balances a larger percentage of your available credit. It can also affect the length of your credit history.

That doesn't mean you should keep every credit card forever. There can be good reasons to close an account, especially if it has an annual fee or encourages spending you don't need. But before closing an old account, consider how it could affect your overall credit picture.

WHAT ABOUT THE OTHER SCARY STUFF

Bankruptcy, foreclosure, collections, and other major negative events can have a significant impact on your credit. But not every financial mistake is a permanent curse.

Your credit report contains your history, and negative information generally doesn't stay there forever. The exact reporting period depends on the type of information, so it's worth checking your credit reports and making sure the information being reported is accurate.

And that brings us to one of the easiest things you can do: check your credit reports.

You have access to free credit reports from the three major credit bureaus. Review them periodically for accounts you don't recognize, incorrect balances, inaccurate late payments, or other errors. You don't have to wait until you're applying for a mortgage to find out there's a problem.

HOW TO BANISH THE CREDIT SCORE GHOSTS

If your credit score has already taken a hit, don't panic. Improving credit is usually a marathon, not a magic spell. Start with the basics:

- Pay every bill on time.
- Pay down credit card balances, especially if they are high relative to your limits.

- Avoid applying for unnecessary new credit.
- Keep older accounts open when appropriate, particularly if closing them would significantly increase your utilization.
- Check your credit reports for errors and dispute inaccurate information.
- Give it time. Positive payment history and responsible credit use can gradually outweigh past mistakes.

And remember, a credit score is a tool, not a measure of your financial worth. A person can have a high credit score and still be struggling financially, while someone with a lower score may be making significant progress toward financial stability.

The goal isn't to obsess over getting the highest possible number. The goal is to build and maintain a credit history that helps you when you actually need it.

So, this Halloween, don't let your credit score become the thing that goes bump in the night. Check your reports, know what's affecting your score, and focus on the financial habits you can control.

Disclosure: This article is for educational purposes only and is not intended as financial or tax advice. Every financial situation is unique, and you should consult with a qualified professional before making decisions regarding your specific circumstances.



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October 5th, Served With Grace
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BY JEFF YOCUM

A Change of SCENERY

"A Change of Scenery" focuses on day trips from Thurmont that are within 150 miles (give or take). These trips will not include "Disney-level" destinations, but rather, lesser-known points of interest. The purpose of the article is to suggest venues for folks seeking a short, easily accessible change of scenery. In the process, hopefully something will be learned. Some will be historic, some cultural, and others just plain quirky. I confess an ulterior motive for writing this article: I have a wanderlust addiction.

How Majestic!



The Majestic's Grand Marquee.



The Lincoln Diner's dessert showcase.

Moving pictures were all the rage in 1925. That's the year Henry Scharf added an annex to the Gettysburg Hotel. The annex included more guest rooms, a gymnasium, and a 1,200-seat theater called the Majestic.

Just three years earlier, young Scharf was a freshman at Gettysburg College. He took control of the family's hotel business at just 19 years old when his father passed away.

The Majestic would see the full range of motion picture formats, from the silent pictures to today's CGI and AI films. The scope of the Majestic's productions is not limited to films. Live performances have been enjoyed by audiences since the completion of the Majestic's \$16.5 million renovation and 80th birthday in 2005. Performances include Broadway shows, classical and popular music, dance, comedy, children's shows, independent films, and cinematic classics.

President Eisenhower and First Lady Mamie were regulars. On one occasion in 1955, the Eisenhowers were attending the Majestic's 30th anniversary. It happened to

coincide with Mamie's birthday, so the audience sang "Happy Birthday" to her.

The harsh days of winter will be here soon enough. We all will be looking for reasons to get out of the house to shake off some of winter dreariness. Consider spending an evening or two enjoying some of the Majestic's charm. A visit to the

website will let you know all the upcoming events and what dates to mark your calendars for a night of entertainment at www.gettysburgmajestic.org.

If you want to make a whole evening of your excursion, grab a bite to eat at the Lincoln Diner, located directly across the street, featuring good American-style food and a display of desserts.

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- 🎃 Add bright colors or reflective tape to dark costumes and candy bags, so drivers can see you.
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- 🎃 Use non-toxic face paint instead of masks that can block vision. Wear well-fitting shoes and avoid long, trailing costume pieces to prevent tripping.
- 🎃 Only visit homes with a porch light turned on.
- 🎃 Walk facing traffic on the far edge of the road if there is no sidewalk.
- 🎃 Respect property. Walk on the pavement or driveway rather than cutting across flower beds or lawns.
- 🎃 Wait until you get home to sort and inspect all goodies. Throw away any unwrapped, opened, or suspicious items.

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LOOKING BACK

BY JAMES RADA, JR.

When the White House Moved to Gettysburg

Source: Screenshot taken from an old newsreel

One afternoon in August 1959, President Dwight Eisenhower walked into the Hotel Gettysburg wearing one golf shoe and one street shoe.

He had come to the hotel immediately after finishing a golf game and didn't notice his mix-up of shoes until he walked into the hotel lobby. A Secret Service agent rushed out to the car to get the other street shoe and brought it to the president.

The president wasn't the only person surprised. A number of people in the hotel hadn't been expecting him. According to the *Gettysburg Times*, only a handful of people had seen him arrive, but word spread through town quickly. When he left the hotel a half hour later, hundreds had gathered outside the hotel to wait for him to appear.

A young nine-year-old girl, Kit Campbell from Terre Haute, was visiting Gettysburg on vacation and was able to get the president's autograph.

"As the President entered his car for the three-mile trip back to his farm, Kit thrust a small notebook into an open window. Eisenhower, who doesn't grant many requests for autographs, signed it for her," the *Gettysburg Times* reported.

Eisenhower had come to the hotel because it was serving as the "temporary White House" during an extended working vacation



President Eisenhower speaking at a press conference in the Hotel Gettysburg ballroom in 1959.



The Hotel Gettysburg.

had to be rebuilt. One contemporary report said that Eisenhower's office was located in a three-room suite on the second floor (At the time, the hotel only had three floors). A moving truck brought his White House desk and other furniture to the hotel for his use.

The hotel's ballroom was used as the press room from 1955 through 1959. In some reports, this is called a gymnasium adjacent to the hotel. Guest rooms were used as needed for other offices and temporary accommodations.

The arrangement worked well enough. On August 12, 1959, Eisenhower held a presidential news conference in a gymnasium adjacent to that office, attended by 95 reporters. The nearby Majestic Theater (which is connected to the hotel today) was used for the White House press operation, giving Press Secretary James Hagerty room to brief reporters and giving journalists space to prepare and transmit their stories.

During this time, Eisenhower lived and entertained at the farm. He would golf in the morning, then return home for a while. He would spend about an hour in the office attending to essential items that could only be handled by the president. Then he would return to the farm for lunch. If he needed to meet with other leaders or officials, he did it at the farm.

It was during this working vacation that he returned from a conference in Europe at the end of August. He spent time in Gettysburg preparing for a meeting with Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev about the Berlin crisis. Although the White House had shifted back to Washington, D.C., when Khrushchev arrived in mid-September, Eisenhower did meet with the premier at Camp David and took him to visit the Gettysburg farm.

the president had taken. He had decided to spend more time at his farm in Gettysburg for a while, but he couldn't ignore the needs of the country.

It was done with some planning, unlike the first time Eisenhower had created a temporary White House, which had been done out of necessity. In 1955, while recovering from a heart attack, White House operations had been moved to the Eisenhower Farm, just south of Gettysburg. He had recuperated in his comfortable surroundings while using his den as a place to conduct the business of the country.

Because of the additional planning and the previous experience of working from his home, officials realized that the farm couldn't accommodate offices for White House staff, communications, the press operation, and meetings. Not only was more space needed, but more of the right type of space.

The president's temporary Oval Office was on the hotel's main floor and is now identified as the Eisenhower Room. It is not entirely original and may not be the exact dimensions or locations since a fire gutted the hotel in 1983, and it

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Pre-AI Retouching



Photo Courtesy of Wikipedia Commons

The Blue Mountain House near the Western Maryland Railway was part of Pen Mar Park. James S. Humbird built the Ephraim Francis Baldwin-designed resort in 1882. It was the best known of the hotels in the Pen Mar, Cascade, and Blue Ridge Summit area. It was a resort built to serve wealthy visitors to the park.

Blue Mountain House had 300 rooms that could accommodate at least 500 guests. It had a large dining room, parlors, veranda, and other public areas.

A 1913 fire destroyed the building.

This picture shows the front of the Blue Mountain House and its 500-foot-long veranda.

Using ChatGPT, the original image gets colorized, sharpened, and repaired to let you see history more clearly.

Post-AI Retouching



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VETERAN SPOTLIGHT

BY RICHARD D. L. FULTON

PFC Annon C. Shriner KIA on D-Day

**THANK
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Annon C. Shriner was born on November 13, 1909, in Frederick County, to parents Cornelius "Neale" and Fannie Shriner. His first place of residency was recorded as having been in Emmitsburg.

Shriner had eight siblings. Four brothers: Harry (or Charles, depending on the source used), Carl, Maurice, and Emanuel (also listed as Manuel), and four sisters: Bruce Irene, Mary, Edith, and Vada.

In 1920, his residence was listed as being in Mechanicstown by Ancestry, an odd town designation for 1920, being that the name of Mechanicstown had been changed to Thurmont in 1894.

His enlistment records indicate that he had only completed grammar school, and at the time of his enlistment, he was recorded as being single and without dependents.

According to an article published on August 16, 1944, in *The (Frederick) News*, several interviewed by the newspaper stated that Shriner had been employed "as a farm laborer in



American troops approaching Omaha Beach on D-Day, June 6, 1944.

the vicinity of Thurmont" before entering the military service.

Shriner enlisted in Company A of the 115th Infantry Regiment of the Maryland National Guard in October 1940, which subsequently became Company A, 115th Infantry Regiment in the 29th Infantry Division in World War II in 1941.

His rank at the time of his enlistment, up until the time of his death, was private first class (PFC).

According to U.S. Army Divisions' website (armydivs.com), the 115th Infantry Regiment had trained in Maryland, Virginia, North and South Carolina, and Florida, before being deployed from New York to England in October 1942, where the division had spent more than a year before being deployed to Normandy Beach on D-Day, June 6, 1944.

The website noted, that the 29th Division was ordered to serve

as the follow-up infantry to the main assault, and "Its companies landed amid the confusion east of St. Laurent, moved inland after the first assault waves, and began pushing toward the Longueville area."

According to various records, Shriner was killed on Omaha Beach amid the initial landings, along with eight other Frederick County soldiers with the 115th Infantry Regiment.

The 115th Infantry Regiment landed at Normandy Beach with 3,327 troops, suffering some 103 casualties on Omaha Beach, which included 33 killed in action. The 29th Division had sustained 743 casualties (killed and wounded) by their having stormed the beaches and adjoining high ground.

Combined with the other United States units involved in taking Omaha Beach, the military had

suffered a total of 2,400 troops (included killed, wounded, and missing in action) of the 34,250 troops involved, resulting in the beach being called "Bloody Omaha."

The News reported on August 16, 1944, "Another Frederick County man who left here in 1941 with Company A, 115th Infantry, was reported having been killed in action (on D-Day, July 6) Tuesday night."

The newspaper noted that his mother had been notified of her son Shriner's death, at her home "near Apples' Church Road" near Thurmont. On August 25, 1944, the newspaper further reported that she had been quite ill at his home near Thurmont, when she had received word of her son's death.

Shriner's father had previously passed away in 1941.

Shriner's funeral service was held on April 3, 1949, at a funeral home in Thurmont, with services conducted by the Reverend Ivan G. Naugle and the Reverend William E. Fox, and attended to, among others, by former members of the Company A, according to a story published in the April 11, 1949, edition of *The Frederick Post*.

No official records were located by this writer as to where Shriner's body had been deposited prior to 1949, but clearly, he had more than likely been buried in one of the Normandy cemeteries, until his body could be returned to the United States, as his interment in Thurmont was referred to as a "re-interment."

Burial took place in the United Brethren Cemetery (Wellers United Brethren Cemetery) in Thurmont.

Shriner was awarded the Purple Heart, posthumously.



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news@TheCatoctinBanner.com

Thurmont AMVETS Post 7, Thurmont

Come out to Thurmont AMVETS Post 7, located at 26 Apples Church Road in Thurmont, for lunch and dinner every Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, from 12:00 to 7:00 p.m., with weekly specials Wednesday through Saturday, from noon to 7:00 p.m. Check out the Friday Night Special: Bucket of Domestic Beer and an appetizer for only \$20.00! Follow them on Facebook for the weekly menus, featuring a variety of delicious food! View the advertisement on page 60.

Every Thursday is Bar Bingo at AMVETS Post 7! Enjoy cash prizes, drinks, food, and fun! Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Bingo is open to the public. Come early; it fills up quickly! Check out the advertisement on page 15.

The AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary Post 7 is holding a Lottery Fundraiser for Scholarships. They will be selling lottery tickets from November 9 through December 17. The drawing will take place on December 17 during Maryland's Pick 3 Lottery evening drawing. Only 100 tickets will be sold. The winner wins \$500. Ask an Auxiliary member for tickets. View the advertisement on page 32.

Like to laugh? Come out to AMVETS Post 7 on October 16 for a Stand-Up Comedy Show from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.! The cost is \$30.00. You can buy your tickets at AMVETS Post 7. There will be an All-You-Can-Eat Wing Buffet for \$18.99. View the advertisement on page 13.

The Thurmont AMVETS Post 7 is holding its annual Sportsman Drawing & Dinner on Saturday, October 31. Doors open at 4:00 p.m. Dinner is at 5:00 p.m. Drawing includes 12 guns and a Losers Jar. The cost is \$35.00 per person. Check out the advertisement on page 14.

Thurmont AMVETS Post 7 is now hosting live music! The upcoming schedule for October is as follows: October 3—Firehouse DJ, 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.; October 17—Tune Shifters Band, 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.; October 23—Lauren Hill, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.; October 24—Truck Stop Burritos, 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. Don't miss out! The public is welcome. There is no cover charge. Food is available for purchase until 7:00 p.m. View the advertisement on page 48.

American Legion Post 168, Thurmont

We had such a good turnout at the Legion Membership Picnic! Crabs, Chicken, Corn on the Cob, Crab Soup, and more were enjoyed by members and their guests. Remember to pay your dues by December 31, 2026, so that you can join us next year. Not a member? If you are a Veteran, stop by the Legion and pick up an application. If you are a Son of a Veteran or a Spouse, Daughter, Granddaughter, we have applications for you as well. Thanks to all who donated their \$10.00 ticket refund to assist with shipping snacks to the Deployed Unit we have adopted.

Speaking of adoption, the Legionnaires, SAL, and Auxiliary have adopted a Military Unit that is deployed, and we are actively collecting snacks through February and hoping to ship them monthly. Items include, but are not limited to, jerky, energy bars, protein bars, microwavable Easy Mac, Cup of Noodles, and candy (no chocolate). Drop your donations off daily, from noon to 10:00 p.m. There is a collection bin in the lobby and various businesses around town: Beautiful You Salon and Spa (Lori Shank), Bollinger's, Intowne Barber Shop, and Kountry Kitchen, to name a few.

Octoberfest is quickly approaching! Once again, the Legion will have vendors on our property, so come check out what they have. The kitchen will be open with a special Octoberfest menu, plus a Beer Garden to rest at during your shopping! The Auxiliary will have a snack shop, so there will be something for everyone! As with any event, volunteers are needed to help things run smoothly. Stop by the Legion and sign up in the volunteer book, or visit the Thurmont Legion website <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044FA4A922A1F9CE9-65478399-colorfest#/>.

We are having a new event this year! A Military Ball will be held on Saturday, November 14, 2026, from 4:00 p.m. to midnight. This will be a semi-formal event, with guest speakers, music and dancing, and a cash bar. Check out the advertisement on page 5 for more details.



Halloween Idioms

Skeleton in the closet: A shameful or shocking secret kept hidden from others.

Ghost town: An area that's empty and devoid of life or activity.

Night owl: A person who loves staying up late.

Digging your own grave: Doing something that will cause your own future trouble or downfall.

Make one's blood boil: To cause a person to become very angry.



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Losing Weight After 40

The Top 4 Ways to Shed Pounds

BY DR. THOMAS K. LO, Advanced Chiropractic & Nutritional Healing Center

With busy schedules and easily accessible processed and fast foods everywhere, losing weight after 40 can seem like a difficult task.

It is a common assumption that your metabolism slows down after your 20s or 30s; new research is suggesting this isn't necessarily true. It's now thought that you burn roughly the same calories from your 20s until your 60s, which means losing weight after 40 has more to do with your lifestyle than your genetics or age.

When it comes to trimming down, keeping fit and losing belly fat, exercising and eating a healthy diet are both key, as are getting enough sleep and keeping stress in check.

Weight Gain vs. Losing Weight After 40

Recent research shows that, on average, adults gain about one or two pounds per year during adulthood. This might not seem like a lot, but it adds up overtime.

Creeping weight gain at this rate equates to gaining about 10–20 extra pounds each decade. From someone's early 20s to early 50s, this could mean carrying around an extra 20, 30, or even 40 pounds.

Women who struggle to lose weight during middle-age often blame it on their hormones or slowing metabolisms because weight gain during menopause is very common. Statistics show that many women tend to gain about five to 15 pounds on average during and shortly after menopause.

Why You Gain Weight After 40

A pivotal August 2021 study published in the journal *Science*, which included data from roughly 6,500 people, ranging from infants to 95-year-olds, discovered that the main reason people gain weight mid-life is because they eat more calories than they burn—not because their “metabolism is slowing down.”

The study also found that there were no real differences between the metabolic rates of men and women after controlling for other factors like

body size. (It takes more calories to maintain a larger body mass, which most men have compared to women.)

The main findings of the study, which focused on weight gain across one's lifestyle due to changes in metabolism, found that metabolic rates can roughly be divided into four distinct stages of life: Stage 1—Up until age 1, calorie burning is at its peak; Stage 2—From age 1 to about age 20, metabolism gradually slows by about 3 percent a year; Stage 3—From age 20 to 60, one's metabolic rate roughly remains steady; Stage 4—After age 60, one's metabolism declines by 1 percent a year.

Then why is it difficult to lose weight after 40? There are several reasons that someone might struggle to maintain a healthy weight mid-life, such as:

- Reduced muscle mass, mostly due to having a sedentary lifestyle and completing less daily physical activities.
- High calorie consumption, due to eating a diet high in processed foods (or even worse, ultra-processed foods).
- Low intake of antioxidants, fiber, vitamins, minerals, and healthy fats like omega-3s.
- Insulin resistance, which often interferes with your appetite and can lead to more weight gain in the midsection.
- Chronic stress and depression, which increases cortisol and other “stress hormones” that can lead to fat accumulation, plus cravings.
- Sleep deprivation, which interferes with normal metabolic functions and is associated with obesity, hypertension, and other metabolic disorders.
- Use of some medications, such as antidepressants, that can contribute to weight gain.

How to Lose Weight After the Age of 40

Losing weight after 40 should basically be approached in the same way it would be if you were 30 or 50.

Following are a few ideas to help you start losing weight after 40:

1. Clean Up Your Diet

First and foremost, it's important to become more aware of your food choices and how many calories you consume on average. A food journal can be a great way to do this, since it sheds light on your habits and patterns that you may be overlooking.

Experts believe that food tracking, such as keeping a log or using a phone app, can help with maintaining long-term weight loss.

To help prevent weight gain and encourage weight loss in your 40s, make it a priority to choose lower-calorie, nutrient-dense foods.

Remove as much processed food from your diet as possible, especially calorie-dense ones like desserts, chips, fried foods, pizza, processed meats, frozen meals, and sugary drinks. Many studies show that limiting consumption of ultra-processed foods may be the most effective strategy for obesity prevention and treatment, since processed foods considerably increase how many calories people consume.

Choose real, whole food instead. Try eating mostly things that are one or two ingredients and free of added sugar, preservatives, fat, and flavors.

Fill up on high-fiber foods, like vegetables, fruits, salads, beans, broth-based soups, and whole grains. These foods make you feel fuller, are high in nutrients and are generally low in calories.

Include some protein with every meal, which helps to control your appetite.

Pay attention to portions sizes. Practice mindful eating, and notice how much food you consume with each meal and how often you snack. Be especially careful to limit portions of sugary foods, refined carbs (like bread, pasta, rice), and high-fat

dressings and seed oils. (Fat in your diet is essential, but portion control is important.)

Consider trying intermittent fasting, which usually means fasting for about 13 to 16 hours a day and eating only within the remaining hours. This tends to reduce people's overall calorie intake and makes them think more carefully about their choices—plus, it benefits many metabolic and immune functions.

2. Meal Prep to Take Control of Your Calorie Intake

Try to set aside a few hours each week for grocery shopping and meal preparation, which will prevent you from eating out often and limit last-minute decisions that can be unhealthy ones.

Many people have success with meal prepping on the weekends, such as by making a few staples each week, including some vegetables, healthy protein, and some nutritious on-the-go snacks.

Cutting up fresh fruits and vegetables to have on hand in the refrigerator is another good food habit to get into.

3. Exercise Consistently

To maintain muscle mass, mobility, and overall functionality, keep incorporating movement and different types of exercises into your daily routine.

As you age, you might find it harder to do high-intensity workouts, but things like brisk walking, jogging, using an elliptical, weight training, swimming, and cycling are still great options.

Ideally aim for a mix of aerobic and resistance-training exercises each day. This combination is beneficial for muscle growth, your heart, metabolism, brain, and immune system.

Strength/resistance training is especially helpful for maintaining a healthy metabolic rate, since muscle requires more energy (calories) to be maintained.

In addition to exercising, try to limit the amount of time that you're

■ continue reading on Page 55



■ Ask Dr. Lo — continued from page 54

sedentary each day, such as watching TV, sitting while using a computer, etc. Build more movement into your day by walking around, taking the stairs, doing housework, and so on.

4. Get Enough Sleep and Manage Stress

Sleep deprivation messes with many important hormones and is associated with an increased risk of obesity and diabetes.

Chronic stress can also cause weight gain because it increases production of cortisol, a hormone that can cause an increased appetite and more fat to be stored in your belly.

Both can make it harder to have the energy to be active during the day. Studies show that being tired tends to worsen cravings for unhealthy foods, and it interferes with how your body regulates insulin and glucose.

There are some helpful ways to deal with stress and promote better sleep to help with losing weight after the age of 40.

Aim to sleep between seven and nine hours per night, which is what most adults need to remain metabolically healthy.

Establish good sleep habits, such as creating a “wind down” bedtime routine that makes you feel calm. Try to go to sleep and wake up at roughly the same time each day. This regulates your circadian rhythm (aka your internal clock), which plays a role in your metabolism. Make a point to disconnect from your digital devices at night, including your phone, TV, and computer, so blue light emitted from these devices doesn’t make you feel restless.

To relieve stress, try breathing exercises, yoga, meditation, reading, journaling, therapy, and spending time in nature. All of these can help trigger the body’s relaxation response, and they may improve your sleep.

Limit how much caffeine and alcoholic drinks you consume, especially close to bedtime. Experts recommend no more than one drink a day for women and no more than two a day for men.

During the daytime, get some sunlight exposure. This can help normalize your circadian rhythm, and it will increase your vitamin D levels. Studies show that people with normal vitamin D levels tend to have an easier time shedding weight than those who are deprived.

What About Losing Weight After 50?

The weight loss tips above apply to adults in their 50s, too. It’s all about eating well, moving more, and taking good care of yourself holistically.

You may have to adjust the types of exercise you do as you age, but this should naturally lead to a lower appetite if you’re less active. By focusing on a clean diet, mindful eating and portion control, you should be able to adjust your calorie intake as you get older to meet your body’s demands.

Risks and Side Effects of Losing Weight

When it comes to weight loss, slow and steady is usually the best approach, rather than following fad diets and drastically cutting calories.

To lose weight safely and keep it off, try to reduce your daily calorie intake by about 300-500 calories. This should lead to about a one- to two-pound loss per week.

Keep in mind that once you’ve lost weight, you’ll need to maintain it by continuing to live a healthy lifestyle. Your metabolism adjusts to weight loss by lowering your calorie needs, so continue emphasizing healthy, whole foods.

If you are struggling with health issues, call the Advanced Chiropractic & Nutritional Healing Center at 240-651-1650 for a free consultation. Dr. Lo uses Nutritional Response Testing® to analyze the body to determine the underlying causes of ill or non-optimum health. The office is located at 7310 Grove Road #107, Frederick, MD. Check out the website at www.doctorlo.com.

Source: draxe.com

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Recipe of the Month

BY MAXINE TROXELL

With the cooler weather on the way, this casserole will help warm you up. Who doesn't like casseroles made with vitamin- and potassium-rich potatoes? I hope you enjoy this one!

Ruth Chris AuGratin Potato Casserole

Ingredients

- 6 tablespoons salted butter
- 4 garlic cloves, peeled & minced
- 1 cup vegetable broth
- 1½ pounds russet potatoes, peeled & diced
- 1 cup shredded provolone, divided
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup thinly sliced yellow onion
- 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 1½ cups light table cream
- 2 cups shredded cheddar, divided
- ½ cup grated Parmesan, divided
- ¼ teaspoon black pepper

Directions

1. Melt the butter in a large pot over medium heat.
2. Once melted, add the onion and garlic, and sauté for 2 minutes.
3. Add the flour and stir to combine the roux. Cook, stirring frequently, for 1 minute.
4. Add the broth and cream to the pot, whisk to combine with the roux, and bring to a low simmer.
5. Once simmering, add the diced potatoes and cook, stirring occasionally, for 20 minutes or until the potatoes are tender.
6. Remove the pot from the heat and add 1 cup cheddar, ½ cup provolone, and ¼ cup Parmesan. Gently stir until the cheese has melted.
7. Season the mixture with salt and pepper.
8. Preheat the oven to broil on low.
9. Transfer the mixture to a casserole dish and spread it out in an even layer.
10. Sprinkle the casserole with the remaining cheeses and place it in the oven.
11. Broil for 5 to 8 minutes or until bubbly, melty, and lightly browned.
12. Remove the casserole from the oven, and garnish it with chopped parsley before serving.

Enjoy!



eat well feel good



Recipe: <https://allthehealthythings.com>

Fall Sheet Pan Dinner

Easy Prep • Easy Cleanup • Flavorful

What You'll Need for the Marinade

- ¼ cup olive oil
- 1 teaspoon salt, plus more to taste
- ¼ teaspoon black pepper
- ¼ teaspoon sweet paprika
- ¼ teaspoons fresh thyme
- 2 tablespoons dijon mustard
- 1 tablespoon apple cider vinegar

What You'll Need for the Chicken Sausage & Veggies

- 1 lb. chicken apple sausage (5 links), sliced into rounds
- 1 lb. sweet potatoes, peeled & diced
- 1 small to medium red onion, diced into large chunks
- 16 oz. brussel sprouts, halved
- 5 cloves garlic, minced
- chopped parsley & green onion, for serving



How to Make It

1. Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Make the marinade: Whisk together all of the marinade ingredients until well combined.
2. Add the sausage, sweet potatoes, red onion, Brussels sprouts, and garlic to a large mixing bowl. Pour the marinade over the sausage and veggies and then toss until well combined.
3. Transfer the sausage and veggies onto a large sheet pan lined with parchment paper and arrange in a single layer, making sure the Brussels sprouts are cut side down.
4. Bake the chicken sausage and veggies for 25-30 minutes or until the potatoes are tender, tossing halfway through.
5. Remove the sheet pan from the oven and sprinkle a bit of parsley and green onion over top. Serve immediately and enjoy!



BY JAMES RADA, JR.

**Note: Newspaper excerpts are as they appeared in their respective issues.*

October 1926, 100 Years Ago

Two Year Term Given Man For Forgery Charge

Found guilty on two charges of forgery, Martin L. Benner, of Thurmont, was sentenced to two years in the Maryland House of Correction on each of the two charges, the sentences to run concurrently. He was tried before the court. Judges Worthington and Peter. The amount involved \$75.

— *The (Frederick) News*, October 18, 1926

Repair Bridges Following Floods

Bridges throughout Frederick county are being rapidly repaired since the recent rains and are now open to the unusually heavy travel of Fair week. Roads are being put in shape, and travel is becoming easier for persons residing in outlying districts.

...In the Thurmont area two concrete bridges have been opened to travel.

— *The (Frederick) News*, October 19, 1926

October 1951, 75 Years Ago

Hit-Skip Driver Surrenders After Death

State Police Monday afternoon formally charged Nathan Luther Valentine, 39-year-old mechanic of near Thurmont, as the driver of a car that fatally injured Ernest Powell, 71, also of Thurmont, on the southern edge of Thurmont last Saturday night.

The driver of the death-car had been widely sought since it fled the scene.

Mr. Powell died two hours after being struck by the car..

— *Emmitsburg Chronicle*, October 19, 1951

Sportsmen Ask Return Of Catoctin Area

Efforts were begun Sunday to have the Catoctin Recreational Area, Thurmont, turned back to the State of Maryland. The section is now under Federal operation.

Action was taken Sunday, by the League of Maryland Sportsmen, meeting in Hagerstown, by adopting a resolution calling on the Government to turn over the recreational area in Northern Frederick County to the state.

The National Park Service now controls the 5,000-acre area. The resolution asked that the land and improvements thereon be placed under state control.

— *Emmitsburg Chronicle*, October 26, 1951

October 1976, 50 Years Ago

Town Damaged By Flood Waters

Flash Floods, Tornado warnings. You name it and it was forecast for Emmitsburg and Frederick County early Saturday morning. As it turned out, the only thing missing was the tornado as Emmitsburg and surrounding area was hit with 6.07 inches of rainfall in a 24 hour period.

Residents are now busy digging out from under a disaster that some people are saying is worse than Tropical Storm Agnes which struck in 1972. The rains, which were heavy a week ago, were compounded by rains on Friday and Saturday, and saturated the already saturated ground and swollen streams. This produced flooded crops and basements; stranded motorists, damaged homes and businesses, felled trees, and caused heavy flood destruction that will result in considerable cost to area residents.

— *Emmitsburg Chronicle*, October 14, 1976

Deputy Superintendent Retires

Lieutenant Colonel Woodrow W. Crobin, who rose to the position of Deputy Superintendent, has retired after serving 38 years with the Maryland State Police. Colonel

Corbin, who spent his entire career in the operations area of the department, participated in all but two of the major disaster and disturbances that the State Police handled during his years of service.

Colonel Corbin received five Superintendent's Commendations for outstanding police performance and was awarded three Governor's Commendations besides receiving a joint Maryland Senate-House resolution. His first commendation was awarded by Governor Herbert R. O'Connor for his speedy, efficient and fearless participation at a major riot at the Maryland House of Correction in 1945. Governor W. Preston Lane, Jr. awarded Corbin a commendation in 1947 following a high speed pursuit and apprehension of an armed man in a stolen car who had just run down a Hagerstown policeman.

— *Emmitsburg Chronicle*, October 21, 1976

October 2001, 25 Years Ago

Chris Stahley Resigns as Town Commissioner

In a letter to Mayor William Carr dated September 12, 2001, Commissioner Chris Stahley resigned his position as commissioner of the Town of Emmitsburg.

"In all fairness to the citizens of Emmitsburg," he said, "I feel I cannot fulfill my duties because of my work schedule, civic commitments, and my two children."

Mr. Stahley is a 911 Dispatcher for Frederick County and has been an active member of the Vigilant Hose Company since he was 18.

He was elected commissioner in the spring of 2000 and was serving as the liaison to the Streets Committee. Mayor Carr accepted the resignation with regret and thanked Mr. Stahley for what he has done for Emmitsburg.

— *The Dispatch*, October 2001

New Principal for Catoctin High School

A new principal welcomed students to Catoctin High School this school year. Ann Bonitatibus replaces former principal Marty Tarr.

Ms. Bonitatibus was appointed by the Frederick County Board of Education after serving most recently as principal at New Market Middle School. Prior to New Market, she held the position of assistant principal at Frederick High School and at Thomas Johnson High Schools. Originally from Erie, Pennsylvania, Mrs. Bonitatibus moved to Maryland to begin her teaching career in math and English. She now resides in Adamstown with her husband.

— *The Emmitsburg Regional Dispatch*, October 2001

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THURMONT SENIOR CENTER

BY TARA MILLER

806 E. Main Street • 301-271-7911

Fall Brings a Full Calendar of Activities to the Thurmont Senior Center

As October arrives, the Thurmont Senior Center is welcoming fall with a mix of familiar weekly programs, special events, educational opportunities, and plenty of chances for local seniors to gather and socialize.

The month begins with Craftin' in the Catoctins, the center's weekly creative program. October projects include Mini Canvas Art on October 1, Picture Perfect Pumpkins on October 6, Scarecrows on October 15, and an Upcycled Wine Bottle Vase on October 27. The center also continues its Stitch & Chat gathering, Cards & Games, and other regular social activities throughout the month.

Health and wellness remain an important part of the center's October schedule. Strength & Balance classes continue throughout the month, along with Chair Dancing on Monday afternoons and Zumba Gold with Kellie Bevard on Friday mornings. An Introduction to Tai Chi will be offered on October 7, 14, 21, and 28. On October 13, the center will host an Introduction to Forrest Bathing. A "Be Fall Smart" presentation by Pivot Physical Therapy on October 22 will focus on fall awareness and prevention.

October also offers several opportunities for personal wellness. Manicure Mondays will be held throughout the month by appointment, and a seated massage event with Marie is scheduled for October 15. A flu shot clinic



September birthdays (from left): James Ferry, Tammy Moser, John Leeland, Chuck Stottlemeyer, and Gene Coulby.

will be held October 19, and Medicaid and Medicare appointments will be available October 20 for those who call ahead.

Community and social activities continue to be a big part of life at the center. 50/50 BINGO will be held October 7 and 21 at 1:00 p.m. The center will also hold its monthly birthday party on October 16, giving members an opportunity to celebrate those with October birthdays.

The Thurmont Senior Center will also take part in the busy Colorfest weekend with a yard sale scheduled for October 8-10. Drop by and see all the treasures for sale.

On October 28, members will gather for a potluck luncheon and general meeting at noon. The month will wrap up with a Halloween Luncheon and Costume Contest on October 30.

With activities ranging from exercise and wellness programs to crafts, games, educational presentations, and special gatherings, October promises to be another busy month at the Thurmont Senior Center. The center continues to provide local 55+ seniors with opportunities to stay active, learn something new, and, perhaps most importantly, spend time with friends and neighbors.

Happy Fall!
MOUNTAIN VIEW
INC.
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Mulching • Hauling • Commercial Snow Removal**

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STEP PROGRAM FOR
YOUR YARD!**

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program to help your
landscape!*

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AERATION AND SEED!**

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Thurmont, Maryland

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Banner**

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IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN!

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OCTOBER 15TH 2026 THRU DECEMBER 7TH 2026

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- Enroll you in a new 2025 Rx plans (Part D) of Medicare.
- Help you apply for EXTRA HELP if needed.

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schedule an appointment:
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Thurmont, Maryland 21788**

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From Two Kittens to a Growing Rescue

The Story of Jellybean Rescue

What started in October 2023 with just two kittens and a simple idea has grown into a local rescue, caring for more than 40 cats and kittens. Jellybean Rescue was founded with the intention of fostering just a few kittens at a time and helping them find loving homes. But as anyone involved in animal rescue quickly learns, plans have a way of changing when there are cats in need.

"Just two kittens" soon became more, and the small fostering effort grew into Jellybean Rescue, an official 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Rocky Ridge.

Today, the rescue focuses on friendly cats and kittens, providing them with a safe place to stay while they wait for their forever homes. Before adoption, the cats are spayed or neutered and vaccinated, helping give each one a healthy start with their new family.

In its relatively short history, Jellybean Rescue has already helped more than 250 cats and kittens find adoptive homes. At any given time, there can be more than 40 cats and kittens in the rescue's care, each requiring daily feeding, cleaning, socialization, and plenty of attention. For the people involved with Jellybean Rescue, that personal attention is an important part of the work. Rescue isn't simply about providing food and shelter; it is also about helping cats feel safe, loved, and ready to become part of a family.

Volunteers are an important part of making that possible. Whether it is helping with daily cleaning and feeding or taking time to play with and cuddle the cats, those seemingly simple moments can make a big difference to an animal waiting for a home.

What began with two kittens has grown into a much larger commitment to the cats of the community. And while the number of cats needing help continues to change, the goal remains the same: to give friendly cats and kittens the care they need and the opportunity to find loving, permanent homes.

Jellybean Rescue can be contacted at jellybeanrescue19@gmail.com or through its Facebook page at www.facebook.com/JellybeanRescue19. The organization also welcomes community members interested in volunteering their time to help care for the cats and kittens.

FREDERICK COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL & PET ADOPTION CENTER

PAT



#26-2201
AGE: 4Y
GENDER: FEMALE
BREED: DSH

BONNIE



#27-0308
AGE: 2.5Y
GENDER: FEMALE
BREED: TERRIER X

FOR MORE INFO CALL, 301-600-1546
SCHEDULE YOUR VISITATION AT
[VISITFCAC.AS.ME](https://visitfcac.as.me)



PET of the Month

Nola



Meet Nola Cove

Nola is a 10-year-old King Charles Cavachon and the beloved and adored pet of John and Renay Kovach of Emmitsburg. Her actual name is Nola Cove, but she's just Nola for short.

Nola loves long walks on Catoclin Mountain or a quick walk anywhere in town. But she especially loves having Bonkers doggy treats for a snack at night!

PET OF THE MONTH

SEND IN YOUR BEST PHOTO OF YOUR BEST BUDDY!

Pets make us healthier, they keep us active, they brighten our mood, and so much more! Send in your "best photo" of your "best buddy," and your pet could be "Pet of the Month" in a future issue! Make sure your photo is high resolution. PLEASE include pet's name, pet's owner's/family name(s), breed, age, personality traits, and any other fun details that you would like us to know about your best buddy!

send to: NEWS@THECATOCTINBANNER.COM



Check out our Yard Sale Guide, so you don't miss the best bargains and treasures in our communities!

ST. ANTHONY'S YARD SALE

October 8-11: 7 a.m.-2 p.m. St. Anthony's Shrine, Emmitsburg. Clothes, shoes, household items, and much more. Lots of good stuff! Yard sale benefitting St. Anthony's Shrine Cemetery.

FLEA MARKET

October 9-11: October 9 & 10—8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; October 11—11 a.m.-2 p.m. Mt. Tabor Church Park, 13616 Motters Station Road, Rocky Ridge.

GRANGE YARD SALE

October 9-11: October 9—11 a.m.-1 p.m.; October 10 & 11—9 a.m.-5 p.m. Proceeds benefit the Thurmont Grange. Located near the Carnival Grounds and Carroll Street in Thurmont.

YARD SALE

October 10: 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Mt. Pleasant Church Yard Sale, 24107 Foxville Road, Smithsburg.

HUGE YARD SALE

October 8-10: 7 a.m.-4 p.m. 13412 Myers Road, Rocky Ridge (Long driveway with brick pillars), Farmhouse & Primitive Home Decor, Furniture, Clothes (XS-3X), Shoes, Toys & Games, Seasonal Decor, Household Items, Classroom Decor & Supplies, and much more!

YARD SALE

October 8 & 9: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Items for sale include poker table, microwave, household items & much more! Come see what else we have at 7711 Blue Mountain Road, Thurmont.

YARD SALE W/ESTATE ITEMS

October 7-11: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Rain or Shine. Hillside Avenue, Thurmont. Vintage: Lenox, Glassware, Furniture, etc. Many Estate, Craft, HH items, Adult & Kids Clothing (lots of boys).

HUGE YARD SALE

October 9-11: 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Apples Church, 7908 Apples Church Road, Thurmont.

YARD SALE

October 8-10: 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Graceham Moravian Church, 8231-A Rocky Ridge Road, Thurmont.

GIANT YARD SALE

October 7-10: 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Harriet Chapel, 12625 Catoctin Furnace Road, Thurmont. Great items and great prices.

YARD SALE

October 10-11: October 10—7 a.m.-4 p.m.; October 11—7 a.m.-3 p.m. Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company, 13527 Motters Station Road, Rocky Ridge.

MULTI-HOUSE YARD SALE

October 8-9: 8 a.m. Bosc Court (Orchard Hills), Thurmont. Furniture, household items, clothes, baby clothes, baby items, home decor, and lots more.

REAL ESTATE SAVINGS Program



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THURMONT AMVETS POST 7



COME CHECK US OUT

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Wed thru Saturday, 12 PM - 8 PM
Follow us on Facebook at Amvets Post #7 for weekly menu
★ ★ Friday Night "Bucket of Domestic Beer" ★ ★ ★
& Appetizer for \$20.00

Non-Members must be signed in as a guest of a Member when coming into the Post for Thursday Night Bingo, Lunch and Dinners

**Every Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday
Open Lunch 12 to 3 PM and Dinner 4 to 7 PM**

26 Apples Church Rd, Thurmont

Classifieds

Post Your Jobs, For Sale, Housing, Services, Wanted, For Rent, Pets, Yard Sales, Etc.

To place a classified ad, submit and pay online at TheCatoclinBanner.com under 'Classifieds' tab. The cost is \$20 (includes up to 200 characters in the For Sale, For Rent, Help Wanted, Yard Sales, and Wanted categories). Classifieds under the Services category require a paid display ad. When purchasing a paid display ad, you may place a classified ad for free in the months you advertise.

FOR RENT

Looking for a storage solution? Storage units are available for rent in Emmitsburg. Call Dan at 301-788-2626.

FOR SALE

2 Beautiful burial plots at Resthaven's Garden of Devotion. This lot is almost full, so this would be a prime purchase. It includes 2 spaces, that could be made double depth (4 people), with a separate fee paid directly to the cemetery. Buyer is responsible for the transfer fee of \$250. Asking \$6,000. Call 301-271-2802 or email secretary@wellerumc.comcastbiz.net

Two - Z Max Matthews Compound Bows with hard cases (1997 & 2000, purchased new), very good condition, completely set-up (quivers, arrows, rest, sights, one has 50 limbs, 60 lb. limb, plus spare 70 lb. limbs, complete riser, multiple cams for different draw lengths, 2 wooden wall mount hanger racks and storage compartment cabinets. Asking \$600. Call Bob at 301-271-3318.

Used Book & Rummage Sale: **Used Books:** October 23, from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., and October 24, from 8:00 a.m.-Noon. **Clothes:** October 30, from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., and October 31, from 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Emmanuel Baust UCC, 2940 Old Taneytown Road., Westminster.

SERVICES

Asphalt paving and seal coating by Frederick County Paving. Call 301-662-2820 for a free estimate or email frederickcountypaving@comcast.net.

Accounting services, tax management, and filing with Melissa Wetzel in Emmitsburg. Schedule your appointment today by calling 301-447-3797

Mountain View Lawn Care: Call 301- 271-2832 for all your lawn care needs

Visit Quality Tire in Emmitsburg for super tire service at 17650 Creamery Road in Emmitsburg. Call 301-447-2909.

Karen's Cleaning Service, in business 25 years. Excellent references. Call for a free in-home estimate. Call 410-736-0486. Serving the Emmitsburg/Thurmont area.

In Home Christian Senior Care: Helping seniors live independently at home. Light cleaning, yard work, transportation, meal prep and more. Call 443-204-7222.

WANTED

Antiques & Collectibles like crocks, jugs, postcards, photographs, advertising items, old signs, old dolls, toys & trains (pre-1965), quilts, political items, guns, old holiday decorations, hunting & fishing items, jewelry, and coins; gold, sterling, coin collections, etc. Will buy one item or a collection. 301-514-2631.

Wanted: Students for a free Bible study class for high schoolers. Class is held in Thurmont before school days with ride provided to CHS. For details & questions, call Brent 301.271.0721.

We buy gold & silver. Call 301-788-2626.

HELP WANTED

Landscape Tech, Crew Leader, Fertilizer Tech. Must be reliable. Contact Mt. View Lawn at 301-271-2832 or email MTVIEWLAWNS@AOL.COM.

Los Amigos in Thurmont is now hiring servers. Apply within at 205 Frederick Road, Thurmont, MD 21788.

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OCTOBER community calendar

So Many Great Things Happening In Our Communities

- 1.....Twelve Days of Christmas Lottery Raffle, Rocky Ridge Vol. Fire Co., Rocky Ridge. Donation \$10 per ticket. Drawing: Dec. 14-Dec. 25. Winners are determined by evening MD "Pick 3." Get your tickets now: Penny 240-674-9834; Dave 240-385-6682; Rob 301-271-7780; Bonny 301-788-0311; or visit www.rockyridgevfc.com.
- 1.....3-D Archery Shoots, Indian Lookout Conservation Club, 17107 Riffle Rd., Emmitsburg. 5 p.m.
- 2.....Bingo (every Friday night), Thurmont Event Complex, 13716 Strafford Dr., Thurmont. Doors open 5 p.m.; Bingo 6:45 p.m. Tip jars, food, jackpot. Benefits Thurmont Community Amb. Srv. www.thurmonteventcomplex.com.
- 3.....Property Showing: Excellent 19.87+ Acre Farm in Westminster, 1518 Hughes Shop Rd., Westminster, MD. Noon-2 p.m. Farmhouse, outbuildings, fenced pasture & tillable land. Auction: Oct. 15. Hurley Auctions 717-597-9100; www.hurleyauctions.com.
- 3.....Live Music at AMVETS Post 7: Firehouse DJ, 26 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. 7-10 p.m. Open to public. No cover charge.
- 3.....Catocin Church of Christ Gospel Sing & Hog Roast, Thurmont Community Park, Large Pavilion A, 19 Frederick Rd., Thurmont. 4 p.m. Open to the public. All ages welcome. Activities & crafts for kids. RSVP: please email catocincoc@gmail.com.
- 3.....Cruise In Car Show, 13516 Motters Station Rd., Rocky Ridge. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Free for spectators. No required entry fee; donations are welcome. Food & drink available for purchase. Door prizes, 50/50, music, basket raffles & games of chance. Questions: Rob 301-271-7780. Sponsored by Rocky Ridge Vol. Fire Co.
- 4.....Shotgun Shoots (12 Gauge & 410), Indian Lookout Conservation Club, 17107 Riffle Rd., Emmitsburg. Registration at noon. Shoots at 1 p.m. Tip jars available.
- 4.....Skunk Meet & Greet with Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve, 7908 Apples Church Rd., Cascade. 1-6 p.m. www.thefrcc.org. 301-241-5085.
- 4.....Lewistown Ruritan Chicken BBQ, 15 North & Fish Hatchery Rd., Thurmont. 10 a.m. until sold out.
- 5.....Clothes Closet, Thurmont UMC, 13880 Long Rd., Thurmont. 6-7:30 p.m.
- 5.....Served With Grace Free Dinner, Graceham Moravian Church, 8231-A Rocky Ridge Rd., Thurmont. 5:30-7 p.m. www.gracehammoravian.org.
- 6,13,30...3-Part Course, Almost Blue Mountain City: The Story of Thurmont, Maryland, Thurmont Grange Hall, 17 N. Carroll St., Thurmont. 6-8 p.m.
- 7.....Queen of Hearts Drawing (Wednesdays), American Legion Post 168, 8 Park Ln., Thurmont. 7:30 p.m.
- 7.....Cornhole Tourn. (Wednesdays), American Legion Post 168, 8 Park Ln., Thurmont. Doors open at 5 p.m.; games at 7 p.m.
- 7-10 Fall Fest & Giant Yard Sale, Harriet Chapel, 12625 Catocin Furnace Rd., Thurmont. 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Great food. Bake table. www.harrietchapel.org or 301-271-4553.
- 8.....Property Showing: Excellent 19.87+ Acre Farm in Westminster, 1518 Hughes Shop Rd., Westminster, MD. 3-5 p.m. Farmhouse, outbuildings, fenced pasture & tillable land. Auction: Oct. 15. Hurley Auctions 717-597-9100; www.hurleyauctions.com.
- 8.....3-D Archery Shoots, Indian Lookout Conservation Club, 17107 Riffle Rd., Emmitsburg. 5 p.m.
- 8.....Bar Bingo (Thursdays), Thurmont AMVETS Post 7, 26 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. 7 p.m. Open to the public. 301-271-3371.
- 8.....7 of Hearts Drawing (Thursdays), Thurmont AMVETS Post 7, 26 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. Open to the public. Must buy ticket by 6 p.m. 301-271-3371.
- 8.....Bingo (Thursdays), American Legion Post 168, 8 Park Ln., Thurmont. 7 p.m.
- 8.....Line Dancing (Thursdays), American Legion Post 168, Upstairs, 8 Park Ln., Thurmont. 7 p.m.
- 8,9...AMVETS Colorfest Bake Sale, 26 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. 5-8 p.m.
- 8-10 Graceham Moravian Church's Food & Yard Sale, 8231-A Rocky Ridge Rd., Thurmont. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. A variety of food available for sale, including their famous fried oyster sandwiches.
- 8-11 Yard Sale, Food Sale & Bake Sale, St. Anthony's Shrine, Emmitsburg. 7 a.m.-2 p.m. Food only Thurs. & Fri. Benefits St. Anthony's Shrine Cemetery. Clothes, shoes, household items & lots of good stuff. Spaces available for \$5/day (must bring own table - reservation for space not needed). Info.: Leo 301-730-3384.
- 9.....Fort Ritchie's Sporting Clays Fundraiser, held at Orvis Hill Country Shooting Grounds (519 Gladhill Rd, Fairfield, PA 17320). 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. \$125/ participant (includes 100 targets, lunch & awards). Register: www.thefrcc.org/special-events/clay-shoot/. 301-241-5085.
- 9.....Bingo (every Friday night), Thurmont Event Complex, 13716 Strafford Dr., Thurmont. Doors open 5 p.m.; Bingo 6:45 p.m. Tip jars, food, jackpot. Benefits Thurmont Community Amb. Srv. www.thurmonteventcomplex.com.
- 9.....Speaker Series: Nutrition and Heart Health, Fort Ritchie Community Center, 14421 Lake Royer Dr., Cascade. 6-7 p.m. www.thefrcc.org. 301-241-5085.
- 9-11. Thurmont Grange Hall Food For Sale, Located near the Carnival Grounds & Carroll St., Thurmont. Fri.: 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; Sat. & Sun.: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Outdoor seating available. Hand-dipped ice cream, sandwiches, soups, hot dogs, drinks & more.
- 9-11. Huge Yard Sale, Apples United Church of Christ, 7908 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Benefiting Apples Church & the community. 240-385-7617.
- 10....Friends of Thurmont Regional Library Pop-Up Book Sale, 76 E. Moser Rd., Thurmont. Weather dependent.
- 10....Steppin' Saturdays Walking Group, Fort Ritchie Community Center, 14421 Lake Royer Dr., Cascade. 8:20-8:40 a.m. www.thefrcc.org. 301-241-5085.
- 10,1162nd Annual Catocin Colorfest, Community Park, Frederick Rd., Thurmont. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Free admission. Shuttle bus service available. Nationally recognized juried arts & craft show. Crafts, art, jewelry, collectibles, food & much more. www.colorfest.org.
- 10,11.....Rocky Ridge Vol. Fire Co. Ridgefest Food Sales, 13527 Motters Station Rd., Rocky Ridge. Oct. 10: 7 a.m.-4 p.m.; Oct. 11: 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Breakfast sandwiches, famous fried ham sandwiches, fries & drinks. Yard Sale spots available (\$20/ inside spot; \$10/outside spot): Penny 240-674-9834. All sales benefit Rocky Ridge Vol. Fire Co.
- 10,11.....50th Annual Sabillasville Mountain Festival, Environmental School (SES), 16210 Sabillasville Rd., Sabillasville. Oct. 10: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Oct. 11: 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Free admission & parking. Vendors, live demos, kids' games, food trucks, live music, Car Show (Oct. 10 / registration 10 a.m. / \$10 entry fee), Tractor Show (both days / no entry fee), Touch a Truck (Oct. 11 / 11 a.m.-3 p.m.). All proceeds benefit SES PTO. www.sesclassical.org.
- 10-12.....Mount Tabor Church Ridgefest, Mount Tabor Church Park, 13616 Motters Station Rd., Rocky Ridge. Fri. & Sat.: 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun.: 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Home-cooked food: Apple Butter \$5/pint. Cash Only. Flea Market; tables by numerous vendors. For spaces, call Jeff Sharrer 301-447-6387.
- 14....Red Cross Blood Drive, Fort Ritchie Community Center, 14421 Lake Royer Dr., Cascade. 1-6 p.m. www.thefrcc.org. 301-241-5085.
- 15....Property Auction: Excellent 19.87+ Acre Farm in Westminster, 1518 Hughes Shop Rd., Westminster, MD. 3 p.m. Farmhouse, outbuildings, fenced pasture & tillable land. Hurley Auctions 717-597-9100; www.hurleyauctions.com.
- 15....Potluck Senior Lunch (55 & older), St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 17015 Sabillasville Rd., Sabillasville. 11:30 a.m.
- 15....Bar Bingo (Thursdays), Thurmont AMVETS Post 7, 26 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. 7 p.m. Open to the public. 301-271-3371.
- 15....7 of Hearts Drawing (Thursdays), Thurmont AMVETS Post 7, 26 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. Open to the public. Must buy ticket by 6 p.m. 301-271-3371.
- 15....3-D Archery Shoots, Indian Lookout Conservation Club, 17107 Riffle Rd., Emmitsburg. 5 p.m.
- 16....Stand Up Comedy Show, Presented by Thurmont AMVETS Post 7 & NAM Knights of America, 26 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. 7-10 p.m. \$30/ person. Buy tickets at AMVETS Post 7. Purchase an all-you-can-eat wing buffet for \$18.99.
- 16....Bingo (every Friday night), Thurmont Event Complex, 13716 Strafford Dr., Thurmont. Doors open 5 p.m.; Bingo 6:45 p.m. Tip jars, food, jackpot. Benefits Thurmont Community Amb. Srv. www.thurmonteventcomplex.com.
- 17....Live Music at AMVETS Post 7: Tune Shifters Band, 26 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. 7:30-10:30 p.m. Open to public. No cover charge.
- 17....Fall Craft Bazaar, Fort Ritchie Community Center, 14421 Lake Royer Dr., Cascade. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. www.thefrcc.org. 301-241-5085.
- 17....Thurmont Covered Bridge 5K Gateway to the Cure: Calling All Runners & Walkers, Eyler Park Rd., Thurmont. 8:30 a.m. Support the Patty Hurwitz Breast Cancer Fund. Register: <https://runsignup.com/Race/MD/Thurmont/GatewaytotheCure5K>.
- 17....Emmitsburg High School's 102nd Annual Alumni Banquet, Emmitsburg Ambulance Center, 17701 Creamery Rd., Emmitsburg. Social Hour at 3 p.m. Dinner at 4 p.m.
- 17....Steppin' Saturdays Walking Group, Fort Ritchie Community Center, 14421 Lake Royer Dr., Cascade. 8:20-8:40 a.m. www.thefrcc.org. 301-241-5085.
- 17....Grace "Rocky Hill" Food & Shopping Fair, 10825 Coppermine Rd., Woodsboro. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Reserve food for pickup: noon-3 p.m.—qts. of chicken corn soup (\$8.50), pts. of hot beef (\$10), ham sandwiches (\$5). Reserve your 10x10 space: \$10/table (supplies are limited)—

Community Calendar.....continued on page 63

MAIN STREET
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Serving our community since 2006!
SPECIALIZING IN CUSTOM INTERIORS



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Saturday by appointment
301.271.2298

Call 301-514-1297 or grhchurch@gmail.com. Food pickup rain or shine; yard sale weather permitting.

- 17....2nd Annual Mike Taber Memorial Ride, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 13025 Greensburg Rd., Smithsburg. Registration: Noon; Kickstands Up: 1 p.m.; Ride Ends: 3 p.m. Family-Friendly Ride. Suggested donation: \$25/rider. Motorcycles, cars & bicycles all welcome. Proceeds going to Micah's Backpack and Ladders to Leaders. In case of rain, ride will be rescheduled in spring 2027. Pastor Julie Brigham 240-405-2173.
- 18....Shotgun Shoots (12 Gauge & 410), Indian Lookout Conservation Club, 17107 Riffle Rd., Emmitsburg. Registration at noon. Shoots at 1 p.m. Tip jars available.
- 20....AMVETS Tuesdays Bingo, 26 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. Doors open 5 p.m. Bingo starts 7 p.m.
- 20....Clothes Closet, Thurmont UMC, 13880 Long Rd., Thurmont. 10-11:30 a.m.
- 22....Bar Bingo (Thursdays), Thurmont AMVETS Post 7, 26 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. 7 p.m. Open to the public. 301-271-3371.
- 22....7 of Hearts Drawing (Thursdays), Thurmont AMVETS Post 7, 26 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. Open to the public. Must buy ticket by 6 p.m. 301-271-3371.
- 22....3-D Archery Shoots, Indian Lookout Conservation Club, 17107 Riffle Rd., Emmitsburg. 5 p.m.
- 23....Bingo (every Friday night), Thurmont

Event Complex, 13716 Strafford Dr., Thurmont. Doors open 5 p.m.; Bingo 6:45 p.m. Tip jars, food, jackpot. Benefits Thurmont Community Amb. Srv. www.thurmonteventcomplex.com.

- 23....Live Music at AMVETS Post 7: Lauren Hill, 26 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. 6-9 p.m. Open to public. No cover charge.
- 23,24....Fall Used Book & Rummage Sale – Books Only, Emmanuel Baust UCC, 2940 Old Taneytown Rd., Westminster. Fri.: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat.: 8 a.m.-noon. Info.: Susie at slawr@hotmail.com or call 410-984-2780. All proceeds donated to local schools.
- 23-25Boo in the Zoo – Back to Our Wild Roots After Dark, Catoctin Wildlife Preserve, 13019 Catoctin Furnace Rd., Thurmont. 5-9 p.m. Last admission at 8 p.m. Tickets must be purchased in advance: www.catoctinwildlifepreserve.com. Treat stations, animal encounters, food trucks, games & activities, campfire & much more. Rain or shine event.
- 24....Live Music at AMVETS Post 7: Truck Stop Burritos, 26 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. 7-10 p.m. Open to public. No cover charge.
- 25....Fall Fest, Weller UMC, 101 N. Altamont Ave., Thurmont. Noon-2 p.m. Costume Contest, facepainting by Elizabeth, hayrides, Trunk or Treat, crafts, light lunch.
- 25....Thurmont AMVETS Post 7 Ladies Auxiliary's Spaghetti Luncheon & Chinese Auction Fundraiser, 26 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. Noon-3 p.m. All-you-can-eat for \$10. Open to the public;

all ages welcome. Raffle tickets: 7 for \$5; 30 for \$20.

- 25 ... Slippery Chicken Pot Pie Quarts Sale, 8 Locust St., Union Bridge. \$8/qt. Pickup: 1-3 p.m. Pre-order by Oct. 20: Missi 443-340-9462. Sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary to the Union Bridge Fire Co.
- 29....Bar Bingo (Thursdays), Thurmont AMVETS Post 7, 26 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. 7 p.m. Open to the public. 301-271-3371.
- 29 ... 7 of Hearts Drawing (Thursdays), Thurmont AMVETS Post 7, 26 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. Open to the public. Must buy ticket by 6 p.m. 301-271-3371.
- 29....3-D Archery Shoots, Indian Lookout Conservation Club, 17107 Riffle Rd., Emmitsburg. 5 p.m.
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- 30,31....Fall Used Book & Rummage Sale – Clothes Only, Emmanuel Baust UCC, 2940 Old Taneytown Rd., Westminster. Fri.: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat.: 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Info.: Susie at slawr@hotmail.com or call 410-984-2780. All proceeds donated to local schools.
- 30,31....Boo in the Zoo – Back to Our Wild Roots After Dark, Catoctin Wildlife Preserve, 13019 Catoctin Furnace Rd., Thurmont. 5-9 p.m. Last admission at 8 p.m. Tickets must be purchased in advance: www.catoctinwildlifepreserve.com.

com. Treat stations, animal encounters, food trucks, games & activities, campfire & much more. Rain or shine event.

- 31....Annual Emmitsburg Halloween Parade & Party. Trick-or-Treating— 5-6:45 p.m. Parade Lineup & Tagging—6:45-7 p.m. at the Municipal Pool; Parade starts at 7 p.m. on West Lincoln, down Patterson, onto W. Main St. to the square, right on S. Seton & ends on Lincoln (behind Vigilant Hose Fire Station). Party & Activities: held at the Vigilant Hose Fire Station immediately following parade; apple cider, gingerbread cupcakes, kids' crafts & games, door prizes, and parade costume awards (cutest, funniest, scariest, most original & best group).
- 31....Halloween Emmitsburg: Trick-or-Treating 5-6:45 p.m.; Costume Parade Tagging & Lineup at town pool 6:45-7 p.m.; Halloween Party & Parade Awards following parade (prizes awarded for cutest, funniest, scariest, most original & best group); ginger bread & cider, games & door prizes at party.
- 31 ... Turkey & Ham Slippery Potpie Carryout, Woodsboro Lutheran Church, 101 S. Main St., Woodsboro. 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
- 31....Trunk or Treat, Fort Ritchie Community Center, 14421 Lake Royer Dr., Cascade. 3-5 p.m. www.thefrcc.org. Organizations will set up a trunk or canopy to hand out treats to children.
- 31....AMVETS Post 7 Annual Sportsman Drawing & Dinner, 26 Apples Church Rd., Thurmont. Doors open 4 p.m. Dinner 5 p.m. \$35/person. Drawing includes 12 guns and a losers jar. Must be 21 years or older to attend.

YOUR PUBLIC LIBRARIES

THURMONT REGIONAL LIBRARY, 76 E. Moser Road, Thurmont

- 1.....DFS Family Support Specialist & the Seton Center. 10 a.m.
- 1.....Elementary Explorers: Balloon Pet Parade. 2 p.m.
- 1.....Teen and Tween Open Chess Play (Ages 9-18). 5:30 p.m.
- 3.....Gentle Flow Yoga: A Beginner Yoga Class. Noon.
- 3.....Teen and Adult Game Buffet. 3 p.m.
- 4.....Sunday Funday: Play& Puzzle- Giant Games! 2 p.m.
- 5.....Pumpkin Painting Party: An Adult Adaptive Program. 11 a.m.
- 5.....Spooky Anime Afternoon! (Ages 9-18). 5:30 p.m.
- 6.....Behind the Crime Novel: Authors and Publishers Talk Mystery Writing. 6 p.m.
- 8.....Elementary Explorers: A Great Idea -Ben Franklin. 2 p.m.
- 8.....Tween Spooky Creations (Ages 9-13). 5:30 p.m.
- 8.....The Art of Hosting: Easy, Safe, & Savory Appetizers with Weis Markets. 6 p.m.
- 10....Gentle Flow Yoga: A Beginner Yoga Class. Noon.
- 14....A Conversation on International Affairs with Shaun Donnelly. 7 p.m.
- 15....Offsite: Drop-In Digital Learn at the Thurmont Senior Center. 10 a.m.
- 15....DFS Family Support Specialist. 10 a.m.
- 15....Elementary Explorers: Bug-A-Mania. 2 p.m.
- 15....Teen & Tween Frankentoy Lab (Ages 9-18). 5:30 p.m.
- 16....Sports Day! 2 p.m.
- 17....Gentle Flow Yoga: A Beginner Yoga Class. Noon.
- 18....Sunday Funday: Create & Craft: Spooky Creations. 2 p.m.
- 19....Offsite: Pop-Up at the Thurmont Senior Center. 1 p.m.
- 19....Teen and Adult: Tarot 101. 5:30 p.m.
- 22....Elementary Explorers: Packing for Mars. 2 p.m.
- 22....Tween Tabletop Games (Ages 9-13). 5:30 p.m.
- 25....Sunday Funday: R.E.A.D with WAGS. 2 p.m.

- 26....Teen Dungeons and Dragons (Ages 13-17). 5:30 p.m.
- 26....Junk Journaling Workshop. 6 p.m.
- 27....Not So Spooky Haunted Trail. 6 p.m.
- 28....Job Search Skills Workshop. 6:30 p.m.
- 29....Elementary Explorers: Haunted Hip- Hop Party. 2 p.m.
- 29....Halloween Minute to Win It. 5:30 p.m.
- 31....Gentle Flow Yoga: A Beginner Yoga Class. Noon.

EMMITSBURG LIBRARY, 300 S. Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg

- 1.....Hatchlings: From Bump to Bookworm. 2:30 p.m.
- 1.....Yoga for School-Age Kids. 6 p.m.
- 8.....Hatchlings: From Bump to Bookworm. 2:30 p.m.
- 8.....Elementary Explorers: R.E.A.D with WAGS. 6 p.m.
- 13....Tween/Teen Mask Magic (Ages 9-18). 5:30 p.m.
- 14....WonderLab: Great Galaxies. 1 p.m.
- 14....Tween Spooky Salt Dough Ornaments (Ages 9-13). 3:45 p.m.
- 20....Imagination Station! Pumpkins and Pups. 2 p.m.
- 20....Owl Pellet Investigators (Ages 10-18). 5:30 p.m.
- 21....Adult Adaptive: Visit with a Fireman. 11 a.m.
- 21....Student Service-Learning Project (Grades 6-12). 3:30 p.m.
- 22....Elementary Explorers: Pumpkin Art Night. 6 p.m.
- 24....Chesapeake Paranormal. 2 p.m.
- 26....School's Out! Make a Monster Motel. 2 p.m.
- 27....Emmitsburg STRONG: Weather Prepared! - 911 Simulator Experience. 6:30 p.m.
- 28....Gel Air Fresheners. 11 a.m.
- 28....WonderLab: Around We Go. 1 p.m.
- 28....Tween Puzzle Pumpkin Art (Ages 9-13). 3:45 p.m.
- 29....Elementary Explorers: Minecraft. 6 p.m.
- 23....WonderLab: Color Craze. 1 p.m.

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Supporting Our **YOUTH!**

We're proud to support the
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This year, we purchased two hogs & a steer at the
Community Show. One of the hogs was the

GRAND CHAMPION!

The animals have now been processed and
we'll be selling the meat right here
in our store!

Thank you for helping us support our
local youth and future farmers!

Hours of Operation:
Mon. - Sat.: 6 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Sun.: 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Deli Closes at 8 p.m.



**GUESS THE WEIGHT OF
OUR
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All entries must
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**WIN A \$50
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